20th Annual
Roger Ebert’s Film Festival
2018
April 18–22, 2018

The Virginia Theatre
203 W. Park, Champaign

ILLINOIS College of Media www.ebertfest.com

Celebrating 20 Years
Chaz Ebert and The College of Media at Illinois Present...

Roger Ebert’s 20th Anniversary Film Festival

April 18–22, 2018

Chaz Ebert, Co-Founder, Producer, and Host
Nate Kohn, Festival Director
Andrew Hall, Coordinator

More information about the festival can be found at www.ebertfest.com
MISSION
Founded by the late Roger Ebert, University of Illinois Journalism graduate and a Pulitzer Prize-winning film critic, Roger Ebert’s Film Festival takes place in Urbana-Champaign each April for a week, hosted by Chaz Ebert. The festival presents 12 films representing a cross-section of important cinematic works overlooked by audiences, critics and distributors. The films are screened in the 1,500-seat Virginia Theatre, a restored movie palace built in the 1920s. A portion of the festival’s income goes toward on-going renovations at the theatre. The festival brings together the films’ producers, writers, actors and directors to help showcase their work. A filmmaker or scholar introduces each film, and each screening is followed by a substantive on-stage Q&A discussion among filmmakers, critics and the audience. In addition to the screenings, the festival hosts a number of academic panel discussions featuring filmmaker guests, scholars and students.

The mission of Roger Ebert’s Film Festival is to praise films, genres and formats that have been overlooked. Entries include films without distributors, independent and studio films that did not win wide audiences, formats such as 70mm and overlooked genres such as the documentary. We work to keep the festival small enough so that a sense of community can develop among the audience, the filmmakers, the guests, students and scholars. Roger Ebert’s Film Festival is a special event of the College of Media at the University of Illinois.

OPPORTUNITIES

Panel Discussions
Filmmakers, scholars, journalists and the public gather for panel discussions on topics related to the film industry. The intent of the panels is to bring together practitioners and theorists in lively debate in order to reexamine and spotlight such issue-related areas as film directing, distribution strategies, the state of film criticism, technology, ethnicity and gender.

Volunteers
The festival would not exist without the help of many dedicated volunteers. Volunteer opportunities include:

HOST
A host is assigned to a festival guest (director, writer, producer, actor) to provide transportation during the festival.

THEATRE TEAM—VIRGINIA THEATRE
Ushering, working concessions, pass holder and registration, VIP/press registration and check in, crowd control and merchandise sales.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION
Help with distribution of posters, running errands, stuffing envelopes, copying, etc.

If you would like to become a volunteer or need additional information, please contact:

ANDREW HALL
Visiting Project Coordinator, Roger Ebert’s Film Festival
University of Illinois | College of Media
810 S. Wright St., Urbana IL 61801
217.300.6911 (o) 217.766.7355 (m) | amhall2@illinois.edu
The community of festival sponsors is vital to the success of Roger Ebert’s Film Festival. Sponsor contributions account for approximately 50 percent of the festival’s operating budget. The festival is a non-profit 501(c)(3) event of the College of Media at the University of Illinois.

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

UIF/Ebertfest

and send to:

Andrew Hall
Visiting Project Coordinator, Roger Ebert’s Film Festival
University of Illinois | College of Media
810 S. Wright St., Urbana IL 61801
217.300.6911 (o) 217.766.7355 (m) | amhall2@illinois.edu
**Film Circle $25,000+**
- Sponsor of one film
- 10 VIP passes to all screenings
- 4 Festival passes to all screenings
- Mentions in all social media platforms
- Display inside Virginia Theatre
- 1 full page ad in Festival program
*Enhanced promotional benefits*

**Diamond $10,000+**
- 8 VIP passes to all screenings
- Mentions in all social media platforms
- Display inside Virginia Theatre
- 1 full page ad in Festival program
*Enhanced promotional benefits*

**Platinum $5,000+**
- 4 VIP passes to all screenings
- Display inside Virginia Theatre
- 1 full page ad in Festival program
*Enhanced promotional benefits*

