



**FROM MAY 30 – JUNE 3,  
NEW YORK CITY'S IFC CENTER CELEBRATES THE ART OF TELEVISION  
WITH STAR-STUDED 2018 *SPLIT SCREENS FESTIVAL***

**Second Annual Event, Curated By Critic and Author Matt Zoller Seitz, Kicks Off  
with *The Americans* Finale Viewing Party; Exclusive Screenings and Panels To  
Include *Snowfall*, *Twin Peaks*, *Younger* and More**

**Split Screens Festival Honors Award-Winner Sandra Oh (BBC AMERICA's *Killing  
Eve*) with the Vanguard Award; Hosts Close-Up Conversations with Jeffrey  
Wright (HBO's *Westworld*); Rhea Seehorn (AMC's *Better Call Saul*); David  
Costabile (Showtime's *Billions*); Jean Smart (FX's *Legion*) and Thomas Haden  
Church (HBO's *Divorce*); Plus Post-Finale Debrief with *The Americans*  
Showrunners Joe Weisberg and Joel Fields; and a Gathering of Some of The  
Industry's Most Versatile and Acclaimed Female Directors**

**Tickets on Sale Beginning Today**

**New York, May 11, 2018** – IFC Center today announced an impressive and wide-ranging lineup for the second annual Split Screens Festival ([www.splitscreensfestival.com](http://www.splitscreensfestival.com)) taking place **Wednesday, May 30 through Sunday, June 3, 2018**, at the IFC Center in New York City. The festival will host a series of special events throughout the week, celebrating the art and craft of TV with exclusive screenings and compelling panel conversations featuring the biggest and boldest names in scripted content, both in front of and behind the camera. [Tickets to the public go on sale today.](#)

Curated for the second consecutive year by one of television's biggest fans, noted author and critic Matt Zoller Seitz, the festival will be anchored by four signature categories: PREMIERES, an opportunity for audiences to be among the first to screen anticipated new series and episodes; CLOSE-UP, one-on-one conversations with celebrated actors; REWIND, revisiting an iconic episode of television via a screening

and discussion; TV TALK, an exploration of content's cultural impact through the lens of directors, superfans, pop culture writers and experts; plus a number of SPECIAL EVENTS.

On Sunday, June 3 at 3:00 PM, Split Screens will sit down with Golden Globe® and SAG® Award-winning actress **Sandra Oh**, who now stars in the critically-acclaimed BBC AMERICA drama *Killing Eve*, which follows Oh as Eve, a bored, whip-smart pay-grade MI5 security officer whose life changes when she's tasked with hunting down a psychopathic assassin. Following a screening of the premiere episode and thoughtful conversation with Seitz, Oh will be presented with the 2018 **Vanguard Award**. Oh's expansive career full of widely-praised performances, including this year's "delicious, instantly addictive" *Killing Eve*, has consistently impressed across film, theatre and television. David Chase was the first Vanguard honoree in 2017 —an award honoring those who have significantly advanced the evolution of TV storytelling.

The festival will kick-off with SPECIAL EVENTS tied to the series finale of FX's *The Americans*, including a fan viewing party of the final episode on May 30, and on June 1, *The Americans* showrunners Joe Weisberg and Joel Fields will be joined by Seitz to walk viewers through the rich narrative history and evolution of their series. Additional highlights throughout the festival include: PREMIERE screenings of the new seasons of FX's *Snowfall* and TV Land's *Younger*; a REWIND panel exploring the science fiction anthology series *The Outer Limits*; TV TALK panels that will do a deep dive into acclaimed series *Twin Peaks*, TV's obsession with true crime through the eyes of Alice Bolin, author of the provocative anthology *Dead Girls*, as well as a gathering of some of American television's most versatile and acclaimed female directors; and CLOSE-UP conversations featuring David Costabile of *Billions* (Showtime), Jeffrey Wright, star of *Westworld* (HBO), Thomas Haden Church of *Divorce* (HBO), Jean Smart of *Legion* (FX) and Rhea Seehorn, star of *Better Call Saul* (AMC).

