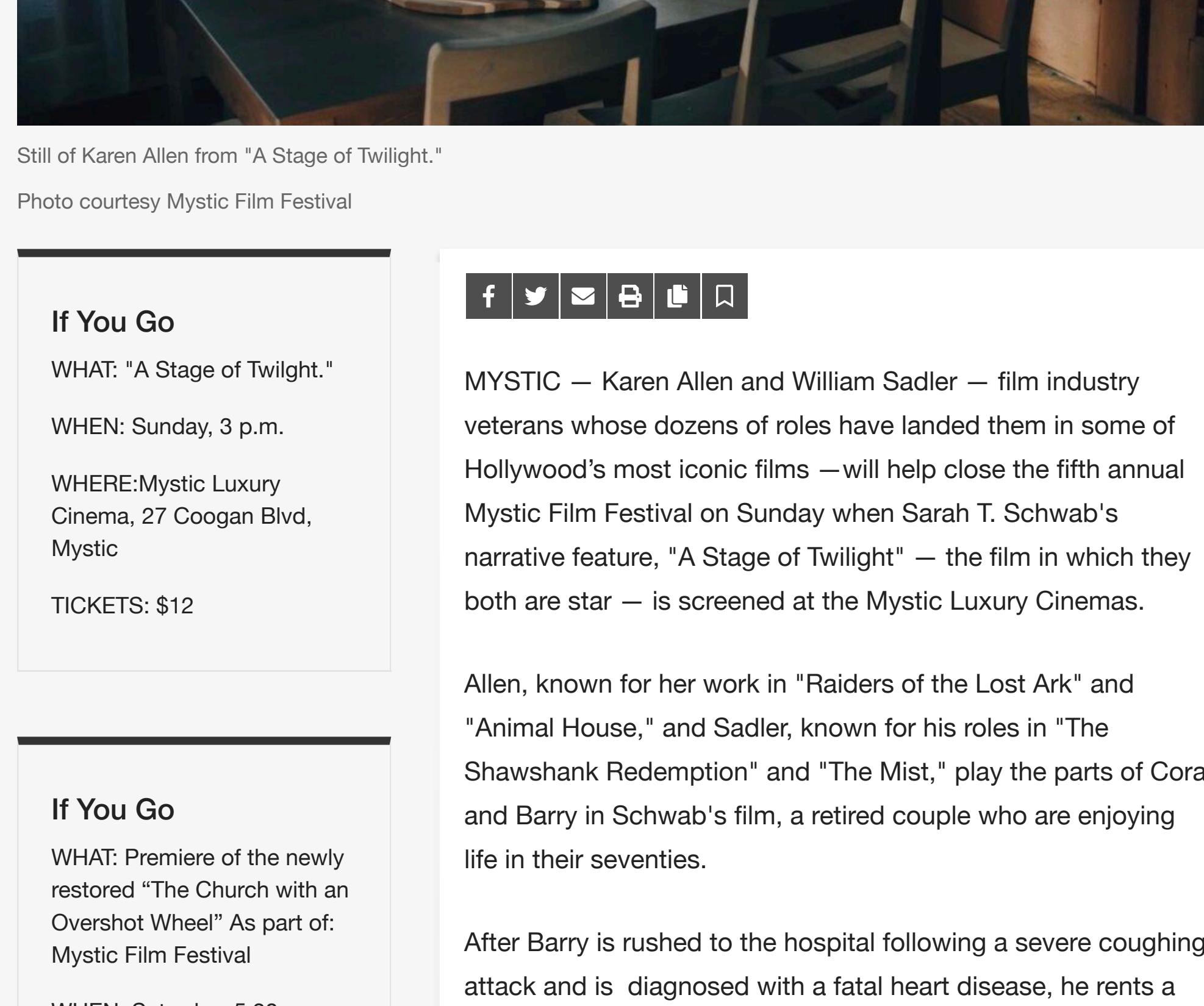


Film star Karen Allen to speak Sunday at closing of fifth annual Mystic Film Festival

By Nancy Burns-Fusaro Sun staff writer Oct 20, 2022 Updated Oct 20, 2022 2:00 p.m.



Still of Karen Allen from "A Stage of Twilight."

Photo courtesy Mystic Film Festival

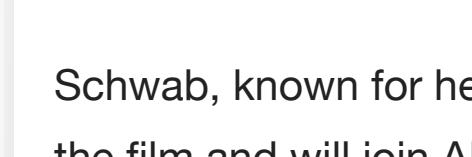
If You Go

WHAT: "A Stage of Twilight."

WHEN: Sunday, 3 p.m.

