



**SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL**

PITBULL, LINDSAY WAGNER AND CAMILA MORRONE TO BE HONORED WITH 2019 SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS

“JOJO RABBIT” AND “THE IRISHMAN” OPENING NIGHT FILMS WITH “MARRIAGE STORY” AND “A HIDDEN LIFE” AS CLOSING NIGHT FILMS

Full festival lineup announced; 107 Films in Gala, Narrative, Documentary, Spotlight and Short Selections; Festival to kick off this year from October 15th to 20th

SAN DIEGO/LOS ANGELES, CA (September 20, 2019) – The San Diego International Film Festival, produced by the San Diego Film Foundation, announced today that they have honored music star and rapper Pitbull with the festival’s Music Icon Award, acclaimed actress Lindsay Wagner with the festival’s Humanitarian Award and Camila Morrone with the Rising Star Award. They join recently announced award recipients Laurence Fishburne (THE MATRIX SERIES) with the annual Gregory Peck Award, Jared Harris (*Chernobyl*) with the Cinema Vanguard Award and Jillian Bell (BRITTANY RUNS A MARATHON) with the Fairbanks Award.

Additionally, the festival announced that one of the Opening Night films of the festival at ArcLight Cinema La Jolla on October 17th will be Martin Scorsese’s THE IRISHMAN starring Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Joe Pesci. JOJO RABBIT, directed by Taika Waititi, is the Opening Night film at the Balboa Theatre on October 15th. MARRIAGE STORY, directed by Noah Baumbach and starring Scarlett Johansson and Adam Driver, and A HIDDEN LIFE directed By Terrence Malick, are the Closing Night films. Now in its 18th year, the San Diego International Film Festival will run from October 15th through October 20th in San Diego, CA. The most up to date festival information is available at www.sdfilmfest.com

From Mr. 305 to Mr. Worldwide, Music Icon Award Winner Armando Christian Perez (Pitbull), rose to exemplify the American Dream. The GRAMMY winning global superstar, entrepreneur, education ambassador and motivational speaker has amassed a repertoire that includes hit records, star-studded collaborations, and bringing forth emerging artists. His touring and motivational speaking appearances have taken Pitbull to nearly all corners of the world and inspired millions of fans. His sold-out world concert tours have taken him around the globe. Pitbull has co-headlined with Enrique Iglesias, toured with Britney Spears, opened for Blake Shelton, Tim McGraw and spoken to thousands as part of Tony Robbins’ motivational seminars. Pitbull also serves as ambassador to the Sports Leadership Arts and Management (SLAM!) charter academies with 10 schools around the U.S.

Emmy award-winning actress Lindsay Wagner captured the hearts of audiences around the world when she broke the mold for women on television with her iconic portrayal of *The Bionic Woman*. She has since starred in over 60 films, mini-series and specials that were also groundbreaking, socially relevant and often poignant. Lindsay made a conscious and courageous decision in the turbulent '70s to use her stature in the film industry to champion many causes that were receiving little media attention. Forgoing a number of feature film offers she chose to use her significant clout and notoriety to make many - often controversial - movies that were aired on television, and that served to educate her audiences and open the door for those who were then empowered to follow her lead. Ms. Wagner is often referred to as the “Queen of T.V. Movies” and her films and docu-dramas have covered subjects such as: the struggle between naturopathic & allopathic healthcare, the moral dilemma of

capital punishment, child sexual abuse, root complexities of terrorism, domestic violence, revisionist history and the emotional impact of breast cancer.

An affecting and charismatic actress, Camila Morrone is quickly making a name for herself as one of Hollywood's most talented performers. Upcoming, Morrone will star as the titular 'Mickey' in Annabelle Attanasio's *MICKEY AND THE BEAR*. The film follows a determined Montana teenager (Morrone) as she maneuvers a turbulent relationship with her veteran father (James Badge Dale). The critically-acclaimed drama made its world premiere debut at the 2019 SXSW Film Festival and later played to sold out crowds at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival. Morrone's additional film credits include a24's comedy, *NEVER GOIN BACK* which premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, Eli Roth's remake of *DEATH WISH* opposite Bruce Willis, and James Franco's biopic, *BUKOWSKI*.

"Our new honorees personify excellence in the industry. Pitbull, Lindsay and Camila join an already impressive lineup of award recipients and we couldn't be more honored to have all of them joining us at the festival this year," said Tonya Mantooh, CEO and Artistic Director of the San Diego International Film Festival.

Leading the program at this year's festival are the Gala Features screenings, which include 6 titles of various genres.

In addition, the San Diego International Film Festival is proud to screen narrative, documentary and short films, both in and out of competition, vying for top award honors. The lineup below includes 107 films total, 5 Narrative Spotlight Competition films, 20 Narrative Competition films, 9 Documentary Competition films, and 66 Short films.

The Opening Night film premiere will be held at the historic Balboa Theater. Film screenings will be at the Theater Box in Downtown San Diego, and ArcLight Cinemas, Westfield UTC in La Jolla. The complete list of 2019 San Diego Film Festival titles including descriptions will soon be available at www.sdfilmfest.com.

To attend get a Festival passes or individual tickets. Festival pass holders receive access to film screenings panels and parties and may reserve early. Festival VIP passes include complimentary valet parking and access to the official VIP lounge with complimentary drinks. Everyone that attends has the opportunity to meet filmmakers and make important industry contacts. Visit www.sdfilmfest.com to learn more.

For more information regarding passes/tickets, press accreditation, industry passes, or sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.sdfilmfest.com

San Diego International Film Festival is produced by the nonprofit, San Diego Film Foundation.

More additions will be added to the program and announced soon.

About the San Diego International Film Festival:

The San Diego International Film Festival presented by the San Diego Film Foundation (501.c.3) is

the region's premier film event and one of the leading stops on the independent festival circuit. SDIFF celebrates film's power to create empathy via new perspectives that emerge from powerful and compelling storytelling. Great film sparks great dialogue, so we are dedicated to giving our audiences the unique opportunities to meet with and hear from first time and veteran filmmakers as they debut their latest work. Watch major studio premieres on the road to the Hollywood awards season. SDIFF also has a robust year-round calendar of unique events, special screenings and film tracks.

About The San Diego Film Foundation (501.c.3) :

The San Diego Film Foundation is dedicated to creating empathy through the experience of film. We believe that film can be transformative and we are bound together through human connection. Our mission is to use the experience of film to explore issues of global impact, to create dialog, and ultimately to develop empathy and understanding in an increasingly diverse and complex world. A 501c.3. the San Diego Film Foundation brings the finest independent cinematic storytelling from around the world to San Diego each year. We present films that make a difference through a robust variety of events and programs including:

- The San Diego International Film Festival (October 15-20, 2019)
- FOCUS on Impact Film Program for high school students (Spring & Fall)
- Film Insider Screenings (Feb-July, 2019)

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