

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# 23rd ANNUAL NANTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES BOUNDARIES AS OPENING NIGHT FILM

# LOVE, GILDA TO CLOSE FESTIVAL

# WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR? AS CENTERPIECE DISNEY-PIXAR'S INCREDIBLES 2 PRESENTED AS OPENING FAMILY FILM

# SILENT FILM/LIVE MUSIC RETURNS

# IMAGES AVAILABLE HERE

**New York, NY (April 24, 2018)** – The Nantucket Film Festival (NFF) proudly announced today the opening night selection for its 2018 festival, Sony Pictures Classics' **BOUNDARIES**, written and directed by Shana Feste. The film tells the story of single mom Laura (Vera Farmiga) who is forced to drive her estranged, pot-dealing father Jack (Christopher Plummer) from Seattle to LA after he is kicked out of a retirement home. The comedy also stars Bobby Cannavale, Peter Fonda, Christopher Lloyd, and Kristen Schaal. CNN Films' **LOVE, GILDA**, directed by Lisa D'Apolito will close the festival. The documentary reveals the personal side of iconic comedian Gilda Radner through rare personal recordings and journal entries. The 23rd Nantucket Film Festival will take place June 20-25, 2018, and celebrates the art of screenwriting and storytelling in cinema.

Morgan Neville's (2018 NFF Honoree) **WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?** will screen as the festival's centerpiece film. The documentary depicts the life and legacy of the late Fred Rogers, the beloved host of the popular children's television series *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, and a longtime Nantucket resident.

For the ninth year in a row, NFF will screen a Disney-Pixar film on opening day. This year the studio will showcase the anticipated animated feature **INCREDIBLES 2**, with Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Sarah Vowell, Samuel L. Jackson, John Ratzenberger, and director Brad Bird reprising their characters from the first film.

NFF also continues its long-standing relationship with the Berklee Silent Film Orchestra to present **Silent Film/Live Music**, a screening of a classic silent film accompanied by a new orchestral score. This year, Berklee will perform their original score for the new restoration of Universal Pictures' **THE MAN WHO LAUGHS** (1928), based on the Victor Hugo novel and starring Mary Philbin and Conrad Veidt. Veidt's character is widely acknowledged to have been the genesis of the iconic Batman villain, the Joker.

Nearly 50 feature selections have been announced, including two world premieres: Galt Niederhoffer's **10 THINGS WE SHOULD DO BEFORE WE BREAK UP**, starring Christina Ricci and Hamish Linklater as strangers who decide to try to be a couple when a one-night stand results in pregnancy; and Donal Lardner Ward's **WE ONLY KNOW SO MUCH**, a multigenerational family drama featuring Jeanne Tripplehorn and *Stranger Things*' Noah Schnapp.

NFF will present four Sundance Audience Award winners among its offerings: Andrew Heckler's (2018 NFF Honoree) KKK drama, **BURDEN**, starring Garrett Hedlund, Forest Whitaker, and Andrea Riseborough; Aneesh Chaganty's **SEARCHING**, a thriller starring John Cho and Debra Messing which takes place entirely on a laptop screen; Rudy Valdez's poignant personal documentary about his incarcerated sister, **THE SENTENCE**; and Alexandra Shiva's **THIS IS HOME**, a documentary about Syrian refugees adjusting to life in Baltimore.

Notable among this year's narrative titles are several which highlight strong female leads, including: Susanna White's **WOMAN WALKS AHEAD**, starring Jessica Chastain; Isabel Coixet's **THE BOOKSHOP**, starring Emily Mortimer and Patricia Clarkson; Marianna Palka's **EGG**, starring Christina Hendricks and Alysia Reiner; Marc Turtletaub's **PUZZLE**, starring Kelly Macdonald; Bo Burnham's **EIGHTH GRADE**, starring newcomer Elsie Fisher; Björn Runge's **THE WIFE**, starring Glenn Close; and Richard Eyre's **THE CHILDREN ACT**, starring Emma Thompson.

Other highlights include new films by acclaimed documentary filmmakers, including: Marina Zenovich's **ROBIN WILLIAMS: COME INSIDE MY MIND**; Lauren Greenfield's **GENERATION WEALTH**; Susan Lacy's **JANE FONDA IN FIVE ACTS**; Rory Kennedy's **ABOVE AND BEYOND: NASA'S JOURNEY TO TOMORROW**; Barbara Kopple's **A MURDER IN MANSFIELD**; Eugene Jarecki's **THE KING**; and Dana Adam Shapiro's **DAUGHTERS OF THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE DALLAS COWBOYS CHEERLEADERS**.