WHERE: Mystic Luxury Cinema, 27 Coogan Blvd., Mystic

TICKETS: \$12



MYSTIC — Karen Allen and William Sadler — film industry veterans whose dozens of roles have landed them in some of Hollywood's most iconic films — will help close the fifth annual Mystic Film Festival on Sunday when Sarah T. Schwab's narrative feature, "A Stage of Twilight" — the film in which they both are star — is screened at the Mystic Luxury Cinemas.

Allen, known for her work in "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Animal House," and Sadler, known for his roles in "The Shawshank Redemption" and "The Mist," play the parts of Cora and Barry in Schwab's film, a retired couple who are enjoying life in their seventies.

After Barry is rushed to the hospital following a severe coughing attack and is diagnosed with a fatal heart disease, he rents a trailer home in the middle of the woods to die alone in peace. His hope for a dignified death proves to be a struggle for Cora, especially when Joey, a 17-year-old neighbor who acts as a surrogate son to the childless couple, enters the picture. As Barry's end approaches, Cora is driven to make a critical decision for them both.

Schwab, known for her film, "Life After You," writes and directs the film and will join Allen, and Sadler for a moderated conversation following the screening.

On Saturday, the festival will screen the world premiere of the newly restored "The Church with an Overshot Wheel," a restored silent movie from the 1920s.

The story, based on an O. Henry short story, tells of a grain miller who lost his daughter and converted his mill (which is the Old Town Mill in New London) into a church. The film is one of the two surviving "O Henry Features" of the 94 produced in the early 1900s by The Vitagraph Co of America and Doubleday. The film is directed by Joseph Byron Totten who owned his own movie studio in Voluntown which still exists and is known as Studio Farm.

Also on Saturday, "Nights on Stonington Harbor," a short documentary film about Stonington Borough's Wednesday Night Dinghy Racing Series will be screened at Mystic Seaport. The film tells of Tucker and Sandy Bragdon who helped found the series, and explores what happened when COVID-19 threatened to derail the summer 2020 season.

The film festival will also include two oyster tasting events, according to festival director Shareen Anderson, one on Friday at La Grua Center and another on Saturday at the United Theatre, "Tide To Table: The Remarkable Journey of Oysters," which is directed by Maria Luskay and Lou Guarneri.

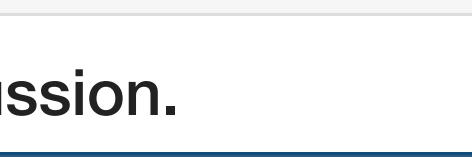
The opening night screening of "Amerikatsi," takes place tonight at Mystic Luxury Cinemas. The film, which recently won "Best Narrative Feature" at the Woodstock Film Festival, tells the story of an Armenian-American who repatriates to Armenia, only to be sent to a Soviet prison. The event will begin with a wine reception, followed by the screening and Q&A with writer, director, and lead actor Michael Goorjian.

In total, 93 new short and feature-length documentary and narrative films from around the world will be screened — along with student films, a screenwriting competition, filmmakers' workshops and panel discussions — at venues including the United Theatre, Mystic Luxury Cinemas, La Grua Center and Mystic Seaport Museum's Thompson Building.

For a full schedule of events, visit <https://mysticfilmfestival.com/2022-festival/>.

Those interested in volunteering at the festival's parties, screenings and workshops can send an email to info@mysticfilmfestival.com.

nbfusaro@thewesterlysun.com



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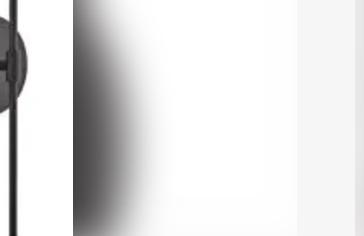
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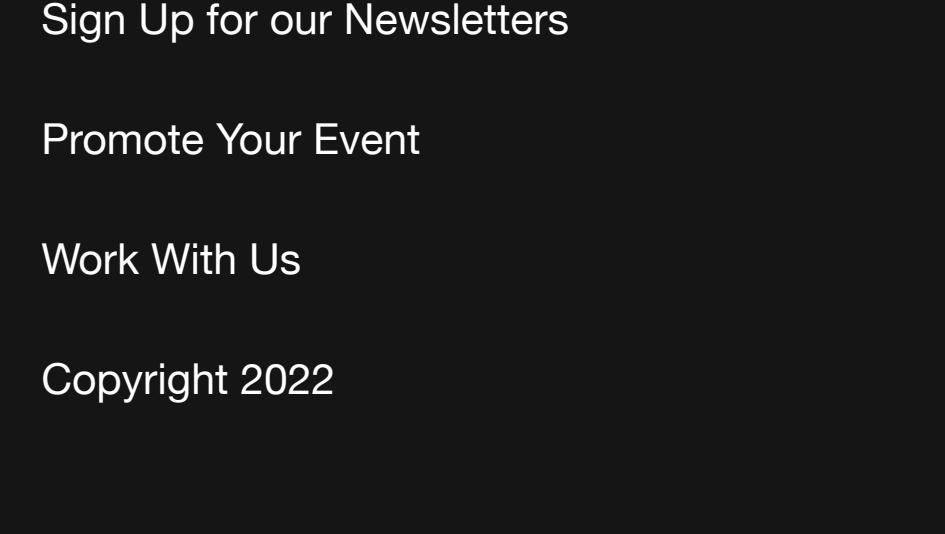
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Athlete of the Week

