

The Mustang

STARTS FRIDAY, MARCH 22 • ONE WEEK



“Touching and original...Schoenaerts is terrific.”—Owen Gleiberman, VARIETY

“[A] poetic and elemental feature debut...unfolding like a powerful cross between *Lean on Pete* and *The Shawshank Redemption*...Schoenaerts has never been better.”—David Ehrlich, INDIEWIRE

**Matthias Schoenaerts** (THE DANISH GIRL, A BIGGER SPLASH, FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD, RUST AND BONE) gives an intense powerhouse performance as a troubled man prone to violence, struggling to overcome his past, who finds hope in an unexpected direction. Roman (Schoenaerts) is a longtime convict in a prison in the Nevada desert, at odds with everyone, including his embittered teenage daughter (**Gideon Adlon**). While doing mandatory “outdoor maintenance,” he is recruited to join a rehabilitation program learning to train wild mustangs. He struggles to connect with the horses and his fellow inmates alike. But in time, working alongside young convict and skilled rider Henry (**Jason Mitchell**, STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON) and a wily old trainer Myles (**Bruce Dern**, NEBRASKA), Roman soothes an especially unbreakable horse and confronts his own violent past and inner demons. Also starring **Connie Britton** and **Josh Stewart**. Directed and co-written by **Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre**. Executive produced by **Robert Redford**. (USA/France, 2019)

focusfeatures.com/the-mustang

The Invisibles

STARTS FRIDAY, MARCH 29 • ONE WEEK



“Held me spellbound.”—Rex Reed, THE OBSERVER

“A gripping, involving and affecting experience.”—Gary Goldstein, LOS ANGELES TIMES

“Both a fascinating documentary and a suspenseful drama.”—Elizabeth Weitzman, THE WRAP

Berlin, February 1943: the Nazi regime declares the Reich’s capital “free of Jews.” But some 1700 Jews managed to survive the war living in Berlin, hiding in plain sight: “invisible.” **Claus Räfle’s** gripping docudrama traces the desperate and ingenious adventures of four real-life survivors, Hanni, Cioama, Eugen and Ruth. From different social classes and different neighborhoods, they seemed to be ordinary German youths trying to navigate the scarcities and prohibitions of Berlin at the height of World War II, but they shared a single common secret: they were Jews. While moving between cinemas, cafés and safe houses they dodged Gestapo and a dense network of spies and informants, knowing that certain death was just one mistake away. Yet their prudence was at odds with their youthful inclination towards recklessness, sometimes prompting them to join the resistance, forge passports, or pose as Aryan war widows. Masterfully weaving the different story threads together, THE INVISIBLES is a moving testament to the resourcefulness, willpower, and sheer chance that permit us to survive against incredible odds. (Germany, 2018)

theinvisiblesfilm.com

Diane

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 5 • ONE WEEK



“Mary Kay Place is marvelous in the leading role, and her screen presence is so warm and comforting, we think we know her. Jones uses that familiarity, brilliantly.”—Jason Bailey, FLAVORWIRE

“The past hangs over *Diane* not just as a burden or nostalgia (though it can be that too), but as an enthralling and entangling reminder of life’s mystery.”—Owen Gleiberman, VARIETY

For *Diane* (**Mary Kay Place**, “Big Love,” I’LL SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS), a widow living in rural Massachusetts, everyone else comes first. Generous but with little patience for self-pity, she spends her days checking in on sick friends, volunteering at her local soup kitchen, and trying valiantly but obsessively to save her troubled, drug-addicted adult son (**Jake Lacy**, CAROL) from himself. But beneath her relentless routine of self-sacrifice, Diane is fighting a desperate internal battle, haunted by regrets for a past she can’t forget and which threatens to tear her increasingly chaotic world apart. Built around an extraordinary, fearless performance from Mary Kay Place, the narrative debut from writer/director **Kent Jones** (HITCHCOCK/TRUFFAUT) is a tender, profound, beautifully human portrait of a woman rifling through the wreckage of her life in search of redemption. Supporting cast includes **Andrea Martin**, **Estelle Parsons**, **Deirdre O’Connell**, **Joyce Van Patten**, **Phyllis Somerville**, **Glynnis O’Connor** and **Paul McIsaac**. (USA, 2019)

ifcfilms.com/films/diane

The Chaperone

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 12 • ONE WEEK

From the creators of DOWNTON ABBEY!



