



VERMONT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

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Vermont International Film Festival - November and December screenings

Burlington, VT: (November 25, 2017): VTIFF is pleased to announce the the November and December films in its Monthly Screenings series are both Official Academy Awards submissions in the Best Foreign Language Category.

Thursday, November 30th at 7pm, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center - Film House:
FELICITE

Directed by Senegalese filmmaker Alain Gomis

Shot on location in Kinshasa, Congo | 2017 | 122 min | French dialect w/English subtitles

Grand Jury Prize Winner at The Berlin International Film Festival 2017 and Official Selection -New York and Toronto Film Festivals.

This year's official entry for Senegal for Best Foreign Language Film for the Academy Awards.

Félicité (singer/actor Véro Tshanda Beya Mputu) is a proud, free-willed woman working as a singer in a bar in Kinshasa. Her life is thrown into turmoil when her 14-year-old son falls victim to an accident. To save him, she sets out on a breakneck race through the streets of electric Kinshasa – a world of music (Kasai Allstars), poverty and corruption.

Félicité alternates seamlessly between the intense personal lives of individuals, an outsider's view of street life in Kinsasha, dreamlike scenes and musical pieces that change as *Félicité* herself changes. This is one beautiful film.

BREATH

Written & Directed by Narges Abyar

Iran | 2016 | Fiction | 112 min | Farsi w/ English subtitles

Iran's official submission to the 2017 Academy Awards – Best Foreign Language Film

Iranian cinema at its best.

A little girl named Bahar lives a life spun from folklore and stories, always with her head in a book. But growing up in Yazd (a ancient province in central Iran) in the 1970s and '80s, she is at the centre of a country in turmoil: the Shah is overthrown, Ayatollah Khomeini rises to power, and the first shots are fired in a bitter and protracted war with Iraq. Over the span of several years, Bahar finds daydreaming in her own fantasy world is the only way she can make sense of the pain and suffering warring humans

inflict on one another. Aided by lyrical photography set against the spectacular landscapes and harsh background, a first person narration imbued with humor and an amazing performance by Sareh Nour Mousavi (Bahar), we enter a child's complex world experience of family, school, friendship, literacy and social ambition. Semi-autobiographical, this coming of age film was adapted by filmmaker Narges Abyar (*Objects in the Mirror Are Closer than They Appear*, 2013) from her own novel.

The Vermont International Film Festival (VTIFF) is a cultural non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the community and bring the world to Vermont through film. VTIFF operates year-round with monthly screenings on the last Thursday of each month, two Global Roots Film Festivals in the winter months as well as supporting Vermont filmmakers. VTIFF celebrates its 32nd anniversary in 2017. The largest program of VTIFF is the annual Vermont International Film Festival, best known for featuring groundbreaking and independent films from around the world and Vermont. The festival also includes the Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase™, the largest juried selection of Vermont-made films. The 2018 festival will run October 19th -October 28, at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, and The BCA Center. More information at www.vtiff.org.

Links to High res stills: vtiff.org/press

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