



Media Contact:
Valerie Cisneros
marketing@enzian.org
407-629-1088 x302

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LEA THOMPSON TO ATTEND THE 2017 FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL
WITH SPECIAL SCREENING OF BACK TO THE FUTURE**

Orlando, FL – (April 5, 2017) – Today the Florida Film Festival announced that it would also be welcoming acclaimed actress Lea Thompson with a special screening of *Back to the Future* (1985) on Sunday, April 23rd from 7-10:30PM at Enzian Theater.

The program lineup for the 26th Annual Festival, April 21-30, 2017, was announced on March 29th. The Festival will screen 182 films representing 40 countries, along with celebrity guest appearances, forums, and parties. Of the films selected, 139 have premiere status, including 17 world premieres. Full lineup, film descriptions, trailers, stills, and schedule available at: <http://www.floridafilmfestival.com/>

The Florida Film Festival is excited and honored to welcome the following special guests. All celebrity guests will be in attendance for a Q&A with our audience after their films. Both Lea Thompson and Billy Crudup will also be available for a Meet & Greet after their Q&A's for patrons who buy a Backstage Pass. The Backstage Pass includes the event, along with a meet & greet and photo opportunity afterwards. Patrons must supply their own camera for the photo opportunity.

To guarantee admission to all celebrity events and Backstage Pass access to Lea Thompson and Billy Crudup, please purchase a **Producer Pass**. Film Lover Passholders will be granted early access to each celebrity event, but must purchase a ticket to attend.

CELEBRITY EVENTS:

[An Evening with Lea Thompson, featuring *Back to the Future*](#)

Sunday, April 23, 7-10:30PM at Enzian



Lea Thompson is perhaps best known for her role as the various incarnations of Lorraine McFly in *Back to the Future I, II, and III*; as the star of *Caroline in the City*; and as Kathryn Kennish in *Switched at Birth*. Thompson's more than 30 films include *Some Kind of Wonderful*, *All the Right Moves*, *The Beverly Hillbillies*, *Space Camp*, *Dennis the Menace*, *Article 99*, *Red Dawn*, *The Little Rascals*, *The Wild Life*, *The Unknown Cyclist* (acting and vocals), *Exit Speed*, *Splinterheads*, *Mayor Cupcake* (star and producer), the now infamous *Howard The Duck* (star and vocals), *Thin Ice*, *The Trouble with the Truth* (star and producer), *J. Edgar*, *Ping Pong Summer*, *Left Behind*, *The Dog Lover*, *Literally Right Before Aaron*, and many more, most recently *Sierra Burgess is a Loser*.

Lea's more than 25 television movies include *The Substitute Wife*, *Stolen Babies*, *The Right to Remain Silent*, *The Unspoken Truth*, *Nightbreaker*, the NBC miniseries *A Will of Their Own*, *Stealing Christmas*, *The Debbie Smith Story*, *The Cabin*, *Call Me Crazy: A Five Film*, and *My Mother's Future Husband* to name a few. TV guest spots include *Friends*, *The Larry Sanders Show*, *Tales from the Crypt*, *Ed*, *Greek*, *Law and Order: SVU*, *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, *The Muppets*, *Scorpion*, and of course ... Leno, Letterman, many talk shows. Television series include Freeform's (formerly ABC Family) Peabody Award-winning hit show, currently airing their 5th season, *Switched at Birth* (actor and director); Hallmark's Mystery Movies series *Jane Doe* (star and director); NBC's *Caroline in the City* (star and producer); Lifetime's *For the People*; Disney's animated series *Penn Zero: Part-Time Hero*. Lea got to dance on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars: 19th Season*, making it through the ninth week of competition!

As a director, she has directed several films for Hallmark as part of the *Jane Doe* film series. She directed *The Goldbergs* and is currently in post-production directing/acting in a film written by Madelyn Deutch, *The Year of Spectacular Men*.

Thompson's theatre works include over 20 ballets, *The Little Mermaid*, *Bus Stop*, *The Illusion*, *Vagina Monologues*, *I Love My Wife*, *Caroline in Jersey*, and her personal favorite, as Sally Bowles in the Sam Mendes's revival of *Cabaret* on Broadway. Lea lives in Los Angeles with her husband of 27 years, film/television director Howard Deutch and their two talented daughters Madelyn and Zoey, along with lots of dogs, fish, horses, chickens, ducks, a cat, and a parrot. She can often be seen around Los Angeles, performing at charity events for Alzheimer's Association, MJF Foundation, and various breast cancer and mental health organizations. You can follow Lea on Twitter at @LeaKThompson

