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For Immediate Release

**THE MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS FOR ITS 37TH YEAR
CELEBRATING THE BEST IN INDEPENDENT AND WORLD CINEMA
OCTOBER 2 – 12, 2014**

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. (August 26, 2014) - Returning for its 37th year, the Mill Valley Film Festival (MVFF), presented annually by the California Film Institute (CFI), will be held Thursday, October 2 – Sunday, October 12, 2014. Internationally recognized for showcasing the best in independent and world cinema, every fall thousands of festival attendees flock to Marin County for 11 days of films, panel discussions, and musical performances. The Mill Valley Film Festival provides attendees with a chance to catch an early glimpse at the Academy Award® contenders and discover some of the best films from around the world. Five out of the last six Academy Award-winners for Best Picture (*Slumdog Millionaire*, *The King's Speech*, *The Artist*, *Argo* And *12 Years A Slave*) made their Bay Area premiere at the Festival.

The California Film Institute is pleased to announce the following confirmed films to screen at the 37th Mill Valley Film Festival. The complete schedule will be announced and available online at www.MVFF.com on Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Early confirmed Documentary films include:

3 Still Standing / USA (Directors: Robert Campos and Donna LoCicero) — It's 1980, San Francisco. Comic geniuses Robin Williams and Dana Carvey spearheaded a new era of stand-up comedy. Next in line for the "big time" are three talented comics: Will Durst, Larry "Bubbles" Brown, and Johnny Steele. But then, the comedy "crash" hits. Now, like millions of other downsized Americans, Will, Larry, and Johnny scramble to survive, while also staying funny, relevant, and true to the art form we love (Beanfield Productions). Cast: Larry "Bubbles" Brown, Will Durst, Johnny Steele, Dana Carvey, Paula Poundstone, Robin Williams. **World Premiere**

Capturing Grace / USA (Director and Screenwriter - David Iverson) — This inside look at a unique dance program for adults with Parkinson's, led by a former company member of the Mark Morris Dance Group, challenges our expectations about illness and art. **World Premiere**

Dying To Know: Ram Dass & Timothy Leary / USA (Director: Gay Dillingham, Screenwriter: David Leach) — Narrated by Robert Redford, DYING TO KNOW is a touching and controversial story of friendship, life, death and the art of experimentation. Spanning 50 years, the film invites you to explore the depth of two friends, Timothy Leary and Ram Das, and their exploration of the process of dying. Featuring rare interviews and intimate conversations you can't help but "turn on, tune in and drop out" and learn how two Harvard professors shaped a generation experimenting with LSD and spirituality. Cast: Richard Alpert (aka Ram Dass), Timothy Leary, Dr. Andrew Weil, Roshi Joan Halifax, Huston Smith, John Perry Barlow, Lama Tsultrim Allione, Zach Leary, Joanna Harcourt Smith, Peggy Mellon Hitchcock. **World Premiere**



Finding the Gold Within / USA (Director: Karina Epperlein) — Bay Area filmmaker Karina Epperlein follows six African American college freshmen, alumni of the unique Ohio mentoring program Alchemy, Inc., and well-equipped with self-confidence and critical-thinking skills, as they leave home for the first time. Cast: Kwame Scruggs, Jerry Kwame Williams, Darius Simpson, Brandyn Costa, Stacey Starr, Shawntail Smith. **World Premiere**

FREE / USA (Directors: Suzanne LaFetra and David Collier) — A feature length documentary following five teens through a year in an Oakland dance program. Their journey in the Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company reveals how collaborative art can be a foundation for personal discovery, turning the courage, determination, and stamina demanded of their lives into a contagious joy. **World Premiere**

In Plain Sight / USA (Director and Screenwriter: Erica Jordan) — Director Erica Jordan follows humanitarian photographer Lisa Kristine as she travels to the largest red-light district in Kolkata, India, to shoot portraits of enslaved women just a few of the millions of victims of slavery Kristine has made it her mission to document. **World Premiere**

Plastic Man: The Artful Life of Jerry Ross Barrish / USA (Director: William Farley, Screenwriter: Adam Kecker) — Jerry Ross Barrish's life is one of metamorphoses: First an activist bail bondsman in the 1960s, then a filmmaker, he now sculpts plastic detritus into figures alive with feeling. His story teeming with prizefighters, gangsters, and other larger-than-life characters is captured in this brilliantly photographed documentary. **World Premiere**

States of Grace / USA (Directors: Helen Cohen and Mark Lipman) — The profound transformation of a Bay Area family fuels this stirring, heartfelt documentary. For Dr. Grace Dammann, a pioneering San Francisco AIDS specialist, a routine drive across the Golden Gate Bridge turned tragic when she was in a head-on collision. This emotionally charged film captures the family dynamics created when rules and relationships are turned upside down. **World Premiere**