Louise Brooks, the 1920s silver screen sensation who never met a rule she didn’t break, epitomized the restless, reckless spirit of the Jazz Age. But, just a few years earlier, she was a 15-year-old schoolgirl in Wichita, Kansas for whom fame and fortune were only dreams. When the opportunity arises for her to go to New York to study with a leading dance troupe, her mother insists there be a chaperone. Norma Carlisle (**Elizabeth McGovern**, “Downton Abbey”), a local society matron who never broke a rule in her life, impulsively volunteers to accompany Louise (**Haley Lu Richardson**, COLUMBUS) to New York for the summer. Why does this utterly conventional woman do this? What happens to her when she lands in Manhattan with an unusually rebellious teenager in tow? And, which of the two women is stronger, the uptight wife-and-mother or the irrepressible free spirit? It’s a story full of surprises—about who these women really are, and who they eventually become. Based on **Laura Moriarty’s** beloved best-selling novel, THE CHAPERONE reunites the writer (Oscar-winner **Julian Fellowes**, GOSFORD PARK), director (**Michael Engler**) and star (McGovern) of “Downton Abbey” for an immersive and richly emotional period piece. Co-starring **Campbell Scott**, **Victoria Hill**, **Geza Rohrig** (SON OF SAUL), **Miranda Otto**, **Robert Fairchild** and **Blythe Danner**. (USA, 2019)

thechaperonefilm.com

Little Woods

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 19 • ONE WEEK



“A stunning piece of cinematic artwork.”—Jamie Broadnax, BGN

“Tessa Thompson and Lily James give breathtaking performances.”—Sam Weisberg, VILLAGE VOICE

“Deeply affecting...Before you know it, you’re overwhelmed.”—Jason Bailey, FLAVORWIRE

LITTLE WOODS is a taut and moving thriller about sisters by adoption who are pushed to extremes. In a North Dakota fracking boomtown well beyond its prime, Ollie (**Tessa Thompson**, CREED I & II, SORRY TO BOTHER YOU) is trying to survive the last few days of her probation after serving jail time for smuggling prescription pills over the Canadian border. But when her mother dies, she is thrust back into the life of her estranged sister Deb (**Lily James**, BABY DRIVER, DARKEST HOUR, “Downton Abbey”), who is facing her own crisis with an unplanned pregnancy and a deadbeat ex. The two find they have one week to settle the mortgage on their mother’s house or face foreclosure. Thompson and James both give terrific performances in the auspicious feature debut of writer/director **Nia DaCosta**, winner of the Nora Ephron Award at the Tribeca Film Festival. Co-starring **Luke Kirby**, **James Badge Dale** and **Lance Reddick**. (USA, 2019)

littlewoodsmovie.com

Dogman

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 26 • ONE WEEK



★★★★★ “A movie with incomparable bite and strength.”—Peter Bradshaw, THE GUARDIAN

★★★★★ “One of the best Italian films of recent times, a modern day neorealist fable that bears comparison with the great work of Fellini, Rossellini, De Sica et al.”—Geoffrey Macnab, THE INDEPENDENT

Master filmmaker **Matteo Garrone**, director of the blistering Academy Award nominee GOMORRAH, returns to the crime thriller genre with this tension-filled drama of temptation and rebellion, in the tradition of neo-realism. Marcello (**Marcello Fonte**, Best Actor winner at the Cannes Film Festival) is a small and gentle dog groomer in a rundown seaside resort town who wants two things: to look after his dogs and take his daughter on exotic holidays. But to fund this lifestyle he gets into a side business that has a more unsavory clientele, and he soon finds himself being coerced into the petty criminal schemes of the local bully Simoncino (**Edoardo Ghezzo**), a huge, violent ex-boxer who terrorizes the neighborhood. When Simoncino’s abuse finally brings Marcello to the breaking point, he must make a crucial and potentially dangerous decision in order to regain his dignity and control of his life. Fonte gives a terrific, unforgettable performance as a little guy who excels at soothing his sometimes-vicious big dogs, but finds Simoncino harder to control. (Italy/France, 2018)

dogmanthemovie.com



## Ramen Shop

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 26 • ONE WEEK



“One can imagine the tingle of spices on the tongue!”—Maggie Lee, VARIETY

“The way to the heart is always through the stomach in *Ramen Shop*, a tear-stained tale of broken families and healing recipes. Erik Khoo’s gentle drama...is handled with a sincerity that could commend it to incurable romantics and insatiable foodies alike.”

