



ARPA FOUNDATION FOR FILM, MUSIC, & ART ANNOUNCES 17TH ANNUAL ARPA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL LINE-UP & PREMIERE NIGHTS

Los Angeles, CA (October 8, 2014) The Arpa Foundation for Film, Music, and Art (AFFMA.org) announces its 17th annual Arpa International Film Festival (ArpaFilmFestival.com), to be held November 14-16th, 2014 at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood.

For the 17th year, Arpa received hundreds of submissions featuring the films of up-and-coming writers, producers, and directors from more than 15 countries. With award winning films including: *As it Used to Be* and *Sombras de Azul*, along with SXSW nominated, *I Believe in Unicorns*, the Arpa Film Festival is attracting viewers and tastemakers from all over the world.

“We’re thrilled about this years festival line-up, which includes both domestic and international films and filmmakers, ready to showcase their work,” said Festival Director, Michael Ashjian. “It’s our goal to stay true to our mission in cultivating awareness of important topics that affect our society through the medium of film. We can’t wait to share these films with everyone!”

Each night includes featured premiers to be announced in the coming weeks, and all three premiere nights feature a red carpet and after parties. Arpa will close out the festival on Sunday, November 16th with an award ceremony celebrating Best Feature Film, Best Documentary Film, Best Short Film, Best Music Video, Best Director and Best Screenwriter. Other recognitions will include the Lifetime Achievement Award, AFFMA Foundation Award, and the Armin T. Wegner Humanitarian Award, presented each year to a filmmaker whose film deals with subjugated peoples, ethnic cleansing, forced deportation, massacres and genocides.

The panel to judge the films is equally impressive, and includes Marc Bienstock, Angus Sutherland, and Campbell McInnes of Lotus Entertainment as well as Daljit DJ Paramar of Original Entertainment, and Emmy Award-Winning Producer, Stan Brooks.

“Over the past 17 years I’ve seen the change and development of independent film and their respective filmmakers. Arpa tries to garner the talents of these new filmmakers, those who are at the forefront of the newest and best filmmaking techniques, in order to present their work to the world,” said AFFMA Founder and head of Arpa Board of Directors, Sylvia Minassian. “This year’s festival represents a culmination of a years work for our committee in selecting what we think is our most varied and interesting program yet.”

Arpa Film Festival is lead by AFFMA Founder Sylvia Minassian, Festival Director Michael Ashjian, and Executive Producer Alex Kalognomos. Also serving as Co-Producer of the festival, indie filmmaker Sev Ohanian, Co-Producer of 2013's indie phenomenon Fruitvale Station and recently named one of TheWrap's 11 Thought Leaders Who Are Changing Hollywood - alongside Angelina Jolie and Jimmy Fallon.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit <http://www.itsmyseat.com/affma/> LIKE the festival on Facebook.com/ArpaFilmFestival and Follow @ArpaFilmFest.

SHORT FILMS

Arena (2013)

Country: Poland

Director: Martin Rath

Writer: Martin Rath

Producer: Marcin Malatynski

As It Used to Be (2013)

Country: France

Director: Clément Gonzalez

Writer: Clément Gonzalez

Producer: Clément Gonzalez

Atrophy (2014)

Country: USA

Director: Hovig Kazandjian

Writer: Hovig Kazandjian

Producer: Danny Simonzad, Shervin Youssefian

Cassandra (2014)

Country: France, USA

Director: Guy-Roger Duvert

Writer: Guy-Roger Duvert

Producer: Guy-Roger Duvert, Rudolph Falaise

Distance (2014)

Country: USA

Director: Ismael Gomez III

Writer: Ismael Gomez III

Producer: Tyler Munyon, Yassel Iglesias

Eclipse (2013)

Country: Armenia

Director: Ara Yernjakyan

Writer: Ara Yernjakyan

Producer: None Listed

The Eulogy of Ivy O'Connor (2013)

Country: USA

Director: Shervin Youssefian

Writer: Sophie Jordan

Producer: Shervin Youssefian, Danny Simonzad

Families Are Forever (2013)

Country: USA

Director: Vivian Kleiman

Writer: None Listed

Producer: Vivian Kleiman

Duration: 00:20:39

L'Homme du Passé (2013)

Country: France

Director: Matt Beurois

Writer: Matt Beurois

Producer: Matt Beurois

Martin (2014)

Country: USA

Director: Justin Lee

Writer: Justin Lee

Producer: Ik-Tong Ryo

Najes (2014)

Country: Iran

Director: Bahram & Bahman Hajaboloo

Writer: Bahram & Bahman Hajaboloo

Producer: None Listed

No Love Lost (2013)

Country: United Kingdom

Director: Skekhar Bassi

Writer: Skekhar Bassi, Shalinder Bassi

Producer: Gemma Lloyd, Helen Silver, Skekhar Bassi, Shalinder Bassi

One Step Forward (2011)

Country: USA

Director: Joel Marsh, Benjamin Crowell

Writer: Joel Marsh, Benjamin Crowell

Producer: Joel Marsh, Benjamin Crowell

Return of the Tyke (2014)

Country: United Kingdom
Director: Garo Berberian
Writer: Garo Berberian, Ben Hodgson
Producer: Garo Berberian, Paul Hellard

We Are Enemies (2014)

Country: USA
Director: Ilya Rozhkov
Writer: Ilya Rozhkov
Producer: Egor Povolotskiy, Janek Ambros

Zugzwang (2013)