Unless otherwise noted, all festival screenings and panel discussions will be hosted and moderated by Split Screens artistic director Matt Zoller Seitz. As Editor-in-Chief of RogerEbert.com, TV critic for *New York Magazine* and *Vulture.com*, and a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in criticism, Seitz, the ultimate TV fan, knows that audiences can't get enough of good television content and what is to come in the TV landscape.

Seitz said: "This year's festival speaks to the power of storytelling on all platforms. We have chosen to highlight series and actors that continue to engage, empower and excite a passionate base of fans — viewers who seek a destination like Split Screens where the conversation about their personal favorites is both meaningful and incredibly entertaining. We couldn't be more excited about our lineup and the opportunity to share our love of television with attendees at what I'm sure will be a most memorable series of events."

Split Screens Festival is produced and presented by IFC Center, one of New York's leading independent cinemas, and is organized by the core team of its successful DOC NYC documentary film festival, including Executive Director Raphaela Neihausen, Director of Development Deborah Rudolph and Operations Director Dana Krieger. Collaborating with broadcasters, cable networks and streaming services, the festival will highlight great content from a range of platforms to bring together the creative

talent behind TV's most acclaimed shows and sophisticated New York audiences. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) at @SplitScreensTV.

Split Screens Festival is made possible by **Event Sponsors** BBC AMERICA and FX Networks; **Friends of the Festival** include AMC Networks, Essentia, Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, Ptex Group, TV Land and Wheelhouse Creative.

Ticket information:

- Tickets for individual events are \$10-\$15 (\$8-\$12 IFC Center members)
- Tickets are available online at [splitscreensfestival.com](http://splitscreensfestival.com), or in person at the IFC Center box office at 323 Sixth Ave. (at West 3<sup>rd</sup> St.), open daily 10:30am-10:00pm

**SCHEDULE**

Download photos assets [HERE](#)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 30**

**9:30 PM – FAREWELL, COMRADES! *THE AMERICANS* FINALE VIEWING PARTY (FX) – SPECIAL EVENT**

With six seasons of espionage and domestic drama coming to a close, Joe Weisberg and Joel Fields' Cold War Peabody Award-winning and Emmy-nominated FX series *The Americans* says farewell to its comrades in the viewing audience. The series finale will be shown live on the big screen at IFC Center, followed by a freewheeling audience discussion of the season, moderated by *New York* magazine TV critic Matt Zoller Seitz. Join as we ponder the fate of the Jennings family, the end of the Cold War, and the show's six season May Day parade of astonishing wigs, glasses and fake mustaches... not to mention one of the smartest, most surprising uses of contemporaneous pop songs in TV history.

**THURSDAY, MAY 31**

**7:00 PM – SMART TV: THE MANY FACES OF JEAN SMART – CLOSE-UP**

*In attendance: Actor Jean Smart*

Jean Smart has received numerous accolades during her illustrious career spanning television, film and theater including two Emmy® Awards for her role as Lana Gardener in *Frasier*, an Independent Spirit Award nomination for the feature film *Guinevere* and a Tony Award® for her Broadway performance in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. And who could forget her turn as Charlene Frazier Stillfield in the classic *Designing Women*?

Most recently, Smart's career has been redefined thanks to starring roles in two critically-acclaimed FX series' - *Fargo* and *Legion*. In the limited series *Fargo*, she captivated audiences as Floyd Gerhardt, the fierce matriarch of a Midwestern crime family. In the mind-bending drama *Legion*, she currently stars as Melanie Bird, a therapist with a sharp mind and unconventional methods. In this wide-ranging career

survey, Smart will talk about the difference between drama and sitcom acting and how she manages to disappear into such a dazzling array of characters.

## **FRIDAY, JUNE 1**

### **1:00 PM – THE AMERICANS: THE FINAL DEBRIEFING (FX) – SPECIAL EVENT**

*In attendance: Series creator and executive producer Joe Weisberg; executive producer Joel Fields*

*The Americans'* showrunners Joe Weisberg and Joel Fields walk us through the rich narrative history of their Peabody Award-winning and Emmy-nominated FX series (set around DC, but largely shot in New York), from its debut in 2012, which put a fresh spin on the newly minted tradition of antihero-driven drama, through its wrenching 2018 final season, which exposed deep fissures in a marriage of spies and set its fictional characters against real history with the deftness of *Mad Men*.

