



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCARNO IN LOS ANGELES ANNOUNCES FULL PROGRAM: SCHEDULE, TICKET PACKAGES, SHORTS PROGRAM, ADDITIONAL GUESTS, AND SPONSORS

The inaugural Locarno in Los Angeles (April 21-23), an initiative of Acropolis Cinema with the support of the Locarno Festival and the Swiss Consulate General in Los Angeles, will feature guest appearances from filmmakers Eduardo Williams (*The Human Surge*) and Dane Komljen (*All the Cities of the North*), as well as an additional program of short films (April 25), including new works from Joana Pimenta, Ben Rivers and Gabriel Abrantes, Camilo Restrepo, Manoun Coubia, and James N. Kienitz Wilkins.

Los Angeles, CA. (March 17, 2017)—Locarno in Los Angeles announced today the full program and schedule of events for its inaugural festival, running April 21-23 at the Downtown Independent. Along with a previously-announced appearance by director Theo Anthony (*Rat Film*, USA), the festival will welcome filmmakers Eduardo Williams (*The Human Surge*, Argentina) and Dane Komljen (*All the Cities of the North*, Serbia) to Los Angeles to present their films for the first time to local audiences.

Additionally, two panel discussions—"The Big Question: How to Get Art Cinema in Front of Los Angeles Audiences?" and "Framing a Festival: How Locarno Presents International Cinema," each featuring a selection of critics, programmers, and representatives from both Locarno in Los Angeles and the Locarno Festival in Switzerland—will take place during the afternoons of April 22 and 23, while screenings of the festival's ten feature selections will run throughout the weekend. Tickets, including exclusive package deals and passes, are now on sale at www.locarnoinlosangeles.com.

Also added to festivities is a special adjunct program of five short films, all of which are likewise Los Angeles premieres curated from the most recent edition of the Locarno Festival. This adjunct program, taking place April 25 at the Downtown Independent, will feature a selection of some of last year's finest short-form works, including new films by Joana Pimenta (*An Aviation Field*), Ben Rivers and Gabriel Abrantes (*The Hunchback*), Camilo Restrepo (*Cilaos*), James N. Kienitz Wilkins (*Indefinite Pitch*), and Manoun Cou-bia, whose film *The Fullness of Time (Romance)* won the short film top prize at Locarno 2016.

Attendees who purchase an all-access, ten-film Golden Leopard Guest Pass will receive free admission to the shorts program. A five-film Silver Leopard Guest Pass is also available.

Locarno in Los Angeles is proud to partner with Acropolis' longtime sponsor MUBI, an online curated cinema streaming hand-picked award-winning, classic, and cult films from around the globe, on this first of edition of the festival. In the spirit of the global initiative of this multi-faceted project, additional sponsorship and support comes courtesy of UBS, the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce, Nespresso, the Goethe-Institut and the German Currents Film Festival, the Internet Marketing Association (IMA), Swiss Global Enterprises, Switzerland Tourism, the South East European Film Festival (SEEFest), as well as the Consulate Generals of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the State of Qatar, Romania, the Istituto Italiano Di Cultura, the Honorary Consulate of Montenegro, the Embassy of Serbia, and the Embassy of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Each is a key component in the realization of the first ever Locarno in Los Angeles.

Individual tickets and multi-film passes for are now on sale. Please visit www.locarnoinlosangeles.com for more details.

Locarno in Los Angeles Main Program + Screening Schedule

Dates: Friday-Sunday, April 21-23

Location: Downtown Independent

251 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA .90012

Screening: April 21, 8:30pm

Hermia & Helena (Opening Night selection)

Matías Piñeiro, USA, Argentina · 2016 · DCP · Color · 87' · English/Spanish

Camila, a young Argentine theater director, travels from Buenos Aires to New York to attend an artistic residency to develop her new project: a Spanish translation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Upon her arrival in New York, Camila quickly realizes that her work is not enough to compensate for the loss of her friends and her boyfriend she has left behind. A new path appears when she begins to receive a series of mysterious postcards from Danièle, a former participant in the residency. The secrets

lead Camila to abandon her studies, winding her way through a series of amorous detours, dead ends and new beginnings.

Screening: April 22, 1:00pm

The Human Surge

Eduardo Williams, Argentina, Brazil,

Portugal · 2016 · DCP · Color · 100' · Spanish/Cebuano/Portuguese

Buenos Aires. Exe, 25 years old, has just lost his job and is not looking for another one. His neighbors and friends seem as odd to him as they always do. Online, he meets Alf, a boy from Mozambique who is also bored with his job and who is about to follow Archie, another boy who has run away into the jungle. Through the dense vegetation of the forest, Archie tracks ants back to their nest. One of them wanders off course and comes across Canh, a Filipino, sitting on top of a giant heap of earth and who is about to go back to his strange, beautiful home town, where he too has a miserable job. – **Director Eduardo Williams in person!**

Panel Discussion: April 22, 3:00pm

"The Big Question: How to Get Art Cinema in Front of Los Angeles Audiences"

The esteemed group of critics and programmers comprising this Saturday afternoon panel discussion will debate in-depth one of Los Angeles' greatest cinematic conundrums: Just how do we go about getting art cinema in front of local audiences?

