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# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 51ST CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL HOSTS ENCORE SCREENINGS OF COMPETITION WINNERS & AUDIENCE FAVORITES

*Festival Highlights The "Best of the Fest" on Wed, Oct 28 and Thurs, Oct 29*

(CHICAGO, Oct 25, 2015) - See the winners of the 51st Chicago International Film Festival's competitions as well as Festival favorites during **Best of the Fest**. The screenings will be held Wed, Oct 28 and Thurs, Oct 29 at the AMC River East 21 (322 E. Illinois St.). Tickets are now available.

Festival audiences will have a second chance to view ten of the top features and short film programs from this year's slate of exceptional films, including Founder's Award winner **Where To Invade Next**. The film celebrated its Midwest premiere at this year's Festival, one of just three screenings of the film anywhere in the country.

**Best of the Fest** will also feature director Philippe Claudel's powerful **A Childhood** (France), winner of both the Gold Hugo for Best Film and the Silver Hugo for Best Actor for first-time performances from child actors Alexi Mathieu and Jules Gauzelin; New Directors Competition Gold Hugo winner **Underground Fragrance** (China, France), director Pengfei Song's illuminating ode to modern Chinese society; and a profound reality of revenge and compassion with director Pablo Larraín's **The Club** (Chile), winner of three Festival awards. Complete details listed below.

### Wednesday, October 28

AMC River East 21

#### Shorts 2: Covered In Lines - Animation

BEST OF FEST

Countries: France, Germany, Ireland, Lebanon, Qatar, South Korea, USA

Directors: various

Synopsis: Cute creatures, wacky characters, and prodigious landscapes meet in these out-of-the-ordinary shorts that reveal fresh angles on the world.

- Screening: Wednesday, October 28, 3:00pm

### **Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict**

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Country: USA

Director: Lisa Immordino Vreeland

Synopsis: Peggy Guggenheim—bohemian, socialite, curator—blazed a trail past her famous uncle's museum. She helped launch such acclaimed modern artists as Wassily Kandinsky, Jackson Pollock, and her second husband Max Ernst, one of her many romantic involvements. This fascinating, entertaining portrait of Guggenheim's turbulent life, many loves, and surprising career reveals a woman who was every bit the iconoclast as the artists she championed.

- Screening: Wednesday, October 28, 5:00pm

### **Volta a Terra**

GOLD HUGO in Documentary Competition

Country: Portugal

Director: João Pedro Plácido

Synopsis: Daniel, a charismatic young farmer in northern Portugal, is dedicated to the farming methods of his forbearers. But will dreams of love take him away from his homeland? A bittersweet coming-of-age story featuring illuminating, hypnotic photography of the Portuguese countryside amid the changing seasons, *Volta à Terra* is a poetic love song to traditional ways of life.

- Screening 1: Wednesday, October 28, 6:00pm

### **Henry Gamble's Birthday Party**

SILVER Q HUGO

Country: USA

Director: Stephen Cone

Synopsis: Henry's turning 17, and he thinks he might be gay. But he's not telling his pastor father, who's throwing him a pool party. Soon, school mates and church friends are spending a sunny, hormonal afternoon together in their swimsuits. Unfolding over the course of one day, this funny and heartbreakingly honest portrait from Chicagoan Stephen Cone explores the intersection between devout faith and burgeoning sexuality.

- Screening 1: Wednesday, October 28, 6:30pm

### **The Club (El Club)**

SILVER HUGO, BEST DIRECTOR in International Feature Competition

SILVER PLAQUE, BEST ENSEMBLE in International Feature Competition

SILVER PLAQUE, BEST SCREENPLAY in International Feature Competition

Country: Chile

Director: Pablo Larraín

Synopsis: Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at the Berlin Film Festival, this unsettling drama from director Pablo Larraín (*No*) centers on a group of disgraced Catholic priests sequestered in a beach house. The tranquility of their anonymous daily routine is disturbed when a young man materializes with charges of abuse. The priests' reaction to this unwanted interloper carries echoes of their institution's shocking past.

- Screening 1: Wednesday, October 28, 7:45pm

### **Nahid**

ROGER EBERT AWARD winner

Country: Iran

Director: Ida Panahandeh

Synopsis: Nahid, a young divorcée, is allowed to live with her son, but only on the condition that she does not remarry. Hoping to move in with the man she loves, Nahid considers another

option called “temporary marriage.” But is this legal loophole a salvation or a curse? Starring A Separation’s Sareh Bayat, this accomplished Cannes Film Festival award winner weighs the rewards of domestic security against the sacrifices of personal freedoms.

