



## Press Release

### Berlinale 2012:

#### *Homage* and Honorary Golden Bear for Meryl Streep

American actress and Oscar-winner Meryl Streep will be awarded an Honorary Golden Bear at the 62nd Berlin International Film Festival.

Meryl Streep has appeared in over 40 films and is looked upon as one of the world's most talented and popular actresses. She has received countless awards and nominations as an artist, including an unprecedented 16 nominations for the Oscar (two of these coveted prizes which she won) and 18 Golden Globe nominations and seven wins.

"We are delighted to be able to award the Honorary Golden Bear to such a terrific artist and world star. Meryl Streep is a brilliant, versatile performer who moves with ease between dramatic and comedic roles," says Berlinale Director Dieter Kosslick.

Meryl Streep's international breakthrough came in the late 1970s with the TV series *Holocaust* and Michael Cimino's *The Deer Hunter* (1978, first Oscar nomination) as well as the divorce drama *Kramer vs. Kramer* (1979, directed by Robert Benton), for which she received her first Oscar. She won a second Academy Award for her compelling performance in *Sophie's Choice* (1982, directed by Alan J. Pakula).

She also starred in Woody Allen's romantic comedy *Manhattan* (1979) and the historical drama *The French Lieutenant's Woman* (1981, directed by Karel Reisz). She portrayed a very committed union activist in *Silkwood* (1983) by Mike Nichols, as well as Tania Blixen in Sidney Pollack's epic adaptation of *Out of Africa* (1985). With Susan Seidelman's *She-Devil* (1989), Streep appeared in her first comedy; in 1992, she gave yet another brilliant comic performance in *Death Becomes Her* (directed by Robert Zemeckis). In the 1995 drama *The Bridges of Madison County*, she played the lead alongside Clint Eastwood, who also directed the film. In 2002, she performed in Stephen Daldry's screen adaptation of the novel *The Hours*. Leading roles followed in the energetic satire *The Devil Wears Prada* (2006, directed by David Frankel), Robert Altman's *A Prairie Home Companion* (2006), and the political thriller *Lions for Lambs* (2007, directed by Robert Redford). With the musical comedy *Mamma Mia* (2008, directed by Phyllida Lloyd), and *Julie & Julia* (2009, directed by Nora Ephron), Meryl Streep once again showed how versatile she is. She has received her most recent Golden Globe nomination with her performance as Margaret Thatcher in the upcoming film *The Iron Lady* (2011, directed by Phyllida Lloyd).

Meryl Streep has been invited to the Berlin International Film Festival several times: in 1999, she was awarded the Berlinale Camera; and in 2003,

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Julianne Moore, Nicole Kidman and she shared a Silver Bear for their performances in *The Hours*. In 2006, she could again be seen in the Berlinale *Competition* in Robert Altman's ensemble comedy *A Prairie Home Companion*.

On February 14, 2012, Meryl Streep will be awarded the Honorary Golden Bear for Lifetime Achievement at a screening of her latest work *The Iron Lady* at the Berlinale Palast in Berlin. In *The Iron Lady* she portrays Great Britain's former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The film imagines how Margaret, at the end of her life, might look back through fragmented memories to weigh-up the personal cost of her decisions. The film is not so much about politics as about power and the loss of power.

During the Berlinale's *Homage* series for Meryl Streep, audiences will have the opportunity to see the following films:

*Kramer vs. Kramer* (1979)

By Robert Benton

With Meryl Streep, Dustin Hoffman, Justin Henry

*Sophie's Choice* (1982, Oscar for Best Actress in a Leading Role)

By Alan J. Pakula

With Meryl Streep, Kevin Kline, Peter MacNicol, Günther Maria Halmer

*Silkwood* (1983)

By Mike Nichols

With Meryl Streep, Kurt Russell, Cher

*Out of Africa* (1985)

By Sidney Pollack

With Meryl Streep, Robert Redford, Klaus Maria Brandauer

*The Bridges of Madison County* (1995)

By Clint Eastwood

With Meryl Streep, Clint Eastwood, Victor Slezak

*A Prairie Home Companion* (2006)

By Robert Altman

With Meryl Streep, Woody Harrelson, Kevin Kline, John C. Reilly

*The Iron Lady* (Great Britain 2011)

By Phyllida Lloyd

With Meryl Streep, Jim Broadbent, Olivia Colman, Roger Allam

Press Office

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