Screening: April 22, 4:30pm,

Dark Skull

Kiro Russo, Bolivia, Qatar · 2016 · DCP · Color · 80' · Spanish

Elder Mamaní's father has died, and it looks as if young Elder couldn't care less, even though he has no one to take care of him now. He goes to live with his grandmother in the outskirts of the mining city, Huanuni, where Francisco, his godfather, gives him a job at the mine. But it doesn't take long for Elder, who cares more about getting high and wandering through dangerous alleys at night, to mess it up. But he soon finds out about a dark secret regarding Francisco's involvement in his father's death...

Screening: April 22, 6:30pm

The Dreamed Path

Angela Schanelec, Germany · 2016 · DCP · Color · 86' · English/German

Greece, 1984. Kenneth, an Englishman, and Theres, a German girl, sing in the street to finance their holidays. They are in love, but when Kenneth learns that his mother had an accident, he hastily returns home, leaving Theres behind. Later, starting to realize how much he needs her, he fails in his attempt to win her back. 30 years later in Berlin. Ariane, a 40-year-old TV actress, leaves her husband, a successful anthropologist, after a marital crisis. After moving into an apartment near the main station, the husband starts seeing a homeless man outside his window. It is Kenneth, who does not know that Theres now also lives in Berlin.

Screening: April 22, 8:30pm

The Challenge

Yuri Ancarani, Italy, France, Switzerland · 2016 · DCP · Color · 69' · Arabic

Falconry has a history that stretches back over 40 centuries. In the West it was a prevailing passion of the medieval aristocracy, but its prestige continues undiminished in contemporary Arab culture. Three years of observing this form of hunting in the field have made it possible to capture the spirit of a tradition that today allows its practitioners to keep a close rapport with the desert, despite their predominantly urban lifestyle. Our guide to how they cross that threshold is a falconer taking his birds to compete in a tournament in Qatar. In the glaring light of an empty landscape, following flight lines and lures, the film recounts a strange kind of “desert weekend”, in which technological and anthropological microcosms hang in the air, like the falcon, drifting on the irreversible currents of images.

Screening: April 22, 10:00pm

Rat Film (Centerpiece Selection)

Theo Anthony, USA · 2016 · DCP · Color · 84' · English

Across walls, fences and alleys, rats not only expose our boundaries of separation, but make homes in them. Rat Film uses the rats, as well as the humans that love them, live with them, and kill them, to explore the history of Baltimore. – **Director Theo Anthony in person!**

Screening: April 23, 12:00pm

The Idea of a Lake

Milagros Mumenthaler, Switzerland, Argentina, Qatar · 2016 · DCP · Color · 82' · Spanish

Inès, a professional photographer, decides to complete a book she is working on before she gives birth to her first child. This photography project, related to the memories of her childhood, always brings her back to the same place: the family home in southern Argentina that shaped her youth and forged her character. It also contains the only photo Inès still has of her with her father, before he disappeared as a victim of the military dictatorship. This photo is the starting point of a jigsaw puzzle of fragmentary memories about the relationships Inès had with her mother and her brother.

Panel Discussion: April 23, 2:00pm

“Framing a Festival: How Locarno Presents International Cinema”

For our second of two panel discussions, participants, which will include a variety of local critics and representatives from both Locarno in Los Angeles and the Locarno Festival in Switzerland, will discuss how one of the world’s most prestigious films festivals goes about programming their annual event, and what responsibility we as local programmers have to supporting such unique and uncommercial cinema.

Screening: April 23, 3:30pm

Destruction Babies

Mariko Tetsuya, Japan · 2016 · DCP · Color · 108' · Japanese

Mitsuhamma, a small and boring port city in Japan. Abandoned by their parents, Taira and Shouta Ashiwara, two teenage brothers, live in a shipyard by the sea. Taira often fights with students from other parts of the town, but one day, he disappears after being beaten up. While Shouta keeps looking for him everywhere, Taira begins a violent journey through the streets of the city, looking for tough men to beat up, driven by his obstinate ego that refuses to lose. Will he ever stop fighting?

