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DANCES WITH FILMS
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JUNE 22 THRU JULY 2, 2023
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DANCES WITH FILMS

PEACE LOVE & CELLULOID

Since 1998, DWF:LA has championed an array of unique voices from across the globe. This year we celebrate more than 250 new perspectives. While some come from down the street and others thousands of miles away, we are honored to present Los Angeles with an incredible line up that crashes all barriers and formats.

The world has changed dramatically in recent years. It's an exciting time that not only challenges our best laid plans, but more importantly affords each and everyone of us an opportunity to find a true connection to our fellow humans. It is that connection that often inspires the storytellers, the dreamers, the activists and artists.

THANK YOU to our incredible programming teams chaired by Evan Choflin, Ariana Farina, Jose Ortega, Lindsey Smith-Sands, Jackie Tepper and Bennie Woodell - who took on the herculean task of watching hundreds of hours culminating in this 26th year of spectacular programming. Because of their extraordinary efforts, DWF launched its inaugural festival in New York City this last December. Their commitment to indie filmmakers is unparalleled.

DANCES WITH FILMS is the place to find champions. Thank you for coming and we encourage you to find the inspiration, love and connectedness that is the heart of DWF.

Welcome to the 26th annual DANCES WITH FILMS!

Leslee & Michael
Founders

and crew, that is our family, who really make everything work.

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DANCES WITH PILOTS/KIDZ

Leslee Scallon

To All the incredible
people and companies
who give so graciously
of their time, talent &
energies and without
whose dedication, DWF's
efforts would go largely
unrecognized.

Thank
you

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BooBoo, Lucky,
Artemis, Pumpkin,
Pocky, Lucy
Blueberry, Nermal
& Zoe too!

DANCES WITH THE FILMS

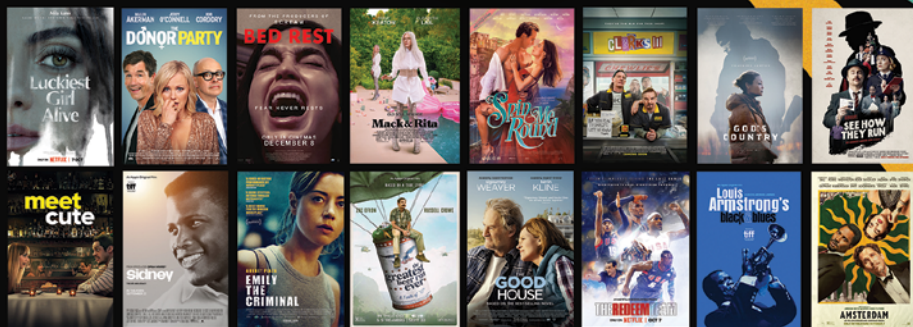
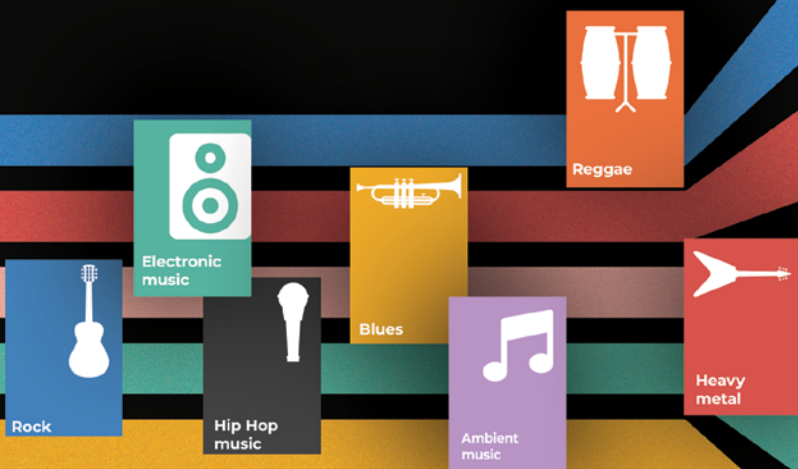
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EMILY THE CRIMINAL THE GREATEST BEER RUN EVER THE GOOD HOUSE
THE REDEEM TEAM LOUIS ARMSTRONG'S BLACK & BLUES AMSTERDAM

Opening Night!

THURSDAY, JUNE 22 @ 7:30PM



LEXI SIMONSEN JULES BRUFF ALEX QUIJANO MYLES GRIER KIM ESTES and TESS HARPER

GOOD SIDE OF BAD

When Falling Apart Brings You Back Together

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 96 min.

WRITERS: Ciera Danielle, Jules Bruff & Alethea Root

DIR: Alethea Root

PRODS: Jules Bruff p.g.a, Alethea Root p.g.a, Mark David p.g.a,
Connie Jo Sechrist, Katie Von Till, Jenny Napier

CAST: Lexi Simonsen, Jules Bruff, Alex Quijano, Myles Grier with Tess Harper

Three adult siblings are brought back together after a shocking diagnosis forces them to confront harsh future realities regarding the mental state of one of their own. A raw and intimate look into what it means to be a family navigating the waters of mental illness, **GOOD SIDE OF BAD** film dives into humanity's dark places while illuminating the love, laughter, and light discovered when you reconnect with those closest to you. Based on the bestselling book *The Good Side of Bad*, this raw family drama touches on our shared human experience of disconnectedness, and how connecting to each other is ultimately the best way to help one another.

unfix

FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 7:15PM

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 102 mins

At the young age of 11, Ari was forced into conversion therapy following a brief encounter with another boy. Now Ari is 35 years old and "fixed."

But when a series of unfortunate events collide, Ari's world crumbles, awakening dormant questions about his authentic self.

CAST: Zane Haney, Zoë Papia, Damon McKinnis, Noah Toth.

WRITER/DIRECTOR: Graham Streater
PRODUCER: Alex Lebosq



Buy Tickets



Watch Trailer



FEATURE COMPETITION

ANGIE'S CURE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 114 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUN 27 @ 930PM

WRITERS: Brian P Kelsey, Lanett Tachel, Corey Grant

DIR: Corey Grant

PRODS: Lanett Tachel p.g.a & Corey Grant p.g.a, Audrey Kendrick p.g.a & James Searles

CAST: Lanett Tachel, Sean Nelson, Essence Atkins, Denise Boutte, Vanessa Williams, Jennifer Freeman, Mariah Robinson, Michael Petrone, Christian Torres Villalobos, Duane Finley, Dionne Gipson, Apryl Jones, Jazzma Crofton, Zachary Daniel Porter, Stormi Maya

10 years after being raped at a party, a traumatized young woman seizes a rare opportunity to turn the tables on an attacker. But the sweet taste of revenge threatens to turn her into the very monster she's feared for all these years. This thrill ride will keep you on the edge of your seat, causing you to blur the lines between what's right and what's wrong. With ever shifting power dynamics, Angie's cure begs the question, "How far would you go to put your trauma behind you?"



BETTER HALF

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 87 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUN 27 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Patrick Henry Phelan

PRODS: Charles Irving Beale, Jess Jacklin, Jake Bowen

CAST: Connor Paolo, Dianne Doan, Jamie Donnell, Sean Marquette, Cassandra Ballard, Elyse Dinh, Kelvin Han Yee, Austin Boyce, Chris Cimperman, Fatima El-Bashir, Teri Gamble

According to Plato's Symposium, humans were originally created with four arms, four legs and a two-faced head. But Zeus felt threatened by us and split us in two, leaving us in an endless search for our other halves. Fast forward to modern day: Arturo, a hopeless romantic in search of true love, and Daphne, a serial polygamist allergic to commitment, meet for what should be a one-night stand, and quite literally find their other half when their bodies fuse during sex. The haphazard journey to come undone might just reveal what they'd been missing all along.



BIBI

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 95 min.

SCREENING: THU JUN 29 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Christopher Beatty

PRODS: Christopher Beatty, Glen Trotiner, Logan Hunter, Eddie Micallef, Jaime Badaan

CAST: Elizabeth Paige, Judith Ann DiMinni, Tammy Blanchard, Rick Zahn, Juliana Davies, Rowan Castro, Logan Hunter, Nathan Faudre

Struggling to cope after a tragic loss, a single mother finds the line blurring between nightmare and reality as she finds herself tormented by a stranger. Vivian Ashwood is failing to cope and turns to prescription medication coupled with alcohol to soothe her anxieties and depression. Soon, the lines begin to blur between Vivian's routine nightmare and her reality.



THE BLACK GUELPH

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | IRELAND, 2022, 125 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 930PM

WRITERS: Tiernan Williams and John Connors

DIR: John Connors

PRODS: Tiernan Williams and Maria O'Neill

CAST: Graham Earley, Paul Roe, Denise Mc Cormack, Lauren Larkin, Tony Doyle, Casper Walsh, Dubzeno

Canto is thirty years old, actively dealing drugs while suffering from mental health issues when his girlfriend Leah, kicks him out. Leah sick of his antics and his criminal lifestyle tries to shield her daughter Rachel from Canto's negative influence. Canto is forced to turn to the streets for help as he always has done. Dan, Canto's father comes back to the area and tries to reconnect with Canto, who outright rejects him for abandoning him when he was a child.



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FEATURE COMPETITION

DADDY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 98 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 23 @ 930PM

WRITERS/DIRS: Neal Kelley and Jono Sherman
PRODS: Sophia Kalin, Neal Kelley, Jono Sherman,
Albee Zhang

CAST: Britt Baron, Neal Kelley, Pomme Koch, Joseph Lopez, Yuriy Sardarov, Jono Sherman, Jacqueline Toboni

In a dystopian society where the state has the power to determine who can and cannot father children, four men attend a government-sanctioned retreat in the remote mountains of California. When they show up at the site, only to find no guide or instructions, they are left to their own devices and must prove to themselves—and each other—that they have what it takes to become fathers.



FAREWELLING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 93.5 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 930PM

WRITERS: Rodes Phire, Sarah McMaster
DIR: Rodes Phire
PRODS: Rodes Phire, Andrew Soriano,
Ty Gordon, Rachel Glago, Mikhail Buchanan,
Scott T. Summers, Lauren Selman

CAST: Cristen Coppin, Robert Thomas Preston, Rob Evors, Lauren Selman, Anna Briggs,
Rachel Deutsch, Betsy Rushton, Autumn Noel, Anna Dahl, Marie Finch, Andrew John, Walter Cox,
Ben Torkelson, Rodes Phire, Rachel Glago

In the midst of the pandemic and aftermath of her best friend's overdose, Jenna finds herself in crisis as she reunites with those still around her. Questions of her own ethics and morals surface as she grapples with the "why" of everything, eventually discovering what it takes to truly break us.



FOOTNOTES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 95 min.

SCREENING: MON JUN 26 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Chris Leary
PRODS: Hunter Truman, Landon Kovalick,
Sharayu Mahale, Chris Leary
CAST: Chris Leary, Sharayu Mahale, Vishal Patel

Harkening back to the apartment movies of the 1970s, "Footnotes" is the story of neighbors and near total strangers, Will and Apurna. When they begin spending every day together in the wake of the 2020 pandemic, what begins as a platonic convenience, quickly develops into something deeper. But when a solo trip home to her small New England town puts a strain on their newfound connection, the two are forced to reckon with what they mean to each-other: Are they friends? Lovers? Or just more forgotten footnotes...



FOREVER NOW

WORLD Premiere | UNITED KINGDOM, 2023, 99.5 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Henk Pretorius
STORY BY: Henk Pretorius,
Jennifer Nicole Stang, Greg Blyth
PRODS: Llewellynn Greeff, Barend Kruger
CAST: Diana Quick, Bernard Hill, Stephanie Beacham, Mark Jackson, Amy Tyger, Anna Wolf, Julian Glover

70-year-old Robyn takes a formula that reverses the aging process, unlocking the chance to rewrite her life and facing her deepest regret.



