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## **EROS Film Festival Returns to Trinity for 15<sup>th</sup> Year**

**HARTFORD, Conn. – Oct. 29, 2013** – Out Film CT, the organizer of Connecticut's two annual LGBT film festivals, announces the line-up for the 15<sup>th</sup> EROS Film Festival, running Nov. 13 – 17 at Cinestudio, on the campus of Trinity College. The festival is sponsored by EROS (Encouraging Respect Of all Sexualities), Trinity's LGBT/straight student alliance, and showcases a broad selection of LGBT feature films and documentaries that will appeal to all film lovers.

To celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the festival, the EROS student group will host a **free Sunday brunch**, Nov. 17, at 1 p.m. at Trinity's Queer Resource Center, 114 Crescent Street.

The films in this year's festival showcase the LGBT experience in countries as diverse as Cuba and Brazil. They provide insight into a wide range of LGBT experiences and issues, such as teens who are coming out or a transgender youth who is bullied with tragic consequences, and they demonstrate how queer love, like all love, is frequently put to the test.

"We have an extraordinarily diverse and provocative mix of film styles and genres in this year's lineup, films that will make you laugh or cry, enrage you, engage you and teach you something new," said Festival Co-Director Shane Engstrom. "Whether you're looking for light comedy, edgy drama, or a must-see documentary on a topic of enormous social importance, you'll find it at this year's EROS Film Festival."

Here are all the details of the festival's exciting line-up:

**The Last Match (Wednesday, 11/13 @ 7:30 p.m.)** An Ecstasy-fueled night out leads to romantic feelings between Cuban youngsters Reinier and Yosvani, but the pressures of family, girlfriends and poverty cause dramatic ups and downs in the relationship that develops. This is a powerful and sexy drama set amid the streets of picturesque Havana.

**Geography Club (Thursday, 11/14 @ 7:30 p.m.)** Yes, another high school coming out story, but one that's engaging and appealing, with appearances by some popular actors, such as Scott Bakula, Nikki Blonsky (*Hairspray*), Ana Gasteyer (*SNL*), and Alex Newell (*Glee*). Russell (Cameron Deane Stewart, *Pitch Perfect*) is your average closeted high school teen looking for love. Enter Kevin (Justin Deeley, *90210*), the school's hunkiest football jock. Things get complicated when both Kevin and Russell do things they don't want to in order to hide who they are. Russell seeks advice from the Geography Club, actually a secret Gay Straight Alliance filled with a hilarious collection of misfits. **Admission is free for anyone age 18 or younger.**

**Reaching for the Moon (Friday, 11/15 @ 7 p.m.)** 1950's Rio de Janeiro comes to life in this beautiful film by Brazilian director Bruno Barretto. Based on a novel, the story follows poet Elizabeth Bishop's love affair with architect Lota de Macedo Soares, the designer of Rio's famed Flamengo Park. Initially,

the very American Bishop is a fish out of water in Brazil where she is the guest of a college friend and her partner, Lota; but when the chemistry between the poet and the architect ignites a passion that neither can ignore, her sojourn becomes all consuming.

**Test (Friday, 11/15 @ 9:30 p.m.)** This sexy, funny, poignant film won two Outfest Los Angeles Grand Jury Prizes for its portrayal of Frankie (Scott Marlowe), a sexy young dancer in 1985 San Francisco, enjoying big city life and the erotic freedom that comes with it. But when he's not onstage performing (in a series of stunning dance sequences) or bringing new friends up to his apartment, Frankie debates whether or not he should take the brand-new HIV test. Mixing unforgettable characters, sharp writing and dazzling choreography, this exuberant period piece calls to mind *Parting Glances* and other classics of urban queer cinema.

**The Kids Are All Right (Saturday, 11/16 @ 2:30 p.m.)** This popular, complicated relationship story returns to the silver screen, with outstanding performances by Annette Bening, Julianne Moore and hunky Mark Ruffalo. Nic (Bening) and Jules (Moore) are the committed parents of two teenage children, and are about to send their daughter Joni off to college when her younger brother Laser asks for her help tracking down his biological father, a sperm donor. Reluctantly inquiring with the sperm bank, Joni leaves her number so the office can pass it along to Laser's father. Enthusiastic at the thought of meeting his long lost offspring, Paul (Ruffalo) musters the courage to reach out, and the family tree grows a new branch. And, as they say, hi-jinks ensue.

**The EROS Festival takes Saturday night off** to make way for **Cinestudio's fall gala, pixELATION**. For more information: [www.cinestudio.org](http://www.cinestudio.org)

**Breaking the Girls (Sunday, 11/17 @ 2:30 p.m.)** In this smart thriller, two attractive college students - the innocent and scholarly Sara and the manipulative and sexy Alex - become more than friends when they make a pact to kill off each others' nemesis. But Alex soon grabs the upper hand and Sara discovers she is being set up for murder. The many plot twists and turns will keep you wondering what will happen next!

**Valentine Road (Sunday, 11/17 @ 7:30 p.m.)** In 2008, a 15-year-old named Larry King, who had recently become increasingly open about exploring her gender identity by wearing makeup and heeled boots to school, asked Brandon McInerney to be her valentine in a suburban schoolyard in California. The next day Larry was dead, shot in cold blood by 14-year-old Brandon. At turns shocking, devastating, and outrageous, *Valentine Road* bores deeply into the homophobia, sexism, racism, and class struggle that inform everyday American life, and reveals an American justice system that is utterly unprepared to deal with the realities of teenage crime and punishment.

**When:** Wednesday, Nov. 13 – Sunday, Nov. 17

**Where:** Cinestudio at Trinity College, 300 Summit St., Hartford, Conn.

**Ticket Prices:** \$9 general admission; \$7 students & seniors; FREE for Trinity Student & Staff with proper ID.

**Out Film CT** is a nonprofit cultural organization dedicated to presenting outstanding LGBT cinema and other theatrical events throughout the year, including First Thursdays Cinema, culminating in the nine-day Connecticut LGBT Film Festival. Connecticut's longest-running film festival holds a special place in our state's cultural landscape, bringing the community together to introduce, celebrate and rediscover the ideas and values that make the LGBT community unique. Mark your calendars for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecticut LGBT Film Festival, May 30 – June 7, 2014. [www.outfilmct.org](http://www.outfilmct.org)

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