Palm Beach Film Fest films debut in Naples

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The 20th annual Palm Beach International Film Festival series debuts in Naples on Thursday at the Silver Spot Cinema in Mercato, 9118 Strada Place, Suite 8205.

"Our partnership with the Palm Beach International Film Festival supports our mission to bring fantastic cinema and unique programming to Silverspot," said Francisco "Pancho" Schlotterbeck, CEO of Silverspot Cinema, in a news release.

Four films are planned noon-7:30 p.m.: a documentary, a drama, a comedy and a thriller. For tickets, visit www.silverspot.net.

Noon: "The Lost Key": In this 90-minute documentary, director Ricardo Adler searches for the secret to a fulfilling and long-lasting marriage. He stumbles upon Rabbi Manis Friedman, who introduces him to kabbalah, unlocking the secrets to sexual intimacy. The film captures the dramatic transformation of Adler's new marriage and the reactions of other couples.

2 p.m.: "The Challenger": Frank Watson, Justin Hartley, Kent Morgan, Michael Clarke Duncan and S. Epatha Merkerson star in this 95-minute drama directed by Kent Morgan. Duncan, who played John Coffey in "The Green Mile," was a special guest at the 2006 film festival. "The Challenger" is about a struggling Bronx auto mechanic and his mother who get a second chance after being evicted from their home.

4 p.m.: "Is That You?": Dani Menkin directs this 85-minute comedy starring Alon Aboutboul, Naruna Kaplan, Rani Blair and Suzanne Sadler. The film is about Ronnie, a 60-year-old Israeli film projectionist, who travels to America to search for Rachel, the love of his youth. While on the road, Ronnie comes across Myla, a documentary film student making a movie about regrets. Ronnie is the perfect character for Myla's story. Will she help him find her way?

"Is That You?" was nominated for Best Film at the Israeli Film Academy.

7:30 p.m.: "Cut Bank": Matt Shakman directs the 95-minute thriller starring Billy Bob Thornton, John Malkovich, Liam Hemsworth, Oliver Platt and Teresa Palmer.

In the film, Dwayne McLaren (Liam Hemsworth) dreams about leaving behind his small town life in Cut Bank, Montana, "the coldest spot in the nation." When McLaren witnesses an awful crime, he tries to turn a bad situation into a get-rich-quick-scheme, but finds out that fate and an unpredictable accomplice are working against him.

"Cut Bank" won the Audience Choice award for best feature at the Edmonton International Film Festival last year.

For more information, call 239-592-0300.

20th annual Palm Beach International Film Festival

Where: Silverspot Cinema, 9118 Strada Place, Suite 8205, Naples

When: noon-7:30 p.m. Thursday

Cost: Regular priced movie theater admission

Information:239-592-0300

FILMS

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2 p.m.: "The Challenger," a 95-minute drama

4 p.m.: "Is That You?" an 85-minute comedy

7:30 p.m.: "Cut Bank," a 95-minute thriller

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