



Katharine Ross will perform with The Malibu Coast Silent Film Orchestra on Opening Night at San Luis Obispo International Film Festival

Description



Katharine Ross

January 17, 2019) at the San Luis Obispo International Film Festival

(March 12-17) has announced that Katharine Ross will perform with The

Malibu Coast Silent Film Orchestra on Opening Night to launch the 25th Anniversary edition of the popular film festival. Ross will tell the exciting true story of "Kate Shelley and the Midnight Express," with the orchestra, prior to participating in a discussion on film and her award-winning career, and introducing a special 50th Anniversary screening of the 1969 classic, BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID.

SLO Film Fest also announced the creation of the Movie Newbie Pass, designed to serve as a convenient and cost-effective way for the first time film festival audience member to enjoy the films. They will soon open an exciting new indoor Festival Lounge to better serve as the growing film festival's epicenter and meeting place for filmmakers and passholders to enjoy SLO's daily events, panels, and parties.



“An Evening with Katharine Ross” will take place on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at the Fremont Theatre, in San Luis Obispo, CA. Presented by BHE Renewables, and sponsored by Justin Vineyards & Winery, New Times, Luna Red, The Krush 92.5, KJUG 98.1, KVEC News Talk 920am, the event was originally scheduled for the fall of 2018 but postponed due to devastating fires in Malibu, CA. SLO Film Fest Director Wendy Eidson, said, “One of the universally beloved film actors from her signature roles in classics like THE GRADUATE, it will be a thrill and a delight to have Katharine Ross kick off our 25th Anniversary film festival in style with a rare live performance and special introduction to another one of our favorites, BUTCH CASSIDY & THE SUNDANCE KID. We’re beyond fortunate that we could reschedule this event after its postponement last Fall, and now it will begin this year’s film festival on a very high note.”

The acclaimed five-piece [Malibu Coast Silent Film Orchestra](#) will accompany Ross as she recounts the true story from Margaret K Wetterer’s “Kate Shelley and the Midnight Express,” of Kate Shelley, a fifteen-year-old Iowa teenager who helped avert a train disaster in 1881 and went on to become a national heroine. Based on Mary Kay Shanley’s spoken short story, it was originally written for the Wonder of Words Festival in Des Moines, Iowa. This new version will feature Ross as the story-teller and composer Maria Newman’s original music. The performance will be the orchestra’s fourth visit to San Luis Obispo after impressing audiences at past Festival fundraising events, including *Daddy Long Legs* and last year’s Silent Shorts event at the Madonna Inn.



...in composer Maria Newman and Festival Director

BUTCH CASSIDY & THE SUNDANCE KID Wendy Eidson on the Fremont Theatre stage for a conversation

about her career and her role in BUTCH CASSIDY & THE SUNDANCE KID, prior to a screening of the digitally restored version of the "Best Picture" Oscar winner that is still considered one of the best Westerns of all time. This timeless classic stars Paul Newman and Robert Redford as the true-life outlaws in the early 1900s, and Katharine Ross as the lovely free spirit whose charm bewitched the outlaws as well as audiences then and now.

VIP ticket holders will also have an opportunity to meet Katharine Ross at an Opening Night reception before the event at Luna Red, located next to the Mission in downtown San Luis Obispo. Luna Red will serve appetizers, wine, and beer, with live music indoors and on the patio (weather permitting) from 5:00-6:30PM. The performance and movie event begins at 7:00PM.

ABOUT KATHARINE ROSS

Katharine Ross is an acclaimed, award-winning American film and stage actress who is renowned for her performances in two of the most popular films of the late 1960s. Ross was cemented forever in the hearts and minds of film fans and from her iconic role of Elaine Robinson in Mike Nichols' groundbreaking film, THE GRADUATE (1967), for which she won a Golden Globe Award and was nominated as Best Supporting Actress for an Academy Award. Ross also made a significant mark as Etta Place in George Roy Hill's BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID (1969), for which she won a BAFTA Award for Best Actress. Additional signature films include Bryan Forbes' THE STEPFORD WIVES (1975), Stuart Rosenberg's VOYAGE OF THE DAMNED (1976), for which she won a second Golden Globe award, and Richard Kelly's cult classic DONNIE DARKO (2001).



THE GRADUATE, THE STEPFORD WIVES, VOYAGE OF THE DAMNED

In 1984, Katharine Ross married actor Sam Elliott. They met in London on Richard Marquand's horror classic THE LEGACY (1978), and have worked together on several projects since that fateful meeting. They co-wrote and starred in Louis L'Amour's CONAGHER, co-starred in THE SHADOW RIDERS, MURDER IN TEXAS and most recently in Brett Haley's THE HERO, released in 2017.

Tickets are available for the party and movie event for \$50, as well as individual movie event tickets for \$25 (\$15 for students). Movie Mogul passes will be accepted for both the party and movie events. Tickets are on sale now at slofilmfest.org.

As plans are made for this year's edition of the SLO Film Fest, one addition is the introduction of a new Festival Pass for first-time festival goers: The Movie Newbie Pass. It will allow one person to use the pass for four regular festival screenings at the Rock at SLO Brew or the Fremont Theatre. The Movie Newbie Pass can also be used by four people for one screening or any combination that totals four uses. The pass is \$40 and is on sale now at slofilmfest.org.

The Movie Newbie Pass is the ideal way for a first-timer to enjoy the festival without making a large time or cash commitment. There are four other festival pass options available, but this is the only pass

that can be used by more than two people and is ideal for a movie-going group. Pass holders will be limited to movie choices at the Rock and Fremont Theatres and the pass does not include Red Carpet Events at the Fremont Theatre.

Once again, the Festival will operate a Festival Hospitality Lounge during the Festival week. Located conveniently in the SLO Collection Court Street shopping area in downtown San Luis Obispo (1040 Court Street), the location will be a true epicenter for SLO, as it will also be the home of the Festival Headquarters, which functions as a box office and information outlet, and will be mere blocks from three Festival theatres – the Palm Theatre, Downtown Cinemas and Fremont Theatre.

ABOUT SAN LUIS OBISPO FILM FESTIVAL

Located half-way between Los Angeles and San Francisco, San Luis Obispo’s laid-back vibe and serene natural beauty is the perfect setting for this highly regarded annual film celebration. Filmmakers rave about the warmth and attentiveness that is so much a part of the SLO Film Fest experience, as does the swelling tide of industry pros and film critics who are fast discovering the Festival’s thoughtful audiences and unique programming sensibility. At the SLO Film Fest, “Movies Matter!”



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