**Gold $2,500+**
- 3 VIP passes to all screenings
- 1/2 page ad in Festival program
*Enhanced promotional benefits*

**Silver $1,500+**
- 2 VIP passes to all screenings
- 1/4 page ad in Festival program
*Enhanced promotional benefits*

**Patron $750+**
- 2 Festival passes to all screenings
- Invitation to Gala Opening
*General promotional benefits*

**Friend $500+**
- 1 Festival pass to all screenings
*General promotional benefits*

**Associate $250+**
*General promotional benefits*

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**Gifts In Kind**
Please contact Andrew Hall at amhall2@illinois.edu to discuss a custom built benefit package for in-kind gifts.

**Questions?**
Contact Andrew Hall at amhall2@illinois.edu or 217-300-1375.

**Additional Promotional Benefits**
Benefits listed below are in addition to the sponsorship level benefits (listed on the left).

**Enhanced Promotional Benefits**
Ebertfest sponsors Silver Level and above receive the following additional benefits:
- Reserved seating in Virginia Theatre
- Invitation to Gala Opening
- Invitation to Mid-Festival Party
- Invitation to Post-Festival Reception
- Lunch in Green Room with Chaz & film guests
- Dinner in Green Room with Chaz & film guests
- Logo on festival website
- Logo in festival program
- Logo projected at all screenings
*General promotional benefits*

**General Promotional Benefits**
All Ebertfest sponsors receive promotional benefits including the following:
- Name on festival poster
- Name in festival program
- Name on festival website
- Name in local newspaper ads
GUESTS

David Poland
Allison MacLean
Rudi Dolezal
Jane Gillooly
Dusty Cohl
Sturla Gunnarsson
Jeff Lipsky
Brian Tyler
Samba Gadjigo
Bill Paxton
Veronica Cartwright
Joan Cohl
Donald Moffat
Paul Grabowsky
Steven Conrad
Wu Tianming
Rita Taggart
Bertrand Tavernier
Shauna Lyon
Brett Morgen
Steven Larsen
Paul Cox
Charlie Lustman
Karen Sprecher
Art Weber
Curtis Cotton III
Joseph Turrin
Ken Winokur
Terry Donohue
Claudio Valdés Kuri
Frederick Ordway
Billy Crudup
Andrew Douglas
Alex Proyas
Tim Zinnemann
Robert Forster
Barry Avrich
Bill Forsyth
Christine Lahti
Eiko Ishioka
Eran Kolirin
Hannah Fisher
Jeff Nichols
Joe Pantoliano
John Penotti
Doc Erickson
Hadjii
James C. Katz
Tarsem
John Peterson
Joseph Greco
Aida Turturro
Keir Dullea
Timothy Spall
Neil LaBute
Mark Borchardt
Michael Shamburg
David Urrutia
Tyren Walton
Terry Norris
Alrick Brown
Azazel Jacobs
Carolyn Briggs
Darren Dean
Cliff Robertson III
Mitra Sen
Roger Ebert became the film critic of the Chicago Sun-Times in 1967 and remained for forty-six years until his death on April 4, 2013. He was the first film critic to receive the Pulitzer Prize in 1975, and is the only film critic with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He was named honorary life member of the Directors Guild of America; and an honorary member of the Society of Cinematographers. He was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Screenwriters Guild and received honorary degrees from the American Film Institute, the Art Institute of Chicago School of Film, and the University of Colorado at Boulder. In 2001 he received the highest honor bestowed by the State of Illinois, the Order of Lincoln.

In 1975 Roger and Gene Siskel invented a new genre of television with their movie review show, Sneak Previews. It later became Siskel & Ebert. After Siskel’s death the show became Ebert & Roeper, with Richard Roeper. Later Roger produced, Ebert Presents At The Movies with two new hosts. He was a lecturer on Film for the University of Chicago Enrichment Program from 1970 until 2006, an adjunct professor in the Department of Journalism at the University of Illinois and recorded shot-by-shot commentaries for the DVDs of “Citizen Kane,” “Casablanca,” “Floating Weeds” and “Dark City.” Ebert has published over 20 books.

