



“PROBLEMSKI HOTEL” TO OPEN & “NEWS FROM PLANET MARS” TO CLOSE THE 24TH EDITION OF THE RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

LONDON – TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2016: The Raindance Film Festival today announced its Opening & Closing Night Films, both international and unique in their creativity and ability to captivate audiences.

The UK Premiere of Manu Riche’s (*Snake Dance, Can A Man Change The City*) ***Problemski Hotel*** will open the 24th edition of the Festival. Inspired by Dimitri Verhulst’s novel of the same name, the film reveals the changes that occur in the lives of several people born in areas affected by war and armed conflict. The characters find themselves ejected from their daily lives and propelled into the Kafkaesque absurdity of the refugees’ no-man’s land.

Both timely and riveting, ***Problemski Hotel*** is a Belgian and Dutch co-production and stars Evgenia Brendes, Carlo Ferrante and Gökhan Girginol.

The Festival’s Closing Night film will be the UK Premiere of Dominik Moll’s (*Lemming, With a Friend Like Harry...*) eccentric French comedy, ***News from Planet Mars***. Starring François Damiens and Vincent Macaigne, the film follows a forty-nine-year-old father, Philippe Mars (Damiens), whose well-meaning and balanced approach to life is challenged by increasingly chaotic and absurd circumstances.

Dealing with his rebellious children, his artist sister and an over the top work colleague (Macaigne) who moves into his apartment, Philippe’s world goes from bad to worse in this darkly comic take on family life.

“For this year’s Festival, we really wanted to enrapture our audiences with our film selection for Opening and Closing Night,” commented Raindance Founder, Elliot Grove. *“Each film is very different, but both stand out as great pieces of independent and international cinema.”*

Problemski Hotel and ***News from Planet Mars*** will screen at London’s **Picturehouse Central** on **September 21st** and **October 2nd**, respectively.

The 24th Raindance Film Festival will take place from **September 21st – October 2nd** in London’s West End and will screen **90 feature films** and **85 short films**.

Last week the Festival [announced](#) its jury members, competition films in its Feature, Short and Web Series categories and the full line-up for its inaugural VR Arcade.

Its Music Strand, Co-Production Forum, Industry Days and additional jury members will be announced on September 13th, 2016.

The **Festival box office** will be open from noon on **Thursday, September 1, 2016**.

Festival tickets can be purchased through the Festival website:
<http://raindancefestival.org/tickets2016/>

Festival passes can be purchased through the Festival website:
<http://raindancefestival.org/register-now/>

Press can apply for accreditation through the Festival website:
<http://raindancefestival.org/press-accreditations-2016/>

Industry can apply for accreditation through the Festival website:
<http://raindancefestival.org/accreditations/>

~ENDS~

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ABOUT RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Discover. Be Discovered.

Listed by Variety as one of the world's top 50 'unmissable film festivals', Raindance showcases features, shorts, music videos, virtual reality films and web series by filmmakers from the UK and around the world celebrating and supporting independent, new and alternative filmmakers not just during our 12 day festival but throughout the year.

The 24th Raindance Film Festival will take place from the 21st September – 2nd October 2016 in Central London (Piccadilly Circus), screening 90 feature films and 85 short films.

Raindance Film Festival is officially recognised by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences USA, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts and the British Independent Film Awards. Selected shorts will qualify for Oscar® and BAFTA nominations. British short films that play in competition and all British features that play in 2016 will be eligible for entry for the 2016 British Independent Film Awards BIFA.

ABOUT RAINDANCE – THE VOICE OF INDEPENDENT FILM

Raindance is dedicated to fostering and promoting independent film in the UK and around the world. Based in the heart of London, Raindance combines [Raindance Film Festival](#), [Training Courses](#), which are offered throughout the year through its 11 international hubs and the prestigious [British Independent Film Awards](#).