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On the cover: Maggie Smith in THE LADY
IN THE VAN, courtesy of Sony
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Editor: Julie Hill

Production Manager: Rebecca Lentz-

Fernandes

Production Coordinator: Alice Massie **Director of Programming:** Todd Hitchcock

Associate Programmer: Josh Gardner

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Information is correct at press time. Films and schedule subject to change.

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→ FI EUROPEAN UNION FILM SHOWCASE

December 1-20

Presented in partnership with the Delegation of the European Union to the United States.

The best of European cinema...without the jet lag.

Now in its 28th year, the AFI European Union Film Showcase continues its tradition of bringing the best in European cinema to Washington audiences.

This year's selection of 50 films includes international film festival award winners, local box-office hits and debut works by promising new talents, plus many countries' official Oscar® submissions for Best Foreign Language Film.

AFI thanks all the embassy cultural counselors of the EU member states and the European Union Delegation to the USA in Washington, DC, for their continuing support of the AFI European Union Film Showcase.

Special thanks also to Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to the USA David O'Sullivan and the staff of the Delegation for their generous support.

Film listings and showtimes are correct at press time, but are subject to change. Check AFI.com/Silver for updated listings and the latest information on filmmaker guests.

No passes accepted.

Presenting Partner



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WEEKLY HAPPY HOURS

Stop by the café on select days during the showcase from 6:00 to 7:00 for Happy

Hour! Happy Hours feature European drink specials, complimentary snacks courtesy of local restaurants and festive music. Enjoy a cold drink and a delicious appetizer before your film.

Happy Hour dates:

December 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18

Happy Hour specials are valid ONLY for Passport holders and filmgoers attending shows in the AFI European Union Film Showcase on the given dates.



BENICIO DEL TORO TIM ROBBINS OLGA KURYLENKO MÉLANIE THIERRY FEDJA ŚTUKAN A PERFECT DAY A FILM BY FERNANDO LEÓN DE ARANDA

A PERFECT DAY (2015)

Opening Night: Tue, Dec 1, 7:15 with reception, tickets \$20/\$18 AFI Members
Also screening Sat, Dec 5, 3:05

The Balkans, 1995: Fighting has wound down and peace talks have begun, but problems still confront Mambrú (Benicio Del Toro) and his colleagues at NGO Aid Across Borders, including Tim Robbins, Mélanie Thierry and Olga Kurylenko. Tasked with removing a corpse from a well and decontaminating its water, their progress is impeded by roads laced with unexploded land mines, untrusting villagers, gun-toting bandits and bureaucratic red tape. A fine seriocomic warzone tale from Fernando León de Aranoa (MONDAYS IN THE SUN, PRINCESAS), with strong performances from its outstanding cast. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, London Film Festivals. DIR/SCR/PROD Femando León de Aranoa; SCR from the novel "Dejarse llover" by Paula Farias. Spain, 2015, color, 106 min. In English. NOT RATED

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Can't get enough of European film? With the Passport, you'll zip right past customs (the AFI Silver box office) and be admitted to every film in the showcase, NO TICKETS NEEDED. The all-access Passport gives you admission for one to every screening, including Opening and Closing Night films and Special Presentations, as well as access to Happy Hours. At the end of the showcase, you can see how many countries you "visited" by checking the stamps in your Passport! Valued at nearly \$800!



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2 ■ Daily Listings: 301.495.6700 #AFIfilmEU

Austria

IN THE BASEMENT [IM KELLER]

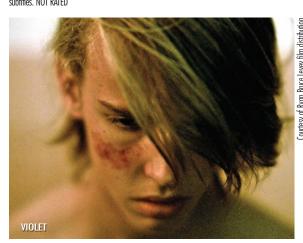
Sun, Dec 13, 9:25; Mon, Dec 14, 9:25 The world was shocked when the cases of Josef Fritzl and Wolfaana Priklopil emerged, both long-term kidnappers who kept their victims locked in basements for years. Now, arch provocateur Ulrich Seidl (the PARADISE trilogy, DOG DAYS) returns to his documentary roots — or is it mock doc? — with this investigation of how his countrymen and women relate to their basements — a space, according to the filmmaker, for ones' most personal hobbies. Unusual sexual practices, band practice, creepy dolls and Nazi memorabilia are all on display here. Official Selection, 2014 Venice Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Ulrich Seidl; SCR Veronika Franz. Austria, 2014, color, 81 min. In German with English subtitles. NOT RATED



Belgium

VIOLET (2014)

Thu, Dec 3, 9:40; Mon, Dec 7, 9:25 Fifteen-year-old lesse witnesses the stabbing death of his best friend at a shopping mall. Friends and family struggle to understand the seemingly unmotivated, random murder. Riding with his BMX crew, Jesse is alone in the crowd, his state of shock and grief represented by cinematographer Nicolas Karakatsanis's (BULLHEAD) disconnected imagery, which employs rack-focuses between hazy and sharp figures and long-take portrait-like closeups en route to a powerful emotional climax at a concert during Deafheaven's song "Violet." Official Selection, 2014 AFI FEST, Berlin, Edinburgh, Karlovy Vary Film Festivals; 2015 New Directors/New Films. DIR/SCR Bas Devos; PROD Tomas Leyers. Belgium/Netherlands, 2014, color, 85 min. In Flemish and Dutch with English subtitles. NOT RATED



Bulgaria



THE LESSON (2014) [UROK]

Wed, Dec 2, 5:00; Sun, Dec 6, 9:20 On the brink of bankruptcy, school teacher Nadezhda is pushed to the limits of reason in order to save her home from repossession. With little help from her unemployed, alcoholic husband, Nadezhda is forced to come up with the cash herself. As the deadline looms, she makes one last desperate attempt to save her family. Co-directors Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov won Best Debut Film at the 2015 Göteborg Film Festival and Best New Directors at the 2014 San Sebastian Film Festival for this Dardennes-esque morality tale. Best Bulgarian Film, Audience Award, 2015 Sofia Film Festival; Official Selection, 2014 Toronto Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Kristina Grozeva, Petar Valchanov; PROD Irini Vougioukalou, Konstantina Stavrianou, Magdelena Ilieva. Bulgaria/Greece, 2014, color, 105 min. In Bulgarian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

🍱 Croatia



2015 Oscar® Selection, Croatia THE HIGH SUN [ZVIZDAN]

Wed, Dec 9, 7:10

Dalibor Matanić tells three different stories of love before and after wartime, with the couple in each story portrayed by talented young actors Tihana Lazović and Goran Marković. Set during the years of 1991, 2001 and 2011, the action takes place between two neighboring Balkan villages — one Serbian, one Croatian — with the lovers' lives unavoidably being affected by the war. Despite a history of inter-ethnic hatred and distrust, there is also inter-ethnic love between these two peoples. Un Certain Regard Jury Prize, 2015 Cannes Film Festival; Official Selection, 2015 Karlovy Vary Film Festival. DIR/SCR Dalibor Matanić; PROD Ankica Jurić Tilić. Croatia/Serbia/ Slovenia, 2015, color, 123 min. In Croatian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

THE REAPER [KOSAC]

Fri, Dec 11, 5:05; Sat, Dec 12, 1:00

Aging farmhand Ivo (Ivo Gregurevic) gives stranded motorist Mirjana (Mirjana Karanovic) a lift to the gas station one night. But his apparent altruism is immediately greeted with suspicion by the local villagers, who recall that Ivo once served time for rape and have never forgiven him. From this inciting incident, a series of troubling events will unfold over the course of the night, calling into question society's veneer of civility and just how far people have really moved on from the past. Best Cinematography, Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor, 2014 Pula Film Festival. Official Selection, 2014 Toronto, 2015 Rotterdam, Karlovy Vary Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Zvonimir Jurić; SCR Jelena Paljan; PROD Ankica Jurić Tilić, Eva Rohrman. Croatia/Slovenia, 2014, color, 98 min. In Croatian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Cyprus

U.S. Premiere!

IMPRESSIONS OF A DROWNED MAN [OI ENTYPOSEIS ENOS PNIGMENOU]

Mon, Dec 14, 10:00; Wed, Dec 16, 5:10 A man wakes up on the beach with no memory of who or where he is. In his possession is a notebook of poems. He finds his way to a city, and in time meets people who claim to be his parents, and an ex-girlfriend. Each of them asserts that he is actually the famous poet Kostas Karyotakis, who committed suicide in 1928. And yet here he is, alive and well (enough), in 2015. With the anniversary of his death approaching, what if Kostas tried again? Filmmaker Kyros Papavassiliou's surreal mindbender plays with notions of identity, fate and free will. Official Selection, 2015 Rotterdam, Karlovy Vary Film Festivals. DIR/SCR/PROD Kyros Papavassiliou; SCR Maria Varnakkidou, Philippos Yiannikouris, Giorgos Zois; PROD Yannis Chalkiadakis, Monica Nicolaidou. Cyprus/Slovenia/Greece, 2015, color, 82 min. In Greek with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Czech Republic

U.S. Premiere!

