

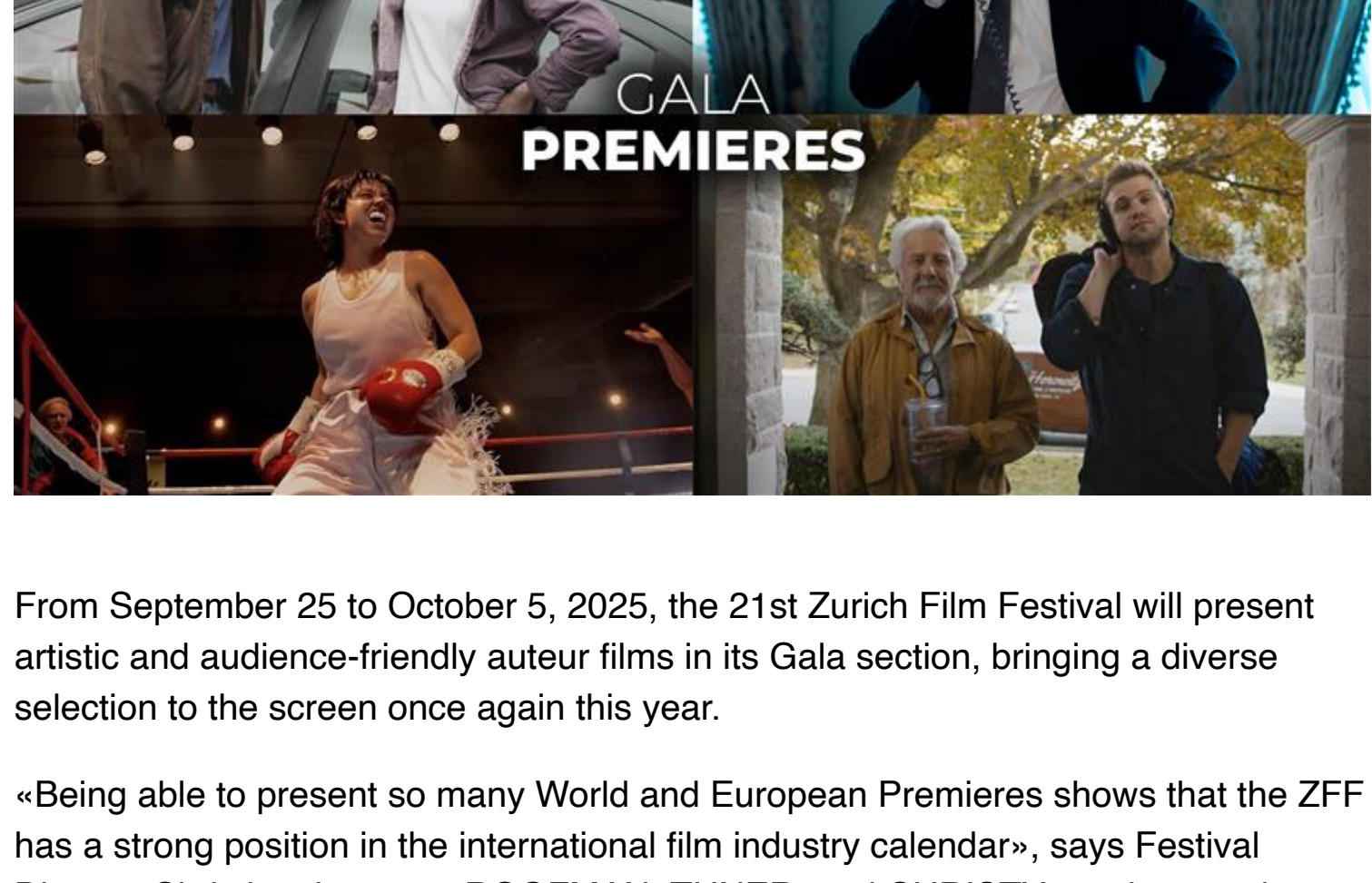
MEDIA RELEASE

Many Favorites for an Acting Oscar at the ZFF

Zurich, September 4, 2025

Films featuring Channing Tatum, Kirsten Dunst, Julia Roberts, Andrew Garfield, Leo Woodall, Dustin Hoffman, Emma Stone, Sydney Sweeney, Paul Dano, Jude Law, and Brendan Fraser