—Allan Hunter, SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

In the tradition of TAMPOPO and EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN, director **Eric Khoo**’s mouthwatering family drama RAMEN SHOP tells the story of a young man retracing his roots, approaching his estranged family through a shared love of good food. Masato (**Takumi Saito**), an aspiring young Ramen chef, leaves his hometown in Japan to embark on a culinary journey to Singapore to find out the truth about his past. His parents are dead, and he knows little about his Chinese mother’s family in Singapore. Arriving alone in the busy unfamiliar city, he meets his uncle (**Mark Lee**), a chef who specializes in the popular Chinese dish of pork ribs soup, and pleads to be tutored in his cooking secrets. But his formidable grandmother proves harder to approach. RAMEN SHOP is filled with scenes of loving preparation of gorgeous food as Masato uncovers family secrets and delicious recipes in a sweet tale of reconciliation. He proves that food is more than just sustenance: it can warm our hearts and feed our souls. **Seiko Matsudo** also stars. (Singapore/Japan/France, 2018)

[strandreleasing.com/films/ramen-shop](http://strandreleasing.com/films/ramen-shop)

## Sauvage / Wild

STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 3 • ONE WEEK



“Raw, uncompromising, strangely romantic.”—David Rooney, THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

“Truly superb...Boundary pushing.”—Gregory Ellwood, THE PLAYLIST

“Gut-punchingly authentic with radiant moments of tenderness...An incredibly frank and involving immersive portrait.”—Lisa Nesselson, SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

SAUVAGE / WILD, the compelling and vibrant erotic journey of a 22-year-old male prostitute named Leo, features a fearless and unforgettable performance by **Félix Maritaud** (BPM: BEATS PER MINUTE), winner of the Rising Star Award at the Cannes Film Festival. Leo sells his body on the street for cash, but longs for true love, wandering through his life without rules or restrictions. Through a series of encounters that offer a glimpse into the complicated and visceral world of male sex work, Leo finds himself searching for affection anywhere he can get it—whether it’s the unrequited love for his hustler friend Ahd (**Éric Bernard**) or in the arms of an older, vulnerable client. Will Leo choose his freedom and the dangers that come with it, or the comforts of a stable relationship? After all, in this unpredictable world, who knows where he’ll end up? Writer/director **Camille Vidal-Naquet**, in his feature debut, shows impressive range with this often amusing and sensual film. (France, 2018)

No one under 18 admitted!

[strandreleasing.com/films/sauvage-wild](http://strandreleasing.com/films/sauvage-wild)

## Meeting Gorbachev

STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 10 • ONE WEEK



“Affectionate and candid...One of Herzog’s most pertinent and fascinating documentaries.”  
—Stephen Farber, THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

“A nostalgic, grateful, and surprisingly tender lament for a breed of politician that wanted to bring people together.”—David Ehrlich, INDIEWIRE

Legendary filmmaker **Werner Herzog** (GRIZZLY MAN, CAVE OF FORGOTTEN DREAMS, ENCOUNTERS AT THE END OF THE WORLD) and Emmy Award-winning **André Singer** teamed together to make this riveting documentary on **Mikhail Gorbachev**, the visionary last President of the Soviet Union, who tried to make the world a safer place. Filled with unforgettable archive materials and based on three long interviews, MEETING GORBACHEV provides incredible access to arguably the world’s greatest living politician. Now 87 and battling illness, Gorbachev has mellowed and slowed down, but his insight and memory are still acute. Herzog, as on-screen interviewer, does not disguise his affection, celebrating Gorbachev’s three remarkable accomplishments: negotiations with the U.S. to reduce nuclear weapons and end the Cold War; cessation of Soviet control of Eastern Europe and the reunification of Germany; and the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc. All of this in six years! An affecting personal and historic portrait, the film is an eye-opening reminder of how Gorbachev helped transform the world forever. (UK/USA/Germany, 2019)

[meetinggorbachev.film](http://meetinggorbachev.film)

## Aniara

STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 17 • ONE WEEK



“Astounding! The film veers from satire to action, and horror to tragedy, almost effortlessly... An exemplary, timely work of speculative fiction.”—Steve Gravestock, TIFF

“Gripping! [This] stark European riff on Douglas Trumbull’s *Silent Running* and Ben Wheatley’s *High-Rise* embraces the existential possibilities of sci-fi cinema.”  
—Norman Wilner, TORONTO NOW