- Screening: Wednesday, October 28, 8:00pm

### **Where To Invade Next**

FOUNDER’S AWARD winner

Country: USA

Director: Michael Moore

Synopsis: What has lured Michael Moore, the documentary genre’s most entertaining rabble-rouser, back to feature films after a six-year hiatus? Only the future of his country, naturally. *Where To Invade Next* is an expansive, rib-tickling, and subversive comedy in which Moore, playing the role of “invader,” visits a host of nations to learn how the U.S. could improve its own prospects. The creator of *Fahrenheit 9/11* and *Bowling for Columbine* is back with this hilarious and eye-opening call to arms. *Where To Invade Next* shows the solutions to America’s most entrenched problems already exist in the world, he says—they’re just waiting to be co-opted.

- Screening: Wednesday, October 28, 8:00pm

### **For Grace**

AUDIENCE FAVORITE

Country: USA

Director: Kevin Pang, Mark Helenowski

Synopsis: After cooking his way through Chicago’s top kitchens, renowned Chef Curtis Duffy begins plans for his dream establishment, Grace. A delicious look at what it takes to build one of the world’s greatest restaurants, and the complex story of a man forging a new future out of his traumatic past.

- Screening: Wednesday, October 28, 8:45pm

## **Thursday, October 29**

*AMC River East 21*

### **Underground Fragrance (Di Xia Xiang)**

GOLD HUGO in New Directors Competition

Country: China, France

Director: Pengfei Song

Synopsis: On the rapidly urbanizing outskirts of Beijing, Yong Le spends his days scouring homes scheduled for demolition for furniture to pawn and his nights in the sub-basement of a high-rise apartment building. After an accident blinds him, a nightclub dancer, hoping to secure a day job with a real estate developer, nurses him back to health. The film reveals a world in which everyone, literally and figuratively, is looking to move up.

- Screening: Thursday, October 29, 5:30pm

### **A Childhood (Une Enfance)**

GOLD HUGO, BEST FILM in International Feature Competition

SILVER HUGO, BEST MALE ACTOR in International Feature Competition

Country: France

Director: Philippe Claudel

Synopsis: In this tender, keenly observed look at growing up in poverty in small town France, 13-year-old Jimmy dreams of a bourgeois life with family vacations and games of tennis.

Trapped in an unstable household with a drug-addicted mother and her criminal boyfriend, Jimmy is forced to grow up too quickly. Over the course of a sweltering summer, Jimmy must find moments of hope in a world full of strife.

- Screening: Thursday, October 29, 7:45pm

#### ABOUT CINEMA/CHICAGO

Cinema/Chicago is a not-for-profit arts and education organization dedicated to encouraging better understanding between cultures and to making a positive contribution to the art form of the moving image. The Chicago International Film Festival is one of the year-round programs presented by Cinema/Chicago, which also include its Television Awards, CineYouth Festival, INTERCOM Competition, International Screenings Program, and Education Program.

Celebrating its 51st anniversary this year, the Chicago International Film Festival is North America's longest-running competitive film festival, running Oct 15-29, 2015 at the AMC River East (322 E. Illinois St, Chicago). Photos and media accreditation may be found at [ChicagoFilmFestival.com/press](http://ChicagoFilmFestival.com/press).

This year's Festival slate includes six World Premieres, 15 North American Premieres, and 45 U.S. Premieres! The Festival lineup, full schedule, and tickets are available at [ChicagoFilmFestival.com](http://ChicagoFilmFestival.com).

#### FESTIVAL PARTNERS

The 51st Chicago International Film Festival's sponsors include Gold Festival Partners: TIAA-CREF, Columbia College Chicago, Wintrust Community Banks; Official Airline: American Airlines; Headquarters Hotel: JW Marriott Chicago; Silver Festival Partners: Bloomberg, Intersites; Platinum Media Partners: National CineMedia (NCM), JC Decaux, Michigan Avenue Magazine; Gold Media Partners: WTTW11, Time Out Chicago, WBEZ91.5, WXRT-FM, WBBM Newsradio, and The Hollywood Reporter; Bronze Festival Partners: Stella Artois, AARP, Tribune Media; Participating Partners: SundanceNow Doc Club, Whole Foods, Wansas Tequila, Cultivate Studios, Netrix, KIND, OtterBox, Optimus, Sound Investment; Official Vehicle: Volvo; Participating Hotels: Public Chicago, The Whitehall Hotel, theWit and Loews Chicago Hotel; and Cultural Partners: Consulate General of Argentina in Chicago, Consulate General of Italy in Chicago, Italian Cultural Institute of Chicago, Italian Film Commission, Italian Trade Agency, Polish Film Institute, Goethe Institut, Austrian Cultural Forum New York, ANCINE National Cinema Agency of Brazil, and Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest. With Foundation and Government support from the National Endowment of the Arts, Alphawood Foundation Chicago, the Illinois Arts Council, and Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events, and the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. Additional support provided by Allstate, the Chicago Architecture Biennial, Dark Horse Wine, Effen Vodka, Lavazza, and SkinnyPop.

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