WORLD PREMIERE

You think you know what you'd do...
until it happens to you.



VIEW TRAILER

TUESDAY 6.27.23
9:30PM

Essence Atkins
Sean Nelson
Denise Boutte
Vanessa Estelle Williams
Jennifer Freeman

Introducing
Lanett Tachel

Angie's Cure

DWF LA
2023 OFFICIAL SELECTION

A Film by Corey Grant

NEW BREED ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS AN UNBROKEN CAT PRODUCTIONS AND ALK PRODUCTIONS FILM BY PRODUCTIONS WRITTEN BY COREY GRANT "ANGIE'S CURE" ESSENCE ATKINS, LANETT TACHEL, SEAN NELSON, DENISE BOUTTE, VANESSA ESTELLE WILLIAMS, JENNIFER FREEMAN, MICHAEL PETRONE, CHRISTIAN TORRES VILLALBA, PHAEDRA HARRIS, DAVID S. BALEMAN, SHIRE, COREY GRANT, EDUARDO RAMIREZ GONZALEZ, ASTRID ANDERSON, WILLIAM TABANLOU, COREY GRANT, LANETT TACHEL, JAMES SEARLES, AUDREY KENDRICK, JULIO MATA JR., JAMEL BAIVES, COREY GRANT, LANETT TACHEL, JAMES SEARLES, CHEZ FRAJER, MCKINLEY FREEMAN, BRIAN PRATT, PHAEDRA HARRIS, COREY GRANT, BRIAN KELSEY, BRYAN O'CAIN, COREY GRANT, LANETT TACHEL, BRIAN KELSEY, COREY GRANT



WWW.ANGIESCURE.COM



PRG

FEATURE COMPETITION

BLUE TRAP

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 89 min.

SCREENING: THU JUNE 29 @ 930PM

WRITER/DIR: Justin Geldzahler

PRODS: Christopher Fox, Justin Geldzahler,
Norris Guncheon, Sara McFarlane

CAST: Brittany Bradford, Isaac W. Jay, Gloria Bangiola, Alex Warheit, Caroline Hertz, Kasey Marr

A good couple in a bad place plans a last-ditch cabin trip, but when an obnoxious third wheel arrives, they worry more than their relationship may be in danger.



HEIGHTENED

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 98 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 23 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Sara Friedman

PRODS: John Hermann, Matt Ratner,
Sara Friedman

CAST: Sara Friedman, Dave Register, Mike Mitchell, with Xander Berkeley and Sarah Clarke

Following a mental breakdown, social anxiety and OCD-riddled Nora returns to Maine to live with her emotionally distant parents. While she undergoes court-ordered psychiatric treatment, Nora's world is further upended when she is assigned to volunteer at a local state park. Her awkward assignment begins to show promise as her anxiety subsides in the company of her new supervisor Dusty, who is dealing with crippling issues of his own. Eventually, Nora and Dusty band together to overcome the obstacles their socially complicated world presents.



MERMAIDS' LAMENT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 91 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 930PM

WRITER/DIR/PROD: GB Hajim

CAST: Dayva Summer Escobar, Justina Taft Mattos, Michael Gregory, Owen Costello,
Kurt Chambers, Shane Wakayama, Brandon Clark

Oee (Dayva Summer Escobar) suffered an incredible trauma that left her mute and she may or may not be a mermaid. Her therapist, Dr. Nell Jamison (Justina Mattos) battles with anxiety herself, attempting to help Oee overcome her perceived delusions and connect with her reality. Together, they navigate treacherous waters to find a way to break through the surface and into the light.



MY HOME UNKNOWN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 90 min.

SCREENING: WED JUNE 28 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Yaz Canli

PRODS: Diane Foster & Yaz Canli

CAST: Yaz Canli, Jesse C. Boyd, Junes Zahdi, Lisa Blake Richards, Michael Marc Friedman,
Alvaro Orlando, Marie Broderick, Kofi Boakye, Richard-John Seikaly, Diane Foster, Miles Cooper,
Anouar H. Smaïne, Yücel Yeltekin, Najia Zahdi, Daria Isabella, Teresa Carillo

After Mina, a woman experiencing homelessness, loses the last thing she loved, she is forced to battle through a downward spiraling journey of mental illness to find HOME. Lost between fragments of her Muslim past and harsh realities of her present, Mina finds a way to accept help in the end with hopes to start a new life. A raw and unflinching story of mental illness, life on the streets and the courage it takes to find a way home.



WALLYBIRD PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

MY HOME UNKNOWN

COMPASSION BEGINS
WHEN WE DON'T LOOK AWAY.



“WHAT A TERRIFIC JOB
the writing and directing
- cinematography, editing
and all the actors!
VERY VERY WELL DONE”
- Oscar Winner
Bobby Moresco

WORLD PREMIERE
JUNE 28TH
7:00PM

Eye-opening and gripping.
Mina's journey is a raw and unflinching
story of a woman's battle with mental illness,
life on the streets and the courage it takes
to find her way home.



FEATURE COMPETITION

PROOF SHEET

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 125.5 min.

SCREENING: MON JUNE 26 @ 930PM

WRITERS: Richard Kilroy, Eduardo Santiago
DIR: Richard Kilroy
PRODS: Alejandro Delgado, Mauricio Arrioja

CAST: Leo Llenas, Juan Javier Cardenas, Alejandro Delgado, Laura Arias, Valente Rodriguez, Maria Conchita Alonso, Catherine Lidstone, Eileen Grubba, Gabriel Romero, Allene Quincy

East Los Angeles 1999: Angel Lopez, 21, working at his Uncle's photo lab closes the shop one night and discovers a roll of film marked 'RUSH' in the night drop box. As he processes the prints, images appear that will change his life forever: 24 black and white photos of a beautiful young woman being attacked in her apartment. For Angel, this proof sheet becomes a visual map that sends him on an obsessive journey into LA's dark underbelly at the turn of the millennium.



STATE OF GRACE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 110 min.

SCREENING: WED JUNE 28 @ 930PM

WRITERS/PRODS: Mary Settle Pruitt
and Stephen Wallace Pruitt
DIR: Stephen Wallace Pruitt

CAST: Sarah Drescher, Charla Bocchicchio, Meagan Flynn, Michelle Daugharthy, Jon Daugharthy, Merideth Rose, Stefanie Stevens, Michael Ashcraft

Following a surprise arrest for possession of eleven grams of the powerful opioid fentanyl, 31 year-old single mother Erin Sanders loses control of her life and the custody of her one-year-old daughter, Grace, to the Missouri foster care system. Desperate to get Grace back, Erin must conquer her demons and prove to the court that she can be a responsible parent. "State of Grace" is a beautiful and deeply moving film about the power of people helping people and Erin's transformation from helplessness into the mother she has always wanted to be.



JULY 1 AT 2:45 PM

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD
BEST SOUTHERN FEATURE
HOT SPRINGS
DOCUMENTARY
FILM FESTIVAL
2022



YOU HAVE NO IDEA

ONE FAMILY'S JOURNEY WITH AUTISM THROUGH THE LENS OF COMMUNITY.

TWO LIVES IN PITTSBURGH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 91 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Brian Silverman
PRODS: Lola Noh, Tiffany Murray, Brian Silverman

CAST: Brian Silverman, Annie O'Donnell, Emma Basques, Casey Braxton, Delissa Reynolds, Mark McClain Wilson, Robert John Brewer, Sky Elobar, Trevi Williams

Confronted by his mother's illness and his child's exploration of gender, a traditional blue-collar guy is torn between who he has always been and who his child needs him to be. Brian Silverman's debut feature film embraces imperfect people doing their imperfect best.



UNFIX

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 102 min.

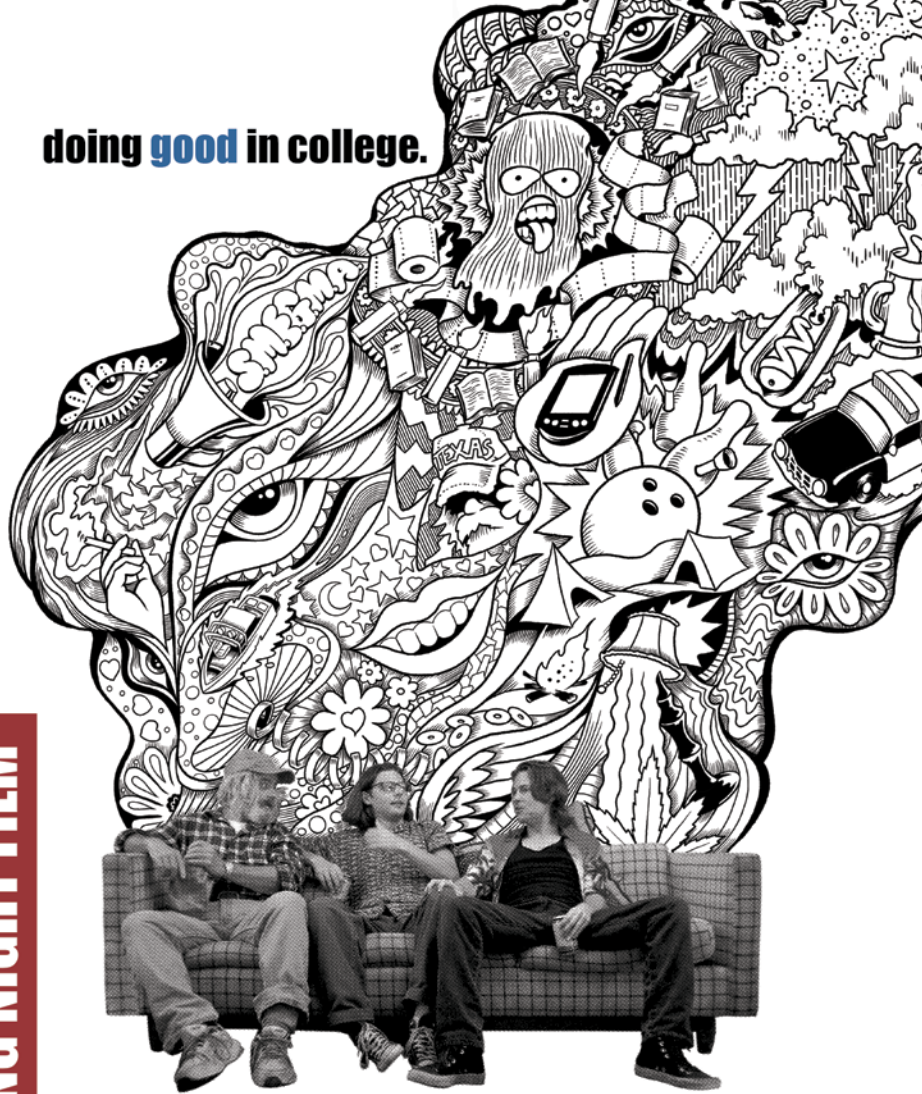
SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Graham Streeter
PROD: Alex Lebosq
CAST: Zane Haney, Zoë Papia, Damon McKinnis, Noah Toth

At the young age of 11, Ari was forced into conversion therapy following a brief encounter with another boy. Now Ari is 35 years old and "fixed." But when a series of unfortunate events collide, Ari's world crumbles, awakening dormant questions about his authentic self.



doing good in college.



