

IRISH SPOTLIGHT

Sunday, February 18

The Young Offenders 4:30pm

Packed with warmth and wit, this outrageous charmer, inspired by the true story of Ireland's largest cocaine seizure in 2007, is a riotous comic road movie about two clueless best friends -- track-suited Irish teenagers who, though lazy, impulsive and ignorant remain endlessly lovable throughout. Making their way through the scenic Cork countryside on stolen bicycles in pursuit of one missing barrel of cocaine, our hapless heroes take us on a perfectly ludicrous adventure in this lively, dumb-but-smart comedy about big dreams and real friendship. Ireland 2016 (83 minutes)



A Fanatic Heart 6:30pm

In this winning documentary, Irish singer, songwriter and political activist Bob Geldof traces W.B. Yeats' life, from his earliest family trips to Sligo -- which awakened a lifelong love of fairy tales and folklore -- to international fame as the poet laureate of an emerging Ireland, to his Nobel Prize and role as Senator in the Irish Free State. Bringing his

own infatuating passion to the subject, Geldof shows how Yeats led the way in imagining a new Ireland into being after the Famine and, after centuries of oppression, gave the people of Ireland back a story they could believe in - and fight for. A captivating tale of mythology, nation-building, insurgency and disillusion, the film is above all a story about how poetry and language can shape our world. Sting, Bono, Liam Neeson, Bill Nighy and Colin Farrell are among those who perform Yeats' poems. Ireland 2016 (100 minutes)

Onstage interview with filmmaker Bob Geldof

The Lodgers 9:30pm

This is a gothic ghost story about orphaned twins Edward and Rachel who share a crumbling manor in 1920s rural Ireland. Though isolated, they are not alone. They share the house with unseen entities that control them with three absolute rules: in bed with doors locked by midnight; never allow anyone across the threshold; never permanently leave the house. On the dawn of their 18th birthday, Rachel experiences a sexual awakening with a young Irishman returned from the war, and within him finds a kindred spirit - and the possibility of a life beyond the estate. As separate fates draw them apart, the twins must face the secrets they hold and the terrible truth about their ghostly tormentors. Ireland 2017 (92 minutes)

Program Sponsored by the Irish Consulate of San Francisco

CLOSING NIGHT

8:00 pm Journey's End
9:50 pm Closing Night Party,
Vogue Lobby

Introduced by Tony Broadbent, author and former British schoolboy

The title comes from an unidentified source but captures the spirit of this revival, first performed on stage in 1928 in London, starring Laurence Olivier, and later made into a film in the 1930s. Directed by Saul Dibb, this powerful classic holds up as a heart-rending glimpse into World War 1 in 1918, on the eve of the Spring Offensive in France, as a small group of officers wait in the trenches, knowing they are to be sacrificed. Set in a dugout over a period of four days from March 18-21, a very fine cast reenacts the psychological toll this real-life event costs, as they fight fear, claustrophobia and misery to maintain patriotic decency in the line of duty. Sam Claflin ("The Hunger Games" sequels) plays the captain who leads the unit through a haze of alcoholic despair. He has lost it. Fortunately, he is nobly supported by Paul Bettany ("A Beautiful Mind") as a caring, schoolteacher, his second-in-command, who strives to maintain morale. A new recruit played by Asa Butterfield arrives bright-eyed, but way out of his depth. Dibb's excellent screen revival will mark the centenary of WW1 early next year. His film is timely, honoring the sacrifice demanded of so many, the dignity they demonstrated and ultimately the futility of the wars they fought. With Toby Jones, Stephen Graham, Tom Sturridge and Robert Glenister. UK 2017 (107 minutes)

"Engulfing, immersing, a character-driven piece, powerful performances by an amazing cast." The Hollywood News

Program Sponsored by Gerald L. Schall, M.D.

BRITISH NEW WAVE

Monday, February 19

Introduced by Peter Robinson, movie reviewer for KAWL 91fm and editor of San Francisco's Books & Travel



Darling 4:00pm

Swinging 1960s London is enhanced by director John Schlesinger's hallmark La Dolce Vita ambiance, satirical and at times seedy but always engaging. The young and indelibly beautiful Julie Christie won an Oscar as a meagerly talented girl, who progresses from an immature marriage into a series of shabby affairs. UK 1965 (128 minutes)

