



VERMONT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL

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Vermont International Film Festival partners with the Middlebury New Filmmakers 2019 VT Tour for Its Top Documentaries

Burlington, VT: (January 24, 2019): VTIFF is pleased to announce that for the second year it will host the Burlington screenings of the Middlebury New Filmmakers 2019 statewide Winter Tour.

Links to High res stills: vtiff.org/press

Friday, February 8 at 5:00 and at 7:30pm, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center - Film House:

Two feature documentaries will be screened at most of the selected venues: first, director Tom Herman's "Dateline-Saigon," that profiles five Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists' groundbreaking reporting during the early years of the Vietnam War. As President Kennedy committed US troops to what was initially dismissed as a "nice little war in a land of tigers and elephants," these five young reporters boldly challenged the administration's version of events on the ground. "Dateline-Saigon" won the Best Documentary Feature Award at MNFF this past August.

MNFF's second film, director Ivo Marloh's "All the Wild Horses," is a highly dramatic and visually stunning feature documentary that follows five international riders from the USA, Canada, South Africa, Ireland and the UK as they compete in the Mongol Derby horse race. This multi-horse, multi-station race over 1,000 kilometers of Mongolian steppe is considered the longest and toughest horse race on the planet. "All the Wild Horses" was a finalist in the Best Documentary Feature category at MNFF.

The MNFF Vermont Tour will kick off with a partnership with Vermont International Film Festival (VTIFF) at Burlington's Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center on Friday, February 8. This special event will feature a screening of *All the Wild Horses* at 5pm and *Dateline-Saigon* at 730pm. Directors Ivo Marloh and Tom Herman will both attend and participate in Q&A sessions with MNFF Artistic Director Jay Craven following their respective screenings. A "meet the filmmakers" reception will take place between the screenings from 6:30-7:30pm with food provided by Pizzeria Verita and beverages by the Vermont Cider Company and Shelburne Vineyard.

Orly Yadin, Executive Director of VTIFF, says: “As a film organization that aims to develop the appreciation of cinema and support the presentation of independent films throughout Vermont, we are delighted, once again, to present this double bill. We are also grateful to our longtime sponsors, Main Street Landing, for hosting the screenings.”

Other Vermont Tour venues and dates include The Woodstock Film Series /Billings Farm and Museum and Greensboro’s Highland Center for the Arts on Saturday, February 9th; and, on Sunday, February 10th, Putney’s Next Stage Arts, the Vergennes Opera House, Montpelier’s Savoy Theater and Rutland’s Paramount Theater. Programs and screening times will vary at each venue. Complete Vermont Tour information can be found at the MNFF website, middfilmfest.org.

“By presenting these two truly outstanding documentaries in a barnstorming tour across our home state of Vermont, MNFF continues its core commitment of actively promoting the work of talented first and second time directors, the emerging voices of independent filmmaking,” noted Lloyd Komesar, MNFF Producer. “With this second version of the Tour, we are expanding our reach to seven towns and look forward to connecting with appreciative audiences around Vermont, as do our filmmakers.”

“We’re very pleased to be working with important venues and presenters in every corner of the state,” said MNFF Artistic Director Jay Craven. “We’ll offer two compelling documentaries that are timely and relevant. “Dateline-Saigon” takes us back to a time when journalists put their lives on the line while facing allegations that they were reporting inaccurately. As we know, history redeems their extraordinary commitment and work. “All the Wild Horses” similarly shows courage and stamina under pressure of a different kind—in an inspiring act of human and animal endurance.”

The MNFF Vermont Tour is sponsored by Vermont Public Radio, Milne Travel, Woodchuck Hard Cider, Vermont PBS and, in part, by Shelburne Vineyard.

More information, including specific programs and show times, ticket information, and film trailers and descriptions may be found at www.middfilmfest.org or by contacting Jay Craven (jcraven@sarahlawrence.edu).

Tickets for the Burlington screening may be found at <https://vtiff.org/events/>

Links to High res stills: vtiff.org/press