"We always aim to bring a mix of programming that is equally entertaining, eye opening, and engaging to the festival each year, and this year's lineup continues that tradition," said Basil Tsiokos, Film Program Director, Nantucket Film Festival. "And, of course, foremost in our minds is to share with our audience really great stories, artfully told, and these films won't disappoint."

As previously announced, Oscar®-nominated writer/director **Noah Baumbach** will receive the 2018 Screenwriters Tribute at the event on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Oscar® winning documentary filmmaker **Morgan Neville** will receive the Special Achievement in Documentary Storytelling Award and **Andrew Heckler** the New Voices in Screenwriting Award. **Ben Stiller** will present and participate in The All-Star Comedy Roundtable, *The Improv Takeover*, an evening of spontaneous storytelling and improvisational comedy, featuring actors and comedians Thomas Middleditch (*Silicon Valley*) and Ben Schwartz (*Parks and Recreation*) on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. In addition, the festival will present a live taping of NPR's *Ask Me Another* with host Ophira Eisenberg on Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

The 23rd Annual Nantucket Film Festival runs from June 20-25, 2018. Festival passes and ticket packages are currently on sale now on the festival's website (<u>www.nantucketfilmfestival.org</u>).

Over the past 22 years the Nantucket Film Festival has mixed highly anticipated awards contenders with the films of talented emerging and established filmmakers. NFF has brought together the film industry's most recognized screenwriters and storytellers, including Oliver Stone, Steve Martin, Judd Apatow, Tom McCarthy, Beau Willimon, Kathryn Bigelow, Sarah Silverman, Alexander Payne, David O. Russell, Diane Keaton, Robert Towne, Glenn Close, and Aaron Sorkin. NFF has also produced the All-Star Comedy Roundtable Presented by Ben Stiller, and the insightful conversation series In Their Shoes With...<sup>®</sup>, which has included Robin Wright and Beau Willimon with Chris Matthews, Tom McCarthy with Bobby Cannavale, Molly Shannon with Michael Ian Black, and Bradley Whitford with Chris Matthews.

The full feature film program for the 2018 Nantucket Film Festival is listed below. Additional programming to be announced in the coming weeks.

## **OPENING NIGHT FILM**

# BOUNDARIES

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Shana Feste

Animal-loving single mom Laura is forced to drive her estranged, pot-dealing father Jack from Seattle to Los Angeles to live with her sister after he is kicked out of a retirement home. Along for the ride are her troubled son, a host of unresolved family issues, and unexpected reunions. Featuring Vera Farmiga, Christopher Plummer, Bobby Cannavale, Peter Fonda, Christopher Lloyd, and Kristen Schaal.

# **CLOSING NIGHT FILM**

LOVE, GILDA Documentary Feature Director: Lisa D'Apolito

Rare private journals and intimate recordings reveal the personal side of the legendary Gilda Radner. Rocketing to stardom as one of the original cast members of *Saturday Night Live*, the unforgettable comedian confronted the pleasures and perils of instant celebrity, but her biggest challenge was a battle with ovarian cancer.

# **OPENING FAMILY FILM**

## THE INCREDIBLES 2

Animated Feature Writer/Director: Brad Bird

Disney\*Pixar's super family returns in THE INCREDIBLES 2! Helen is called on to help bring back Supers, while Bob navigates the day-to-day heroics of "normal" life at home when a new villain hatches a brilliant and dangerous plot. Featuring Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Sarah Vowell, Huck Milner, and Samuel L. Jackson.

## CENTERPIECE FILM

# WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

Documentary Feature Director: Morgan Neville

A moving exploration of the enduring impact of beloved children's television show host and longtime Nantucket resident Fred Rogers on generations of viewers through his pioneering program, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*.

## FEATURE FILM PROGRAM

# **10 THINGS WE SHOULD DO BEFORE WE BREAK UP**

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Galt Niederhoffer

WORLD PREMIERE. After Abigail, a single mom of two, becomes pregnant following a one-night stand with Ben, the unlikely pair try to make a go of it. Featuring Christina Ricci and Hamish Linklater.

# 306 HOLLYWOOD

Documentary Feature Directors: Elan Bogarin and Jonathan Bogarin

With whimsy and love, two siblings conduct a creative archaeological excavation of their beloved late grandmother's home and possessions in this magical-realist documentary.

