

San Luis Obispo International Film Festival 2020 Announces King Vidor Award Honoree!

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson



The 2020 San Luis Obispo International Film Festival

presented by Hotel San Luis Obispo

announces Lawrence Kasdan will be this yearâ??s

King Vidor Award honoree

(March 17-22)



Lawrence Kasdan

San Luis Obispo, CA (February 24, 2020) â?? The San Luis Obispo International Film Festival (March 12-17) has announced that critically acclaimed director/writer/producer Lawrence Kasdan will be this yearâ??s King Vidor Award honoree.

Kasdan will be attending the film festival with his wife, frequent collaborator Meg Kasdan, with their documentary short film, LAST WEEK AT EDâ??S, about the closing of the beloved Edâ??s Coffee Shop in West Hollywood.



Wendy Eidson

â??The King Vidor Award offers us an opportunity each year to celebrate and honor someone that has impacted our love of cinema, and Lawrence Kasdan epitomizes that as much as anyoneâ?• said SLO Film Fest Director

Wendy Eidson. â??From RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, to THE BIG CHILL, to so much that we love about the STAR WARS films and more, he has either been one of the key people behind their creation or outright been responsible for some of our favorite movie moments.â?•

Presented by BHE Renewables and JUSTIN Vineyards and Winery, the King Vidor Award presentation will take place immediately after the George Sidney Independent Film Awards ceremony on Saturday, March 21 at 7:00PM at the Fremont Theater (1025 Monterey Street). Following the presentation, *Turner Classic Movies*â?? Ben Mankiewicz will host a discussion of Kasdanâ??s career including a number of his classic and beloved films.

Known for updating old Hollywood genresâ??film noir, science-fiction, westernsâ??in a classical dramatic style with quick-witted dialogue, but dealing with contemporary social themes, Kasdan has helped create some of the defining cinematic mythologies of the 20th century (with a hand in resurrecting the *Star Wars* franchise in the 21st), while as a director he has made personal, slightly quixotic movies that examine characters and generations.



RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, STAR WARS: THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

Kasdanâ??s introduction to film fans as a screenwriter came via two of the all-time popular classics of the 80s and beyond: STAR WARS: THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (1980) and RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK (1981).



BODY HEAT, THE BIG CHILL, THE ACCIDENTAL TOURIST

What would follow were a string of films that, while varied in setting and style, cemented Kasdan, the writer/director, as one of the top talents behind the camera helping set the tone for a decade onscreen: BODY HEAT (1983), THE BIG CHILL (1983) â?? for which he received his first Academy Award nomination for Best Screenplay, SILVERADO (1985), and THE ACCIDENTAL TOURIST (1988), for which he received nominations for both Best Picture and Best Screenplay Adaptation. The latter two films, Kasdan also produced.



SILVERADO, THE BODYGUARD

Prolific, Kasdan continued to both write and direct films throughout the next decade, with highlights including; the critically acclaimed GRAND CANYON (1991), which he co-wrote with his wife, Meg Kasdan (and received another Academy Award nomination for Best Screenplay), as well as directed and produced; the box-office smash, Mick Jacksonâ??s THE BODYGUARD (1992), which Kasdan wrote and produced; the epic western WYATT EARP (1994), which he co-wrote with Dan Gordon, directed, and produced; the Meg Ryan/Kevin Kline romantic comedy FRENCH KISS (1995), which he helmed; and the lightly comedic drama MUMFORD (1999), which he wrote, directed and produced.



WYATT EARP, DARLING COMPANION

2003â??s DREAMCATCHER (co-written with William Goldman) and 2012â??s DARLING COMPANION (co-written with Meg Kasdan), Kasdanâ??s other two outings as writer, director, and producer, could not have been more different from one another. The former being an adaptation of one of Steven Kingâ??s more gonzo horror works, and the latter being an introspective drama centered around the love for and loss of a dog.

Kasdan, the screenwriter, has recently been one of the architects of the growing Star Wars universe, having written STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS (2015), and SOLO: A STAR WARS STORY (2018).



STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS

Event tickets and Festival Passes are now on sale and the full film festival schedule and program can be found at https://slofilmfest.org**.**

ABOUT SAN LUIS OBISPO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Located half-way between Los Angeles and San Francisco, San Luis Obispoâ??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 film festivalâ??s thoughtful audiences and unique programming sensibility. At the SLO Film Fest, â??Movies Matter!â?•



(Source: Press release provided by Wildworks PR, John Wildman)

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