

**THE HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES THE EIGHTH ANNUAL SummerDocs
SERIES FEATURING *AUTHOR: THE JT LEROY STORY,*
*BETTING ON ZERO, AND A PERFECT CANDIDATE***

**HIFF Co-Chairman and Series Presenter Alec Baldwin returns to
lead conversations with filmmakers and special guests**

Series to run from July 9th to August 27th

**HIFF also announces 2016 Student Summer Filmmaking
Workshops and Outdoor Screenings**

East Hampton, NY (June 15, 2016)– The Hamptons International Film Festival (HIFF) SummerDocs series returns for the eighth year to showcase some of the best in documentary filmmaking. The series will open with a screening of *AUTHOR: THE JT LEROY STORY* on Saturday, July 9th at 7:00PM, followed by *BETTING ON ZERO* on Saturday, August 6th at 7:30PM, and close with *A PERFECT CANDIDATE* on Saturday, August 27th at 7:00PM. The screenings will take place at Guild Hall in East Hampton.

Following the screening of *AUTHOR: THE JT LEROY STORY* Director Jeff Feuerzeig (*THE DEVIL AND DANIEL JOHNSTON*) will be in attendance for a conversation led by Alec Baldwin & David Nugent. Baldwin will also lead conversations following the screenings of *BETTING ON ZERO* with Director Ted Braun (*DARFUR NOW*), and *A PERFECT CANDIDATE* with Directors R.J. Cutler (*THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE, LISTEN TO ME MARLON*) and David Van Taylor (*ADVISE & DISSENT*).

“Now in its eighth year, the SummerDocs series has become one of the most anticipated and respected film events in the New York & Hamptons summer calendar,” said Hamptons International Film

Festival Co-Chairman and SummerDocs series presenter Alec Baldwin. “We are proud to once again screen some of the best in documentary filmmaking to our audiences and provide an insightful look into the process in conversations with leading filmmakers.”

“Each year we look to raise the bar and we're excited at the lineup of outstanding documentaries curated for the 2016 SummerDocs series. Each of these films encompass thought-provoking subject matter that will engage and entertain audiences,” said Hamptons International Film Festival Artistic Director David Nugent. “For the first time in the series’ history we’re also including a classic documentary whose political subject matter will allow for a fascinating discussion in this sui generis election year.”

Past SummerDocs selections including TWENTY FEET FROM STARDOM, LAST DAYS OF VIETNAM, THE COVE, SEARCHING FOR SUGAR MAN and HOW TO SURVIVE A PLAGUE, have gone on to receive Academy Award® wins and nominations.

Candescent Films will return to sponsor the Audience Award for the 2016 SummerDocs series. Candescent supports films that illuminate social issues. The Wall Street Journal will sponsor the screening of BETTING ON ZERO and Beach Magazine will sponsor the screening of A PERFECT CANDIDATE.

Tickets for the screenings are available for purchase at www.guildhall.org or at the Guild Hall Box Office.

“Our mission is to deliver a cohesive film program to our loyal audience throughout the year,” said Hamptons International Film Festival Executive Director Anne Chaisson. “Our popular summer season is integral in obtaining that goal and we are thankful to our partners at Guild Hall and the Southampton Arts Center.”

The festival has also announced that its Student Summer Filmmaking Workshops, are open for enrollment. The workshops give students

ages 8 to 15 the opportunity to make their own short films, which are then showcased on screen for family and friends at the end of the week.

Workshops will be held at Guild Hall of East Hampton from Monday, July 18 to Friday, July 22, and at the Southampton Arts Center from Monday, July 25 to Friday, July 29.

For the fourth consecutive year The Hamptons International Film Festival will partner with the Southampton Arts Center to offer free screenings of classic movies throughout the summer. The films will screen on the lawn at 25 Jobs Lane on Friday's at 8:30PM. The lineup includes NATIONAL LAMPOON'S VACATION on July 15th, SURF'S UP on July 22nd, ROCKY on July 29th, THE CANDIDATE on August 5th, THE SHINING on August 12th, TO CATCH A THIEF on August 19th, TOOTSIE on August 26th and JAWS on September 2nd.