CLOSING NIGHT FILM

HOME FREE

AN ENTERTAINING ENTERTAINMENT AND UNION CREEK PRODUCTIONS FILM

RYAN COWNIE JOHN KARNA JASHAWN LEE ANNIE FOX CHAU LONG AND JOE HART "HOME FREE"

ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK BY ADRIAN QUESADA CASTING BY KATE GELLER, CSA EDITED BY T.J. MISNY AND LENNY BARSZAP

PRODUCTION DESIGNER WAYNE DALCHAU CINEMATOGRAPHY BY JIM FLORES EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JAMES MCMAHON MICHAL BARSZAP JEREMY GUILLORY

WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY LENNY BARSZAP DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY AARON BROWN

Entertaining
ENTERTAINMENT

homefreefilm.com

UNION
CREEK
PRODUCTIONS

WORLD PREMIERE

DWF LA
2023 CLOSING NIGHT FILM

SUNDAY, JULY 2 @ 7:15pm

UNLEASHED & ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT FEATURES

7000 MILES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 82 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 630PM

WRITER: Colette Freedman

DIR: Amy Glazer

PRODS: Alixandra Rothschild, Amy Glazer, Deborah Glazier, Wendie Malick, Sterling Watson, Owen Seitel, Raymond Wood, Linda Rothschild, Jen Prince, Jhennifer Webberley

CAST: Wendie Malick, Alixandra Dove, Juliet Mills, Ray Abruzzo, Maxwell Caufield, Sam McMurray, Lori Pelenise Tuisano, Laird Akeo, David Sheftell

A passionate pilot is challenged by her grandmother to live her life on her own terms but finds herself at a crossroads when that could mean revealing her grandmother's long-buried secrets.

END OF THE ROPE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 139 min.

SCREENING: MON JUNE 26 @ 9PM

WRITERS: Charlie Griak, Daniel Bielinski

DIR: Charlie Griak

PRODS: Daniel Bielinski, Dave Diebel, Carson Nordgaard, Haylie Flesness, Rebecca Richardson

CAST: Joseph Gray, Chris Bylsma, Nick Saxton, Joseph Bezenek, Tiffany Cornwell, Megan Hensley

When a family mysteriously disappears from the town of Schafer, North Dakota, suspicion lands on a sociopathic farm hand, and the entire community rises up to take justice into its own hands. Based on the true story of the infamous Charles Bannon case of 1931.

THE GIRL IN THE BACKSEAT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 85 min.

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 5PM

WRITERS: Chris Marrone & Kika Magalhães

DIR: Nick Laurant

PRODS: Chris Marrone, Kika Magalhães, Nick Laurant & Michael David Lynch

CAST: Kika Magalhães, Chris Marrone, Jasmine Akakpo, Helen Day, Travis Quentin

Inspired by True Events, a young immigrant, Sofia, fights for her survival against her predator, Ryan, in an involuntary road trip through the vast and mysterious landscape of a worldwide human trafficking ring.

HOME FREE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 98 min.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM – SUN JULY @ 715PM

WRITER: Lenny Barszap

DIR: Aaron Brown

PRODS: Lenny Barszap, Aaron Brown

CAST: Ryan Cownie, John Karna, Jashawn Lee, Annie Fox, Chau Long, Annamaria Kasper, Joe Hart, Shaun Benson, Jason Veasey, Samara Gonzalez, Zina Wilde, Ryan Woodlee, Andrea Rosen, Rochelle Robinson, Sarah J. Bartholomew, Jonathan J. Tucker, Austin Hyde, Tyler Tipton, Rachel Cameron, Dave Buckman, Bill Wise, Brian Coughlin, Jessica Schwartz, Amy Downing, Ryan Graves, Vanessa Gonzalez, Eddie Clinton, Jillian Sherman, Isabel Wicker

In 1997, a group of college stoners invite an unhousted professor to crash on their porch.



TWO HANDS PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

YOU ME & HER

A DAN LEVY DAGERMAN FILM

DWF LA
2023 OFFICIAL SELECTION
SPOTLIGHT/UNLEASHED
WORLD PREMIERE



Ritesh Rajan



Selina Ringel



Sydney Park

CLOSING NIGHT | 7.2.23 | 6:30 PM

Please scan the QR Code for ticketing information, giveaways and to learn more about the film.

WWW.YMHMOVIE.COM



UNLEASHED & ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT FEATURES

KATIE'S MOM

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 111 min.

SCREENING: SUN JULY 2 @ 245PM

WRITERS: Meryl Branch-McTiernan,
and Tyrrell Shaffner
DIR: Tyrrell Shaffner

PRODS: Tyrrell Shaffner, Meryl Branch-McTiernan, Corey Moss

CAST: Dina Meyer, Aaron Dominguez, Julia Tolchin, Colin Bates, Jason Wiles, Shannon Dee

A recent divorcee's holiday celebration with her adult children derails when she falls for her daughter's charming new boyfriend. A comedy influenced by "The Graduate," told from the perspective of a protagonist inspired by Mrs. Robinson.

YOU, ME & HER

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 100 min.

SCREENING: SUN JULY 2 @ 630PM

WRITER: Selina Ringel
DIR: Dan Levy Dagerman

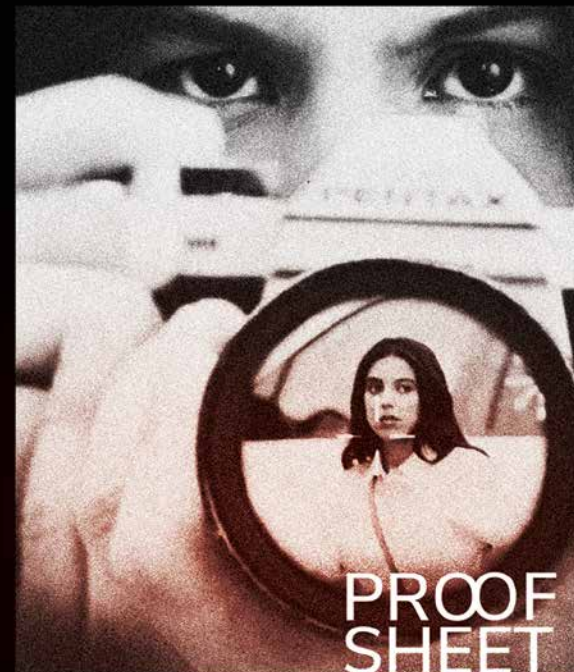
PRODS: Selina Ringel, Dan Levy Dagerman, Cameron Fife, Ritesh Rajan, Fernando Lebrija, Pablo Lebrija

CAST: Selina Ringel, Ritesh Rajan, Sydney Park, Marianna Burelli, Roberto Aguirre, Anna Campbell & Graham Sibley

On their first vacation after having a baby, Mags and Ash attempt to rekindle the spark in their marriage but can't help arguing the whole trip. When Mags meets Angela, they have an instant connection that makes Mags seriously question her sexuality for the first time. Suddenly Ash and Mags start to reconnect over the idea of having a threesome in hopes that the excitement of the potential sexual experience will save their marriage.



"A fun thrill-ride that will sneak up on you. Proof Sheet succeeds in bringing the noir genre into the modern age." - Film Threat



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DWF LA
2023 OFFICIAL SELECTION

**WORLD
PREMIERE**

MONDAY, JUNE 26th
9:30 p.m.

TCL CHINESE THEATER

OFFICIAL SELECTION
COMPETITION FEATURE

CONTACT:

proofsheetthemovie@gmail.com

WORLD PREMIERE
MONDAY JUNE 26TH 2023 AT 7:15PM
TCL CHINESE THEATRE



FOOTNOTES



TRAILER

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TICKETS

DANCESWITHFILMS.COM/FOOTNOTES

FUSION FEATURES

DARUMA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 104 min.

SCREENING: WED JUNE 28 @ 7PM



WRITER: Kelli McNeil-Yellen

DIR: Alexander Yellen

PRODS: Kelli McNeil-Yellen, Alexander Yellen & Jodi Binstock

ASSOC. PRODS: Abigail Hawk & Jonathan Salemi

CAST: Tobias Forrest, John W. Lawson, Victoria Scott, Abigail Hawk, Barry Bostwick

PATRICK (bitter wheelchair user) must enlist the help of his cantankerous neighbor ROBERT (double amputee veteran) to transport the daughter he never knew he had to live with her maternal grandparents on the other side of the country. DARUMA is the recipient of the Project ReFrame stamp of approval from Women in Film and The Sundance Institute.

ESCAPING OHIO

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 81 min.

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 7:15PM



WRITERS: Jessica Michael Davis

Co-WRITER: Collin Kelly-Sordelet

DIR: Jessica Michael Davis

PRODS: Emily Bergl, Jessica Michael Davis, Collin Kelly-Sordelet, Carolyn Panknin, and Todd Slater

CAST: Jessica Michael Davis, Collin Kelly-Sordelet, Emily Bergl, and Adam Pascal

A coming-of-age romcom following Sam and JJ, two 18-yr-olds facing adulthood. When it becomes clear Sam intends to leave their small town for new adventures in California, JJ dares her to let him prove why Ohio is worth sticking around for.

ME, MYSELF & THE VOID

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 84.5 min.

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 9:30PM



WRITERS: Tim Hautekiet, Nik Oldershaw

DIR: Tim Hautekiet

PRODS: Ryan Blewett, Zubin Asaria,

Ryan Turner, Tim Hautekiet

CAST: Jack De Sena, Chris W. Smith, Kelly Marie Tran

Trapped in a mysterious void outside the bounds of time and space, a struggling stand-up comedian must investigate how his body wound up motionless on his bathroom floor and wake himself up before it's too late.

MICKEY HARDAWAY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 105 min.

SCREENING: THU JUNE 29 @ 9:15PM



WRITER/DIR: Marcellus Cox

PRODS: Marcellus Cox,
Armando Townsend, Eric Quincy

CAST: Rashad Hunter, Stephen Cofield Jr, Ashley Parchment, David Chattam, Dennis LA White, Gayla Johnson, Samuel Whitehill, Sean Alexander James, Charlz Williams

A Young Sketch Artist visits a well renowned psychiatrist as his life begins sprawling out of control after years of Physical and Verbal Abuse has taken a toll on him.

THE SLOB



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www.sagindie.org

FUSION FEATURES

SCREAM THERAPY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 78 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 23 @ 915PM

WRITER/DIR: Cassie Keet

PRODS: Benjamin Dunn, Brian Flaccus, Chadwick Hopson, Cassie Keet, Claire Dellamar, Mandie Cheung

CAST: Harley Bronwyn, Claire Dellamar, Mandie Cheung, Geri Courtney-Austein, Rochelle Anderson, Brian Flaccus, Skyler Bible, Joan Kubicek, David St. James



Five best friends, all struggling in their personal lives, head to the desert for a girls weekend of drinking, drugs, and restorative scream therapy. Their vacation takes a sharp turn when they cross paths with a cult of incels who are on a very pressing human sacrifice deadline.

SCUBA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 85.5 min.

SCREENING: SUN JULY 2 @ 230PM

WRITER/DIR: Jacob Vaus

PRODS: Stephanie Reedy, Noah Dean Davenport, Nate Berl, Jacob Vaus

CAST: Johnathan Middleton, Stephanie Reedy, Russ T. Nailz, Rahkiah Brown, Brock Kruckemeyer, Isabella Tagliati, Bob Himlin, Marguerite Baca, William Yonts, Jessica Schemmel, Sharon Wezelman, Ron Grigsby, Beth Shea, Spencer Bryce Sobelman, Josiah Joseph, Anthony Bramante, Ella Crane



An outcast student and a theater reject test their budding relationship by putting on an audacious school play.

