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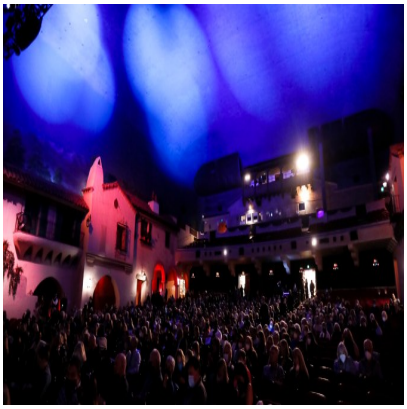

THE 37TH ANNUAL SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OPENS WITH THE U.S. PREMIERE OF THE PHANTOM OF THE OPEN

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

KRISTEN STEWART, WILL SMITH, NICOLE KIDMAN, JAVIER BARDEM, PENELOPE CRUZ, AUNJANUE ELLIS, BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH, CIARAN HINDS, CAITRIONA BALFE, ARIANA DEBOSE, ALANA HAIM, EMILIA JONES, TROY KOTSUR, SIMON REX, SANIYYA SIDNEY, AND MANY MORE TO BE HONORED THROUGHOUT THE 11-DAY FESTIVAL

PANEL DISCUSSIONS WILL INCLUDE STEVEN SPIELBERG, KENNETH BRANAGH, JANE CAMPION, MAGGIE GYLLENHAAL, LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA AND MANY MORE

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA â?? MARCH 02: Santa Barbara Mayor Randy Rowse speaks ons
Larry Gleeson/HollywoodGlee)

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (March 2, 2022) â?? Last night the 37th Annual Santa Barbara International Film Festival, presented by UGGÂ®, returned in person and opened with the world premiere of *The Phantom of the Open*.

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA â?? MARCH 02: Santa Barbara Mayor Randy Rowse speaks ons

Moviegoers watched on as **Santa Barbara Mayor Randy Rowse** took to the stage to welcome attendees from all over the world to Santa Barbara.

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA â?? MARCH 02: SBIFF Executive Director Roger Durling speaks

The festivalâ??s Executive Director **Roger Durling** then introduced the film and said, â??While tonight is a celebration, weâ??re at the same time holding a place in our hearts for the people of Ukraineâ?¦Art has the power to bring us togetherâ?¦Itâ??s essential that we started the festival with something positive, a crowd-pleaser, and something uplifting.â?•

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPEN

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPEN, a heartwarming British comedy starring Oscar winners Sally Hawkins and Mark Rylance. The film is based on the true story of Maurice Flitcroft, who entered the 1976 British Open despite never having played a round of golf before. He shot the worst round in Open history and drew the ire of the golfing elite, but he ultimately became a folk hero. More importantly, he showed his family the importance of pursuing your dreams.

This yearâ??s festival will feature a full lineup of films including 48 world premieres and 95 US premieres from 54 countries â?? up 59 more films than last year! As a festival with such diverse leadership, and a particularly strong Latino presence, it was of utmost importance to the team to have films from all over the world be represented, including Nordic/Dutch, Eastern European, Middle Eastern/Israeli, and of course, Spanish and Latin American Cinema.

The funds raised through the festival and affiliated events are vital to the community, providing direct support for SBIFFâ??s plethora of free programs that serve over 14,000 people annually and reach some of the most vulnerable members of society â?? including at-risk and underserved youth, low-income families and their children, cancer patients, and transit-dependent senior citizens. SBIFF screens Academy fare in the Arthouse theater throughout the year, even throughout the pandemic, to encourage people to come back to the theater in a safe way.

Upcoming tributes will include live presentations to Kristen Stewart, Will Smith, Nicole Kidman, Javier Bardem, PenÃ©lope Cruz, Aunjanue Ellis, Benedict Cumberbatch, CiarÃ¡n Hinds, Caitriona Balfe, Ariana DeBose, Alana Haim, Emilia Jones, Troy Kotsur, Simon Rex, Saniyya Sidney, and many more.

The 37th Santa Barbara International Film Festival, presented by UGGÂ®, will take place IN-PERSON on March 2 through March 12, 2022. 200+ films, filmmaker Q&As, industry panels, and celebrity tributes, will be held throughout Santa Barbara, including at the historic Arlington Theatre. This yearâ??s lineup is available on SBIFFâ??s mobile app. For additional information or to buy passes, visit sbiff.org.

About the Santa Barbara International Film Festival

The Santa Barbara International Film Festival (SBIFF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts and educational organization dedicated to discovering and showcasing the best in independent and international cinema. Over the past 36 years, SBIFF has become one of the leading film festivals in the United States â?? attracting 100,000+ attendees and offering 11 days of 200+ films, tributes and symposiums, fulfilling their mission to engage, enrich, and inspire the Santa Barbara community through film. In 2016, SBIFF entered a new era with the acquisition of the historic and beloved Riviera Theatre. After a capital campaign and renovation, the theatre is now SBIFFâ??s new state-of-the-art, year-round home, showing new international and independent films every day. In 2019, SBIFF opened its own Education Center in downtown Santa Barbara on State Street to serve as a home for its many educational

programs and a place for creativity and learning.

(*Featured photo credit: Trina Hobson/Getty Images for SBIFF)

(Press release courtesy of Sunshine Sachs, Michelle Tarangelo)

Category

1. #SBIFF
2. Santa Barbara International Film Festival

Tags

1. Alana Haim
2. Ariana DeBose
3. Aunjanue Ellis
4. Benedict Cumberbatch
5. Caitriona Balfe
6. CIARAN HINDS
7. Emilia Jones
8. Jane Campion
9. Javier Bardem
10. Kenneth Branagh
11. Kristen Stewart
12. Lin-Manuel Miranda
13. MAGGIE GYLLENHAAL
14. Nicole Kidman
15. PenÃ©lope Cruz
16. Saniyya Sidney
17. Simon Rex
18. Steven Spielberg

19. Troy Kotsur
20. Will Smith

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