

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

Showcasing the Best in Independent and World Cinema
Thursday, October 5 – 15, 2017

MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES

JUST ADDED FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights include Opening Night Film **WAIT FOR YOUR LAUGH**, commemorative artwork from Mill Valley Artist **ZIO ZIEGLER**, film and concert featuring **JOE SATRIANI**, panels program **BEHIND THE SCREENS** and **TREE VR Experience**

SAN RAFAEL, CA (September 15, 2017) – The Mill Valley Film Festival (MVFF), presented annually by the California Film Institute, is pleased to announce new highlights complete lineup for the 40th edition of the Festival. The Festival will celebrate cinema throughout Marin County October 5-15, 2017 with a diverse array of acclaimed films, filmmakers and events.

Opening Night Film World Premiere *Wait For Your Laugh*

Fascinating, funny, and full of showbiz soul, this spirited documentary highlights the epic career of one of the most brilliant comediennes of the last century. She started as Baby Rose Marie, a child prodigy, singing and dancing on stage before most kids could ride a bike. She grew up to be Rose Marie, beloved for her role as sassy scriptwriter Sally Rogers on *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, and her even sassier zingers on *The Hollywood Squares* game show. Filmmaker Jason Wise reveals there is much more to this tough, smart woman's 87-year entertainment career. Interviews with Peter Marshall, Carl Reiner, Dick Van Dyke, Tim Conway, and the lady herself—still going strong at 94—combine with rare footage to depict a complicated, inspirational life. From her passionate marriage to trumpeter Bobby Guy to her up-close-and-personal connections to Al Capone and Bugsy Siegel, Rose Marie forged intense, lasting relationships while delighting audiences from Las Vegas to Hollywood, always marching to her own beat.

Thursday, October 5, 7:00pm at Corte Madera Cinema

40th Anniversary Commemorative Poster by Mill Valley Artist Zio Ziegler

Mill Valley Film Festival Founder / Director, Mark Fishkin, unveiled the 40th Mill Valley Film Festival commemorative poster designed for MVFF40 by local Mill Valley artist Zio Ziegler.

"It is with great pleasure that we announce the artwork for our 40th anniversary has been created by the very talented and thought-provoking artist, Zio Ziegler," said Mark Fishkin, Founder / Director of the Mill Valley Film Festival. "As with the Festival and the films we showcase, Ziegler's intricately detailed, stunning and often non-linear artwork challenges audiences as he stretches the boundaries of one's imagination with his expressive and vivid color palette and unique sense of style and vision." See more at www.zioziegler.com.

MVFF Music presents Joe Satriani at Sweetwater Music Hall

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Master guitarist Joe Satriani and his band perform as headliners for the first time at MVFF, in honor of the premiere of Joe's filmmaker son Zachariah's tour documentary *Beyond The Supernova*. Joe Satriani is the world's most commercially successful solo guitar performer—with six gold and platinum discs to his credit—and founder of the multi-guitarist traveling experience G3, which has seen him share stages with Steve Vai, Eric Johnson, Yngwie Malmsteen and Robert Fripp, among others.

Saturday, October 14, 8:00pm at Sweetwater Music Hall

Beyond The Supernova

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of iconic guitarist Joe Satriani's seminal album *Surfing with the Alien*, ZZ Satriani, in his directorial debut, chronicles his father's 2017 concert tour with a loving tribute to a musician still at the top of his game. Offstage, he discusses his process and assesses his legacy. On stage, he lets her rip!

Saturday, October 14, 4:00pm at the Lark Theatre

MVFF MUSIC at the SWEETWATER MUSIC HALL

October 6 – Mad Hannans
 October 7 – From California to Haiti
 October 8 – Wailing Souls
 October 9 – Sarah Jarosz
 October 10 – Honoring Paul Butterfield
 October 11 – B and the Hive
 October 12– Manzarek Rogers Tribute Band
 October 13 – The Family Stone
 October 14 – Joe Satriani
 October 15 – Huey Lewis and the News

Behind the Screens – Panels | Master Classes | Workshops | VR

MVFF is pleased to present a diverse array of panels, master classes, workshops and VR presentations to round out the Festival experience for attendees. These events include: panels on gender parity in the film industry; screenwriting workshops for teenagers; cannabis culture discussions; a retrospective master class with Bay Area experimental filmmaker John Sanborn; TREE, an immersive VR experience; a panel and sneak preview screening focused on the teen suicide; an overview of the state of VR in the industry; and an industry panel discussing the state of independent film.

MIND THE GAP SUMMIT - MASTER CLASSES + PANEL + WORKSHOPS

The dearth of women working in film industry leadership is on par with that of women in the tech world. This full day of networking events, discussions, and master classes explores compelling issues such as entrepreneurship, mentorship and inclusivity and how to sustain a productive, creative career in these innovative and intersecting fields. Join an incredible group of filmmakers, business leaders and other trailblazers in these communities as they come together to tackle the lack of gender parity.