SNAKEEATER

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 80 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUNE 27 @ 915PM

WRITERS: Tore Knos & Aron Flasher

DIR: Tore Knos

PRODS: Tore Knos, Aron Flasher, Glen & Laurie Hommy, Isaach De Bankolé, Micah Hales, Efe Kabba
CAST: Isaach De Bankolé, Vas Eli, Susannah Perkins, Dennis Flanagan, Lawrence Arancio



An unstable private investigator suddenly awakens on a subway train to find himself plunging deeper and deeper into a nightmare...that may very well be of his own making.

A modern twist on the urban noirs of the 70s and 80s such as JACOB'S LADDER and TAXI DRIVER, SNAKEEATER proudly features Isaach De Bankolé (GHOST DOG, BLACK PANTHER) in a chilling, tour-de-force performance of raw power and manipulation. WEST COAST PREMIERE.

WAITING FOR THE LIGHT TO CHANGE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 89 min.

SCREENING: WED JUNE 28 @ 915PM

WRITERS: Linh Tran, Jewells Santos

& Delia Van Praag

DIR: Linh Tran

PRODS: James Choi, Sam Straley, Jewells Santos & Jake Rotger

CAST: Jin Park, Joyce Ha, Qun Chi, Sam Straley, Erik Barrientos



Over the course of a week-long beachside getaway, Amy, having recently undergone dramatic weight loss, finds herself wrestling between loyalty to her best friend Kim and her attraction to Kim's new boyfriend.

RJ MITTE CHRISTIAN STOLTE JENNIFER A. GOODMAN REBEKAH KENNEDY

THE UNSEEN

FRIDAY, JUNE 23RD

11:45 PM



A LAKEFRONT PICTURES PRODUCTION
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PRODUCED BY
JENNIFER A. GOODMAN
&
RYAN ATKINS



Lakefront Pictures is a company who tell untold stories by voices normally unheard and has proven success producing high-production-valued television pilots, short films, feature films, and branded marketing videos showcasing celebrities and strong messages.

- Corporate Video Production (including content for social media)
- Short & Feature Narrative Films
- Actor Demo Scenes

MIDNIGHT SERIES

FOIL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 100 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 1145PM

WRITERS: Zach Green, Devin O'Rourke
DIR: Zach Green
PROD: Jill V. Dae

CAST: Zach Green, Devin O'Rourke, Chris Doubek, Brian McGuire, Ashley Spillers, Jasmine Wattar, Ari Stidham, Deborah Green

An unusual piece of foil with potential alien origin causes a rift between two former best friends camping in the California desert.



TERROR FIRMA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 95 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 11PM

WRITER/DIR: Jake Macpherson
PRODS: Jake Macpherson,
John Angeli, Katie Mamie

CAST: Faye Tamasa, Robert Brettenaugh, Burt Thakur, Max Carpenter

When struggling artist Lola has nowhere else to go she is forced to stay with her estranged brother Louis and his unbalanced roommate Cage. For unknown reasons, the city of Los Angeles shuts down and overnight a mysterious packet of seeds arrives on their doorstep. Once planted, the trio's reality turns upside down and Lola must fight to survive a surreal landscape of fate, family, and flora.



THE UNSEEN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 90 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 23 @ 1145PM

WRITER/PROD: Jennifer A. Goodman
DIR: Vincent Shade

CAST: RJ Mitte, Christian Stolte, William Mark McCullough, Jennifer A. Goodman, Rebekah Kennedy, Candice Rose, Kimberly Michelle Vaughn, Ava Bianchi, Sue Cremin, Niko El Santo Zaverro, Lacieanne Carriere, Larry Biela, Jeremy Warner, Oscar Mansky, Kylie Klunder, Lori Langvis, Martin Davis, Sarah Charipar

A law student finds himself in a twisted web of murder and deceit brought on by a dark force from his past.



WINTERTIDE

WEST COAST Premiere | CANADA, 2023, 97 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUL 1 @ 1015PM

WRITERS: John Barnard, Carrie May Siggins
DIR: John Barnard

PRODS: Tony Wosk, John Barnard, Kyle Bornais, Michael O'Sullivan
CAST: Niamh Carolan, Solange Sookram, Jeremy Walmsley, Jessie Nobess, Colleen Furlan, John B. Lowe, Michael O'Sullivan

Beth, a volunteer watch person of an isolated northern city battles a plague of depression that transforms the few remaining residents into empty, zombie-like automatons. She discovers that by entering an alternative dimension through her own dreams, she's able to stave off the illness during the long, possibly endless winter. But will her power be enough to sustain her?



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TCL Chinese - June 23rd, 2pm

SCREENWRITERSRR.COM

MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 1145PM

THE COMPUTER CUBE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 3 min.



WRITER: Anna Rubanova
DIR: Alex Kropinak
PRODS: Adam Bozarth, Anna Rubanova
CAST: Adam Bozarth, Anna Rubanova

A man struggling to finish some work inadvertently gives his computer sentience.

DEADHEAD

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Virginia Powers Hendry
STORY BY: Virginia Powers Hendry & Christy Rubenstein
PRODS: Miguel Lima and Ben Rock
CAST: T'Keyah Crystal Keymah, Bennie Arthur, Stacy Citron, Taylor Lee Marr, Anastasia Washington

Wendy is a middle-aged woman who is constantly dismissed and made to feel invisible by the men in her life. One day while working in her garden, she pricks her finger on a thorny cocoon, and is infected with something... inhuman. After she is suddenly let go and replaced with a younger woman by her boss at a job she's enjoyed for decades, her rage, (along with alien DNA), transforms her into a powerful creature, hellbent on revenge.

GLOVEBOX

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 13 min.



WRITER/DIR: Joseph Matarrese & Phillip Matarrese (The Matarrese Bros)
PRODS: Mandi Reno, Roy Ellis, Will Springhorn Jr., Jesse Hagy, Anne Everton
CAST: Michael Jamison, Myles Brown, Katie Krueger, Dov Hassan, Will Springhorn Jr.

Anthony's got a killer new car that everyone is dying to ride in... Getting your first used car is a right of passage for any teenager, and Anthony is no exception. But his new used car comes with a deadly price from its previous owner, serial killer James Katz.

LET IT KILL YOU

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.



WRITER/DIR: David Cornue
PRODS: Adam Huss, Adam Bucci, Livi Zheng, Margaret Scarborough, Brian Nolan, Milena Govich
CAST: Adam Huss, Adam Bucci, Dionne Gipson, Cord Jackman

A disaffected American Soldier asserts to his superiors that an enemy combatant is innocent, only to discover his new friend may be concealing a far more sinister secret.

MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 1145PM

LICHEMOTH

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 12 min.

WRITER/DIR: Carla Nichamin
PROD: Jocelyn Magumbol
CAST: Idalia Valles, Theo Buckwald



This horror-romance follows loner photographer, Doll, tasked with a last minute concert shoot of black metal band, Lichemoth. After inhaling a mysterious substance at the show, her resistance to connection is penetrated. Instantly, visions of a strange man start to infiltrate her mind, leading her to a pleasurable reawakening.

MACERATION

US Premiere | CANADA, 2022, 26 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Clayton Holmes
CAST: Trey Helten, Melody Mangler, Seth Little, Betty Bathory, Nik Ovstaas, Kenny Lush, Norm Elmore, Clayton Holmes, Morgan Farrell, David Koster



Maceration is a winemaking process where the phenolic materials of the grape—tannins, colouring agents, and flavour compounds—are leached from the grape skin. It is also the name of a fancy bar in Vancouver that may or may not serve wine made from human skin.

ROOM TONE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 10 min.

WRITERS: Michael Gabriele, Danny Rhodes
DIR: Michael Gabriele
PRODS: Amy Stewart, Danny Rhodes, Scott Marvel
CAST: Mickey O'Sullivan, Angela Aiello, Lashonda Barton, Brittanie Boeck, Jay Cabrera, Jeff Zarinelli, Scott Marvel, Danny Rhodes



When a sound guy's attempt to capture "room tone" is constantly thwarted by the noisy antics of his coworkers, he takes extreme measures to achieve silence.

THE SEARCH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 10 min.

WRITER/DIR: Michael Russell
PRODS: Barrett Nicol, Michael Hilf, Michael Russell
CAST: Nicole Garrabrant, Paul Holowaty, Robin McDonald, Ella Melvin, Scarlett Redmond, Eric Rollins



A renowned medium's powers are put to the test when called to the home of a grieving Midwestern couple.

SEMPRE AVANTI

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 6 min.

WRITER/PROD: Nathaniel Barber
DIRS: Matthew Barber, Nathaniel Barber
CAST: Nathaniel Barber, Matthew Barber



Two U.S. soldiers plunge into a suspected enemy combatant tunnel system during the Vietnam War only to awaken unparalleled horrors.

MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 1145PM

BUTT STUFF

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 9 min.



WRITER/DIR: April Yanko
PRODS: April Yanko, Justin Wested, Allison Marie Reyes, Nikki Neurohr, Rory Ross
CAST: Jason Sealy, Elena Falgione, Cassie the Butt

A man's sentient sex toy becomes jealous when its owner forms a relationship with a human woman.

DADDY ISSUES

USA, 2022, 4.5 min.



WRITER: Matt Campanella
DIR: Stephanie Chloé Hepner & Matt Campanella
PRODS: Stephanie Chloé Hepner, Matt Campanella, Anthony Campanella, Hardy Awadjie
CAST: Matt Campanella, David Kelsey, Milan Anderson, Maria Carrozza

A young dominatrix encounters an unexpected client.

FLUTTER

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 6 min.



WRITER/DIR: Jeff Pearson
PRODS: Jeff Pearson & Olivia Peck
CAST: Rudy Eisenzopf, Mason Bienve

A Grandfather and his Grandson discover a new species of Butterfly.

HIMS

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.

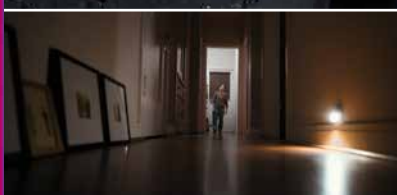


WRITER/DIR: Krsy Fox
PRODS: Krsy Fox & Spider One
CAST: Krsy Fox, Elle Riot Fox, Mark Kelly, Rachel Brunner

Jo and her three year old daughter Lulu struggle to adjust to life alone after her divorce. The worst is yet to come, when an evil force inhabits Lulu's bedroom.

IT'S NOT REAL

SOUTHERN CALIF. Premiere | USA, 2022, 8 min.



WRITERS/PRODS: Tina Carbone & Patrick T. Dorsey
DIR: Tina Carbone
CAST: Lucy DeVito

Jess wonders whether the creepy incidents in her creaky old apartment are actually happening.

MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 1145PM

LISTENING

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 20.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Greg Smith
PROD: Arik Cohen
CAST: Kelly Nugent, Meghan Parks, Greg Smith



Ethan is frustrated, begrudgingly trying therapy. His girlfriend, Sara, is away for work – and their relationship was already growing apart. Targeted ads show Ethan personalized offers on all of his devices. But what if they're listening a little too closely?

LOOKING BACK

USA, 2022, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Michael Charron
PRODS: Alyssia Rivera, Michael Charron, Shaun Swift, Erik Anderson
CAST: Erik Anderson, Chloe Matyis, Alyssia Rivera, Ronald Short, Tiana Stuart, Chadwick Smith, Bob Fonseca



George gets more than he bargained for when he discovers a ghost living in the backup camera of his new car.

OUIJA BRO

USA, 2022, 10 min.

