

VARIETY ANNOUNCES THIS YEAR'S 10 ACTORS TO WATCH

Marks Five Years of Collaboration With The Hamptons International Film Festival

Variety is pleased to announce its annual list of 10 Actors to Watch, an honor the publication has bestowed since 1998.

Past honorees include many future Oscar winners and nominees such as Viola Davis, Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Brie Larson, Lupita Nyong'o, Michael Shannon and Melissa Leo.

This year's honorees will be feted in the Oct. 4 issue of *Variety*, in conjunction with coverage of the Hamptons International Film Festival, which runs Oct. 6-10. This marks the fifth year *Variety* has collaborated with the festival to present Actors to Watch.

"The Hamptons International Film Festival has had the privilege of honoring rising talent for over 15 years. We are thrilled to once again partner with *Variety* to recognize this group of ten diverse, talented actors for the incredible work they have done in their careers," says David Nugent, HIFF Artistic Director. "As we have seen our previous honorees blossom over the years, with just this year Brie Larson and Alicia Vikander both taking home Academy Awards, we know this class has a bright future ahead of them."

Added Vice President/Executive Editor of *Variety* Steven Gaydos, "As the Fall film awards season approaches, there may be questions about which films will ultimately shine as prize winners, but there is no doubt that once again this year's releases feature astounding new talents filled with creative courage and unlimited potential for bright careers. I can't think of a better place to celebrate their achievements than the prestigious Hamptons Film Festival."

These are the year's 10 Actors to Watch:

Riz Ahmed, recently on screens in "Jason Bourne" and HBO's acclaimed drama "The Night Of," soon to be seen in "Una" and "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story."

Mahershala Ali, soon to be seen in the films "Moonlight" and "Hidden Figures" and on the Netflix series "Luke Cage."

Rachel Brosnahan, who will appear in Woody Allen's new Amazon series and in the 2016 films "Patriots Day" and "Boomtown."

Ana de Armas, now on screens in "Hands of Stone" and "War Dogs," appearing in next year's "Blade Runner."

Alden Erhenreich, recently named the new Han Solo, appearing in Warren Beatty's "Rules Don't Apply" and "The Yellow Birds" this year.

Lucas Hedges, the breakout star of “Manchester By the Sea” and appearing next year in Martin McDonagh’s “Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri.”

Aja Naomi King, a regular on ABC’s hit “How To Get Away With Murder,” soon to be seen in the Sundance sensation “The Birth of a Nation.”

Tavi Gevinson, founder of Rookie Magazine, recently seen on Broadway in “The Crucible” and returning to the stage appearing opposite Daniel Craig in “Othello” this Fall. Films include “Enough Said” and the upcoming “Human People.”

Kara Hayward, previously seen in “Moonrise Kingdom,” appearing in “Manchester By the Sea” and Jim Jarmusch’s “Paterson” this year.

John Legend, an Oscar-winning songwriter, making his big screen debut in “La La Land” opposite Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone this year.

For more information on the Hamptons International Film Festival, visit hamptonsfilmfest.org.

ABOUT VARIETY

Variety remains the seminal voice of the entertainment industry for 111 years and counting. Featuring award-winning breaking news reporting, insightful award-season coverage, must-read feature spotlights and intelligent analysis of the industry’s most prominent players, Variety is the trusted source for the business of global entertainment.

Read by a highly engaged audience of industry insiders, Variety’s multi-platform content coverage expands across digital, mobile, social, print and branded events and summits.

In 2015 *Variety*’s “[Actors on Actors](#)” on PBS was awarded the Emmy for best entertainment programming at the Television Academy’s 67th Los Angeles area [Emmy Awards](#). “Actors on Actors,” which is an interview special that features pairings of prominent actors discussing their craft, was produced by PBS SoCal in partnership with Variety Media, LLC. Follow Variety on Facebook [facebook.com/variety](https://www.facebook.com/variety); Twitter, @variety; Instagram, @Variety; Pintrest and Snapchat. The Variety Group – *Variety*, Variety.com, Variety Insight, Indiewire, LA 411, NY 411 – is owned by Variety Media, LLC, a division of Penske Media Corporation.

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