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**THE 30TH ANNUAL NEW ORLEANS FILM FESTIVAL**

**ADDS TEN NEW FILMS TO THE LINEUP**

***MARRIAGE STORY* SELECTED AS OPENING NIGHT**

***WAVES* ADDED AS CENTERPIECE**

**New Orleans, La. (September 18, 2019) ––** The New Orleans Film Society (NOFS) announced ten new films to be included in the program of the upcoming **30th New Orleans Film Festival (October 16-23)**, including the **Opening Night Film, MARRIAGE STORY**, fresh from winning the Runner-Up Audience Award at the Toronto International Film Festival last week.

The festival also announced that **WAVES**, from director Trey Edward Shults and starring New Orleans–born actor **Kelvin Harrison Jr.**, will join the previously announced BURNING CANE as a **Centerpiece Film**. WAVES had its world premiere at the Telluride Film Festival and went on to screen at the Toronto International Film Festival.

In addition to the Opening and Centerpiece films, NOFS announced seven new **Spotlight Films,** and a **Special Presentation** of **AMERICA** directed by **Garret Bradley**,bringing the most sought-after films of the upcoming Awards Season to New Orleans. Spotlight Films include **TROOP ZERO**, shot in Louisiana and directed by Bert & Bertie; **THE TRUTH (LA VÉRITÉ)** starring Catherine Deneuve, Juliette Binoche, and Ethan Hawke; **HONEY BOY** directed byAlma Har'el and starring and written by Shia LaBeouf; **CLEMENCY**, winner of 2019 Sundance Grand Jury Prize; **THE AERONAUTS** starring Felicity Jones and Eddie Redmayne**; MOTHERLESS BROOKLYN** directed by and starring **Edward Norton**; and **THE REPORT** directed by Scott Z. Burns, starring Adam Driver and Annette Bening. Scroll down to see film descriptions and trailers.

**Individual film tickets will be available** to book for New Orleans Film Society members and #NOFF2019 pass holders on Monday, October 23rd at noon, and for the general public on Monday, September 30th at noon. Visit [neworleansfilmfestival.org](http://neworleansfilmsociety.org/lineup) to explore the lineup and schedule of 230+ films, parties, panels, special events and to purchase festival passes. **The official #NOFF2019 mobile app**, sponsored by **Reel Security**, is available to download on Apple App Store and Google Play.

**FILM DESCRIPTIONS**

**OPENING NIGHT FILM: MARRIAGE STORY**

**Wednesday, October 16, 7:30 PM, The Orpheum Theater**

Dir. Noah Baumbach| USA, UK | 2019 | 2h 16m

Cast: Scarlett Johansson, Adam Driver, Laura Dern, Ray Liotta, Alan Alda

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-y1HhAlAOTs>

Synopsis: MARRIAGE STORY is Academy Award nominated filmmaker Noah Baumbach's incisive and compassionate portrait of a marriage breaking up and a family staying together. The film stars Scarlett Johansson and Adam Driver. Laura Dern, Alan Alda, and Ray Liotta co-star.

**CENTERPIECE FILM: WAVES**

**Friday, October 18, 6:45 PM, The Ranch Theater at CAC**

Dir. Trey Edward Schults | USA |2019 |2h 15m

Cast: Sterling K. Brown, Kelvin Harrison Jr., Taylor Russell, Alexa Demie, Lucas Hedges

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5z3cr8AB5g>

Synopsis: Set against the vibrant landscape of South Florida, and featuring an astonishing ensemble of award-winning actors and breakouts alike, Waves traces the epic emotional journey of a suburban African-American family—led by a well-intentioned but domineering father—as they navigate love, forgiveness and coming together in the aftermath of a loss. From acclaimed director Trey Edward Shults, Waves is a heartrending story about the universal capacity for compassion and growth even in the darkest of times.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION: AMERICA**

**Monday, October 21, 7:15 PM, The Ranch Theater at CAC**

Dir. Garrett Bradley | USA | 2019 | 27m

Cast: Donna Crump, Edward Spots

Synopsis: Shot on sparkling black-and-white 35mm film, America is a cinematic omnibus rooted in New Orleans that reveals and re-interprets a lost history of African American Cinema. In response to the MoMA's recent discovery of Lime Kiln Club Field Day, a 1913 film by Black vaudevillian Bert Williams, New Orleans filmmaker Garrett Bradley pairs excerpts from Williams’ film with scenes reconstructing other possible films, those that have certainly been lost, forgotten, or destroyed. Bradley’s joyous iconography of Black artistry and stardom challenges ideas of Black cinema as a wave or moment (as in the L.A. Rebellion or the 1990s’ New Black Cinema) proposing in their place a continuous thread of achievement and contribution.