THE SNAKE BROTHERS [KOBRY A UZOVKY]

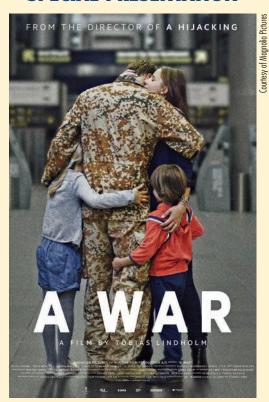
Tue, Dec 15, 7:00; Wed, Dec 16, 9:15 Real-life brothers Krystof and Matej Hádek play ne'er-dowell brothers "Cobra" and "Viper" in Jan Prusinovský's gritty melodrama, shot through with moments of anarchic comedy. Junkie younger brother Cobra still lives at home with Ma (Jana Sulcová), periodically robbing houses to fund his addictions. It falls to older brother Viper to keep the other in line, but, with a drinking problem and job troubles of his own, he's ill-equipped to look after anyone else. Best Actor for Krystof Hádek, 2015 Karlovy Vary Film Festival. DIR/PROD Jan Prusinovský; SCR Jaroslav Zvácek; PROD Ondrej Zima. Czech Republic, 2015, color, 111 min. In Czech with English subtitles. NOT RATED



→ AFI EUROPEAN UNION FILM SHOWCASE

Denmark

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION *



2015 Oscar® Selection, Denmark A WAR [KRIGEN]

Mon, Dec 14, 7:00

Danish commander Claus Pedersen (Pilou Asbæk, soon to play Euron Greyjoy on GAME OF THRONES) does his best to keep his troops safe and morale high on their deployment to Afghanistan, but is forced to make a fateful judgment call under enemy fire. "Retaining the matter-of-fact structural simplicity and procedural meticulousness of [Tobias] Lindholm's superb thriller A HIJACKING, A WAR doesn't seek to break new ground in the ongoing cinematic investigation of the Afghanistan conflict; rather, it scrutinizes the ground on which it stands with consummate sensitivity and detail." -Variety. Official Selection, 2015 Venice Film Festival, AFI FEST. DIR/SCR Tobias Lindholm; PROD Tomas Radoor, René Ezra. Denmark, 2015, color, 115 min. In Danish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

BRIDGEND (2015)

Wed, Dec 2, 9:25; Wed, Dec 9, 9:40

Documentarian Jeppe Rønde's (THE SWENKAS) narrative debut is a haunting meditation on the real-life plague of teen suicides in a South Wales town. Sara (Hannah Murray, GAME OF THRONES, GOD HELP THE GIRL) arrives in Bridgend with her policeman father, who has been assigned to investigate the ongoing crisis. She befriends the local kids, for whom the loss of their own is intensely felt, and falls for melancholy Jamie (Josh O'Connor). After yet another suicide, the community's mood darkens toward collective madness. Best Actress, Cinematography and Editing, 2015 Tribeca Film Festival; Official Selection, 2015 Rotterdam, Göteborg Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Jeppe Rønde; SCR Torben Bedt, Peter Asmussen; PROD Malene Blenkov, Michel Schønnemann. Denmark, 2015, color, 95 min. In English. NOT RATED

FASSBINDER: TO LOVE WITHOUT DEMANDS [FASSBINDER – AT ELSKE UDEN AT KRÆVE]

[FASSBINDER - LIEBEN OHNE ZU FORDERN]

Fri, Dec 4, 3:00; Sun, Dec 6, 9:30; Thu, Dec 10, 9:25

documentarian
Christian Braad
Thomsen reflects
upon the life and
career of his longtime
friend Rainer Werner
Fassbinder, the enfant
terrible and leading
light of the New
German Cinema, a
workaholic, bisexual



hedonist who wrote, directed, produced and/or starred in more than 40 feature films by the time he died in 1982 at age 37. Interweaving rare news footage, photographs and excerpts from Fassbinder's films with a never-before-seen interview between Thomsen and Fassbinder, Thomsen considers Fassbinder's personality in Freudian psychoanalytic terms and in light of his formative years. Official Selection, 2015 Berlin Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Christian Broad Thomsen. Denmark, 2015, color/b&w, 109 min. In German with Enalish subtitles. NOT RATED

Estonia

2015 Oscar® Selection, Estonia 1944

Sat, Dec 5, 1:00; Mon, Dec 7, 5:05
From Elmo Nüganen, director of Estonia's highest-grossing film NAMES ENGRAVED IN MARBLE, which chronicled the 1918 student uprising against the Soviets, now comes the biggest-budgeted Estonian film to date. 1944 is a dramatic account of the bloody VVVII Battle of Tannenberg Line on the Eastern Front, where Estonian civilians were caught between the German and Soviet armies, with native sons fighting on both sides. DIR Elmo Nüganer; SCR Leo Kunnas; PROD Ilkka Matila, Kristian Taska. Estonia/Finland, 2015, color, 100 min. In Estonian with Enalish subtitles. NOT RATED

IN THE CROSSWIND [RISTTULLES]

Sat, Dec 12, 5:05; Sun, Dec 13, 3:15

Martti Helde's visionary and moving account of the Soviets'
1940s deportation of thousands of Estonians to Siberia
mixes live action with tableaux vivants: painstaking, painterly
compositions of actors frozen in place. The restlessly mobile
camera and black-and-white imagery from DP Erik Pollumaa
combined with Liis Nimik's requiem-minded score ensure that this
experiment in stasis is very much a cinematic work. Audience
Award, 2015 Göteborg Film Festival; Don Quixote Award,
Estonian Film Award and Best Cinematography, 2014 Tallinn
Black Nights Film Festival; Ecumenical Jury Award, 2014
Warsaw Film Festival; Official Selection, 2014 Toronto Film
Festival. DIR/SCR Martti Helde; SCR Liis Nimik; PROD Piret Tibbo-Hudgirs, Pille Rünk. Estonia,
2014, b&w, 90 min. In Estonian with English subtitles. NOT RATED



+ Finland

2015 Oscar® Selection, Finland THE FENCER [MIEKKAILIJA]

Thu, Dec 10, 7:15; Sat, Dec 12, 12:45

The Soviet Union, 1953: Fearing he may be caught up in a widening Stalinist crackdown on his fellow Baltic dissidents, Endel Nelis (Märt Avandi) flees Leningrad for the small town of Haapsalu in his native Estonia. Taking a job as a gym teacher in the rundown local high school, Nelis, a skilled and dedicated fencer, begins teaching his pupils the ways of this most elegant of sports. Based on a true story, Klaus Härö's (LETTERS TO FATHER JACOB, MOTHER OF MINE) rousing historical drama opens a window into Soviet and sports history alike. DIR Klaus Härö; SCR Anna Heinämaa; PROD Kaarle Aho, Kai Nordberg. Finland/Estonia/Germany, 2015, color, 93 min. In Estonian and Russian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

THE GRUMP [MIELENSÄPAHOITTAJA]

Fri, Dec 18, 9:25

After an ankle injury sidelines the titular 80-year-old misanthrope, he's forced to move in with his son and daughter-in-law, where a clash of generations ensues. With little patience for a post-1953 society, he detests the hustle and bustle of modern life in Helsinki, and is particularly ruffled by his daughter-in-law, a successful businesswoman and a grump in her own right. Still, the two must learn to co-exist while his son is off tending to the family farm. Based on the popular books by Tuomas Kyrö, the film peels away the surly layers of its characters to reveal a crowd-pleasing family comedy. Official Selection, 2014 Toronto, 2015 Seattle Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Dome Karukoski; SCR Pekko Pesonen, Tuomas Kyrö, from books by Kyrö, PROD Jukka Helle, Markus Selin. Finland, 2014, color, 104 min. In Finnish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

France

SPECIAL PRESENTATION



DHEEPAN

Sat, Dec 5, 5:15; Tue, Dec 8, 7:20

Jacques Audiard (A PROPHET, RUST AND BONE) won the 2015 Palme d'Or at Cannes for this gripping tale of three Sri Lankan refugees, who, seeking escape from their war-torn homeland, pose as a family to gain safe passage to France. Once settled in a suburban Paris housing project, all three — "father" Dheepan (playwright and novelist Antonythasan Jesuthasan, himself once a child soldier with the Liberation Tigers), "mother" Yalini (Kalieaswari Srinivasan) and nine-year-old "daughter" Illayaal (Claudine Vinasithamby) — face new kinds of conflict. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Toronto, London, Chicago Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Jacques Audiard; SCR Thomas Bidegain, Noé Debré; PROD Pascal Caucheteux. France, 2015, color, 109 min. In Tamil, English and French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

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DISORDER (2015) [MARYLAND]

Wed, Dec 2, 7:15; Tue, Dec 8, 7:15

Afghanistan war vet Vincent (Matthias Schoenaerts, BULLHEAD. RUST AND BONE) suffers from PTSD. He's hired as a temp security guard at Maryland, the estate of Lebanese



businessman Whalid (Percy Kemp). During a glitzy party, he gets a glimpse of Whalid's icy German wife Jessie (Diane Kruger, INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS), and later overhears a conversation that seems to indicate Whalid is involved in illegal arms dealing. Vincent's paranoid episodes increase when he's hired as a bodyguard for Jessie and her son. The question now is whether the threat is outside the gates of Maryland, or already within them. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes Film Festival. DIR/ SCR Alice Winocour; SCR Jean-Stéphane Bron; PROD Emilie Tisné. France/Belgium, 2015, color, 101 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