Country: Spain, USA
Director: Yolanda Centeno
Writer: Yolanda Centeno
Producer: Yolanda Centeno, Lavinia Barsotti

Snail

Country: USA
Director: Deborah Attoinese
Writer: Deborah Attoinese
Producer: Deborah Attoinese, Clara Ronk

Fly

Country: USA
Director: Joel Marsh
Writer: Joel Marsh, Gray Cusack
Producer: Joel Marsh, Gray Cusack

Just Be Yourself

Country: USA
Director: Stuart Davis
Writer: Stuart Davis
Producer: Sebastian Segal

FEATURE FILMS**I Believe in Unicorns (2014)**

Country: USA
Director: Leah Meyerhoff
Writer: Leah Meyerhoff
Producer: Heather Rae

Sombras de Azul (2013)

Country: Cuba, Mexico, USA

Director: Kelly Daniela Norris

Writer: Kelly Daniela Norris

Producer: Kelly Daniela Norris, Travis Pittman

Toastmaster (2013)

Country: Spain, USA

Director: Eric Boadella

Writer: Eric Boadella

Producer: Eric Boadella, Hermes Marco, Martin Yernazian,

37: A Final Compromise

Country: USA

Director: Randall Batinkoff

Writer: Randall Batinkoff, Jesse Stratton

Producer: Randall Batinkoff, Guy Blews, Leila Djansi

Odd Brodsky

Country: USA

Director: Cindy Baer

Writer: Matthew Irving and Cindy Baer

Producer: Cindy Baer and Thomat Hatsios

Neutral Zone

Country: Armenia

Director: Artak Zilfimyan

Writer: Artak Zilfimyan

Producer: Tiran Hayrapetyan

Duration: 01:3:00

Language: English

DOCUMENTARIES**The Amazing Mr. Ash (2014)**

Country: USA

Director: Brian Gersten

Writer: None Listed

Producer: Brian Gersten

Born in Adana (2014)

Country: Canada

Director: David Hovan

Writer: David Hovan

Producer: David Hovan

Hannah: Buddhism's Untold Journey (2014)

Country: United Kingdom

Director: Adam Penny

Writer: Adam Penny, Marta György-Kessler

Producer: None Listed

Music is a Universal Language (2014)

Country: Serbia and Montenegro

Director: Milos Drobnjakovic

Writer: Milos Drobnjakovic

Producer: Milos Drobnjakovic, Natasa Pajovic

Music to Madness – the Story of Komitas (2014)

Country: Canada, USA

Director: David Deranian

Writer: David Deranian

Producer: David Deranian

The No Name Painting Association (2013)

Country: China, USA

Director: Joe Griffin

Writer: Rene Balcer

Producer: Rene Balcer

Oracles of Pennsylvania Avenue (2013)

Country: Egypt, USA

Director: Tim Wilkerson

Writer: Tim Wilkerson

Producer: Tim Wilkerson

Party Line (2014)

Country: USA

Director: Alan Magee

Writer: Alan Magee

Producer: Alan Magee

You Have His Eyes (2014)

Country: USA

Director: Christopher Wilson

Writer: Not Listed

Producer: Christopher Wilson

Still in Memory of the Quake

Country: Armenia

Director: Anzhela Frangyan

Writer: Anzhela Frangyan

Producer: Arax Tadevosyan, Gohar Mkitaryan

Apricot, Blessed Tree of Armenia

Country: Armenia

Director: Shirak Khojayan

Writer: Shirak Khojayan

Producer: Shirak Khojayan

When My Sorrow Died

Country: USA

Director: Robert Nazar Arjoyan

Producer: Matt Huffman

Duration: 01:25:00

Language: English

MUSIC VIDEOS**Dasha Hara (2013)**

Country: Australia, Canada

Director: Bryn Oh

Pis'ma vojny (2014)

Country: Russian Federation

Director: Vera Tomilova

Writer: Vadim Gassanov

Producer: Alexander Zhukov

Too Soon (2013)

Country: United Kingdom

Director: Jeremy Harvey

Writer: Jeremy Harvey

Producer: None Listed

Shohare Pooldar

Country: USA

Director: Shervin Youssefian

Writer: Shervin Youssefian

Producer: Erwin Khatchikian

Duration: 00:03:30

Language: Farsi w/ English Subtitles

Premiere night festivities and full weekend program will be announced in the coming weeks and all films and show times are subject to change.

For media inquires and festival credentials please visit www.arpafilmfestival.com/press.
Deadline for all festival credentials is November 1, 2014.

ABOUT AFFMA (ARPA FOUNDATION FOR FILM, MUSIC, and ART)

Founded in 1995, the AFFMA (Arpa Foundation for Film, Music and Art) is a non-profit organization, formed for the purpose of promoting the arts and enhancing the cultural

environment of our community by supporting artists who bridge the cultural divide, unifying diverse people and cultures through the arts.

Since its inception, AFFMA has supported a spectrum of artists including writers, photographers, filmmakers, dancers, designers, actors and musicians, by staging networking events, concerts, art exhibits, book signings, fashion shows, talent shows, musical performances, lectures, forums, comedy nights, special screenings, private premiers, and most significantly staging its signature event, the Arpa International Film Festival since 1997.

ABOUT ARPA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

For over 17 years, Arpa film festival continues to promote independent filmmakers, cultivating cultural understanding and global empathy in the heart of Hollywood. Through the generous support of our donors and sponsors, our yearly film festival event inspires people of all backgrounds and creates opportunities for creative expression. Arpa's dedicated production team is committed to make a difference in fueling the global arena of independent cinema.

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