THE 38TH ANNUAL

ASPEN FILMFEST

SEPTEMBER 21–25, 2016

OFFICIAL PROGRAM GUIDE

ASPENFILM.ORG
Soldier's story: 'I felt like Tiger Woods' first golf lesson'

The road trip in Leonora Pitts' "Step 9" is "an experience of a lifetime," said Tobi Haddix, who plays a mallard duck from Chicago. Haddix and her co-star, Jackie Hemphill, who plays a duck from Chicago, are among the cast of "Step 9," a movie about a journey across the United States by two duck brothers. "Step 9" is a film that was shot entirely on iPhones, which, in the age of the cellphone, is a testament to the filmmaking team's dedication to capturing their vision.

"I don't think America has changed much," said director Andrew Travers, "but I do think that when we talk about race, we need to talk about how it affects our lives. And the story of "Step 9" is one that makes that point clear." Travers, who hails from Australia, said he was inspired to make the film after watching a news story about a black man being shot by police. "It was a very sad story," he said. "But it's also paving the way for other filmmakers to tell their stories." Travers said he hopes the film will help to start a conversation about race and inequality in the United States.

The documentary "Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise" will screen today at Paepcke Auditorium. The film, which is part of the "American Masters" series on PBS, follows the life of the beloved poet and civil rights activist. "Maya Angelou is a woman who has lived is part of that," said the filmmakers. "She's part of the fabric of our country, and she deserves to be remembered." The filmmakers noted that the documentary captures the essence of Angelou's work, which has redefined the meaning of female beauty and empowerment.

Traces of an Art Addict

Peggy Guggenheim documentary at Aspen Filmfest

Shortsfest film tackles mass shootings

WEST COAST OYSTERS

BILLECART-SALMON

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Aspen Film is internationally recognized for the quality of its festivals and as a launching pad for filmmakers the world over. From our screenings and panel discussions to our complimentary education offerings, Aspen Film offers some of the most enriching cultural experiences in our area.

JOIN ASPEN’S MOST DISCERNING FILMGOERS

Enjoy year-round member benefits at Filmfest, Shorts, Academy Screenings, and other special events.

Memberships start at just $150.

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WELCOME

ASPIDN FVIM

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 38th edition of Aspen Filmfest. This is the festival that started it all for Aspen Film almost four decades ago.

This year we welcome Rachel Chanoff and the talented team at THE OFFICE performing arts + film, who have handpicked each of the films you will be watching. All are either regional or United States premieres. With the rare exception, these films have themes of belonging and displacement. The protagonists often find themselves searching for steady footing on unstable ground. This year’s films will make you laugh, cry, think deeply about the shifting nature of our own time and place, and hopefully inspire meaningful dialogue.

Aspen Film is pleased to be presenting two free panel discussions in conjunction with this edition of Filmfest.

If you’ve ever wondered what it would take to bring your life story to the big screen, join us at 9:30 am at the Limelight Hotel on Thursday, September 22 for the panel, “The Celluloid Self: The Art of the Autobiographical Film,” featuring Jennifer Fox shares her experience creating her acclaimed directorial feature, The Tale, starring Laura Dern, Ellen Burstyn, and Jason Ritter.

On Friday, September 23, join us at 9:30 am at the Limelight Hotel for our panel, “Investing in Film for Social Change.” Leaders from the film industry will share insights on how we can support works that highlight social issues near and dear to our hearts, either as investors or philanthropists.

If you are a member of Aspen Film please join us each afternoon at 4:30 for complimentary wine and hors d’oeuvres in the Wheeler Opera House lobby. Engage with other Aspen Film members and visiting filmmakers as we sample tastings from Aspen’s finest restaurants and wine from Carmel Road. If you are not yet an Aspen Film member, please contact our office at 970-925-6882 or visit us at aspenfilm.org so that you can join us for these free receptions.

As always, if there is anything we can do to make your festival experience more enjoyable, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of our wonderful volunteers or staff members.

Sincerely,

John Thew
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ASPIDN FVIM

In our 38th season of Aspen Filmfest, we are proud to offer a wildly diverse array of narrative and documentary features from this year in film. Topics range from eagle-hunting in Mongolia, to the cutthroat culture of young actors in Hollywood, to city kids in suburbia. Some of the characters who will grace our screen will be lovable, some despicable, and all performances deeply felt. In keeping with our mission, all 20 films are Colorado premieres, offering our region unique access to today’s great cinema.

Throughout the season’s programming, we find stories that resonate with this very moment – stories that are urgent and relevant, exploring issues as diverse as love and race and the creative process with clear-eyed, creative care by master filmmakers and emerging artists. Often, the drama of the current social and political climate unfolds on a very personal level, and we see our culture reflected in the intimate lives of characters and relationships. In Accidental Courtesy, an African-American musician aspires to befriend Ku Klux Klan members, making progress in human rights one relationship at a time. In Spa Night, an eighteen-year-old in Los Angeles’ Koreatown comes to terms with a forbidden but undeniable sexual awakening. In 11:55, a cycle of violence in his past. In each of these and many more, we make connections to characters on the big screen who, hopefully, can teach us a little bit about ourselves and our time. With humor, insight, and compassion, these films illuminate the human condition in ways both small and grand.

We hope you join us for any or all of this year’s festival. We are so grateful to have such a curious and engaged audience tucked here in the beautiful Rocky Mountains, an idyllic place to convene our discoveries with you!

