



SBIFF 2023 Press Conference

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson



Patrica Chidlaw unveils her artwork for the Official 2023 Santa Barbara International Film Festival Po

The 2023 Santa Barbara International Film Festival (SBIFF) is just around the corner with its slated run from February 8th to the 18th. While Santa Barbara is historically known as a Hollywood film premiere town, SBIFF announced this morning at its 2023 press conference, held at the Sullivan Goss Art Gallery in downtown Santa Barbara, a whopping 52 world premiere films as well as 78 US premieres! In all 43 countries will be represented through the visual medium of film. Los Angeles-based critic, Claudia Puig, is back as the festival's programming director.

OPENING NIGHT FILM

SBIFF 2023 will kick off on Opening Night Wednesday, February 8 with the WORLD Premiere of MIRANDA'S VICTIM. Directed by Michelle Danner and starring Abigail Breslin, Ryan Phillippe, Luke Wilson, Donald Sutherland, Mireille Enos and Andy Garcia.

It's 1963 when eighteen-year-old Patricia "Trish" Weir is kidnapped and brutally raped at knife-point. Committed to putting Ernesto Miranda in prison, Trish's life is destroyed by America's legal system as she triggers a law that transforms the nation.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM

SBIFF 2023 will close on Saturday, February 18 with the US Premiere of I LIKE MOVIES. Directed by Chandler Levack and starring Isaiah Lehtinen, Romina Ugo, Krista Bridges, Percy Hynes White.

Lawrence, a socially inept, 17-year-old cinephile, gets a job at a video store, where he forms a complicated friendship with his older female manager.



SBIFF Festival Roger Durling provides a sneak peek of the 2023 Santa Barbara International Film Festival

During his tenure as festival director, Roger Durling, a master of his craft, has shown an uncanny ability in guiding the Santa Barbara Film Festival to a very organic, unique and distinct flavor. And, this year seems to be no exception. Mexican film auteur, Guillermo del Toro, has signed on to mentor a master class with his latest film, [Pinocchio](#), to 3rd graders as part of the ever-expanding Mike's Field Trip to the Movies (named after long-time festival advocate Mike DeGruy). In addition, SBIFF staffer Claire Waterhouse is spearheading the festival's Film Studies Program to 30 student recipients from across the country. SBIFF's Executive Director Roger Durling stated this morning, "At a time where there's a dwindling of movie theater attendance, the role of film festivals has never been more important. At SBIFF, with the 38th edition, our marching orders are clear, to celebrate movies and to nurture and exalt the film community, the artists as well as the cinephiles. It's a great slate with 43 countries represented."

Moreover, the festival has a formidable lineup of panels, tributes, and filmmaker seminars in store. Stay tuned for more!

[Passes and tickets are available here.](#)



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