BACK TO THE FUTURE

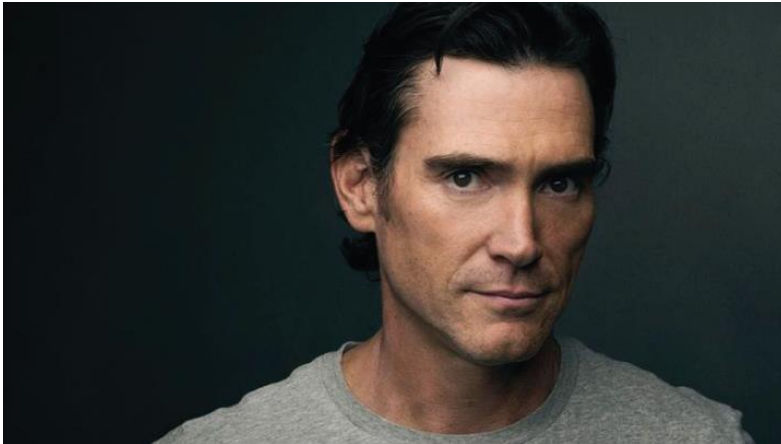
USA, 1985, 116 MIN, RATED PG
DIRECTED BY ROBERT ZEMECKIS

There are binge-worthy films, and then there is Robert Zemeckis's BACK TO THE FUTURE. The highest grossing film of 1985 and nominated for four Academy Awards® (it won for Best Sound Effects Editing), the lighthearted sci-fi adventure is one of the greatest comedies of the 1980s. Michael J. Fox stars as school misfit Marty McFly who, with the help of his nutty scientist friend Doc Brown (Christopher Lloyd), finds himself transported to 1955 in a DeLorean converted into a time machine. When he accidentally disrupts the meeting of his parents—hapless nerd George McFly (Crispin Glover) and popular beauty Lorraine Baines (Lea Thompson)—Marty has to make the wrongs right if he ever hopes to be born. As Lorraine, Thompson steals every scene as Marty's frisky teenybopper mother—whose lusty designs on her future son made the staunch conservatives at Disney pass on producing the film. In a star-making turn, she effortlessly establishes a character that is both passionate and vulnerable. The clever screenplay from

Zemeckis and Bob Gale gives Fox, Thompson, Glover, and Lloyd all the right notes, but their terrific performances and an amazing score are what makes this *Capra-esque* comic gem a timeless cinematic masterpiece.

[An Evening with Billy Crudup, featuring Jesus' Son](#)

Friday, April 28, 7:30-11:00PM at Enzian



Equally memorable on the stage and screen, Billy Crudup has earned critical accolades for his performances. He will next be seen in *Alien: Covenant*, directed by Ridley Scott, and *1 Mile to You*, based on Jeremy Jackson's novel *Life at These Speeds*. Crudup will make his television debut later this year in Netflix's psychological thriller *Gypsy* alongside Naomi Watts.

Crudup most recently appeared in *Jackie* and *20th Century Women*. He previously starred in *Spotlight*, for which he won the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture; the film also won the 2016 Academy Award® for Best Picture. He also appeared in *Youth in Oregon*, which debuted at the 2016 Tribeca Film Festival, and IFC Films' *The Stanford Prison Experiment*, which is based on the landmark experiment conducted at Stanford University in the summer of 1971.

Crudup made his motion picture debut in Barry Levinson's *Sleepers*, followed by Woody Allen's *Everyone Says I Love You*, and Pat O'Connor's *Inventing the Abbotts*. Crudup played the leading role in critically acclaimed *Without Limits*, the story of legendary long distance runner Steven Prefontaine, for which he won the National Board of Review Award for Breakthrough Performance of the Year. He then starred in the critically acclaimed *Jesus' Son*, which earned him an Independent Spirit Award nomination, and in the acclaimed *Waking the Dead*. Crudup also starred in Cameron Crowe's Academy Award®-winning *Almost Famous*. His other film credits include Noah Buschel's *Glass Chin*, William H. Macy's directorial debut *Rudderless*, Guillaume Canet's *Blood Ties*, the box office hit *Eat Pray Love*, Michael Mann's *Public Enemies*, Zack Snyder's *Watchmen*, *Charlotte Gray*, Tim Burton's fantasy tale *Big Fish*, *Stage Beauty*, *Trust the Man*, J.J. Abrams' *Mission Impossible 3*, and Robert De Niro's *The Good Shepherd*.

