



For Immediate Release

## MEDIA ALERT

### BLINDED BY THE LIGHT Added to 2019 Montclair Film Festival Program

*New Line Cinema's Inspirational Drama, Featuring the  
Songs of Bruce Springsteen, To Screen on Sunday, May 12*

*Director/Writer/Producer Gurinder Chadha to attend,  
and participate in post-screening Q&A*

April 23, 2019, MONTCLAIR, NJ - Montclair Film today announced the addition of New Line Cinema's *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT* to the 2019 Montclair Film Festival program. The film, an inspirational drama featuring the songs of Bruce Springsteen, will screen on Sunday, May 12, at 6:30 PM at the Montclair Kimberley Academy Upper School. The festival will welcome the film's director/writer/producer Gurinder Chadha (*BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM*) to the festival for a post-screening Q&A.

Opening nationwide on August 14, 2019, *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT* tells the story of Javed (Viveik Kalra) a British teen of Pakistani descent, growing up in the town of Luton, England, in 1987. Amidst the racial and economic turmoil of the times, he writes poetry as a means to escape the intolerance of his hometown and the inflexibility of his traditional father. But when a classmate introduces him to the music of "The Boss," Javed sees parallels to his working-class life in Springsteen's powerful lyrics. As Javed discovers a cathartic outlet for his own pent-up dreams, he also begins to find the courage to express himself in his own unique voice. Based on Sarfraz Manzoor's acclaimed memoir *Greetings from Bury Park*, *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT* is a joyful story of courage, love, hope, family and the unique ability of music to lift the human spirit. A New Line Cinema presentation, *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT* will be distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures.

"We are thrilled to welcome Gurinder Chadha and her wonderful new film *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT* to the Montclair Film Festival," said Montclair Film Executive Director Tom Hall. "When we saw the film, we knew that screening it at the festival would be a dream come true. We're incredibly grateful to New Line Cinema and Warner Bros. Pictures for working with us to bring this movie home to New Jersey."

*PRESS NOTE: IMAGE ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL EMAIL. PHOTO CREDIT:*

*(L-r) NELL WILLIAMS as Eliza, VIVEIK KALRA as Javed and AARON PHAGURA as Roops in New Line Cinema's inspirational drama, BLINDED BY THE LIGHT, a Warner Bros. Pictures release.  
Photo by Nick Wall*

#### ABOUT *BLINDED BY THE LIGHT*

*BLINDED BY THE LIGHT* stars Viveik Kalra, Hayley Atwell, Rob Brydon, Kulvinder Ghir, Nell Williams, Dean-Charles Chapman, and Aaron Phagura. The film was directed by Gurinder Chadha from a screenplay by Sarfraz Manzoor, Chadha and Paul Mayeda Berges. Jane Barclay, Chadha, and Jamal Daniel produced the film. Paul Mayeda Berges,

# MONTCLAIR FILM

Hannah Leader, Tory Metzger, Tracy Nurse, Stephen Spence, Peter Touche, and Renee Witt served as executive producers.

## ABOUT MONTCLAIR FILM

Montclair Film is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization that engages, entertains, and educates through the power of visual storytelling. The eighth annual Montclair Film Festival will take place from May 3-12, 2019. Montclair Film's year-round and festival programming is made possible through generous support from Investors Bank; Audible; Hackensack Meridian Health, Mountainside Medical Center; the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey; The Bravitas Group; Ashenfelter, Slous, Trembulak, McDonough, Golia & Trevenen, LLP; Chubb; Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage; William H. Connolly & Co.; The Nature Conservancy, RBC Wealth Management, and others. Our programs are made possible by funds from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism, as well as the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information about Montclair Film, visit [www.montclairfilm.org](http://www.montclairfilm.org)

\* The May 12 screening of *BLINDED BY LIGHT* will take place at MKA Upper School, in the theater formerly occupied in the schedule by the film *SEA OF SHADOWS*. The festival screening of *SEA OF SHADOWS* will now take place on the originally scheduled date and time of May 12 at 6:30 PM, but has been moved to Montclair Film's Cinema505, located at 505 Bloomfield Avenue. All tickets for *SEA OF SHADOWS* will be honored at Cinema505.

For more information, please contact

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