Guests include: Blye Faust (Producer, *Spotlight*); Robin Hauser (Director, *CODE*); Stephanie Lampkin (Blendoor); Amber Kirsch (Visual Effects Producer, *Wonder*)

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Woman); Pratibha Parmar (Director, *Alice Walker: Beauty in Truth*); Tiffany Shlain (filmmaker, *50/50*); Osnat Shurer (Producer, *Moana*), and many more.

Saturday, October 7 | 10:00am – 6:00pm | Outdoor Art Club
Full day, including networking lunch and happy hour | \$75
Morning, including networking lunch | \$40
Afternoon, including happy hour | \$40

Registration required* | To register, go to mvff.com/mind-the-gap
 *Limited number of scholarships available

METAMORPHOSIS: A SCREENWRITING IMMERSIVE FOR TEENS - WORKSHOP

This hands-on screenwriting workshop for teens follows the screening of the youth-produced feature *Metamorphosis: Junior Year*. Filmmaker mentors from Elysium Bandini Studios will lead participants through a series of writing, storyboarding and pitching exercises to flesh out the backstory of one of the *Metamorphosis* characters. Participants will create and compare their own stories and approach to their film. The workshop will wrap up with an ice cream social/networking opportunity.

Facilitators: Tom Franco (Partner, Elysium Bandini Studios) and Iris Torres (Partner, Elysium Bandini Studios)

Ages 14-18 only | Limited to 20 participants | Participants are required to attend the screening of *Metamorphosis: Junior Year* prior to the workshop (film ticket included with registration)

Sunday, October 8 | 2:30pm – 5:00pm | Outdoor Art Club
FREE, by application only | To apply, go to mvff.com/behind-the-screens

CANNABIS CULTURE & THE NEW ENTREPRENEUR - PANEL

As marijuana has become legal in eight states this year, the cannabis industry has been booming, with a slew of entrepreneurs stepping into the breach—and women playing a major role in this new cannabis culture. In this panel discussion preceding the world premiere of *Mary Janes: Women of Weed*, we will take a look at the many opportunities the industry provides and celebrate the parity these women are working to achieve.

Invited Guests: Windy Borman (Executive Producer/Director, *Mary Janes: The Women of Weed*); Nina Parks (CEO, Mirage Medicinal and co-founder, Supernova Women); Amanda Reiman (VP of Community Relations, Flow Kana); and Adrian Sedlin (CEO, CannDESCENT).

Moderated by David Downs (Cannabis Editor, San Francisco Chronicle).

Sunday, October 8 | 3:00pm | Sweetwater
FREE, ticket required | mvff.com/behind-the-screens

JOHN SANBORN: AN INTROSPECTIVE RETROSPECTIVE – MASTER CLASS

MVFF40 artist in residence John Sanborn takes us on a journey through biology, history and technology that is part master class, part memoir, but above all a wild ride in a time

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machine. Sanborn will VJ selections from his world-renowned media art works, interspersed with pictures and stories about the times, the people he's collaborated with (Philip Glass, Twyla Tharp, Mikhail Baryshnikov, and King Crimson, to name a few), and the technologies he's toyed with to create his inimitable body of work.

Thursday, October 12 | 7:00pm | Outdoor Art Club
 \$15 general | \$12.50 CFI members | mvff.com/behind-the-screens

NETWORKING IN NATURE – ACTIVE CINEMA HIKE

Get some fresh air and fresh ideas with filmmakers, friends, and cinephiles during this easy 3.5 mile hike to the ocean through beautiful terrain. Join Festival staff and guests and exchange ideas and wisdom on filmmaking, filmmaker resources, activism, and strategies for action. Bring water and sunblock, and wear good walking shoes. All are welcome! Meet at the Tennessee Valley trailhead parking lot.

Saturday, October 14 | 10:00am | Tennessee Valley
 FREE | Tennessee Valley info: nps.gov/goga/planyourvisit/tennessee_valley

TALKING ABOUT TEEN SUICIDE – SNEAK PREVIEW + PANEL

Following the World Premiere special screening of the locally produced documentary *Not Alone*, the filmmakers and teens featured in the film will join mental health experts in a community discussion that will explore the epidemic of teen suicides and how friends, parents, and communities can support teens struggling with depression, anxiety and mental illness.

Invited Guests: Kiki Goshay (Co-Director and Producer, *Not Alone*); Dr. Eli Merritt (psychiatrist and author, *Suicide Risk in the Bay Area*); Jacqueline Monetta (Co-Director, *Not Alone*); Dr. Kim Norman (psychiatrist); Tamara Player, MSW (CEO, Buckelew Programs); Julian Plumadore (Community Engagement Manager, Mental Health Association of San Francisco); and Sheila Souder (School Counselor, Drake High School Counseling and Wellness Center)

NOT ALONE – WORLD PREMIERE

US 2016, 50 min When Jacqueline Monetta's best friend committed suicide at 16, she struggled to understand why. That led her to make her first documentary, where young people could share their personal stories of suffering and healing and demonstrate how other teens can get the help they need. Conceived and created by, for and about teens, *Not Alone* is an inspiring testament to the power of love and compassion

Saturday, October 14 | 11:00am | Smith Rafael Film Center
 \$15 general | \$12.50 CFI members | mvff.com/behind-the-screens

VR AT THE CROSSROADS: EMPATHY | EMBODIMENT | EDUCATION | ENTERTAINMENT - PANEL

MVFF40 takes a 360-degree view of the current VR landscape with a panel discussion and presentation that explores the ways that virtual reality can expand our sensitivities to other species, other genders—and to new ways of listening to each other and to our natural world.

