

Fashion is Featured at the 2017 Gold Coast International Film Festival

— Festival Spotlights Fabulous Films for Fashion Lovers Including the L.I. Premieres of *Manolo: The Boy Who Made Shoes for Lizards* and *Straight/Curve: Redefining Female Body Image*; and the Screening of *The Paris Opera* —



GREAT NECK, NY — October 17, 2017 — Among the exciting lineup of more than 80 feature-length and short films at the [2017 Gold Coast International Film Festival](#) are outstanding films about the fashion industry, and a fascinating, candid behind-the-scenes look at the grandeur that is the Paris Opera House. The films include the Long Island premieres of *Manolo: The Boy Who Made Shoes for Lizards* (2017) and [Straight/Curve: Redefining Female Body Image](#) (2017), plus a screening of the 2017 documentary about what is arguably one of the world's great opera houses, *The Paris Opera*.

Premiering on **Saturday, November 11 at 1:00 p.m. at Soundview Cinemas in Port Washington** is *Manolo: The Boy Who Made Shoes for Lizards*. The film, sponsored by [Neiman Marcus Garden City](#), is an in-depth portrait of legendary fashion designer Manolo Blahnik and how his extraordinary dedication to his craft led him to become the world's most famous luxury shoemaker, revered by celebrities, stylists, and industry icons for generations.

Growing up on a remote Spanish Canary island, Manolo made shoes out of sweet wrappers for lizards that he caught in his family's garden. After opening his first store in London in 1973 and coming of age in the fashion capitals of Paris and New York, Manolo now has shops and department store concessions in more than 20 countries, retaining full control of the business, and still creating every shoe — even hand-carving the wooden forms himself. Director, and longtime fashion journalist, Michael Roberts presents this never-before-seen peek into Mr.

Blahnik's world. *Manolo: The Boy Who Made Shoes for Lizards* features a veritable "who's who" of the fashion and entertainment industries including Anna Wintour, Rihanna, Paloma Picasso, Iman, Naomi Campbell, Rupert Everett, Karlie Kloss, Isaac Mizrahi, and André Leon Talley. *Manolo: The Boy Who Made Shoes for Lizards* is a film for anyone who has ever looked longingly at a pair of "Manolos." Soundview Cinemas is located at 7 Soundview Market Place, Port Washington, NY 11050. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/gciffmanolo>.

Also making its Long Island premiere on **Saturday, November 11 but at 4:00 p.m. at Soundview Cinemas** is *Straight/Curve: Redefining Female Body Image*, the 2017 documentary that examines the industries and obstacles responsible for the present body image crisis and showcases the dynamic leaders fighting for more diversity of size, race, and age.

Ninety percent of women and young girls do not feel represented in the fashion industry or media, and the imagery they consume on a daily basis often making them think of themselves as "disgusting" or "less than." At a time when our brain processes images 60,000 times faster than words *Straight/Curve: Redefining Body Image* sets out to change the imagery we are seeing and to bolster a movement that redefines society's unrealistic and dangerous standards of beauty. A Q&A with Director Jenny McQuaile, Oscar-winning Producer Yael Melamede and distinguished experts from [Northwell Health](#) will follow the film. Audiences are invited to join the festival before the premiere to get their picture taken on the RED CARPET, pick up some SWAG and celebrate YOU! Tickets can be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/gcifstraightcurve>

And on **Saturday, November 11 at 2:00 pm at the Bow Tie Manhasset Theater** is *The Paris Opera*. In this captivating 2017 documentary, Swiss director Jean-Stéphane Bron takes audiences inside one of the world's great performing arts venues for one season, revealing the complex artistic collaborations at its heart. The film illuminates the backstage bustle of the [Opéra National de Paris](#) and the scores of artists, financiers, administrators, and patrons that make the whole endeavor possible. Through the company's tireless director Stéphane Lissner, the glories and peculiar challenges of working in the legendary setting are detailed. Can the production designer safely get a 1,200-pound live bull onstage during a performance of Schoenberg's "Moses and Aaron"? How far can ticket prices be lowered to combat the perceived elitism of the opera? Is Bryn Terfel available for a last-minute substitution in Wagner's "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg"? A sense of barely contained chaos descends as labor unions strike, a precocious [and adorable] young bass-baritone debuts and tensions arise between the corps de ballet and their improbably named choreographer, Benjamin Millepied. An enchanting, captivating journey, often stunning by what it reveals us, to the discovery of an unknown world. A Q&A with Director Jean-Stéphane Bron will follow the film. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/gciffparisopera>. The Bow Tie Manhasset Theater is at 430 Plandome Road, Manhasset, NY 11030.