FATIMA (2015)

Sun, Dec 13, 1:00; Tue, Dec 15, 7:15

A Moroccan immigrant now living in Lyon, France, Fatima works long hours as a cleaning lady to support her two daughters, Nesrine, 18 and a promising pre-med student, and Souad, 15 and rebellious. Her relationship with her younger daughter is especially tense, with the two often bickering, and Fatima's poor grasp of French is a constant source of embarrassment to Souad. But the hard-working Fatima hasn't yet met a challenge she can't rise to. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Philippe Faucon; SCR from books by Fatima Elayoubi; PROD Yasmina-Nini Faucon, Serge Noël. France, 2015, color, 79 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

FIDELIO, ALICE'S ODYSSEY [FIDELIO, L'ODYSSÉE D'ALICE]

Sun, Dec 13, 7:20; Wed, Dec 16, 7:15

This awardwinning debut feature from writer/director Lucie Borleteau is notable for the strength and clarity of its vision and the courageous, charismatic performance of lead actress



Ariane Labed (ATTENBERG, ALPS and next year's ASSASSIN'S CREED), who won Best Actress at the 2014 Locarno Film Festival. After a passionate farewell to her boyfriend Felix (Anders Danielsen Lie), ship's engineer Alice (Labed) joins up with the in-transit cargo ship Fidélio to replace her predecessor, who has met with an untimely death. The process of getting acquainted with her new shipmates is complicated by the fact that the ship's captain, Gaël (Melvil Poupaud), is a former lover. DIR/SCR Lucie Borleteau; SCR Clara Bourreau; PROD Marine Arrighi de Casanova, Pascal Caucheteux. France, 2014, color, 97 min. In French, Romanian, English, Tagalog and Norwegian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

IN THE SHADOW OF WOMEN [L'OMBRE DES FEMMES]

Thu, Dec 3, 5:00; Tue, Dec 8, 9:40; Thu, Dec 10, 5:10 Philippe Garrel (REGULAR LOVERS, JEALOUSY) returns with this exquisite romantic drama, an examination of marital infidelity and a freewheeling riff on life, art and the neverending battle of the sexes. Married couple Pierre and Manon (Stanislas Merhar and Clotilde Courau) collaborate on documentaries. While researching his current subject, an aging Resistance fighter, at a film archive, Pierre falls hard for Elisabeth (Lena Paugam), a beautiful young intern. When Manon discovers the affair, her reaction surprises both Pierre and herself. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Toronto, New York Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Philippe Garrel: SCR Jean-Claude Carrière. Caroline Deruas-Garrel. Arlette Lanamann: PROD Saïd Ben Saïd. Michel Merkt. France/Switzerland, 2015, b&w, 73 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

U.S. Premiere!

THE MAGIC MOUNTAIN (2015) [LA MONTAGNE MAGIQUE]

Sat. Dec 12, 3:05; Mon. Dec 14, 5:05 This wildly creative animated docudrama from Romanian filmmaker Anca Damian (CRULIC: THE PATH TO BEYOND) is a chronicle of the life story of Polish expat Adam Jacek Winkler (1937-2002), who settled in France after a lifetime of struggle and daring, from fighting against Poland's Communist rule to a stint fighting for the Afghan mujahideen against the Soviet army. Drawing from Winkler's journals, photography and sketchbooks, Damian employs a range of animated styles and collage techniques to bring Winkler's amazing story to vibrant life. Special Mention, 2015 Karlovy Vary Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Anca Damian; SCR Anna Winkler; PROD Guillaume de Seille, Benedicte Thomas, Joanna Ronikier, Wlodimierz Matuszewski. Romania/France/Poland, 2015, color, 89 min. In French, English and Polish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

\star SPECIAL PRESENTATION \star



MY GOLDEN DAYS TROIS SOUVENIRS DE MA JEUNESSE

Fri, Dec 4, 7:15; Wed, Dec 9, 7:15

Arnaud Desplechin (A CHRISTMAS TALE, 2008 AFI European Union Film Showcase) revisits his hapless romantic character Paul Dedalus, memorably played by Mathieu Amalric in 1996's MY SEX LIFE... or HOW I GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT, this time exploring the character's wild younger years in the 1980s, from the pangs of first love to amateur international espionage. Making their screen debuts, Quentin Dolmaire as Paul and Lou Roy-Lecollinet as his on-again, off-again love Esther are vivacious and charming in this quirky, sexy coming-of-ager. SACD Prize (Directors' Fortnight), 2015 Cannes Film Festival; Official 2015 Selection, New York, Chicago Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Arnaud Desplechin; SCR Julie Peyr; PROD Pascal Caucheteux. France, 2015, color, 123 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Germany

A GERMAN YOUTH [UNE JEUNESSE ALLEMANDE]

Fri, Dec 11, 3:00; Sat, Dec 19, 3:15 Before they became radicalized terrorists and members of West Germany's infamous Red Army Faction, Ulrike Meinhof, Gudrun Ensslin and Holger Meins were journalists, artists and filmmakers. Documentarian Jean-Gabriel Périot recaptures the turbulent Germany of the '60s and '70s by interweaving a treasure trove of material culled from news footage, public affairs programming and student activist films, culminating with an excerpt from Rainier Werner Fassbinder's GERMANY IN AUTUMN. Compared to Germany today, it might seem like an alternate history if it weren't all true. Official Selection, 2015 Berlin, San Francisco Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Jean-Gabriel Periot, PROD Nicolas Brevière. France/Germany/Switzerland, 2015, color and b&w, 93 min. In German and French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Greece



A BLAST

Sat, Dec 12, 9:40; Sun, Dec 13, 7:15

Angeliki Papoulia (DOGTOOTH) is galvanizing as Maria, a wife and mother driven to extremes by the collapse of her family, business and belief system in Syllas Tzoumerkas' scathing thriller. The film cross-cuts between the present, where Maria takes off in her SUV with a suitcase full of money and a fire behind her, and the past, where the interplay of marital and family relationships is revealed, and where her shopkeeper parents' mounting debt reflects Greece's recent economic crisis. This drama of family tensions, rages and sexual passions leads to an explosive conclusion. Official Selection, 2014 Locarno, 2015 Rotterdam, Karlovy Vary Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Syllas Tzoumerkas; SCR Youla Boudali; PROD Jeroen Beker, Maria Drandaki, Ellen Havenith, Titus Krevenberg. Greece, 2015, color, 83 min. In Greek, English and German with English subtitles, NOT RATED

WEDNESDAY 4:45 [TETARTI 04:45]

Fri, Dec 4, 9:20; Sat, Dec 5, 9:20

Alexis Alexiou's hyper-stylish neo-noir follows 32 hours in the life of jazz club owner Stelios (Stelios Manias) as he tries to raise the money he owes gangster The Romanian (Mimi Branescu). Stelios tries to collect from the various characters who owe him money, but everyone from his drug dealer to the Albanian strip club operator to his cop brother have the same excuse: the economic crisis. Official Selection, 2015 Tribeca, Karlovy Vary Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Alexis Alexiou; PROD Thanassis Karathanos. Greece/Germany/Israel, 2015, color, 116 min. In Greek, German and Romanian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

→ AFI EUROPEAN UNION FILM SHOWCASE

Hungary

LIZA THE FOX-FAIRY [LIZA, A RÓKATÜNDÉR]

Thu, Dec 17, 7:00; Sat, Dec 19, 9:40 In 1970s Budapest, Liza (Mónika Balsai) is a live-in nurse for an ailing widow (Piroska Molnár, TAXIDERMIA). Lonely Liza has an imaginary friend: long-dead Japanese pop singer Tomy Tani. When real-life love arrives for Liza, fun-loving Tomy Tani becomes jealous, murdering his rivals. Is Liza a fabled Japanese fox-fairy, cursed to lead her mortal lovers to their doom? Károly Úji Mészáros' devilishly funny feature debut has won awards far and wide: Best Film, Best Special Effects, 2015 Fantasporto; New Director's Showcase Award, 2015 Seattle Film Festival; Jury Award, 2015 Fantaspoa; Audience Award runner up, 2015 Austin Fantastic Fest. DIR/SCR Károly Ujj Mészáros; SCR Bálint Hegedûs; PROD István Major. Hungary, 2015, color, 98 min. In Hungarian and Japanese with English subtitles. NOT RATED

SPECIAL PRESENTATION



2015 Oscar® Selection, Hungary SON OF SAUL [SAUL FIA]

Presented in cooperation with the Washington Jewish Film Festival Mon, Dec 7, 7:15

