

Press/Media Contact:

Shelley Spicer, Mill Valley Film Festival
415-526-5845 (o) | 415-269-5808 (m) | sspicer@cafilm.org

Karen Larsen, Larsen Associates
415.957.1205; karen@larsenassoc.com
(The above number and email are not for publication)

CELEBRATING 45 YEARS

Showcasing the Best in Independent and World Cinema
October 6 – 16, 2022

**MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
BRENDAN FRASER TRIBUTE
AND WEST COAST PREMIERE OF DARREN ARONOFSKY'S THE WHALE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13**



San Rafael, CA (September 7, 2022) – The Mill Valley Film Festival is honored to announce a Tribute to **Brendan Fraser** at the 45th Mill Valley Film Festival. Fraser will be on hand for this special onstage conversation, presentation of the MVFF Award for Acting and the West Coast Premiere of A24's highly anticipated release **THE WHALE** directed by Darren Aronofsky.

THE WHALE

Thursday, October 13 • 7:00 PM

CinéArts Sequoia, Mill Valley



Seamlessly transitioning from smart, independent films to action-packed blockbusters, **Brendan Fraser** continues to garner widespread critical acclaim for his versatile, inspired performances and a keen eye for selecting thought-provoking material. With several exciting projects on the horizon, 2022 promises to be a big year for Fraser. Upcoming this year for Brendan includes starring as the lead in Darren Aronofsky's *The Whale* and in Legendary Pictures' *Brothers* alongside Glen Close, Josh Brolin, and Peter Dinklage. He's also a supporting role in Martin Scorsese's new Epic Western, *Killers Of The Flower Moon*. Fraser has been in a string of some of the most successful independent films of the past decade, including Lionsgate's Academy-award-winning Best Picture *Crash*, directed by Paul Haggis; Phillip Noyce's *The Quiet American*, based on Graham Greene's 1955 thriller of the same name; and Bill Condon's *Gods and Monsters*, opposite Sir Ian McKellen and Lynn Redgrave.

About *The Whale*

Based on Samuel D. Hunter's acclaimed stage play, *The Whale* follows a reclusive English teacher suffering from a severe psychological food disorder as he attempts to reconnect with his estranged teenage daughter for one last chance at redemption.

The Whale is scheduled to open in the US theatrically on December 9, 2022.

The MVFF Tribute program honors and celebrates lifetime achievements in the career of a significant film artist. Over the years, MVFF has honored such extraordinary talents as Kenneth Branagh, Dame Judi Dench, Sir Anthony Hopkins, Sophia Loren, Kate Winslet, Michael Apted, Alfre Woodard, Pawel Pawlowski, Glenn Close, Kristin Scott Thomas, Sean Penn, Holly Hunter, Todd Haynes, Julie Dash, Catherine Hardwicke, Sir Ian McKellen, Laura Dern, Ben Stiller, Mira Nair, and Nicole Kidman, to name a few.

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About Mill Valley Film Festival

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 45th Mill Valley Film Festival runs October 6-16, 2022. MVFF is an acclaimed eleven-day cinema event celebrating the best in American independent and world cinema. Located just north of San Francisco, the Festival is known as a filmmakers' festival and the West Coast launch pad for many Academy Award®-winning films. MVFF has earned a reputation for launching new films and creating awards season buzz. The festival welcomes more than 200 filmmakers representing more than 50 countries annually.

About MVFF Award

Inaugurated in 2007, the Mill Valley Film Festival Award is a specially designed bronze sculpture created by Mill Valley artist Alice Corning, each one individually cast for the recipient and a numbered, limited edition. The MVFF Award is presented to the recipients of Tributes and Spotlights, MVFF's special programs honoring and celebrating the work of distinguished artists and innovators in the filmmaking community. Corning says of her artwork, "The purpose is to show the power and dignity of a human being...as it is with great work in film."

About California Film Institute

The California Film Institute (CAFILM) is a non-profit organization dedicated to celebrating and promoting film and media arts through the presentation of the internationally acclaimed Mill Valley Film Festival, now in its 45th year, DocLands Documentary Film Festival, and the ongoing cultivation of the next generation of filmmakers and film lovers through CAFILM Education. CAFILM Education features a broad range of activities, including screenings, Q&A sessions, seminars with top international & local filmmakers and industry professionals, and a rich program of classes and hands-on workshops. Additionally, CAFILM acts as a year-round film-centric town hall with a diverse calendar of programming at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, one of the leading non-profit independent theatres in the country. The art of storytelling through film enables CAFILM to touch 275,000 guests throughout the year with films and events that entertain and address a breadth of social, environmental, and cultural issues. CAFILM is also the majority owner of the Sequoia Theater in Mill Valley, California. CAFILM relies on the generosity of its community to sustain these core programs; the invaluable support of our sponsors, foundations, individual donors, and members ensures our continued success. For more information, visit cafilm.org.

The California Film Institute and Mill Valley Film Festival are located in Marin County, California, on the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary homelands of the Coast Miwok, Pomo, and Wappo peoples. This includes the Southern Pomo and Graton Rancheria Tribes. These tribes were removed or displaced from their lands. We recognize this history and the harm to present-day Coast Miwok, Pomo, and Wappo peoples and to their ancestors. The California Film Institute commits to moving forward from a place of authenticity and working with present-day tribes to elevate their stories, history, and present-day legacy through film.

Supporters

The California Film Institute is once again proud to acknowledge the leadership support of Christopher B. and Jeannie Meg Smith, Project No. 9, Jennifer Coslett MacCreedy, Nancy P. and Richard K. Robbins Family Foundation, and Vickie Soulier, and the continued major support of Marin Community Foundation, The Bernard Osher Foundation, The Gruber Family Foundation, and Resonance Philanthropies. We are also fortunate to have the contributions of the following Signature and Major Sponsors of the Mill Valley Film Festival: Jackson Square Partners, Lucasfilm, Ltd., Wareham Development, and Bellam Self Storage and Boxes.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

45th Mill Valley Film Festival

Celebrating the best of independent and world cinema alongside high profile and prestigious award contenders.

Thursday, October 6 to Sunday, October 16, 2022

Ticket On-Sale Dates

CFI members can purchase single tickets in advance of the public beginning Friday, September 9, 2022.
General Public Single Tickets on sale Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

MVFF45 Bay Area Screening Venues:

San Rafael: Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center – October 6 – 16, 2022
Mill Valley: CinéArts Sequoia – October 6 – 16, 2022
Larkspur: Lark Theater – October 8 & 9 + October 15 & 16, 2022
Berkeley: Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive – October 8 - 16, 2022
San Francisco: The Roxie Theater – October 15 & 16, 2022

Social Media

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