

CINEQUEST™

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Contact: Angela Ostermeier
E-mail: publicity@cinequest.org

GEMMA ARTERTON MAVERICK SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENT

Gemma Arterton, Amanda Seyfried, Fred Armisen, Will Poulter, Shiloh Fernandez, Rosario Dawson, Headline Spotlight Event Lineup

April 7, Silicon Valley—[Cinejoy featuring the artists & films of Cinequest](#) occurs April 1-17 virtually and offers a striking lineup of live events, community gatherings, artist conversations, and over 135 films and television (85 World and U.S. Premieres). [Live Spotlight Events](#) include the Gemma Arterton Maverick Spirit Conversation Highlight.

MAVERICK SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENT:

Cinequest's highest award, the Cinequest Maverick Spirit Award, honors those who stand apart from the crowd, creating and innovating from a place of personal yet global vision. Past recipients include **Harrison Ford, Neil Gaiman, Nicolas Cage, J.J. Abrams, Alec Baldwin, Rosario Dawson, Michael Keaton, Sir Ben Kingsley, Spike Lee, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Sir Ian McKellen, Elle Fanning, and Sam Neil.**

[This year's recipient is Gemma Arterton!](#) Ms. Arterton (*Quantum of Solace, Kingsman: The Secret Service, The Escape, Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time, Byzantium, The Girl with All the Gifts, Clash of the Titans*) will receive the award during a special moderated conversation prior to the screening of her remarkable new movie *BUMP*...occurring during the [Spotlight Event on Sunday, April 10](#), at 5:30pm PT



CINEJOY LIVE SPOTLIGHT EVENTS:

FRIDAY, APRIL 1ST at 5:30 PM PT

18 ½ screening and conversation with WILLA FITZGERALD, JOHN MAGARO, SULIVAN JONES, TED RAIMI, & CATHERINE CURTIN

Join film lovers for a Humorous Opening Night celebration of cinema and art with the comedy flick 18 ½. A 1970s-era Watergate conspiracy thriller and dark comedy following a White House transcriber who is thrust into scandal after obtaining the only copy of the infamous 18 ½ minute gap in the Nixon tapes. [MORE INFO](#)

Starring Willa Fitzgerald (*Reacher*), John Magara (*The Many Saints of Newark*), Bruce Campbell (*Evil Dead*), Jon Cryer (*Two and a Half Men*, *Supergirl*), and Richard Kind (*Argo*, *A Bug's Life*)

SATURDAY, APRIL 2ND at 5:30 PM PT

THE ALLNIGHTER with SHORT FILM BIRDWATCHING starring AMANDA SEYFRIED and conversation with ALLNIGHTER FILMMAKER and STARS

An enthralling comedy following the adventures of an astrophysics student (Owen Beckman) who, after all his research is stolen, makes a bargain with a woman (Gretchen Lodge) in order to get it back. Neither is prepared for the old wounds that will open or the connection they will make when they risk it all. [MORE INFO](#)

Also starring Justine Bateman (*Violet*), James Russo (*Django Unchained*), Tiny Lister (*Friday*), and David Koechner (*Anchorman*).

SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD at 11 AM PT

CONTINUE screening and conversation with DIRECTOR NADINE CROCKER and STARS

Based on a true story, a moving and potent portrait of a woman in the aftermath of trying to take her own life, and her journey of self-discovery, newfound friendship, unwavering love, and a life she never imagined possible for a girl like her. [MORE INFO](#)

Starring Shiloh Fernandez, Lio Tipton, Emily Deschanel, Kat Foster, Dale Dickey, Annapurna Sriram, Jay Seals, Anthony Caravella, Allison Paige.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD at 5:15 PM PT

OUR WORDS COLLIDE screening and conversation with ROSARIO DAWSON and other CREATORS, POETS, and STARS

Executive produced by Rosario Dawson, the inspiring stories of five teenage poets in Los Angeles takes us on their journey as they navigate their final year of high school, exploring identity and expression, transitioning into adulthood, and overcoming mental health issues – all through the unique prism of their poetry. [MORE INFO](#)

Directed by Jordan W. Barrow & Matt Edwards, featuring Tyris Winter, Cassady Lopez, Virginia Villalta, Amari Turner, Jason Alvarez

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6TH at 5:45 PM PT

[ROBIN HOODS of the WASTE STREAM with SHORT FILM THE BEAUTY and conversation w/ ECO WARRIORS](#)