László Nemes' feature debut is both a riveting Holocaust drama and a bold experiment in cinema aesthetics. The Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, 1944: Hungarian prisoner Saul Ausländer works in the Sonderkommando, assisting his captors with the extermination of his fellow prisoners. In the crematorium, Saul discovers the body of a boy he believes to be his son. As members of his unit ready their long-held plans to lead a camp uprising, Saul becomes obsessed with finding a rabbi in the camp to give the boy last rites and a burial. Grand Prix and FIPRESCI Prize, 2015 Cannes Film Festival; Official Selection, 2015 Telluride, Toronto, New York, London Film Festivals. DIR/SCR László Nemes; SCR Clara Royer; PROD Gábor Rajna, Gábor Sipos. Hungary, 2015, color, 107 min. In Hungarian with English subtitles. RATED R

Ireland

YOU'RE UGLY TOO

Fri, Dec 4, 5:15; Sun, Dec 6, 5:45

After the death of his sister, Will (Aiden Gillen, GAME OF THRONES) is given provisional release from prison six months early to act as guardian to his narcoleptic 11-vear-old niece Stacev (Lauren Kinsella). With a welfare interview on the horizon, these two strangers can



earn a measure of freedom if they can figure out how to become a family. Best Irish Feature, 2015 Galway Film Fleadh; Official Selection, 2015 Berlin, Edinburgh Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Mark Noonan; PROD Conor Barry, John Keville. Ireland, 2015, color, 78 min. In English. NOT RATED

Italy

MEDITERRANEA

Fri, Dec 11, 9:20; Wed, Dec 16, 7:00

Expanding on his award-winning short film A CHIANA, which chronicled race riots in Calabria sparked by conflict between the locals and African immigrants, Jonas Carpignano's MEDITERRANEA



is an illuminating portrait of the contemporary global refugee reality. Ayiva (real-life Burkinabe immigrant Koudous Seihon) and his friend Abas (Alassane Sy) make the dangerous journey from Burkina Faso to Italy, surviving the Sahara desert, murderous bandits and a stormy Mediterranean crossing. But in the land of their dreams, good work proves hard to find, and temptations for easier money abound. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Karlovy Vary, Venice, London Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Jonas Carpignano; PROD Jason Michael Berman, Chris Columbus, Eleanor Columbus, Jon Coplon, Christoph Daniel, Andrew Kortschak, John Lesher, Ryan Lough, Justin Nappi, Gwyn Sannia, Marc Schmidheiny, Victor Shapiro, Ryan Zacarias. Italy/France/U.S./Germany/Qatar, 2015, color, 107 min. In French, Italian, English and Arabic with English subtitles, NOT RATED

MY MOTHER (2015) [MIA MADRE]

Sun, Dec 13, 5:05; Tue, Dec 15, 9:00

Director Margherita Buy projects calm confidence, but the mounting strain of various life challenges is starting to take a toll. Her mother (Giulia Lazzarini) is hospitalized with heart trouble, her movie shoot is not going well, she's just broken up with her actor boyfriend (Enrico Ianniello) and her daughter (Beatrice Mancini) is flunking Latin. Add to this mix the arrival of American actor Barry Huggins (John Turturro), whose cartoonish ego and tales of working with Stanley Kubrick mask a ham actor with so-so Italian. The latest film from auteur Nanni Moretti blends melancholy with the madcap, to moving effect. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Toronto Film Festivals. DIR/SCR/PROD Nanni Moretti; SCR Francesco Piccolo, Valia Santella; PROD Domenico Procacci. Italy/France, 2015, color, 106 min. In English and Italian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

TALE OF TALES [IL RACCONTO DEI RACCONTI]

Sat, Dec 12, 7:00; Thu, Dec 17, 7:15

Neapolitan filmmaker Matteo Garrone (former AFI European Union Film Showcase titles GOMORRAH and REALITY) gives full rein to his visionary imagination with this suite of fairy tales penned by Giambattista Basile



(1566–1632). Even bawdier and bloodier than tales by the . Brothers Grimm, Garrone's film will fascinate fans of folklore and fantastic cinema. The international cast includes Salma Hayek, John C. Reilly, Vincent Cassel, Toby Jones, Shirley Henderson, Stacy Martin and Alba Rohrwacher. Score by Alexandre Desplat. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Karlovy Vary Film Festivals. DIR/SCR/PROD Matteo Garrone; SCR Edoardo Albinati, Ugo Chiti, Massimo Gaudioso, from "Pentamerone" by Giambattista Basile; PROD Anne Labadie, Jean Labadie, Jeremy Thomas. Italy/France/UK, 2015, color, 125 min. In English. NOT RATED

THE WAIT (2015) [L'ATTESA]

Wed, Dec 16, 9:20; Sun, Dec 20, 3:00 This stunning first film from Piero Messina (AD on Paolo Sorrentino's Oscar®-winning THE GREAT BEAUTY), stars Juliette Binoche as Anna, a grieving mother holed up at a Sicilian villa. When her son's girlfriend Jeanne (Lou de Laâge, BREATHE) shows up unexpectedly, Anna isn't able to break the tragic news, instead pretending he will return in a few days. While waiting for him to arrive, the two strike up a complicated friendship, in which Anna can delay the inevitable and bask in Jeanne's reality where her son still lives. This breathtakingly beautiful film marks Messina as a new talent to watch in Italian cinema. Official Selection, 2015 Venice, Toronto, London Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Piero Messina; SCR Giacomo Bendotti, Ilaria Macchia, Andrea Paolo Massara, from works by Luigi Pirandello; PROD Carlotta Calori, Francesca Cima, Fabio Conversi, Nicola Giuliano, Jérôme Seydoux. Italy/France, 2015, color, 100 min. In Italian and French with English subtitles.

***SPECIAL PRESENTATION ***



YOUTH (2015) [LA GIOVINEZZA]

Thu, Dec 3, 7:00

Longtime pals Fred (Michael Caine), a retired composer, and Mick (Harvey Keitel), a filmmaker, visit their favorite alpine spa in Switzerland, as they have for the past 20-odd years. The old friends walk, talk and *spritz* together in peace until the announcement of their children's divorce — Fred's daughter (Rachel Weisz) is married to Mick's son (Ed Stoppard) — intrudes upon their tranquility. This bittersweet rumination on life and how to live it from Oscar®-winner Paolo Sorrentino (THE GREAT BEAUTY) also features Jane Fonda and Paul Dano as two Hollywood actors struggling with their own senses of self. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Toronto Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Paolo Sorrentino; PROD Carlotta Calori, Francesca Cima, Nicola Giuliano. Italy/France/Switzerland/UK, 2015, color, 118 min. In English. RATED R

Latvia

ESCAPING RIGA [DZIMIS RĪGĪ]

Presented in cooperation with the Washington Jewish

Sun, Dec 13, 9:00; Thu, Dec 17, 5:10

More than 100 years ago, two men were born in Riga. They would become revolutionary Soviet filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein and celebrated Russo-British philosopher Isaiah Berlin. Filmmaker Davis Simanis playfully explores their divergent paths throughout the important moments of the 20th century, leading to their sole meeting in post-war Moscow. From Eisenstein's Hollywood encounters with Charlie Chaplin to Berlin's time at the British Embassy in Washington, DC, Simanis employs spirited reenactments that mimic archival footage in a style that recalls both Guy Maddin and Woody Allen's ZELIG. "A rarefied treat for cinematic historians." -The Hollywood Reporter. DIR/SCR Davis Simanis, Jr.; PROD Liga Gaisa, Gints Grube. Latvia/Russia/UK, 2014, b&w, 69 min. In Latvian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

6 Daily Listings: 301.495.6700 #AFIfilmEU

Lithuania

2015 Oscar® Selection, Lithuania THE SUMMER OF SANGAILE [SANGAILES VASARA]

Sun, Dec 6, 7:30; Thu, Dec 10, 9:00 Alanté Kavaïté won a Best Director award at Sundance for this rapturous portrait of two teenaged girls' summertime love affair. Staying at her parents' lakeside home for the summer, the sullen Sangaile (Julija Steponaityte) meets free-spirited local lass Auste (Aiste Dirziute) at an airshow. Auste, a talented artist and clothes designer, takes Sangaile under her wing. The two become fast friends and soon something more. Directing Award,



World Cinema – Dramatic, 2015 Sundance Film Festival; Best Film, Best Actress and Best Art Direction, 2015 Lithuanian Film Awards. Official Selection, 2015 Berlin, Karlovy Vary Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Alanté Kavaïté; PROD Zivile Gallego, Antoine Simkine. Lithuania/France/ Netherlands, 2015, color, 88 min. In Lithuanian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Luxembourg

2015 Oscar® Selection, Luxembourg U.S. Premiere! BABY(A)LONE

Mon, Dec 7, 9:50; Wed, Dec 9, 5:10

Living alone with his single mother, 13-year-old X is a troubled teen, removed from reality. He keeps to himself, not counting his imaginary friend Johnny, who taunts him and encourages him to act out. Sent into a remedial class after his latest violent outburst at school, X meets Shirley, and the two teens retreat into a world of sex, drugs and violence. But in finding each other, they just might have a chance to survive. Examining contemporary Europe through the eyes of two lost teens looking to connect, first-time narrative filmmaker Donato Rotunno adapted the story from a novel by Tullio Forgiarini. DIR/SCR Donato Rotunno; SCR/PROD Nicolas Steil: SCR from the novel "Amok" by Tullio Forgiarini, Luxembourg, 2015, color, 90 min. In Luxembourgish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

* Malta

2014 Oscar® Selection, Malta SIMSHAR

Tue, Dec 8, 5:10; Wed, Dec 9, 9:45

Based on a true story from the frontlines of Europe's migrant crisis, set on the Mediterranean Sea around the tiny island country of Malta, south of Sicily. Young Theo is excited to



go out on his father's tuna fishing boat, the Simshar, for the first time. But things go terribly wrong and the boat sinks, leaving the crew stranded far out in the Mediterranean. Meanwhile, Red Cross doctor Alex has been dispatched to a Turkish merchant ship carrying rescued African migrants, including a pregnant woman. Their two stories converge on the high seas, with lifealtering results. DIR/SCR Rebecca Cremona; SCR David Grech; PROD Leslie Lucey. Malta, 2014, color, 101 min. In Maltese with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Netherlands



NENA (2014)

Sat, Dec 19, 11:00 a.m.

