



SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2017

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FILM FORUM

PREMIERES

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Calendar Programmed by KAREN COOPER and MIKE MAGGIORE

SEPTEMBER 13 – 26 2 WEEKS



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EX LIBRIS — THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRODUCED, DIRECTED, AND EDITED BY FREDERICK WISEMAN USA 2017 197 MINS. ZIPPORAH FILMS

Frederick Wiseman cracks open institutions: the military, the insane asylum, the high school, the police, the welfare system, the Paris Opera Ballet, the National Gallery of London, and now — in his 43rd film in 50 years — The New York Public Library, an institution eminently worthy of his immersive style. If you thought libraries are just repositories for books, you're in for a big, wonderful surprise. The NYPL owns (and makes accessible) millions of images; sponsors lectures by people like Patti Smith, Elvis Costello, and Ta-Nehisi Coates; circulates a growing collection of e-books; maintains a vast archive of materials *not* available online; and gives classes in digital technology. The magnificent Stephen A. Schwarzman Building (5th Avenue at 42nd Street) is the spine of the film, but equally vital is the role of branch libraries that act as community centers for civic life. "Libraries are the pillars of our democracy" says Toni Morrison — as Wiseman's opus, EX LIBRIS, makes abundantly and fascinatingly clear.

12:15, 4:00, 7:45

September 6–14 at Film Forum: *The Complete Wiseman Part II*, a retrospective of the filmmaker's work from 1986–1996

FREDERICK WISEMAN IN PERSON SEPTEMBER 13 & 14 AT 7:45 SHOWS

SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 3 1 WEEK

BUGS

DIRECTED BY ANDREAS JOHNSEN DENMARK 2016 74 MINS. IN ENGLISH KINO LORBER

THE BURDEN

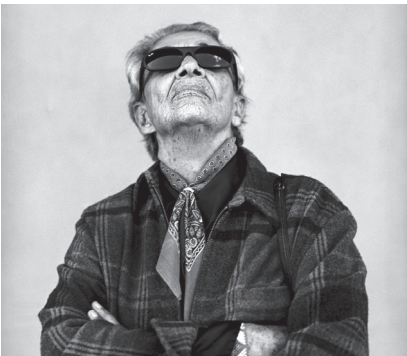
DIRECTED BY NIKI LINDROTH VON BAHR SWEDEN 2017 14 MINS. IN SWEDISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

"In the apocalyptic future, we'll all be eating bugs." — *New York Magazine*. Two billion people around the world already eat insects and tout their nutritional benefits: they're filled with vitamins and are an environmentally sound, gluten-free source of protein. In BUGS, "food adventurers" from Denmark's Nordic Food Lab (founded by René Redzepi of the famed restaurant Noma) forage, farm, cook, and taste insects with communities in Australia (large white worms), Mexico (ant larvae, or *escamoles*), the Netherlands (an insect-for-consumption farm), Kenya (pan-fried termite queen), Italy (worm-filled cheese)...tasting honey ants, venomous giant hornets, and long-horned grasshoppers. Preceded by THE BURDEN, winner of the top prize at the Annecy International Animated Film Festival: a musical set in a fish-run hotel and a call center staffed by monkeys.

12:30, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15



OCTOBER 4 – 17 2 WEEKS



CHAVELA

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY CATHERINE GUND AND DARESHA KYI

MEXICO / SPAIN / USA 2017 93 MINS. IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES MUSIC BOX FILMS

Chavela Vargas (1919–2012): "A trailblazing free spirit whose appetite for tequila and women was as legendary as her soul-stirring vocals..." A hard-drinking rebel who shredded the prevailing stereotype of the fem and flirty, hip-swinging señorita in Mexican popular music, the singer commands the stage in passionate performances throughout CHAVELA, owning a trademark androgynous look...that made her a queer icon long before she openly defined herself as a lesbian at age 81... singing deeply felt songs of pain, solitude and lost love in a voice both rough and tender." — David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*. Featuring Pedro Almodóvar, who used Chavela's music in his films (THE FLOWER OF MY SECRET, JULIETA) and introduced her to international concert audiences in the 1990s, when, as her manager notes, she tried as hard as she could to die on stage.

12:30, 2:20, 4:15, 6:15, 8:10, 10:10

Presented with support from the R.G. Rifkind Foundation Endowment for Queer Cinema

FILMMAKERS IN PERSON OCTOBER 4 AT 8:10 SHOW

OCTOBER 18 – 31 2 WEEKS

LIBERATION DAY

DIRECTED BY UĞIS OLTE AND MORTEN TRAAVIK

NORWAY / LATVIA 2016 98 MINS. IN ENGLISH AND KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES SUNDANCE NOW

"North Korea seems like a terrifying place to visit, but if it is really true that *that* guy [Laibach's lead singer] is going to be singing *The Sound of Music*, I kind of want to go there!" — John Oliver, *Last Week Tonight*.