All the best,

Rachel Chanoff
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING

DON’T MISS OUR

OPENING RECEPTION

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 21

4:30 PM

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY

Complimentary admission for all 38th Annual Aspen Filmfest attendees!

Sponsored by Hendrick’s Gin with wine from Carmel Road and Barrymore by Carmel Road

Hors D’oeuvres by La Créperie du Village
WEDNESDAY SEPT 21
2:30 PM
MY BLIND BROTHER
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 25 min

4:30 PM
OPENING RECEPTION
COMPLIMENTARY HORS D’ŒUVRES & WINE
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
45 min

5:30 PM
THE LAST LAUGH
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 20 min

8:15 PM
CERTAIN WOMEN
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 47 min

THURSDAY SEPT 22
9:30 AM
PANEL DISCUSSION
THE CELLULOID SELF: THE ART OF THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FILM
COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
LIMELIGHT HOTEL | ASPEN
1 hr 45 min

NOON
SPA NIGHT
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 33 min

2:30 PM
SEVEN SONGS FOR A LONG LIFE
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 22 min

4:30 PM
A TASTE OF ASPEN
ASPEN FILM MEMBER RECEPTION
COMPLIMENTARY HORS D’ŒUVRES & WINE
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
45 min

5:30 PM
LITTLE BOXES
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 29 min

8:15 PM
TRESPASS AGAINST US
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
2 hr

FRIDAY SEPT 23
9:30 AM
PANEL DISCUSSION
INVESTING IN FILM FOR SOCIAL CHANGE
COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
LIMELIGHT HOTEL | ASPEN
1 hr 45 min

NOON
ACCIDENTAL COURTESY
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 23 min

2:30 PM
GUN RUNNERS
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 20 min

4:30 PM
A TASTE OF ASPEN
ASPEN FILM MEMBER RECEPTION
COMPLIMENTARY HORS D’ŒUVRES & WINE
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
45 min

5:30 PM
SOY NERO
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr

5:30 PM
GUN RUNNERS
CRYSTAL THEATRE | CARBONDALE
1 hr 30 min

7:45 PM
TRESPASS AGAINST US
CRYSTAL THEATRE | CARBONDALE
1 hr 24 min

8:15 PM
LOVESONG
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 24 min

SATURDAY SEPT 24
10:00 AM
PETER AND THE FARM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 24 min

NOON
ALWAYS SHINE
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 25 min

2:30 PM
11:55
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 20 min

4:30 PM
A TASTE OF ASPEN
ASPEN FILM MEMBER RECEPTION
COMPLIMENTARY HORS D’ŒUVRES & WINE
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
45 min

5:30 PM
BURDEN
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 20 min

5:30 PM
ACCIDENTAL COURTESY
CRYSTAL THEATRE | CARBONDALE
1 hr 20 min

7:45 PM
CERTAIN WOMEN
CRYSTAL THEATRE | CARBONDALE
1 hr 47 min

8:15 PM
THE SALESMAN
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
2 hr 3 min

SUNDAY SEPT 25
11:00 AM
A TASTE OF ASPEN
BREAKFAST AT THE FEST
ASPEN FILM MEMBER EVENT
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
46 min

NOON
THE EAGLE HUNTRESS
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 27 min

2:30 PM
BURN COUNTRY
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 44 min

3:00 PM
LITTLE BOXES
CRYSTAL THEATRE | CARBONDALE
1 hr 30 min

4:30 PM
A TASTE OF ASPEN
ASPEN FILM MEMBER RECEPTION
COMPLIMENTARY HORS D’ŒUVRES & WINE
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
45 min

5:15 PM
THE SALESMAN
CRYSTAL THEATRE | CARBONDALE
1 hr 20 min

5:30 PM
MR. GAGA
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
1 hr 40 min

8:15 PM
SURPRISE FILM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | ASPEN
2 hr 3 min

SINGLE TICKETS
GENERAL ADMISSION tickets to all Filmfest screenings are $20 each for your pick of the best available seat 15 minutes before the start of each screening. ASPEN FILM MEMBERS at all levels receive a 25% discount on single tickets.

ADMISSION FOR SUNDAY’S SCREENING OF THE EAGLE HUNTRESS is $20 for adults ($15 for Aspen Film members) and FREE FOR KIDS. All kids welcome to the screening FREE of charge with a complimentary ticket issued by the Wheeler Opera House Box Office.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND PURCHASING TICKETS IN ADVANCE through the Wheeler Opera House Box Office, 970-920-5770 and aspenshowtix.com.

FOR CARBONDALE SHOWS, tickets can be purchased at Bonfire Coffee, 33 Main St., Carbondale, Monday through Sunday; 6:30 am to 5:00 pm. Cash or check accepted.

TICKETS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE DOOR at the Wheeler Opera House before each screening and at the Crystal Theatre for Carbondale screenings.

RUSH TICKETS
FIVE MINUTES PRIOR TO THE START OF EACH SCREENING, Aspen Film will make any unfiled seats available for sale. RUSH TICKETS ARE $20 EACH.

ASPEN FILM MEMBERS RECEIVE A 25% DISCOUNT ON RUSH TICKETS. The rush line forms 30 minutes prior to each screening at the Wheeler Opera House and Crystal Theatre.

