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(Above numbers and emails are not for publication)

**For Immediate Release**

38<sup>TH</sup> Mill Valley Film Festival, October 8 – 18, 2015  
Celebrating the Best in Independent and World Cinema

**SPOTLIGHT ON BRIE LARSON  
MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL TO HOST CALIFORNIA PREMIERE  
ROOM**

**SAN RAFAEL, CA.** (August 25, 2015) –The California Film Institute is delighted to announce the California Premiere of *Room* accompanied by a Spotlight on star Brie Larson and the presentation of the MVFF Award at the 38<sup>th</sup> Mill Valley Film Festival.

**Spotlight on BRIE LARSON**

Brie Larson has built an impressive career as one of the more versatile young actresses working today. She garnered numerous 2014 Best Actress award wins and nominations for her performance in Destin Daniel Cretton's *Short Term 12*. Her dramatic role as "Grace" earned her Best Actress wins at the Locarno Film Festival and Gotham Awards, and a Best Actress nomination at the Critics' Choice Awards. Up next, she will be seen in the Martin Scorsese executive produced '70s crime thriller, *Free Fire*, opposite Sharlto Copley, Cillian Murphy and Armie Hammer.

Most recently, Larson was seen in the Judd Apatow-directed film *Trainwreck* and co-starred in the Paramount film, *The Gambler*, opposite Mark Wahlberg. In 2013, the Los Angeles Times labeled her the It Girl of the SXSW film festival with four films showing. In addition to *Short Term 12* (which took home the Grand Jury prize and the Audience Award), she had supporting turns in James Ponsoldt's *The Spectacular Now* and Joseph Gordon-Levitt's *Don Jon*. Prior, Larson was seen in *21 Jump Street* as the love interest to Jonah Hill, and received rave reviews for her supporting role in the Oren Moverman film *Rampart*.

Larson is still widely recognized for her portrayal of "Kate", Toni Collette's sarcastic and rebellious daughter, in Showtime's breakout drama *United States of Tara*, which was created by Academy Award-winning writer Diablo Cody and based on an original idea by Steven Spielberg.

Other notable credits include Edgar Wright's *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World* and Noah Baumbach's *Greenberg*. She has appeared on stage at the prestigious Williamstown Theater Festival in the role of "Emily" in *Our Town* and recurred on the F/X cult favorite series, *The League* as an overly amorous Au Pair.

Mill Valley Film Festival  
October 8 – 18, 2015

In addition to acting, Larson is a writer and director. Her short film, *The Arm* won the prize for Best Comedic Storytelling at last year's Sundance Film Festival. The other, *Weighting*, was in competition at this year's SXSW film festival.

A native of Sacramento, Larson started studying drama at the early age of 6, as the youngest student ever to attend the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. Larson currently resides in Los Angeles, CA.

**About ROOM (California Premiere)**

Jack is five. He lives with Ma in Room. They can cook, exercise, read books, watch TV, sing songs, and "Do Scream." Everything in Room is real; everything else is just TV. Room is Jack's whole world. Until it's not. *Room* is based on Emma Donoghue's bestseller, which is told from Jack's viewpoint. Fans of the novel take note: The film achieves the book's intensity and emotional impact. Donoghue adapted her own work, and between her script and director Lenny Abrahamson's attention to detail and excellent eye for framing, the story transforms for the screen and retains the immediacy of the boy's experience. Jacob Tremblay is mesmerizing as Jack and the phenomenal Brie Larson conveys Ma's complexity and emotional balancing act with the smallest change of expression, pause, or measured breath. Together they embody the incomparable bond between mother and child and bring to life this riveting story about defining one's own world.

**About the MVFF Award**

Since 2008, the Mill Valley Film Festival has presented the MVFF Award, an elegant bronze statue created by Mill Valley artist Alice Corning, given in recognition of exceptional work in film at our Tribute and Spotlight programs.

**About the 38th Mill Valley Film Festival**

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 38th Mill Valley Film Festival runs October 8-18, 2015 at the CinéArts Sequoia (25 Throckmorton Ave., Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (1118 Fourth Street, San Rafael), and other venues throughout the Bay Area. With a reputation for launching new films and creating awards season buzz, MVFF has earned a reputation as a "filmmakers' festival" by celebrating the best in American independent and world cinema, alongside high profile and prestigious award contenders. MVFF welcomes more than 200 filmmakers representing more than 50 countries.

**About the California Film Institute**

The non-profit California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film as art and education through the presentation of the Mill Valley Film Festival and year-round exhibitions at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, film distribution by CFI Releasing, and building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through the CFI Education program. For more information visit [www.cafilm.org](http://www.cafilm.org) or call (415) 383-5256.

**For Calendar Editors**

**The 38th Mill Valley Film Festival**

**One of the Nation's Top 10 Film Festivals, celebrating the Best of Independent and World Cinema**

**Marin County, California**

**Thursday, October 8 through Sunday, October 18, 2015**

**On-Sale Date**

For CFI Members: Starts Sunday, September 13, 2015 (dates vary by level)

For the General Public: Saturday, September 19, 2015

[www.MVFF.com](http://www.MVFF.com), [www.CAFilm.org](http://www.CAFilm.org)

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