



For Immediate Release

## MONTCLAIR FILM ANNOUNCES MARCH LINEUP AT CINEMA505

### *Shine Global Retrospective Headlines Month's Program*

FEBRUARY 22, 2017, MONTCLAIR, NJ - Montclair Film today announced the organization's March 2018 film lineup, featuring a retrospective of films produced by Shine Global, a non-profit media company that gives voice to children and their families by telling stories of their resilience to raise awareness, promote action, and inspire change. Founded by Montclair residents Susan MacLaury and Albie Hecht, Shine Global's films have won more than 50 major awards including an Academy Award® for Best Documentary Short Subject for **INOCENTE** and an Academy Award®-nomination and two Emmys® for **WAR/DANCE**. Other films in the program include **1 WAY UP (2014)**, **THE EAGLE HUNTRESS (2016)**, **DANCING IN JAFFA (2013)**, **THE HARVEST (LA COSECHA, 2011)**, the short film **WAR DANCE RETURNS (2009, playing with WAR/DANCE)** and **THE WRONG LIGHT (2016)**. The majority of films will feature screenings with Q&As with members of the Shine Global team.

"We're honored that Montclair Film will screen a month-long retrospective of Shine Global's films this March," said Shine Global co-Founder Susan MacLaury. "As long time residents and film lovers, we are grateful to them not only for building a vibrant film festival but also for their yearlong community programs, especially those that benefit students."

On March 27th, Montclair Film will join cinemas around the nation for a National Evening of Science on Screen®, featuring a special screening of David Cronenberg's 1999 classic **eXistenZ**, with a post-screening talk by Lia Nower, Professor and director of the Center for Gambling Studies, Rutgers University School of Social Work. Professor Nower will be discussing how game design impacts our brain function, our behavior, and our relationships—and explores the potential real-world consequences of increasingly immersive gaming. Science on Screen® is an initiative of the COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE, with major support from the ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION.

March also sees several community partnership screenings at Cinema505, including a screening of Todd Field's adaptation of novelist Tom Perrotta's **LITTLE CHILDREN**, presented in partnership with the Montclair Literary Festival, Civia Tamarkin's **BIRTHRIGHT: A WAR STORY**, presented in partnership with the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Essex County Section, Sara Taksler's **TICKLING GIANTS**, presented in partnership with North Jersey Amnesty, part of Amnesty International USA (AIUSA), and a free screening of **THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS**, which continues **The Price Of Liberty**, Montclair Film's partnership series with the

# MONTCLAIR FILM

Montclair History Center focusing on African-Americans and science, and which will feature a post-screening discussion.

Montclair Film's third StorySLAM storytelling event takes place on March 24th, and will feature the theme **A NEW ME**, celebrating the renewing power of spring with stories about rebirth, reimagining, and personal transformation. March 18th also sees the launch of our youth storytelling event **SLAM MY STORY**, which features stories told by teens.

Tickets for all films and events, as well as a full schedule of discussions and Q&As, available at [montclairfilm.org](http://montclairfilm.org)

## The Films

March 1-4, **THE EAGLE HUNTRESS**, directed by Otto Bell

March 2-4, **INOCENTE**, directed by Sean Fine and Andrea Nix-Fine

March 9-11, **DANCING IN JAFFA**, directed by Hilla Medalia

March 14, **LITTLE CHILDREN**, directed by Todd Field

March 15, **BIRTHRIGHT: A WAR STORY**, directed by Civia Tamarkin

March 16-18, **THE HARVEST (LA COSECHA)**, directed by U Roberto Romano

March 17, **WAR/DANCE & WAR/DANCE RETURNS** directed by Sean Fine and Andrea Nix-Fine (Cinema505, FREE)

March 18, **TICKLING GIANTS**, directed by Sara Taksler

March 20, **THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS**, directed by George C Wolfe (Cinema505, FREE)

March 22-25, **1 WAY UP**, directed by Amy Mathieson

March 27, **eXistenZ**, directed by David Cronenberg

March 29-April 1, **THE WRONG LIGHT**, directed by Josie Swantek Heitz and Dave Adams

## *A Salute To Shine Global*

Montclair Film salutes Shine Global, non-profit media company founded by Montclair residents Susan MacLaury and Albie Hecht.