The New Environmentalists: From Ithaca to the Amazon / USA, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Peru, Russia, South Africa (Directors and Screenwriters: John Antonelli, Tom Dusenbery, Will Parrinello) — These environmental heroes put themselves in harm's way building strong grassroots support in the face of intimidating adversaries. Narrated by Robert Redford, this powerful collection of true-life stories illustrates how ordinary people can effect extraordinary change. Cast: Robert Redford-narrator, Michael Tucker & Jill Eikenberry-voice over. **World Premiere**

How I Got Over / USA (Director: Nicole Boxer) — Nicole Boxer's documentary follows a group of women all residents of Washington, DC, recovery community N Street Village as they prepare to turn their harrowing life stories into a theater piece that will be performed at the Kennedy Center.

Racing to Zero, In Pursuit of Zero Waste / USA (Director: Christopher Beaver) — For two decades, San Francisco's Department of the Environment has been working toward the goal of zero waste and now recycles, composts, and reuses a whopping 80 percent of its garbage but the race to eradicate trash continues, and this rousing film exhorts us to join in.

Early confirmed US Cinema films include:

ALLoT (A Long List of Things) / USA (Director and Screenwriter: John Sanborn) — East Bay video maker John Sanborn returns to MVFF with his latest project ***ALLoT (A Long List of Things)***. The film developed with



musician David Meyer, is based on their 40th high school reunion and investigates the lives of 17 of their classmates. Cast: Miranda Sanborn, Thais Schwab, David Meyer. **World Premiere**

After the Fall / USA (Director and Screenwriter: Saar Klein) — An insurance broker (Wes Bentley) with a strict moral code loses his job and discovers a different, riskier line of work in this finely tuned feature debut where conceit and conscience clash and doing the right thing is not quite as obvious as it seems. Terrance Malik's Oscar nominated editor, Saar Klein's directorial debut. Cast: Wes Bentley, Jason Isaacs, Vinessa Shaw, Haley Bennett

Imperial Dreams / USA (Director: Malik Vitthal, Screenwriters: Malik Vitthal, Ismet Prsic)— In the electrifying debut, Imperial Dreams (winner of The Best of Next award at Sundance), aspiring novelist Bambi returns to his Watts neighborhood after two years in prison to extricate himself and his young son from their criminally compromised family. Cast: John Boyega, Rotimi Akinosho, Glenn Plummer, Keke Palmer, De'Aundre Bonds, Justin Coach, Ethan Coach

Like Sunday, Like Rain / USA (Director and Screenwriter: Frank Whaley) — Like Sunday, Like Rain tells the story of Reggie, a 12 year old rich prodigy who lives in a castle in New York, surrounded by wealth but living a lonely life as his parents are frequently absent. Eleanor (Leighton Meester, Gossip Girl) is a young musician going through the pains of growing up, who is having problems with her boyfriend and was recently fired from her job. This is a beautiful story about discovery and acceptance (IMDb). Cast: Leighton Meester, Debra Messing, Billie Joe Armstrong, Julian Shatkin. **US Premiere**

Uncertain Terms / USA (Director: Nathan Silver, Screenwriters: Nathan Silver, Chloe Domont, Josh Mandel, Richard Peete, Cody Stokes) — Needing a sudden escape from the city, Robbie leaves Brooklyn for the Hudson Valley to stay with his aunt who runs a home for pregnant teens. As the only man in the house, Robbie captures the attention of many of the girls, and when he strikes up a friendship with Nina, who is dealing with her own relationship troubles, tensions run high. In trying to stop Nina from making the biggest mistake of her life, Robbie finds himself caught in a love triangle between Nina and the father of her child. Cast: David Dahlbom, India Menezes, Cindy Silver, Tallie Medel, Hannah Gross, Gina Piersanti, Caitlin Mehner, Adinah Dancyger, Casey Drogin, Nathan Silver

Young Kieslowski / USA (Director and Screenwriter: Kerem Sanga)— In a film reminiscent of *Juno*, Director Kerem Sanga's, Young Kieslowski tackles the issue of teenage pregnancy from the perspective of an unexpectedly expecting young father. Cast: Ryan Malgarini, Haley Lu Richardson, Joshua Malina, James LeGros, Melora Walters, Osric Chau

Early confirmed World Cinema films include:

