



BURLINGTON FILM SOCIETY

[VTIFF.ORG/BFS](http://vtiff.org/bfs)

For more information: **CONTACT**

Orly Yadin
Executive Director, VTIFF
P 802.310.6423
E orly@vtiff.org

Eric Ford
Co-Founder, Burlington Film Society
P 802.355.5418
E eford@burlingtonfilmsociety.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Exclusive Burlington Area Theatrical Screening of Oscar Nominated French Film *Mustang* on Friday, January 29th

Burlington, VT: (January 19, 2016) Main Street Landing, The Burlington Film Society (BFS), the Vermont International Film Foundation (VTIFF) are pleased to present an exclusive Burlington area theatrical screening of critically acclaimed, awarding winning French film. *Mustang*. *Mustang* was nominated for a Golden Globe Award, and recently announced as a nominee for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Film. The screening will take place on Friday, January 29th at 7pm at The Main Street Landing Film House, 60 Lake Street in Burlington. After the screening, there will be discussion lead by Burlington Film Society members.

This screening of *Mustang* is free for VTIFF Members, \$8 general admission, \$5 for students. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2477043>
To learn more about VTIFF Membership and benefits, please visit <http://vtiff.org/membership>.

About the film:

Mustang

Directed by Deniz Gamze Ergüven

France | Fiction | Turkish w/ English subtitles | 2015 | 94 min

Nominated - Best Motion Picture – Foreign Language, Academy Awards

Nominated - Best Motion Picture - Foreign Language, Golden Globes

Winner – Europa Cinemas Prize, Cannes Film Festival
Winner – Heart of Sarajevo Award, Sarajevo Film Festival
Winner – Audience Award, Chicago International Film Festival
Winner – Best First Film Award, Philadelphia Film Festival
Winner – New Auteurs Audience Award, AFI Festival

One early summer in a village in Northern Turkey, five free-spirited teenaged sisters splash about on the beach with their male classmates. Though their games are merely innocent fun, a neighbor passes by and reports what she considers to be illicit behavior to the girls' family. The family overreacts, removing all "instruments of corruption," like cell phones and computers, and essentially imprisoning the girls, subjecting them to endless lessons in housework in preparation for them to become brides. As the eldest sisters are married off, the younger ones bond together to avoid the same fate. The fierce love between them empowers them to rebel and chase a future where they can determine their own lives in Deniz Gamze Ergüven debut, a powerful portrait of female empowerment.

About the Director:

Born in Ankara in 1978, Deniz Gamze Ergüven had a very cosmopolitan upbringing, between France, Turkey and the United States. A compulsive cinephile, she studied directing at La Fémis in Paris, after a BA in literature and an MA in African History at Johannesburg. Her graduation film, *Bir Damla Su (Unegoutted'eau)*, screened at the Cannes Festival Cinéfondation and won a Leopards of Tomorrow award at the Locarno Festival. Opening with a shot of a veiled woman blowing a bubble with chewing gum, the 19-minute short tells the story of a young Turkish woman (played by Deniz herself) rebelling against the patriarchal attitudes and authoritarianism of the men in her community.

After graduating from La Fémis, Deniz Gamze Ergüven developed a debut feature set in South Central, Los Angeles, during the 1992 riots. Titled *Kings*, the project was selected by Emergence, the Cinéfondation Workshop and Sundance Screenwriters Lab. It was set to one side in favor of *Mustang*, co-written with Alice Winocour in the summer of 2012. The story of an emancipation, *Mustang* is a powerful, female take on contemporary Turkey. Deniz Gamze Ergüven shot it around Inebolu in northern Turkey, 600 kilometers from Istanbul.

Main Street Landing is an environmentally and socially conscious redevelopment company in Burlington, Vermont that has created over 250,000 square feet of built environment on the Burlington Waterfront. The Film House, located at 60 Lake Street is used primarily for film screenings and presentations. It is equipped with a large screen that covers west facing

windows, control room, Dolby surround sound, retractable screen, and smart podium and can fit up to 220 people. More information at www.mainstreetlanding.com.

The Vermont International Film Foundation (VTIFF) is a cultural non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the community through film, celebrating 30 years, 1985-2015. VTIFF is a year-round organization that showcases community film screenings, hosts film series like the Global Roots Series, and supports Vermont filmmakers. The largest program of the Foundation is the annual Vermont International Film Festival. The festival is best known for featuring groundbreaking and independent films from around the world and Vermont and for the Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase™, the largest juried selection of Vermont-made films. More information at www.vtiff.org.

The Burlington Film Society (BFS) is a resource for local film events, meet-ups and an advocacy platform for cinema. The mission of the Film Society is to cultivate film culture in the greater Burlington area through the creation of an organizational mechanism for cineastes; by working with area theaters, arts presenters, granting organizations, educational institutions, and businesses to generate opportunities for theatrical screenings of films; and by increasing opportunity for engagement with and appreciation of cinema. For more information about The Burlington Film Society, visit vtiff.org/bfs.

###END###