## ABOVE AND BEYOND: NASA'S JOURNEY TO TOMORROW

Documentary Feature Director: Rory Kennedy

On the occasion of NASA's 60th anniversary, acclaimed director Rory Kennedy considers its breathtaking achievements: expanding our knowledge of not only space but of our own imperiled planet.

# **BATHTUBS OVER BROADWAY**

Documentary Feature Director: Dava Whisenant

A comedy writer becomes obsessed with the wonderfully strange, funny, and secret world of Broadway-style musicals produced to celebrate corporations.

## **BISBEE '17**

Documentary Feature Director: Robert Greene

An old town on the Arizona-Mexico border collectively confronts the darkest episode in its history: the illegal, violent deportation of thousands of immigrant miners during a strike in 1917.

## THE BOOKSHOP

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Isabel Coixet

In a provincial seaside town in 1950s England, a young widow opens up a progressive bookstore only to find herself facing off against the community's ruthless grande dame. Based on the acclaimed novel by Penelope Fitzgerald. Featuring Emily Mortimer, Bill Nighy, and Patricia Clarkson.

# BURDEN

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Andrew Heckler

Based on a true story, BURDEN tells the redemptive tale of a longtime Ku Klux Klansman who faces retribution when he renounces his racist hatred under the influence of his girlfriend and of a local African-American reverend. Audience Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival. Featuring Garrett Hedlund, Forest Whitaker, Andrea Riseborough, Tom Wilkinson, and Usher Raymond. Co-presented with Facing History and Ourselves.

## CHEF FLYNN

Documentary Feature Director: Cameron Yates

This coming of age portrait follows talented culinary wunderkind Flynn McGarry as he reckons with celebrity and continues to develop his delectable craft.

# THE CHILDREN ACT

Narrative Feature Writer: Ian McEwan Director: Richard Eyre

While dealing with her own personal problems, a British judge faces a controversial case involving a desperately ill teenager refusing life-saving medical treatment on religious grounds. Based on the novel by Ian McEwan. Featuring Emma Thompson, Stanley Tucci, and Fionn Whitehead.

## **CRIME + PUNISHMENT**

Documentary Feature Director: Stephen Maing

A diverse group of police officers courageously risk their lives and careers to become whistleblowers exposing corrupt New York Police Department practices that illegally target young minorities. Special Jury Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

# DARK MONEY

Documentary Feature Director: Kimberly Reed

The state of Montana exposes the insidious reach of corporate interests into politics and the power of grassroots opposition to this threat to free and fair elections.

# DAUGHTERS OF THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE DALLAS COWBOYS CHEERLEADERS

Documentary Feature Director: Dana Adam Shapiro

A look back at the colorful history and cultural impact of the iconic cheerleading squad that changed the face of professional sports. Special Jury Award, 2018 SXSW Film Festival.

# DON'T WORRY, HE WON'T GET FAR ON FOOT

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Gus Van Sant

Left paralyzed by an accident, alcoholic John Callahan seeks recovery and sobriety through irreverent humor and art. Featuring Joaquin Phoenix, Jonah Hill, Rooney Mara, and Jack Black.

# EGG

Narrative Feature Writer: Risa Mickenberg Director: Marianna Palka

Old school friends - both expecting babies - reunite in this sharply-written satiric chamber piece exploring the complications of balancing motherhood and individual identity. Featuring Christina Hendricks, Alysia Reiner, Anna Camp, David Alan Basche, and Gbenga Akinnagbe.

# EIGHTH GRADE

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Bo Burnham

As middle school comes to an end, Kayla, an awkward teen more comfortable talking to a camera

than an actual person, tries to push herself out of her shell with hilarious results. Featuring Elsie Fisher and Josh Hamilton.

## **GENERATION WEALTH**

Documentary Feature Director: Lauren Greenfield

Lauren Greenfield explores society's preoccupation with materialism through a review of her provocative photographic and film oeuvre.

#### INVENTING TOMORROW

Documentary Feature Director: Laura Nix

A profile of the forward-thinking scientists of tomorrow: Inspiring teenagers from around the globe who bring their environmentally-themed projects to the world's largest science fair.

#### JANE FONDA IN FIVE ACTS

Documentary Feature Director: Susan Lacy

An intimate portrait exploring the many facets of the Oscar-winning actress, from Hollywood royalty to sex kitten, political activist to fitness tycoon.