The most bizarre true tale of North Korea yet — which is saying a lot: Slovenian industrial/art rock band Laibach is invited to be the first rock group to perform in the fortress state. The occasion for this jaw-dropping gig is the 70th anniversary of "Liberation Day," marking the end of Japanese rule of Korea. Norwegian impresario Morten Traavik successfully proposed the band, whose militaristic, vaguely fascistic personae seems to suit (or satirize?) the host country. What follows is a flurry of cultural clashes and censorship demands before the group performs in front of an audience who has never seen a live rock act. A concert film like no other.

12:30, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:10



NOVEMBER 1 – 14 2 WEEKS



1945

DIRECTED BY FERENC TÖRÖK

HUNGARY 2017 91 MINS. IN HUNGARIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES MENEMSHA FILMS

On a summer day in 1945, an Orthodox man and his grown son return to a village in Hungary to (symbolically) bury their dead. The townspeople — suspicious, remorseful, fearful, and cunning — expect the worst and behave accordingly. With admirable restraint, director Ferenc Török paints a complex picture of a society trying to come to terms with the recent horrors they've experienced, perpetrated, or just tolerated for personal gain. A superb ensemble cast, lustrous black and white cinematography, and historically detailed art direction contribute to an eloquent drama that reiterates Thomas Wolfe's famed sentiment: you can't go home again.

12:30, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:10

Presented with support from the Joan S. Constantiner Fund for Jewish and Holocaust Film, Donated by Leon Constantiner and Family

NOVEMBER 15 – 28 2 WEEKS

SONG OF GRANITE

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY PAT COLLINS

IRELAND / CANADA 2017 104 MINS. IN IRISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES

Combining documentary and fiction filmmaking, SONG OF GRANITE portrays the hardscrabble life of master Irish folksinger Joe Heaney (1919–1984), from his boyhood in the extraordinarily picturesque Carna (County Galway, on Ireland's west coast) to his ignominious life as a New York City doorman, and finally to recognition at the Newport Folk Festival in 1966. Heaney is said to have known 500 *sean nós*, traditional songs unaccompanied by music — their poignancy underlined by Pat Collins's austere, fragmented approach to storytelling and elegant black and white cinematography. SONG OF GRANITE is a deeply felt love letter to Ireland, a land of rare, wild natural beauty, many of whose sons are compelled to leave — fated to reimagine their earliest years through poetry and song.

12:30, 2:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:20



NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 12 2 WEEKS



NAPLES '44

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY FRANCESCO PATIERNO

ITALY 2016 85 MINS. IN ENGLISH FIRST RUN FEATURES

Benedict Cumberbatch gives life to the words of British soldier Norman Lewis, whose remarkable memoir of post-World War II Naples form the basis for this haunting evocation of a ravaged land, and later a city of infinite charm. Lewis entered Naples as part of an invasion of Nazi-occupied Italy. His memories and his return many years later are recalled with magnificent warmth and wit. Filmmaker Francesco Patierno combines riveting archival war footage with clips from movies set in Naples from the 1950s and 60s (featuring Marcello Mastroianni, Alan Arkin, Ernest Borgnine) to evoke a city that was as much a victim of the war as any individual — but that has come back to life with all the charisma of Vesuvius, its very own volcano.

12:30, 2:20, 4:15, 6:10, 8:00, 9:50

FILMMAKERS IN PERSON NOVEMBER 29 AT 8:00 SHOW

DECEMBER 13 – 21 9 DAYS ONLY

MISS KIET'S CHILDREN

DIRECTED BY PETRA LATASTER-CZISCH AND PETER LATASTER

THE NETHERLANDS 2016 114 MINS. IN DUTCH AND ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES ICARUS FILMS

WHEN I HEAR THE BIRDS SING

DIRECTED BY TRINE VALLEVIK HÅBJØRG NORWAY 2016 8 MINS. IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

The international press calls MISS KIET'S CHILDREN: "a jewel," "subtle but powerful," and "tender and shrewdly observed."

In the Dutch countryside, a gaggle of refugee children, mostly from Syria, are students in Miss Kiet's classroom. Smart, compassionate, keenly aware of the problems they've already lived through — she teaches them to speak Dutch, to talk the talk — but more importantly, to walk the walk. Trust, patience, compassion, and humor are part of the lesson plan. For a refugee child anywhere in the world, Miss Kiet's class must be the closest thing to dying and going to heaven. The movie is a revelation to anyone who reads the headlines but has no idea how delightful, confounding, and thoroughly surprising "refugees" can be. Also on the program: WHEN I HEAR THE BIRDS SING, an animated film in which children from the Ivory Coast give their accounts of war and peace.

