



**THE 20th ANNUAL NANTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
ROBIN WRIGHT AND BEAU WILLIMON IN CONVERSATION,
IN THEIR SHOES...[®] WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS**

Wright To Honor Willimon at Screenwriters Tribute

Festival to Commemorate Comedian-Actress & Longtime NFF Supporter Anne Meara

Jacqueline Bisset, Diane Guerrero, Theo James and Lili Taylor to Attend

Screenplay Competition Finalists and Juries Announced

June 2, 2015 – The 20th annual Nantucket Film Festival announced that Golden Globe[®]-winning actress Robin Wright, and Academy[®] and Emmy[®]-Award nominated *House of Cards* creator and screenwriter Beau Willimon will participate in an In Their Shoes...[®] conversation moderated by Chris Matthews at the Nantucket High School on Sunday, June 28. Additionally, Chris Matthews will also sit down with legendary Academy Award and Golden Globe-winning screenwriter Robert Towne on Friday, June 26 at the Dreamland Theater for a conversation. In Their Shoes...[®] is presented by Final Draft.

Wright will present *Variety's* Creative Impact in Television Writing Award to Willimon at this year's Screenwriters Tribute on Saturday, June 27. The Screenwriters Tribute will be hosted by comedy icon David Steinberg and is presented by premium TV network EPIX. Chris Matthews will present this year's main Screenwriters Tribute to Robert Towne. In addition, Leslye Headland and Liz Garbus will be honored at this year's event. Headland's film *Sleeping With Other People* is a Spotlight at this year's festival and Garbus' film *What Happened, Miss Simone?* screens as the Centerpiece Film.

Throughout this year's festival, NFF will commemorate beloved comedian-actress Anne Meara, a longtime friend and supporter of the festival. Meara co-hosted the festival's Late Night Storytelling event for 10 years, performed in numerous staged readings, and in 2008 presented Judd Apatow with the Screenwriters Tribute. Meara's husband Jerry Stiller, son Ben Stiller, and daughter Amy Stiller have also been supporters of the festival for many years.

EPIX will also present a special panel, "Women Behind the Words: Stories from Hollywood's Front Lines" on Saturday, June 27 at the Dreamland. Actresses Jacqueline Bisset and Lili Taylor will join USC Professor Stacy L. Smith and A&E Network's President & CEO Nancy Dubuc for an in-depth and lively discussion. The panel will be moderated by NPR's Ophira Eisenberg. Bisset's film *Peter and John* will also screen at the festival, as will Taylor's film *A Woman Like Me*.

Additional talent attending the festival includes Theo James (*Divergent*, *Insurgent*) for his film *Franny* and Diane Guerrero (*Orange is the New Black*) for *Peter and John*.

"Celebrating our 20th anniversary this year we are thrilled to announce additional upcoming events to our program. We look forward to stimulating and entertaining conversations, panels and

screenings, and welcoming filmmakers, actors, presenters and festival supporters to the island,” said Mystelle Brabbée, Executive Director of the Nantucket Film Festival. “We will also commemorate the great Anne Meara at this year’s festival. Meara was a longtime supporter and an integral part of the NFF family, and we will always remember her remarkable spirit and loyalty.”

Additional guests attending the festival include Kyle Patrick Alvarez (*The Stanford Prison Experiment*), Jesse Andrews (*Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*), Michael Barker (Co-Founder/Co-President Sony Pictures Classics), Bryan Buckley (*The Bronze*), Lenny Clarke (*Bob Fisher’s My Roommate*), Robert Cohen (*Being Canadian*), Christian Coulson (*Peter and John*), Jay Craven (*Peter and John*), Pete Davidson (*Bob Fisher’s My Roommate*), Ron Davis (*Harry & Snowman*), Jessica Edwards (*Mavis!*), Bob Fisher (*Bob Fisher’s My Roommate*), Dave Foley (*Being Canadian*), Elizabeth Giamatti (*A Women Like Me*), Robert Gordon (*Best of Enemies*), Mark Greenberg (President & CEO EPIX), Shane Patrick Kearns (*Peter and John*), Barbara Kopple (*Hot Type*), Donald Margulies (*The End of The Tour*), Ben Niles (*Some Kind of Spark*), Alex Ross Perry (*Queen of Earth*), Louie Psihoyos (*Racing Extinction*), Andrew Renzi (*Franny*), Kate Lyn Sheil (*Men Go To Battle*), Alexandra Shiva (*How to Dance in Ohio*), Trey Edward Shults (*Krishna*), Spencer Sloan (*Bob Fisher’s My Roommate*), Fisher Stevens (*Racing Extinction*), David Felix Sutcliffe (*(T)ERROR*), Doug Tirola (*Drunk Stoned Brilliant Dead*) and Zachary Treitz (*Men Go to Battle*), among others.