Saskia Diesing's award-winning debut feature, an '80s-set coming-of-age tale, features a winning lead performance by Abbey Hoes. Growing up on the Dutch-German border, teenager Nena enjoys Goethe's poetry and Goth style, but really goes wild for her blue-haired, baseball-playing new boyfriend, Carlo. The two youths' pursuit of happiness is tempered by Nena's immense challenges acting as caregiver for her paralyzed father, whose desire to live is waning. Official Selection, 2015 Berlin Film Festival. DIR/SCR Saskia Diesing; SCR Esther Gerritsen; PROD Hanneke Niens, Hans de Wolf. Netherlands/Germany, 2014, color, 94 min. In Dutch and German with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Poland

★SPECIAL PRESENTATION★



BODY (2015) [CIAŁO]

Fri. Dec 18, 7:15; Sun. Dec 20, 1:00

Malgorzata Szumowska won Best Director at the 2015 Berlin Film Festival for this oddball investigation into people's relationships with their minds, bodies and spirits. At a loss to cope with his anorexic, depressed daughter Olga (lustyna Suwala), her coroner father (lanusz Gajos) has her institutionalized for therapy. Olga's counselor Anna (Maja Ostaszewska) gets good results with the girls in her care, but has an unconventional sideline as a medium, putting the living in touch with their dearly departed. Olga's father is dismissive of Anna's "aift," but even he has seen the ghost of his dead wife once or twice... DIR/SCR/PROD Malgorzata Szumowska; SCR/PROD Michal Englert; PROD Jacek Drosio. Poland, 2015, color, 92 min. In Polish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Portugal

(BE)LONGING [VOLTA À TERRA]

Sat, Dec 12, 11:00 a.m.; Tue, Dec 15, 5:10

Documentarian João Pedro Plácido captures the look and feel of rural life in this portrait of a tight-knit community of farmers in the village of Uz in northern Portugal. Daniel is a young farmer, who, unlike many his age who have left Uz for the city, has chosen to stay home and continue the traditional working of the land. The film follows Daniel across a year's time as the seasons change and as the possibility of love with a girl from a neighboring village blooms. Official Selection, 2015 London Film Festival. DIR/SCR João Pedro Plácido; SCR Laurence Ferreira Barbosa; PROD Luís Urbano, Sandro Aguilar. Portugal/Switzerland/France, 2014, color, 78 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles NOT RATED

Romania

\star SPECIAL PRESENTATION \star



2015 Oscar® Selection, Romania AFERIM!

Fri, Dec 11, 7:15; Mon, Dec 14, 7:15

In the principality of Wallachia, life is more Dark Ages than Age of Enlightenment, even in 1835. Constable Costandin and his son have been dispatched by a nobleman to track down a runaway slave accused of seducing the landowner's wife. Foul-mouthed and quick-tempered, Costandin rides roughshod on the local peasantry in his search, explaining to his teenaged son that he's upholding the social order. Radu Jude won Best Director at the 2015 Berlin Film Festival for this visionary historical epic — a European "eastern" counterpoint to the American Western. Official Selection, 2015 Berlin, Tribeca, Karlovy Vary, London Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Radu Jude; SCR Florin Lazarescu, PROD Ada Solomon. Romania/Bulgaria/Czech Republic/France, 2015, color, 108 min. In Romanian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

ONE FLOOR BELOW [UN ETAJ MAI JOS]

Tue, Dec 15, 9:45; Thu, Dec 17, 9:45

On his way up to his apartment, Sandu overhears a violent argument between neighbors Laura and Vali. Later that day, he learns that Laura is dead — possibly murdered. When the police question the building's tenants, Sandu says nothing. He goes back to his daily routine: work, home, walk the dog. But then Vali pays a visit. Radu Muntean (TUESDAY, AFTER CHRISTMAS) deconstructs crime movie conventions with this vision of a society too guick to sweep others' problems under the rug. "A moral dilemma of quasi-Dostoevskian proportions." - Jay Weissberg, Variety. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Karlovy Vary, Toronto, London Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Radu Muntean; SCR Alexandru Baciu, Razvan Radulescu; PROD Dragos Vilcu. Romania/France/Germany/Sweden, 2015, color, 93 min. In Romanian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

→ AFI EUROPEAN UNION FILM SHOWCASE

CLOSING NIGHT



THE TREASURE [COMOARA]

Closing Night: Sat, Dec 19, 7:30

Unemployed Adrian asks neighbor Costi for a loan to fend off foreclosure on his apartment. Rebuffed, Adrian entices Costi to become his partner on a scheme to dig up a mysterious treasure, the existence of which was promised by Adrian's late grandfather. Splitting the cost of hiring a professional metal detector, the odd-couple fortune hunters hit the road. Based on a true story, this deadpan comedy of manners from Corneliu Porumboiu (12:08 EAST OF BUCHAREST; POLICE, ADJECTIVE) digs into Romania's uneasy relationship with its past. A Certain Talent Prize, 2015 Cannes Film Festival; Official Selection, 2015 Karlovy Vary, Toronto, New York Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Corneliu Porumboiu; PROD Marcela Ursu. Romania/France, color, 89 min. In Romanian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

🚾 Slovenia

2015 Oscar® Selection, Slovenia THE TREE (2014) [DREVO]

Thu, Dec 17, 9:40 Mother Milena (Katarina Stegnar), teenager Alek (Jernej Kogovsek) and nine-year-old Veli (Lukas Matija Rosas Ursic) don't venture outside their house. Across three chapters, each exploring the perspective of a single family member, the family's story



and the reasons they fear their neighbors gradually come into focus. Sonja Prosenc's debut feature is a gripping drama that "masterfully maintains an air of steadily mounting tension." -Museum of the Moving Image. Official Selection, 2014 Karlovy Vary Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Sonia Prosenc; PROD Rok Sečen, Sandra Ržen. Slovenia/Italy, 2014, color, 90 min. In Slovene and Albanian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

🚾 Spain

OPENING NIGHT

A PERFECT DAY (2015)

Opening Night: Tue, Dec 1, 7:15; see p. 2 Also screening Sat, Dec 5, 3:05

💴 Slovakia



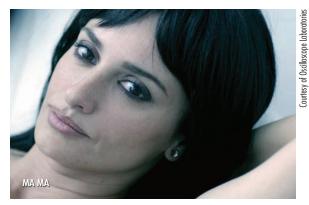
U.S. Premiere! EVA NOVÁ

Sat, Dec 19, 1:00; Sun, Dec 20, 7:15 Leaving her third stint in rehab for alcoholism, faded actress Eva Nová (leading light of Slovak stage and screen Emília Vásáryová) is intent on reconnecting with her estranged son Dodo (Milan Ondrík). But Eva is facing hard times and, with little hope to revive her acting career, must take a job at a grocery. For his part, Dodo wants nothing to do with his mother, but he has more in common with her than he might be willing to admit. This debut narrative feature from documentarian Marko Skop (OSADNÉ) won the FIPRESCI Prize at the 2015 Toronto Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Marko Skop; PROD Jan Melis. Slovakia/Czech Republic, 2015, color, 106 min. In Slovak with English subtitles. NOT RATED

U.S. Premiere! MA MA (2015)

Sun, Dec 6, 3:15; Mon, Dec 7, 7:10

Academy Award® winner Penélope Cruz stars in the latest from visionary Spanish filmmaker Julio Medem (SEX AND LUCIA). Diagnosed with breast cancer and recently left by her husband, a chance encounter with a Real Madrid scout (Luis Tosar, CELL 211) leads to an unexpected romance for Magda (Cruz). Magda and her supportive doctor and family soldier on through treatment, until unexpected but welcome news presents a new set of challenges. Featuring a brilliant performance by Cruz, this transcendent melodrama is filled with love, warmth and, most of all, life, Official Selection, 2015 Toronto Film Festival, DIR/SCR/ PROD Julio Medem; PROD Penélope Cruz. Spain/France, 2015, color, 111 min. In Spanish with English subtitles. NOT RATED