**SPOTLIGHT FILMS:**

**TROOP ZERO**

**Saturday, October 19, 5:00 PM, The Prytania Theatre**

Dir. Bert & Bertie | USA | 2019 | 1h 34m

Cast: Viola Davis, Allison Janney, Jim Gaffigan, Mckenna Grace, Mike Epps

Synopsis: In rural 1977 Georgia, a misfit girl named Christmas Flint (Mckenna Grace) dreams of life in outer space. When a national competition offers her a chance at her dream, to be recorded on NASA’s Golden Record, she recruits a makeshift troop of Birdie Scouts, forging friendships that last a lifetime and beyond. Written by Beasts of the Southern Wild co-writer Lucy Alibar and helmed by directing duo Bert & Bertie, Troop Zero was shot in Louisiana and stars Viola Davis, Allison Janney, Jim Gaffigan, and Mike Epps.

**THE TRUTH (LA VÉRITÉ)**

**Saturday, October 19, 6:45 PM, The Ranch Theater at CAC**

Dir. Hirokazu Kore-Eda | France | 2019 | 1h 46m

Cast: Catherine Deneuve, Juliette Binoche, Ethan Hawke

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEVedePfqlY>

Synopsis: Catherine Deneuve, playing awfully close to type, stars as Fabienne, a reigning queen of French cinema who has just published her long-awaited memoirs. For the occasion, her daughter Lumir (Juliette Binoche) arrives in Paris with her American husband (Ethan Hawke) in tow. There, the long-buried friction between Lumir and her mother's versions of their lives' stories erupt into full bloom. Though Hirokazu Kore-eda's followup to last year's much-admired (and Palme d'Or-winning) Shoplifters is his first film shot outside of his native country and language, he remains dedicated to excavating the fundamental contradictions that uphold families, the unknowns of the people who know us best.

**HONEY BOY**

**Sunday, October 20, 6:30 PM, The Ranch Theater at CAC**

Dir. Alma Har'el | USA | 2019 | 1h 33m

Cast: Lucas Hedges, Shia LaBeouf, Noah Jupe

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RR8WTQzwSk>

Synopsis: Based on a screenplay by Shia LaBeouf and inspired by his own experiences, Honey Boy centers on Otis, played by Noah Jupe (A Quiet Place) and Lucas Hedges (Manchester By the Sea) as a 12-year-old sitcom star and blockbuster leading-man, respectively. A child of divorce, Otis lives with his dad, a former rodeo clown with broken dreams of stardom (LaBeouf, startlingly transformed for the role), who belittles and dominates his son even as he makes a living off of his acting career. As the film chronicles Otis’ frustrated yearning for a real connection to his father, and the resulting fallout in his chaotic adult life, LeBeouf and director Alma Har'el (Bombay Beach) retain both the prankish humor and gutsy self-exposure that’s marked his adult career as a movie star and part-time conceptual artist.

**CLEMENCY**

**Sunday, October 20, 7:30 PM, The Prytania Theatre**

Dir. Chinonye Chukwu | USA | 2019 | 1h 53m

Cast: Alfre Woodard, Richard Schiff, Aldis Hodge, Danielle Brooks

Synopsis: In this year’s Sundance Grand Jury Prize winner, Alfre Woodard (12 Years a Slave) plays female prison warden Bernadine Williams, who after years of carrying out death row executions, comes up against one inmate who forces her to confront the psychological and emotional demons her job has created. Through minimal dialogue and a captivating lead performance, this “constricting, devastating drama” (The Guardian) begs us to reconsider a system that dehumanizes those on both sides of the bars. Also stars Wendell Piece and The West Wing’s Richard Schiff.

**THE AERONAUTS**

**Sunday, October 20, 2:00 PM, The Prytania Theatre**

Dir. Tom Harper | USA | 2019 | 1h 41m

Cast: Felicity Jones, Eddie Redmayne, Himesh Patel

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rm4VnwCtQO8>

Synopsis: It's 1862 and a rage for lighter-than-air flight has swept over Europe. Headstrong scientist James Glaisher (Eddie Redmayne) and wealthy young widow Amelia Wren (Felicity Jones) mount a balloon expedition to fly higher than anyone in history, hoping not just for bragging rights but new discoveries about Earth's atmosphere. As their perilous ascent reduces their chances of survival, the unlikely duo soon discover things about themselves—and each other—that help both of them find their place in the world. With Redmayne and Jones re-teaming for the first time since The Theory of Everything, The Aeronauts mixes period flourishes and high-altitude thrills.

**MOTHERLESS BROOKLYN**

**Tuesday, October 22, 8:00 PM, The Prytania Theatre**

Dir. Edward Norton |USA | 2019 | 2h 24m

Cast: Bruce Willis, Edward Norton, Alec Baldwin, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Willem Dafoe, Cherry Jones, Leslie Mann

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fru8IkuDp_k>

Synopsis: Set against the backdrop of 1950s New York, Motherless Brooklyn follows Lionel Essrog, a lonely private detective afflicted with Tourette's Syndrome, as he ventures to solve the murder of his mentor and only friend, Frank Minna. A passion project 20 years in the making for director-star Norton, Motherless Brooklyn features an all-star cast including Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Alec Baldwin, Leslie Mann, Willem Dafoe, and Cherry Jones.

