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PABLO LARRAÍN’S JACKIE, CONVERSATION WITH TARAJI P. HENSON ADDED TO 52ND CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL LINEUP
Larraín to receive Artistic Achievement Award; Henson previews HIDDEN FIGURES; Cynthia Nixon attends with A QUIET PASSION

Chicago (October 4, 2016) - The Chicago International Film Festival today announces the addition of new films and programs to the event lineup, including a screening of JACKIE with filmmaker Pablo Larrain in attendance; and a conversation with HIDDEN FIGURES star Taraji P. Henson. Additionally announced are three films new to the lineup; details and tickets are available now at www.chicagofilmfestival.com.

Pablo Larrain is scheduled to attend the Chicago International Film Festival for the first time with JACKIE, the gripping biopic starring Natalie Portman as Jacqueline Kennedy in the days following her husband’s assassination. Larrain will be presented with the Festival’s Artistic Achievement Award, honoring his prolific filmography to date. The Festival also screens Larrain’s NERUDA, starring Gael García Bernal as a government agent intent on capturing the poet and activist. Last year, Larrain’s THE CLUB received several Festival honors, including the Silver Hugo for Best Screenplay and Best Director, before going on to a successful theatrical release and a Golden Globe nomination. The screening of JACKIE and the award presentation is scheduled for Monday, October 17 at 7:30pm at AMC River East.

In advance of the highly anticipated release of HIDDEN FIGURES, the story of three African American women who served at NASA on the mission to send John Glenn into orbit, Academy Award(r)-nominated actress Taraji P. Henson joins the Festival for a conversation and a sneak peek at clips from the film. Henson, best known locally for her powerhouse role as Cookie Lyon on Empire, will be in conversation about the new film and the true story behind it on Sunday, October 23 at 8:30p at AMC River East. This exciting evening is slated during the time allocated for a Festival secret screening; this screening will be rescheduled and announced in the coming days.

Larraín and Henson join a vibrant roster of filmmakers and stars headed to Chicago for the Festival, October 13-27. Cynthia Nixon is scheduled to attend alongside an added screening (October 19, 8:15p.m.) of Terence Davies’s A QUIET PASSION, the period drama featuring Nixon as American poet and recluse Emily Dickinson that will enjoy a future U.S. theatrical release through Chicago’s own Music Box Films. Also slated to attend are Peter Bogdanovich and Alfonso Arau (each receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award); Geraldine Chaplin will be honored with a gala at Chicago’s famed Essanay Studios and the Career Achievement Award on Saturday, October 15. Other special guests attending with films include Danny Glover (Pushing Dead and 93 Days), Julie Dash (Daughter of the Dust), Tracy Letts (Christine) and more.

Additionally, three films were recently announced as new additions to the Chicago International Film Festival lineup. Making its world premiere is ESPN’s 30 for 30 documentary CATHOLICS VS. CONVICTS, the story of the bitter rivalry
between the Notre Dame and the University of Miami football teams. The Festival also announces a screening of I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO, the acclaimed documentary that captures writer James Baldwin’s sharp perspective on racism in America. And in conjunction with the Festival’s honoring iconic filmmaker Peter Bogdanovich, a screening of a new restoration of the filmmaker’s THEY ALL LAUGHED is slated.

Tickets are now on sale for each of these new events and screenings at the Festival Box Office (AMC River East), via the Festival Hotline (312.332.FILM) and online at www.chicagofilmfestival.com

NEW PROGRAM ADDITIONS

JACKIE -- Dir. Pablo Larraín
JACKIE is a searing and intimate portrait of one of the most important and tragic moments in American history, seen through the eyes of the iconic First Lady, then Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy (Natalie Portman). JACKIE places us in her world during the days immediately following her husband’s assassination. Known for her extraordinary dignity and poise, here we see a psychological portrait of the First Lady as she struggles to maintain her husband’s legacy and the world of “Camelot” that they created and loved so well.

A Conversation with Taraji P. Henson - featuring a sneak peek at clips from HIDDEN FIGURES
HIDDEN FIGURES -- Dir. Theodore Melfi
Hidden Figures is the incredible untold story of Katherine G. Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe)—brilliant African-American women working at NASA, who served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation’s confidence, turned around the Space Race, and galvanized the world. The visionary trio crossed all gender and race lines to inspire generations to dream big.

CATHOLICS VS. CONVICTS -- Dir. Patrick Creadon, U.S.
Charting one of the most heated college sports rivalries of all time, Catholics vs. Convicts examines the storied back-and-forth between the University of Notre Dame Fighting Irish and the University of Miami Hurricanes. After Miami humiliated Notre Dame in a stinging 58-7 defeat in 1985, the Irish became fixated on revenge. In this sweeping documentary, an upcoming chapter of ESPN’s acclaimed “30 for 30” series, Notre Dame alumni and Chicago native Patrick Creadon (Wordplay) tells an epic story culminating in the 1988 showdown for the ages. 102 min.

I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO -- Dir. Raoul Peck, U.S./France/Belgium/Switzerland
In 1979, writer James Baldwin embarked on his final project, Remember This House, an account of the lives and assassinations of his friends Martin Luther King Jr., Medgar Evers, and Malcolm X. Baldwin never finished the book, but this stunning documentary essay by Haitian director Raoul Peck (Lumumba) breathes new life into Baldwin’s mellifluous text—spoken in voiceover by Samuel L. Jackson—and piercingly demonstrates how his sharp perspective on racism in America remains as relevant as ever.
THEY ALL LAUGHED -- Dir. Peter Bogdanovich, U.S.

A love letter to early-'80s New York City and classic Hollywood screwball comedies, Peter Bogdanovich's scrappy, Hawksian 1981 picture follows three detectives (Ben Gazzara, John Ritter, and Blaine Novak) and the beautiful women they fall in love with whom they've been hired to surveil (Audrey Hepburn, Colleen Camp, Dorothy Stratten, and Patti Hansen). Heralded by directors such as Quentin Tarantino and Wes Anderson, Bogdanovich's most personal film is a breezy romantic roundelay, being screened in a new digital restoration.

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About Cinema/Chicago

Cinema/Chicago, the presenting organization of the Chicago International Film Festival, is a year round not-for-profit arts and education organization dedicated to fostering better communication between people of diverse cultures through the art of film and the moving image. Proceeds from the Festival benefit Cinema/Chicago's programs throughout the year, including the International Screenings Program, the Chicago International Television Festival, CineYouth Festival, the Education Program and Members Film Screening Series. Celebrating its 52nd edition October 13-27, the Chicago International Film Festival is North America's longest-running competitive film festival.

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