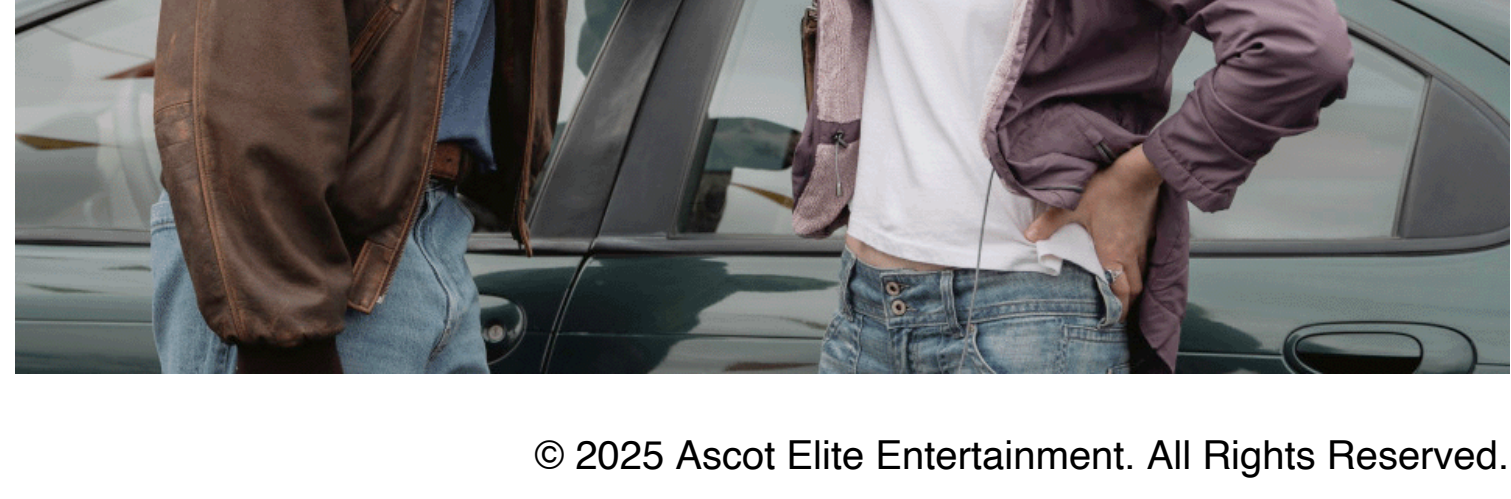
In the «Gala Premieres» section, the Zurich Film Festival presents the highly anticipated productions of international auteur cinema. Among the nine new titles, we are announcing one World Premiere, two International Premieres, and three European Premieres. This year, the ZFF will showcase, among others, **AFTER THE HUNT** by Luca Guadagnino, **BUGONIA** by Yorgos Lanthimos, **THE WIZARD OF THE KREMLIN** by Olivier Assayas, and **TO NEW BEGINNINGS** by Paprika Steen.



From September 25 to October 5, 2025, the 21st Zurich Film Festival will present artistic and audience-friendly auteur films in its Gala section, bringing a diverse selection to the screen once again this year.

«Being able to present so many World and European Premieres shows that the ZFF has a strong position in the international film industry calendar», says Festival Director Christian Jungen. «**ROOFMAN**, **TUNER**, and **CHRISTY** are three major European Premieres of American films whose leading actors—Channing Tatum, Leo Woodall, and Sydney Sweeney—give what are perhaps the best performances of their careers. We wouldn't be surprised if they were nominated for an Oscar.»

The full program of the 21st ZFF will be published on Thursday, September 11, at 12 PM on the website. Current festival information can be found on the ZFF social media channels. Ticket sales start on Monday, September 15, 2025.



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ROOFMAN

European Premiere

Comedy

USA, 2025

Director: Derek Cianfrance

Cast: Channing Tatum, Kirsten Dunst, Peter Dinklage, Juno Temple, Lakeith Stanfield, Ben Mendelsohn

A US military veteran unable to make ends meet, Jeffrey (Tatum) gets caught robbing McDonald's restaurants to provide for his kids. He's tried, sentenced, incarcerated — and promptly breaks out. While on the run, he finds his way into a Toys "R" Us, where he crafts a makeshift hideout behind a wall. Months pass, the manhunt is all but forgotten, and Jeffrey finds himself falling for Leigh (Dunst), one of the store's employees. A connection is forged, though Leigh knows nothing of Jeffrey's criminal status nor his current residence inside her workplace.