The 2015 Nantucket Film Festival has announced the finalists and juries for the Showtime Tony Cox Screenplay Competitions:

SHOWTIME TONY COX FEATURE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION – FINALISTS:

The Chronicles of Houghington by Colin Borden

In the style of *Indiana Jones*, a famous writer, whose serials are falsely based on his “real-life adventures,” finds himself thrust into a real-life adventure beyond belief.

Counterintelligence by Kristen Dávila

A Pakistani plastic surgeon and gambling addict needs to make a lot of money fast, so he contacts the CIA to turn in his new neighbor, who happens to be on their Top Ten most wanted terrorist list.

The Gloaming by Philip Aceto

An ensemble drama about a janitor, an immigrant student, and the surrounding high school where they work and attend.

The winner receives a \$5000 cash prize, a complimentary, month-long writers residency at the Nantucket Screenwriters Colony, and an all-expenses paid trip to the festival.

Past Feature Screenplay Competition winners include *Cake* (Patrick Tobin), *Future Weather* (Jenny Deller), *Cold Souls* (Sophie Barthes), and *Down to the Bone* (Debra Granik).

FEATURE SCREENPLAY JURY

Kyle Patrick Alvarez, Director -*The Stanford Prison Experiment*

Franklin Leonard, Film Executive -*The Black List*

Nigel M. Smith, Managing Editor, *Indiewire*

SHOWTIME TONY COX TELEVISION PILOT COMPETITIONS – HOUR-LONG FINALISTS:

Kingdom of Fife by D.L. Wright

ICE by Estella Gabriel

Wilde Life by Andrea Janakas

The winner receives a \$1000 cash prize, a private consultation with a Showtime programming executive, and an all-access pass to the festival.

SHOWTIME TONY COX TELEVISION PILOT COMPETITIONS – HALF-HOUR FINALISTS:

On Cloud Nine by Mimi Jeffries

Dead to Me by Stephanie Westendorf

Sold by Jonathan Schwartz

The winner receives a \$1000 cash prize, a private consultation with a Showtime programming executive, and an all-access pass to the festival.

TELEVISION PILOTS JURY

Jacob Fenton, Agent, TV Talent - United Talent Agency

Bob Fisher, Executive Producer/Co-Creator - *Sirens*

Cynthia Littleton, Managing Editor, TV - *Variety*

SHOWTIME TONY COX SHORT SCREENPLAY COMPETITION – FINALISTS:

Boomerang the Great by Ana Dominick

More Cow Bell by Andy Nellis

Stronghold by Cornelius Murphy

The winner receives a \$500 cash prize and an all-access pass to the festival.

SHORTS JURY – will also award Showtime’s Best Screenwriting in a Short Film to a short film screening at the festival:

Thelma Adams, leading New York-based Film Critic & Film Editor at ZEALnyc.com

Kate Lyn Sheil, Actress - *House of Cards* & Writer - *Men Go to Battle*

Trey Edward Shults, Writer/Director - *Krishna*

The 20th Annual Nantucket Film Festival runs from June 24-29. Passes, ticket packages and individual tickets are currently on sale on the NFF website (www.nantucketfilmfestival.org).

ABOUT THE NANTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL

The Nantucket Film Festival was founded by brother and sister team Jonathan and Jill Burkhart in 1996 to promote the cultural awareness and appreciation of the fine art of screenwriting in the world of cinema. These days, NFF has become one of the premier destination film festivals in the world. Visitors come from all over to experience the preview screenings, unique signature programs, and stand out hospitality on a magical island rich with history, a friendly atmosphere, and beautiful sandy beaches. In addition to screening over 75 films across six days, NFF presents the Screenwriters Tribute, In Their Shoes... hosted by Chris Matthews, Late Night Storytelling, and our daily Morning Coffee With... series.

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