VENUES
Screenings for the 38th Aspen Filmfest are held at the:
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE in Aspen
320 East Hyman Avenue
CRYSTAL THEATRE in Carbondale
427 Main Street
Panel Discussions for the 38th Annual Aspen Filmfest are held at:
LIMELIGHT HOTEL in Aspen
355 South Monarch

SPECIAL NEEDS
If you have special needs covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify Aspen Film 970-925-6882. Please arrive early. In the event of a sell-out, all unclaimed seats are released 5 minutes before each screening.

FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION VISIT ASPENFILM.ORG

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PROGRAMS AND EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
9:30 AM

THE CELLOULLORO: THE ART OF THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FILM

Limelight Hotel, 355 S Monarch St, Aspen, CO 81611

Write what you know is a common mantra for all writers. Join internationally acclaimed producer, director, writer and camerawoman Jennifer Fox as she draws upon her experience bringing her story to the big screen in an upcoming feature film starring Laura Dern, Ellen Burstyn, Elizabeth Debicki, Jason Ritter and Common. Jennifer will provide insights into what makes autobiographical films so compelling, the challenge of telling a personal story for a wide audience, and how to make someone care about your story.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: RESERVE YOUR SEAT AT 970-925-6882
COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
PRIORITY ADMISSION FOR ASPEN FILM MEMBERS

Jennifer Fox
Director/Writer
Jennifer Fox is an internationally acclaimed producer, director, writer and camerawoman. She wrote and directed: 
Beirut: The Last Home Movie (Grand Prize Winner & Best Cinematography, Sundance Film Festival 1988; Frontline WGBH), the ten-hour American Love Story (Berlin and Sundance Film Festivals 1999, Grammy Award 1999, Primetime PBS/BBC/ARTE), the six-part, Flying Confessions of a Free Woman (IDFA and Sundance Film Festivals 2008; Sundance Channel), and the feature My Reincarnation (Emmy Award–nominated, IDFA and Hampton’s Film Festivals; IDFA Audience Award 2010; Premiere Pro Eurovision Award). Fox has executive produced numerous award-winning films including: 
Love & Dian: On the Ropes and Her Last Control. She is the author of the screenplays, Like a Fortune, co-written with Academy Award–nominated Oren Moverman (The Messenger), and the half-hour fiction television pilot, The Good Egg, co-written with Deborah Copaken Kogan for ABC. She was also optioned for development. Fox recently completed writing and directing the fiction feature, The Tale, which is currently in production and is due to be released in 2017. The film’s outstanding all-star cast includes: Laura Dern, Ellen Burstyn, Elizabeth Debicki, Jason Ritter and Common. An issue-based drama, The Tale has been financed through a unique funding mixture: including equity financing, tax credits, German co-production, foundations and tax exempt donations. The Tale is being produced by Laura Rister, Oren Moverman, Lawrence Ingleby, and Sol Bondy, with Mongrel Media International representing foreign sales. Fox appeared in several films about filmmaking: To Heck With Hollywood, Cinema Verite: Defining the Moment; and Capturing Reality: The Art of Documentary. Fox teaches master classes and in universities internationally. Her films have been shown in numerous retrospectives around the world.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
9:30 AM

INVESTING IN FILM FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Limelight Hotel, 355 S Monarch St, Aspen, CO 81611

Aspen is a community full of investors looking to effect change with their dollar. The “Investing in Film for Social Change” panel brings together leaders in the film community with Aspen’s investors and philanthropists who are curious about how to support talented filmmakers with a vision toward social change, whether it be in documentary or narrative storytelling. If you’ve ever thought about investing in film, or are curious about how to get started, this panel is for you.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: RESERVE YOUR SEAT AT 970-925-6882
COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
PRIORITY ADMISSION FOR ASPEN FILM MEMBERS

Anne Lai
Director for Creative Producing Initiatives, Sundance Institute

Anne Lai is Director of the Creative Producing Initiatives in the Feature Film Program at Sundance Institute which focuses on identifying and nurturing emerging independent writers, directors, and producers in fiction film. Through a series of Labs, grants, networking and educational programming, she tailors support for artists on their current feature film while also providing ongoing mentorship and strategic feedback. Recently supported films include Nate Parker’s Birth of a Nation, the Daniels’ Swiss Army Man, Marielle Heller’s Diary of a Teenage Girl, Kat Candler’s Hellion, Ryan Coogler’s Fruitvale Station, Ritesh Batra’s The Lunchbox, and Daniel Junge’s Wechool, as well as the Academy Award–nominated film from Ben Zeitlin Beasts of the Southern Wild. Beyond the Labs, Anne leads the Creative Producing Institute which provides a forum for over 50 top industry professionals and over 40 filmmaking fellows to engage in curated panels, case studies, roundtables, and one-on-one meetings. She also leads the curation of fiction projects participating in the annual Catalyst Forum which brings together over 30 investors and a dozen feature projects looking for equity financing in various stages of development and post. Prior to joining Sundance, Anne served as Vice President of Production at Scott Free, the film and television company founded by directors Ridley and Tony Scott. During her time with the Scotts, she worked on films including Gladiator, Black Hawk Down, and co-produced the independent feature internationally financed filmed Tristan & Isolde starring James Franco. Anne attended the University of Michigan and received her degree in film production from the University of Southern California.

