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**CELEBRATING 41 YEARS**

Showcasing the Best in Independent and World Cinema  
Thursday, October 4 – 14, 2018

**THE PARTING GLASS**  
**NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE**  
**AT 41<sup>ST</sup> MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL**

**ON STAGE CONVERSATION WITH**  
**STEPHEN MOYER, DENIS O'HARE AND ANNA PAQUIN**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2018**

SAN RAFAEL, CA (September 4, 2018) – The Mill Valley Film Festival is proud to announce the North American Premiere of Stephen Moyer's feature film directorial debut, **THE PARTING GLASS**, a film written by Denis O'Hare, based on his personal family experience following the sudden death of his sister. The evening will feature an on-stage conversation with director Stephen Moyer, writer/actor Denis O'Hare, and producer/actor, Anna Paquin.

**About The Parting Glass:**

*The Parting Glass* is the story of a suicide and how it ripples and tears through a family – testing their bonds to each other and their memories. The family gathers in Missouri, where Colleen (Anna Paquin), now dead, was last living. Her brother, Danny (Denis O'Hare) and his two sisters, Mare (Cynthia Nixon) and Al (Melissa Leo) meet up with their father, Tommy (Ed Asner), and their sister's estranged husband, Karl (Rhys Ifans), and they set out on an odyssey. Together, they attempt to piece together Colleen's last moments and to make sense of her death. Competing claims and memories war with each other and each person fights to understand and guard their own versions of Colleen. Their three-car caravan gets lost, diverted, and detoured. The family comes together, fights, laughs, and descends into the grim reality of what suicide is. Finally, after being tested, they come together in a raucous, emotional wake that leaves them whole and possibly stronger. The film ends with Danny as he discovers some lost video of his sister and we end with the haunting question: what do we have left when someone dies? How do we carry them with us?

**About Stephen Moyer:**

Actor/Director/Producer Stephen Moyer is best known for his character Bill Compton in Alan Ball's hit HBO series *True Blood* based on the best-selling *Sookie Stackhouse Novels* by Charlaine Harris. *True Blood* secured one Golden Globe win and three nominations including two for 'Best Drama Series', an Emmy nomination for 'Best Drama Series' and a SAG Award nomination for 'Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Cast in a Drama Series'. Moyer also directed three episodes of the show including the premieres of seasons six and seven. Moyer currently stars in Fox/Marvel's *The Gifted* and his most recent work includes *Shots Fired* for Fox, *Safe House* for ITV, Kurt Sutter's *The Bastard Executioner* for FX and National Geographic Channel's *Killing Jesus* alongside Kelsey Grammer and Rufus Sewell. Moyer's filmography includes Sony Pictures' drama *Concussion*, written and directed by Peter Landesman, *Devil's Knot* with Reese Witherspoon, Colin Firth, and Kevin Durand and directed by Atom Egoyan, *The Barrrens* directed by Darren Lynn Bousman, and Michael Brandt's *The Double* with Richard Gere, Martin Sheen, and Tophér Grace. Other past projects include *Preist* alongside Paul Bettany, and *Quills* opposite Kate Winslet and Joaquin Phoenix. Moyer co-founded Casm Films - the Los Angeles based film and television production company, with Anna Paquin, Cerise Hallam Larkin, and Mark Larkin, and is making his feature film directorial debut here with *The Parting Glass*.