**THE REPORT**

**Wednesday, October 23, 8:30 PM, The Ranch Theater at CAC**

Dir. Scott Z. Burns | USA | 2019 | 2h

Cast: Adam Driver, Annette Bening, Jon Hamm

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stNqoDOMj58>

Synopsis: Idealistic Senate staffer Daniel J. Jones (Adam Driver) is tasked by his boss, Dianne Feinstein (played by Annette Benning in an awards-caliber performance) to lead an investigation into the CIA's post-9/11 Detention and Interrogation Program. Jones' relentless pursuit of the truth leads to explosive findings that uncover the lengths to which the nation's top intelligence agency went to destroy evidence, subvert the law, and hide a brutal secret from the American public. "An angry, urgent film that rarely raises its voice," (The Guardian), The Report also features a packed ensemble featuring Jon Hamm, Michael C. Hall, Maura Tierney, and Tim Blake Nelson.

#**NOFF2019 TICKETS GO ON SALE ON SEPTEMBER 23RD**

Pass holders and NOFS members will be able to reserve their tickets on September 23rd while **individual tickets will go on sale for the public on September 30th**. The complete festival screenings and events calendar is available at [neworleansfilmfestival.org](http://neworleansfilmfestival.org/schedule).

All #NOFF2019 pass types (All Access, Weekender, Six Film, Student) are now available to purchase at [neworleansfilmfestival.org](http://neworleansfilmfestival.org). **New Orleans Film Society members get special discounts on pass purchases.**

**All Access Pass** holders **enjoy free tickets** to all screenings with **priority entrance** to theaters, early access to online reservations, join **parties every night** of the festival, feel like a star at the **XRM Media VIP Lounge**.

**Weekender Pass** holders enjoy all of these privileges between Friday, October 17th and Sunday, October 19th.

**Six Film Pass** is a discounted package for six regular film screenings with early access to online reservations. **Student Pass** is a deep discounted pass for students which gives access to all festival screenings and the Saturday Night Party.

**#NOFF2019 FESTIVAL VENUES**

The New Orleans Film Festival campus is centered around **the festival HUB at the Contemporary Arts Center (CAC)**, which boasts a 180-seat and 300-seat screening room; main box office of the festival; **Cinema Reset virtual reality program** sponsored by Cox Communications with VR and new media programming by NOFF; and a bar with lounge areas.

Two blocks away from the HUB at the CAC, **The Advocate** will host a 180 seat screening room and the festival’s VIP lounge for All-Access Passholders. Select **festival screenings** will also be held **at the Broad Theater, Orpheum Theater and Prytania Theater.**

**SUPPORT FOR THE 30TH NEW ORLEANS FILM FESTIVAL COMES FROM…**

The 30th New Orleans Film Festival’s **Marquee sponsors** are **City of New Orleans**, **HBO**, **New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation**, and **Second Line Stages**.

**The New Orleans Advocate - Times Picayune** is the festival’s **Signature Media Sponsor**. The **Contemporary Art Center New Orleans** is the **Festival HUB Sponsor**. [**The Chloe Wine Collection**](https://www.chloewinecollection.com/) is the festival’s **Official Wine Sponsor**.

Producing sponsors include **Cox Communications, The Helis Foundation, Louisiana Entertainment, PRG, The Ranch Studios, and RESTORE The Mississippi River Delta.** Premiere and Premiere Trade sponsors include **ABS Productions, Blue Orleans, Bretchel Hospitality, Creative Film Connections**, **Hilton New Orleans Riverside**, **Kyotocolor**, **Light Iron**, **New Orleans Business Alliance**, **Pelican USA, Panavision, SGPS Showrig, Solomon Group, Sound Hard, TubiTV,** and **XRM Media.**

Grantors include the The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Cinereach, Foundation for Louisiana, Greater New Orleans Foundation, Jazz & Heritage Foundation, Louisiana Division of the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Perspective Fund, and South Arts.

New Orleans Film Festival is supported by the City of New Orleans through a Community Arts Grant and is also supported in part by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council. Funding has also been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency.

**ABOUT THE NEW ORLEANS FILM SOCIETY**The New Orleans Film Society discovers, cultivates, and amplifies diverse voices of filmmakers who tell the stories of our time. Founded in 1989, NOFS produces the Oscar®-qualifying New Orleans Film Festival annually and invests year-round in building a vibrant film culture in the South to share transformative cinematic experiences with audiences, and connect dynamic filmmakers to career-advancing resources. Year-round programming includes free and low-cost screenings for members and the broader community of cinephiles in New Orleans, a 20-year running French Film Festival featuring contemporary and classic French cinema, and filmmaker professional development programs created to nurture diverse voices in filmmaking in the American South. NOFS is a 501(c)(3) organization.