



Limassol, 20 March 2019

**17th CYPRUS FILM DAYS
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2019**

12 - 20 April 2019

Announcement of the films in the programme:

**"Viewfinder -
A Close Up of Contemporary International Cinema"**

Cyprus Film Days International Festival, a cinematic event dedicated entirely to contemporary world cinema, announces this year's Viewfinder section films, screening out of competition. All the films are Cyprus premieres and are the work of newcomers or established filmmakers that have been awarded in multiple international festivals during the past festival year 2018 - 2019. The Festival will run from the 12th to the 20th of April 2019, at the Rialto Theatre, in Limassol and at Zena Palace Cinema, in Nicosia. The Festival is organised by the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Rialto Theatre.

The films screening at this year's "Viewfinder - A Close Up of Contemporary International Cinema" section are the following:

- ***Beautiful Boy*, Directed by: Felix van Groeningen (U.S.A.)**

(Nominated for Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture - Golden Globes, Nominated for Best Supporting Actor - BAFTA Awards, Best Feature Award – Chicago IFF, Best Actor Award- Palm Springs IFF etc.)

In his first English-speaking film, Flemish director **Felix van Groeningen** (*The Broken Circle Breakdown*) is adapting the best-selling pair of memoirs from father and son David and Nic Sheff about latter's experience with drug addiction. Emerging new star

Timothée Chalamet (*Call Me By Your Name*) in a demanding and challenging physical performance of a young man suffering and acclaimed comedian **Steve Carell**, who once again proves his powerful talent in dramatic roles, as the father, deliver a heart-breaking realistic family drama.

- ***Dogman*, Directed by: Matteo Garrone, (Italy, France)**

(Best Actor and Palm Dog Award- Cannes Film Festival, Palme D'Or Nominee - Cannes FF, 2018, Nominated for Best Film Not in the English Language - BAFTA Awards, European Costume Designer, European Hair & Makeup Artist and European Actor Awards - European Film Awards, etc.)

Marcello is a sweet, timid, gentle dog groomer who lives in a marginalized suburb in the outskirts of Rome. He is the owner of the eponymous “Dogman” pet grooming salon, and he seems to communicate better with his animals, rather than people. Inspired by a true crime story, Italian director **Matteo Garrone** (*Gomorrah*), creates a thrilling suburban drama that explores the allegorical metamorphosis of a man to his inner animal. Thanks to **Marcello Fonte**'s captivating sentimental performance, that was awarded at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival, *Dogman* subliminally digs deep into the darkest corners of the human mind.

- ***Girl*, Directed by: Lukas Dhont (Belgium, The Netherlands)**

(Nominated for Best Motion Picture - Foreign Language - Golden Globes, USA, 2019, Winner of Un Certain Regard - FIPRESCI Award, Golden Camera, Queer Palm, Un Certain Regard - Best Actor Awards - Cannes Film Festival, Nominated for Un Certain Regard Award - Cannes FF, 2018, European Discovery Award - European Film Awards, Best European Film (Audience Award) and Best Film (Sebastiane Award) - San Sebastian IFF etc.)

Young Belgian director **Lukas Dhont** was fascinated by the real story of a trans female dancer and follows her journey with his debut. Fifteen-year-old Lara is dreaming of becoming a professional ballerina at any cost. Her adolescent frustrations and impatience are heightened as she realizes her body does not bend so easily to the strict discipline because she was born a boy. Also, first-time actor, **Victor Polster** breathes life into Lara's character and offers one of the gentlest performances on such a fragile and sensitive topic. Winning four awards in 2018 Cannes Film Festival, among them the Caméra d'Or for best first feature film, *Girl* is one of the most powerful recent LGBTQ films.

- ***The Guilty*, Directed by: Gustav Möller (Denmark)**

(Audience Award - Sundance FF, Best Actor, Best Screenplay and Audience Award - Torino FF, Golden Space Needle Award - Seattle IFF, Audience and Youth Jury Award - Rotterdam IFF, Best Actor - Thessaloniki IFF etc.)

Danish first-time writer-director **Gustav Möller** introduces a refreshing minimalistic approach to the psychological crime-thriller. Revolving exclusively around the sound of phone calls, taking place in a single location and with one main character, convincingly portrayed by **Jakob Cedergren**, *The Guilty* revitalises Scandinavian noir and invites the audience to submerge to an original aspect of suspense. Former police officer Asger has been relegated to emergency dispatcher. During another mundane night shift, he receives an emergency phone call from a panicked woman who has been kidnapped. Confined to his desk at the call centre and by only using his phone, Asger will have to track down and help the endangered woman with the help of his colleagues across the country. One of the most impressive recent debut films that was also awarded by the audiences of Sundance, Rotterdam and Thessaloniki film festivals.

- ***Pity*, Directed by: Babis Makridis, (Greece, Poland)**

(World Premiere - World Dramatic Competition Sundance Film Festival, Winner Golden Duke Best Film and Best Director Award- Odessa IFF, Best Director Award - Valletta FF, FIPRESCI Prize for Best Director- Torino Film Festival etc.)

In his second bleak offbeat comedy, Greek filmmaker **Babis Makridis**, who co-wrote the script with **Efthimis Filippou**, widely-known for his collaborations with Yorgos Lanthimos, plays with the theme of sorrow in an absurdly realistic environment. *Pity* is a subtle masochistic existential tragicomedy that is elevated by **Yannis Drakopoulos'** deadpan performance who manages to convey his explicit joyful mourning to the viewer provoking him to question his own satisfaction in life.

A well-kept 45-year-old lawyer is going through a state of sorrow caused by the critical condition of his wife who is lying in a coma. He finds happiness by receiving other people's pity, but when things change how can he substitute his addictive urge for sorrow?

- ***Touch me Not*, Directed by: Adina Pintilie (France)**

(Golden Bear, Best First Feature Award and Teddy Nomination – Berlin IFF 2018, Nominated for European Discovery Award - European Film Awards, 2018, Nominated for Golden Puffin for Best Film- Reykjavik International Film Festival etc.)

Romanian director **Adina Pintilie's** first film is a bold, multi-layered study on sexuality, intimacy and beauty. A filmmaker and her characters venture into a personal research about emotional and physical intimacy, delve into a fluid space between reality and fiction, and strive to overcome old patterns, defense mechanisms, and taboos, to be ultimately free.

A full, detailed programme will soon be available on the Festival's website at www.cyprusfilmdays.com and on its [official facebook page](#).

Additional Information:

Subtitles:

-All films will be screened in their original language, and will be subtitled both in **Greek** and in **English**.

Admission

- €6 Day pass
- €25 Festival Pass (for all festival screenings)
- Free entrance for students upon display of student card and AmeA cardholders

Organisers:



Under the auspices:



Co-organisers:

Representation of the European Commission in Cyprus and
European Parliament Information Office in Cyprus

Media Sponsors:



In collaboration with the University of Nicosia

Audience Award Sponsor: Cytavision

Hospitality Sponsor: Mediterranean Beach Hotel

Technical partners: Event Pro, Rolling Cinema Services

Best Cypriot Director Award Sponsor: Authorwave

Supported by: Goethe-Institut CUT, Friends of Cinema Society of Nicosia, Cinema Clubs of Limassol and Larnaca- Famagusta, Directors Guild of Cyprus, ETAL, University of Cyprus - Alumni Office, Mediazone – University of Nicosia, Lemesos Newspaper