AUTHOR: THE JT LEROY STORY

Saturday, July 9th at 7:00PM at Guild Hall in East Hampton

New York magazine's October 2005 issue sent shockwaves through the literary world when it unmasked "it boy" wunderkind JT LeRoy, whose tough prose about his sordid childhood had captivated icons and luminaries internationally. It turned out LeRoy didn't actually exist. He was dreamed up by 40-year-old San Francisco punk rocker and phone sex operator, Laura Albert. **AUTHOR: THE JT LEROY STORY** takes us down the infinitely fascinating rabbit hole of how Laura Albert—like a Cyrano de Bergerac on steroids—breathed not only words, but life, into her avatar for a decade. Albert's epic and entertaining account plunges us into a glittery world of rock shows, fashion events, and the Cannes red carpet where LeRoy becomes a mysterious sensation. As she recounts this astonishing odyssey, Albert also reveals the intricate web spun by irrepressible creative forces within her. Her extended and layered JT LeRoy performance still infuriates many; but for Albert, channeling her brilliant fiction through another identity was the only possible path to self-expression.

AUTHOR: THE JT LEROY STORY is an Amazon Studios/Magnolia Pictures release.

BETTING ON ZERO

Saturday, August 6th at 7:30PM at Guild Hall in East Hampton

Sponsored by The Wall Street Journal

Allegations of corporate criminality and high-stakes Wall Street vendettas swirl throughout this riveting financial docu-thriller from DARFUR NOW writer-director, Ted Braun. Controversial hedge fund titan Bill Ackman is on a crusade to expose global nutritional giant Herbalife as the largest pyramid scheme in history while Herbalife execs claim Ackman is a market manipulator out to bankrupt them and make a killing off his billion dollar short. Caught in the crossfire are middle Americans forging their financial future, working class Latino's seeking justice, and a business model affecting the lives of millions around the world. BETTING ON ZERO weaves uncertainty, deception, hubris, intrigue, and greed in a surprising, deeply emotional dive into the world of money, fraud and the American Dream.

A PERFECT CANDIDATE

Saturday, August 27th at 7:00PM at Guild Hall in East Hampton

Sponsored by Beach Magazine

Sometimes horrifying, often hilarious, A PERFECT CANDIDATE is a twisted journey into the underbelly of American politics. In 1994 former Marine Oliver North re-emerged from the Iran-Contra scandal to run for the U.S Senate to spark one of modern politics' most outrageous elections. In the hotly contested race between North and incumbent Chuck Robb - who played Charlie Brown to Ollie's Elvis - filmmakers R.J. Cutler and David Van Taylor were granted astonishing access to the back room games played by the candidates, their handlers, and the press. The result is a revealing, chilling and darkly funny look into the modern political process.

Sometimes called the "evil twin" of the Pennebaker/ Hegedus classic The War Room, A PERFECT CANDIDATE screened in over 70 theaters nationwide, and on Channel 4 UK; and was nominated for an

Emmy and short-listed for an Oscar. Its 2004 DVD release confirmed the film's lasting value, and prompted The Onion to call it "brilliant, riveting, and unforgettable ... a great film about American elections and the people who control them," while the New Yorker declared "it couldn't be more relevant."

ABOUT THE HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Hamptons International Film Festival (HIFF) is a year-round 501(c)3 non-profit organization with events, screenings, film workshops, comprehensive summer programs and an annual film festival each October. The Festival is the premiere film event on New York State's east end, and is an intimate showcase of some of the year's best offerings in contemporary cinema from around the world. With cash and in-kind prizes handed out totaling more than \$225,000, HIFF continues to attract some of the best films of the year.

Selections from all of our programs continue to play an important role during awards season. 2016 marked the 6th time in a row that a film in the Festival has become the eventual Best Picture winner at the Oscars, making HIFF the only Festival on the East Coast with such a distinction. For more information please visit: www.hamptonsfilmfest.org

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