

2ND  
ANNUAL

HFFPA

FOREIGN  
LANGUAGE  
FILM  
SERIES

A virtual showcase of Golden Globe qualifying  
new films in four monthly installments.

Presented by  
Hollywood  
Foreign Press  
Association

Streaming  
August 22-28,  
2020

Live Q&A  
filmmaker panel  
discussion

August 29,  
2020

Last year 92 films (from 63 countries) were submitted for consideration for the Golden Globe Award for Best Foreign Language Film. Each film is screened by active HFFPA members for nomination - the equivalent of a festival of some of the year's best international films.

The 2nd annual HFFPA Foreign Language Film Series will present a selection of official submissions on a secure streaming platform for HFFPA members and an invited audience.

Join us for a first look at some of the most accomplished new films from around the world, prior to our selection of the five Golden Globe finalists. In addition to the streaming of the selected films, there will be a live online discussion with the filmmakers.

## ATLANTIS

2019 / Ukraine / 106 min

Valentyn Vasyanovych



The Platonic legend lends its name to an anti-utopia in Ukraine in the near future. Following the 2014 Russian invasion that displaced well over 1,600,000 inhabitants from occupied Crimea and Donbas, a large area of Ukraine descended into a desert unfit for human habitation. Pit waste polluted the land, infrastructure was destroyed, and acres of flooded mines poisoned wells and rivers. This is the story of Sergey, a veteran soldier suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, who finds himself stuck in the then uninhabitable Eastern Ukraine. After the smelter he works at shuts down, he decides to join a volunteer group that exhumes the bodies of war victims. Somehow, the mission allows him to cope with his inability to adapt to his new reality. He meets Katya, and through working with her, he starts to believe that a better future is possible.

*In Ukrainian with English subtitles.*

## CHARLATAN

2020 / Czech Republic / 118 min

Agnieszka Holland



Inspired by the true story of herbalist Jan Mikolasek, who dedicated his life to caring for the sick in spite of the immense obstacles he faced in his private and public life. Born at the turn of the 20th century, Mikolasek wins fame and fortune using unorthodox treatment methods to cure a wide range of diseases. Already a local institution in Czechoslovakia before World War II, the healer gains in reputation and wealth whether during the Nazi occupation or under the consequent Communist rule. Each regime takes advantage of his exceptional skills in return for protection and the permission to practice. But how high will be the cost in order to maintain this status as the tide turns? Renowned director Agnieszka Holland's historical epos premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival to great critical acclaim.

*In Czech with English subtitles.*

# PILÁTUS

2019 / Hungary / 74 min

Linda Dombrovsky



This film is an adaptation of Magda Szabó's world-renowned novel (Iza's Ballad) about the tragedy of misunderstood love between mother and daughter. Anna is an elderly woman whose husband has just passed away. Her daughter Iza, a successful doctor, decides to move her mother from the village to the city where she lives. But, being torn from her own home Anna gradually withers from the lack of genuine love and attention, while Iza secretly realizes that she is unable to feel compassion for her mother – or anyone else – unconditionally. The last sentence of Magda Szabó's novel warns us that we should take care of our beloved before it is too late: "The dead do not answer".

*In Hungarian with English subtitles.*

# TEXT

2019 / Russia / 132 min

Klim Shipenko



Based on the eponymous bestseller by Dmitry Glukhovsky, the story centers around 27-year old Ilya Goryunov who was wrongfully convicted seven years ago. During his entire time in prison, he had dreamed of confronting young drug squad officer Pyotr Khazin: the reason he was behind bars. Long counting on his mother, girlfriend and best friend waiting for him at home, upon release Ilya finds the old life he had been yearning for gone, for good. During his much-anticipated encounter with Pyotr, Ilya behaves rashly and gains access to his adversary's smartphone and, with it, his whole life: photos, videos, the messages to and from his parents and his girlfriend Nina, in addition to strange conversations with fellow officers, loaded with threats and insinuation. For a time, everyone thinks Ilya is Pyotr: all because of texting on phone.

*In Russian with English subtitles.*