

# 56th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival July 1–9 2022



**Press Release**  
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Film Servis Festival Karlovy Vary, a.s. Panská 1, 110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic  
[www.kviff.com](http://www.kviff.com) / +420 221 411 011 / +420 221 411 022  
[festival@kviff.com](mailto:festival@kviff.com) / [production@kviff.com](mailto:production@kviff.com) / [program@kviff.com](mailto:program@kviff.com)  
[industry@kviff.com](mailto:industry@kviff.com) / [press@kviff.com](mailto:press@kviff.com) / [gservice@kviff.com](mailto:gservice@kviff.com)

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Karlovy Vary International Film Festival

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**Organizers of the 56<sup>th</sup> Karlovy Vary IFF thank to all partners which help to organize the festival.**

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## **Actor and director Liev Schreiber to be guest of the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival**

**This year's Karlovy Vary festival will welcome American actor, screenwriter, and director Liev Schreiber eighteen years after his last appearance.**



In 2004, Schreiber was in town along with actor Elijah Wood to introduce the Czech-filmed *Everything is Illuminated* (2005). This adaptation of Jonathan Safran Foer's story of a young American looking for his roots in Ukraine was Schreiber's directorial debut. In 2005, the film won the Laterna Magica Prize and a Biografilm Award at the Venice Film Festival.

Schreiber felt an affinity for the subject of Foer's book because his mother has roots in Ukraine's Jewish community. With a film and television career dating back to the mid-nineties, Schreiber's filmography includes dozens of roles in popular Hollywood movies across a variety of genres: the romantic comedy *Kate & Leopold* (2001), the action flick

*The Sum of All Fears* (2002), the science fiction movie *X-Men Origins: Wolverine* (2009), the mystery-drama *The Manchurian Candidate* (2004), two sports biopics – *Pawn Sacrifice* (2014) and *The Real Rocky Balboa* (2016) – and last year's Netflix hit *Don't Look Up* (2021).

Liev Schreiber received five Golden Globe and three Primetime Emmy nominations for the title role in the television series *Ray Donovan*. This year, the seven-season series came to a close with the film *Ray Donovan: The Movie* (2022), which he co-wrote and executive produced.



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## **Tribute to Jérôme Paillard**

This year's edition of Karlovy Vary IFF will pay tribute to Jérôme Paillard, the long-time executive director of Marché du Film. Paillard joined Marché in 1995 and significantly expanded its global scale. He is the founder of the [Cinando.com](http://Cinando.com) database and Ventana Sur, the most important market for audiovisual content in Latin America, which he runs with Bernard Bergeret. A few weeks ago, Paillard stepped down as a director of Marché du Film after twenty-seven years.

At the Karlovy Vary festival, a 1993 film *The Flood* produced by Paillard will be screened as a part of the tribute. Paillard will introduce the film in person.





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**Superheroes will be the opening film of the 56th Karlovy Vary IFF**



A romantic film that briefly introduces us to the carousel of joys and fears of a couple brought together by chance. Or was it fate? Comic book illustrator Anna and theoretical physicist Marco are a pair of congenial Superheroes who, like so many other people, have decided to live together. After all, dealing with shared problems sometimes requires truly superhuman strength. Every relationship has its crises and its idyllic moments – from a random encounter in the rain to serious conversations a decade later. The film's structure presents the history of their relationship by following two timelines: the very beginning and ten years later. The carefully constructed episodes systematically take aim at viewers' hearts and minds.

Superheroes / Superero

director: Paolo Genovese, 2021, 121 min.





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## **Three Thousand Years of Longing to close 56th Karlovy Vary IFF**



Professor of narratology Althea Binnie (Tilda Swinton) arrives in Istanbul to give a lecture at a conference. But she slowly begins to question her identity as a rational academic when an antique lamp that she bought at a bazaar releases a Djinn (Idris Elba) who, in the fashion of Oriental fairy tales, offers her three wishes... George Miller followed up the adrenaline-laden, post-apocalyptic ride of *Mad Max: Fury Road* (2015) with this eccentric fantasy featuring two stellar leads. *Three Thousand Years of Longing*, which premiered at Cannes, is a timeless story of love that, like *One Thousand and One Nights*, reflects the joy of storytelling.

Three Thousand Years of Longing  
director: George Miller, USA, 2022, 108 min.



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## Added screenings

### **Moonage Daydream**

director: Brett Morgen, USA, 2022, 140 min.



Over the course of several decades, David Bowie amassed some five million diverse pieces of audiovisual material relating to his artistic career. It took director Brett Morgen (*The Kid Stays in the Picture*, *Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck*) two years to go through it all. He then spent another year coming up with the conception for his film, and five years creating the sound design for this highly unconventional look at the career of an original musician and fascinating prophet. This unique cinematic experience – one of the key events at the recent festival in Cannes – will ride through you like a wave. Brett Morgen's testament to David Bowie is as elusive and captivating as the artist himself.



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## War Pony

director: Riley Keough, Gina Gammell, USA, 2022, 114 min.



The jury at this year's Cannes Film Festival decided to give the award for best debut film to the extraordinarily convincing look at the life of today's members of the Oglala Lakota subtribe of the Sioux nation. The directorial duo masterfully guides the viewer through two interconnected storylines set in the inhospitable reality of the Pine Ridge Reservation. While the enterprising twentysomething Bill has no trouble stretching the law on his journey towards the "American dream," preteen Matho is forced to grow up fast. An evocative film about the search for one's place in a world in which the descendants of America's first people still cannot shake the stigma of discrimination.