Tasting of Hendricks Gin - a British Classic 6:10-6:45pm

Compliments of Hendricks



Alfie 6:45pm

Michael Caine plays a true Cockney Casanova -- a mischievous, funny and lovable anti-hero, who gets away with bad behavior. This is a romp through the '60s, in every sense a classic period movie expressing the best of the British New Wave. Prepare for an evening of

sizzling seduction, roguish glamour and brilliant music set off by the popular theme song "What's It All About, Alfie?" UK 1966 (104 minutes)

A Taste of Honey 9:00pm

One of the first British movies to deal with the all but taboo subjects of sex, abortion, and homosexuality. A critical and commercial success, it brought a distinctly feminine sensibility to the gritty postwar British New Wave. Rita Tushingham is luminous as a teenager impregnated by a black sailor. She leaves her effete mother and moves in with a young gay man who looks after her as she faces a decidedly uncertain future. Tony Richardson ("Tom Jones") directs from an original play by 18-year-old Shelagh Delaney. UK 1961 (101 minutes)



FEBRUARY 15 - FEBRUARY 22, 2018

MOSTLY BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL

CINEMA FROM THE UK, IRELAND, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, CANADA AND NEW ZEALAND

MOSTLYBRITISH.ORG

OPENING NIGHT

5:30 pm Reception JCC

7:30 pm Mad To Be Normal

Thursday, February 15

The versatile David Tennant transitions from Dr. Who and "Broadchurch's" Alec Hardy, DI, to give a dazzling performance as Dr. RD Laing, the radical and controversial psychiatrist who became a 1960s counterculture hero for advocating for the mentally ill. One of Scotland's greatest minds, Laing adopted humane holistic treatment for mental illness using as tools group therapy and communal healing. Drugs were prohibited except for the experimental use of LSD. Based on a book of the same title of conversations with Laing, the film is largely set at a refuge Laing set up at Kingsley Hall in east London. Gabriel Byrne and Michael Gambon are illuminating as patients who adore their hard-drinking, emotional shrink. Elisabeth Moss brings out Laing's soft side as his partner. This absorbing biopic, directed by Robert Mullan, captures his impact on mental health around the world. UK 2017 (106 minutes)

"One of David Tennant's best performances-he is in a pugnacious, mercurial and beady-eyed form." The Guardian



The film will be introduced by Dr. Michael Guy Thompson, who joined Laing in 1973 and became an integral part of his practice, living in one of the post-Kingsley Hall therapeutic communities. He now practices psychoanalysis in San Francisco.

Program Sponsored by British Heritage Magazine

JOANNE FROGGATT TRIBUTE

7:30 pm Film clips from her career, onstage interview

8:40 pm Screening of "A Crooked Somebody"

Friday, February 16

"Downton Abbey" fans will always think of Joanne Froggatt fondly as the lady's maid Anna, a role for which she received three Emmy nominations and won a Golden Globe. But Miss Froggatt has moved on with movie and TV roles displaying her versatility. In the series "Liar," which will be back for a second season on SundanceTV, she plays a victim of date rape who can not convince authorities she is telling the truth. She appeared as Britain's first female serial killer in Masterpiece's "Dark Angel," and in the tender "Starfish" she watches her husband succumb to a devastating infectious disease. The Mostly British Film Festival is lucky to be catching her just as her career has caught fire.

Miss Froggatt will be interviewed by Jonathan Moscone, director of civic engagement at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and former artistic director of California Shakespeare Theater.

"A Crooked Somebody" - an American independent film Miss Froggatt chose to screen-shows another side of the multi-faceted actress. For one thing she plays an American. Rich Sommer ("Mad Men") makes a very appealing psychic named Vaughn. Vaughn's readings seem to make people feel better afterward by giving them a kind of closure. But he proves to be too successful when someone he comes across believes that Vaughn is the real deal and can assist him in connecting with the other side. This is more of a grift than Vaughn can handle as his friend and business partner played by Miss Froggatt tries to warn him. With Ed Harris as Vaughn's father, a preacher disgusted by his son's career path. USA 2017 (102 minutes)



Program Sponsored by the British Consulate of San Francisco

FILMS

MOSTLY BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2018

Vogue Theater 3290 Sacramento Street

mostlybritish.org
415-346-2274

SCOTCH WHISKY ON SCREEN - AND TO TASTE

Saturday, February 17

Mostly British will host a free whisky tasting of top of the line scotch between screenings of the whisky-themed British films "The Hippopotamus" and "Whisky Galore!"