## THE EAGLE HUNTRESS

Director: Otto Bell

Runtime: 87 Min

This spellbinding documentary film follows Aisholpan, a 13-year-old nomad girl, as she prepares to take on the all-male, all-grown-up world of Eagle Hunters at the annual Festival in the snow-capped Altai Mountains of North West Mongolia.

## INOCENTE

Directors: Sean Fine and Andrea Nix-Fine



**Runtime: 40 Min**

The Academy Award®-winning short documentary INOCENTE is an inspiring coming-of age story of a 15 year old girl in California. Though homeless and undocumented, she refuses to give up on her dream of being an artist, proving that her circumstances do not define her - her dreams do.

### **DANCING IN JAFFA**

**Director: Hilla Medalia**

**Runtime: 90 Min**

Produced in association with Tiara Blue and kNow Productions, this award-winning film follows Palestinian dance instructor Pierre Dulaine as he returns home to Jaffa, Israel to partner Jewish, Muslim, and Christian children in a dance competition.

### **THE HARVEST (LA COSECHA)**

**Director: U Roberto Romano**

**Runtime: 80 Min**

The Harvest (La Cosecha) with Executive Producer Eva Longoria, follows 3 of the estimated 400,000 children who labor as migrant farmworkers to help their families survive. This award-winning documentary provides an intimate glimpse into the lives of these children who struggle to dream while working 12 – 14 hours a day, 7 days a week to feed America.

### **WAR/DANCE**

**Directors: Sean Fine and Andrea Nix-Fine**

**Runtime: 105 Min**

Academy Award®-nominated documentary War/Dance introduces viewers to three compelling children – Dominic, Rose and Nancy— who live in the war zone of Northern Uganda. Despite their horrific experiences, they compete with joyful abandon in a national music and dance festival.

### **WAR/DANCE RETURNS**

**Directors: Sean Fine and Andrea Nix-Fine**

**Runtime: 15 Min**

A follow up documentary to WAR/DANCE, reunites the filmmakers with the residents of Patongo for the first Ugandan screening of the film.

### **1 WAY UP**

**Director: Amy Mathieson**

**Runtime: 66 Min**

1 WAY UP is the story of two teenage boys on the road to the BMX World Championships. They hope to escape one of the toughest gang neighborhoods in London with the only thing they have - a bike.



## **THE WRONG LIGHT**

**Directors:** Josie Swantek Heitz and Dave Adams

**Runtime:** 78 Min

A charismatic activist leads a globally-regarded NGO that provides shelter and education for girls rescued from brothels in Northern Thailand. But as the filmmakers meet the girls and their families, discrepancies begin to emerge and the story takes an unexpected turn.

### *Classics*

*Classic Films on the big screen, the way they were intended to be seen!*

## **eXistenZ**

**Director:** David Cronenberg

**Cast:** Jennifer Jason Leigh, Jude Law, Willem Dafoe

**Runtime:** 97 Min

Video game designer Allegra Geller (Jennifer Jason Leigh) has created a virtual reality game called eXistenZ. After a crazed fan attempts to kill her, Allegra goes on the run with Ted (Jude Law), a young businessman who falls into the role of bodyguard. In an attempt to save her game, Allegra implants into Ted's body the video game pod that carries a damaged copy of eXistenZ. Allegra and Ted engage in a series of experiences that blur the lines between fantasy and reality.

***A discussion with Professor Lia Nower follows the screening. Presented as part of the National Evening of Science On Screen®. Science on Screen® is an initiative of the COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE, with major support from the ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION.***

### *Community Screenings*

Montclair Film joins with local community partners to present films that speak to our shared belief in the power of stories to empower and transform communities.

## **BIRTHRIGHT: A WAR STORY**

**Director:** Civia Tamarkin

**Runtime:** 100 Min

**BIRTHRIGHT: A WAR STORY** is a feature length documentary that examines how women are being jailed, physically violated and even put at risk of dying as a radical movement tightens its grip across America. The film tells the story of women who have become collateral damage in the aggressive campaign to take control of reproductive health care and to allow states, courts and religious doctrine to govern whether, when and how women will bear children. The documentary explores the accelerating gains of the crusade to control pregnant women and the fallout that is creating a public health crisis, turning pregnant women into criminals and challenging the constitutional protections of every woman in America.