Sweden

THE HERE AFTER [EFTERSKALV]

Sat, Dec 5, 11:00 a.m.; Tue, Dec 8, 9:20 Teenager John (played by Swedish pop star Ulrik Munther) returns to his home in rural Sweden after two years away in a secure institution. It's not immediately revealed what his crime was, but it soon becomes clear that the other kids in school have no intention of forgiving him. Magnus van Horn's powerful debut feature has won acclaim on the international film festival circuit and heralds the arrival of a distinctive new talent. Official Selection, 2015 Cannes, Toronto, London Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Magnus von Horn; PROD Madeleine Ekman, Mariusz Wlodarski. Sweden/Poland/France, 2015, color, 102 min. In Swedish with English subtitles. NOT RATED



₩ UK

*SPECIAL PRESENTATION *



Thu, Dec 10, 7:00; Sun, Dec 13, 3:00

Plans for Kate (Charlotte Rampling) and Geoff (Tom Courtenay) Mercers' 45th anniversary party are thrown into turmoil at the arrival of a letter informing Geoff that the body of his girlfriend Katya has been recovered from the mountain where she fell to her death 50 years ago. Shaken, Geoff withdraws, taking inventory of memories long shelved away. The news affects Kate just as deeply, as Geoff's state of distraction breeds uncertainty and increasingly angrier emotions. Directed and written by Andrew Haigh (WEEKEND, HBO series LOOKING), Best Actor and Actress, 2015 Berlin Film Festival; Official Selection, 2015 Karlovy Vary, Telluride, Toronto Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Andrew Haigh; from the story by David Constantine; PROD Tristan Goligher. UK, 2015, color, 95 min. In English. NOT RATED

Screening supported by D.C. Academy of **Collaborative Professionals**

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HECTOR

Fri, Dec 18, 5:05; Sun, Dec 20, 5:15

Sixtysomething Hector McAdam (Peter Mullan. TRAINSPOTTING) has been living rough in Scotland since an unspeakable family tragedy some 15 years before. Hector

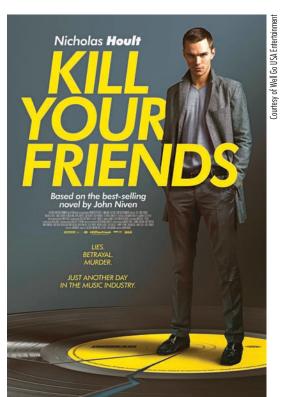


has his demons but he still has his dignity, and friendships with several others in straitened circumstances like himself, including Jimbo (Keith Allen) and Hazel (Natalie Gavin). With Christmas coming, Hector resolves to reconnect with his estranged siblings. Jake Gavin's debut feature is a refreshingly unfussy celebration of caring and community, with wry comic touches amid the affecting personal drama. Official Selection, 2015 Edinburgh, Chicago Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Jake Gavin; PROD Stephen Malit. UK, 2015, color, 87 min. In English. NOT RATED

KILL YOUR FRIENDS

Fri, Dec 11, 9:40; Sat, Dec 12, 9:20

"Do these look like the shoes of someone who gives a f-k about the Velvet Underground?" Former A&R exec John Niven's cult novel, about music biz excess and Machiavellian maneuvering during the UK's late-'90s Britpop craze, is translated to the screen by first-time feature director Owen Harris in all its scathing outrageousness. Nicholas Hoult is Steven Stelfox, whose ruthless ambition, lack of moral compass and appetite for excess have gotten him far. But to get to the top, he'll have to sink lower than ever before. With James Corden, Craig Roberts, Rosanna Arquette, Edward Hogg and Moritz Bleibtreu. Official Selection, 2015 Toronto Film Festival. DIR Owen Harris; SCR John Niven, from his novel; PROD Gregor Cameron. UK, 2015, color, 100 min. In English. NOT RATED





THE LADY IN THE VAN

Sun, Dec 6, 1:00

Following THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE (1994) and THE HISTORY BOYS (2005), former National Theatre director Nicholas Hytner and playwright Alan Bennett's third screen collaboration may be their best yet, featuring a bravura performance by Maggie Smith. In 1973, the residents of the leafy London enclave of Camden Town found their liberal pieties rested by the arrival of an eccentric, elderly vagrant, Mary Shepherd (Smith), who lived out of her van and upset the neighborhood's prevailing pretensions of charity and inclusiveness. Hustled from one parking spot to another, Shepherd eventually wheedled her way into the driveway of Bennett (Alex Jennings), a spot she would not relinquish for the next 15 years. Official Selection, 2015 Toronto Film Festival. DIR/PROD Nicholas Hytner; SCR Alan Bennett, from his memoir and play; PROD Damian Jones, Kevin Loader. UK, 2015, color, 104 min. In English. RATED PG-13

NORTHERN SOUL

Fri, Dec 4, 9:45; Sat, Nov 5, 9:45

Things are grim up north, in the economically depressed Manchester and its surroundings of 1974. But on the dance floor of the local youth center, kids are grooving to American soul, a welcome source of joy amid their straitened circumstances. It's there that John meets Matt, bonding over their shared love for the music and taste for the high life. Soon the two are making pilgrimages to the famous Wigan Casino dance hall and dreaming of becoming top DIs themselves. This labor of love for photographer-turned-filmmaker Elaine Constantine boasts spot-on period décor, fab threads and a soundtrack of floor fillers from the likes of Edwin Starr, Tobi Legend, Linda Jones and Frankie Valli. DIR/SCR Elaine Constantine; PROD Debbie Gray, UK, 2014, color, 102 min. In English. RATED R



SECOND COMING

Sat, Dec 19, 5:15

Playwright Debbie Tucker Green's provocative feature film debut focuses on a modern-day miraculous conception incurred by a married, middle-class mother in Britain. The unexpected, unexplained pregnancy is devoid of any religious connotations, and causes upheaval in the family dynamics among wife Jackie (Nadine Marshall), husband Mark (Idris Elba, LUTHER, THE WIRE) and their 11-year-old son Jerome (Kai Francis Lewis). Official Selection, 2014 Toronto, London, 2015 Rotterdam Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Debbie Tucker Green; PROD Polly Leys, Kate Norrish. UK, 2014, color, 105 min. In English. NOT RATED



***SPECIAL PRESENTATION ***



A ROYAL NIGHT OUT

Sat, Dec 5, 7:30; Sun, Dec 6, 7:15

V-E Day, 1945: After nearly six years of war, peace is won and London erupts into a spontaneous celebration, extending long into the night. Accompanied by two military officers, teenaged princesses Elizabeth (Sarah Gadon, A DANGEROUS METHOD) and Margaret (Bel Powley, THE DIARY OF A TEENAGE GIRL) are allowed by the King and Queen to slip out of Buckingham Palace incognito and join in the historic revelry. As portrayed by talented actresses Gadon and Powley, the royal sisters' big night out is an unforgettable and fun-filled affair, inspired by true events. With Emily Watson, Rupert Everett, Jack Reynor and Roger Allam. DIR Julian Jarrold; SCR Trevor De Silva, Kevin Hood; PROD Robert Bernstein, Douglas Rae. UK, 2015, color, 97 min. In English. NOT RATED

Holiday Classics

December 4-24

AFI Silver's perennial Christmas favorites IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE, THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL, and WHITE CHRISTMAS return, along with THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER and REMEMBER THE NIGHT on their 75th anniversaries. Mixing the naughty with the nice, AFI Silver also presents Henri-Georges Clouzot's Noël-set film noir policier, QUAI DES ORFÈVRES, and Christmastime action-thriller DIE HARD.

\$5 tickets for children under 12 to all films in the series! (Rated R films excluded)



HOLIDAY AFFAIR

Fri. Dec 4, 1:00; Sat, Dec 5, 11:05 a.m.; Sun, Dec 6, 11:05 a.m.