Compliments of Gordon Biersch and WildCide



The Hippopotamus 6:15pm

The wild literary genius of Stephen Fry comes to life in this feature from writer-director John Jencks. Based on Fry's novel, it stars Roger Allam ("Games of Thrones") as Ted Wallace, a theater critic thrown out on his ear following a very public outburst during a new London play. Encountering the daughter of an old friend whilst drowning his sorrows in the pub, he's offered a large sum of money to investigate a series of unexplained "miracles." His adventure begins as he tracks down old friend and adversary Lord Logan (Matthew Modine from "Full Metal Jacket") his wife (Fiona Shaw), their needy son and lots of whiskey. A riotous tale of a mischievous, cantankerous and drink-sodden soul. UK 2016 (98 minutes)



Whisky Galore! 8:30pm

This is one of those unusual remakes that actually lives up to the original-- in this case the perennial British comedy classic from 1949 of the same title. What makes the new version really delicious is that it is inspired by a true story. Set on the sweeping prehistoric shores (mixed Gaelic and Norse) in Scotland's Outer Hebrides islands during World War II, the film shows what happens when the normally complacent inhabitants are told that the island's supply of whisky -- mother's milk to locals-- has dried up. Salvation seems possible when they learn of a shipwrecked cargo vessel destined for New York and loaded with 50,000 crates of Scottish whisky. But their planned raid meets an obstacle: a bellowing home guard captain played with comic flair by the inimitable Eddie Izzard. Director Gillies MacKinnon ("Regeneration") concocts a steaming brew out of the clash between the whisky deprived and the somewhat depraved captain. UK 2016 (98 minutes)

Program Sponsored by Bruce Lyburn

AUSTRALIAN SPOTLIGHT

Tuesday, February 20



The Death and Life of Otto Bloom 4:00pm

The most intriguing and original festival entry, this pseudo-documentary (also known as a mockumentary) follows the fate of the title character who lives in a reverse timeframe. He has no recollection of past events but is able to remember future endeavors. The film's narrator is a neuropsychologist who speaks into the camera about her relationship with the strange Otto Bloom, who appears out of nowhere in Melbourne with no memory of where he came from. The narrator is sufficiently intrigued to eventually become his lover. In a nice touch of casting she's played as a young woman by Matilda Brown and as an older woman by Brown's actual mother, Rachel Ward. (Dad is Bryan Brown, which means the whole family is featured in the Australian Spotlight.) The film,

a first from Australian director Cris Jones, follows Otto through a passionate affair with a rock star. He then becomes a latter-day prophet, able to challenge notions of life, death and time. Australia 2016 (85 minutes)



Sweet Country 6:00pm

What do you do for an encore when your debut feature wins the Camera D'Or at the Cannes Film Festival? For Warwick Thornton -- the wunderkind director of the prize-winning "Samson and Delilah" -- the answer is to again delve into the rich storytelling tradition of Australia's Aboriginal people. This time Thornton reaches back to 1929 colonial Australia to create a Western set in the stark vistas of the country's eerily underpopulated Outback. Based on a true story, this gritty film centers on an Aboriginal stockman working the land of a benevolent preacher (Sam Neill). When the laborer kills a drunken war veteran in self-defense and then goes on the lam, he is pursued by a posse led by a determined military sergeant (Bryan Brown). Stunning cinematography and sense of place pull you in as the director turns his lens on Australia's mistreatment of its indigenous population. Winner Special Jury Prize at Venice Festival. Australia 2017 (113 minutes)



Goldstone 8:30pm

Part detective story/ part crime thriller, this visually arresting film explores a currently hot topic: the human trafficking of young Asian women tricked into a life of prostitution. When one of these migrant women goes missing, an indigenous Aussie detective partners with a sharply dressed local cop to find her. Director Ivan Sen makes excellent use of shots of the vast Australian Outback. The detectives run up against the town's brassy mayor, who bakes apple pies while putting the screws to her constituents and is unforgettably played by two-time Oscar nominee Jacki Weaver ("Animal Kingdom" and "Silver Linings Playbook") in a platinum wig and scarlet lips. Australia 2016 (110 minutes)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

The Party 5:30pm

Sally Potter directs this sparkling, smart black comedy with a wonderful ensemble cast and creative black and white cinematography. Beginning as a celebration for Janet (Kristin Scott Thomas) who has been promoted to Shadow Minister of Health, the party unravels as her guests, all close friends, arrive and reveal shocking secrets and lies. Janet's nervously distracted husband (Timothy Spall) adds to the chaos and confusion with his own dramatic announcements. "The Party" is all London bourgeois wit, fun and games until it is not. Set against UK politics, it exposes a political class that has lost its way. With Cillian Murphy and Emily Mortimer. UK 2017 (72 minutes)