In 1999, Roger and his wife Chaz launched “Roger Ebert’s Overlooked Film Festival (Ebertfest),” an annual event presented every April in the historic Virginia Theatre in his hometown of Champaign-Urbana, IL.

“As film exhibition in North America crowds itself ever more narrowly into predictable commercial fodder for an undemanding audience, we applaud those brave, free spirits who still hold faith with the unlimited potential of the cinema.”

– Roger Ebert
CHAZ EBERT

Chaz Ebert is the CEO of the Ebert Companies, including Ebert Digital LLC, which publishes the movie review website, Rogerebert.com. She produced “Ebert Presents At The Movies.”

Mrs. Ebert hosts The Roger Ebert Film Festival (Ebertfest) at the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign. And for over twenty years has attended and participated in film festivals such as Cannes, Toronto, Sundance, Chicago, Hawaii, Venice, The Floating Film Festival, South Africa, Karlovy Vary and many others, serving as the president of the IMAX jury at the Hawaii International Film Festival, writing official program notes for the Telluride Film Festival, and reporting by both print and video from the Cannes Film Festival.

Previously, as a civil rights attorney, she was named Lawyer of the Year by the Constitutional Rights Foundation.

Her civic and community passions include an interest in programs for women and children with an emphasis on education and the arts.

Mrs. Ebert is a Life Trustee of the Art Institute and currently serves on the boards of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, After School Matters, and The Tree of Life Foundation of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

NATE KOHN

Dr. Nathaniel Kohn is a professor at the University of Georgia, Associate Director of the George Foster Peabody Awards, festival director of Roger Ebert’s Film Festival, director of Grady College’s low residency MFA program in screenwriting, and director of the University of Georgia’s Cannes Film Festival Study Abroad Program. Dr. Kohn produced Zulu Dawn starring Burt Lancaster and Peter O’Toole; the independent feature Somebodies, which premiered at Sundance (2006); Rain, the Bahamas’ first indigenous feature which premiered at Toronto (2007) and on Showtime (2010); the feature film Bottleworld (2010); he was Executive Producer on the BET television series Somebodies (2008); he was Producer on the feature length documentary Bayou Maharajah that premiered at the SXSW Festival (2013); and he was Executive Producer on the Pivot TV, a division of Participant Media, telecast of The 73rd Annual Peabody Awards (2014) and The 74rd Annual Peabody Awards (2015). He has served on juries and mentored screenwriters at the Atlanta, Hawaii, Kerala, and Bahamas International Film Festivals. He is the author of numerous scholarly articles and of the book Pursuing Hollywood: Seduction, Obsession, Dread (AltaMira Press, 2006).
Ebertfest 1999
Dance Me to My Song
A Tale of Autumn
Surrender Dorothy
Hamsun
Maborosi
Battleship Potemkin
Household Saints
Shiloh
Thirteen
Tron

Ebertfest 2000
Sidewalk Stories
Grave of the Fireflies
American Movie
Legacy
The Terrorist
The Castle
A Woman’s Tale
Children of Heaven
The Last Laugh
Dark City
Oklahoma
Deja Vu

Ebertfest 2001
Everyone Says I Love You
Girl On the Bridge
Jesus’ Son
The King of Masks
Maryam
Nosferatu
On the Ropes
Panic
Songs from the Second Floor
A Simple Plan
Such A Long Journey
3 Women
2001: A Space Odyssey
Stanley Kubrick: A Life in Pictures

Ebertfest 2002
Patton
Innocence
Grand Canyon
Diamond Men
Paperhouse
Hyenas
A Soldier’s Daughter Never Cries
Kwik Stop
Metropolis
Two Women
George Washington
Say Amen, Somebody
Wonder Boys

Ebertfest 2003
The Right Stuff
Stone Reader
The Grey Automobile
Your Friends and Neighbors
Blood and Wine
Medium Cool
What’s Cooking?
The Black Pirate
L627
The Golden Age of Silent Comedy
Shall We Dance?
Charlotte Sometimes
13 Conversations About One Thing
Singin’ in the Rain