WWII widow Janet Leigh works as a department store comparison shopper during the Christmas season in NYC, and after buying and returning the most expensive train set from the competition's store, gets good-hearted sales clerk Robert Mitchum fired for letting her off easy. Mitchum uses his resulting free time to pal around with Leigh, and romance blooms. However, Leigh's longtime admirer Wendell Corey has just proposed to her. And then there's her young son Timmy - who really wanted that train! Mitchum and Leigh, both just starting their careers, truly shine in this holiday charmer, recently re-discovered for the gem that it is. DIR/PROD Don Hartman; SCR Isobel Lennart, from the story "Christmas Gift" by John D. Weaver. U.S., 1949, b&w, 87 min. NOT RATED

WHITE CHRISTMAS

Fri, Dec 11, 12:30; Sun, Dec 13*, 12:30

*Introduction, plus book sale and signing, by author Steve Taravella (Mary Wickes' biographer) on Dec. 13

Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye star as army vets-cum-nightclub impresarios who fall for a beguiling sister act in the form of Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen. Smitten with the sisters, they follow them from Miami, Florida, to Pine Tree, Vermont, where they are booked to appear in a Christmas show. This Technicolor musical, the biggest box-office hit of 1954 and the first film shot in VistaVision, includes Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" — already an Oscar®-winning song, from its screen introduction 12 years earlier in HOLIDAY INN — plus Oscar nominee "Count' Your Blessings (Instead of Sheep), "Sisters" and "The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing." DIR Michael Curtiz; SCR Norman Krasna, Norman Panama, Melvin Frank; PROD Robert Emmett Dolan. U.S., 1954, color, 120 min. NOT RATED

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (1951)

Sat, Dec 12, 11:05 a.m.; Sun, Dec 13, 11:05 a.m. This 1951 British film features Alastair Sim as Ebenezer Scrooge for many, the definitive performance of the iconic character. Miserly and mean-tempered, Scrooge is shaken to his core when he is visited on Christmas Eve by the ghost of his late business partner, Jacob Marley, and the spirits of Christmas past, present and future, whose phantasmagoric revelations help him to see the error of his ways. DIR/PROD Brian Desmond Hurst; SCR Noel Langley, from the story by Charles Dickens. UK/U.S., 1951, b&w, 86 min. NOT RATED

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Fri, Dec 18, 12:30; Sun, Dec 20, 12:30; Mon, Dec 21, 1:50; Tue, Dec 22, 1:50, 6:45; Wed, Dec 23, 1:50; Thu, Dec 24, 1:50, 6:45

Guardian angel Clarence Odbody saves George Bailey (James Stewart) from a Christmas Eve suicide by showing him how dismal life in the small town of Bedford Falls would have been for his family and friends had he never been born. With Donna Reed as George's adoring wife, Henry Travers as the angel hoping to get his wings and Lionel Barrymore as the villainous Mr. Potter, this all-time Christmas classic may be Frank Capra's finest work. "The epiphany of movie sentiment and a transcendent experience." - Chicago Reader. DIR/SCR/PROD Frank Capra; SCR Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett, Jo Swerling, Philip Van Doren Stern, Michael Wilson. U.S., 1946, b&w, 130 min. NOT RATED





THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL

Fri, Dec 18, 3:15; Sat, Dec 19, 11:10 a.m.; Sun, Dec 20, 11:10 a.m.; Mon, Dec 21, 12:00; Tue, Dec 22, 12:00; Wed, Dec 23, 12:00; Thu, Dec 24, 12:00

The Muppets' version of the Charles Dickens classic ranks among the best. The always-game Michael Caine gives it his all as Ebenezer Scrooge, with Kermit the Frog as Bob Cratchit, Miss Piggy as his wife Emily and Kermit's nephew Robin as Tiny Tim, plus regulars Fozzie, Gonzo, Rizzo Rat and some truly awesome creations from Jim Henson's Creature Shop for the Ghosts of Christmases Past, Present and Yet to Come. DIR/PROD Brian Henson; SCR Jerry Juhl, from the story by Charles Dickens; PROD Martin G. Baker. U.S., 1992, color, 85 min. RATED G



75th Anniversary! REMEMBER THE NIGHT

Mon, Dec 21, 4:45; Wed, Dec 23, 4:45 When shoplifter Barbara Stanwyck gets pinched for lifting a diamond bracelet during Christmastime in New York, it's assistant DA Fred MacMurray's job to send the third-time offender to the big house. With the case postponed until after Christmas, MacMurray floats Stanwyck bail money so she can go home for the holidays — with him, it turns out. Misadventure, mirth and a little holiday magic bring the two together, but there's still that day in court. DIR/PROD Mitchell Leisen; SCR Preston Sturges. U.S., 1940, b&w, 94 min. NOT RATED

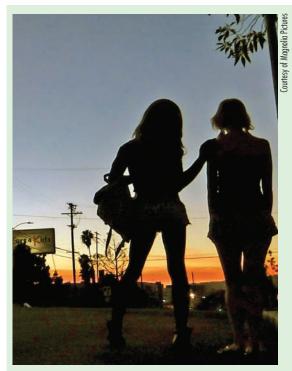
75th Anniversary! #28 on AFI's 100 Years...100 Passions THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER

Mon, Dec 21, 6:45; Thu, Dec 24, 4:30 "Close to perfection - one of the most beautifully acted and paced romantic comedies ever made in this country." -Pauline Kael. On a Hollywood backlot, Ernst Lubitsch recreates Budapest — at least the parts of it that can be seen out the window of Frank Morgan's gift shop, where James Stewart and Margaret Sullavan are two store clerks who have loathed each other from the day they met. But when Stewart answers Sullavan's personal ad from the newspaper's lonely hearts column, they begin an anonymous love affair by mail, with the big reveal coming on Christmas Eve. DIR/PROD Ernst Lubitsch; SCR Samson



QUAI DES ORFÈVRES aka JENNY LAMOUR

Sun, Dec 20, 11:30 a.m.: Wed, Dec 23, 6:45 When a lecherous old moneybags turns up dead, the showgirl he was pursuing, Jenny Lamour (Suzy Delair), becomes the prime suspect. But crafty Inspector Antoine (Louis Jouvet) wants to take a closer look at Jenny's associates in and out of showbiz, including jealous husband Maurice (Bernard Blier) and her photographer gal pal Dora (Simone Renant). Can he crack the case before Christmas? This colorful and twist-laden crime drama was directed and written by French master of suspense Henri-Georges Clouzot (LES DIÁBOLIQUES). DIR/SCR Henri-Georges Clouzot; SCR Jean Ferry, from the novel "Légitime Défense" by Stanislas-André Steeman; PROD Roger De Venloo, Louis Wipf. France, 1947, b&w, 106 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED



"TANGERINE is the frenetic transgender iPhone Christmas movie of the year." -The A.V. Club.

TANGERINE (2015)

Wed, Dec 23, 9:00

Fresh out of jail on Christmas Eve in Hollywood, Sin-Dee Rella (Kitana Kiki Rodriguez) hears a rumor that her pimp boyfriend (James Ransone) wasn't faithful while she was locked up. With the help of her best friend and fellow working girl Alexandra (Mya Taylor), the two tear up Tinseltown in search of the mysterious woman who stole Sin-Dee's man. Bursting with energy and humor, and shot entirely on three iPhone 5s smartphones by filmmaker Sean Baker (STARLET, PRINCE OF BROADWAY), this is a bold Christmas tale for a new generation. Official Selection, 2015 Sundance Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Sean Baker; SCR Chris Bergoch; PROD Karrie Cox, Marcus Cox, Darren Dean, Shih-Ching Tsou. U.S., 2015, color, 88 min. RATED R



DIE HARD

Tue, Dec 22, 9:20; Thu, Dec 24, 9:20 In LA to visit his estranged wife, Bonnie Bedelia, tough-as-nails NY cop Bruce Willis barely has time to feel out of place at her company Christmas party before a band of terrorists takes the building hostage, demanding the \$600M in the company vault. Masterminding the terror plot is sophisticated villain Alan Rickman; bumbling the response



are the LAPD and the FBI. Willis is in the wrong place at the wrong time, but he's the right man for the job, fighting his way through "forty stories of sheer adventure" in this supremely well-crafted, characterized, exciting and often hilarious thrill ride — much imitated, never equaled and still unsurpassed. DIR John McTiernan; SCR Jeb Stuart, Steven E. de Souza, from the novel "Nothing Lasts Forever" by Roderick Thorp; PROD Joel Silver, Lawrence Gordon. U.S., 1988, color, 131 min. RATED R



A CHRISTMAS STORY

Mon, Dec 21, 9:00; Tue, Dec 22, 4:30 All Ralphie wants for Christmas is a Red Ryder BB gun, but the only response he gets from his mother is, "You'll shoot your eye out." For those who've experienced this film, it's hard to imagine that phrase without hearing the voice of Jean Shepherd, the narrator and writer of this classic Christmas tale. No matter how many times audiences see it, they keep coming back for the brilliant comedic turns by Peter Billingsley, Melinda Dillon and Darren McGavin. DIR/SCR/PROD Bob Clark; SCR Leigh Brown, Jean Shepherd, from his book "In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash"; PROD René Dupont. U.S./Canada, 1983, color, 94 min. RATED PG

Special Engagements

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Thu, Nov 26, 11:00 a.m., 7:00; Fri, Nov 27, 11:00 a.m., 7:00; Sat, Nov 28, 12:00; Sun, Nov 29, 11:00 a.m.; Mon, Nov 30, 4:30

"Lions and tigers and bears. Oh my!" When Louis B. Mayer couldn't get Shirley Temple, he took a gamble and cast Judy Garland as Dorothy, the lonely dreamer from Kansas who runs away with her dog Toto and is transported over the rainbow to the magical land of Oz. The film earned six Oscar® nominations, with wins for Best Score and Best Sona ("Over the Rainbow"). DIR Victor Fleming; SCR Noel Langley, Florence Ryerson, Edgar Allan Woolf based on "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum; PROD Mervyn LeRoy. U.S., 1939, b&w/color, 101 min. NOT RATED



50th Anniversary! **REPULSION**

Thu, Nov 26, 4:30; Fri, Nov 27, 4:30; Mon, Nov 30, 6:45

Roman Polanski, making his first English-language film, crafted this odd, imagistic and unsettling psychological horror film. French icon Catherine Deneuve, also in her English-language debut, stars as Carol, a fragile Belgian beauty who has recently joined her sister Helen (Yvonne Furneaux) in London. Seemingly unnerved around men, including potential suitors and Helen's beau Michael (Ian Hendry), and increasingly driven to distraction in her daily life, Carol's mental state goes from bad to worse when Helen and Michael go on a weekend getaway - leaving Carole alone with her demons, and dangerously on edge when a gentleman comes calling. DIR/SCR Roman Polanski; SCR Gérard Brach, David Stone; PROD Gene Gutowski. UK, 1965, b&w, 105 min. NOT RATED



50th Anniversary!