This eerie, caustic and thought-provoking science fiction survival tale charts the fate of the human race after they have destroyed the planet. Thousands are emigrating to Mars on large shuttles (like mobile shopping malls) that take 23 days for the trip. But the shuttle Aniara is knocked off course and ends up drifting with no way to steer. The protagonist, MR (**Emelie Jonsson**), runs a room where Mima, a sentient computer, enables humans to relive their happy memories of Earth in near-spiritual experiences. As the ship drifts further into the endless void Mima become tremendously popular, and pressure builds on MR as the only one who can keep the growing insanity and lethal depression at bay. As the Captain (**Arvin Kananian**) lies about their chances of rescue, the passengers seek meaning with increasing desperation in sexual experimentation and strange religious cults, on their inexorable voyage into the unknown. Written and directed by **Pella Kågerman** and **Hugo Lilja**, based on an epic poem by Swedish Nobel Prize laureate **Harry Martinson**. (Sweden, 2019)

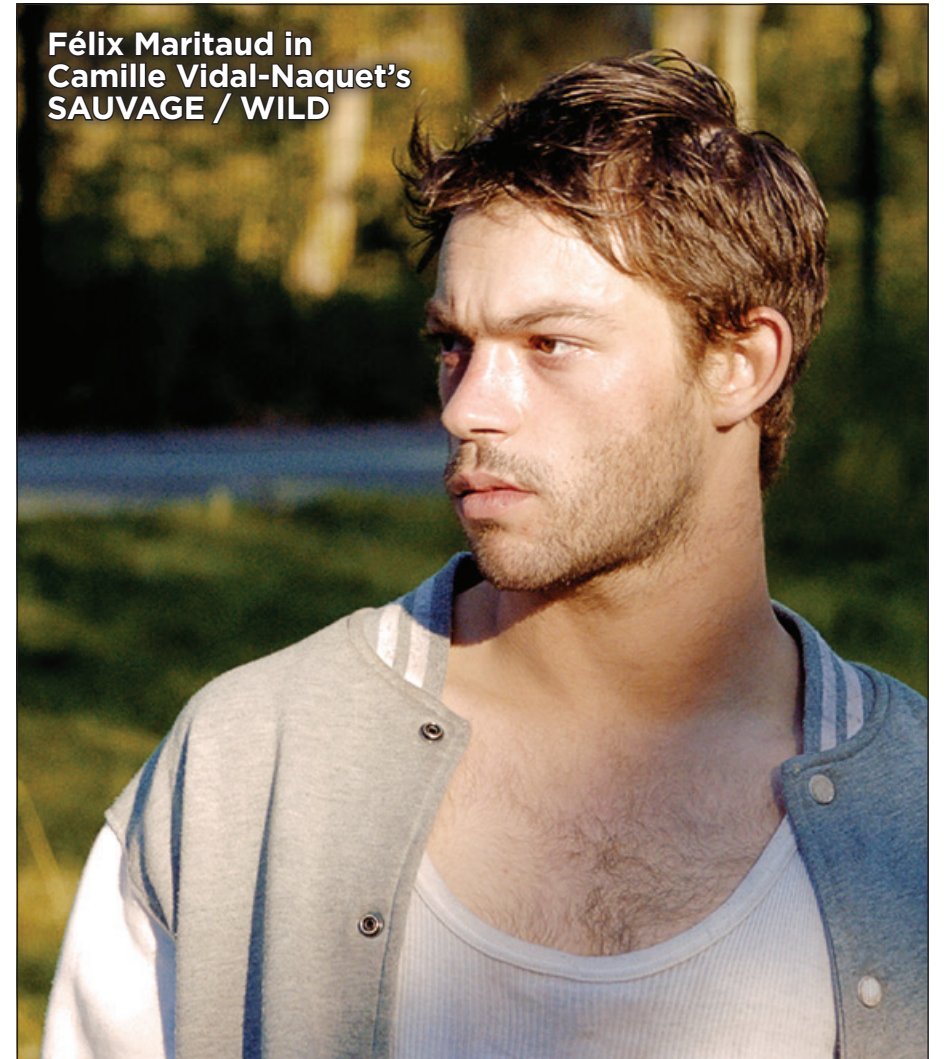
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MARCH 22, – MAY 23, 2019

LANDMARK  
THEATRES

# SAN FRANCISCO FILMCALENDAR

Félix Maritaud in  
Camille Vidal-Naquet’s  
SAUVAGE / WILD



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