



MILL VALLEY
FILM FESTIVAL

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Media Contacts:

Karen Larsen, Larsen & Associates
415.957.1205; larsenasc@aol.com
Maureen Dixon, MVFF/CFI
415.526.5845; mdixon@cafilm.org
Stephanie Clarke, Hamilton Ink PR
steph@hamiltoninkpr.com

Celebrated British Actor Clive Owen to Be Honored at 32nd Mill Valley Film Festival For His Brilliant Work in Cinema

*Owen Will Receive the Mill Valley Film Festival Award in an Onstage Tribute at the
Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center*

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. (August 2009) — The California Film Institute announced today that Academy Award® nominee and Golden Globe® winner **Clive Owen**, celebrated by audiences around the world, is to be honored at a special Spotlight event during the **32nd Mill Valley Film Festival (October 8–18)**. Owen will be presented with the **Mill Valley Film Festival Award** for excellence in cinema on **Friday, October 9 at 7:00 pm** at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center. The tribute includes an onstage interview and clip reel of career highlights followed by a Q & A with the audience. Directly after the event, there will be a reception at Tiburon's hottest new restaurant, The Tiburon Grill, featuring wine, cocktails and a delicious array of contemporary cuisine. Owen will also be on hand to introduce one of the two Opening Night films, ***The Boys Are Back*** (2009), directed by Scott Hicks (*Shine*, MVFF 1996) at the CinéArts@Sequoia on **Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 and 7:15 pm**.

"Ever since he made his mark on the American consciousness with Mike Hodges' *Croupier*, Clive Owen has proved himself a talent to be reckoned with. In *The Boys Are Back* he gives a tour de force performance in a story that is obviously dear to his heart," says Mill Valley Film Festival's director of programming, Zoë Elton. From the aforementioned captivating performance in *Croupier*, to his extremely physical work as the tortured hero of Alfonso Cuarón's critically acclaimed futuristic film *Children of Men*, critics now compare Owen to the likes of Bogart, Mitchum and Connery. In 2005, Owen truly became a star of the big screen by winning a Golden Globe® and picking up an Academy Award® nomination for his role as Larry in Mike Nichols' *Closer*, which also starred Julia Roberts, Jude Law and Natalie Portman.

Owen first came onto the scene in several British and American telefilms, making his big screen debut in Beban Kidron's *Vroom* in 1988. His early film roles proved him to be a risk taker, as a brother who acts upon his incestuous feelings in Stephen Poliakoff's *Close My Eyes*, and as a reckless homosexual in corrupt prewar Germany in Sean Mathias's *Bent*. Owen's next films only added to his already brilliant and varied choices. He starred in Joel Hershman's offbeat British comedy *Greenfingers*; Robert Altman's star-

studded *Gosford Park*; the Mike Hodges thriller *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead*; the action war drama *King Arthur*, *Sin City*, with co-star Bruce Willis; *Derailed*, opposite Jennifer Aniston; Spike Lee's thriller *Inside Man* opposite Denzel Washington and Jodie Foster; and as Sir Walter Raleigh in *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* with Cate Blanchett. Most recently, Owen starred in *The International*, as an Interpol agent opposite Naomi Watts, and in Tony Gilroy's *Duplicity* opposite Julia Roberts. Owen is also an acclaimed stage actor. His theater work includes portraying Romeo at the Young Vic, starring in Sean Mathias's staging of Noël Coward's *Design for Living* and the lead in Patrick Marber's original production of *Closer* at the Royal National Theatre in 1997. In the fall of 2001, he starred in Lawrence Boswell's London staging of Peter Nichols' *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg*.

For special event tickets and information, visit <http://www.cafilm.org>.

California Film Institute

The California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film as art and education through the presentation of the Mill Valley Film Festival and year-round exhibitions at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, and by building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through CFI Education. For more information visit cafilm.org or call 415.383.5256.

32nd Mill Valley Film Festival

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 32nd Mill Valley Film Festival runs October 8–18, 2009 at the CinéArts@Sequoia (25 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (1118 Fourth Street, San Rafael) and other venues throughout the Bay Area. Tickets are \$12.50 (CFI Members, \$10) unless otherwise noted and are available for purchase on September 20–23 for CFI members only, and beginning on September 24 for the general public. Regular tickets may be purchased online at mvff.com. For additional information, please visit mvff.com or call 877.874.MVFF.

Sponsors

As a nonprofit arts organization, MVFF relies on the generosity of its community to sustain not only the festival, but also the year-round programs of the California Film Institute. The invaluable support of our sponsors, foundation, and individual donors ensures our continued success as we celebrate our 32nd year. CFI is once again proud to acknowledge the leadership support of Christopher B. and Jeannie Meg Smith, and the continued major support of the Bernard Osher Foundation, the Gruber Family Foundation, Jennifer Coslett MacCready, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Marin Community Foundation, the Zecca Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. We are also fortunate to have the continued contributions of the following Major Sponsors of the Mill Valley Film Festival: Qantas Airways, Maroevich, O'Shea & Coghlan Insurance Services, Frantoio Ristorante and Olive Oil Co., Zaentz Media Center/Wareham Development, Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E), and CFI Membership Sponsor, Wells Fargo. Longtime friend and dedicated supporter of the festival, Bellam Self Storage & Boxes, is also returning as a major sponsor, and will be receiving this year's Distinguished Sponsor Award.

This release and other press materials are available at <http://filmmakers.mvff.com>.
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