On stage, Crudup most recently starred in the repertory productions of *No Man's Land* and *Waiting for Godot* on Broadway, opposite Ian McKellen, Patrick Stewart and Shuler Hensley. In 2007, Crudup won a "Best Performance by a Featured Actor" Tony for his role in the Broadway production of *The Coast of Utopia*. He also received Tony nominations for his roles in *The Elephant Man*, *The Pillowman*, and *Arcadia*. He made his Broadway debut as Septimus Hodge in Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*, directed by Trevor Nunn, which won him several awards,

including the Outer Critics Circle Award for “Outstanding Debut of an Actor” and a Theater World Award. He was also honored with the Clarence Derwent Award from Actor’s Equity for “Outstanding Broadway Debut.” His other stage credits include William Inge’s *Bus Stop* and in the Roundabout Theater’s production of *Three Sisters*, which earned him a Drama Desk nomination. He has appeared in *Oedipus* with Frances McDormand, starred in the New York Shakespeare Festival production of *Measure for Measure* at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, and starred in the off-Broadway run of *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* opposite Al Pacino and Steve Buscemi.

Crudup received his Masters of Fine Arts from New York University and also attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He resides in New York City.

JESUS’ SON

USA/CANADA, 1999, 107 MIN, RATED R

DIRECTED BY ALISON MACLEAN

His name is FH, but that’s just short for “F**khead.” As one of the most sympathetic screw-ups in years, FH (Billy Crudup in one of his greatest roles) careens through the drug subculture of the 1970s and tries to make sense of the mutually destructive passion he shares with the dazzling Michelle (Samantha Morton). He is also an angel wannabe, who believes he can save people from fate, or at least themselves. His failure at this endeavor has earned FH his colorful nickname and propels him through a series of strange encounters that will help point him towards a righteous life. Adapted from a collection of short stories from cult author Denis Johnson, JESUS’ SON is an intense, edgy, and often hilarious chronicle of a lost man who finds redemption and compassion in the uncertain hands of fate. A driving soundtrack, uniquely segmented narrative structure, and fine supporting cast—including Jack Black, Denis Leary, Holly Hunter, and Dennis Hopper—help make this stunningly original work and double award-winner at the 1999 Venice Film Festival truly “one of the best films of the year” (Roger Ebert).

[An Afternoon with David Zucker and Robert Hays, featuring Airplane!](#)

Saturday, April 29, 1:30-4PM at Enzian



David Zucker was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He studied filmmaking at the University of Wisconsin before forming the improv group Kentucky Fried Theater with his brother Jerry and their friend Jim Abrahams. The result, *The Kentucky Fried Movie*, was a collection of sketches that launched their careers. After their early success, Zucker, Abrahams, and Zucker—“ZAZ,” as they came to be known— wrote and directed *Airplane*, the comedic box office smash that introduced the world to Leslie Nielsen as a brilliant comic actor. Zucker and Nielsen would

collaborate multiple times over the course of their careers, including the TV series *Police Squad* and *The Naked Gun* franchise. In addition to his work with Abrahams and Zucker, David Zucker has directed three entries in the successful *Scary Movie* franchise, *BASEketball*, *Top Secret!*, and the political satire *An American Carol*.

Robert Hays is best known for his role as pilot Ted Striker in the film *Airplane!* and as Robert Seaver in *Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey*. He was born in Bethesda, Maryland. Before relocating to Hollywood, where he found quick success, Hays lived in the Pacific Beach area of San Diego, and picked up acting roles in San Diego's local theater scene. He worked in several productions at the famous Old Globe Theatre, including the role of Petruchio in a touring production of William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. Hays's television work includes *Wonder Woman*; *The Young Pioneers*; *Angie*; the science fiction series *Starman*, in which he played the title character; and *FM*. He played the role of Bud, the man thought to be Hyde's dad, in several episodes of *That '70s Show*. Hays has also directed and produced for films and television. He has performed in many television movies and has done voice work such as the title character on the Marvel Comics adaptation of *Iron Man*. In 2013, Hays appeared in a slapstick-laden TV spot promoting tourism in Wisconsin, which also reunited him with *Airplane!* co-director David Zucker.

Airplane!

USA, 1980, 88 minutes, Rated PG

Directed by David Zucker, Jim Abrahams, and Jerry Zucker

In 2012 the readers of Britain's *Empire* Magazine dubbed AIRPLANE! the greatest comedy of all time—an accolade echoed by its appearances on lists from Bravo, the American Film Institute, ABC and *People* Magazine. Nominated for the Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture: Comedy, AIRPLANE! set the standard for the spoofy cinematic confections that Mel Brooks started just six years earlier. Directing triumvirate "ZAZ"—Zucher, Abrahams, and Zucker—had already dipped their collective toes into the waters of absurdity with 1977's *The Kentucky Fried Movie*, before tackling the strange tale of a PTSD-stricken fighter-pilot Ted Striker (a brilliant Robert Hays) who along with stewardess/ex-girlfriend Elaine (Julie Hagerty) and a "surely serious" doctor (Leslie Nielsen—playing against his tough-guy type) have to land a rogue Boeing 707 when the crew is felled by food poisoning. With uproarious supporting turns from Robert Stack, Peter Graves, Kareem-Abdul Jabbar, and ("I guess I picked the wrong week to stop sniffing glue") Lloyd Bridges, AIRPLANE! crash landed into the cultural zeitgeist and even today, 37 years after its premiere, remains the pinnacle example of its genre.