Geralyn Dreyfous
Executive Producer, Impact Partners

Geralyn Dreyfous has a wide, distinguished background in the arts, extensive experience in consulting in the philanthropic sector, and participates on numerous boards and committees. She is the Founder of the Utah Film Center, a non-profit that curates free screenings and outreach programs for communities throughout Utah. In 2007, she co-founded Impact Partners Film Fund with Dan Cogan, bringing together financiers and filmmakers so that they can create great films that entertain audiences, enrich lives, and ignite social change. In 2013, Geralyn co-founded Gamechanger Films, the first for-profit film fund dedicated exclusively to financing narrative features directed by women. Geralyn’s independent executive producing and producing credits include the Academy Award–winning Born Into Brothels; Emmy–nominated The Day My God Died, Academy Award–nominated and Emmy Award–winning The Square, Academy Award–nominated and Peabody Award–winning The Invisible War, and multiple film festival winners such as Miss Representation, Meet the Patels, Anita, in Football We Trust, The Hunting Ground, Dreamcatcher and Alive Inside. Her works in production include: Wait for Me and Be Natural. Geralyn was honored by the International Documentary Association with the Amicus Award in 2013 for her significant contribution to documentary filmmaking. Variety recognized Geralyn in their 2014 Woman’s Impact Report highlighting her work in the entertainment industry.

Poppy Hanks
Senior Vice President of Development & Production, MACRO

Poppy Hanks is Senior Vice President of Development & Production at MACRO and manages the company’s multiple film and television projects. Most recently, she was an executive producer on Sundance Film Festival’s 2016 Next selection The Long that was released by IFC Films in July. Poppy is also co-executive producer of the upcoming Paramount film Fences, directed by and starring Denzel Washington. Based on August Wilson’s Tony Award– and Pulitzer Prize-winning play, the film will also star Viola Davis, will hit theaters nationwide on Christmas. Poppy is also executive producer of Mudbound, directed by Dee Rees, starring Carey Mulligan, Jason Clarke, Mary J. Blige, Rob Morgan, Jason Mitchell, Garrett Hedlund, and Jonathan Banks. The film is in post-production and will be released in 2017. The veteran filmmaker has worked with a wide range of prolific writers and directors throughout her 20-year career. Previously, Hanks was Senior Vice President of Production for Tyler Perry’s 34th Street Films. During her tenure there she was instrumental in bringing iconic films to the big screen including the film adaptation of Ntozake Shange’s play For Colored Girls that starred Thandie Newton, Whoopi Goldberg and Anika Noni Rose as well as the award-winning film Precious, starring Academy Award® nominee Gabourey Sidibe. Prior to her work at 34th Street Films, Hanks was Vice President of director/producer George Tillman and producer Bob Teitel’s State Pictures. While there, she oversaw development of the successful box office standout Barbershop, starring Ice Cube, Cedric The Entertainer, and Michael Ealy; Men of Honor starring Robert De Niro and Cuba Gooding Jr.; and Soul Food starring Vanessa L. Williams and Nia Long. The University of Southern California School of Cinema alum lives in Los Angeles with her husband and their children.

Wendi Ettinger
Co-Founder, Chicken & Egg Pictures

Wendi has been producing documentaries and narrative films for over 20 years. In 2005, with Julie Parker Benello and Judith Helfand, she co-founded Chicken & Egg Pictures in order to fund and mentor women documentary directors whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. Over the past ten years, Chicken & Egg Pictures has awarded over $4 million in grants and 5,200 hours of creative mentorship to more than 200 films and filmmakers.

These filmmakers and films have garnered a multitude of awards, nominations, and accolades, but as importantly have created change at home and globally for the issues they address. Most recently C&E supported films Trapped, Sonita, When Two Worlds Collide and Cameraperson all premiered at Sundance this year. In 2013 she co-founded Gamechanger Films, the first equity fund established to finance, and invest in women narrative directors. Their first film, Land Ho! premiered at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival. Their second film, The Green Wave was released by Sony Pictures Classics. The Invitation premiered at SXSW and Lovesong premiered at the Sundance Film festival 2016. Wendy began her film career producing the Academy Award®-nominated documentary The War Room. As an activist and documentarian, she believes deeply in the power of storytelling to create change through media, education, and the art. She serves on the board of the Educational Foundation of America, the 52nd Street Project and Imagine Science Films.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 | 4:30 PM
OPENING RECEPTION
Celebrating the 38th Annual Filmfest!
Complimentary Hors D’oeuvres by La Crêperie du Village
Executive Chef: Sebastien Chamaret
Signature Cocktail from Hendrick’s Gin
Wine from Carmel Road and Barrymore by Carmel Road

GREEN CUISINE
Executive Chef: David Wang

PRESENTS

LA CRÊPERIE DU VILLAGE

Cosmopolitan culinary connoisseurs searching for the elusive trio of a successful lunch or dining experience, excellent food, romantic atmosphere, and reasonable prices, need look no further. The New York Times recommended La Crêperie du Village in February 2016 as, “a cozy bistro” and “fantastic dining option.” Following suit, The Food Network “...fell in love at first bite,” and named French Alpine Bistro La Crêperie du Village one of the Top 5 restaurants in the United States for Best Romantic Foods, specifically for their famous fondue.

The French and Austrian owners have poured their hearts and souls into creating an atmosphere that is best described in one German word: gemütlich. The carefully chosen artifacts and candlelight combine to make this one-of-a-kind charming hideaway not be missed when visiting Aspen. Enjoy a glass of rose, perhaps paired with Foie Gras au Torchon or Truffe Risotto, on the sheltered outside patio and you will be transported to the back-streets of Paris.