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## Close

director: Lukas Dhont, Belgium, France, Netherlands, 2022, 105 min.



Thirteen-year-old Rémi and Léo are inseparable friends. They spend all their free time together, fight imaginary battles, try to outdo each other on their bikes in the fields, and sleep over at each other's houses. Their intense friendship also involves an unusual physical closeness, which after the summer break becomes the target of sneering remarks from their adolescent classmates, the poisonous tone of which slowly begins to erode their friendship. This intimately tender and oppressively painful film about growing up is built around the immensely powerful debut performances by Eden Dambrine and Gustav De Waele. Lukas Dhont's film was considered by many to be the emotional pinnacle of this year's festival in Cannes, where it earned the Grand Prix (ex aequo).



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## Films from the People Next Door section

### Level 34

Director: Zach Breder, USA, 2022, 25min, International Premiere



Sometimes the story that led to a film being made is as important as the film itself. The director of *Level 34*, sixteen-year-old Zach Breder from the U. S. state of Georgia, has managed to fulfil a life's dream at a young age – to write and direct a movie. This in and of itself is an extraordinary feat. But when we add one inexorable fact of Zach's life – the fact that he has a serious heart conditions that means he must make every day count – we understand why he refused to wait to realize his dream.

Zach was born with Hypoplastic Right Heart Syndrome, which means that he was born without a right ventricle, for which there is no cure. By age sixteen, he had undergone more than ten operations thanks to which he is still alive. The cardiologist who has been treating Zach and who knows all his dreams, including his dream of being a filmmaker, found a way

for Zach to make his film a reality – thanks to the Make-a-Wish Foundation, which provided financial support for the film's realization. When the Pinewood Film Group came on board as producer, nothing stood in the way of the film's creation.

The film crew were students from a local film school, and post-production was done by the Czech Republic's UPP company. In the beginning there was a dream; at the end is an international premiere at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival. *Level 34* is the adventure-filled tale of a young boy who gathers all his courage in order to prove that his uncle is not the crazy drunk everybody says he is.



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The Karlovy Vary film festival is showing *Level 34* as part of its People Next Door Section. Zach Breder is personally traveling to the festival with his mother in order to introduce the film in person.

## My Sister Liv

režie: Alan Hicks, USA, 2022, 70 min., World Premiere



When eight-year-old Tess learned that her mother was pregnant, she was not excited at the prospect of a sibling. But when little Liv was born with the same fiery red hair as her older sister, an unbreakable bond was formed that, sadly, was torn apart too soon. Liv grew into a young woman full of energy and with incredible musical talent, but even as a child she suffered from anxiety and depression until she was driven to a radical solution. Tess was left with a void in her life that she decided to fill by working with teenagers who have the same difficulties as Liv did. Grammy Award-winning director Alan Hicks has shot a touching and important documentary about pain transformed into hope.



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## **Where to see the stars of KVIFF**

### ***Preliminary schedule***

#### **Geoffrey Rush**

##### **6. 7. 2022, 2pm, Thermal, Grand Hall**

Introduction before the screening of *The King's Speech*, greeting of the audience at the red carpet in front of Hotel Thermal

##### **7. 7. 2022, 10pm, Thermal, Grand Hall**

Introduction before the screening of *Shine*

##### **8. 7. 2022, 4pm, Karlovy Vary Theater**

Introduction before the screening of *Quills*

##### **9. 7. 2022, 6pm, Thermal, Grand Hall**

Geoffrey Rush will greet the audience while arriving at the Red Carpet in front of Hotel Thermal. During the ceremony, he will receive the Crystal Globe for Outstanding artistic contribution to world cinema.

#### **Benicio Del Toro**

##### **8. 7. 2022, 1pm, Grand Hall, Thermal**

Benicio Del Toro will introduce the screening of the film *Traffic*. He will greet the audience while arriving at the red carpet in front of Hotel Thermal. There will be a Q&A after the screenings.

##### **9. 7. 2022, 1pm, Karlovy Vary Theater**

Benicio Del Toro will introduce the screening of the film *The Usual Suspects*

##### **9. 7. 2022, 6pm, Thermal.**

Benicio Del Toro will greet the audience while arriving at the Red Carpet in front of Hotel Thermal. During the ceremony, he will receive the KVIFF President Award.



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**June Zero**

**4. 7. 2022, 2pm, Thermal, Grand Hall**

Director Jake Paltrow will introduce the screening of the film

**Rubikon**

**4. 7. 2022, 9pm, Small Hall, Thermal**

The director Magdalena Lauritsch will introduce the screening of the film.

A Q&A will be held after the screening

**The Killing of a Journalist**

**5. 7. 2022, 1pm, Karlovy Vary Theater**

A delegation will introduce the premiere of the film

The delegation will be accompanied by the parents of Ján Kuciak and Martina Kušnírová

**Mein Vater, der Fürst**

**5. 7. 2022, 7pm, Pupp Cinema**

Karel Schwarzenberg, Lila Schwarzenberg, Lukas Sturm will introduce the premiere of the film

A Q&A will be held after the screening