### **6:00 PM – MONEY IN THE BANK: DAVID COSTABILE IN “BILLIONS” (Showtime) – CLOSE-UP**

*In attendance: Actor David Costabile*

David Costabile has proven his ability to play hard-edged, intelligent eccentrics in a variety of settings. From his breakthrough role as Detective Rick Messer on *Damages* through his hilarious and haunting turn as meth chef Gale Boetticher (the would-be Salieri to Walter White's Mozart) on *Breaking Bad*, he's the sort of actor who draws the eye no matter where he is in the frame. He's an electrifying listener and watcher, creating old fashioned movie star tension by making you wonder what his characters will say or do next.

He's at the peak of his power inhabiting high finance enforcer Mike “Wags” Wagner on Showtime's drama *Billions*, a character whose knife-flick menace is wreathed in elegance and dry wit. Join us as we discuss a great character actor's bottomless repertoire of disappearing acts.

### **7:30 PM – ACTING MACHINE: WESTWORLD'S JEFFREY WRIGHT (HBO) – CLOSE-UP**

*In attendance: Actor Jeffrey Wright*

Since his first movie star turn as the troubled savant artist of *Basquiat*, Jeffrey Wright has become one of the most versatile and mesmerizing of actors, playing everything from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the HBO film *Boycott* to a gangster kingpin and political leader on *Boardwalk Empire*. His work is distinguished by its intellectual precision and emotional transparency. You see the gears turning in the characters' heads, and you always hear their heartbeats.

Wright's tour-de-force work on *Westworld* as two versions of the same character might be his most challenging assignment yet, somehow striking a perfect balance between felt emotion and analytical cool. There is something slightly chilly and lost about the human incarnation, and something hauntingly

human about the synthetic replica, a conundrum that sums up the show's preoccupation with what it means to be human. Wright will walk audiences through the fine points of this performance and others in an hour-long discussion of acting craft.

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 2**

### **11:00 AM – DO NOT ADJUST YOUR SET: JOURNEY TO THE OUTER LIMITS – REWIND**

*In attendance: Scott Derrickson, director of Doctor Strange; classic TV expert Stephen Bowie (AV Club, Vulture); Reba Wissner, author of We Will Control All That You Hear: The Outer Limits and the Aural Imagination; Edgar Award-winning crime fiction author Wallace Strobe (The Devil's Share; Some Die Nameless); fantasy novelist Daniel Kraus (The Death and Life of Zebulon Finch; Trollhunters; Rotters)*

The Kinks to *The Twilight Zone*'s Beatles, the science fiction anthology series *The Outer Limits* ran for just two years on ABC, but is fondly recalled by fans, many of whom (including Steven Spielberg and Stephen King) grew up to become leading figures in pop culture. Now enshrined in a remastered Blu-ray box set from Kino Lorber, the series will be commemorated with a big-screen showing of one of its most beloved episodes, "The Demon with the Glass Hand," and discussed by a panel of passionate fans drawn from filmmaking, crime fiction, criticism and academia.

### **1:00 PM – THE SHOW IS NOT WHAT IT SEEMS: OR, CAN TV REALLY BE CINEMATIC – TV TALK**

*In attendance: Critics Candice Frederick, Frank Guan, Dennis Lim, Emily Nussbaum*

The question above will be debated by Pulitzer prizewinning *New Yorker* television critic Emily Nussbaum; Dennis Lim, author of the David Lynch critical biography *The Man from Another Place* and director of programming at the Film Society of Lincoln Center; Candice Frederick, who writes about film for *The Daily Beast*, *Black Girl Nerds* and other outlets; pop music and literature critic Frank Guan of *Vulture*, and moderator and Split Screens artistic director Matt Zoller Seitz, who named *Twin Peaks: The Return* his #1 TV program of 2017. And speaking of that franchise, David Lynch and Mark Frost's *Twin Peaks: The Return* galvanized film and television critics, inspiring debate about whether it ultimately owed more to serialized TV or cinema, or if it was some strange hybrid form. That debate continues in this critical exploration of TV as cinema.