Charlie's Country / Australia (Director and Screenwriter: Rolf de Heer, Screenwriter: David Gulpilil)— This third collaboration between de Heer and actor David Gulpilil extends the directors commitment to exploring Australian Aboriginal culture. "It's the most affecting depiction of contemporary Aboriginal experience since Sampson & Delilah" (*The Hollywood Reporter*). Actor and Screenwriter David Gulpilil took home the Un Certain Regard award for Best Actor at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival. Cast: David Gulpilil, Peter Djigirr, Luke Ford, Jennifer Budukpuduk Gaykamangu and Peter Minyngululu. **US Premiere**

Diplomacy / France (Director and Screenwriter: Volker Schlöndorff, Screenwriter: Cyril Gely)— The big screen adaptation of the theatre play of the same name by Cyril Gely. A historical drama that depicts the relationship between Dietrich von Choltitz, the German military governor of occupied Paris, and Swedish consul general Raoul



Nordling. (IMDB) Originally premiered in Berlin's Special Gala section. *Cast: Andre Dussollier, Niels Arestrup, Burghart Klaussner, Robert Stadlober and Charlie Nelson.*

The Lamb / Turkey, Germany (Director and Screenwriter: Kutlug Ataman)—The wife of a village's poorest family, Medine, wishes to make her mark in the community by putting on a feast for the circumcision of her 5-year-old son. Guests get more than they bargained for when they hear that have become cannibals upon eating what was served for dinner. After fleeing the village only to return years later daily life looks normal. However nothing is the same as before in the village. *Cast: Nesrin Cavadzade, Cahit Gök, Nursel Köse, Güven Kıraç, Sıra Lara Cantürk, Mert Tastan. US Premiere*

Timbuktu / France (Director and Screenwriter: Abderrahmane Sissako, Screenwriter: Kessan Tall)—The film takes place during the Jihadist take over in 2012. Recounting events influenced by a public stoning of an unmarried couple. Selected to compete for the Palm d'Or in the main competition section at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival. At Cannes it won the Prize of the Ecumenical Jury and the Francois Chalais Prize. *Cast: Pino Desperado, Abel Jafri, Toulou Kiki, Ketty Noel and Hichem Yacoubi.*

About the 37th Mill Valley Film Festival

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 37th Mill Valley Film Festival runs October 2-12, 2014 at the CinéArts@Sequoia (25 Throckmorton Ave., Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (1118 Fourth Street, San Rafael), and other venues throughout the Bay Area. With a reputation for launching new films and creating awards season buzz, MVFF has earned a reputation as a "filmmakers' festival" by celebrating the best in American independent and world cinema, alongside high profile and prestigious award contenders. MVFF welcomes more than 200 filmmakers representing more than 50 countries.

Tickets are \$14.00 (CFI Members, \$11.50), unless otherwise noted and are available for purchase by the general public on September 14, 2014.

CFI members have an opportunity to purchase tickets prior to the general on-sale date by level beginning on the following dates:

- September 7 –Premier Patron Members and above
- September 8 – Director's Circle Members
- September 9 – Gold Star Members
- September 11 – Film Fan and Associate Members

For tickets and additional information, please visit www.mvff.com or call 877.874.MVFF (6833).

About the California Film Institute

The non-profit California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film as art and education through the presentation of the Mill Valley Film Festival and year-round exhibitions at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, film distribution by CFI Releasing, and building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through the CFI Education program. For more information visit www.cafilm.org or call (415) 383-5256.

Supporters

As a nonprofit arts organization, CFI relies on the generosity of its community to sustain not only the Festival, but also the year-round programs of the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center and CFI Education. The invaluable support of our sponsors, foundations, and individual donors ensures our continued success as we celebrate our 37th year.



CFI is once again proud to acknowledge the leadership support of Christopher B. and Jeannie Meg Smith, and the continued major support of Jennifer Coslett MacCready, Ken and Jackie Broad Family Fund, The Bernard Osher Foundation, the Gruber Family Foundation, the Marin Community Foundation, the Christine Zecca Foundation and the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation. We are also fortunate to have the contributions of the following Major Sponsors of the Mill Valley Film Festival: Wells Fargo, Sharp Electronics, Delta Airlines, Lucasfilm, Ltd., Maroevich, O'Shea & Coghlan Insurance Services, Frantoio Ristorante and Olive Oil Co., Zaentz Media Center/A Wareham and Development.

For Calendar Editors

The 37th Mill Valley Film Festival

**One of the Nation's Top 10 Film Festivals, celebrating the Best of Independent and World Cinema
Marin County, California**

Thursday, October 2 through Sunday, October 12, 2014

On-Sale Date

For CFI Members: Starts Sunday, September 7, 2014 (dates vary by level)

For the General Public: Sunday, September 14, 2014

www.MVFF.com, www.CAFilm.org

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