WRITER/DIR: Justin Zagri
PROD: Liana Minassian
CAST: Kevin Allen



A young man discovers a spirit inside a Ouija Board, only to discover that it's a frat bro and wants to party.

THE PERFECT PLACE TO CRY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 6.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Shane Bannon
PRODS: Celina Bernstein and Shane Bannon
CAST: Celina Bernstein, Kevin Owyang, Jesse Howland



Late at night, deep in the woods, a woman cries in her car. A light flickers through the trees. At the edge of her headlights' reach, she can just make out the shape of a man. He's coming closer.

TOOTH

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 4.5 min.

WRITER: Katie Gault
DIR: Jillian Corsie
PROD: Vincent DeLuca
CAST: Janine Peck



Fed up with decades of abuse from forced perfection, a vengeful TOOTH takes matters into its own hands, launching a full scale attack.

I Can't Give You Anything But Love

[The Jimmy McHugh Story]

World Premiere
TCL Chinese Theatre
June 27th, 4:45pm



Director **Susan Morgan Cooper**

Producers **Susan Morgan Cooper & Lee Newman**

Editor **Bipasha Shom**

Cinematographer **Alexandra Cooper**

Music **Matthew Struthers**

From Harlem to Hollywood

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

26.2 TO LIFE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 88 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 9PM

DIR: Christine Yoo

PRODS: Carolyn Mao, Sara Jane Sluke, Hella Winson, Zahava Hirsch

EXEC PRODS: Dexter Braff, Jennifer M. Kroot, Andrew Bishop

Exploring the transformative power of San Quentin State Prison's 1000 Mile Club, in which incarcerated runners are coached by elite marathoners who volunteer to go inside the prison year round to train the runners for an annual marathon — 105 grueling laps around the prison yard.



ABLED:

The Blake Leeper Story

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 89 min.

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 1230PM

DIR: Einar Thorsteinsson

PRODS: Einar Thorsteinsson, Katherine LeBlond, Brian Leong, Alan Finkel, Johann Stefansson

FEATURING: Blake Leeper

Decorated Paralympian Blake Leeper challenges to qualify for the USA 2020 Tokyo Olympic Team. His greatest hurdle proves to be battling domestic and international governing bodies for the right to compete on the world stage.



ALMOST HOME: LIFE AFTER INCARCERATION

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 87 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 23 @ 5PM

DIR: Bill Wisneski

PRODS: Bill Wisneski & Cameron Lui

In the United States, more than 600,000 people return home from incarceration each year, often with little support. For people who live in the shadows of their criminal records, overcoming the extensive legal restrictions and social stigmas is a daunting task.

This unique film follows formerly incarcerated students enrolled in an innovative program at a community college. Their inspiring stories illustrate how education and support can transform lives, open doors to new careers, heal trauma, and uplift entire families and communities.



AMERICAN POT STORY: OAKSTERDAM

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 97 min

SCREENING: THU JUNE 29 @ 7PM

WRITER: Dan Katzir

DIRS: Dan Katzir and Ravit Markus

PROD: Ravit Markus

FEATURING: Dale Sky Jones, Richard Lee, Jeff Jones, CA Governor Gavin Newsom, CA Congresswoman Barbara Lee, David Downs, Salwa Ibrahim, Kat Murti, Oakland Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan, Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaaf, Mikki Norris, Chris Conrad

The unknown origin story of how a handful of underdogs risked everything to ignite the current worldwide revolution in cannabis policy. Reflecting Oakland, California's rich history of civil resistance, they opened the first ever cannabis college, Oaksterdam University, and got Prop 19 — a measure to legalize cannabis — on the ballot in California, thus bringing this taboo topic to the mainstream and opening a conversation on its social justice impact. Filmed over a decade, this groundbreaking film illuminates the power of the activist, no matter the cause.



APACHE BLUES A WELCOME HOME



“By God, if you can make it over there and go through all that you went through; this is nothing but a drop in the bucket.”

-CSM (R) Francis Anthony Cortez

50 Years after the war it is not too late to say
“Welcome Home.”

Please join us in honoring all those who have served.
July 2nd, 5PM

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

APACHE BLUES: WELCOME HOME

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 101 min.

SCREENING: SUN JULY 2 @ 5PM

DIRS: Dave Merlino and Dustin Sweet
PRODS: Jack Faris, Dave Merlino, Dustin Sweet, Carlene Merlino

FEATURING: RB Alexander, Ed Beal, Duane Bloor, James Braun, Francis Anthony Cortez Jr, Richard Del Valle, Paul Funk, Jack Hugel, Gregg Jorgenson, Charlie Ochoa, Gary Qualley, Joe Sanchez

Two filmmakers set out to talk with Vietnam veterans in the hope of learning more about a war that happened before they were born. Thinking this will be an exercise in education, they soon realize it may be even more important for the veterans. This realization turns a quick trip of discovery into a 30,000 mile, multi-year journey into these veterans' lives, revealing the healing power speaking about their experiences, both overseas and back home, had for them and their families.



BALDY FOR THE BLIND

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 78 min.

SCREENING: SUN JULY 2 @ 1230PM

DIR/PROD: Drea Castro, p.g.a.
Co-PROD: Matt Zimel
ASSOC PRODS: Mariel Miranda Gutierrez, Michael Stoltzfus, James Sireno, MJ Racadio

FEATURING: Mark Barker, Miguel Hernandez, Melissa Hudson, Demetrius “DJ” Johnson, Malcom Johnson, Joanne “Jojo” Ronquillo, Anet Shahbandari, Cathy Stawicki, Tyrone Tagle, Jason Abate, Dina Aubrey, Dana Bigman, Lynda Beck, Meleni B., Lillian Figueroa, James Gomez, Mark Imhoof, Karen Kamesu, Amy Katch, Mayra Lopez, Christie Missig, Bee Bee Pee, Laura Romero, Angela De Rozario, Jennifer Salbino, Sue Schohan, Brian Stapp, Kate Stewart, James Sulahian, Silvia Vargas, Christopher Lynch

A group of blind hikers attempt to summit Mount Baldy, the most dangerous mountain in LA County towering at over 10,000 feet.



BANDED TOGETHER: The Boys From Glen Rock High

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 77 min.

SCREENING: SUN JULY 2 @ 445PM

DIR: Barry Rubinow
PRODS: Barry Rubinow, Doug Romoff
FEATURING: Jimmy Vivino, Lee Shapiro, Jerry Vivino, John Feeney, Doug Romoff, Uncle Floyd Vivino, Frank Pagano, Jeff Venho, Joe Sielski

Showcasing the unique story of a group of close friends from the same tiny high school who all went on to make it big. From band practice under their inspiring High School music teacher Joe Sielski, to playing alongside such legends as Bruce Springsteen and Al Kooper, these eight men all have remarkable journeys. Director Barry Rubinow beautifully captures their stories in this once-in-a-lifetime documentary celebrating music and homegrown camaraderie.



CORKY

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 85 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 230PM

WRITERS: Christine Caruso, Kaarina Makowski
DIR/PROD: Christine Caruso

The story of Corky, the world's longest-held captive orca who was captured 53 years ago and sold to Marineland of the Pacific. Corky currently lives at SeaWorld San Diego, yet her family, the Northern Resident Killer Whales, are alive and well in their ocean home. Public sentiment about capturing, breeding, and keeping orcas in captivity has changed, leading to recent efforts for sea sanctuaries, some that are now in operation and others that are currently being planned, giving hope for Corky and other cetaceans to be returned to their natural ocean habitat.





Lou Adler

Bob Dylan Peter Asher Leonard Cohen

Andrew Gold Jackson Browne Rolling Stones

Bonnie Raitt Phil Collins John Lennon

Barbra Streisand David Crosby Michael McDonald

Arlo Guthrie • B.B. King Don Henley Neil Sedaka • Joe Walsh

Kris Kristofferson Steve Jordan Olivia Newton-John

Carly Simon • The Motels Carole King Billy Cobham • Bob Seger

Dolly Parton • Hall & Oates Lyle Lovett Randy Newman • Bette Midler

Kim Carnes • Willie Nelson Stevie Nicks Rod Stewart • Harry Nilsson

Joe Cocker • Jon Bon Jovi Keith Richards Crosby, Stills & Nash

Joni Mitchell • Ray Charles Linda Ronstadt Billy Joel • Bryan Ferry

Aaron Neville James Taylor Mick Jagger

Jimmy Buffett Billy Bob Thornton Warren Zevon

Neil Young

THE SONIC ARCHITECTS OF THE SINGER-SONGWRITER ERA AND BEYOND

IMMEDIATE FAMILY

From the Director of
WRECKING CREW



Danny Waddy Leland Russ Steve
Kortchmar Wachtel Sklar Kunkel Postell

PFONETIC, JAMMCARD FILMS & WRECKING CREW PRODUCTIONS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH WET PAWS MEDIA, SUBMARINE ENTERTAINMENT & BONDIT MEDIA CAPITAL PRESENTS

IMMEDIATE FAMILY - DIRECTED BY DENNY TEDESCO

PRODUCED BY: GREG RICHLING, JACK PIATT, JONATHAN SHELDON

The Immediate Family Filmmakers thank all of the musicians that helped create the Sound Track of our lives.

Danny, Leland, Waddy, Steve & Russ, thank you for allowing us to tell your story.



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HEART & SOUL

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 91 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 24 @ 4:15PM

DIR: Kenny Vance

PROD: Bronwyn Berry

EXEC PROS: David I. Berley, Marc Berley & Liz Nickles

FEATURING: Eugene Pitt & the Jive Five, Wally Roker & the Heartbeats, Arlene Smith & the Chantels, Cleveland Still & the Dubs, Jimmy Merchant & Little Anthony & the Imperials, and Jay & the Americans

From heartbreak to harmony, inside the world of the early, unsung heroes of rock & roll whose voices shaped the music that endures. Music legend Kenny Vance opens a portal through the decades as we join him in the close-knit community of distinctive Black artists who defined early rock & roll, united a generation and formed the foundation of the music that continues to live within us.



HOLLYWOOD'S FINEST

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 78 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 23 @ 7PM

DIR: Claire Hannah Collins

PROD: Gale Holland

EXEC PROD: Erik Himmelsbach-Weinstein

Three mothers fight to create a family: Mckenzie, a young woman in recovery who became pregnant while living in a tent; Cat, her nomadic mom; and Leslie, the social worker with her own history of addiction, housing insecurity, and losing children to foster care.



THE HUMBLER - DANNY GATTON

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 94 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 7PM

DIR/PROD/EDITOR: Virginia Quesada

Who is Danny Gatton? If you are a guitarist you probably already know. Danny's mastery of blues, jazz, rock, country, bluegrass and rockabilly so overwhelmed other guitarists, they called him "The Humbler". Though he never got the accolades he deserved in his short life, Danny Gatton has often been called "The World's Greatest Unknown Guitarist". Our film is the first in-depth exploration of the life, music and legacy of a troubled genius.



IMMEDIATE FAMILY

USA, 2023, 102 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 8:45PM

& MON JUNE 26 @ 2:45PM

DIR: Denny Tedesco

PRODS: Jon Sheldon, Greg Richling, Jack Piatt

EXEC PRODS: Brian McCafferty, Cliff Burnstein, Kelly Mi Li, Denny Tedesco

FEATURING: James Taylor, Billy Bob Thornton, Val Garay, Lou Adler, Don Henley, Mike Post, Lyle Lovett, Jackson Browne, Peter Asher, Phil Collins, David Crosby, Carole King, Steve Jordan, Stevie Nicks, Linda Ronstadt, Russ Titelman, Lenny Waronker, Niko Bolas, Neil Young, Keith Richards, Leland Sklar, Danny Kortchmar, Steve Postel, Russ Kunkel, Waddy Wachtel



Following in the footsteps of 1960's session icons, The Wrecking Crew, musicians Leland Sklar, Danny Kortchmar, Russ Kunkel, and Waddy Wachtel backed iconic singer-songwriters of the 70s, 80s, creating some of the most recognizable tunes in rock. Follow up to his acclaimed doc "The Wrecking Crew," director Denny Tedesco reveals the machinery behind the era of the singer-songwriter. Intimate interviews with players, as well as the memories of some of music's most iconic voices. Including superstars like Carole King, James Taylor, Linda Ronstadt, Don Henley, David Crosby, and Jackson Browne

THE MAD WRITER

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 70 min.

