



Press Release
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57th Karlovy Vary
International Film Festival
June 30 – July 8, 2023
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ACTRESS ROBIN WRIGHT TO RECEIVE KVIFF PRESIDENT'S AWARD

American actress and director Robin Wright will be awarded the KVIFF President's Award at the 57th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival's closing ceremony

Robin Wright is an award-winning actress and philanthropist who is carving an indelible mark in Hollywood. She recently directed, and starred in, her first feature film, *Land*, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Shortly after the release of *Land*, she directed several episodes of the award-winning drama series *Ozark* and *Tell Me Lies*. Wright found her love of directing on the hit Netflix series *House of Cards*, which transformed the industry.



For her performance in this series, Wright has received outstanding reviews, including three Golden Globe nominations and a win in 2014. Wright has also earned five Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award nominations for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Drama Series and two nominations for Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series, shared with her cast mates. She has received five consecutive Emmy



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nominations for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series for every season of the remarkable hit Netflix show.

In 2017, Wright played Lieutenant Joshi in *Blade Runner 2049* and Amazon warrior General Antiope in *Justice League* and Patty Jenkins' *Wonder Woman*, the highest grossing superhero origin film ever. The following year, she reprised her role as Antiope in *Wonder Woman 1984*. She will be seen this Fall starring opposite Millie Bobby Brown in the fantasy film *Damsel* and co-starring with Tom Hanks in *HERE*, directed by Robert Zemeckis.

Wright has been recognized for her outstanding performances over the years. She was honored with a career tribute at the 35th Annual Deauville American Film Festival. Her first two nominations, a Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild for Best Supporting Actress, came as early as 1995 for her unforgettable role as Jenny in Robert Zemeckis' Best Picture Oscar winner, *Forrest Gump*. Wright earned her second Screen Actors Guild nomination for Best Lead Actress in Nick Cassavetes' *She's So Lovely*, and her third nomination for Best Actress in a Television Movie or Miniseries in Fred Schepisi's *Empire Falls*. She has received three Independent Spirit nominations for her performances in Erin Dignam's *Loved*, Rodrigo Garcia's *Nine Lives*, and Jeff Stanzler's *Sorry, Haters*. Additionally, Wright starred in and served as an executive producer on Deborah Kampmeier's *Virgin*, which received an Independent Spirit nomination for Best First Feature also known as the "John Cassavetes Award".

Wright's other film credits include: *Everest*; *A Most Wanted Man*; with the late Phillip Seymour Hoffman; *The Congress*; David Fincher's highly acclaimed *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*; "Bennett Miller's *Moneyball*, starring Brad Pitt and Jonah Hill; Rob Reiner's cult classic *The Princess Bride*; Barry Levinson's *What Just Happened*; Deborah Kampmeier's *Hounddog*, which Wright also executive produced; Robert Redford's *The Conspirator*; Rebecca Miller's *The Private Lives of Pippa Lee*, and in that same year was seen in the Christmas classic *A Christmas Carol*, directed by Robert Zemeckis; Kevin Macdonald's *State of Play*; Anthony Minghella's *Breaking and Entering*; Zemeckis' *Beowulf*; Keith Gordon's *The Singing Detective*; Peter Kosminsky's *White Oleander*; Anthony Drazan's *Hurlyburly*; Sean Penn's *The Pledge*; Luis Mandoki's *Message in a Bottle*; M. Night Shyamalan's *Unbreakable*; Pen Densham's *Moll Flanders*; Barry Levinson's *Toys* and *Room 10* for *GLAMOUR* magazine's "Reel Women Film Series."



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Wright is passionate about giving back and has served as a spokesperson for the Enough Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing peace to Congo. From this work, she has formed the Pour Les Femmes Foundation in order to provide more opportunities to empower women, to create decent work, and to reach toward gender equality in developing countries and particularly in conflict regions.

In honor of Robin Wright, the Karlovy Vary film festival will screen her beloved classic film *The Princess Bride*.

CHAMPIONS TO CLOSE THE 57TH KARLOVY VARY IFF

Woody Harrelson is one of the most versatile actors around today: he is particularly valued for the formidable complexity of his acting craft, his intelligence and sense of humour. His Marcus in the delightful and heartwarming remake of the successful 2018 Spanish comedy of the same name is a noted basketball coach, whose career prospects are hampered by his own irascibility, stubbornness and lack of empathy. When Marcus's foot fault becomes a series of missteps, punishment follows in the form of community service, which requires him to train a team of disabled basketball players. This cinematic lesson in humanity, with its masterful blend of humour and sentiment, is the work of Bobby Farrelly, co-creator of comedies such as *There's Something About Mary* and *Me, Myself & Irene*.