Robin Hoods of the Waste Stream provides a positive outlook on serious environmental issues by providing several solutions for food and waste recycling while fighting world hunger. This film features an array of experts and eco-warriors as they creativity and compassionately aim to make the world a safer, brighter, and cleaner place for us all. Join the real-life Robin Hoods who are tackling “The World’s Dumbest Problem” and finding solutions to empower us all to do the same. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Conversation with Director Karney Hatch, COPIA Founder and CEO Komal Ahmad, and representatives from the City of San Jose Environmental Department. This event is presented by the City of San Jose Environmental Department.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7TH at 5:30 PM PT

[SIMCHAS AND SORROWS screening and conversation with Director GENEVIEVE ADAMS, HARI NEF, LUKE FORBES, THOMAS MCDONELL, ANELISE CEPERO](#)

A spirited comedy in which Agnes, a Catholic school girl who, after her unplanned pregnancy, begins converting to Judaism in order to marry the love of her life and be accepted by his conservative Jewish family. But, as Agnes soon discovers, this is easier said than done. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Also starring John Cullum, Gregg Bello, Julie Halston, Chip Zien

FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH at 5:15 PM PT

[COME FIND ME and conversation with DIRECTOR and STARS](#)

Starring Sol Miranda (*Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*), Victoria Cartagena (*Batwoman*), and Tovah Feldshuh (*Star Wars: Resistance*, *The Walking Dead*), the beautiful story about a mother and daughter facing major life changes and how their love challenges and sustains them. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Also starring Alice Lee, Julio Monge, Andrew Polk, Adam LeFevre, Ryan Woodle, Heidi Armbruster

SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH at 5:15 PM PT

[TEHRANTO screening and conversation with FILMMAKERS and STARS](#)

In Toronto, lively music, intricate textiles, and vibrant colours paint an unlikely story of love and family when Badi and Sharon, two young students with very different upbringings in a divided Iranian community, accidentally fall in love. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Starring Sammy Azero, Mo Zeighami, Navid Neghaban, Mahsa Ghorbankarimi, Ali Badshah and Directed by Faran Moradi

SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH at 5:30 PM PT

[CHARM CIRCLE screening and conversation with Executive Producer FRED ARMISEN with SHORT FILM BUMP starring GEMMA ARTERTON](#)

Executive produced by Fred Armisen (*Portlandia*, *Saturday Night Live*), a moving portrait of an eccentric New York family navigating the chaos that divides them, yet finding what makes them alike will help them reunite. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Also starring Uri Burstein, Raya Burstein, Judy Burstein, Nira Burstein, Adina Burstein

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13TH at 5:30 PM PT

[CARMEN screening and conversation with NATASCHA MCELHONE, Director VALERIE BUHAGIAR, and STARS](#)

Natascha McElhone (*Designated Survivor, Polaris, The Truman Show*) stars as Carmen, a woman finding a new start to life. After her elderly brother, who was a priest, passes, she's no longer expected to devote her life as caretaker. Through a set of odd circumstances, she finds herself hearing confessions in a local church, to the delight of many parishioners and the horror of the authorities. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Also starring Steven Love, Michela Farrugia, Mikela Farrugia, Pauline Fenech, and Richard Clarkin

THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH at 5:30 AM PT

[SONIC FANTASY and conversation w/ ARTISTS](#)

Bruce Swedien is considered the best sound engineer ever. For three decades he was Michael Jackson's right-hand man and together they created the best-selling hits of all time. Inspirational and highly entertaining, *Sonic Fantasy* tells the beginning of that magical adventure. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Directed by Marcos Cabotá and featuring Bruce Swedien, Taryll Jackson, Brad Buxer, Greg Phillinganes, Steve Porcaro, Freddy Demann, Al Schmitt

THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH at 5:30 PM PT

[WHAT WE DO NEXT and conversation with COREY STOLL, KAREN PITMAN, MICHELLE VEINTIMILLA and SHORT FILM BAINNE with WILL POULTER](#)

When Elsa Mercado (Michelle Veintimilla, *Gotham*) is released from prison after serving 16 years for killing her father, New York City Councilwoman Sandy James (Karen Pittman, *The Morning Show, Yellowstone*) and corporate attorney Paul Jenkins (Corey Stoll, *House of Cards, Ant Man, The Strain*) are forced to grapple with their involvement in the original crime. *WHAT WE DO NEXT* is a timely emotional thriller sitting at the intersection of race, class and criminal justice. **[MORE INFO](#)**

BAINNE: In the last year of The Great Famine in Ireland, a stoic farmhand (Will Poulter, *Midsommar, Maze Runner*) survives working for the local landlord. When he encounters a ghostly figure stealing milk, his morality is questioned, and he is beguiled on a journey of faith.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH at 5:30 PM PT

