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THE WORLD IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK AT THE 2015 MSPiFF

*Film festival unveils full slate of films and jurors,
plus new features for your viewing pleasure—Mar. 12*

MINNEAPOLIS —The 34th annual Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival (MSPiFF), which will take place at the St. Anthony Main Theatre and other venues across the Twin Cities and in Rochester, Minn. from Apr. 9-25, unveils its full film lineup, plus movie trailers and more, on Thurs., Mar. 12 at mspiff.org/festivals/mspiff-2015. The full schedule of films will be available on the website Thurs., March 19.

The Festival —presented by the Film Society of Minneapolis St. Paul— will showcase more than 200 award-winning independent feature-length and short documentary and narrative films from more than 60 countries — many of which are part of the Festival’s juried competitions. Many of the films in the MSPiFF lineup have been shown at major festivals including Toronto and Sundance, many others will not have been seen before on this continent.

The festival’s main Spotlight this year is Cine Global, a new category to reach Minnesota’s diverse communities —highlighting films that reflect the cultures, interests and experiences of the more established and in particular the many new international populations here, from Hmong to Somali to Mexican to Swedish to Russian to Chinese to Mediterranean. Other spotlights include Minnesota Made films, Women and Film, and LGBTQ Currents.

Starting March 12, attendees will be able to view and filter the full list of films organized by program (Special Presentations, World Cinema, Documentary, New American Visions, Midnight Sun, Dark Out, Childish, Cine Latino, Images of Africa and Asian Frontiers, as well as Emerging Filmmaker, Documentary, and Minnesota Made Competitions), country, language, title, and genre.

All-access Gold and Silver festival passes are currently on sale for five percent off until Monday, Mar. 16; 6-Packs and single tickets to the Closing Night presentation for Film Society Members are now on sale as well. Single tickets for all films will go on sale beginning Thurs., Mar. 19 at 12 p.m. for Film Society members; single tickets for the general public will go on sale beginning Tues., Mar. 24 at 12 p.m. All packages and tickets can be purchased online or in person at the Festival Information Office.

“These are not the films you’ll see at the mall. Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival’s goal is to give audiences the opportunity to experience new cultures and ideas through film. We’re delivering more of those experiences this year with more films from around the world, spanning more genres — there’s literally something for everyone,” said Susan Smoluchowski, executive director, Film Society of MSP. “In addition to more films, we’ve enhanced the Festival user experience. Now, all member tickets and passes can be redeemed online — plus, festivalgoers can map out all the films and events that they want to catch with our new wish list feature. It’s kind of like building your own mini-Festival!”

Select movies in MSPIFF will be part of juried competitions. Jurors for the festival have also been announced:

Emerging Filmmaker Competition Jurors:

- Claudia Puig – Film/Entertainment Reporter, USA Today
- Helen du Toit – Artistic Director, Palm Springs International Film Festival

Documentary Competition Jurors:

- Deirdre Haj – Director, Full Frame Documentary Festival

- Peter Kinoy – Film Director/Producer/Editor, Skylight Pictures
- Michael Tuckman — Distributor, mTuckman Media

The largest film event in the Upper Midwest, and one of the largest and longest running in the country the MSP International Film Festival (MSPIFF), produced by the Film Society of Minneapolis and St. Paul, presents more than 200 feature-length and short-form narrative and documentary films from 60+ countries around the world. MSPIFF provides an opportunity for audiences to experience new cultures and ideas through the medium and art of film. The Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival is supported by Legacy Amendment Funding through the Minnesota State Arts Board, The McKnight Foundation, The Star Tribune, Cedarwoods Foundation, Piper Jaffray, Dark Horse Wines, Revel Avila, Crash+Sues, numerous international Consulates and generous members of the Film Society of Minneapolis St. Paul, among many others. For more information about the Festival or to purchase passes or 6-Packs, visit mspfilm.org/festivals/mspiff-2015.

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