



13th ANNUAL
MENDOCINO FILM FESTIVAL
June 1-3, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kristin Suratt

Phone: [707-937-0171](tel:707-937-0171)

Cell: 707-813-1356

Email: marketing@mendocinofilmfestival.org

The 13th Annual Mendocino Film Festival, June 1-3, will screen 55 films from 18 countries, including documentaries, shorts, animated films, California premieres, a children's program, and many Sundance selections in multiple venues on the ruggedly picturesque Mendocino Coast of northern California.

Special Events

Special events include an opening night party for members and sponsors featuring 17 local celebrity chefs, regional wines, craft beers and specialty cocktails, an opening art reception with local artists and musicians, a stand-up comedy performance with San Francisco improv-comedy troupe The Bad Aunties, a live burlesque show with Les Filles Rouges, a cello performance by Bonfire Madigan Shive, and opportunities to enjoy Q&A's and panels with more than 20 attending filmmakers.

Celebrating Diversity and Women in Film

Film offerings this year celebrate diversity in myriad forms, including a lineup of films by and about women: the "barrier-busting brainy Brooklynite" Ruth Bader Ginsberg in *RGB*; brave Nicaraguan women combatants in *¡LAS SANDINISTAS!*; beloved comedienne Gilda Radner in *Love, Gilda*; passionate Latin American lesbian singer Chavela Vargas in *Chavela*; resourceful and inspiring Lebanese refugees in *Soufra*, and fierce feminist women of color from east LA in *Ovarian Psycos*.

"The films in this year's program represent the magnificent breadth of who we are. They celebrate narratives that go beyond the obvious, deepen our understanding and re-shape our pre-conceptions. Our lineup of films illustrates the human experience in all its glory, messiness, complexity and fullness," says Program Director Claudia Puig.

The Magical Connection Between Art and Life

Meow Wolf portrays struggles and triumphs of a massive artist collective; *Faces, Places* follows the stunning collaboration of 89-year-old French new wave icon Agnes Varda and youthful artist JR; *Harold and Lillian* illuminates the marriage and career of a Hollywood couple whose contribution to cinema was not acknowledged for decades; *Whisper Rapture* explores the connection between madness and music, and *Getting Naked: A Burlesque Story* contemplates contemporary burlesque culture in New York City through the lives of several performers, including Mendocino native Darlinda, Just Darlinda.

Children and Families: Beyond the Mainstream

Children and families are represented with depth, humor, and a peek into worlds outside of the mainstream, in *Quest*, *Eighth Grade*, *Inventing Tomorrow*, *Human Affairs*, *The Florida Project*, *Three Identical Strangers*, and *Hearts Beat Loud*—films about at-risk youth, marginal families, young scientists creating the future, surrogacy, growing up in the digital age, triplets reuniting, and a father and daughter band. The Academy Award-winning animated film *Coco* is heartwarming and joyous, and *Won't You Be My Neighbor* is a touching and thoughtful reminder that Fred Rogers may have held the key to how we can live harmoniously in today's complex world.

Short Films: Time and Travel

The ever-popular shorts film program features a lively selection from around the world about time, travel, and time travel. These award-winning films (including a 2018 Oscar nominee) feature protagonists in transit. Dave Mullins, the Academy Award nominated director of *Lou* will be in attendance for a Q&A following Thursday and Friday screenings. See our shorts program [here](#).

Politics, Environment, Weed, and Very Large Rodents

Films for our Future focuses on environmental, economic, and climate issues, with films like *A River's Last Chance*, *Rodents of Unusual Size*, and a trio of short films: *The End of Weed*, *Water Warriors*, and *Burned: Are Trees the New Coal?* Reel Mendo offers a taste of home grown talent, with a filmmaker Q&A after the program. *Dark Money* examines the influence of untraceable corporate money on our elections and corporate officials.

[Images available here](#)

Links: [2018 films](#), [Trailers](#), and [Special Events](#) [Purchase Tickets](#)

For more information, including this year's program:

www.MendocinoFilmFestival.org May 4, 2018

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL:

The Mendocino Film Festival presents riveting, thought-provoking and award-winning independent and international films, attracting filmmakers and avid attendees from around the world, while maintaining its commitment to local community. Featuring a varied line-up of films, panels, and special events, the festival offers a unique opportunity to meet filmmakers and film aficionados in the intimate and strikingly beautiful setting of seaside Mendocino.