

19/20 SEASON

Wallis Annenberg
Center for the
Performing Arts

Press Release

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The Wallis and Film Independent Presents

LIVE READ: *BREAKING AWAY*

**Peter Yates and Steve Tesich's 1979 Academy and Golden Globe-winning
Coming of Age Comedy-Drama**

**Directed by Film Independent Spirit Award Nominees
Michael Angelo Covino and Kyle Marvin**

**Live Read Reunites Original Film Cast Members
Dennis Christopher and Paul Dooley**

**Joined By Taika Waititi, Gayle Rankin, Skyler Gisondo, K Callan,
Michael Angelo Covino and Kyle Marvin**

Tuesday, February 25, 7:30 PM

(Beverly Hills, CA February 24, 2019) The second season of Film Independent Presents at The Wallis continues with a signature Live Read event featuring Peter Yates and Steve Tesich's 1979 Golden Globe-winning Best Picture and Academy Award-winning Best Screenplay, *Breaking Away*. Directed by Michael Angelo Covino and Kyle Marvin, who were both nominated for a Film Independent Spirit Award this season for their film *The Climb*, the definitive coming of age comedy-drama will be presented at The Wallis' Bram Goldsmith Theater on Tuesday, February 25, at 7:30 PM. The Live Read will reunite two of the original film cast members, Dennis Christopher (Dave) and Paul Dooley (Dad) who are joined by Taika Waititi (*Jojo Rabbit*), Gayle Rankin ("Glow," *The Greatest Showman*), Skyler Gisondo (*Booksmart*, "Santa

Clarita Diet”), K Callan (*Knives Out*) and Live Read co-directors Michael Angelo Covino and Kyle Marvin performing alongside Lyris Quartet who will be playing selections from the film’s score.

In *Breaking Away*, Dave and his working-class friends Cyril, Moocher and Mike spend their post-high school days in Bloomington, Indiana, sparring with snooty students from the local university, chasing girls and – in Dave's case – dreaming of competitive bicycle racing. The four friends face opposition from all corners as they decide to make Dave's dreams come true in the university's annual bicycle endurance race.

Last season The Wallis and Film Independent Presents featured a diverse series of events that reimaged *When Harry Met Sally* with an Asian-American cast, reunited the cast of HBO’s “Deadwood,” delved into the inspiration for the *Black Panther* score and saw George St. Geegland and Gil Faizon (charmed, I’m sure) drop in on Michael Keaton and Paula Pell’s one-of-a-kind performance of *My Dinner with Andre*.

Tickets, \$50 (\$30 for Wallis subscribers and Film Independent Members), are on sale now. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills. To purchase tickets and for more information, please call 310-746-4000 or visit TheWallis.org/FI.

About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is a dynamic cultural hub and community resource where local, national and international artists share their artistry with ever-expanding audiences. The campus, located in the heart of Beverly Hills, CA, is committed to robust and distinctive presentations and education programs curated with both creativity and social impact in mind. Distinguished by its eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its location in the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis has produced and presented more than 275 dance, theater, opera, classical music, cinema and family programs since its doors opened in October 2013. Hailed as “au courant” (LaLa Magazine), The Wallis was lauded by Culture Vulture, which proclaims, “If you love expecting the unexpected in the performing arts, you have to love The Wallis.” Its programming has been nominated for 48 Ovation Awards and seven L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards. The campus itself, a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot facility, celebrating the classic and the modern, has garnered six architectural awards. Designed by acclaimed architect Zoltan E. Pali (SPF:architects), the restored building features the original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places), which serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and includes the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater; the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater; an inviting open-air plaza for family, community and other performances; and GRoW @ The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education, where learning opportunities for all ages and backgrounds abound. Together, these elements embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is led by Chairman of the Board Michael Nemeroff, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer Rachel Fine and Artistic Director Paul Crewes.

About Film Independent:

For over 38 years, Film Independent has helped filmmakers get their projects made and seen. The nonprofit's mission is to champion creative independence in visual storytelling and support a community of artists who embody diversity, innovation and uniqueness of vision. In addition to producing the Film Independent Spirit Awards, the organization supports creative professionals with Artist Development programs, grants and labs, and signature mentorship program Project Involve fosters the careers of talented filmmakers from underrepresented communities. Weekly Education events and workshops equip filmmakers of all ages and experience levels with tools and resources. International programs include Global Media Makers, a cultural exchange program that provides career-building opportunities for international film professionals. Film Independent Presents is a year-round program offering screenings, conversations and other unique cinematic experiences to Members in Los Angeles and beyond. While working to make the entertainment industry more inclusive, Film Independent provides access to a network of like-minded artists. Film lovers, industry professionals and anyone passionate about visual storytelling can become a Member at filmIndependent.org and connect with [@FilmIndependent](https://www.instagram.com/filmIndependent) across social platforms.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: TheWallis.org.

For downloadable photos, please visit: TheWallis.org/Press.

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EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT:

The Wallis and Film Independent Presents

LIVE READ: *BREAKING AWAY*

Directed by Michael Angelo Covino and Kyle Marvin

Featuring: K Callen, Michael Angelo Covino, Dennis Christopher, Paul Dooley, Skyler Gisondo, Kyle Marvin, Gayle Rankin, and Taika Waititi

WHEN:

Tuesday, February 25, 7:30 pm

RUNNING TIME:

110 minutes, with no intermission

WHERE:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Bram Goldsmith Theater

9390 N. Santa Monica Boulevard

Beverly Hills, CA 90210

TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:

\$50 (\$30 for Wallis subscribers and Film Independent Members; prices subject to change)

TheWallis.org/FI

310.746.4000

Box Office – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services

9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210

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