Other standout films and events at this year's Gold Coast International Film Festival include more than 40 premieres, including *Dare to Be Different*, the story of WLIR, the small suburban Long Island radio station that changed the sound of radio forever. Director/Producer Ellen Goldfarb and Executive Producer Denis McNamara, along with dozens of other DJs and special guests featured in the film will join us at this premiere; *Yellow Birds*, starring Jennifer Aniston, Toni Collette, Alden Ehrenreich and Tye Sheridan; French movie-star **Isabelle Huppert's** new

film *Souvenir*; **Burt Reynolds**'s new film *Dog Years*; and the timely *Bill Nye: Science Guy*. The festival is also the delightful documentary *Hummus! The Movie*, followed by "The Great Gold Coast Hummus Taste-Off"; and the East Coast premiere of the Iranian film *Gholam*, starring **Shahab Hosseini**, star of the 2016 Oscar-winning film *The Salesman*, which premiered at last year's festival. On Saturday, November 11, the festival will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Oscar-winning Hollywood musical *Pal Joey*, starring Frank Sinatra, Rita Hayworth, and Kim Novak. Sinatra's granddaughter, Amanda Erlinger will join us for a Q&A following the screening.

Sponsors and partners of this year's Gold Coast International Film Festival include: founding partners, the Town of North Hempstead and Douglas Elliman Real Estate; major partners, Hofstra University and the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency; as well as Neiman Marcus Garden City; GEICO; Deluxe Entertainment Services Group; AARP Long Island; A.L. Sarroff Fund; Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP; The Katz Institute for Women's Health at Northwell Health; St. Mary's Kids; , Jet Blue; Biener Audi; LVR Rental; The Inn at Great Neck; The Andrew Hotel; WLIW21; Altice; New York Women in Film & Television; Anton Publications; Blank Slate Media; LI Pulse; Edelman Financial Services, LLC; and LOLA of Great Neck.

For tickets to all screenings and events visit www.goldcoastfilmfestival.org.

Images for all films can be found at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/home/GCIFF2017%20Media%20Assets>

About the Gold Coast International Film Festival

Since 2011, the festival has brought the latest Hollywood hits and Indie favorites to standing room only audiences throughout the fabled Gold Coast of Long Island. Add A-list celebrities and unforgettable events to the mix and it's easy to see why the Gold Coast International Film Festival has become the "go to" festival for film buffs and the public; (it is also the last major film festival on the East Coast before Awards season). The Gold Coast International Film Festival is produced by the not-for-profit Gold Coast Arts Center.

Previous honorees and special guests of the festival and the Gold Coast Arts Center include film industry VIPs **Francis Ford Coppola, Hugh Grant, Baz Luhrmann, Brian Dennehy, Paul Sorvino, Ed Burns, Bruce Dern, Isabella Rossellini, Lou Diamond Phillips, Morgan Spurlock, Eli Wallach, Gabriel Byrne, Jacques Pepin, Bill Plympton, Phil Donahue, Phylicia Rashad, Joan Allen, Jay McInerney and Michael Cuesta**, as well as composer **Morton Gould**, artists **James Rosenquist, Oleg Cassini, Edwina Sandys and Bob Gruen**, comedian **Susie Essman**, Broadway stars **Kelli O'Hara, Melissa Errico and Savion Glover**, and 4-time Oscar winner for production and costume design **Catherine Martin**.

About the Gold Coast Arts Center

The [Gold Coast Arts Center](http://www.goldcoastartscenter.org) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting the arts through education, exhibition, performance and outreach. Located on the North Shore of Long Island, it has brought the arts to tens of thousands of people throughout the region for over 20 years. Among the Center's offerings are its School for the Arts, which holds year-round classes

in visual and performing arts for students of all ages and abilities; a free public art gallery; a concert and lecture series; film screenings and discussions; the annual Gold Coast International Film Festival; and initiatives that focus on senior citizens and underserved communities. These initiatives include artist residencies, after-school programs, school assemblies, teacher-training workshops and parent-child workshops. The Gold Coast Arts Center is an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Partners in Education program, and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. More information can be found at www.goldcoastarts.org.

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