### **2:45 PM – THE WOMEN BEHIND THE CAMERA: FOUR TOP TV DIRECTORS ON SHOWING VS. TELLING – TV TALK**

*In attendance: Directors Tricia Brock, Gillian Robespierre, Julie Anne Robinson, Lauren Wolkstein*

"Show, don't tell." You hear that phrase bandied about all the time. It's a guiding principle across the arts, especially in visual storytelling forms like cinema and TV. But what does it mean? A gathering of top TV directors explores the answer, showing clips from their own work and revealing how the magic happens. Our panel includes Tricia Brock (*Mr. Robot*, *The Walking Dead*, *Halt and Catch Fire*); Julie Anne Robinson (*The Good Place*, *Masters of Sex*, *Orange is the New Black*); Lauren Wolkstein (*Queen Sugar*), and Gillian Robespierre (*Silicon Valley*, *Casual*, *Crashing*). They'll walk us through the choices they made in their

own work, talk about some of their most cherished storytelling moments from film and television, and take questions from the audience about their craft.

**5:00 PM – MR. AUTHENTICITY: THOMAS HADEN CHURCH FROM *SIDEWAYS TO DIVORCE* (HBO) – CLOSE-UP**

*In attendance: Actor Thomas Haden Church*

Thomas Haden Church broke through on NBC's *Wings* as one of the goofiest of TV sex symbols, deadpanning his way through sitcom shenanigans with his hound dog grin. But he went on to show increasingly deep and unexpected shadings, playing everything from a self-destructive hedonist in an Oscar-nominated supporting role in Alexander Payne's hit movie *Sideways* to a strong-silent cowpoke in AMC's Western miniseries *Broken Trail*. Church is the kind of actor who can tear through a scene like a runaway horse or just sit there motionless, marinating in the moment, and be equally funny and moving.

He's most excellent on HBO's relationship comedy *Divorce* starring alongside Sarah Jessica Parker. Church brings charisma, humor and vulnerability to his character Robert DuFresne, a man struggling to cope with his failed marriage in the aftermath of an explosive separation from his wife. This in-depth discussion will cover high points in Church's career and explore his unique perspective on comedy and drama.

**6:30 PM - STREETS OF GLASS: SNOWFALL'S EPIC CRIME DRAMA (FX) – PREMIERE**

*In attendance: Co-creator/showrunner/executive producer/writer Dave Andron; consulting producer/writer Walter Mosley, star/"Franklin Saint" Damson Idris*

After previewing the first episode of season two of *Snowfall* on the big screen, take a ride deep into the menacing heart of this sensational FX series, which tells a sprawling, politically charged story about the 1980s crack cocaine epidemic's destabilizing effect on Southern California. Not content to be a mere crime thriller or muckraking docudrama, this epic portrait from John Singleton (*Boyz N the Hood*) & Eric Amadio (*Shadows & Lies*), and Dave Andron (*Justified*), paints a panoramic view of greater Los Angeles, showing how the national security state, local law enforcement and the daily hustle of street criminals intersect in the nexus of the drug trade. The latest addition to the show's deep bench of screenwriters is Walter Mosley, author of the acclaimed Easy Rawlins novels and one of America's greatest crime fiction writers.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 3**

**11:00 AM – DAMN FINE COFFEE: TWIN PEAKS FAN THEORIES – TV TALK**

*In attendance: Presenters Jeremiah Beaver, Jennifer Condon, Matthew C., Andreas Halskov, Samantha McLaren, Donald McCarthy, Connor Ratliff*

David Lynch and Mark Frost's *Twin Peaks* created a new template for small-screen storytelling, mixing melodrama, surrealism, extreme violence, cliffhangers, and enough mysterious patterns and marginal

details to inspire feverish theorizing. The most recent season, which ran on Showtime with the subtitle *The Return*, was even more unsettling and beguiling, as indebted to music, dance, mythology and performance art as to any tradition of cinema or TV. What was it saying? What was it doing? What was it?

Split Screens is proud to host an international gathering of *Peaks* obsessives, unveiling videos and multimedia presentations to prove grand unifying theories of what makes Agent Cooper's cosmos tick.

Presentations include "The Tragedy and Triumph of Diane Evans," "Talk about Judy," "Ding-Dong, Cooper's Dead," "Bryan Fuller's *Hannibal* as David Lynch's *Red Dragon*," "Peopled by Her Many Parts: *Twin Peaks*, Trauma, and Macrocosm-Microcosm," "Just A Stranger's Dream: A Unified Field Theory Of *Twin Peaks*," and "Returning, Recycling and Remixing: Cut-Up and Collage in *Twin Peaks: The Return*."

