



## Gal Gadot to Receive the Rising Star Award at 29th Annual PSIFF Film Awards Gala

### Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual **Palm Springs International Film Festival (PSIFF)** will present **Gal Gadot** with the **Rising Star Award** **Actress** at its annual Film Awards Gala for her performance in *Wonder Woman*. The Film Awards Gala, hosted by Mary Hart, will be held Tuesday, January 2 at the Palm Springs Convention Center. The Festival runs January 4-15, 2018.

Gal Gadot's *Wonder Woman* showed us a strong, capable, poised, curious and compassionate character, and her performance has been universally praised, resonating with audiences everywhere.

Gal plays the immortal warrior so well, and the film's themes are especially apt for today, empowering all types of people—women and men, young and old—the world over," said Festival Chairman Harold Matzner. "The Palm Springs International Film Festival is honored to present Gal Gadot with this year's Rising Star Award Actress."

Past recipients of the Rising Star Award include Ruth Negga, Alicia Vikander, Jennifer Lawrence, Scarlett Johansson, Anna Kendrick and Dakota Fanning.

Warner Bros. Pictures' *Wonder Woman* is based on the iconic DC character. In the film, an American pilot crashes off an island and is rescued by Diana, an Amazonian princess and warrior. He tells them about the ongoing World War, and Diana decides she must help, leaving with him to fight, discovering her full powers and true destiny along the way. *Wonder Woman*, which earned more than \$410 million in the U.S. and over \$820 million worldwide, set numerous box office records, including becoming the highest-grossing film directed by a woman, the highest-grossing superhero origin film domestically, and the largest opening for a female-led comic-based film. The action adventure, starring Gal Gadot and Chris Pine, was directed by Patty Jenkins from a screenplay by Allan Heinberg, story by Zack Snyder & Heinberg and Jason Fuchs.

Gal Gadot is an actress born in Rosh Haayin, Israel. In 2004, she was crowned Miss Israel; then, like all Israeli citizens, went on to serve two years in the Israel Defense Forces. She studied at IDC

Herzliya College before pursuing modeling and acting. While cultivating television work both in Israel and the U.S., Gadot made her film debut in *Fast & Furious*, as well as its sequels *Fast Five* and *Fast & Furious 6*, also performing her own stunts. She appeared in the 2010 action comedy films *Date Night* and *Knight and Day*, the 2014 Israeli film *Kicking Out Shoshana*, and the 2016 films *Triple 9*, *Criminal* and *Keeping Up with the Joneses*. Gadot was cast as Wonder Woman in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, before playing the title character in the 2017 mega-hit *Wonder Woman*, which earned Gadot a Teen Choice Award for Action Actress. She will reprise the character in the DC extended universe film *Justice League*, to be released on November 17, 2017.

### **About The Palm Springs International Film Festival**

The Palm Springs International Film Festival (PSIFF) is one of the largest film festivals in North America, welcoming 135,000 attendees last year for its lineup of new and celebrated international features and documentaries. The Festival is also known for its annual Film Awards Gala, a glamorous, black-tie event attended by 2,500. The Film Awards Gala honors the year's best achievements in cinema in front of and behind the camera. The celebrated list of talents who have been honored in recent years includes Ben Affleck, Javier Bardem, Cate Blanchett, Sandra Bullock, Bradley Cooper, George Clooney, Daniel Day-Lewis, Leonardo DiCaprio, Clint Eastwood, Tom Hanks, Nicole Kidman, Matthew McConaughey, Julianne Moore, Brad Pitt, Eddie Redmayne, Julia Roberts, Meryl Streep and Reese Witherspoon. For more information, call 760-778-8979 or 800-898-7256 or visit [www.psfilmfest.org](http://www.psfilmfest.org).



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hollywoodglee