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GUESTS OF THE 57TH KVIFF

HOMAGE TO PRODUCER CHRISTINE VACHON

With *You Sing Loud, I Sing Louder*, the Karlovy Vary film festival honors one of the most important producers of independent film, Christine Vachon. On this occasion, the festival will also show one of her most recent production projects, the romantic drama *Past Lives* by director Celine Song, which had its world premiere at Sundance and was shown at this year's Berlinale.



As producer or executive producer, Christine Vachon has helped bring to life dozens of award-winning films. She has spent many years working with outstanding talents in the field of independent cinema (Todd Haynes, Todd Solondz, Paul Schrader) and has also produced the directorial efforts of actors such as Helen Hunt and Ethan Hawke. In 1996, she and Pamela Koffler founded Killer Films, which today is one of the most important companies in the field of independent cinema. Their very first project, the Todd Haynes drama *Poison* (1991), won the Grand Jury Prize at the 1991 Sundance Film Festival. The drama *Boys Don't Cry* (1999, dir. Kimberly Pierce) received an Oscar for Best Actress, and



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Haynes's *Far from Heaven* (2002) earned four Oscar nominations. Vachon has also produced numerous other films, including *Velvet Goldmine* (1998, dir. Todd Haynes), *Happiness* (1999, dir. Todd Solondz), the music drama *I'm Not There* (2007, dir. Todd Haynes), which earned Cate Blanchett an Oscar nomination and Todd Haynes' *May December* (2023) which screened in competition at Cannes this year.

Christine Vachon was a part of the production team that won a 2008 Emmy Award in the category of Outstanding Nonfiction Series for the television version of the radio program *This American Life*. She was also nominated for a Primetime Emmy for the TV movie *Mrs. Harris* (2005, dir. Phyllis Nagy) and the miniseries *Mildred Pierce* (2011, dir. Todd Haynes) starring Kate Winslet, which won a total of five Emmys. Vachon has received dozens of other film and television awards and has sat on the juries of some of the world's most important film festivals, including Sundance, Venice, and San Sebastián.



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ACTOR AND DIRECTOR VINCENT PEREZ TO PRESENT HIS FILM THE EDGE OF THE BLADE

Actor and director Vincent Perez will personally introduce the film *The Edge of the Blade*, which is being shown in the Horizons section.



Audiences will know Vincent Perez from the highly successful film adaptation *Cyrano de Bergerac* (dir. Jean-Paul Rappeneau), which won ten French César Awards and a Golden Globe for best foreign film. He also appeared in *Queen Margot* (1994, *La Reine Margot*), which the Karlovy Vary film festival showed in 2009 as part of its Tribute to Patrice Chéreau, and in the relationship melodrama *Those Who Love Me Can Take the Train* (1998, *Ceux qui m'aiment prendront le train*). The festival also showed Bruce Beresford's biopic *Bride of the Wind* (2001), and fans of action fantasy films will recognize Perez from the cult film *The Crow: City of Angels* (1996, dir. Tim Pope).



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SCREENWRITER AND DIRECTOR CELINE SONG PRESENTS PAST LIVES

Celine Song is a Korean-Canadian director, playwright, and screenwriter living in the United States. Her feature film directorial debut *Past Lives* has captivated festival organizers and audiences ever since its premiere at this year's Sundance Film Festival, and it was also included in the official program of the Berlinale.





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AGNIESZKA SMOCZYŃSKA TO MENTOR PARTICIPANS OF THIS YEAR'S FUTURE FRAMES PROGRAM

The eighth edition of the program *Future Frames – Generation NEXT of European Cinema*, organized by the European Film Promotion and Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, will help ten emerging European film directors launch their careers in the film industry. The selected participants, chosen among film students and graduates, will showcase their films to the festival audience and engage in an intensive program that will introduce them to the film industry and media. Acclaimed Polish director Agnieszka Smoczyńska will be the mentor of this year's group, providing an exclusive private master class for the young filmmakers.

This year, the Future Frames program has entered into a new partnership with leading multi-national lottery operator Allwyn as well as US-based talent agency UTA and management company Range Media Partners. Representatives from UTA and Range Media Partners will provide feedback and guidance to the filmmakers and ultimately select one participant, who will receive a special scholarship sponsored by Allwyn. This scholarship will enable the recipient to go to Los Angeles and learn from the best in the film industry.

Agnieszka Smoczyńska

Agnieszka Smoczyńska debuted in 2015 with *The Lure* – genre-bending, horror-musical mashup which won awards around the world, at dozens of international festivals, including Sundance Film Festival Porto, Sofia, Montreal, Vilnius. *The Lure* is a part of the prestigious Criterion Collection and was theatrically released in US via Janus Film. Her second feature film *Fugue* premiered at Cannes as a part of the prestigious Critics' Week section. In 2023, it was released in the US in theatres. In 2022, her English-language debut, *The Silent Twins* starring Letitia Wright and Tamara Lawrance, premiered in the Un Certain Regard section at the Cannes Film Festival. Smoczyńska took part in the European Cinema: Ten Women Filmmakers to Watch program. She was also a winner of the Global Filmmaking Award sponsored by the Sundance Institute. In 2022 she was among five directors to watch at Cannes Film Festival.