[FREEDOM'S PATH screening and conversation with STARS EWEN BREMNER, RJ CYLER, GERRAN HOWELL, and FILMMAKERS BRETT SMITH and CHRIS KOSER](#)

'GLORY' meets 'DANCES WITH WOLVES' When a soldier deserts from battle, he soon discovers the true cost of war through a young heroic black man, who teaches him the real meaning of Freedom. **[MORE INFO](#)**

Also starring Carol Sutton, Afemo Omilami, Harrison Gilbertson, Thomas Jefferson Byrd, Mia Tucker

SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH at 5:15 PM PT

[ENCORE presentation of SONIC FANTASY and conversation with Director MARCUS CABOTÁ](#)

Bruce Swedien is considered the best sound engineer ever. For three decades he was Michael Jackson's right-hand man and together they created the best-selling hits of all time. Inspirational and highly entertaining, *Sonic Fantasy* tells the beginning of that magical adventure. **[MORE INFO](#)**

SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH at 5:30 PM PT

[YOU RESEMBLE ME screening and conversation with FILMMAKERS and STARS](#)

For our epic closing night, we invite you to enjoy YOU RESEMBLE ME. Executive Produced by Spike Lee, Spike Jonze, and Riz Ahmed, cultural and intergenerational trauma erupt in this story about two sisters on the outskirts of Paris. After the siblings are torn apart, the eldest, Hasna, struggles to find her identity, leading to a choice that shocks the world. YOU RESEMBLE ME deftly handles the darkest issues of our time, deconstructing it in an intimate story about family, love, sisterhood, and belonging. **[MORE INFO](#)**



[Cinejoy featuring the Artists & Films of Cinequest](#) presents a groundbreaking virtual experience including: 15 Live Spotlight Events, Screening Parties, plus over 135 Films and Television (82 of which are World & U.S. Premieres) from 57 countries.

[Attend live SPOTLIGHT events!](#)

Meet the artists; enjoy red carpets; have a photobooth shot w a star, enjoy intimate conversations with artists and luminaries, and discover and screen new movies alongside the CINEJOY global community. SPOTLIGHT events occur live during CINEJOY.

[SHOWCASE film screenings!](#)

Discover and experience the world's finest new films representing a wide array of emotions and genres. There's bound to be many films just right for your taste.

SCREENING PARTIES

Attend or even host a Screening Party to share and discuss around any of the amazing CINEJOY movies.

TICKETS & PASSES

Affordable individual event and screening tickets and all access passes are available to all.

"What differentiates Cinequest started from its founding team being a dynamic combination of artists, technologists, and leaders. You'll find this reflected in our Leadership Council which includes legendary innovators Steve Wozniak (co-founder Apple Inc.) and Marty Cooper (father of the cell phone), as well as producers, writers, educators, and entrepreneurs. The commonality is creativity and a commitment to open access and opportunity to all people." Halfdan Hussey, Co-Founder & CEO

About Cinequest:

Cinequest fuses innovation with the arts to empower great creations and to connect audiences, youth, artists, and innovators with these creations and with each other—forging community, joy, and our future. Set in Silicon Valley, Cinequest's uniqueness, impact, and legacy result from applying this powerful integration of creativity and technology to democratize opportunity and to transform lives. Cinequest does this through the **Cinequest Film & Creativity Festival**, Mavericks Studio, and **Picture The Possibilities** global youth programs.

Experience the JOY of cinema, artists, and community! Much more than a movie, **CINEJOY** is an online experience that brings you film and live events through a community and platform designed for discovery and engagement. **CINEJOY**, featuring the Artists and Movies of CINEQUEST, occurs April 1-17! **CINEJOY** is hosted on the **CREATICS** platform that requires a quick, free registration that doubles as your registration and login when you purchase tickets to **CINEJOY** movies, events, and offerings.

Please watch **The Story of Cinequest**. www.cinequest.org

Cinequest CINEJOY April 2022 Partners *(partial list)*

TJ & Valeta Rodgers, Clos De La Tech, Jennifer Krach, Ramona Reichl, James Boyce Trust & Kris Otis, Eddie Lira, The Wolff Family, Applied Materials (NASDAQ: AMAT), Kaiser Permanente, ZOOM (NASDAQ: ZM), Tito's Handmade Vodka, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Agile Ticketing Solutions, SV Creates, Backstage, The Morrison & Foerster Foundation, NBC Bay Area, Telemundo 48, San Jose Environmental Services Department, Gather.Town, Content, Yelp South Bay, El Observador, the City of San Jose, and Redwood City Arts Commission.

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