First-timers are wise to look past the restaurant name, though, as French Executive Chef Sebastien Chamaret — veteran of various 2 and 3 three-star Michelin establishments — has brought the city’s only authentic French restaurant to the forefront of Aspen’s lunch and dining scene.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 | 4:30-5:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY
JIMMY’S - AN AMERICAN RESTAURANT & BAR
Executive Chef: Manuel Diaz
Things come and go in this town but Jimmy’s never does. There are a few staples that have become local hangouts, and Jimmy’s is one of them. Boasting a spirited and fun ambiance, Jimmy’s is all about experiencing the exceptional without pretense. It’s what brings loyal followers back time and time again. Serving what Jimmy calls “Fierce American Food,” you can rely on the finest steaks, seafood and comfort food, as well as wine and spirits, anywhere. Located in the downtown core of Aspen with surrounding panoramic mountain views, Jimmy’s American Restaurant & Bar features an award-winning selection of tequilas and mezcalas, plus a 550-selection wine list that focuses on the wines of America and France.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 4:30-5:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY
MI CHOLA
Picking up where an old Aspen institution left off several years ago, Mi Chola Cantina is giving Aspen a taste of Southern California style Mexican cuisine in a very fresh, new, hip, artistic and fun setting. Serving up delicious authentic & traditional classics, Mi Chola (My Girl) is also pushing boundaries with its progressive chef inspired dishes and it’s awesome fresh squeezed margarita menu. You’ll always have a great experience in this new local operator opened joint where hospitality, value, great food and good times always reign supreme.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 4:30-5:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY
MEAT & CHEESE
Executive Chef: David Wang
Located on “Restaurant Row” in Aspen, the Restaurant and Farm Shop offers artisan cheeses, cured meats, seafood, local produce in season, fresh baked bread, curated dry goods and an assortment of hand selected vintage and new housewares. The restaurant features World Farmhouse cuisine paired with an eclectic yet affordable wine list, craft cocktails and beers, locally roasted Rock Canyon coffee and fresh juices.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 | 11:00-11:45 AM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY
BREAKFAST AT THE FEST
GREEN CUISINE
Executive Chef: Francis Stuckens
Green Cuisine Aspen is a nutritionally conscious catering company. Green Cuisine’s focus is on preparing meals using local organic ingredients, culminating in delicious, satisfying fare. Although they favor the Paleo Diet, your menu can be tailored to specific dietary needs, be it strictly Vegan, mostly Vegetarian or totally Omnivorous. Green Cuisine has evolved, working with community-minded non-profits including Aspen Film, the Red Brick Center for the Arts, WCD in Woody Creek, and most recently Aspen Public Radio.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 | 4:30-5:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY
GREY LADY
A little more than three years ago, the original Grey Lady opened in Manhattan’s Lower East Side, serving up Nantucket inspired fare with a nautical ambience. The local haunt has quickly gained a fantastic reputation for both nightlife and fine dining. The Grey Lady team decided that Aspen was the perfect location for an outpost in the West. The attention to detail from the specialty cocktails to their lobster roll to the décor creates an experience that is sure to bring you back for more.
MY BLIND BROTHER
2:30 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Robbie is a macho and impossibly virtuous small-town hero, running marathons, making televised appearances, and even operating a small charity. He is also blind, and his lovably unaccomplished brother Bill spends most of his days guiding and-tending to him. Resentment is already in the air when Bill’s recent hookup, Rose, becomes Robbie’s steady, and the stage is set for a screwball comedy with no shortage of awkward, endearing punchlines. Perhaps we’d feel worse for Robbie if he weren’t such a jerk, and if his brother weren’t such a charming deadbeat. My Blind Brother is the rare romantic comedy that is both hilarious and heartfelt, elevated by truly memorable performances from the leading love triangle. Starring Nick Kroll (Comedy Central’s The Kroll Show), Adam Scott (NBC’s Parks & Recreation) and Jenny Slate (Obvious Child, Saturday Night Live). Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) RUN TIME 1 hr 25 min

OPENING RECEPTION
4:30-5:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY

Complimentary Hors D’oeuvres by La Créperie du Village
Signature Cocktail from Hendrick’s Gin
Wine from Carmel Road and Barrymore by Carmel Road
(see page 6 for details)

THE LAST LAUGH
5:30 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

“Comics are the conscience of the people,” Mel Brooks says with a trademark wry smile. Where, then, is the line between dark comedy and plain bad taste? The Last Laugh gathers an A-list group of comedians, including Sarah Silverman and Rob Reiner, to explore the outer limits of permissible humor—a journey into the ethics of entertainment that is at once hilarious and thought-provoking. Topics range from the “too soon” rule, which condemns 9/11 jokes but offers a pass to Spanish Inquisition jokes, to the humor of World War II—why are Nazi jokes commonplace while Holocaust jokes remain taboo? Prepare for some cringe-worthy one-liners and a parade of the great humorists of our time. Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) RUN TIME 1 hr 25 min