SCREENING: MON JUNE 26 @ 7PM

WRITER/DIR: Zach Kashkett**EXEC PRODS:** Michael Raimondi, Michael Tolle**PRODS:** Zach Kashkett, Trevor Metscher, Jon Webb, Katherine LeBlond, James Haygood

Rising hip hop phenom L'Orange, is a recluse. Clinically depressed, he rarely leaves the comfort of his Nashville home or his faithful dog Scraps' side. But when he develops mysterious tumors in his ears canals, his world is thrown into chaos. With his career on the line, he will need to undergo several risky surgeries if he wants a hope of retaining his hearing.

**MAMA!**

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 80 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUNE 27 @ 7PM

WRITER: Carl Reid**DIR:** Sofia Draí**PRODS:** Carl Reid, Enrico Natale, Sofia Draí**FEATURING:** Amity Dimock, Del Shea Perry, Katie Bryant, Adrian Wilson

The death of George Floyd was the tipping point for an invigorated racial justice movement. However, hundreds of others, often Black men, have died under questionable circumstances during interactions with police. This is the story of those left behind who loved them the most, from the very first moment they drew breath: their mothers. Follow three mothers from Minnesota, the national hotbed for the Black Lives Matter movement in 2020, as they fight for accountability for their fallen sons, finding strength in one another to make sure no other mothers suffer their grief again.

MEET ME WHERE I AM

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 86 min

SCREENING: SUN JULY 2 @ 1215PM

DIR: Grant Garry**PRODS:** Stacy Roque, Lisa Kauls

& Sharolyn Schmiederer

DP/EDITOR: James Slaven

FEATURING: Anthony Rapp, David Kessler, Ron Marasco, Julie Shaw, Cynthia O'Neal, Donna Schuurman, Jana DeCristofaro, John Farley, Lisa Kauls, Mike Reynolds, Ken Ithiphol, Alica Forneret, Julisa Golden, Natalie Kazarian



Meet Me Where I Am explores the topic of grief through individual stories of loss, love, and hope. The film aims to normalize grief in our culture and explores how we can actively participate in helping others through grief.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 86 min.

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 245PM

DIR: Alexander Jeffery**PRODS:** Alexander Jeffery, Paul Petersen, Paul Burns, Beth James Burns**FEATURING:** Beth James Burns, Evan James, Paul Burns

When Beth's son Evan James was diagnosed with Autism in the early 90s, treatment options were limited. Doctors offered no practical advice for daily living and advised Beth to limit his social interactions. Rejecting these notions, Beth sets out to provide her son with a life filled with purpose and friendship. This heartfelt film is a sweet testament to the power of love and community by following a determined mom advocating for her son.

DWF LA
2023 OFFICIAL SELECTION

A FILM BY DREA CASTRO

BALDY FOR THE BLIND

LITTLE BEAST PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS "BALDY FOR THE BLIND" FEATURING CHRISTOPHER LYNCH | JOANNE "JOJO" RONQUILLO | MELISSA HUDSON | MALCOLM JOHNSON | DEMETRIUS "DJ" JOHNSON | WARD WHITNEY | ODET NASSERI | MARK BARKER
EDITED BY DREA CASTRO MATT ZIMEL PRODUCED BY DREA CASTRO P.G.A.
CO-PRODUCED BY MATT ZIMEL DIRECTED BY DREA CASTRO

WORLD PREMIERE

JULY 2, 2023 12:30 PM

TCL CHINESE THEATRE - HOLLYWOOD, CA

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR TICKETS



DOC SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: TUE. JUNE 27 @ 445PM

I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING BUT LOVE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 33.5 min



WRITER/DIR: Susan Morgan Cooper
PRODS: Susan Morgan Cooper and Lee Newman
FEATURING: Jimmy McHugh, Johnny Mathis, Michael Feinstein, Lee Newman

One Sheet Jimmy McHugh wrote some of our most memorable songs for five decades. After his death in 1969, his great grandson was given the task of promoting the songwriter's catalogue. From McHugh's start at the Cotton Club in Harlem to the glamor of film in Hollywood, we hear his songs recorded by legends from Sinatra to Lady Gaga. While licensing these songs for movies, commercials, TV and Broadway shows, the singer journeys through the magic of his great-grandfather's stellar career.

JOYFUL

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 7.5 min.



DIR/PROD: Simantini Chakraborty

We live in a hectic and chaotic world that relentlessly stresses our planet, humans and animals alike. joyful is a unique audio-visual exploration of finding joy in all the turmoil that surrounds us. joyful uses timelapses, hyperlapses, drone videos and astrophotography from around the world with dramatic sound design and music overlay to contrast our fast-paced contemporary lifestyle with simple moments of joy and calm that provides us respite in all the chaos.

WHERE DO WE GO

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 11.5 min.



DIR: Harlow Schuman
PROD: Laura Schuman

A high school senior shares the devastating story of losing his home in the Woolsey Fire, only to discover the gifts of tragedy through his love of music.

WHERE IS AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL?

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 30 min.



WRITER: Frederick Taylor
DIR: Fr3deR1cK
PRODS: Ellen Barnard, Frederick Taylor

Part documentary and part cinematic art, this beautiful film searches for America through real story, music and spoken word.

DOC SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: WED JUNE 28 @ 445PM

BROADWAY IN THE HOOD

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 12.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: UNLV Film Docs
PRODS: Brett Levner, Faith Nordstrom, Christopher Orta, Sonia Portela, Cecilie Arencibia, Treyvon Burch, Jacquelin Perry and Courtney Parkinson
FEATURING: Torrey Russell, Tuesday Ursy, Enzo Valenti and Micah Marino

A look behind the scenes at local Las Vegas non-profit, Broadway in the Hood, led by inspiring performer and mentor, Torrey Russell.

REBEL VISION

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

DIR: Tara Pixley
PRODS: Tara Pixley, Genesis Jefferson



This short documentary centers the careers and lived experiences of Black women and nonbinary photojournalists as they change the White Male Gaze of photography from inside the homogenous visual media industry.

SPIRITUAL CYPHERS: HIP HOP AND THE CHURCH

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 37 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ariyan Johnson
PRODS: Ariyan Johnson, Leslie Saltus Evans, Charlie Jordan Brookins
FEATURING: Ariyan Johnson, Cetra Dance, Suncerae Clark Fredericks



Ariyan Johnson shares her personal journey about the struggles and triumphs of her two conflicting loves, Hip Hop and the Church. Through research and interviews with pastors, historians, artists, and pioneering women hip hop dance artists, the film explores the burgeoning industry of Hip Hop and its challenge for acceptance within the Black Christian Church. This first installment of the documentary film series explores correlations of the elements of Hip Hop between the Emcee as the Preacher, the Deejay as the Worship Music, Graffiti as Black Church aesthetics, and the B-Boy/B-Girl as the Liturgical Dance Ministry, and Knowledge as the Word of God (Bible). Culture penetrates all...

THINGS LONG LEFT UNSAID

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 21 min.

DIR/PROD: Antonia Thornton



A short personal documentary about the sudden loss of the filmmaker's father and her coming to terms with all of the things the two never talked about, including the difficulty of existing as a Black family in her predominantly white suburban hometown.

DOC SHORTS: GRP 3

SCREENING: THU JUNE 29 @ 230PM

BREAD BIKE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 18.5 min.

WRITER: Beth Gage
DIRS/PRODS: Beth Gage, George Gage



"Bread Bike" is Sam, Matt and Mariah, three energetic young people on California's central coast who were not inspired by what they studied in college. With a passion for dough, the bread kind, and a belief that everyone loves good food, they're creating and inspiring an inclusive community that cares about their food, their farmers, their planet, and each other, while having lots of fun.

DOC SHORTS: GRP 3 (CONT)

SCREENING: THU JUN 29 @ 230PM

CARETAKER

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 9 min.



DIR/PROD: Verónica Wood
FEATURING: Tony Granados, Rose Wood, Margarita Granados, Carlos Granados

When Antonio receives improper care from his doctor and loses his sight, his sister puts her life on hold and moves to Texas to take care of him full time. A story of the generational history of caretaking in an immigrant Mexican family – and the weight, love and breaking points of familial sacrifice. This is a documentary film I made of my mother, uncle, and grandparents.

IN SEARCH OF BOOZERS AND SCHMUCKS

USA, 2023, 13 min.



WRITER/DIR: Hrag Yedalian
PROD: Hrag Yedalian
FEATURING: Joshua Morris

A short documentary set in the high turnover, high stakes, escalating costly world of sports card collecting, where hundreds of millions of dollars are spent every year in search of Holy Grail cards. But, Joshua Morris moves to the beat of a different drum guided by one key metric: is the card funny? Comical names and hilarious looking cards with amusing backstories are his specialty. Forget LeBron James and Tom Brady rookies – Joshua is looking for an autographed card of the late NASCAR sensation Dick Trickle.

MERMAN

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.



WRITER/DIR: Sterling Hampton IV
PRODS: Sterling Hampton IV, Monica Lawless
FEATURING: Andre Chambers

A 59-year old black queer man speaks his truth about being an emergency nurse, leather enthusiast and body-builder.

MY MOTHER WAS A VOYEUR

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 5 min



WRITER/DIR: Tom Lazarus
PROD: Lazarus Studios

The discovery of his mother's secret cache of fetishistic home movies.

PIE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 17.5 min



WRITER/DIR/PROD: Ally Marks

Pie County, California is a short documentary about the people who have won a pie-baking contest and the obstacles they had to overcome in their pursuit of the Blue Ribbon. The film interviews nine different people, asking questions about what it means to win and what it takes to succeed using pie contests as the window into these incredible stories of failure, family, identity, and ultimately, triumph.

DOC SHORTS: GRP 4

SCREENING: THU JUNE 29 @ 445PM

A BOAT FOR MY BROTHER

USA, 2022, 15.5 min.

DIR/PROD: Matthew Boyd



After the tragic death of his little brother, Johnnie Oberg sets out to put on a Viking funeral in his honor, an ode to their late father's Scandinavian heritage. A custom-built boat, handmade flaming arrows, and a California lake steeped in childhood memories set the stage to make this wistful last wish a reality.

THE AZOVSTAL GIRLFRIEND

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 13 min.

DIR/PROD: Rick Ray



Mariupol, Ukraine. Olia Maliuchenko is a Ukrainian woman waiting every day for the return of her husband, after he was captured by the Russian army and made a prisoner of war in Mariupol's Azovstal Steel factory. With his fate hanging in the balance daily, she remembers him through a series of poems they once exchanged before he disappeared.

LIVING WHILE AMERICAN

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 26 min.

DIR: Sosena Solomon

PRODS: Luke Slattery and Howard Tomb



A freshman member of Philadelphia's city council proposes a new law to prevent the police from stopping drivers for minor infractions—and gets the police on board. Since the law took effect, traffic stops have declined by 70 percent and seizures of illegal guns and drugs have doubled.

