

NEWS RELEASE
From the Shepherdstown Film Society
Shepherdstown, WV

August 15, 2019
For Immediate Release

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SHEPHERDSTOWN FILM SOCIETY ANNOUNCES FALL FILM SCHEDULE

The Shepherdstown Film Society is pleased to announce its fall, 2019 series. This season starts our sixteenth year of providing free films for Shepherd University students and faculty, and the Shepherdstown community. Our continuing partnership with the Scarborough Society of Shepherd University provides the financial support needed to maintain this commitment.

Six films will be presented, starting on September 6 and running through November 22. Four films are presented under our partnership with the Scarborough Society. One film is presented in collaboration with the American Conservation Film Festival (ACFF). One is presented in conjunction with the Shepherd University Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence program.

All films will be shown on Fridays. All showings are at 7:00 p.m. in Shepherd University's Reynolds Hall. As with all the Society's films, admission will be free and each showing will be followed by a discussion. An opening night reception at the War Memorial Building will kick off the series from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Friday, September 6.

More information on each film can be found on the Society's website at www.shepherdstownfilmsociety.org. The film schedule will be as follows:

September 6: "First Reformed"
September 13: "Jane"
September 20: "Beloved"
October 25: "Liyana"
November 15: "Modern Times"
November 22: "The Cakemaker"

Details of the films follow below, in the order in which the films are being shown:

September 6: "First Reformed" (USA, 2017, 113 minutes, directed by Paul Schrader). A Dutch Reformed Church pastor in upstate New York faces a personal crisis of faith while preparing for the 250th anniversary of his historic church. His spiritual relationship with a troubled parishioner ramifies his theological doubts and emotional turmoil. Rated R for some violent images. Post-film discussion led by Randall Tremba.

September 13: "Jane" (USA, 2017, 90 minutes, directed by Brett Morgen). Drawing from over 100 hours of never-before-seen footage that has been tucked away in the National Geographic archives for over 50 years, award-winning director Brett Morgen tells the story of JANE, a woman whose chimpanzee research challenged the male-dominated scientific consensus of her time and revolutionized our understanding of the natural world. Set to a rich orchestral score from legendary

composer Philip Glass, the film offers an unprecedented, intimate portrait of Jane Goodall — a trailblazer who defied the odds to become one of the world's most admired conservationists. Rated PG. This is a special presentation in collaboration with the ACFF.

September 20: "Beloved" (USA, 1998, 172 minutes, directed by Jonathan Demme). Beloved is based on Toni Morrison's novel of the lives of a post-Civil War African-American family that is trying to cope with their traumatic memories of slavery. Supernatural events compound the horror of accepting the past and facing the future. Rated R for violent images, sexuality and nudity. This is a special presentation in conjunction with Shepherd University's Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence program. Post-film discussion led by Dr. Julia Sandy, Associate Professor of History at Shepherd University.

October 25: "Liyana" (Swaziland, 2017, 77 minutes, animated documentary directed by Aaron Kopp and Amanda Kopp). Set in the country of Swaziland in southern Africa, this documentary weaves the experiences of a group of orphaned school children into construction of a mythical narrative. Under the guidance of South African author and activist Gcina Mhlope, the live action exchanges of the children are mixed with the animated story they are creating. Rated G. Post-film discussion led by Winnie Bernat.

November 15: "Modern Times" (USA, 1936, 87 minutes, classic silent film directed by Charles Chaplin). Using the comedic tropes he developed over twenty years of silent film making, Charles Chaplin gives his view of the plight of the working class under the desperate economic conditions of the Great Depression. The assembly line production method is the great dehumanizer that Chaplin's characters must contend with. Not rated. Post-film discussion led by Mary Stanley.

November 22: "The Cakemaker" (Germany and Israel, 2017, 113 minutes, directed by Ofir Raul Graizer). A German baker's love affair with a traveling Israeli businessman ends abruptly with a complete loss of communications. Putting his business on hold, the baker visits Israel. Seeking answers to his emotional and erotic confusion, he finds a complex family dynamic from which he hopes to gain understanding and solace. Not rated. Post-film discussion led by Lex Miller.

For further information about the Society and its films, visit their website or contact Lisa Welch at 304-876-1837 (email lmwelch@frontiernet.net).

End of release