



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

www.manhattanfilmstitute.com

June 15, 2018

Contact: Carrie Miller 631-276-8855

Manhattan Film Institute (MFI) brings Celebrity Screenings to Greenport

Celebrity screenings alert: Award-winning actors and directors will soon join aspiring filmmakers and actors from across the country for the Manhattan Film Institute's seventh annual North Fork Summer Workshop series. The series takes place July 1st through the 14th offering courses in cinematography, acting and directing.

Members of the public are invited to join these celebrity film experts for two free Q&A screenings hosted by Peconic Landing. During each screening, an actor, writer or director from the film will be on hand to answer questions and speak about their experience with the film.

Founded by writer, actor, and producer Tony Spiridakis, and his partner, Lisa Gillooly, The Manhattan Film Institute is a boutique conservatory that pairs world-class faculty with aspiring film professionals, helping to mentor the next generation of filmmakers.

Instructors leading this summer's workshop hold major film and television credentials and include, Giancarlo Esposito, Shannon Goldman, Bob Krakower, Chris Wedge, Bill Finkelstein, Wendy Makkena, Chazz Palminteri, David Cady, and founder Tony Spiridakis.

"We get to bring world-class artists to our idyllic corner of the world," said Spiridakis, who grew up spending summers in East Marion.

Classes take place at Peconic Landing's historic Brecknock Hall, with scenes being shot throughout the Village of Greenport - showcasing a number of local businesses including Silver Sands Motel in Greenport. During the hands-on workshop, the students will create a number of short films to be screened for the first time at the Greenport Movie Theater on Sunday, July 15 at 10 a.m. These screenings are also open to the public and free of charge.

"We always look forward to the excitement and buzz MFI brings to our campus. It is a unique offering for our members and local students pursuing film or acting as a career," said Peconic Landing president and CEO Robert J. Syron. "We encourage you to come and enjoy these celebrity screenings taking place in your backyard."

The two LIVE Q&A sessions will take place at the Peconic Landing Community Center, open to the public and free to all. **Registration is required at <http://peconiclanding.ticketleap.com/>.**

- Screenwriter Todd Komarnicki screens "*Sully*"

Saturday, July 7 | 7:30 PM | Peconic Landing Theatre | Free to all | Registration Required
Enjoy a Q&A with Todd Komarnicki - a prolific writer, producer, and director of film and television, as well as an acclaimed novelist. Komarnicki's screenplays include *Sully*, directed by Clint Eastwood and starring Tom Hanks, which opened #1 at the box office to rave reviews from critics and audiences alike; *Perfect Stranger* starring Bruce Willis and Halle Berry, an adaptation of the international bestseller; and *The Professor and the Madman* which is set for release in 2018, and stars Mel Gibson and Sean Penn.

- Chazz Palminteri and Giancarlo Esposito screen "*The Usual Suspects*"

Saturday, July 14 | 7:30 PM | Peconic Landing Theatre | Free to all | Registration Required
Giancarlo Esposito is an American actor and director. He has played Gustavo "Gus" Fring on the AMC shows *Breaking Bad* and *Better Call Saul*, a role for which he won the Best Supporting Actor in a Drama award at the 2012 Critics' Choice Television Awards and was nominated for an Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series award at the 2012 Primetime Emmy Awards. Chazz Palminteri has appeared in over 50 films and is best known for his performances in *A Bronx Tale*, *The Usual Suspects*, *Mulholland Falls*, *Diabolique*, *Running Scared*, and his Academy Award nominated role for Best Supporting Actor in Woody Allen's smash hit *Bullets over Broadway*.

Each year MFI works to provide scholarship opportunities for students. They have set up a "donate now" button on the MFI homepage to help advance the cause. Interested donors can visit <http://www.manhattanfilmstitute.com> to learn more about the program.

###