I, Daniel Blake 12 noon

Dave Johns is a veteran standup comedian who was about to pack it in at 59 when director Ken Loach cast him as the title character in this gritty drama about a fictional everyman struggling to claim disability benefits after a serious heart attack. A chilling and recognizable story, this decent widower, a carpenter in North East England, becomes ensnared in the bureaucratic nightmare of the UK welfare state. Unable to work or receive benefits, he strives to retain his dignity and humanity in the face of heartless officials. The film won numerous awards including the Palme D'Or at Cannes. UK 2016 (100 minutes)

Not Another Happy Ending 2:00pm

Karen Gillan of the cult British TV show "Doctor Who" stars as a writer whose first novel is set for publication just as she finds herself in love. But too much happiness causes her to develop writer's block. It looks as if she may be forced to choose between being in love and continuing to write. Shot on location in Glasgow, the city has a romantic glow adding to the sweet nature of this rom-com. UK 2013 (102 minutes)

London Road 4:15pm

Based on the stage production "London Road," a sold out hit, earning five-star reviews when it premiered at the National Theater in London 2011, the film version is equally gripping. A quirky musical, it tells the true story of the serial murders in London Road, rural Ipswich, which shattered the community when the bodies of five young women were discovered. The musical uses verbatim interviews with the residents of London Road, who had struggled for years with soliciting on their street. A local man was convicted of the murders and this brings the community together to process the disturbing events. Cast includes Tom Hardy ("Mad Max") and Olivia Colman (of "Broadchurch") fame and soon to play Queen Elizabeth in Netflix's "The Crown"). UK 2015 (91 minutes)

Allure 12:30pm

Giving perhaps their best film performances to date, Evan Rachel Wood ("Westwood") and Denis O'Hare ("American Horror Story") are devastating in this searing portrait of broken families search for intimacy. Wood plays a troubled 30-year old searching for sexual and emotional fulfillment through a series of failed relationships. Her life changes when she befriends an unhappy 16-year-old girl, bringing her into her home under the guise of a confidante. Manipulation, denial and co-dependency fuel what soon becomes a fractured attempt at salvation. Recently selected by the Toronto International Film Festival as one of the 10 best Canadian films of 2017, this auspicious directing debut from noted fine art photographers (and brothers) Carlos and Jason Sanchez is sure to be one of the most provocative films of the year. Canada 2017 (105 minutes)

The Carer 2:40pm

The story of the unlikely bond between a cantankerous theatrical lion played by Brian Cox ("The Bourne Identity," "Deadwood") suffering from Parkinson's and a young Hungarian woman who comes to care for him (Coco Konig making her film debut with this low-key but winning performance). An aspiring actress, she hopes to pick up some advice in the process. This May-December buddy movie is a glorious showcase for the great Brian Cox, who -- in one of his best roles ever as the maddeningly self-absorbed but shrewdly observant thespian -- deftly portrays a character considerably less vital than the actor himself. An added delight is to hear the co-stars banter in Shakespearean verse. UK 2016 (89 minutes)

The Ones Below 5:00pm

Reminiscent in theme to "Rosemary's Baby," this new thriller is sure to sneak into your dreams--or nightmares. A British couple expecting their first child discover their new downstairs neighbors are also about to become first-time parents. The friendship that develops between the two couples has eerie consequences. Written and directed by David Farr, who wrote the script for "The Night Manager." UK 2015, (87 minutes)



Una 7:00pm

The story of "Una" could be ripped from today's headlines: A seemingly helpful neighbor, Ray, well into his 30s has sexual relations with a pretty 13-year-old girl next door. Based on the scorching Broadway play "Blackbird," this psychological thriller unfolds as the victim, now a damaged young woman played by Rooney Mara ("The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo") seeks out her predator (Ben Mendelsohn, King George in "Darkest Hour") in an attempt to understand

his impact on her. To illustrate how damaged she is the film opens with Una engaging in rough, anonymous sex in a club restroom. Frequent flashbacks to her as a girl show her heartbreaking vulnerability. The grown Una is still confused but shrewd enough to overwhelm Ray with guilt. Veteran Australian stage director Benedict Andrews translates the play to the screen with cinematic bravado. UK 2016 (94 minutes)

