

# TFF 2012: Spotlight



By The Editors | [0 Comments](#) | March 08, 2012 01:15PM EST

## Co-Sponsored by Cadillac and JetBlue, the 34 Spotlight films offer stimulating romance, biting satire, and provocative documentaries.

The Tribeca Film Festival (TFF), presented by American Express®, today announced its feature film selections in the **Spotlight** and **Cinemanía** sections, as well as **Special Screenings** and the **Tribeca/ESPN Sports Film Festival** lineup.

The Spotlight section, co-sponsored by **Cadillac** and **JetBlue**, screens 34 films, 22 narratives and 12 documentaries that demonstrate the breadth of films at the Tribeca Film Festival. Nineteen films in the selection will have their world premieres at the Festival.

“The Spotlight program is a wonderful encapsulation of the originality and diversity of filmmaking that Tribeca seeks to highlight. We have films from emerging filmmakers as well as seasoned veterans, narratives that showcase stellar performances and insightful writing, and documentaries that challenge and inform their audiences,” said **Frédéric Boyer**, newly appointed Artistic Director of the Tribeca Film Festival.

“It was important that we head into Tribeca’s second decade highlighting projects that were attuned to the pulse of our cultural climate,” said Director of Programming Genna Terranova. “That said, both consciousness and levity play a prominent role in this year’s selection. We are also eager to introduce audiences to a group of films that are reworking genres and testing traditional modes of storytelling.”

The 2012 online [Film Guide](#) will go live on Monday, March 12. The 11th Tribeca Film Festival will take place from **April 18 to 29** in lower Manhattan.



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The 10 Best Documentaries of 2012



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## 2 DAYS IN NEW YORK

**Directed and written by Julie Delpy**  
(France) – New York Premiere, Narrative

This deliriously witty follow-up to *2 Days in Paris* finds Marion (writer/director Julie Delpy) living a comfortable life in New York with her latest hipster boyfriend, Mingus (Chris Rock, brilliantly playing it straight), and their two young kids from prior relationships. A riotous comedy of cultural errors ensues when Marion's totally unhinged, gleefully unfiltered family arrives from Paris to meet Mingus for the first time. *In English, French with subtitles. A Magnolia Pictures release.*



## ANY DAY NOW

**Directed by Travis Fine, written by Travis Fine and George Arthur Bloom**  
(USA) – World Premiere, Narrative

In the late 1970s, when a mentally handicapped teenager is abandoned, a gay couple takes him in and becomes the family he's never had. But once the unconventional living arrangement is discovered by authorities, the men must fight a biased legal system to adopt the child they have come to love as their own. Alan Cumming and Garret Dillahunt star in TFF alum Travis Fine's (*The Space Between*) touching and occasionally incendiary drama.





### **AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT (LA CHISPA DE LA VIDA)**

**Directed by Alex de la Iglesia, written by Randy Feldman**

(Spain) – North American Premiere, Narrative

The economy has kept Roberto (José Mota) out of work for a long time. When a freak accident puts him at the center of a media frenzy, the enterprising ad exec hires a snaky agent to help him cash in on his life-or-death situation. It's up to Roberto's adoring wife (the vivacious Salma Hayek) to convince him he's worth more alive than dead. Cult director Alex de la Iglesia takes a fresh new step, combining a darkly comic satire with an emotional drama of a family's love. *In Spanish with subtitles.*



### **BAM150**

**Directed by Michael Sládek**

(USA) – World Premiere, Documentary

Go behind the scenes like never before at BAM, the nation's oldest performing arts center. Featuring footage of recent BAM performances, interviews with groundbreaking artists like Laurie Anderson and Robert Wilson, and the fascinating history of the creative home to such greats as Pina Bausch, Peter Brook, and Merce Cunningham, TFF alum Michael Sládek's (*Con Artist*) doc shows that BAM's 150 years were not always easy, but are a testament to the power and stamina of the institution that launched Brooklyn as a cultural mecca.





### **A BETTER LIFE (UNE VIE MEILLEURE)**

**Directed by Cédric Kahn, written by Cédric Kahn and Catherine Paillé**

(France, Canada) – U.S. Premiere, Narrative

Passionately in love from the moment they meet, idealistic chef Yann and single mother Nadia share big dreams for their future. Life gets complicated when they impulsively buy a secluded restaurant in the woods and take on risky loans, testing the strength of their relationship. Fiercely gritty in its romanticism, this is a story of the lengths one will go for the chance at a better life. *In French, English with subtitles.*



### **BOOKER'S PLACE: A MISSISSIPPI STORY**

**Directed by Raymond De Felitta**

(USA) – World Premiere, Documentary

While filming a documentary on racism in Mississippi in 1965, Frank De Felitta forever changed the life of an African-American waiter and his family. More than 40 years later, Frank's son Raymond (director of *City Island*) returns to the site of his father's film to examine the repercussions of their fateful encounter. This intensely personal film about the struggle to understand one's parents is also a heartbreaking portrait of the legacy of intolerance.



## **BROKE**

**Directed by Billy Corben**

(USA) – World Premiere, Documentary

More money, more problems. Sucked into bad investments, stalked by freeloaders, saddled with medical issues, and naturally prone to showing off, most pro athletes end up broke within a few years of retirement. Drawing surprisingly vulnerable confessions from retired stars like Marvin Miller, Jamal Mashburn, Bernie Kosar, and Andre Rison, this fascinating documentary digs into the psychology of men whose competitive nature carries them to victory on the field and ruin off it.



## **CHEERFUL WEATHER FOR THE WEDDING**

**Directed by Donald Rice, written by Donald Rice and Mary Henely Magill**

(UK) – World Premiere, Narrative

On the morning of her wedding, Dolly (Felicity Jones) is hiding out and dreaming of the idyllic summer before, helped along by a jug of rum. Her scatterbrained mother (Elizabeth McGovern) has perfected all the arrangements, but even she can't prepare everyone for the arrival of Dolly's unpredictable best friend, Joseph (Luke Treadaway). Lighthearted humor and a steamy romance add the perfect touch to a dysfunctional wedding whose key players seem anything but cheerful.