## JULIET, NAKED

Narrative Feature Writers: Tamara Jenkins, Jim Taylor, Phil Alden Robinson, Evgenia Peretz Director: Jesse Peretz

Duncan has obsessed over faded singer-songwriter Tucker Crowe for decades, much to the chagrin of girlfriend Annie. Tucker's sudden reemergence upends the couple's routine existence in unexpected ways. Based on the novel by Nick Hornby. Featuring Rose Byrne, Ethan Hawke, and Chris O'Dowd.

## THE KING

Documentary Feature Director: Eugene Jarecki

A musical road trip across the US in Elvis Presley's 1963 Rolls Royce explores the rise and fall of America through the story of the life and death of the King of Rock and Roll. Featuring Alec Baldwin, Rosanne Cash, Chuck D, Emmylou Harris, Ethan Hawke, Ashton Kutcher, Mike Myers, and Dan Rather.

# LEAVE NO TRACE

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Debra Granik Writer: Anne Rosellini

A father and daughter living off the grid in a nature preserve find their idyllic, isolated existence forever changed when they are detected by authorities. Featuring Ben Foster and Thomasin Harcourt McKenzie.

#### MINDING THE GAP

Documentary Feature

Director: Bing Liu

Over a decade, three teenagers from volatile homes, bonded over their love of skateboarding, face the responsibilities and complexities that come with adulthood. Special Jury Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

## A MURDER IN MANSFIELD

Documentary Feature Director: Barbara Kopple

A sensitive exploration of the 1989 murder of Noreen Boyle by her husband, and the life-changing impact this crime had on their son.

#### **OUR NEW PRESIDENT**

Documentary Feature Director: Maxim Pozdorovkin

American politics as seen exclusively through the distinct, and decidedly warped, lens of the Russian news media, at once both humorous and deeply disturbing. Special Jury Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

# PAPILLON

Narrative Feature Writer: Aaron Guzikowski Director: Michael Noer

A roguish safecracker framed for murder and a crafty counterfeiter form an unlikely partnership to survive a notorious penal colony in 1930s French Guiana. Featuring Charlie Hunnam, Rami Malek, and Tommy Flanagan.

## PICK OF THE LITTER

Documentary Feature Directors: Don Hardy and Dana Nachman

Five adorable puppies are followed from birth through training to become potential guide dogs for the blind.

# THE PRICE OF EVERYTHING

Documentary Feature Director: Nathaniel Kahn

An unprecedented look at the intersection of contemporary art and commerce - offering privileged access to private collectors, art star studios, and top auction houses and dealers - and its impact on society.

## PUZZLE

Narrative Feature Writer: Oren Moverman Director: Marc Turtletaub

The discovery that she has a special gift for solving jigsaw puzzles proves unexpectedly transformative for Agnes, an unassuming suburban housewife and mother. Featuring Kelly Macdonald, Irrfan Khan, and David Denman.

## **ROBIN WILLIAMS: COME INSIDE MY MIND**

Documentary Feature Director: Marina Zenovich

A revealing portrait exploring the manic highs and painful lows of the singularly inventive, too-soon departed comic genius.

# ROLL RED ROLL

Documentary Feature Director: Nancy Schwartzman

A notorious case of rape by members of small town high school football team exposes a culture of unconscionable complicity and denial about sexual assault.

# SEARCHING

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Aneesh Chaganty Writer: Sev Ohanian

Unfolding entirely on computer screens, this innovative mystery follows a desperate father as he searches for his missing 16-year-old daughter. Featuring John Cho and Debra Messing. Audience Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

## THE SENTENCE

Documentary Feature Director: Rudy Valdez

A deeply felt portrait exploring the personal impact of mandatory minimum sentencing laws on the filmmaker's own family, centered on his imprisoned sister and her three young daughters. Audience Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

## SHIRKERS

Documentary Feature Director: Sandi Tan

In 1992, as a teenager, Sandi Tan made Singapore's first indie film - only to have it vanish without a trace. Two decades later, it reappears, leading her to unravel the mystery of what happened. Directing Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

# STUDIO 54

Documentary Feature Director: Matt Tyrnauer

An insider's look back at the meteoric rise and crushing fall of the legendary NYC nightclub that epitomized 1970s hedonism, where beautiful people, sex, and drugs awaited those lucky enough to make it past the velvet ropes.