SPECTATOR SPORT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Arden Grier

PROD: Rosslyn Luke

FEATURING: Narration by Maebe A. Girl



You don't have to be a political junkie to run for office.

WHAT NEXT?

WEST COAST Premiere | FRANCE, 2023, 15.5 min.

WRITERS: Cécile Rogue, Julien Meyzindi

DIR: Cécile Rogue

PRODS: Séverine Lathuillière, Philippe Aigle

FEATURING: Julien Meyzindi, Dorothee Gilbert



Julien Meyzindi is a « Subject » dancer at the Paris Opera. He joined at the age of 12. Today, he is 42 years old and must leave. That's the way it is, that's the rule. Halfway between documentary and dance fiction, What Next? is both a look at the 30 years he has spent at the Opera et Julien's choreographic creation to imagine his future.

Screening Friday, June 30th at 7pm.



DANNY COULD
PLAY EVERYONE'S MUSIC,
BUT NO ONE COULD
PLAY HIS.

The HUMBLER

Danny Gatton

A FILM BY VIRGINIA QUESADA

WITH DANNY GATTON, LES PAUL,
VINCE GILL, JOE BONAMASSA, ALBERT LEE,
JERRY DOUGLAS, DELBERT MCCLINTON,
RODNEY CROWELL, JOHN SEBASTIAN
AND MANY MORE

www.thehumblermovie.com



VIDEO CULTURE

RIP BANG

DOWNBEAT: A Celebration of MUSIC & DANCE

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 5PM

ITALY, 2023, 4.5 min. **A SUNRISE**

WRITER/DIR: Matteo Medri PROD: Metters Studio Films FEATURING: Virna Toppi, Matilda Medri

On one side fantasy reigns. Beauty. The pleasure of contemplation. On the other, the everyday life, the routine, the passing of time. Two different worlds that, for a dazzling moment, touch each other creating a vision, an opportunity. "A Sunrise" is about an epic encounter, interpreted by the elegance and skill of the prima ballerina of the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Virna Toppi, to the notes of the famous minimalist composer Wim Mertens. This is "A Sunrise".

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 6.5 min. **A WOMAN WITH A PURPLE WIG**

WRITER/DIR: Aleksandra Szczepanowska PRODS: Julie Deffet, Anthony Argento FEATURING: Eri Yamamoto

Eri Yamamoto created the song "A Woman with a Purple Wig" during the pandemic when Asian-hate sharply increased in New York City, and she was filled with fear to go outside. In this video, we follow her exploration of life as a disguised person, all the way till the moment she faces her unmasked-self, in an expression of true freedom, playing the piano.

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 5.5 min. **AINA HANAU**

SONG WRITTEN BY: Nathan Aweau DIR:/PROD: Jason Honeycutt FEATURING: Nathan Aweau

Known for his hauntingly beautiful vocals, Nathan Aweau is a multi-talented, multiple Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award winner (Hawaii's Grammy Award) in a variety of categories, including Hawaiian, Island, Jazz, and Contemporary Albums of the Year, Song of the Year, and Male Vocalist of the Year (three times). Nathan is regarded as one of the greatest Hawai'ian singers and musicians of all time. The performance for music video for "Aina Hanau" was filmed on Oahu, combined with various other islands including Kauai and the Big Island.

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 4 min. **BEAUTY CURRENCY**

WRITERS: Kel Thompson, Andrea Rafa DIR:/PROD: Kel Thompson

A pop/funk song that tells the story of a single mother in difficult circumstances. Pursuing a job as a runway model to help make ends meet, she has to acquire a new skill-set and confidence to perform on the runway. After achieving and exceeding her financial dreams, she finds out that true success comes from within rather than from the external trappings associated with success.

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 5.5 min. **DRUG BLEED**

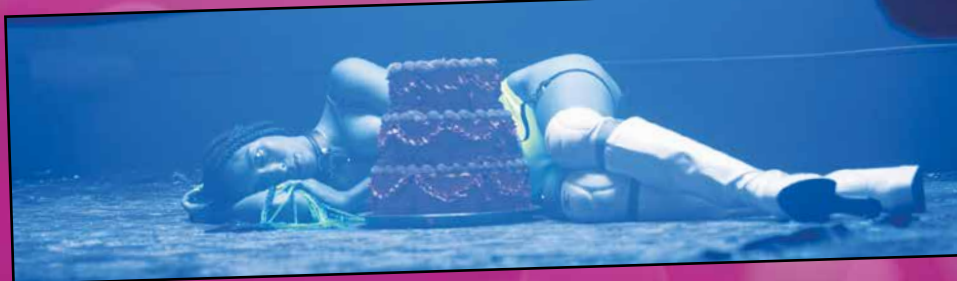
DIR: Trevor Chase PRODS: Trevor Chase, Maria Mikhailova FEATURING: Delusion Segun, Katerina Mikhailova

Drug Bleed follows one main character who dances down a street littered with re-creations of his childhood and adolescent interactions with his pill-addicted mother, who he believes abandoned him. The film culminates with the main character finding his mother dead from a drug overdose.

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 4.5 min. **INDIGO DE SOUZA - KILL ME**

DIR/PROD: ValOne

A solo party, a provocative dance performance, and messy custody battle all linked through the art of competitive cake sitting.



WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min. **INTERRACIAL COUPLE**

IN A CHEERIOS AD

WRITERS: Yuriy Mikhalevskiy, David Roth DIR: Christine Lakin

PRODS: Brian Etting, David Roth, Yuriy Mikhalevskiy

FEATURING: Allison Hooker, Dhaya Lakshminarayanan, Zack Chapaloni, Paul Nygro, Ariel Beesley, Kelly Stables, Sasha Guillaume, Yuriy Mikhalevskiy, Jovi Olivas, Troy Henry, Adina Tseytin, Armen Jesralyan, David Roth, Tina Groff, Becky Lynn, Chad Opitz, Jade Joyce, Rick Ramirez, Richard Sarvate, Ali Borja, Zach Holmes, Brandon Leffler, Jeremy Talamantes, Danielle Kennedy, Nick Gagei

An advertising agency brainstorms a way to make the world's most inclusive commercial.

USA, 2022, 6.5 min. **JEFF HILLIARD - ABANDON**

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Jeff Hilliard

FEATURING: Jeff Hilliard, Lee Miles, Dave Pino, Bobby Hewitt, Coby Connell & Jack Geren

Mother's Voice: Debbie Miller

Dwight, a 50 year old Uber driver that still lives at home with his mother while holding onto his 80's metal rock dream. Has a one stand with Vivian, a married lady that struggles with letting go of her wild side. Dwight is unable to handle the aftermath.

41

DWF LA
2023 OFFICIAL SELECTION



BARRY RUBINOW PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

LEE SHAPIRO JIMMY VIVINO JOHN FEENEY JERRY VIVINO FRANK PAGANO

UNCLE FLOYD VIVINO DOUG ROMOFF JEFF VENHO JOE SIELSKI

BANDED TOGETHER: THE BOYS FROM GLEN ROCK HIGH

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PATRICK CONE MUSIC DIRECTOR JIMMY VIVINO

GRAPHIC DESIGN RICHARD GARDNER CO-PRODUCER DOUG ROMOFF

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/EDITOR BARRY RUBINOW

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Bandedtogethervideo.com

West Coast Premiere
Sunday, July 2nd, 2023
4:45pm

TCL Chinese Theatre
Hollywood, CA

bandedtogethervideo@gmail.com

DOWNBEAT: A Celebration of MUSIC & DANCE

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 5PM

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 3.5 min. **THE LAST STAR**
DIR/PROD: ValOne

Year: 7437. A mysterious ancient civilization is destroying all of the stars in the sky. One of its agents is about to destroy the last one. A beautiful blue star.

WORLD Premiere | USA, 4 min. **LIKE A FLOWER (LAZLO BANE)**
WRITERS: Chad Fischer, Robert Burke, Tim Bright DIR/PROD: Chad Fischer
FEATURING: Chad Fischer, Robert Burke, Tim Bright, Chris Link

Lazlo Bane is back in action with their new anthemic single, Like a Flower. Join the band on their latest adventure as they get sucked into a wormhole, turned into cartoons, battle purple space monsters and save the world with peace and love.



USA, 2022, 4.5 min. **THE MOON FOLLOWED ME OUT FALMOUTH**
WRITER: Kurt Rosenberg DIR: Joël Gibbs PRODS: Kurt Rosenberg, Brent Rogers, Zach Stevens FEATURING: Will Keating

A seafarer sings the story of how he, as a young man, left Falmouth looking for a new life on the High Seas. During his voyage, he recounts how the moon began to follow him, watching his every move. After months at sea, the ship arrived at a tropical island where the moon led him to his first true love awaiting on the beach. But the moon became envious of their love, drove them apart, and forced the young man, heartbroken and alone, back to Falmouth. Every time he looks up at the night sky, the moon is always there, reminding him of a love lost so many years ago.

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | BELGIUM/IRELAND, 2023, 10 min. **OICHE**
WRITERS: David Anthony Curley, Zoë Ashe-Browne DIR: David Anthony Curley PROD: Jonathan Van Hemelrijck
FEATURING: James Vu Anh Pham, Zoe Hollinshead, Morgana Cappellari, Niharika Senapati, Nicha Rodboon, Ruka Nakagawa, Shelby Williams, Aaron Shaw, Sébastien Tassin, Nicola Wills, Paul Vickers, Viktor Banka, Laurine Muccioli, Lateef Williams, Philippe Lens, Brent Daneels, Tiemen Bormans, Shane Urton, Kirsten Wicklund, Lara Fransen, Matt Foley, Claudio Cangialosi, Astrid Tinel, Misako Kato

Oiche (Night) is a celebration of dichotomy and diversity. Much like the KMSKA (Royal Museum of Fine Arts, Antwerp) in which it was shot it is two halves of a whole. The film begins with the birth of our protagonist, The Dancer, in the old world, and follows him on a voyage of self discovery. As he works through the manifestations of his self doubt and self validation he is led on a journey of celebration and liberation in a new world, mirroring the contrasting architecture of the space.

WORLD Premiere | SOUTH KOREA, 2021, 2.5 min. **STEPPED ON POOP**
WRITER: Da Woon Lee, Dahl Lee DIR: Dahl Lee PROD: Chorong Park
FEATURING: Soon Hyeon Kwon, Joo Ri Kim, Myeong Eun Seon, Ji Yeon Park

One of the songs from the OST of musical animation 'PotenDogs', People in the neighborhood sing feeling upset after stepping on poop in the morning that was caused by villains' Dog Poop Terror all over the city. YouTube selected this music video as 'The 2nd most viewed video in South Korea 2021'.

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 3.5 min. **VALKYRIES LANTERN**
WRITERS: David Grauberger, Eleanor Perry-Smith DIR: David Grauberger PRODS: David Grauberger Emily Grauberger
FEATURING: Rich Richardson, Jesse Todd, Emma Michaux, Nick Aretakis, Alex Graff, Luna Richardson, Eleanor Perry-Smith

What does it mean to persevere? Valkyries Lantern follows five unrelated characters in a moment of setback. Journey into each character's world to discover what it takes to dig deep, and make your own future.

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 3.5 min. **VILLAIN ERA**
WRITERS: Jetta Juriansz, Calvin Seabrooks, D.J. Mausner, Tyler Davis, Laurie Magers, Nick Gage, Eddie Mujica
DIR: Tyler Davis PRODS: Anosh McAdam, Lauren Bancroft, Nick Gage
FEATURING: Jetta Juriansz, Adisa Williams, D.J. Mausner, Alise Morales, Miya Kodama, Geoffrey James, Jake Szczepaniak, Evan Mills, Joseph Lymous

A music video about being in your villain era, when in reality we're all still in our "push over" era.

