

# "A MAN CALLED OVE"

2016 – SWEDEN – In Swedish with English subtitles NOMINATED FOR BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM 2017 ACADEMY AWARDS. WINNER-MULTIPLE US AND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS INCLUDING US AUDIENCE AWARDS. Based on the bestselling book of the same name, by FREDRIK BACKMAN. Screenplay written and directed by HANNES HOLM. Starring ROLF LASSGARD • Runtime 1 hr 53 mins • Rated PG-13

#### <u>TUESDAY MARCH 7, 2017 @ 7 PM & THURSDAY MARCH 9, 2017 @ 2:30 PM</u>

At the time of the printing of this flyer the 2017 Oscars have not yet been awarded but this film is one of the contenders. The story depicts a widower named OVE who fits the meaning of 'curmudgeon' perfectly. He is unyielding in his intolerance of people who break the rules and cheaters in general. His stoicism is challenged when a young Iranian woman and her Swedish husband with two children move into his neighbourhood. On the surface, the first few minutes of the movie appear to be a bit droll but as the story progresses, it becomes a fascinating, delightful, funny, heartbreaking tale of what lies beneath the surface of this man OVE. Director Holm has created a wonderfully endearing film that is definitely a winner. It has the distinction of being the most successful Swedish film in 32 years and one you don't want to miss!

## "THE SALESMAN"

2016 - IRAN, FRANCE – In Persian with English subtitles NOMINATED FOR BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM 2017 ACADEMY AWARDS including nomination for A Golden Globe, Winner of the 2016 National Board of Review Best Foreign Language film and many others in the USA and internationally. Written and directed by ASGHAR FARHADI, WINNER BEST SCREENPLAY 2016 CANNES FILM FESTIVAL • Runtime 2 hrs 5 mins. Rated – PG-13

#### TUESDAY MARCH 28, 2017 @ 7 PM & THURSDAY MARCH 30, 2017 @ 2:30 PM

This is director Farhadi's third film that we are presenting. His 'A SEPARATION' won the OSCAR for best foreign language film in 2012, and 'THE PAST' was nominated for a Golden Globe award in 2013. These two were screened in our previous series and now this third is a contender for another OSCAR! This film is in part a play within a play as Farhadi was inspired by Arthur Miller's play "Death of a Salesman" and describes his interpretation of Miller's play as "the social critique of a period in history when the sudden transformation of urban America caused the ruin of a certain social class" which he sees is occurring in his country Iran. The story centers on a man and his wife who are both actors in Iran playing the roles of husband and wife in 'Death of a Salesman'. In a strange twist of fate, when his wife is attacked in their home by an unknown intruder, the husband is compelled to investigate and pursue the identity of the intruder. The director cleverly shows how he deals with finding the assailant, while acting in the play and how he metes out justice or does he? Another film you don't want to miss.

## **"THE TEACHER"**

2016 –SLOVAKIA, CZECH REPUBLIC- In Slovak with English subtitles written by JAN HREBEJK and PETER JARCHOVSKY. Directed by JAN HREBEJK, WINNER BEST ACTRESS ZUZANA MAURERY, KARLOVY FILM FESTIVAL • Runtime 1 hour 43 minutes

#### TUESDAY APRIL 11, 2017 @ 7PM & THURSDAY APRIL 13, 2017 @ 2:30 PM

The setting is 1983 in Bratislava the capital city of Slovakia about 10 years before the end of communism. Maria is the new teacher in a junior high school who introduces herself to her class by calling roll but requests each student to describe the occupation of each of their parents. Unusual but an interesting introduction as the camera switches to identify each of the parents as they file into a room for a meeting elsewhere. What follows is an intriguing story of how one individual uses her power to influence the future of her students unconscionably. What is fascinating is the dialogue between parents and the peek into their lives as they deal with the teacher's unorthodox intrusion into their privacy. The results are worthy performances reminiscent of that great Russian Film 12 ANGRY MEN we showed several years ago. The director however infuses the story with some dry humour and comic relief hence the description, Drama/Comedy used to categorize this movie. The co-writer Jarchovsky based this story on a true life incident in primary school. No rating but probably a PG-13

### "FRANTZ"

2016 – FRANCE, GERMANY- in French & German with English subtitles based on a play by Maurice Rostand. Written and directed by FRANCOIS OZON, WINNER 2016 MARCELLO MASTROIANNI AWARD, BEST YOUNG ACTRESS (PAULA BEER) VENICE FILM FESTIVAL • Runtime 1 hour 53 mins • No Rating **TUESDAY MAY 9, 2017 @ 7 PM & THURSDAY May 11, 2017 @ 2.30 PM** 

At the time of writing this film has not yet been theatrically released and has just begun tours of film festivals throughout the USA and internationally. So far, it has received special spotlighting at the 2016 Venice Film Festival, 2016 Toronto Film Festival, 2016 Telluride Film Festival, 2017 Sundance Film Festival and making the Best of Fest List at the 2017 Palm Springs International Film Festival. The story centers on a 20 year old German woman (Paula Beer) who lost her fiancé in France during World War I, live with his parents in a small town in Germany, and has no expectation of future happiness. One day she meets a young man (Pierre Niney), a stranger from France, visiting her fiancé's grave. He is not welcomed in this German town as there is a lot of hostility towards the French since they were adversaries during the war and though the war is over the hatred transcends. As the story unfolds, the viewer is kept transfixed as the mystery of the stranger deepens when he suddenly disappears just as she and her fiancé's parents begin to trust him. The film is analogous to that of a good book which plot unravels slowly so that you can't put it down until you get to the end. Director Ozon has woven a beautiful tale of loss and redemption. The beauty is enhanced since Ozon filmed it mostly in black and white using its richness to emphasize the period and genre very reminiscent of some of the great classic movies of yesteryear.



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