Inland Road 9:00pm

In the stunned aftermath of a fatal car accident, a directionless 16-year-old half-Maori runaway drifts, with unpredictable consequences, into the lives of strangers. The ruggedly beautiful landscapes of New Zealand's isolated Otago region on the South Island provide the scenic backdrop to a story where relationships blur and boundaries are tested in a beautifully nuanced film about a teenager searching to belong. An assured and darkly powerful feature debut from Jackie van Beek--one of New Zealand's most promising cinematic voices. New Zealand 2017 (80 minutes)

TICKET INFORMATION

Series passes \$ 225 / \$ 200, priority seating for all films

Individual Tickets \$ 15 / \$ 12.50

Opening Night Tickets (party included) \$ 25 / \$ 20

Joanne Froggatt Tribute \$ 25 / \$ 20

Bob Geldof Interview \$25 / \$20

Discounts go to members of the San Francisco Film Society, the Fromm Institute, the San Francisco Neighborhood Theater Foundation and people 65 and over.

Tickets available at mostlybritish.org, the Vogue Box Office or call 415-346-2274

Thursday, February 15th	OPENING NIGHT
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION	5:30pm
Jewish Community Center 3200 California Street	
Mad To Be Normal (UK 2017, 106 minutes)	7:30pm

Friday, February 16

The Party (UK 2017, 72 minutes) 5:30pm

Joanne Froggatt Tribute

Film clips and onstage interview 7:30pm

Screening of A Crooked Somebody (USA 2017, 102 min) 8:40pm

Saturday, February 17

I, Daniel Blake (UK 2016, 100 minutes) 12 noon

Not Another Happy Ending (UK 2013, 102 minutes) 2:00pm

London Road (UK 2015, 91 minutes) 4:15pm

The Hippopotamus (UK 2015, 98 minutes) 6:15pm

Tasting of Scotch Whisky 7:45pm-8:30pm

Vogue Lobby for ticket holders of Hippopotamus and/or Whisky Galore!

Whisky Galore! (UK 2016, 98 minutes) 8:30pm

Sunday, February 18

Allure (Canada 2017, 105 minutes) 12:30pm

The Carer (UK 2016, 89 minutes) 2:40pm

The Young Offenders (Ireland 2016, 83 minutes) 4:30pm

A Fanatic Heart (Ireland 2016, 100 minutes) 6:30pm

Bob Geldof Event

The Lodgers (Ireland 2017, 92 minutes) 9:30pm

Monday, February 19

Darling (UK 1965, 128 minutes) 4:00pm

Tasting of Hendricks Gin - a British Classic 6:10-6:45pm

Vogue Lobby for ticket holders of Darling and/or Alfie

Alfie (UK 1966, 114 minutes) 6:45pm

A Taste of Honey (UK 1961, 101 minutes) 9:00pm

Tuesday, February 20

The Death and Life Of Otto Bloom (Australia 2016, 85 minutes) 4:00pm

Sweet Country (Australia 2017, 113 minutes) 6:00pm

Goldstone (Australia 2016, 110 minutes) 8:30pm

Wednesday, February 21

The Ones Below (UK 2015, 87 minutes) 5:00pm

Una (UK 2016, 94 minutes) 7:00pm

Inland Road (New Zealand 2017, 80 minutes) 9:00pm

Thursday, February 22

Bodkin Ras (UK 2016, 79 minutes) 4:00pm

Hotel Salvation (India 2016, 102 minutes) 6:00pm

Journey's End (UK 2017, 107 minutes) 8:00pm

Closing Night Party, Vogue Lobby 9:50pm

Bodkin Ras 4:00pm THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

An interesting hybrid of documentary and fiction, this film is about a brooding stranger who arrives and unsettles an isolated Scottish town, disrupting the town by the mystery and darkness surrounding him. Bodkin, the stranger is played by a professional actor while everyone else is local, real people, playing themselves in all their quirky and unforgettable glory. Looking to build a new life, Bodkin secures a job, a group of friends and a girlfriend, but his dark past catches up with him. Winner, FIPRESCI Award, Rotterdam Film Festival. UK 2016 (79 minutes)

Hotel Salvation 6:00pm

Twenty-five year old Shubhashish Bhutiani makes his debut as a director with this impressive, soulful comedy/drama. Warmed by the amazing location cinematography, with wide shots of the Ganges, and rich, colorful backdrop of Varanasi, its people, boats and rituals, this is an end of life story. According to Hindu beliefs, people go to this holy city to die and attain salvation, and faced with his father's wish to die there, his straight-laced accountant son struggles to meet this demand. India 2016 (102 minutes)