



Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

## THE KARLOVY VARY FESTIVAL TO HONOR ACADEMY AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR BARRY LEVINSON

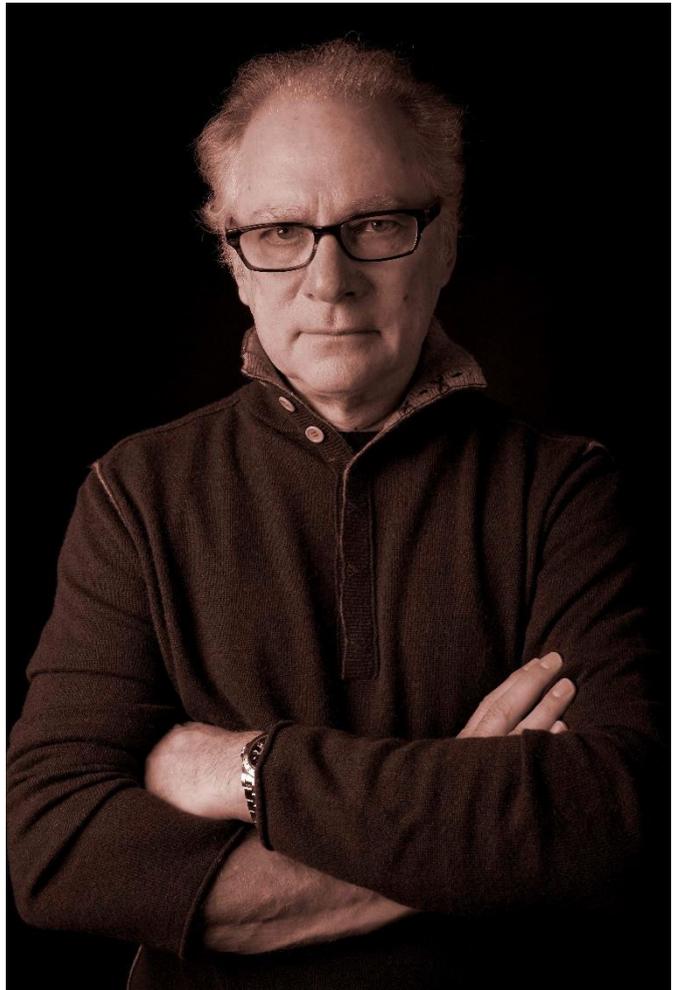
**At this year's Karlovy Vary festival, screenwriter-producer-director Barry Levinson, who won an Academy Award for *Rain Man*, will accept the Crystal Globe for Outstanding Artistic Contribution to World Cinema.**

The Karlovy Vary festival continues its tradition of recognizing the most important personalities of world cinema, the likes of which include directors William Friedkin, Jerry Schatzberg, and Ken Loach, and screenwriter Paul Laverty. In his writing and directing capacity, Academy Award winner and five-time nominee Barry Levinson deftly combines personal stories with an often satirical look at society, and his movies have fundamentally influenced numerous young filmmakers.

Barry Levinson established himself as a writer of successful television shows. With his onetime wife, Valerie Curtin, he then wrote the movie script for Norman Jewison's courtroom drama *...and justice for all* (1979), which brought them an Oscar nomination. He debuted as a director with the comedy-drama *Diner* (1982), receiving his second Oscar nomination for the script. Ivan Král, a Czech musician based in the US, co-wrote the film music.

Subsequent titles confirmed his reputation with critics and audiences: *The Natural* (1984) with Robert Redford, *Tin Men* (1987) with Richard Dreyfuss and Danny DeVito, and *Good Morning, Vietnam* (1987) with Robin Williams.

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the legendary picture *Rain Man* (1988), awarded four Oscars (e.g. Best Director for Barry Levinson) and numerous other honors, including the Golden Bear at the Berlinale and the David di Donatello for Best Foreign Film. Under Levinson's guidance, Dustin Hoffman turned in one of his most memorable performances and Tom Cruise extended his





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star status while paired up with onscreen girlfriend Valeria Golino. His next movie, the drama *Avalon* (1991), earned Levinson another Oscar nomination, this time for Best Original Screenplay. The Warren Beatty vehicle *Bugsy* (1991), based on the life of the well-known gangster, brought Levinson another two Academy Award nominations – for best director and picture.

Recently turned 20, Levinson's movie *Wag the Dog* is a behind-the-scenes political parody (once again) starring Dustin Hoffman in an Oscar-nominated role. The film earned Barry Levinson a Silver Bear – Special Jury Prize at Berlinale in 1998.

Similar to his work with Hoffman, with whom he also shot the drama *Sleepers* (1996) and the sci-fi picture *Sphere* (1998), he teams up with other Hollywood stars for multiple productions, including Robert De Niro (*Wag the Dog*, *What Just Happened*, 2008) and Robin Williams (*Toys*, 1992; *Man of the Year*, 2006).

Levinson produces the majority of his movies and has backed a number of ambitious project by other directors, among others Mike Newell's crime drama *Donnie Brasco* (1997) and Neil LaBute's romantic drama *Possession* (2002).

Barry Levinson will present his latest directorial effort at KVIFF, the HBO-produced drama *Paterno*, and will introduce *Rain Man* and the timeless satire *Wag the Dog*.



Photo: Paterno



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**THE KARLOVY VARY'S PEOPLE NEXT DOOR SECTION WILL PRESENT THE  
OSCAR-WINNING PICTURE *THE SILENT CHILD***

For the third time the Karlovy Vary IFF will present the People Next Door program section in cooperation with Sirius, an official nonprofit KVIFF partner. This year the section will focus on films with hearing-impaired protagonists.

One of the motion pictures presented in People Next Door will be *The Silent Child* (2017), which took this year's Academy Award® for Best Live Action Short Film. **This emotive movie will be presented by actress and screenwriter Rachel Shenton and director Chris Overton.**

*The Silent Child* tells the story of a four-year-old profoundly deaf girl who, thanks to a social worker played by Rachel Shenton, emerges from a world of silence by means of sign language. The script was inspired by the personal experiences of the British actress and writer.





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## DANISH ACTRESS TRINE DYRHOLM TO PRESENT *NICO, 1988*

The Karlovy Vary festival's Horizons section will present the music biopic *Nico, 1988*, with a personal introduction from Danish actress Trine Dyrholm, who plays the title character.

*Nico, 1988* charts the final chapters in the artistic career of music icon Nico, birth name Christa Päffgen. Most often talked about as Warhol's muse or in connection with the band the Velvet Underground, Päffgen lived a dramatic life full of intensity, one that ultimately saw her rebirth as an artist and her discovery of herself as a woman and mother.

*"Trine Dyrholm was key to the film,"* says director Susanna Nicchiarelli about her lead actor. *"Her contribution to my film and to me personally was tremendous. Trine gave Nico energy and vitality; she provided the movie with the exact amount of energy that was needed."*

Trine Dyrholm started out as the singer for the popular Danish band The Moonlighters. She studied acting and is one of the busiest actors working in Denmark today. Her movie credits include Thomas Vinterberg's *Festen* (1998), the comedy *In China They Eat Dogs* (1999), and the Oscar-nominated historical drama *A Royal Affair* (2012). In 2016 at the Berlinale she picked up a Silver Bear for best actress in Vinterberg's *The Commune* (2016).

