

Nicole Kidman to Receive the Palm Springs International Star Award



8th annual **Palm Springs International Film** winning actress **Nicole Kidman** with the **International Star Award** for her performance in *Lion* at its annual Film Awards Gala. The Film Awards Gala, hosted by Mary Hart, will be held Monday, January 2 at the PalmSprings Convention Center. The Festival runs January 2-16.

â??One of the worldâ??s most luminous and versatile actresses, Nicole Kidman has filled so many unforgettable roles including her performances in *The Hours, Moulin Rouge!, Cold Mountain*, *Rabbit Hole* and dozens more,â?• said Festival Chairman Harold Matzner. â??In her latest film, *Lion*, she gives yet another award-worthy performance as Sue Brierley, an Australian woman who adopts two young boys from India. The Palm Springs International Film Festival is honored to present the International Star Award to Nicole Kidman.â?•

Kidman received the Festivalâ??s Chairmanâ??s Award in 2005. Past International Star Award honorees include BAFTA and Academy Award winning actors Javier Bardem, Helen Mirren and BAFTA and Academy Award nominated actress Saoirse Ronan.

In The Weinstein Company film, *Lion*, five-year-old Saroo (S eling away from his home and family. Frightened and bewildered, , in



chaotic Kolkata. Somehow he survives living on the streets,

escaping all sorts of terrors and close calls in the process, before ending up in an orphanage that is itself not exactly a safe haven. Eventually Saroo is adopted by an Australian couple (Nicole Kidman and David Wenham), and finds love and security as he grows up in Hobart. As an adult, not wanting to hurt his adoptive parentsâ?? feelings, Saroo (Dev Patel) suppresses his past, his emotional need for reunification and his hope of ever finding his lost mother and brother. But a chance meeting with some fellow Indians reawakens his buried yearning. Armed with only a handful of memories, his unwavering determination, and a revolutionary technology known as Google Earth, Saroo sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home. Based on the true story, *A Long Way Home*, *Lion* is directed by Garth Davis and written by Luke Davies with performances from Dev Patel, Nicole Kidman, Rooney Mara, David Wenham, and Sunny Pawar.

Nicole Kidman is an internationally-recognized, award-winning actress and producer known for her range and versatility. Her extensive film work includes *To Die For* (Golden Globe for Best Actress), *Moulin Rouge!* (Academy AwardÂ® nomination, Golden Globe for Best Actress in a Musical), *The Others* (Golden Globe nomination, Saturn Award), *The Hours* (Academy AwardÂ®, BAFTA, Golden

Globe for Best Actress and Berlin Silver Bear), *Rabbit Hole* (Golden Globe for Best Actress, Academy AwardÂ® nomination) and *The Paperboy* (Golden Globe nomination, SAG Award nomination).

Previously announced honorees attending the 2017 Film Awards Gala are Casey Affleck, Tom Hanks, Ruth Negga, the cast of *La La Land*, including Emma Stone, Ryan Gosling, and director Damien Chazelle.

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, an upscale black-tie event attended by 2,500, honoring the best achievements of the film year by a celebrated list of talents who, in recent years, have included Ben Affleck, Javier Bardem, Cate Blanchett, Sandra Bullock, Bradley Cooper, George Clooney, Daniel Day-Lewis, Leonardo DiCaprio, Clint Eastwood, Tom Hanks, Matthew McConaughey, Julianne Moore, Brad Pitt, Eddie Redmayne, Julia Roberts, David O. Russell, Meryl Streep, and Reese Witherspoon.

For more information, call 760-322-2930 or 800-898-7256 or visit www.psfilmfest.org.

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