Athlete of the Week: January 1st

Sponsored by Antonino Auto Group: For the 2022-2023 school year, The Westerly Sun will be selecting high school Athletes of the Week. Voting closes on Tuesday at 9am and the top selection will be announced on Thursday. The nominees for the week ending January 1st are as follows:

ABBY BUTREMOVIC, Wheeler, Girls Basketball, Sophomore; Butremovic scored 39 points and had 21 rebounds during two games in the Montville Holiday Classic tournament. Butremovic is averaging 15.7 points and 9.0 rebounds per game. She leads the team in both categories.

LYDIA LASKEY, Stonington, Gymnastics, Senior; Laskey placed second in individual events for the Bears in their season-opening meet. She was second on bars and beam and third on floor.

RILEY PELOQUIN, Westerly, Girls Basketball, Junior; Pelouquin was named to the all-tournament team at the WCCU Holiday Basketball Tournament. Pelouquin had 23 points and 24 rebounds in two tournament games. Pelouquin is averaging 9.9 points and 10.1 rebounds per game this season.

JEREMIAH GRAHAM; Charilo, Boys Basketball, Senior; Graham was named the MVP of the WCCU Holiday Basketball Tournament after Charilo beat Westerly and South Kingstown for the title. Graham had 31 points and 24 rebounds in the two tournament games. For the season, Graham is averaging 21.3 points and 8.8 rebounds per game.

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PHOTOS: Lined up and waiting at the Stonington Town Dock

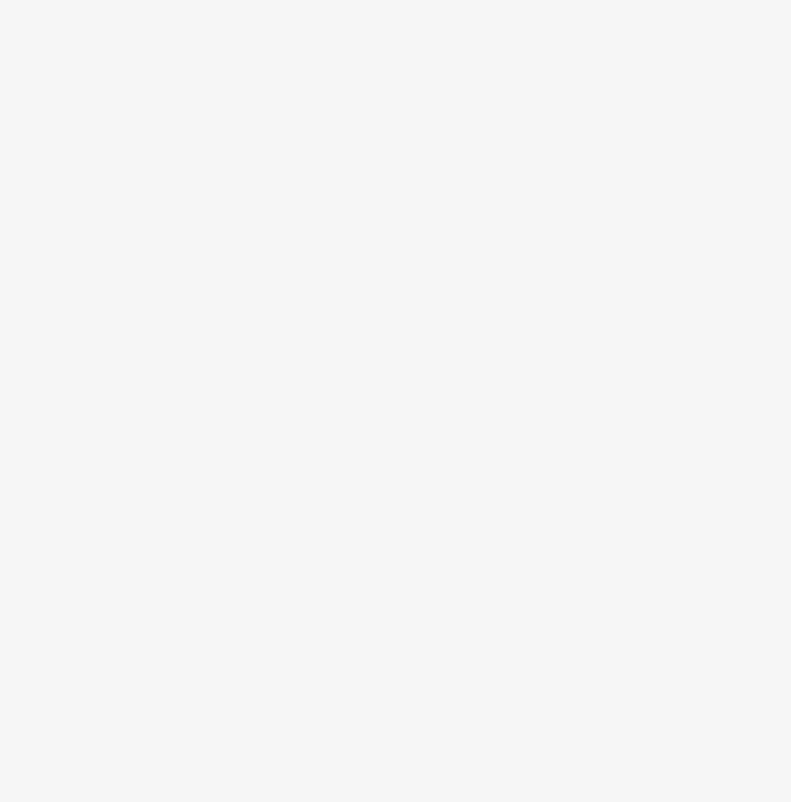
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Addison Rae

Bella Poarch

Charli D'Amelio

Dixie D'Amelio

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