

SAN FRANCISCO SILENT FILM FESTIVAL

455 NINTH STREET | SAN FRANCISCO CA 94103 | SILENTFILM.ORG

Dear friends,

It seems history does repeat itself. But we have evidence from films more than a hundred years old that people can live through the worst of times with grace and purpose. We believe that art is the key to preserving our humanity. Live cinema—silent-era films with live musical accompaniment—has the transformative power to bridge cultures and eras, creating empathy.

You make our live-cinema events possible!

This year, SF Silent Film Festival audiences thrilled to two sold out presentations at the gorgeous Grace Cathedral—in January, Hitchcock’s THE MANXMAN featuring Stephen Horne’s moving original score with maestro Ben Palmer conducting the Oakland Symphony, and in May, F.W. Murnau’s NOSFERATU with stellar live musical accompaniment by the Sascha Jacobsen Quintet.

A Day of Silents in February brought four live-cinema presentations to SFJAZZ including CHICAGO (1927) with Guenter Buchwald leading SF Conservatory of Music students with Mas Koga and Wayne Barker joining in.

As we await the Castro Theatre’s 2026 grand reopening (stay tuned!), we hope you join us to celebrate SFSFF 2025 November 12-16 at the Orinda Theatre (selected as one of Time Out’s “50 Most Beautiful Cinemas in the World”)!

Our team is assembling another dazzling festival full of enchanting programs bookended by Chaplin and Keaton with Anna May Wong, Lars Hanson, Gloria Swanson, William Powell, Norma Shearer, Koko the Clown, Dolores Del Rio, Lon Chaney and Joan Crawford in between.

Five days. Twenty-two programs. Thirty-eight musicians. Pure cinema joy!

True art does transcend time and your support is what enables us to continue producing these soul-enriching events.

Warm Regards,

Stacey Wisnia and Anita Monga
Executive Director and Artistic Director

