



THE EGYPTIAN THEATRE  
AND  
THE AMERICAN CINEMATHEQUE  
WELCOME THE 19th EDITION OF  
THE ARPA INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL

*Opens: November 3<sup>rd</sup> to November 6<sup>th</sup>*

**Hollywood, CA (September 20, 2016)**

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**Arpa Foundation for Film, Music and Art (AFFMA)**, presents its **19<sup>th</sup> Arpa International Film Festival (AIFF)** on November 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the historic venue in the heart of Hollywood, the Egyptian Theatre, located at 6712 Hollywood Blvd, in Los Angeles.

This year, **AIFF** will be screening one of the best selection of international films at the festival. 10 feature and feature length documentary film premiers by world class contemporary international artists such as **Dominique Pinon, John Savage, Jesse Williams, Karren Karagulian, Maria Furtwangler, Albert Kodagolian, Onur Turkel, Matilda Anna Ingrid Lutz, Yana Drouz, Ashot Adamyan and Marija Karan.**

A total of 55 independent films from 23 countries will be screened. Films such as: "**Lost in Armenia**" from award-winning director **Serge Avedikian**, recipient of the Cannes "**Golden Palm**" short film Award, "**Booger Red**," a narrative documentary from acclaimed Indy director **Berndt Mader**, U.S. premiere of **Albert Kodagolian's "Somewhere Beautiful,"** world premiere of **Levon Minasian's "Bravo Virtuoso,"** and 25 years after the premiere of his masterpiece debut movie "**Lost Paradise**," which screened at the prestigious AFI Film Festival, we are honored to have **David Safarian** back with his amazing U.S. premiere of "**Hot Country Cold Winter.**"

Special Screening of award winning and nominated short films from critically acclaimed festivals such as: **Tribeca, Berlin, Venice, Moscow, Tallin, Golden Apricot,** etc.

**Gregor Zupanc**, AIFF Artistic Director stated: "Our vision is to create a vibrant Hollywood melting pot for passionate international filmmakers, whose innovative voices and socially engaged stories inspire and nurture the cinematic experience. In addition, we will have exclusive screenings of the forgotten masterpieces of Armenian cinema in collaboration with film schools and engage students from institutions with well-known universities such as **California State University Northridge (CSUN)**. This year our focus has been to promote and support young Californian filmmakers by presenting the best student films from Los Angeles."

Arpa's programming team has hand-picked socially engaging films with emphasis on issues in the U.S. such as Immigration, LGBT, sex trafficking, transgender and racial biases.

The Festival's prestigious **Armin T. Wegner Humanitarian award** will be presented to Emmy winning director **Bared Maronian's** documentary **"Women of 1915."** It is AIFF's distinct honor to present **2016 Lifetime Achievement Award** to a world renowned film and television actor **Dominique Pinon**, the recipient of the [Molière Award](#) for Best Actor in 2004. This year's recipient of the **Career Achievement Award** is world renowned singer, composer, and activist **Serj Tankian** of System of the Down, and **Albert Kodagolian** will receive Arpa's **Breakthrough Artist Award** for his creative vision as director and cinematographer.

Heading our industry showcase this year will be **Roger Kupelian** of **"Lord of the Rings," "Pirates of the Caribbean,"** and numerous other Hollywood productions.

For the past 19 years Arpa International Film Festival continues to cultivate cultural understanding and global empathy, creating a dynamic forum for international cinema with a special focus on the works of filmmakers who explore the issues of diaspora, exile and multi-culturalism. A strong emphasis is placed on ideals of independent thought, artistic vision, cultural diversity and social understanding.

For more festival information visit: <http://www.ArpaFilmFestival.com>

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**Arpa International Film Festival**  
**November 3 - 6, 2016**  
**Egyptian Theatre**  
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