Ebertfest 2004
Lawrence of Arabia
Tarnation
The Son
Once Upon a Time...When We Were Colored
Tully
The General
The Scapegoat
El Norte
My Dog Skip
Gates of Heaven
People I Know
Invincible
Louie Bluie
Sweet Old Song

Ebertfest 2005
Playtime
Murderball
The Saddest Music in the World with the Heart of the World
After Dark, My Sweet
Yesterday
The Phantom of the Opera
Baadasssss!
The Secret of Roan Inish
Primer
Map of the Human Heart
Me and You and Everyone We Know
Taal

Ebertfest 2006
My Fair Lady
Man Push Cart
Duane Hopwood
Spartan
Somebodies
The Eagle
Ripley’s Game
Millions
Claire Dolan
Junebug
Bad Santa
U-Carmen eKhayelitsha

Ebertfest 2007
Gattaca
The Weather Man
Moolaade
Perfume: The Story of a Murderer
Sadie Thompson
Come Early Morning
La Dolce Vita
Freddie Mercury, the Untold Story
Holes
Man of Flowers
Stroszek
Searching for the Wrong-Eyed Jesus
Beyond the Valley of the Dolls
Ebertfest 2008
Hamlet
Delirious
Yes
Canvas
Citizen Cohl: The Untold Story
Shotgun Stories
Underworld
The Real Dirt on Farmer John
Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters
Hulk
The Band's Visit
Housekeeping
The Cell
Romance and Cigarettes

Ebertfest 2009
Woodstock
My Winnipeg
Chop Shop
Trouble the Water
Begging Naked
The Last Command
Frozen River
The Fall
Sita Sings the Blues
Nothing But the Truth
Let the Right One In
Baraka

Ebertfest 2010
Pink Floyd The Wall
You, the Living
Munyurangabo
The New Age
Apocalypse Now Redux
Departures
Man with a Movie Camera
Synecdoche, New York
I Capture the Castle
Vincent: A Life in Color
Trucker
Barfly
Song Sung Blue

Ebertfest 2011
Metropolis
Natural Selection
Umberto D
My Dog Tulip
Tiny Furniture
45365
Me and Orson Welles
Only You
A Small Act
Life, Above All
Leaves of Grass
I Am Love
Louder Than a Bomb

Ebertfest 2012
Joe Versus the Volcano
The Truth About Beauty & Blogs
Phunny Business: A Black Comedy
Big Fan
Kinyarwanda
Terri
On Borrowed Time
Wild and Weird
A Separation
Higher Ground
Patanq (The Kite)
Take Shelter
Citizen Kane

Ebertfest 2013
Days of Heaven
Vincent: The Life and Death of Vincent Van Gogh
In the Family
Bernie
Oslo, August 31st
The Ballad of Narayama
Julia
Blancanieves
Kumaré
Escape From Tomorrow
The Spectacular Now
Not Yet Begun to Fight

Ebertfest 2014
Life Itself
Museum Hours
Short Term 12
Young Adult
Capote
Do the Right Thing
Wadjda
A Simple Life
Goodbye Solo
Born on the Fourth of July
Bayou Maharajah

Ebertfest 2015
Goodbye to Language
A Pigeon Sat on a Branch Reflecting on Existence
Moving Midway
The End of the Tour
Girlhood
The Son of the Sheik
A Bronx Tale
Wild Tales
Ida
The Motel Life
99 Homes
Seymour: An Introduction

Ebertfest 2016
Crimson Peak
Grandma
Northfork
The Third Man
Disturbing the Peace
L'inhumaine
Eve's Bayou
Force of Destiny
Radical Grace
Love & Mercy
Blow Out
Body and Soul

Ebertfest 2017
Hair
Hysteria
To Sleep With Anger
The Handmaiden
July and Half of August (Short Film)
They Call Us Monsters
Variété
Elle
Mind/Game
Pleasantville
Norman Lear: Just Another Version of You
Being There
De-Lovely
Looking Back through the Years

www.ebertfest.com