## THIS IS HOME

Documentary Feature Director: Alexandra Shiva

An empathetic look at the experiences of four Syrian refugee families newly-arrived in Baltimore, given just eight months to become self-sufficient, and unexpectedly having to contend with Trump's travel ban. Audience Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

# THREE IDENTICAL STRANGERS

Documentary Feature Director: Tim Wardle

The stranger than fiction tale of identical triplets separated at birth, adopted by different families, and reunited by coincidence at the age of 19 - and the shocking secret behind their unusual history. Special Jury Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

# UNLOVABLE

Narrative Feature Writers: Charlene deGuzman, Sarah Adina Smith, Mark Duplass Director: Suzi Yoonessi

A love and sex addict struggles to stay sober by channeling her energy into making music with her 12-step sponsor's reclusive brother. Featuring Charlene deGuzman, John Hawkes, and Melissa Leo. Special Jury Award, 2018 SXSW Film Festival.

# WE ONLY KNOW SO MUCH

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Donal Lardner Ward Writer: Elizabeth Crane

WORLD PREMIERE. As Jean reckons with the consequences of an affair, her husband worries he's falling prey to the same dementia that has afflicted his father, while their children try to navigate the pitfalls of first love and young adulthood. Featuring Jeanne Tripplehorn, Damian Young, Loudon Wainwright III, Noah Schnapp, and Donal Logue.

# WE THE ANIMALS

Narrative Feature Writer/Director: Jeremiah Zagar Writer: Daniel Kitrosser

Growing up in a volatile household, brothers Manny and Joel begin to emulate their violent father, while their sensitive younger brother Jonah begins imagining a wholly different path. Based on the acclaimed novel by Justin Torres. Featuring Raul Castillo, Sheila Vand, Evan Rosado, Isaiah Kristian, and Josiah Gabriel. Special Award, 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

# THE WIFE

Narrative Feature Writer: Jane Anderson Director: Björn Runge

On the eve of her novelist husband being presented with the Nobel Prize in Literature, Joan decides to pursue her own long-deferred aspirations as a writer. Based on the bestselling novel by Meg Wolitzer. Featuring Glenn Close, Jonathan Pryce, Christian Slater, and Max Irons.

## WOMAN WALKS AHEAD

Narrative Feature Writer: Steven Knight Director: Susanna White

Determined to paint a portrait of Sitting Bull, Catherine Weldon leaves the safety of Brooklyn to travel to the Dakota Territory and finds herself in the middle of a struggle for the Lakota people's

rights. Featuring Jessica Chastain, Michael Greyeyes, Ciarán Hinds, and Sam Rockwell.

## YOU CAN CHOOSE YOUR FAMILY

Narrative Feature Writer: Glen Lakin Director: Miranda Bailey

When Philip discovers his overbearing father secretly has been maintaining a second family a state away, the teen decides to use this information as blackmail to hilarious results. Cast: Jim Gaffigan, Logan Miller, Anna Gunn, Samantha Mathis, and Alex Karpovsky.

# ABOUT THE NANTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL

The Nantucket Film Festival was founded by brother and sister team Jonathan and Jill Burkhart in 1996 to promote the cultural awareness and appreciation of the fine art of screenwriting in the world of cinema. Since then, NFF has become one of the premier destination film festivals in the world. Visitors come from all over the world to experience the preview screenings, unique signature programs, and stand out hospitality on a magical island rich with history, a friendly atmosphere, and beautiful sandy beaches. In addition to screening over 100 films across six days, NFF presents the Screenwriters Tribute, In Their Shoes...<sup>®</sup>, our daily Morning Coffee With...<sup>®</sup>, and other Signature Programs.

The Nantucket Film Festival is supported by Showtime and The White Elephant Nantucket Island as Major Sponsors; A&E IndieFilms, Brand Content, and Delta Air Lines as Signature Sponsors; Diageo, Cape Air/Nantucket Airlines, Harborview Nantucket, Nantucket Bank, and Travel+Leisure as Producing Sponsors; and Lifetime, The Beachside on Nantucket, Inquirer & Mirror, Nantucket Today, SAGIndie, Festily, Polar Beverages, WGA East, and Withoutabox as Contributing Sponsors.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Nantucket Film Festival will take place June 20-25. For further information on the 2018 Nantucket Film Festival, please visit <u>www.nantucketfilmfestival.org</u>.

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Press Contacts

## – FRANK PR –

Stephanie Davidson | stephanie@frankpublicity.com | 646-861-0843 Clare Anne Darragh | <u>Clareanne@frankpublicity.com</u> | 646-861-0843 Lina Plath | <u>Lina@frankpublicity.com</u> | 646-861-0843