1:00, 3:45, 7:00, 9:30

Presented with support from the Richard Brick, Geri Ashur, and Sara Bershtel Fund for Social Justice Documentaries



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OPENING DECEMBER 22



HAPPY END

DIRECTED BY MICHAEL HANEKE

FRANCE / GERMANY / AUSTRIA 2017 107 MINS. IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

From Michael Haneke, Oscar-winning director of CACHÉ, THE WHITE RIBBON, and AMOUR, comes a multi-generational drama starring Isabelle Huppert and Mathieu Kassovitz as chilly siblings, with Jean-Louis Trintignant as the paterfamilias of their upper class family of French developers. Situated in a grand home in Calais (site of the "Jungle," a notorious refugee camp), Trintignant and Huppert revisit their edgy father-daughter relationship from AMOUR. While HAPPY END is not a sequel to that film, it does continue the director's focus upon (in Manohla Dargis's words in *The New York Times*): "...the rot and wretchedness of the bourgeoisie... [with an] emphasis again on surveillance culture, class pathology and anomie..." Haneke masterfully withholds information — then powerfully shocks you with one profound revelation after another, much of it tinged with his signature nihilistic black humor.

DEC 22 – JAN 2: 12:30, 1:00, 2:40, 3:15, 4:50, 5:30, 7:10, 7:45, 9:30, 10:00 JAN 3 ONWARDS: 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

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1 to Houston St.
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#5, 6, 21 to 6th Ave and Houston St;
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For additional information, please contact Denyse Reed
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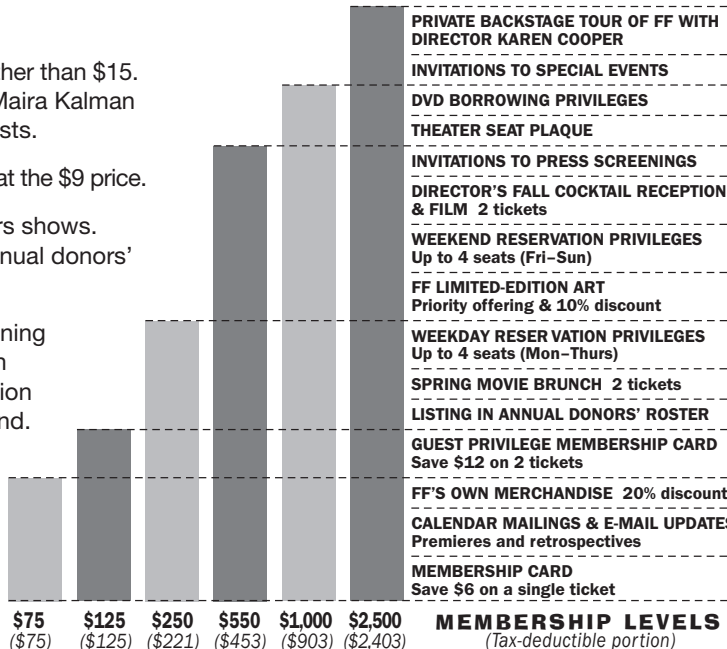
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BENEFITS



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LIBERATION DAY opens Oct. 18.



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Premieres Calendar
SEPT – DEC
2017

Frederick Wiseman's EX LIBRIS — THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY opens Sept. 13.

12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20

PETRA VOLPE IN PERSON OCTOBER 27 & 28 AT 7:10 SHOWS

leads a revolt that discovers the cliffs and shakes the Alps.

permission). Marie Leuenberger stars as a hausfrau who Woman can't vote or even work (without their husband's A riotously funny look at storybook Switzerland circa 1971.

A FILM BY PETRA VOLPE

THE DIVINE ORDER

OUR LITTLE VILLAGE, TIME STOOD STILL.

OPENS FRIDAY OCT 27

WINNER AUDIENCE AWARD 2017 TRI BECA FESTIVAL

12:30, 2:40, 4:45, 7:00, 9:30

JULIA SLOMONOFF IN PERSON SEPTEMBER 8 & 9 AT 7:00 SHOWS

Presented with support from the R.G. Rifkin Foundation Endowment for Queer Cinema

–Jonathan Holland, *The Hollywood Reporter*—

turn lives into lies."

immigration can the psychology of how that subtly unpacks delivers a masterful, Guillermo Pfenning low-key performance "Award-winning actor actor leaves his comfort zone (Buenos Aires, where he stars in a TV soap) to try his luck in NYC. A serio-comic drama of gender stereotypes, class consciousness, and national identity.

a film by Julia Solomonoff

nobody's watching

OPENS FRIDAY SEPT 8

WINNER BEST ACTOR 2017 TRI BECA FESTIVAL