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Denver Film Festival: Five ways to go out with a bang

By John Wenzel
The Denver Post

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Zoë Bell plays a photojournalist uncovering the truth behind a group of Colombian missionaries who might not be what they seem in "Camino." (Provided by Bleiberg Entertainment)

The 38th Denver Film Festival has plowed through dozens of films and panels. But in true movie fashion, it has been saving its big climax for the third act.

The Nov. 4-15 event wraps up this weekend with red carpet screenings, awards, celebrity guests and more. Here are five can't-miss offerings for which tickets are still available.

Tickets for most screenings are \$20-\$40 and available at denverfilm.org/festival.

"The Art of the Prank"



"The Art of Prank" follows longtime activist and culture jammer Joey Skaggs as he pranks various newspapers, TV networks and radio stations. (Andrea Marini, Provided by Relight Films)

amusement? Skaggs and director Andrea Marini will be there for a Q&A after each screening. (2 p.m. Nov. 13, 3:45 p.m. Nov. 14, 11:30 a.m. Nov. 15 at UA Denver Pavilions)

"Camino"

Zoë Bell's sold-out "One on One" festival panel at the Sie FilmCenter on Nov. 14 will trace her fascinating career from a stuntwoman and frequent Quentin Tarantino collaborator (including in the upcoming, Colorado-shot Western "The Hateful Eight") to a leading lady. But audiences can



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see her in action in this new survival thriller from director Josh C. Wainer, which places Bell as a photojournalist in 1980s Colombia who has just witnessed a life-threatening horror. (6:30 p.m. Nov. 13 at UA Denver Pavilions)

"Carol" and "Coming Through the Rye"

The festival's final two red carpet screenings — both of which take place on its "closing night" (even if other events continue through Nov. 15) — will let audiences see a couple of buzz-worthy films before their wider release. Todd Haynes' sumptuous, simmering period drama "Carol," starring Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, is the matinee while director James Sadwith's "Coming Through the Rye," which features festival Rising Star recipient Alex Wolff, is a semi-autobiographical coming-of-age story about looking for author J.D. Salinger. (2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., respectively, at Ellie Caulkins Opera House)



Jamie Schwartz (Alex Wolff), obsessed with Holden Caulfield, runs away from boarding school to find reclusive author J.D. Salinger in "Coming through the Rye." Inspired by actual events, Jamie's search for Salinger becomes a journey into sexual awakening, love and loss. (Provided by River Bend Pictures)

Denver Film Festival Awards Brunch

Outside of the marquee TV events such as the Oscars, Emmys and Golden Globes, most award ceremonies are stuffy, private affairs. But for the first time this year, the film fest is holding an awards brunch and opening it to the public. See who impressed the jury the most across the 250-plus-film event while you toss back Bloody Marys and mimosas at the kitschy Curtis Hotel, surrounded by filmmakers and other festival-goers. (\$60, 11 a.m. Nov. 15 at 1405 Curtis St.)



"She's the Best Thing in It"

Tony winner Mary Louise Wilson gets her due as a longtime stage and on-screen character actress from friends and colleagues such as Frances McDormand, Melissa Leo, Tyne Daly, Valerie Harper, Estelle Parsons and more. What's it like devoting your life to acting? A group of Tulane University acting students will find out as this feisty 83-year-old unloads her decades of experience. (1:30 p.m. Nov. 13, 4:15 p.m. Nov. 14, 11:45 a.m. Nov. 15)

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Tony Award winner Mary Louise Wilson, right, travels to her hometown of New Orleans to teach acting to skeptical members of the