CERTAIN WOMEN
8:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

The celebrated indie auteur Kelly Reichardt returns with perhaps her strongest film, a quiet and mesmerizing portrayal of various intersecting lives in Montana. On the heels of its Sundance premiere in January 2016, Certain Women received universal critical acclaim, with The Guardian calling Reichardt “a master at slow-burning, melancholic dramas.” A married couple (Michelle Williams and James Le Gros) falter after buying a new home, a young lawyer (Kristen Stewart) is roped into teaching an adult education class, and another lawyer (Laura Dern) finds herself in a peculiar hostage situation. Their lives become inevitably intertwined in these luminous vignettes. Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) RUN TIME 1 hr 47 min

Special Thanks to Nancy Wall and Charles Wall
Also plays in Carbondale
September 22

**THE CELLULOID SELF: THE ART OF THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FILM**
9:30–11:15 AM
LIMELIGHT HOTEL – 355 S Monarch St | Aspen, CO 81611
Write what you know is a common mantra for all writers. Join internationally acclaimed producer, director, writer and camerawoman Jennifer Fox as she shares her experience bringing her story to the big screen in an upcoming feature film starring Laura Dern, Ellen Burstyn, Elizabeth Debicki, Jason Ritter and Common. Jennifer will provide insights into what makes autobiographical films so compelling, the challenge of telling a personal story for a wide audience, and how to make someone care about your story.
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: RESERVE YOUR SEAT AT 970-925-6882
COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
PRIORITY ADMISSION FOR ASPEN FILM MEMBERS

**SPA NIGHT**
NOON
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
In the karaoke bars, restaurants, and 24-hour spas of Los Angeles’ Koreatown, 18-year-old David Cho grapples with a forbidden but undeniable sexual awakening. His family seems to be at a fork in the road – after his parents run out of money and are forced to close the family restaurant, David takes a job at a Korean spa to help make ends meet. He discovers an underworld of gay hookups that is at once thrilling and terrifying, and finds himself caught between his own desires and the hopes and dreams of his traditional parents. Ethereal and atmospheric, Spa Night is both a family drama and an inspired coming-of-age film. Colorado Premiere, (USA, 2016) RUN TIME 1 hr 33 min
Q & A with filmmaker Andrew Ahn
Community Partner: AspenOUT

**SEVEN SONGS FOR A LONG LIFE**
2:30 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
Seven Songs for a Long Life journeys into the lives of six patients at Strathcarron Hospice as they live their last days, processing feelings of fear, acceptance, grief, and love. One is a retired midwife, another a 23-year-old cancer victim, and all six find a collective and transformative experience in mourning. With the help of the beloved nurse Mandy Malcomson, these patients take on a difficult challenge: to write songs and make music videos for their friends and families. Their extraordinary creations are interwoven with footage of everyday life under hospice care, reminding us of the importance of self-expression, the beautiful fragility of life, and the power of creativity. Colorado Premiere, (UK, 2015) RUN TIME 1 hr 22 min
Special Thanks to Darlynn and Tom Fellman

**A TASTE OF ASPEN**
4:30–5:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
Complimentary Hors D’oeuvres by Jimmy’s – An American Restaurant & Bar, Executive Chef, Manuel Diaz. Wine by Carmel Road and Barrymore by Carmel Road. (see page 6 for details)

**LITTLE BOXES**
5:30 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
A young family of three from the Big Apple adjust to suburban life in this sharp social commentary. It’s the summer before 6th grade for Clark, and he is the only biracial kid in the lily-white Washington town – a badge that earns him admiration and also some bizarre expectations of how he should act. Meanwhile, his urban intellectual parents are encountering their own struggles, both misunderstanding their new peers and being misunderstood in turn. Little Boxes touches on issues of race, class, and drama, but first and foremost it is a nuanced portrait of a family unit, complete with all of its squabbles, tenderness, and codependence. Starring Melanie Lynskey (HBO’s Togetherness) and Nelson Ellis (HBO’s True Blood). Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) RUN TIME 1 hr 29 min
Special Thanks to Margie and Bryan Weingarten | Community Partner: Buddy Program Also plays in Carbondale

**TRESPASS AGAINST US**
8:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
A tragic hero is torn between his loyalty to his father and the future of his children in this high-octane British gangster drama. Chad Cutler of the notorious Cutler family comes from a long lineage of outlaws, living off the grid and raiding the estates of aristocrats. As Chad enters his middle age, he begins to reassess his treacherous way of life, fearing his children will end up behind bars, or worse. He tries to save his children without betraying his roots, but the law is already hot on his heels, and his redemption may be too little too late. Featuring an original score by the Chemical Brothers and a moving performance by Michael Fassbender in the lead role. United States Premiere. (UK, 2016) RUN TIME 2 hr
Thanks to Bill Lambert Also plays in Carbondale
SOY NERO

Soy Nero brings us a graceful and delicate portrait of two women, once childhood best friends, who discover a new chapter of intimacy in their 20s. Sarah, a young mom whose husband is perennially away on work, bears the weight of adult responsibility and emotional isolation. When she is reunited with the free-spirited Mindy, their chemistry teeters between platonic and romantic, and they struggle to define the hazy borders of their relationship. The deep and subtle heroines of Lovesong never cross into clichés, and are elevated by quietly stylized cinematography and a rippling, subdued score. Starring Jena Malone (The Hunger Games: Catching Fire, Into the Wild) and Riley Keough (Mad Max: Fury Road, Starz’s The Girlfriend Experience), Colorado Premiere, (USA, 2016) Run Time 1 hr 24 min