Screening: April 23, 6:00pm

All the Cities of the North

Dane Komljen, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina,

Montenegro · 2016 · DCP · Color · 100' · Serbo-Croatian

A single, white room with a blue tent where two men share a relationship for which there are no words. Boban and Boris live within a set of identical, abandoned bungalows, in the midst of stray donkeys, plastic bottles, red berries, tall trees and transient workers. Someone else enters their secluded space, disturbing their routine. The outside world brings stories of different times, of cities to the north and south, of how something is made. New bonds form and old ones shift. Love can be fragile when not given a name. No, don't call me "comrade". What should I call you then? – ***Director***

Dane Komljen in person!

Screening: April 23, 8:30pm

Scarred Hearts (Closing Night Selection)

Radu Jude, Romania, Germany · 2016 · DCP · Color · 141' · Romanian

Romania, 1937. Emanuel, a 20-year-old young man, spends his days at a sanatorium on the Black Sea coast, suffering from bone tuberculosis. Falling in love with another patient, he narrates his and his fellow patients' attempts to live life to the fullest as their bodies slowly fade away, but their minds refuse to give up. Inspired by Romanian author Max Blecher's autobiographical novel Scarred Hearts, written before he died, after ten years of suffering, at the age of 29 years.

(Additional details, including information about the Locarno in Los Angeles shorts program, continued below.)

Locarno in Los Angeles Shorts Program + Descriptions

Date: Tuesday, April 25

Time: 8:00pm

Location: Downtown Independent

251 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012

The Fullness of Time (Romance)

Manoun Coubia, Belgium, France · 2016 · DCP · Color · 14' · French

Sitting on the edge of the yawning rift, she has waited too long, far too long, for the mountain to give her back her lover, trapped in the ice.

An Aviation Field

Joana Pimenta, USA, Portugal, Brazil · 2016 · DCP · Color · 14' · Portuguese

An aviation field in an unknown suburb. The lake underneath the city burns the streets. The mountains throw rocks into the gardens. In the crater of a volcano in Fogo, a model Brazilian city is lifted and dissolves. Two people find each other in this landscape, 50 years apart.

Cilaos

Camilo Restrepo, France · 2016 · DCP · Color · 12' · Reunionese Creole

To keep the promise she made to her dying mother, a young woman sets off to find her father, a fickle man she has never known. On the way, she discovers he is in fact dead, but, driven by the bewitching rhythms of the Maloya, a Reunion Island ritual singing and musical tradition, she does not abandon her goal: she must find her father.

Indefinite Pitch

James N. Kienitz Wilkins, USA · 2016 · DCP · Black and White · 23' · English

A pathetic movie pitch set in Berlin slips into the murkiness of memory and into histories best forgotten or purposely ignored.

The Hunchback

Gabriel Abrantes and Ben Rivers, Portugal, France · 2016 · DCP · Color · 30' · English

In this delirious sci-fi take on the Arabian Nights' Tale of the Hunchback, Dalaya.com, a mega-corporation reigning over a technological dystopia, forces its employees to "relax" at company-run medieval re-enactments.

ACROPOLIS CINEMA

Acropolis Cinema is an independently owned and operated screening series and micro-cinema dedicated to bringing classic and contemporary experimental films to screens across Los Angeles. Founded in January 2016 by Jordan Cronk, Acropolis Cinema's vision for the curation and presentation of film is one of wholly autonomous means, committed to facilitating under-represented film-art throughout the city. Our initial identity as a migrating organization will, we hope, embolden nascent arts communi-

ties typically removed from the epicenter of art house and repertory cinema distribution channels in Los Angeles, and in the process foster fresh developments in localized film discourse and dissemination.

LOCARNO FESTIVAL

From the great years of Italian Neo-Realism to the groundbreaking pioneers of the Nouvelle Vague. From the discovery of films from countries beyond the Iron Curtain during the Cold War, to the first great exploration of cinema from the Far East. Not forgetting the impressive line-up of directors for whom Locarno was their debut international stage: Milos Forman, Marco Bellocchio, Glauber Rocha, Raúl Ruiz, Alain Tanner, Mike Leigh, Béla Tarr, Chen Kaige, Aleksandr Sokurov, Atom Egoyan, Jim Jarmusch, Spike Lee, Abbas Kiarostami, Gus Van Sant, Pedro Costa, Fatih Akin. A long history of discovery which began on 23 August 1946 when the very first Festival was held in the gardens of the Grand Hotel. A story that is far from over, because Locarno has always gladly held true to its cosmopolitan vocation of seeking out the cinema of the future.

For media-related questions please visit www.locarnoinlosangeles.com, or contact locarnoinlosangeles@gmail.com.

@LocarnoInLA

@AcropolisCinema

[facebook.com/AcropolisCinema](https://www.facebook.com/AcropolisCinema)