



For Immediate Release

MONTCLAIR FILM ANNOUNCES CINEMA505 PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER 2017

Full slate of fiction and non-fiction releases

October 23, 2017, MONTCLAIR, NJ - Montclair Film today announced the November 2017 film lineup for Cinema505, the organization's screening space located in the Investors Bank Film & Media Center at 505 Bloomfield in Montclair, NJ. November sees the continuation of *The Mastery of Miyazaki* series, which features the Japanese animation legend's all ages classic **NAUSSICA OF THE VALLEY OF THE WIND**, presented in English for the enjoyment of younger children.

November will also see returns of Montclair Film Festival documentary hits **FOR AHKEEM**, directed by Jeremy S. Levine and Landon Van Soest, **DINA**, directed by Antonio Santini and Dan Sickles, as well as new documentary releases **THE DEPARTURE**, directed by Lana Wilson, and **GILBERT**, Neil Berkeley's hilarious portrait of comedian Gilbert Godfried. Dome Kaukoski's fictional biography of the legendary queer graphic designer and artist **TOM OF FINLAND** comes to Montclair direct from its record breaking run in Greenwich Village.

The Films

November 2-5, **FOR AHKEEM**, directed by Jeremy S. Levine and Landon Van Soest
November 4-5, **NAUSSICA OF THE VALLEY OF THE WIND**, directed by Hayao Miyazaki
November 8-12, **DINA**, directed by Antonio Santini and Dan Sickles
November 9-12, **THE DEPARTURE**, directed by Lana Wilson
November 15-19, **GILBERT**, directed by Neil Berkeley
November 16-19, **TOM OF FINLAND**, directed by Dome Kaukoski

Classics

The Mastery Of Miyazaki continues with the beloved family classic

NAUSICAA OF THE VALLEY OF THE WIND (1984)

MONTCLAIR FILM

Director: Hayao Miyazaki

Runtime: 116 Min

The debut film from Hayao Miyazaki, *NAUSICAA OF THE VALLEY OF THE WIND* is considered by many to be his masterwork — and there are few films, animated or otherwise, of such sweeping scope and grandeur. Set in a devastated future world decimated by atmospheric poisons and swarming with gigantic insects, *NAUSICAA* is the story of a young princess, both brave and innocent, whose love for all living things and passionate determination to understand the processes of nature lead her into terrible danger, sacrifice, and eventual triumph. Like most Studio Ghibli films, there is neither good nor evil, but conflicting viewpoints, weaknesses, and power struggles. Throughout the film, Miyazaki's animation is awe-inspiring; the depiction of the poisoned forest in particular is a thing of transcendent beauty. This is a film not to be missed. **Presented in English (dubbed).**

First Run

First-run theatrical films receiving their Montclair theatrical release at Cinema505

FOR AHKEEM

Directors: Jeremy S. Levine and Landon Van Soest

Runtime: 89 Min

Beginning one year before the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown in nearby Ferguson, Missouri, *FOR AHKEEM* is the coming-of-age story of Daje Shelton, a 17-year-old Black girl in North St. Louis. Placed in an alternative high school, Daje fights for her future as she simultaneously navigates the marginalized neighborhoods, biased criminal justice policies, and economic devastation that have set up many African American teens like her to fail. Through Daje's intimate coming-of-age story, *FOR AHKEEM* illuminates the systemic challenges that shape the lives and experiences of so many young people in America today.

DINA

Directors: Antonio Santini and Dan Sickles

Runtime: 101 Min

DINA, directed by Antonio Santini and Dan Sickles, is an unconventionally wonderful documentary that follows the emerging relationship between an eccentric suburban Philadelphia woman and a Walmart door greeter. But the dynamic between the two, each living a rich life at different positions on the autism spectrum, creates a wonderfully candid, comic touch that avoids every single documentary cliché in fa-

MONTCLAIR FILM

vor of a deeply empathetic and often hilarious portrait of a couple navigating the pitfalls of love. Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at this year's Sundance Film Festival, *DINA* shows us a beautiful romance blooming between two unforgettable people.

THE DEPARTURE

Director: Lana Wilson

Runtime: 87 Min

Ittetsu Nemoto, a former punk-turned-Buddhist-priest in Japan, has made a career out of helping suicidal people find reasons to live. But this work has come increasingly at the cost of his own family and health, as he refuses to draw lines between his patients and himself. *The Departure* captures Nemoto at a crossroads, when his growing self-destructive tendencies lead him to confront the same question his patients ask him: what makes life worth living?

GILBERT

Director: Neil Berkeley

Run Time: 94 Min

Legendary comedian Gilbert Gottfried has had quite the career. Rocketing to fame in the 1980s, he was thrust into the public consciousness almost immediately thanks to his brash personality, unique worldview, and off-kilter comic timing. Now, foul-mouthed and unapologetic after decades of flying solo in both his work and in his personal life, Gilbert has shockingly reinvented himself...as a family man. Still he soldiers on, an expert craftsman at bringing his audience to the edge (and sometimes pushing them over). *GILBERT* strips the comedic character away to reveal the man behind it, allowing the audience an intimate — even vulnerable — view of Gottfried.

TOM OF FINLAND

Director: Dome Karukoski

Cast: Pekka Strang, Lauri Tilkanen, Jessica Grabowsky, Werner Daehn

Run Time: 115 Min

The proudly erotic drawings of artist Touko Laaksonen, known to the world as Tom of Finland, shaped the fantasies of a generation of gay men, influencing art and fashion before crossing over into the wider cultural consciousness. But who was the man behind the leather? Dome Karukoski's stirring biopic follows his life from the trenches of WWII and repressive Finnish society of the 1950s through his struggle to get his work published in California, where he and his art were finally embraced amid the sexual revolution of the 1970s. Tom's story is one of love, courage and perseverance, mirroring

MONTCLAIR FILM

the gay liberation movement for which his leather-clad studs served as a defiant emblem.

The complete lineup, including show times and ticketing information, is now available at montclairfilm.org

Select images for these films can be found at <http://bit.ly/MontclairFilmNovember2017>

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 27 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, McDonough, Golia & Trevenen, LLP; Chubb; Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage; and William H. Connolly & Co., 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

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