# MONTCLAIR FILM

*Presented in partnership w/ the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Essex County Section*

## LITTLE CHILDREN

**Director:** Todd Field

**Cast:** Patrick Willsion, Kate Winslet, Jennifer Connelly, Jackie Earle Haley

**Runtime:** 137 Min

Sarah (Kate Winslet) is a well-educated woman who cannot come to terms with her life as a housewife and mother. Brad (Patrick Wilson), a stay-at-home dad, is married to a beautiful filmmaker (Jennifer Connelly) and goes skateboarding instead of studying for the bar exam. The pair meet at a playground and soon their lives are changed forever.

*Presented in partnership with the Montclair Literary Festival*

## TICKLING GIANTS

**Director:** Sara Taksler

**Runtime:** 111 Min

Tickling Giants tells the story of Dr. Bassem Youssef, the "Egyptian Jon Stewart", who decides to leave his job as a heart surgeon and become a late-night comedian. The movie is about how he finds creative, non-violent ways to protect free speech and fight a president who abuses his power.

*Presented in partnership with North Jersey Amnesty, part of Amnesty International USA (AIUSA)*

**THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS** Director: George C Wolfe

**Cast:** Oprah Winfrey, Reed Birney, Reneé Elise Goldsberry

**Runtime:** 93 Min

An African-American woman becomes an unwitting pioneer for medical breakthroughs when her cells are used to create the first immortal human cell line in the early 1950s.

*Tickets are FREE but required.*

*Presented in partnership with The Montclair History Center as part of The Price of Liberty film series. A Q&A and discussion will follow this screening.*

*The complete lineup, including show times and ticketing information, is now available at [montclairfilm.org](http://montclairfilm.org)*

*Select images for these films can be found at <http://bit.ly/MontclairfilmMarch2018>*



### **ABOUT MONTCLAIR FILM**

Montclair Film, a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, nurtures and showcases the talents of filmmakers from around the region and world. Montclair Film unites, empowers, educates, and celebrates our region's diverse cultural heritage and robust artistic community by presenting engaging programs and events all year long. The seventh annual Montclair Film Festival will take place from April 26 through May 6, 2018. Montclair Film's year-round and festival programming is made possible through generous support from Investors Bank; Audible; Hackensack Meridian Health; the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey; Ashenfelter, Slous, Trembulak, McDonough, Golia & Trevenen, LLP; Chubb; Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage; William H. Connolly & Co.; The Nature Conservancy, and others. Our programs are made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism and New Jersey State Council on the Arts. For information about Montclair Film, visit [www.montclairfilm.org](http://www.montclairfilm.org)

### **ABOUT SHINE GLOBAL**

Shine Global, a non-profit media company, gives voice to children and their families by telling stories of their resilience to raise awareness, promote action, and inspire change. The organization's films have won more than 50 major awards including an Academy Award® for Best Documentary Short Subject for *Inocente* and an Academy Award®-nomination and two Emmys® for *War/Dance*.

### **ABOUT THE MONTCLAIR HISTORY CENTER**

The Montclair History Center, formerly the Montclair Historical Society, is an independent not-for-profit organization that has been dedicated to preserving, sharing, and educating others about Montclair's history since 1965. It consists of four historic houses, a library and archives, and microfarm (the Montclair Community Farm). The Montclair History Center receives generous operating and project support from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State; the Whitehill Foundation; Investors Bank; Boiling Springs Bank; the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities; the McMullen Family Foundation; the Montclair Foundation; Hyde and Watson Foundation; Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs; and the Discover NJ License Plate Fund. For additional information, please visit [www.montclairhistory.org](http://www.montclairhistory.org)

### **ABOUT NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ESSEX SECTION**

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms. With more than 3,200 members, Essex County Section is the largest of the more than 100 NCJW Sections around the country. The Section was founded in 1912 and maintains offices in Livingston, N.J. For more information, log on to [www.ncjwessex.org](http://www.ncjwessex.org)

# MONTCLAIR FILM

## ABOUT NORTH JERSEY AMNESTY

As part of Amnesty International USA (AIUSA), the North Jersey Amnesty group is working to help free prisoners of conscience and participate in international human rights campaigns. We meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month. To find the time and location of the next North Jersey meeting, join our mailing list, or learn how to support us financially, contact us at [northjersaiusa@gmail.com](mailto:northjersaiusa@gmail.com)

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