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Invited Guests: Nathalie Mathe (Co-Creator, *Uturn*); Dimitri Moore (Video Producer and storytelling coach, Digital Promise Global); Pierce (Creator, *Out of the Blue*); Emmanuel Vaughn-Lee (Co-Creator, *Sanctuaries of Silence*); Milica Zec (Co-Creator, *Tree*)

Moderated by Mario Kenyon (Head of Production, Furious M; Producer, *Defrost*)

Saturday, October 14 | Outdoor Art Club

2:00pm VR Experience + 2:45pm Panel | 2:45pm VR Experience + 4:15pm Panel

FREE, ticket required | mvff.com/behind-the-screens

TREE – VR EXPERIENCE

Tree is a multisensory VR installation that gives participants the unique opportunity to grow from seed to full-grown rainforest tree. Matching a fully immersive experience with a powerful narrative, artists Milica Zec and Winslow Porter allow you to see, feel, hear and smell what it is like to “be” a tree and witness its fate firsthand: With your arms as branches and your body as trunk, you’ll experience the wonder of growth, literally from the ground up. Installation Curator: Ken Jacobson

Friday, October 13 | 10:00am - 4:00pm

Saturday, October 14 | 10:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday, October 15 | 10:00am - 2:00pm

Outdoor Art Club | FREE, ticket required

To register, go to mvff.com/behind-the-screens

STATE OF THE INDUSTRY: FROM ACQUISITION TO EXHIBITION - PANEL

Over the past four decades, the film industry has changed and evolved in innumerable ways. Where are we heading now? Join us for an in-depth discussion on the issues surrounding international film markets, foreign film funds, international co-productions, independent film sales and all avenues of film distribution with individuals who know this tangled terrain inside and out.

Invited Guests: Simon Curtis (Director, *Goodbye Christopher Robin*); Christine Dewey (Managing Director, ro*co films international); Sydney Levine (consultant; writer, SydneysBuzz); John Sloss (founder, Cinetic Media; Producer, *Last Flag Flying*)

Moderated by Paul Cohen (independent film distributor; Executive Producer, *Life and Nothing More*; Executive Director, Torchlight Program, FSU Film School)

Saturday, October 14 | 11:30am | Smith Rafael Film Center

Reception to follow | Vin Antico, 881 Fourth St., San Rafael

FREE, ticket required | mvff.com/behind-the-screens

BEHIND THE SCREENS: PANELS, MASTER CLASSES AND CONVERSATIONS

October 7 – Master Class + Panel + Workshops: Mind The Gap Summit

October 8 – Workshop: Metamorphosis: A Screenwriting Immersive For Teens

October 8 – Panel: Cannabis Culture & The New Entrepreneur

October 12 – Master Class: John Sanborn: An Introspective Retrospective

October 13 - 15 – VR Experience: Tree

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October 14 – Active Cinema Hike: Networking In Nature
 October 14 – Sneak Preview Screening + Panel: Talking About Teen Suicide
 October 14 – VR + Panel: VR at the Crossroads
 October 14 – Panel + Reception: State of the Industry: From Acquisition to Exhibition

Complete Press Materials are available at:
[MVFF40 Marketing Materials](#)

About the Mill Valley Film Festival

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 40th Festival runs October 5-15, 2017. Locations this year include: CinéArts@Sequoia (Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (San Rafael), Lark Theatre (Larkspur), Cinema Corte Madera and other theatres 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.

About the California Film Institute

The non-profit California Film Institute (CFI) celebrates and promotes film by presenting the annual Mill Valley Film Festival and DocLands Documentary Film Festival, exhibiting film year-round at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, and building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through CFI Education. CFI relies on the generosity of its community to sustain these core programs. The invaluable support of our sponsors, foundations, and individual donors ensures our continued success as we celebrate our 40th year. For more information please visit www.cafilm.org.

Supporters

CFI is once again proud to acknowledge the leadership support of Christopher B. and Jeannie Meg Smith, Jennifer Coslett MacCready and the Ken and Jackie Broad Family Foundation, and the continued major support of Marin Community Foundation and The Bernard Osher Foundation, The Gruber Family Foundation, The EACH Foundation and The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation. We are also fortunate to have the contributions of the following Signature and Major Sponsors of the Mill Valley Film Festival: Wells Fargo, Jackson Square Partners, Lucasfilm, Ltd., Maroevich, O’Shea & Coghlan Insurance Services, Wareham Development, Bellam Self Storage and Boxes, Ghilotti Construction Company, Project No. 9 | Truckstop Media and San Francisco Chronicle.

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