



# LOCARNO IN LOS ANGELES

February 13 – 16, 2020  
Downtown Independent



# Locarno in Los Angeles 2020: Homecoming

Welcome to the fourth edition of Locarno in Los Angeles. This year we return to the Downtown Independent, home of the festival's first two editions. We hope you enjoy the communal atmosphere this location provides, and the post-screening events we have planned nearby.

The 72<sup>nd</sup> Locarno Film Festival marked the first under new artistic director Lili Hinstin. We're happy to say that the adventurous and diverse Locarno sensibility that we've come to love and admire shows no signs of waning under Hinstin's leadership. Even a brief glance at our program confirms as much: in addition to such radical new voices as Minh Quỳ Trương (THE TREE HOUSE), Maya Kosa and Sérgio da Costa (BIRD ISLAND), Matjaž Ivanišič (OROSLAN), Eloy Enciso (ENDLESS NIGHT), and Jessica Sarah Rinland (THOSE THAT, AT A DISTANCE, RESEMBLE ANOTHER), there are also familiar names like Ben Rivers and Anocha Suwichakornpong (KRABI 2562), Kôji Fukada (A GIRL MISSING), and Ulrich Köhler and Henner Winckler (A VOLUNTARY YEAR).

Our opening and closing night selections are both films by emerging artists of extraordinary imagination: Tyler Taormina's HAM ON RYE, an L.A. shot coming-of-age drama starring over 100 performers, including first-time actors and 90's Nickelodeon child stars, will open this year's edition with the director on hand to discuss the making of this very personal work, while Elsa Kremser and Levin Peter's stunning sci-fi docufiction SPACE DOGS will close things out with its unique blend of earthbound action and cosmic canine wonder.

## Opening Night HAM ON RYE

Tyler Taormina  
USA | 85'  
FEBRUARY 12, 8PM

Q&A with director Tyler Taormina and members of the cast and crew to follow the screening

## OROSLAN

Matjaž Ivanišič  
Slovenia,  
Czech Republic | 72'  
FEBRUARY 14, 5PM

## Spotlight Selection A GIRL MISSING

Kôji Fukada  
Japan, France | 111'  
FEBRUARY 14, 8PM

## THE TREE HOUSE

Minh Quỳ Trương  
Singapore, Vietnam,  
Germany, France,  
China | 84'  
FEBRUARY 15, 12PM

This year's centerpiece title is VITALINA VARELA, the latest from Portuguese master Pedro Costa. Winner of both the Golden Leopard and Best Actress prizes at last summer's Locarno festival, the film tells the tragic story of Vitalina, a Cape Verdean woman who arrives three days late to her estranged husband's funeral in Lisbon. At once a refinement and a brave expansion of Costa's formal and thematic arsenal, VITALINA VARELA is an instant landmark in cinema history, a masterpiece that speaks to its maker's unparalleled sensitivity and stylistic acumen. We're thrilled to welcome Costa to the festival for his first presentation of a new work in Los Angeles in over a decade.

Lastly, we'd like to extend our gratitude to our loyal sponsors and partners, without whom this festival would not be possible. First and foremost, thank you to Lili Hinstin and the Locarno Film Festival for their ongoing support. Thank you to MUBI and the Tadashi Yanai Initiative for Globalizing Japanese Humanities, whose generous contributions have helped make this festival more than just a place to see movies, but one to congregate with likeminded artists and cinephiles. And finally, thanks to the Swiss Consulate General of San Francisco, who continue to graciously support this endeavor from afar. As the Locarno Film Festival begins a new era and our Los Angeles iteration returns home, we hope you continue to enjoy what remains a unique event in American film culture.

Have a wonderful festival!

Jordan Cronk & Robert Koehler

Artistic Directors,  
Locarno in Los Angeles/Acropolis Cinema

## A VOLUNTARY YEAR

Ulrich Köhler  
and Henner Winckler  
Germany | 86'  
FEBRUARY 15, 2:30PM

## ENDLESS NIGHT

Eloy Enciso  
Spain | 90'  
FEBRUARY 15, 5PM

## Centerpiece Selection VITALINA VARELA

Pedro Costa  
Portugal | 124'  
FEBRUARY 15, 8PM

Q&A with Pedro Costa following the screening

## BIRD ISLAND

Maya Kosa  
and Sérgio da Costa  
Switzerland | 60'  
FEBRUARY 16, 12PM

## THOSE THAT, AT A DISTANCE, RESEMBLE ANOTHER

Jessica Sarah Rinland  
United Kingdom, Argentina,  
Spain | 67'  
FEBRUARY 16, 2:30PM

## KRABI 2562

Ben Rivers  
and Anocha Suwichakornpong  
United Kingdom,  
Thailand | 94'  
FEBRUARY 16, 5PM

## Closing Night SPACE DOGS

Elsa Kremser  
and Levin Peter  
Austria, Germany | 91'  
FEBRUARY 16, 8PM



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