



The
Chicago
International
Film Festival

56th Chicago International Film Festival
October 14-25, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 22, 2020

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**NOMADLAND, STARRING FRANCES McDORMAND, ANNOUNCED AS
CLOSING-NIGHT FILM FOR THE 56TH CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL,
SHOWING EXCLUSIVELY AT THE DRIVE-IN ON OCTOBER 24**

Eight films showing live at the 56th Chicago International Film Festival (October 14-25), include *Ammonite*, starring Kate Winslet, Spike Lee's *David Byrne's American Utopia*, Regina King's *One Night in Miami*, Justin Simien's *Bad Hair*, genre movie *The Dark and the Wicked*, the World Premiere of Chicago-made *The Road Up*, and the previously announced World Premiere of *Belushi*

Chicago, IL (September 22, 2020) – Artistic Director **Mimi Plauché** announces that Venice Film Festival Golden Lion winner ***Nomadland***, starring Frances McDormand, will be the closing night drive-in presentation of the **56th Chicago International Film Festival** on Saturday, October 24. Director **Chloé Zhao**'s festival favorite is among eight films that audiences can view in person at ChiTown Movies Drive-In during the 2020 Festival. The Festival's live Drive-In screenings include:

- The previously announced World Premiere of ***Belushi*** on Opening Night
- ***David Byrne's American Utopia*** directed by **Spike Lee** on Thursday, October 15
- ***The Dark and the Wicked***, a new horror film co-presented with Music Box Theatre's "31 Nights of Terror at the Drive-In" series, showing late-night on Thursday, October 15
- **Justin Simien's** horror satire ***Bad Hair***, on Friday, October 16
- **Francis Lee's** passionate period piece ***Ammonite***, starring **Kate Winslet** and **Saoirse Ronan** on Saturday, October 17
- The World Premiere of Chicago-made documentary ***The Road Up*** on Sunday, October 18
- The Chicago Premiere of Academy Award-winning actress **Regina King's** directorial debut ***One Night in Miami*** Friday, October 23

All Drive-In screenings take place at ***ChiTown Movies, 2343 South Throop Street*** in Pilsen.

Concurrent with the live Drive-In screenings, virtual screenings of *Belushi*, *The Road Up*, and *One Night in Miami* will also be available to stream during the Festival. The Festival's full lineup will be announced on September 22. [Tickets for in-person and virtual screenings go on sale to](#)

Cinema/Chicago members on Wednesday, September 23; general public tickets go on sale Monday, September 28 at chicagofilmfestival.com/festival/tickets.

“This year, everything about the festival experience is new, fresh, and reimagined, and that includes the addition of the drive-in screenings,” said Plauché. “We’re thrilled to be able to present this amazing lineup of films on the big screen outside, rounding out the Festival with Chloe Zhao’s masterful and moving *Nomadland*. Each night at the drive-in will offer audiences a unique cinematic experience, from the exquisite *Ammonite* and the raucous *Bad Hair* to the inspiring *The Road Up* and Spike Lee’s transcendent *American Utopia*.”



Frances McDormand in NOMADLAND.

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The Chicago International Film Festival embraces the current moment with its 2020 edition, retaining its signature screening slate of international features and shorts in and out of competition, along with filmmaker and cast Q&As, and special events, both live and online. Virtual screenings and events will be ticketed, and, for the first time in 2020, many will be accessible to national audiences via the Festival’s streaming platform. Virtual movies, not currently available on commercial streaming services, will be streamed by the Festival and viewable from the safety and comfort of the home via the Festival’s streaming site, and apps for Roku and Apple TV.

Tickets to prime-time Festival programs at the ChiTown Movies drive-in are \$60 per car for Cinema/Chicago Members and \$75 per car for general audiences. Opening Night tickets are \$85 for Members and \$100 for general. Closing Night tickets are \$60 for Members and \$75 for general. A maximum of six passengers per car is permitted, according to current Chicago mandates. Gates open at 5:30pm; Programs start at 6:30pm, unless otherwise noted.

www.chicagofilmfestival.com/festival/tickets/

About the Chicago International Film Festival

Celebrating its 56th edition October 14-25, 2020, the Chicago International Film Festival is North America’s longest-running competitive film festival. Showcasing the best in international and independent films from around the world, the 56th edition will be virtual and present more than

50 feature films and nine short film programs from around the world, bringing audiences together through virtual screenings, one-night-only live events, virtual tribute events with directors and actors, as well as movie club-style gatherings for audiences. From dramas and thrillers to documentaries and comedies, the Festival presents 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.)

About ChiTown Movies

An incredibly fun and safe experience every night at ChiTown Movies. You can enjoy movies under the stars at our drive-in located at 2343 S. Throop Street in Chicago's Pilsen Neighborhood. Outside food and drink are not permitted as our food service is key to making the business work. ChiTown Grille will deliver delicious popcorn, tacos, wings, frozen mangos, and more right to your vehicle as you enjoy the movie. www.chitownmovies.com

Festival Sponsors and Partners

The 56th Chicago International Film Festival's sponsors include Major Festival Sponsors: Xfinity; Festival Sponsors: Aberlour, William Blair; Official Agency: Ogilvy; Festival Supporters: National Endowment for the Arts, Illinois Arts Council Agency, Illinois Film Office, Chicago Film Office, Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; Media Partners: WBBM, CHIRP; This project is partially supported by a CityArts Grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events

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](#). For more information, please visit www.chicagofilmfestival.com or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#).

More information can be found at <https://www.chicagofilmfestival.com/>.

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