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AFTER THE HUNT

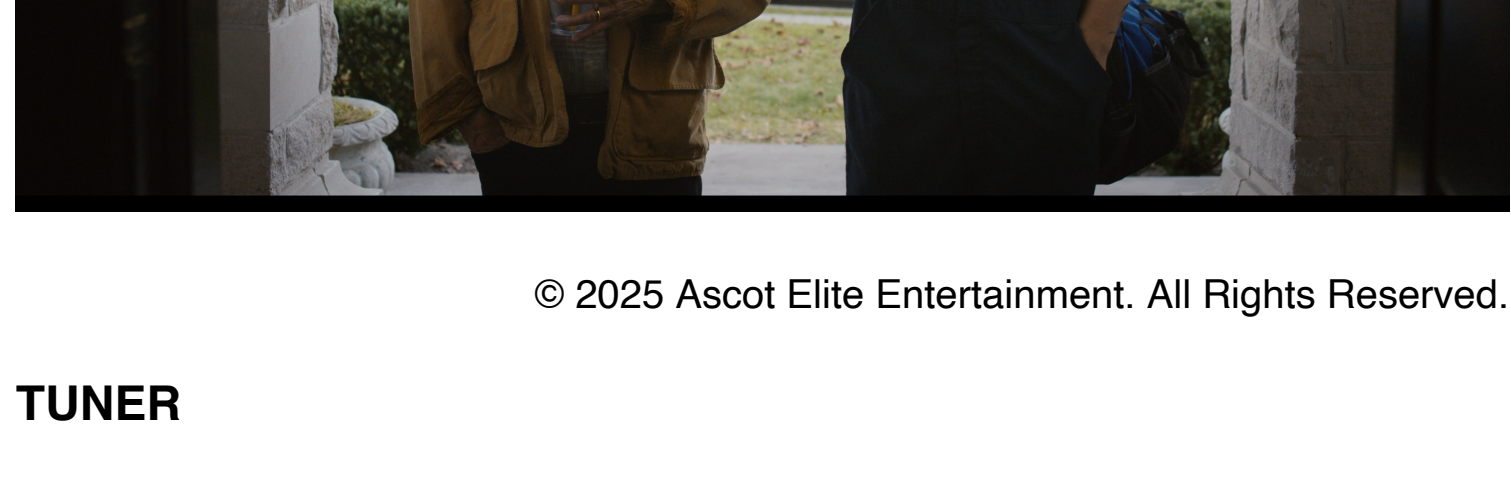
Drama / Thriller

USA, Italy, 2025

Director: Luca Guadagnino

Cast: Julia Roberts, Ayo Edebiri, Andrew Garfield, Michael Stuhlbarg, Chloë Sevigny

AFTER THE HUNT is a gripping thriller about a college professor at a personal and professional crossroads. When her star student accuses one of her colleagues, a dark secret from her own past threatens to come to light.



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TUNER

International Premiere

Thriller

USA, Canada, 2025

Director: Daniel Rohner

Cast: Leo Woodall, Dustin Hoffman, Havana Rose Liu, Lior Raz

Tuning a piano to perfect pitch requires an extraordinary sense of hearing. That same skill also comes in handy when cracking safes. Niki (Woodall) makes this discovery when restoring a neglected grand piano in a wealthy New York suburb. When his mentor Harry (Hoffman) falls ill, and medical expenses quickly spiral, Niki is willing to do anything to look after the man who raised him. As he finds himself dragged deeper into the criminal underworld, Niki meets and falls in love with Ruthie, an exceptional young composer who reconnects him with his passion for music. But Niki's new business partners are dangerous, and just because his skills opened the door into their world, it doesn't mean they will let him leave.



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BUGONIA

Comedy

USA, South Korea, Ireland, 2025

Director: Yorgos Lanthimos

Cast: Emma Stone, Jesse Plemons, Aidan Delbis, Stavros Halkias and Alicia Silverstone

Two conspiracy obsessed young men kidnap the high-powered CEO of a major company, convinced that she is an alien intent on destroying planet Earth.



