Santa Barbara Film Festival 2017 Virtuosos Announcement

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

The Santa Barbara International Film Festivalâ??s Virtuosos Award is going off tonight at the Arlington Theater in Santa Barbara at 8PM!

SBIFF Executive Director Roger During noted,

â??This year has been monumental in the breadth of talent breaking through in distinct and emotional roles. We are excited to honor both new and familiar faces, and look forward to celebrating them and their contribution to the craft.â?•

This yearâ??s recipients include **Aaron Taylor Johnson** (*Nocturnal Animals*)**, Dev Patel** (*Lion*), **Janelle MonÃ¡e** (*Hidden Figures*, *Moonlight*), **Mahershala Ali** (*Moonlight*), **Naomie Harris** (*Moonlight*),

Ruth Negga (*Loving*)**, Simon Helberg** (*Florence Foster Jenkins*), and **Stephen Henderson** (*Fences*). The Award presentation, which will be moderated for the seventh year by Dave Karger, will take place February 4, 2017 at the Arlington Theatre at the 32nd edition of the festival, which runs February 1 to February 11, 2017.

The diverse group will be recognized for their breakthrough roles in 2016 and careers thus far. **Aaron Taylor Johnson** delivers a fearless and menacing performance as the villainous sociopath Ray Marcus in the psychological thriller *Nocturnal Animals*. Based on the true story of Saroo Brierley, **Dev Patel** brings an emotional sentimentality and soulful depth to his role in *Lion*. **Janelle MonÃ¡e** has had a banner year with star-making performances as Mary Jackson in the biographical drama *Hidden Figures* along with the brilliantly crafted *Moonlight*, in which she brings sensitivity and sincerity to the role of Teresa. In *Moonlight*, **Mahershala Ali** gives a captivating and moving turn as Juan, a man struggling to find his place in the world, and **Naomie Harris** mesmerizes with her touching and harrowing performance as the mother of a young man navigating his sexuality. **Ruth Negga** delivers a mesmerizing and resilient portrayal of Mildred Loving in the biographical drama, *Loving*. **Simon Helberg** won critical raves and audiencesâ?? hearts with his charming performance opposite Meryl Streep as Cosme McMoon â?? the very expressive pianist in *Florence Foster Jenkins.* After decades on Broadway, renowned character actor **Stephen Henderson** reprises the role of Jim Bono in Denzel Washingtonâ??s upcoming *Fences,* which earned the actor a Tony nomination.

Virtuosos Award
honoring:
Aaron Taylor Johnson (Nocturnal Animals)
Dev Patel (Lion)
Janelle MonÃ¡e (Hidden Figures, Moonlight)
Mahershala Ali (Moonlight)
Naomie Harris (Moonlight)
Ruth Negga (Loving)
Simon Helberg (Florence Foster Jenkins)
and Stephen Henderson (Fences)

Moderated by Dave Karger
Saturday February 4, 2017
Arlington Theatre

Click Here To Attend

Prior recipients for the award include Alicia Vikander, Joel Edgerton, Elizabeth Banks, Paul Dano, Oâ??Shea Jackson Jr., GÃ©za RÃ¶hrig, Jacob Tremblay, Chadwick Boseman, Ellar Coltrane, Logan Lerman, David Oyelowo, Rosamund Pike, J.K. Simmons, Jenny Slate, Ann Dowd, Elle Fanning, Ezra Miller, Eddie Redmayne, Omar Sy, Quvenzhane Wallis, Demian Bichir, Rooney Mara, Melissa McCarthy, Shailene Woodley, Andy Serkis, Patton Oswalt, Andrew Garfield, John Hawkes, Lesley Manville, Hailee Steinfeld, Jacki Weaver, Emily Blunt, Carey Mulligan, Saoirse Ronan, Gabourey Sidibe, Michael Stuhlbarg, Casey Affleck, Marion Cotillard, Viola Davis, Rosemarie DeWitt, Sally Hawkins, Richard Jenkins, Melissa Leo, James McAvoy, Ellen Page, Amy Ryan, Michael Shannon, Michael B. Jordan, Brie Larson, Jared Leto, and June Squibb.
(Source: press release sbiff.org)

Category

1. #SBIFF
2. Arlington Theater
3. Santa Barbara International Film Festival

Tags

1. Aaron Taylor-Johnson
2. Alicia Vikander. Joel Edgerton
3. Arlington Theatre
4. Dave Karger
5. Dev Patel
6. Film
7. Film Festival
8. Filmmaking
9. Janelle Monae
10. Mahershala Ali
11. Naomie Harris
12. Ruth Negga
13. Santa Barbara International Film Festival
14. Simon Helberg
15. Stephen Henderson
16. Virtuosos Award

Date Created
October 15, 2016
Author
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