

The Museum of Modern Art

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ANNOUNCES THE INITIAL 2018 LINE-UP FOR *THE CONTENDERS*, MoMA'S ANNUAL SERIES OF THE YEAR'S FINEST FILMS

A Unique Chance for Audiences to Enter the Awards Season by Attending Screenings of the Year's Most Acclaimed and Buzzed-About Films, Accompanied by Actor and Filmmaker Conversations

The Contenders 2018

November 8, 2018–January 8, 2019
The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters

NEW YORK, October 23, 2018—The Museum of Modern Art announces its selection of the boldest films of 2018 for the 11th year of *The Contenders*, running November 8, 2018, through January 8, 2019. MoMA's annual end-of-year series offers audiences the unique opportunity to peer behind the industry curtain, with special presentations that often feature revealing post-screening conversations with filmmakers and actors. Tickets for the MoMA screenings go on sale two weeks prior to each screening at 9:30 a.m. at The Museum of Modern Art and online at moma.org/contenders.

Opening the series at the Museum on November 8 is Steve McQueen's *Widows* (2018), a blistering, modern-day thriller set against a backdrop of crime, passion, and corruption. *Widows* is the story of four women with nothing in common except a debt left behind by their dead husbands' criminal activities. Oscar winner Viola Davis leads a knockout ensemble of women who take their fate into their own hands and conspire to forge a future on their own terms. Director Steve McQueen and Producer Iain Canning will be present for a post-screening discussion on opening night.

Today's initial announcement of the 2018 line-up also includes spotlight screenings of critical darlings *BlacKkKlansman* and *Private Life*, the record-breaking *Black Panther*, and the year's most talked about films, such as *Free Solo*. A forthcoming announcement listing additional films in this year's line-up will be made later this year.

"The 2018 Contenders line-up features a cross section of the best new cinema from around the world, from the best of Hollywood (and Wakanda!) to smaller films like Lucretia Martel's *Zama*, and *Hale County This Morning, This Evening* from RaMell Ross," said Rajendra Roy, MoMA's Celeste Bartos Chief Curator of Film. "Steve McQueen returning to MoMA on opening night with *Widows* will be a great moment for our enthusiastic audience, and having everyone

from Paul Schrader to John Krasinski join us for discussions speaks to the breadth and depth of the program.”

Highlights of *The Contenders 2018* at The Museum of Modern Art (November 8, 2018–January 8, 2019) include:

- *BlacKkKlansman*, with an appearance by filmmaker Spike Lee
- *Wildlife*, with appearances by filmmaker Paul Dano, cowriter Zoe Kazan, and actress Carey Mulligan
- *A Quiet Place*, with an appearance by filmmaker and actor John Krasinski
- *The Death of Stalin*, with an appearance by actor Steve Buscemi
- *Roma*, with appearances by actresses Yalitza Aparicio and Marina de Tavira
- *First Reformed*, with an appearance by filmmaker Paul Schrader
- *RBG*, with appearance by filmmakers Betsy Cohen and Julie West
- *They'll Love Me When I'm Dead*, with an appearance by filmmaker Morgan Neville
- *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*, with an appearance by producer Nicholas Ma
- *Free Solo*, with appearances by filmmakers Jimmy Chin and Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi
- *Private Life*, with an appearance by filmmaker Tamara Jenkins
- *The Other Side of the Wind*, with an appearance by producer Frank Marshall
- *Can You Ever Forgive Me?*, with an appearance by filmmaker by Marielle Heller
- Additional screenings including *The Miseducation of Cameron Post*, *Sorry to Bother You*, *Monrovia, Indiana*, *Zama*, *Suspiria*, *If Beale Street Could Talk*, *Border*, *Paddington 2*, *The Guilty*, *Lazzaro Felice (Happy as Lazzaro)*, *The Other Side of Everything*, *The Old Man & the Gun*, *Isle of Dogs*, and more

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