### **3:00 PM – VANGUARD AWARD: SANDRA OH – SPECIAL EVENT**

**With a special screening of *Killing Eve's* Episode 1, "Nice Face" (BBC AMERICA)**

*In attendance: Actress Sandra Oh*

Split Screens will sit down with Golden Globe® and SAG® Award-winning actress **Sandra Oh**, who now stars in the critically-acclaimed BBC AMERICA drama *Killing Eve*, which follows Oh as Eve, a bored, whip-smart, pay-grade MI5 security officer whose life changes when she's tasked with hunting down a psychopathic assassin.

Oh's expansive career is full of widely-praised performances, including this year's "delicious, instantly addictive" *Killing Eve*, which have consistently impressed across film, theatre and television. She received extensive critical acclaim for her outstanding performance on *Grey's Anatomy*, for which she received a Golden Globe®, two SAG® awards and five Primetime Emmy® Award nominations. Other notable television roles include *American Crime* and HBO's *Arli\$\$*. Oh's award-winning performances in film include *Sideways*, *Last Night* and *Double Happiness*, and most recently she starred in the films *Catfight* and *Window Horses*.

### **5:00 PM – DEAD GIRLS: A TV OBSESSION – TV TALK**

*In attendance: Writers Alice Bolin, Megan Abbott, Sarah Weinman*

From *Laura* and *Lolita* through *Vertigo*, *Twin Peaks*, *True Detective* and beyond, murdered women have driven some of the most influential and disturbing works of popular art. Author Alice Bolin explores the phenomenon in her provocative essay anthology *Dead Girls: Essays on Surviving an American Obsession*, tracing her fascination with classic hardboiled fiction, film noir, true crime books, and cable series about unsolved murders and autopsies.

Bolin will be joined by two fellow experts in the field: Megan Abbott, writer for HBO's *The Deuce* and acclaimed author of crime novels (including *You Will Know Me* and *The Fever*); and crime fiction expert

Sarah Weinman, author of the upcoming *The Real Lolita: The Kidnapping of Sally Horner and the Novel That Scandalized the World*.

**6:45 PM – THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT: THE BITTERSWEET MAGIC OF YOUNGER (TV Land) – PREMIERE**

*In attendance: Actors Debi Mazar, Nico Tortorella and Charles Michael Davis; Executive Producer Dottie Zicklin and Co-executive Producer Alison Brown*

For four glorious seasons, Darren Star's TV Land series *Younger* has told the story of 40-something single mother Liza Miller (Sutton Foster), who lies about her age at her job in the highly competitive world of publishing. For a very specific premise this series has proved itself endlessly inventive, quickly evolving into an ensemble comedy-drama about an extended community of friends and lovers making their mark in New York City. Join us for an exclusive advance screening of the season five premiere -- one that promises to keep the characters, and the audience, on their toes -- followed by a Q&A with cast and producers. **Co-presented by TV Land**

**8:30 PM – KIM'S TURN: RHEA SEEHORN IN BETTER CALL SAUL (AMC) – CLOSE-UP**

*In attendance: Actor Rhea Seehorn*

The backbone of AMC's Emmy-nominated drama *Better Call Saul*, Rhea Seehorn's Kim Wexler anchors a whirlwind of incidents and a heavy-hitting cast of veteran actors. And yet Kim is no mere reactive character: she's an ethical person fighting a constant battle to maintain her standards even as she's surrounded by lawyers and criminals who barely notice them, and engaged in a business and romantic partnership with an attorney who's becoming more corrupt by the week. Seehorn's subtlety helps us believe that she can keep complex secrets from other people while being honest with herself.

The critically-acclaimed actress talks about the art of being Kim, her stints on *Franklin & Bash* and *Whitney*, how her training as a visual artist influences her acting, and what it's like to work on a show that never gives its performers their story arcs in advance.

###

**Press Contacts:**

**FerenComm for Split Screens Festival**

SplitScreensPR@ferencomm.com or 212.983.9898

**Harris Dew at IFC Center**

press@splitscreensfestival.com