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RIFF AWARDS 2019

**15th-22nd of November | New Cinema Aquila
Rome Independent Film Festival - XVIII edition.**

Among the titles:

"Peter Lindbergh, Women Stories" by Jean Michel Vecchiet on the famous fashion photographer recently deceased and

"The World according to Amazon" about Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon.

Focus on Spain, Ukraine and LGBTQ.

From the 15th until 22nd of November the XVIII edition of the RIFF - Rome Independent Film Festival will be held at Nuovo Cinema Aquila in Rome, with a wide program of events, meetings and obviously screenings.

Among the competing documentaries: "Dave Grusin: Not Enough Time" by Barbara Bentree focusing on the extraordinary career of composer Dave Grusin, author of more than a hundred soundtracks and awarded with Oscar for *Milagro*. The director will be a guest at the festival. Among other documentaries, highly awaited "Peter Lindbergh - Women Stories" by Jean Michel Vecchiet that pictured the famous fashion photographer who passed away last September 3rd at the age of 74. The undoubted pioneer of a new way of the fashion photography without retouching and excessive makers.

"The World according to Amazon" with Jeff Bezos the founder, president and CEO of the eponymous giant e-commerce.

Among the short films in competition: "Daughter" by Daria Kashcheeva, from the Toronto International Film Festival and winner of the U.S. Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences - Student Oscar, the director of short film "To Accept" that won the Nespresso Talents at the Cannes Film Festival. Chintis Lundgren's "Toomas Beneath the Valley of the Wild Wolves" from the Toronto International Film Festival, "Butterflies in Berlin" by Monica Manganelli. The director's first work - "The ballad of the homeless", after winning the Best Animation at the Los Angeles Short Film Festival, qualified for the 2016 Oscars, won the Silver Ribbon for animation in 2016 and in the same year it was one of the five animated films nominated for the David di Donatello.

10 short films from ten different countries and film schools. There is our "Racconto Notturmo", a story of a bizarre relationship between Riccardo De Filippis and Martina Querini, directed by Gianluca Granocchia. There is the "Russia of Autumn 35", a visionary short film with thriller touches by the student Daria Elkonina; "Melanie's Sweden", a little gem and a disruptive 'coming of age' by the young director Lisa Meyer. We then fly to Poland with the intense relationship between a mother and a daughter by Michal Hudzikowski in "I've got something for you too" and to Belgium where director Setareh Samavi pictures two women finding themselves facing the past in "For Tides". And again, there is the "Noa Israel" by the young Dekel Nitzan alumnus of the Berlinale Talents, and Germany with the sci-fiction Jupiter by Benjamin Pffol, who returns to RIFF with his new short after having participated with "Ghost" in 2018.

Among the jurors of this edition: Nadia Zavarova, Bernd Brehmer, Stefano Ratchev, Tatiana Covor, Salvatore Basile, Vincenzo Alfieri and Diego Petre.

There are two Masterclasses scheduled this year at the RIFF. Focusing on soundtracks held by Stefano Ratchev: "They fill dead moments, underline moments full of pathos and introduce music that enter the collective memory."

"Showing the invisible" with Andrea Maguolo concentrated on editing, "the combination of the moments of human emotions put into image and forming a sort of alchemy."

Special events include The New Ukrainian cinema: the reality that inspires with 6 films by young Ukrainian directors representing diversity in themes, expressive media, experimentation, genres and stories told on the big screen.

Among the titles "Pryputni" by Arkadiy Nepytyaliuk (2017) a dramatic comedy where the criminal subject appears in the everyday life of a small Ukrainian country. Irony, absurdity, expressive characters and beautiful landscapes, winner of the Odessa International Film Festival Award and the Ukrainian national prize "Zolota Dzyga" for best

actress (Nina Naboka). "My father is my mother's brother" by Vadim Ilkov (2018) the doc which is a touching story of family and creative inspiration in life and art. Among the short films: "Desaturated" by Marina Stepanska (2019) one of the prominent young Ukrainian filmmakers. "My woman" by Pavel Ostrikov (2018) the new comedy by one of the best known young talents (his previous "Vypusk 97" won a prize in Locarno). "Sensiz" by Nariman Aliev (2016) in which the individual style of the young Ukrainian director starts, participating in the competition for the 2020 Oscars with "Homeward". "Weightlifter" by Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk (2018) doc. which tells what could be the price of the victory in professional sport, awarded at the Kiev IFF Molodist and Grand-prix in Warsaw IFF.

Do not miss the LGBT Focus - Love & Pride Day - The value of diversity to raise awareness of these issues. Movies will be presented on November 19th in a marathon dedicated to the Italian previews: "Tremors" by Jayro Bustamante (Guatemala / France / Luxembourg), "Madame" by Stéphane Riethauser (Switzerland), "Miserere" by Francisco Rios Flores (Argentina), "Mr. Dimitris and Mrs. Dimitroula" by Tzeli Hadjidimitriou (Greece), "A man must be strong" by Elsi Perino & Ilaria Ciavattini (Italy).

At the Focus Spain - The valencian animation in which the Cortoons Gandia Festival and the IVAC, Valencian Institute of Culture, presents a special screening dedicated to short films animations made in the Valencian Community. The movie projection will be assisted by: Alessandro d'Urso Artistic Director of Cortoons Gandia, José Luis Moreno Maicas Adjunct Director of IVAC and Sara Álvarez Sarrat coordinator of the Master of Animation of UPV, Polytechnic University of Valencia.

MINI is a partner of the festival with its iconic cars - official cars of the festival, and with the short "A tradition of Family" by Giuseppe Cardaci produced by MINI FILMLAB, a project dedicated to young filmmakers made by MINI ITALIA together with OffiCine.

The RIFF - Rome Independent Film Festival, conceived and directed by Fabrizio Ferrari, is realized with the contribution and the patronage of the General Direction Cinema - Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, of the Department of Culture and Youth Policies of the Lazio Region and with the Patronage of the Municipality of Rome Department of Cultural Growth.

Please check our page for Photo, catalogue and program.

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