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THE 55TH CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION SELECTIONS

Celebrated Auteurs and Emerging Masters Make their U.S. and North American Premieres in Chicago

CHICAGO - The 55th Chicago International Film Festival announced today its prestigious competitions line-up. As the longest running competitive film festival in North America, the Festival continues its tradition of showcasing bold and accomplished new international films, in a program that represents a diversity of styles, stories, and national cinemas. With most of the films screening as North American and U.S. premieres, the Chicago International Film Festival is proud to introduce these movies to American audiences for the first time.

Many of the films have already been selected or will go on to be chosen as their countries' submissions for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, including *Adam* (Morocco), *Corpus Christi* (Poland), *Our Mothers* (Belgium), and *Spider* (Chile). Additionally, several of last year's Chicago International selections are representing their nations' 2020 Oscar submissions, including *Aga* (Bulgaria), *Joy* (Austria), *Dear Son* (Tunisia) and *Volkenbruch's Wondrous Journey Into The Arms Of A Shiksa* (Switzerland).

New Directors Competition

Adam (Morocco-France-Belgium) dir. Maryam Touzani *U.S. premiere*

Bombay Rose (India, United Kingdom, Qatar, France) dir. Gitanjali Rao *U.S. premiere*

The Components of Love (Germany) dir. Miriam Bliese *North American premiere*

Instinct (The Netherlands) dir. Halina Reijn *U.S. premiere*

Just 6.5 (Iran) dir. Saeed Roustaei *North American premiere*

Litigante (Colombia) dir. Franco Lolli *North American premiere*

Maternal (Italy-Argentina) dir. Maura Delpero *North American premiere*

Oleg (Belgium-Lithuania-France) dir. Juris Kursietis *North American premiere*

The Orphanage (Denmark-Germany-France-Luxembourg-Afghanistan-Qatar) dir. Shahrbanoo Sadat *North American premiere*

Our Mothers (Guatemala-Belgium-France) dir. César Díaz *North American premiere*

Sheena667 (Russia) dir. Grigory Dobrygin *North American premiere*

Sole (Italy-Poland) dir. Carlo Sironi *U.S. premiere*

A Thief's Daughter (Spain) dir. Bélen Funes *North American premiere*

Wild Sparrow (Taiwan) dir. Shih Li *U.S. premiere*

International Feature Competition

Balloon (China) dir. Pema Tseden *U.S. premiere*

Clemency (USA) dir. Chinonye Chukwu

Corpus Christi (Poland) dir. Jan Komasa *U.S. premiere*

The Fever (Brazil) dir. Maya Da Rin *U.S. premiere*

Fire Will Come (Spain-France-Luxembourg) dir. Oliver Laxe

A Girl Missing (Japan) dir. Koji Fukada

Gloria Mundi (France) dir. Robert Guédiguian *North American premiere*

Lara (Germany) dir. Jan-Ole Gerster *North American premiere*

La Llorona (Guatemala) dir. Jayro Bustamante *U.S. premiere*

Mayor of Rione Sanita (Italy) dir. Mario Martone *North American premiere*

The Painted Bird (Czech Republic-Ukraine-Slovak Republic) dir. Václav Marhoul *U.S. premiere*

Portrait of a Lady on Fire (France) dir. Céline Sciamma

The Sleepwalkers (Argentina) dir. Paula Hernández *U.S. premiere*

Sorry We Missed You (UK-France-Belgium) dir. Ken Loach

Spider (Chile-Argentina-Brazil) dir. Andrés Wood *U.S. premiere*

Vitalina Varela (Portugal) dir. Pedro Costa

International Documentary Competition

The Cordillera of Dreams (Chile) dir. Patricio Guzmán *U.S. premiere*

Digitalkarma (Switzerland) dirs. Francesca Scalisi, Mark Olexa *North American premiere*

The Hypnotist (Finland) dir. Arthur Franck *U.S. premiere*

Forman vs. Forman (Czech Republic) dirs. Jakub Hejna, Helena Trestíková *North American premiere*

MOTHER (Thailand/Belgium) dir. Kristof Bilsen *North American premiere*

My Father and Me (UK) dir. Nick Broomfield

Love Child (Denmark) dir. Eva Mulvad *U.S. premiere*

Ringside (U.S.-Germany) dir. Andre Hörmann *North American premiere*

Waiting for the Carnival (Brazil) dir. Marcelo Gomes *North American premiere*

Festival Information

The 55th Chicago International Film Festival runs Oct. 16-27, 2019 at the AMC River East, 322 E. Illinois St., and features more than 150 films, with a vast diversity of offerings, including numerous competitive categories and several highlight programs such as Black Perspectives, Cinemas of the Americas, International Comedy, Women in Cinema, Out-Look, After Dark and the City & State program (showcasing films made in Chicago and throughout Illinois.)

Festival Sponsors and Partners

The 55th Chicago International Film Festival's sponsors include Major Festival Sponsors: Bloomberg Philanthropies, Chloe Wine Collection, Citi, Columbia College Chicago, Xfinity;

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About Cinema/Chicago

Cinema/Chicago, the presenting organization of the Chicago International Film Festival, is a year-round nonprofit arts and education organization dedicated to fostering better communication between people of diverse cultures through the art of film and the moving image. Cinema/Chicago's programs include the Chicago International Film Festival, Summer Screenings Program, CineYouth Festival, and year-round Education Program. Celebrating its 55th edition October 16-27, 2019, the Chicago International Film Festival is North America's longest-running competitive film festival. For more information, please visit www.chicagofilmfestival.com or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#).

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