Q & A with filmmaker So-yong Kim

Community Partner: AspenOUT
PETER AND THE FARM

10:00 AM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

68-year old Peter Dunning runs an idyllic family farm in rural Vermont, a seeming haven of barns, animals, and wide acreage. His white beard invokes the days of Puritan settlers, and his charismatic sense of storytelling has a beatnik charm. But beneath the surface lies a deeply troubled soul – a former artist whose alcoholism and depression have long since driven his children, wife, and friends away from the farm. “I care more about the farm than I care about me,” he says, going about his daily work in boozy isolation. Peter and the Farm is an enthralling portrait of one man’s struggle to find meaning in the great outdoors. Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) Run Time 1 hr 33 min

ALWAYS SHINE

NOON
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Betrayal, jealousy, and resentment lie at the core of this knotty psychological thriller. Beth and Anna are aspiring actresses, saturated with the most toxic elements of Hollywood’s competitive culture. Once close friends, they take a road trip to Big Sur to reconnect and heal old wounds. Instead, what follows on the secluded coastal cliffs is a dark and bizarre unraveling of both their friendship and their personal identities. Always Shine is a commentary on film industry success and an intimate portrait of a two women struggling to find themselves. Western Premiere. (USA, 2016) Run Time 1 hr 25 min

2:30 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Nelson Sanchez has just returned from service in Afghanistan, and his first day back is full of joyful reunions with friends and family. But he soon learns an enemy from his old life as a gangster is on his scent and seeking revenge. As action transpires over the course of one day on the troubled streets of Newburgh, NY, Sanchez is met with a series of dead ends and impending doom – can he break the cycle of violence in his past? Infused with the desolate look and feel of classic Westerns, 11:55 is a modern, nail-biting take on timeless cinema. Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) Run Time 1 hr 20 min

A TASTE OF ASPEN

4:30–5:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY

Complimentary Hors D’oeuvres by Meat & Cheese, Executive Chef, David Wang. Wine by Carmel Road and Barrymore by Carmel Road. (see page 6 for details)

SUNDAY

BURDEN

5:30 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

The late great performance artist Chris Burden once said on television, with a shrug: “I don’t think my pieces always provide answers, they just ask questions.” He asked America a notorious political question when he had an ex-military friend shoot him in the arm in a Santa Ana gallery, and again when he nailed his hands to a VW bug. But later in his career, he moved away from “danger art” and made wild, large-scale, and generally underrated installations across the country. Burden is full-bodied portrait of the man and the artist who sparked such controversy in the 70s and then went on to a long and diverse career as one of high art’s heavyweights. Western Premiere. (USA, 2016) Run Time 1 hr 26 min

Community Partner: Anderson Ranch

THE SALESMAN

8:15 PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Internationally acclaimed Iranian director Asghar Farhadi brings us another understated masterpiece about intricate relationships and inevitable revenge. Emad and Rana are a married couple of actors in Tehran, lovely and sympathetic if a bit high-strung. When an intruder randomly assaults Rana in her own home, she begins to emotionally unravel. The incident becomes a pivotal moment in their collective well being and Emad begins to aimlessly investigate the crime. What will he do if and when he finds the perpetrator? Observant, suspenseful, and straight-forward, The Salesman is an enquiry into the psychology of vengeance and devotion. United States Premiere. (France / Iran, 2016) Run Time 2 hr 5 min

Also plays in Carbondale
**Breakfast at the Fest**

11:00–11:45 AM

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY

Complimentary Breakfast by Green Cuisine, Executive Chef: Francis Stickens.

Bloody Mary’s by Woody Creek Distillers. (see page 6 for details)

**The Eagle Huntress**

GLOBAL VISIONS

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

The Eagle Huntress tells the inspiring story of Aisholpan Nurgaiv, a 13-year-old nomadic Mongolian girl who dares to break the gender barrier of an ancient hunting tradition. For over 2,000 years, hunting game on horseback with the help of a golden eagle has been a hallowed and exclusively male custom. But when Nurgaiv, who comes from a seven-generation eagle hunting family, shows interest and aptitude, she becomes the catalyst for a great paradigm shift through her craft. Uplifting and enlightening for all ages, Nurgaiv’s story is fable-like in its simple beauty, especially as accompanied by breathtaking widescreen Mongolian landscapes. Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) **RUN TIME** 1 hr 27 min

*Special Thanks to Toby Devan-Lewis*

Community Partners: ACES and Buddy Program

**Burn Country**

NEW VOICES

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

"The unsavory underbelly of a small town in Northern California is exposed in this 2016 crime drama. Osman (Dominic Rains) has secured asylum in the U.S. after a hazardous stint of working with Western journalists in Afghanistan, but when his friend Lindsay (James Franco) is implicated in a local murder, he finds that life in the bucolic redwood country is not as safe as it first seemed. A colorful ensemble cast, including a wealthy New Age guru and the fearsome mafia family Sokurov Brothers, round out this tale of intrigue and misadventure. Also starring Academy Award-winner Melissa Leo. Colorado Premiere. (USA, 2016) **RUN TIME** 1 hr 44 min

*Q & A with filmmaker Ian Olds*

*Special Thanks to Neil Karbank*

**A Taste of Aspen**

ASBEN FILM MEMBER RECEPTION

4:30–5:15 PM

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE LOBBY

Complimentary Hors D’oeuvres by Grey Lady.