2017 FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL

Now in its 26th year, the Florida Film Festival is an Oscar®-qualifying festival, premiering the best in current, independent, and international cinema. Through ten days of 180+ films and first-class events, film lovers mingle with filmmakers and celebrities over hand-crafted cocktails and a locally-sourced menu.

"[We] had a great time at the festival. We've been to a few festivals with the film, and Florida is one of our favorites!" – Academy Award® winner Ron Judkins, FINDING NEIGHBORS

"Congrats on a fantastic festival. I loved being there. Have never seen a finer venue than Enzian." – Andrew Goldman, THE DESK

“We had such a phenomenal time at the festival and it really exceeded our expectations in every way. The staff, the screening experience, the A/V, the audiences – everything was exceptional.” – Dan Berk & Robert Olsen, BODY

“Besides the amazing hospitality, I must say, the films were strong – steady, uncompromising programming. Way to go! Orlando is a power house.” – Udy Epstein, 7th Art Releasing, FFF 2015 Juror

Festival tickets are available for purchase online or at the Enzian box office:
www.FloridaFilmFestival.com/tickets

The Festival is a program of the non-profit Enzian Theater. 2017 Festival sponsors to date include:

Primary Sponsor: Full Sail University

Primary Public Partners: Orange County Government – Florida, and the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs

Public Partner: United Arts of Central Florida, and the National Endowment of the Arts

Premiere Sponsors: Hilton Grand Vacations, IMDbPro, Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A., Lure Design, Regal Entertainment Group,

Major Sponsors: DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando Downtown, Movebooth, Park Plaza Hotel, RED Digital Cinema, SilzerLaw Chartered, Sprint Corporation, Ten 10 Brewing Co., Terrapin Beer, Winter Park Village

Supporting Sponsors: Antonio’s Ristorante Maitland, Coterie Coffee Co., Deeb, Dorman Financial Management, Downtown Arts District Orlando, Brian O. Coleman, D.M.D., P.A. Omega Dental Group, Enterprise Holdings Foundation, Foundation Presents, HJ High, Key West Film Festival, Maitland Vision Center, Tito’s Handmade Vodka, and Whole Foods Market

Media Partners: Central Florida Lifestyle Magazine, Florida Travel + Life, I Love CFL, iHeartMedia, Orlando Arts, Orlando Live, Orlando Magazine, Orlando Sentinel, Orlando Weekly, Variety 411, Visit Orlando, Watermark, WMFE, WPRK, and Yelp

Our Sponsor community enriches the Festival experience and helps sustain the year-round programs of the not-for-profit Enzian.

<http://www.floridafilmfestival.com/>

<https://twitter.com/FloridaFilmFest>

<https://instagram.com/floridafilmfest/>

<https://www.facebook.com/floridafilmfestival>

Enzian

Since 1992, Enzian has been the proud host of the Florida Film Festival. As part of its mission to entertain, inspire, educate, and connect the community through film, Enzian presents innovative and original cinematic programming not just during the Festival, but all year long. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, community-supported arts organization for which ticket revenue accounts for only 25% of its operating budget, Enzian owes its existence to the generosity of fans of film, food, and fun--like you. Enzian.org

Full Sail University:

Full Sail University is an award-winning educational leader for those pursuing careers in the entertainment and media industry. Founded in 1979, Full Sail has been recognized as one of the 2016 “Top 25 Graduate & Undergraduate Schools to Study Game Design” by *The Princeton Review*, one of the Best Music Programs by *Rolling Stone Magazine*, and one of the Best Film Programs by *UNleashed Magazine*. Full Sail was named the 2014 “School/College of the Year” by the Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges, received the “21st Century Best Practices in Distance Learning Award” from the United States Distance Learning Association, and was recognized as one of the Top 100 Social Media Colleges by Studentadvisor.com.

Full Sail University is a Graduate and Undergraduate degree-granting institution offering on-campus and online degree programs in areas related to Art & Design, Business, Film & Television, Games, Media & Communications, Music & Recording, Sports, and Web & Technology. Full Sail graduate credits include work on OSCAR®, Emmy®, GRAMMY®, ADDY®, MTV Video Music Award, and Video Game Award nominated and winning projects.

www.fullsail.edu

www.twitter.com/fullsail

www.facebook.com/fullsailuniversity

Follow [Florida Film Festival](#) on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

###