© Andrea Miconi

MY TENNIS MAESTRO

International Premiere

Drama

Italy, 2025

Director: Andrea Di Stefano

Cast: Pierfrancesco Favino, Tiziano Menichelli, Giovanni Ludeno, Dora Romano, Valentina Bellé

Italy, 1989. After years of hard training, 13-year-old Felice, carrying his father's expectations on his shoulders, finally sets out to compete in the national tennis tournaments. While dreaming of a simple summer vacation, he's instead placed under the wing of ex tennis champion Raul, an unconventional coach hired by his father. Match after match, the two embark on a journey that will lead Felice to discover the taste of freedom, and Raul to glimpse the possibility of a fresh start. As they travel along the Italian coast, an unexpected, deep, and sincere bond between them develops.



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CHRISTY

European Premiere

Sport / Drama

USA, 2025

Director: David Michôd

Cast: Sydney Sweeney, Ben Foster, Merritt Wever, Katy O'Brian

Born in West Virginia — her nickname, «Coal Miner's Daughter,» derives from her father's profession — Christy (Sweeney) excelled at sports and attended college on a basketball scholarship. In the late 1980s, she starts fighting in — and winning — «Toughwoman» contests before beginning training with boxing coach Jim Martin (Foster) and embarking on what will prove to be a hugely successful career in a still-nascent sport. Despite a 25-year age difference, Christy and Jim marry, intensifying a codependency exacerbated by drug use, financial malfeasance, and acts of physical and psychological abuse. Just as Christy is making historic strides in her sport, she's forced to contend with a horrendous private life — climaxing in an act that nearly kills her.



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THE WIZARD OF THE KREMLIN

Thriller

France, 2025

Director: Olivier Assayas

Cast: Paul Dano, Alicia Vikander, Tom Sturridge, Will Keen, Jeffrey Wright, Jude Law

Russia, early 1990s. Amid post-Soviet chaos, a brilliant young man, Vadim Baranov, charts his path. First an artist, then a reality TV producer, he becomes the spin doctor to a rising KGB agent: Vladimir Putin. At the heart of power, Baranov shapes the new Russia, blurring the boundaries between truth and lies, belief and manipulation. Only the magnetic Ksenia is beyond his control, tempting him away from this dangerous game. Years later, after retreating into silence and shrouded in mystery, Baranov finally opens up, revealing the dark secrets of the regime he helped build.



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RENTAL FAMILY

European Premiere

Drama

USA, Japan, 2025

Director: HIKARI

Cast: Brendan Fraser, Takehiro Hira, Mari Yamamoto, Akira Emoto, Shannon Gorman

Set in modern-day Tokyo, **RENTAL FAMILY** follows an American actor (Oscar® winner Brendan Fraser) who struggles to find purpose until he lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese «rental family» agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers. As he immerses himself in his clients' worlds, he begins to form genuine bonds that blur the lines between performance and reality. Confronting the moral complexities of his work, he rediscovers purpose, belonging, and the quiet beauty of human connection.



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TO NEW BEGINNINGS

World Premiere

Comedy-drama

Denmark, 2025

Director: Paprika Steen

Cast: Tuva Novotny, Birgitte Hjort Sørensen, Lars Brygmann, Anders W Berthelsen, Christian Tafdrup

The familiar New Year's gathering is different this year, shadowed by Martin's memory. Nomi introduces Finn, her new boyfriend, to the gathering, a group still grappling with Martin's tragic death. Finn's awkwardness and insensitive questions force the friends to confront years of buried emotions, sparking reflections on their relationships and their individual lives. A night of potential new beginnings.

Zurich Film Festival

The Zurich Film Festival (ZFF) is the second largest festival in the German-speaking world. Over 11 days in autumn, it presents the greatest discoveries and the year's most anticipated movies. The ZFF promotes exchange between upcoming directors, established filmmakers, the film industry and the general public. In the last 20 years, the festival has attracted a total of 1.35 million visitors. 500 of the 2,300 films screened celebrated their world or European Premiere at the Zurich Film Festival.

The 21st edition will take place from 25 September to 5 October 2025.

Weitere Informationen: [Zurich Film Festival](#)

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