Wine by Carmel Road and Barrymore by Carmel Road. (see page 6 for details)

**Mr. Gaga**

CLOSING NIGHT DOCUMENTARY

5:30 PM

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

At last! An authoritative and long-overdue documentary on the life and work of visionary Israeli choreographer Ohad Naharin. In his three decades as artistic director of Tel Aviv’s Batsheva Company, Naharin has developed a revolutionary and electric new vocabulary known as Gaga, characterized by jagged movements and the subversion of dancers’ “familiar limits.” In Mr. Gaga, we are offered unfettered access to the rehearsal room, with high-grade, multi-camera shoots that might recall 2011’s Pine. The history of the company – including their notorious withdrawal from Israel’s 50th anniversary gala after being pressured to perform a military-themed piece – is told in rich detail, with Naharin’s larger-than-life personality at the center. Colorado Premiere. (Israel, 2015) **RUN TIME** 1 hr 40 min

*Q & A with producer Barak Heymann*

*Special Thanks to Paulette and Mel Blumenthal*

Community Partner: Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

**Surprise Film**

CLOSING NIGHT FEATURE

8:15 PM

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

What better finale for this 38th edition of Filmfest than a perennial favorite, the Surprise Film. Our lips are sealed until the opening credits.

*Special Thanks to Lee and Steve Ritvo*
FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 23

GUN RUNNERS
5:30 PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
1 hr 30 min
see page 9 for full film details

TRESPASS AGAINST US
7:45 PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
1 hr 34 min
see page 8 for full film details

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 24

ACCIDENTAL COURTESY
DARYL DAVIS, RACE & AMERICA
5:30 PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
1 hr 35 min
see page 9 for full film details

CERTAIN WOMEN
7:45 PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
1 hr 47 min
see page 7 for full film details

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 25

LITTLE BOXES
3:00 PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
1 hr 30 min
see page 8 for full film details

THE SALESMAN
5:15 PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
2 hr 5 min
see page 10 for full film details
ABOUT ASPEN FILM

FOUNDED IN 1979,
Aspen Film seeks to enlighten, enrich, educate, and entertain through film. Throughout its history, Aspen Film has been creating unique and memorable experiences for both the serious cinephile and casual movie lover.

With a reach that stretches through the Roaring Fork Valley, Aspen Film organizes a major movie event in every season, offers an extensive education program, and hosts numerous special presentations. Each year, some 20,000 people participate.

We are committed to original content. All of the more than 100 films we show annually are regional debuts, many of which might not otherwise be available to local audiences.

We offer one-of-a-kind enrichment opportunities through our educational outreach. Appealing to youth and adults, 90 percent of these programs are offered at no charge.

We host more than 75 film artists and other special guests every year. Additionally, we collaborate with organizations locally and nationally to put on quality film programs.

ASPIN FILM TEAM
John Thew | Executive Director
Regina Jones | Director of Operations and Education
Desiree Andrews | Program Coordinator
Jay Johnson | Guest Services Manager
B | W | R Public Relations | Steven Wilson, Lauren Peteroy, Nikki Croner
Polly Pollard | House Manager, Crystal Theatre
Terri Grob | Bookkeeping
Bryan Erickson | IT Services
Kelly Alford, words pictures colours | graphic design
Cast Iron Design | Festival Poster Design
Kissane Viola | Membership Brochure Design
TJ Kaiser | Intern
Rachel Ligon | Intern
Olivia Breen | Intern

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ASpen FILM BELIEVES film is a vibrant artistic expression and powerful communication tool, able to open windows on the world and build bridges of understanding between cultures. While movies may not change our world, they can make a difference in how we see and live in it. Aspen Film’s free school programs seek to expand world views, develop critical viewing skills, cultivate curiosity, and inspire creativity.

As more and more schools reduce or eliminate media literacy from their curriculum, Aspen Film provides a singular service with extensive free programs for youth, an underserved segment of our population with limited access to age-appropriate cultural opportunities. Aspen Film’s FilmEducates programs are incredibly popular with teachers who value film for its compelling appeal to students; and ability to illustrate issues, concepts, and ideas with succinct creativity.

Aspen Film partners with schools, art centers and youth organizations in three counties from Aspen to Rifle and beyond. From serving as a teacher resource to creating curriculum-enriching programs, we create meaningful opportunities for all grades.

FILMMAKERS TO THE CLASSROOM

In our most popular program, international filmmakers visit schools from Aspen to Glenwood Springs to share their films, culture, and creative process in classroom and auditorium settings.

MAKING MOVIES MATTER

Aspen Film provides films and themed shorts packages (e.g. immigration, the environment, creative storytelling) to enrich curricula in language and visual arts, history, world geography, social sciences, ESL, etc.

YOUNG FILMMAKER LABS

At ShortsFest visiting filmmakers meet with high school students to screen films, including student works-in-progress, explore the creative process, and offer feedback.

SCHOOLS TO THE FESTIVAL

Schools and youth programs receive free admission to public programs during Filmfest and ShortsFest. We also distribute dozens of complimentary tickets to families and young clients of health and human services.

TICKETS FOR TEACHERS

To encourage local educators to identify new films appropriate for their curriculum, Aspen Film provides tickets for teachers to attend certain programs at Filmfest and ShortsFest at no charge.
Becoming a member of Aspen Film affirms your belief that great film and film education initiatives are worthy of growth and support.

Join now to help ensure the future of this vital and relevant world of cinema and to fully enjoy all the benefits an Aspen Film membership has to offer!

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