The 2023 Future Frames Selection

Czech Republic: Anna Izabela Wowra | *Stuck Together*

Denmark: Amalie Maria Nielsen | *The Shift*

Germany: Sophia Mocerrea | *The Kidnapping of the Bride*



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Italy: Giulia Regini | *Cut From the Same Cow*
Lithuania: Rinaldas Tomasevicius | -15
The Netherlands: Joris Tobé | *Frantic Attempts*
Portugal: Inês Pedrosa e Melo | *Home, Revised*
Slovak Republic: Monika Mahútová | *Standing Still*
Spain: Christian Avilés | *Daydreaming So Vividly About Our Spanish Holidays*
Switzerland: Kim Allamand | *Heart Fruit*.

About Allwyn

Announced as a main partner in April 2023, Allwyn, a leading multi-national lottery operator, will support the Future Frames initiative for three years. As a main partner of KVIFF, Allwyn will host the Allwyn Future Frames Lounge on site and bring the ten emerging European talents together with industry leaders, including overseas talent agency UTA and management company Range Media Partners. Allwyn's new celebration evening will commemorate the work of all ten selected directors. In addition, introduced this year through partnership with Allwyn, one fortunate director of the group will be afforded a scholarship to Hollywood.

"We look forward to welcoming all the talented directors to the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival this year, selected as part of the Future Frames initiative. We are also very much looking forward to welcoming one of the ten directors on the newly established scholarship to Hollywood, introduced this year in partnership with UTA and Range Media. Changing lives is core to our mission and we are very pleased to be affording talented directors the opportunity to work with the very best in the film industry," said Pavel Turek, Allwyn's Chief Officer of Global Brand, Corporate Communication, and CSR.



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KVIFF.TV LIVE PRESENTS ALL IMPORTANT MOMENTS OF THE 57TH KVIFF FOR VIEWERS AROUND THE WORLD.

This year, the KVIFF.TV streaming platform will once again be at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival with KVIFF.TV LIVE – where viewers from around the world can follow all the important moments of the festival’s 57th edition. KVIFF.TV also provides in-depth coverage of the festival program and life at the festival through a number of [original shows](#). Like last year, Karlovy Vary IFF visitors can stop by the KVIFF.TV stage in KVIFF.TV Park, where during the day they can watch some of the shows being recorded, or they can stop by in the evening for a drink and music.

Stars within reach, interviews, and viewer contests – all on KVIFF.TV LIVE

Besides the interview programs “Meet the Filmmakers” and “Meet & Greet,” the latter of which presents a different delegation from a film in competition every day, viewers of KVIFF.TV LIVE can look forward to other formats exploring the film program. In “Film Brief,” members of the programming team headed by artistic director Karel Och will comment on selected films from this year’s festival. In the “Proxima Faces” series of video profiles, viewers can find inspiration from the young talents whose films are being shown in the Proxima competition. Festivalgoers can also attend interviews with actors and filmmakers during the filming of “Meet & Greet” or KVIFF Talks discussions, held daily at KVIFF.TV Park and streamed live on KVIFF.TV LIVE.

Live broadcasts of premieres, the arrival of delegations on the red carpet, or pre-film introductions can be watched in real time on KVIFF.TV, or you can watch a recording anytime afterwards. Viewers can find our streams directly at www.kviff.tv using a computer, table, or telephone, or in the festival’s mobile telephone app, Vodafone KVIFF Guide. www.kviff.tv is also where you’ll find all our original shows. All video content from the festival is free and available anywhere in the world in Czech and/or English with subtitles.

KVIFF.TV Park: discussions, interviews, meetings with filmmakers, music, parties, and great drinks

This is the second year that KVIFF.TV Park, the festival’s multifunctional center, presents a diverse full-day program for all festival visitors. It’s located in the immediate vicinity of the Hotel Thermal, where it will be open from 11 in the morning until 3 o’clock at night. KVIFF.TV Park opens its gates at 2pm on Friday, 30 June.



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“We spent many years thinking about how to best make use of the space next to the Hotel Thermal, until last year we took it completely under our wings. We knew from the get-go that we didn’t want any simple one-off solutions, and so we joined forces with the renowned architecture studio of Chybík + Krištof, who came up with an ambitious modular structure that respects the location to the utmost. It was our wish to create a space that, in addition to film screenings, could host encounters between filmmakers and ordinary viewers, and in this sense KVIFF.TV Park has met our expectations. This year, we have something to live up to, and festivalgoers can again look forward to a rich full-day program,” says KVIFF’s executive director Kryštof Mucha.

Materials for download:

- Photographs may be found [HERE](#)
- Videos from [KVIFF.TV](#) can be easily inserted into articles by clicking “share,” which displays a code for inserting the video.