

**VTIFF****BURLINGTON FILM SOCIETY**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Vermont Premiere Screening of US Independent Drama *The Fits* in May at Main Street Landing Film House**

Burlington, VT: (May 18, 2016) Main Street Landing, The Burlington Film Society (BFS), the Vermont International Film Foundation (VTIFF) are pleased to present an exclusive Vermont theatrical premiere screening of critically acclaimed US independent film, *The Fits* on Thursday, May 26 at 7pm. *The Fits* is presented in partnership with Swan Dojo. Screenings take place at The Main Street Landing Film House, 60 Lake Street in Burlington. The screening 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/2540231>

To learn more about VTIFF Membership and benefits, please visit <http://vtiff.org/membership>.

#### **About the film:**

**The Fits**

Directed by Anna Rose Holmer

USA | 2015 | 72 min

World Premiere – Venice International Film Festival 2015

North American Premiere – Sundance Film Festival 2016

Eleven-year-old tomboy Toni (a showstopping Royalty Hightower) is bewitched by the tight-knit dance team she sees practicing in the same Cincinnati gymnasium where she boxes. Enamored by the power and confidence of the strong community of girls, Toni spends less and less time boxing with her older brother, and instead eagerly absorbs the dance routines and masters drills from a distance, and even pierces her own ears in an effort to fit in. But when a mysterious outbreak of fainting spells plagues the team, Toni's desire for acceptance becomes more complicated. Gorgeously shot and with a mesmerizing score, *The Fits* is a transformative experience and a marvelous portrait of adolescence.

**About the filmmaker:**

Anna Rose Holmer (Director/Writer/Producer) was listed as one of Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces of Independent Film 2015." Her narrative directorial debut, *The Fits* (Venice International Film Festival 2015), is a selection of the Venice Biennale College 2014/2015 and the Sundance Institute Editing Intensive Fellowship. She recently produced Jody Lee Lipes's *Ballet 422* (Tribeca Film Festival 2014, Magnolia Pictures) and Mike Plunkett's *Salero* (IDFA 2015). With filmmaker Matt Wolf, Anna co-directed and produced *A Ballet In Sneakers: Jerome Robbins And Opus Jazz*, a companion documentary to NY Export: Opus Jazz, (SXSW 2010 Emerging Visions Audience Award) which aired on the PBS Great Performances/Dance in America Series. Anna's first documentary feature, *Twelve Ways To Sunday*, was one of ten films to participate in IFP's 2009 Documentary Filmmaker Lab and premiered with Rooftop Films in 2010.

**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](http://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](http://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 [www.vtiff.org/bfs](http://www.vtiff.org/bfs).

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