



Washington, DC International Film Festival

**Washington, DC's Longest-Running Film Festival Goes Virtual**

50 Films • 35 Countries • 10 Days • 1 Amazing festival

*Filmfest DC presents this year's festival as a private screening  
from the comfort of your own home*

Oct 2-11, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC** –Filmfest DC is back for its 34th year in Washington, DC, bringing new and exciting international films to the community. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's festival will be conducted completely online, a first for Filmfest DC, Washington's longest-running film festival.

While the films have gone virtual, this year's festival will still offer all the touchstones of a typical Filmfest DC, including a heavy slate of international films across multiple genres. Audiences will be able to watch interviews with filmmakers recorded and posted online, and have access to a special feature called "Popcorn Talk," an online hangout where participants can discuss and share opinions about the films they have viewed.

Typically held in the spring, this year's festival kicks off on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and runs through October 11<sup>th</sup>. The 10-day festival will feature over 50 films, divided into two series – half of the films will be available in the first 5 days and the rest during the second 5 days. There will also be two programs of short films. Tickets per film will run \$9 with a dollar-off Early Bird special from September 10-13.

"While we would prefer to be together in a movie theater for this year's festival, going digital does have some obvious advantages," says Filmfest DC Executive Director, Tony Gittens. "This year audiences don't have to plan which films to see around their busy lives, as they can watch any film they choose at their leisure from the comfort of their own home."

The Opening Film for the festival will begin on October 2<sup>nd</sup> with the screening of *Ordinary Happiness*, an Italian comedy about a man hit by a car and thus catapulted into an afterlife that resembles a crowded post office. The man is then granted 92 extra minutes of life due to an administrative error. On October 7<sup>th</sup>, the American premiere of *Master Cheng*, from Finland, will kick off Series 2 of the festival.

Typically, Filmfest DC ends the festival with a French film and this year will be no exception. The final film on October 11<sup>th</sup> is *Perfumes*, about a diva celebrity perfume maker who is having trouble with her sense of smell.

The entire festival – including films, interviews and evening hangouts - will be conducted via Filmfest DC's website. For the full schedule, program and ticket information, please visit the festival website at: [www.filmfestdc.org](http://www.filmfestdc.org)

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For over 3 decades, **Filmfest DC** has sought to keep pace with global culture and social activities, taking a special focus on issues of the moment in hopes of increasing clarity and civil discourse. Filmfest DC is made possible by the support of our Board of Directors, sponsors, staff and hundreds of volunteers. Filmfest DC believes that good movies make the world a better place. [www.filmfestdc.org](http://www.filmfestdc.org)