



County of Fairfax, Virginia

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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The Return Will Keep You on the Edge of Your Seat at the Reston Community Center

On February 11 at 7:30 p.m., CenterStage continues the Independent and International film series with *The Return*. Hailed as one of the most auspicious film debuts since *400 Blows*, or *Badlands*, *The Return* is both a gorgeous contemporary thriller and an astute updating of vanguard Russian film making. It is a story of two brothers confronting the return of a father they thought had been long dead.

Brothers Vanya and Andrey have grown a deep attachment to each other to make up for their fatherless childhood. Returning home after a fight with neighborhood kids, the boys are shocked to discover their father has returned after a twelve-year absence. With their mother's uneasy blessing, Vanya and Andrey set out on what they believe will be a fishing vacation with their taciturn father.

At first the boys are ecstatic to be reunited with their father. Soon, their father's awkward and increasingly brutal efforts to make up for a missing decade of parenting take a toll. Vanya and Andrey find themselves alternately tested, scolded, scrutinized and ignored by their father through a series of encounters and hardships.

As the trip progresses, Vanya begins to doubt his father's intentions, and openly defies him. At the same time, Andrey's powerful need to bond with his father begins to distance him from his brother. Vanya and his father's test of wills escalate into bitter hostility and sudden violence as the trio arrives at their mysterious island destination.

The Return is winner of the Golden Lion Best Film & Best First Film, Venice 2004; winner 10 Directors to Watch—*Variety*, winner Discovery of the Year European Film Awards; winner Best Foreign Film International Critics Award, and official Russian entry Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film.

The remaining films in the Independent and International Film Series are: March 11, *Duma*; and May 20, *Junebug*.

All films are suitable for ages 18 and older; *Duma* is appropriate for younger audiences as well. Tickets for the Independent Film Series are free, but limited to four per person and must be picked up in person at the Customer Service Desk or the CenterStage Box Office at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods location from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. every day at the Reston Community Center Information and Service Desk. Box Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and two hours prior to curtain times. For season telephone orders, brochures, directions or more information call 703-476-4500, and press option 3.

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Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For further information, contact the Reston Community Center at (703) 476-4500, Virginia Relay (800) 828-1120 (TTY) or visit the website at <http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com>. The Reston Community Center is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191. The Reston Community Center is completely accessible to persons with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

