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The 2015-2016 Aventura Foreign Film Series Begins on November 10 with the Acclaimed Estonian-Georgian Film *Tangerines*

AVENTURA, Fla. – The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center kicks off the **2015-16 Aventura Foreign Film Series** on **Tuesday, November 10 at 7 p.m.** with ***Tangerines***, a 2015 Academy Award nominee for Best Foreign Film that explores the pacifist message of how to remain humane amid the ravages of war.

The poignant Estonian-Georgian film portrays life for Ivo, played by Lembit Ulfsak, an older Estonian man who, after the 1990s-era war in Georgia, remains behind in his nearly deserted village to help his neighbor harvest his tangerine crop. There, he becomes the unlikely host of wounded Chechen soldier Ahmed (played by Giorgi Nakashidze) and wounded Georgian soldier Niko (played by Mikheil Meskhi). Though they fought on opposite sides of the war, Ivo shows the two men that compassion is the ultimate weapon to combat centuries of political, cultural and ethnic conflict.

A.O. Scott's review on April 16, 2015 in *The New York Times* read, "*Tangerines* is a modest film, sure of its proportions and clear about its intentions. The key to its effectiveness lies with the actors, in particular Mr. Ulfsak, who radiates wry, weary wisdom and Mr. Nakashidze, who is as charismatic and menacing as a mastiff at rest. The friendship that develops between Ivo and Ahmed is touching and credible, and seems like a small mercy in the midst of cruelty and hatred."

Written, produced and directed by Georgian director and screenwriter Zaza Urushadze (*The Guardian*, *Stay with Me*, *Three Houses* and *Here Comes the Dawn*), *Tangerines* is the first-ever Estonian movie to be nominated for a foreign-language Oscar and also was among the five nominated films at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards for best foreign language film.

Shelly Isaacs, founder/programmer and commentator for South Florida's popular Café Cinematheque International programs, will introduce the film and lead a post-screening discussion.

Filmed in Guria, Georgia, *Tangerines* is presented in Estonian, Russian and Georgian with English subtitles.

Tickets for individual screenings are \$11. Six-film series subscriptions are available at \$9 per film and represent a savings of 15 percent on individual tickets. All screenings are general admission and the auditorium opens for seating 30 minutes prior to the start time. Other films in the series include *The Verdict* (December 8), *About Elly* (January 12), *Phoenix* (February 9), *The Dinner* (March 1) and *Living Is Easy with Eyes Closed* (March 29).

Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Aventura Arts & Cultural Center and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at aventuracenter.org; by phone at 877-311-7469; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center box office Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and 90 minutes prior to each performance. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. We CANNOT PROVIDE REFUNDS OR CUSTOMER SERVICE for tickets purchased from unauthorized sites, brokers or secondary ticket sellers. For Group Sales, please call 954-660-6307.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts manages the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, a 14,864-square-foot, 330-seat waterfront complex that hosts performing arts, cultural and educational programming for all ages. The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center is located at 3385 N.E. 188 Street in Aventura. Join the conversation on Twitter at #aventuracenter.

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CALENDAR BRIEF:

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