**About Denis O'Hare:**

Denis O'Hare has established a strong presence in the industry as a skillful, in-demand character actor. Most recently, he starred as 'Jessie' in the NBC series *This Is Us* (Emmy Nomination). Additionally, he will also soon be seen in the upcoming Netflix film *Private Life* as well as Roadside Attraction's feature *Lizzie*, both of which are set to premiere this year. O'Hare currently stars in the feature film *The Parting Glass*, a film based on his Irish family which O'Hare wrote himself. On television, O'Hare recently appeared in the ABC mini-series *When We Rise*. Previously, he starred in two seasons of the hit HBO series, *True Blood* and as Judge Charles Abernathy in the CBS series *The Good Wife*. O'Hare was also seen on television in multiple roles over 5 seasons of the FX series *American Horror Story*, for which he received 2 Emmy Nominations; for Larry in Season 1 and Stanley in Season 4. O'Hare's additional television credits include roles on *The Good Fight*, *The Accidental Wolf*, *The Comedians*, *Brothers and Sisters*, *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*, *CSI: Miami*, *Bored to Death*, and *100 Center Street*. On screen, O'Hare has appeared in a varied and interesting slate of films, including *St. Patrick's Day*, *River Red*, *Sweet and Lowdown*, *21 Grams*, *Garden State*, *Heights*, *Derailed*, *Half Nelson*, *Rocket Science*, *A Mighty Heart*, *Michael Clayton*, *Awake*, *Charlie Wilson's War*, *Pretty Bird*, *Baby Mama*, *Changeling*, *Milk*, *Dallas Buyers Club*, and many more. In 1995, O'Hare made his Broadway debut in *Racing Demon*. He soon after starred in *Cabaret* (Tony Award) before playing 'Cusins' in *Major Barbara*. Most recently, Denis starred in the Public Theater's *Into The Woods* and the off-Broadway production *An Iliad* (Obie Award). Among his other theatrical credits are *Elling*, *Inherit The Wind*, *Take Me Out* (Tony Award, Drama Desk, Obie), *Assassins* (Tony nomination), and *Sweet Charity* (Drama Desk Award). As a writer, besides *An Iliad* which Mr. O'Hare co-wrote with Lisa Peterson, he and Ms. Peterson will have the west coast debut of their second play, *The Good Book*. The duo is also working on a third play - a commission from The McCarter Theatre. Mr. O'Hare is currently developing a TV series with his husband Hugo Redwood.

**About Anna Paquin:**

Anna Paquin's work in film, television, and theatre has spanned nearly three decades. Her film credits include Kenneth Lonergan's *Margaret*, *X-Men*, Gus Van Sant's *Finding Forrester*, Cameron Crowe's *Almost Famous*, Steven Spielberg's *Amistad*, Spike Lee's *25<sup>th</sup> Hour*, *Buffalo Soldiers*, Noah Baumbach's *The Squid and the Whale*, Tony Goldwyn's *A Walk on the Moon*, Carroll Ballard's *Fly Away Home*, Franco Zeffirelli's *Jane Eyre*, *The Romantics*, and *Straight A's*. Paquin's first ever acting job was in Jane Campion's *The Piano* which led to her winning the Academy Award® for Best Supporting Actress at the age of eleven. For seven seasons, Paquin starred in the HBO drama *True Blood* for which she won a Golden Globe for 'Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series - Drama'. She was most recently seen on CBC and Netflix's *Alias Grace* based on the novel by Margaret Atwood as well as CBC and WGN's *Bellevue*. Earlier this year Paquin starred in Amazon's *Electric Dreams* and will next be seen in Martin Scorsese's *The Irishman*, a crime drama for Netflix, as well as starring in and executive producing *Flack* through her company Casm Films. Anna produced and stars in *The Parting Glass*.

***The Parting Glass*** Press Materials are available at:

[MVFF41 Marketing Materials](#)

**About the Mill Valley Film Festival**

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 41<sup>st</sup> Festival runs October 4 – 14, 2018. Locations this year include: CinéArts@Sequoia (Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (San Rafael), Lark Theatre (Larkspur), 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 40<sup>th</sup> year. For more information please visit [www.cafilm.org](http://www.cafilm.org).

**Supporters**

MVFF41 | North American Premiere, *The Parting Glass*

CFI is once again proud to acknowledge the leadership support of Christopher B. and Jeannie Meg Smith and Jennifer Coslett MacCready, and the continued major support of Marin Community Foundation, The Bernard Osher Foundation, The Gruber Family Foundation and The EACH 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, Project No. 9 | Truckstop Media, Lucasfilm, Ltd., Delta Air Lines, Netflix, Wareham Development, Bellam Self Storage and Boxes, and the San Francisco Chronicle.

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