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Sat, Nov 28, 2:30; Sun, Nov 29, 4:20

THE SOUND OF MUSIC IS quite simply one of the most successful and best-loved movies in motion picture history. Ernest Lehman's screenplay made crucial changes

to Rodgers and Hammerstein's Broadway production, including having Julie Andrews' Maria sing "My Favorite Things" to the von Trapp kids (instead of the Mother Abbess



singing it to Maria), while director Robert Wise and associate producer Saul Chaplin thrillingly transplanted the performance of "Do-Re-Mi" from indoors to all over Salzburg. Five wins among 10 Oscar® nominations, including Best Picture and Director for Wise. DIR/PROD Robert Wise; SCR Ernest Lehman, from the musical by Howard Lindsay, Russel Crouse, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. U.S., 1965, color, 184 min including 10-min intermission. RATED G

60th Anniversary! New DCP restoration from the 70mm negative! OKLAHOMA!

Fri, Nov 27, 1:15; Sun, Nov 29, 1:15 The first Rodgers and Hammerstein collaboration to reach the silver screen was nominated for four Academy Awards®, winning Best Score of a Musical Picture. Shirley Jones made her screen debut as the strong-headed country girl who falls in love with equally stubborn cowboy Gordon MacRae in turn-ofthe-century Öklahoma Territory. When Gloria Grahame must choose between stable sweetheart Gene Nelson and the noncommittal, smooth-talking Eddie Albert, musical mayhem ensues. Classic songs include "Oklahoma!" and "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'." DIR Fred Zinnemann, SCR Sonya Levien, William Ludwig, from the musical by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II and the play by Lynn Riggs; PROD Arthur Hornblow, Jr. U.S., 1955, color, 145 min, DCP. RATED G



Keeping Up with Quentin Tarantino

Before you see THE HATEFUL EIGHT (opens December 25, see p. 16), catch up with Quentin Tarantino's most recent films here.

INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS

Thu, Nov 26, 9:15; Fri, Nov 27, 9:15; Mon, Nov 30, 9:00 Once Upon a Time in Nazi-Occupied France... Brad Pitt leads "The Basterds," a group of hardbitten, mainly Jewish Americans recruited for the Nazi killin' business, while fugitive French-Jewish cinephile Mélanie Laurent hatches her own plot to win the war. With the infamous "Jew Hunter" Christoph Waltz (in an Oscar®-winning performance) hot on both their trails, risks must be taken in order to change the course of history. Quentin Tarantino's ode to war pictures owes just as much to Spaghetti Westerns: anti-heroics, bloody-minded revenge and the music of Ennio Morricone. Co-starring Michael Fassbender, Diane Kruger, Eli Roth and Mike Myers. DIR/SCR Quentin Tarantino; PROD Lawrence Bender. U.S./Germany, 2009, color, 153 min. RATED R





DJANGO UNCHAINED

Sat, Nov 28, 9:15; Sun, Nov 29, 8:00 Bounty hunter Dr. King Schultz (Christoph Waltz, in an Oscar®winning role) makes an unusual offer to the slave Django (Jamie Foxx) — help him track down Django's former owners, the outlaw Brittle Brothers, and he'll be set free. But Django likes the bounty-hunting business, and forms a partnership with Schultz, honing his skills and seeking his long-lost beloved, Broomhilda (Kerry Washington). Quentin Tarantino's antebellum Western-Blaxploitation mashup is a marvel of righteous revenge narrative and cinematic provocation. With outstanding supporting performances by Samuel L. Jackson and Leonardo DiCaprio. DIR/SCR Quentin Tarantino; PROD Reginald Hudlin, Pilar Savone, Stacey Sher. U.S., 2012, color, 165 min RATED R

12 Daily Listings: 301.495.6700

Dear AFI Silver patrons,

As the year draws to a close, I hope you have time to visit AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center to enjoy our AFI European Union Film Showcase and holiday programming.

Over the course of 12 years, AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center has become a landmark institution in the Washington community. As one of the nation's premier film centers, AFI Silver builds an appreciation of the motion picture arts through our screening programs, devoted to new and classic films and filmmakers from around the globe, in a theatrical setting of the highest standards. As such, AFI Silver serves as a national model for preserving and honoring our shared film and film-going heritage.

When I look back on 2015, I am proud that we have continued to uphold and grow our commitment to bringing our community a rich and diverse program of national stature:

- We started with our extensive Leading Ladies of Hollywood's Golden Age series, celebrating classic and iconic screen stars such as Bette Davis, Barbara Stanwyck, Katharine Hepburn and Ingrid Bergman.
- We explored the world of international cinema with our New African Film Festival, Caribbean FilmFest, Korean Film Festival, AFI Latin American Film Festival and our current AFI European Union Film Showcase.
- We presented unique series devoted to Film Noir, Silent Cinema with live musical accompaniment, 3-D films, Shakespeare on Screen and Black Independent Filmmakers in New York - films that only AFI Silver could bring to our community.

In addition to our ongoing public programming, AFI Silver maintains a robust commitment to K-12education. AFI Silver's Educational Screenings Program is stronger than ever, having offered more than 80 sessions this past academic year. By the end of this lune, the total number of students served since the program's inception will exceed 100,000.

On behalf of all of us here at AFI Silver, I want to offer sincere thanks and appreciation to the many individuals, corporations and foundations that support us, and especially to the people of Montgomery County and the State of Maryland who make it possible for the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center to be what it is today.

We look forward to seeing you at the movies!

Best wishes,

Director, AFI Silver Theatre & Cultural Center









Clockwise left to right: The Washington Nationals' Teddy Roosevelt has a "reel" good time visiting AFI Silver Theatre; 1960s and '70s Cambodian musicians perform at a special screening of documentary DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN: CAMBODIA'S LOST ROCK & ROLL; Academy-Award®nominated animator Bill Plympton draws custom "Plymptoons" for audience members following the screening of his film CHEATIN'; Writer/actress Greta Gerwig and actress Lola Kirke at the advance screening of MISTRESS AMERICA, an exclusive event for AFI Members.

SUPPORTERS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center is grateful to the individual, corporate, foundation and government supporters whose annual giving plays a vital role in AFI's mission in the greater Maryland and Washington, DC, area. The following donors have given between October 15, 2014 - October 14, 2015:

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SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



THE GREAT BEAUTY [LA GRANDE BELLEZZA]

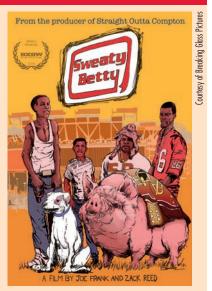
Thu, Nov 26, 1:30; Sat, Nov 28, 6:15
Paolo Sorrentino, whose new film YOUTH opens in the U.S. in December, won the Oscar® for Best Foreign Language Film of 2013 for this epic meditation on life in the "Eternal City" of Rome. Once a promising young writer, the aging Jep Gambardella (the great Toni Servillo, IL DIVO, GOMORRAH) has for too long been an overly comfortable celebrity journalist, living la dolce vita and chronicling Rome's non-stop nightlife, parties and pop culture. But with his 65th birthday approaching, Jep receives unexpected news about a woman from his past, causing him to take stock of the way he has been living his life. DIR/SCR Paolo Sorrentino; SCR Umberto Contarello; PROD Francesca Cima, Nicola Giuliano. Italy/France, 2013, color, 141 min. In Italian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

MARS: Mid-Atlantic Regional Showcase

Washington, DC-area premiere! SWEATY BETTY

Mon. Jan 4, 7:15

Q&A with filmmakers; see website for details A rough-and-tumble portrait of a couple of hustlers in Hyattsville, Maryland, this festival favorite is the debut of local filmmakers Joe Frank and Zachary Reed. Floyd dreams of his prized 1,000-pound hog becoming the Washington Redskins' mascot. Two single fathers, Rico and Scooby, look to make a better life, scheme to sell their new dog. Employing neighborhood characters and nonprofessional actors, this loosely improvised film is a unique and unpredictable delight. Grand Chameleon Award, Best Narrative Feature, 2015 Brooklyn Film Festival. Special Jury Prize, Cinematic Non-Fiction, 2015 Little Rock Film Festival; Official Selection, 2015 SXSW Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Joseph Frank; DIR/SCR Zachary Reed; SCR Seth Dubois, Floyd Rich, Rico S. U.S., 2015, color, 94 min. NOT RATED











Repertory Program