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min. **YELPY: GRAVITY**
WRITER/DIR: Jonathan Martin PRODS: Jonathan Martin, Ieva Georges FEATURING: Yelpy, Ieva Georges

An astronaut is lost in space and can only be saved by the love of a captain desperate to find him. Official music video for "Gravity" by Irish artist Yelpy.

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6
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COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 1230PM

ANGELES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 17 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alexis Adams and Hannah Fay Foligno

PRODS: Alexis Adams, Hannah Foligno, Sam Wolf, and Juan Felipe Díaz

CAST: Hannah Fay Foligno, Anthony Turpel, Sara Arrington, Alexis Adams, and Natalie Couture

Seventeen year old Isabel dreams of moving to Los Angeles to make music, but her plans for the future change when she finds out she's pregnant. Without the support of her friends and family, she searches for guidance in all the wrong places and must ask herself: are some people meant to be ordinary?



ARE U THERE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 15 min.

WRITERS: Alex Coco, Palma Wright, Christiana Martoccia

DIR: Alex Coco

PRODS: Alex Coco, Erin Coco

CAST: Palma Wright, Christiana Martoccia, Alex Coco

Lola drags her friend Codi to a music festival outside of Los Angeles. When Codi meets a guy and chooses him over Lola, deeper feelings come out, testing the boundaries of their friendship.



CAGED

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 6 min.

WRITER: Brittney Bertier

DIR: Jeff Perreca

PRODS: Brittney Bertier & Jeff Perreca

CAST: Brittney Bertier & Michael Gazin

Amanda is being held captive by a mysterious man of few words when she decides to use the only weapon at her disposal: her gift of gab. In an attempt to connect with her captor, she opens the flood-gates, and in a stunning turn of events is saved by her unlikely hero – the one, the only, Nicolas Cage.



THE HEREAFTER

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 22 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ryan Noufer

PRODS: Brian Buxton, Amina Fishburn, Mitchell Kerby

CAST: Patrick Fabian, Cailyn Rice, Corey Landis, Paige Cato

Olive, a terminally ill teen, simply wants her ashes spread with her late mother's. However, Olive's father wants her to be buried in a Selfie Casket – a product that allows the deceased to keep posting to their social medias from beyond the grave.



INFIEL (I CHEATED)

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 8.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ben Escobar

PRODS: Arjun Yadav & Samantha Ferrand

CAST: Elkin Diaz, Alex Correa

The first "man to man conversation" between a father and son is as beautiful as it is terrifying. For an estranged father/son relationship, sometimes it never happens. INFIEL lives in this tension and familial limbo within its characters, inviting a grounded, near fantastical depiction of what the conversation between lasting imperfections of a father and son can look like. As both of them power through the pain and awkwardness of unearthing such a conversation, a glimpse of the past and future behind their stories erupt, resolving this momentary trial with simplicity and unconditional love.



LITTLE MOUSE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Lena Kaminsky

PRODS: Lena Kaminsky, Eva Kaminsky, John Patrick Hayden

CAST: Eva Kaminsky, Natalie Joy Johnson, John Patrick Hayden, Tasha Lawrence

Betsy suddenly finds herself alone, packing up a houseful of memories. In order to move on, she must untangle her feelings of loss as she navigates a complicated and unexpected relationship with a mouse in her house.



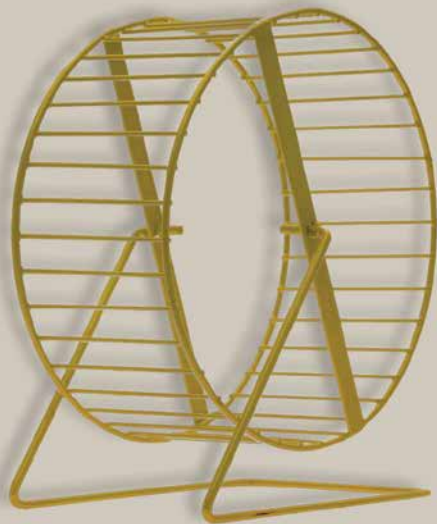
DANIELLE NICOLET • GREG VAUGHAN • JENNIFER O'DELL



World Premiere
Tuesday June 27
@5pm

13

FORGIVENESS IS...
OVERRATED



a short film by Jason Laurits

GOODBYE TANGO

Spin or stop.

WORLD PREMIERE
June 24, 2023 | 2:45pm



COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 245PM

A WEDDING DAY

US Premiere | USA, 2022, 21 min.

WRITER/DIR: Brendan Beachman

PRODS: Brendan Beachman, Colin Arndt,
Douglas Riggs & Todd Sandler

CAST: Megan Stogner, Scott Kuza & Hugo Armstrong



For newlyweds Brad and Jill, it seems the honeymoon is over before it even began. When an eccentric stranger named Jess White stumbles into the couples first argument as man and wife, the day takes an abrupt turn and changes their lives forever.

L'APPRENANTE (THE LEARNER)

SOUTHERN CALIF. Premiere | USA/France, 2022, 7 min.

WRITER/DIR: Angelique Kalani Axelrode

PRODS: Angelique Kalani Axelrode,
Cordelia Hare & Hannah Fishlow

CONSULTING PROD: Caytha Jentis



L'Apprenante, an American student in Paris, takes French classes to experience the culture, even though her accent is tragique. At a party, she meets La Femme, but struggles to communicate her interest as she grapples with the language barriers and coming to terms with her queerness. Can she overcome her self-doubt, commit to improving her French, and make a move with La Femme? Impossible n'est pas français.

FOR THE SAFETY OF THEO

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Christopher Macken

PRODS: Jillian Nordby & Sierra Oleson

EXEC PRODS: Luke Macken, Charlie Day,
John Myers, Christopher Macken ASSOC PROD: Ellah Seno

CAST: Darragh O'Toole, Kelly Curran,
Dan Sanders-Joyce, & Charlie Morgan Patton



When casual hook-ups become too debilitating, a man suffering from Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder seeks out different ways to purge himself from the consequences of the night before.

GOODBYE TANGO

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jason Laurits

PRODS: Jason Laurits, Jeanette Bonner & Derek Amengual

CAST: Joan Shangold, Marilyn Busch,
Jeanette Bonner & Louis Rocky Bacigalupo



The sudden death of Ruth's beloved hamster reveals a decaying marriage with her curmudgeonly wife, Connie. Ruth must either accept the death of things or keep spinning the wheel.

REUNION

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15.5 min..

WRITERS: Tim Naylor & Zainab Jah

DIRS: Zainab Jah & Tim Naylor

PROD: Djaka Souaré

CAST: MaYaa Boateng, Obi Abili



Reunion tells what happens when a West African immigrant living the Bronx, discovers the child soldier who destroyed her family, years later, is now a best selling author living in New York City. Combining live action with graphic novel illustrations, the film captures a refugee, New Yorker and African perspective.

SPEAK UP BROTHA!

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 14.5 min.

WRITERS: Roderick Lawrence, Obbie West, James J. Johnson

DIR: Wes Andre Goodrich

PRODS: Salma Qarnain, Roderick Lawrence

EXEC PRODS: Ron Gillyard, Will Campbell,
Ike Mbanefo, Obbie West, Cameron Carr

CAST: Roderick Lawrence, Toni Lachelle Pollitt, Madeline Grey DeFreece, Alphonso Walker Jr., Justin Winley, Jaleeca Yancy, and featuring T.C. Carson



Grad student Ahmad Jones drives for a rideshare company. He receives a request from a mysterious woman — a poet. They connect over music, but she seems to ignore him. When the opportunity arises to see her again, Ahmad must learn how to communicate in ways beyond his understanding to win her heart. With a nod to "Love Jones," "Poetic Justice" and other '90s Black romantic classics, SPEAK UP BROTHA! flirts with Afro-futurism while exploring the synergy of connection.

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Set your sights on Hollywood. Next stop?
The Hollywood Roosevelt. Enjoy two welcome
drinks and valet parking for one vehicle on us.



COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 3

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 5PM

A REAL ONE

USA, 2022, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: McKenzie Chinn

PRODS: Lisa Masseur, Sarah Minnie

CAST: Eris Baker, Ireon Roach, Matthew Amador,
Bridget Frances Harris

Lauren and Keisha's friendship is "us against the world." They're 17 and live on Chicago's largely Black south side. Their friendship is tested when Lauren reveals a tightly-held secret to Keisha, and the two friends must take matters into their own hands in a landscape where the only thing they can truly count on is each other.



CUXBALL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 12.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Dave Paige

PRODS: Amanda Schulz & Dave Paige

CAST: River L. Ramirez, Natalie Palamides,
Will Hines, Emilia Richeson-Valiente, Tyler Jenich,
Corey Podell, Kelcey Watson, Jack Sam Koumane,
Rebecca Avery, Daniel Cobden, Manny Vargas

Sam finds something in the dirt.



LUCKY PEACH

INTERNATIONAL Premiere | USA, 2022, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Grace Tan

PRODS: Sophia O'Rourke, Andrew McMartin

CAST: Stella Ye, Ivy Mak, Elodie Fong, Briony Williams

A visually imaginative, deeply personal story about the tensions that develop between an immigrant mother and a young woman as she prepares to head abroad.



REGRETS

WORLD Premiere | SPAIN, 2022, 5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alex Badham

PROD: La Selva Ecosistema Creatiu

CAST: Andrew Vaughan

A woozy journey into a psychedelic dreamscape populated by restless souls, each ruminating on the failures and missteps of their lives.



THAT'S ENOUGH NOW THANKS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.

WRITER/DIR: Aquila Chase-Daniel

PRODS: Aquila Chase-Daniel, Jason Vizzini & Joe Vizzini

CAST: Dakota Shapiro, Francesca Barker McCormick,
Elliot Masters, Rich Rosales, Tas Pelikan

An anxious young human struggles to navigate the intricacies of cellular communication.



TO JESSICA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Robert Postrozny

PRODS: Jessica Postrozny

CAST: Jessica Postrozny & Robert Postrozny

An honest look at the struggles of marriage after a traumatic event tears a couple apart.



THE WORD

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 9.5 min.

WRITERS: Colin Ochs, Rob Neilson,
Sam Demaris, Billy D. Washington

DIR: Rob Neilson

PRODS: Adam Taylor, Rob Neilson,
Joe Grisaffi, Eddie Rodriguez

CAST: Rutherford Cravens, Sam Demaris, Joe Grisaffi, Billy D. Washington, Andy Huggins, Ed Warner
Billionaires decide to give all African-American's reparations...but there's a catch.





A REAL ONE

a short film by
MCKENZIE CHINN

**COMPETITION
SHORTS BLOCK 3
SATURDAY 6/24
AT 5PM**



Lost Fathers
Unbroken Bonds

Father Figures

A film by Alessandro Chillé



Steven Hauck
("The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel")

Matthew Delamater
("The Tender Bar")

**WORLD
PREMIERE**
JUNE 26, 5 PM
DANCES WITH FILMS FESTIVAL
THE CHINESE 6 THEATRES, LOS ANGELES

FATHERFIGURESFILM.COM

COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 4

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 1230PM

BIG BOY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 13 min.

WRITER/DIR: Michael Strassner
PRODS: David Bonnett & Michael Strassner
CAST: Michael Strassner, Brett Paesel

Brooks, a lonely 30 something man seeks to escape the discomforts of daily life by hiring a sex worker for any sort of connection at all.



THE CHOSEN ONE

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 19 min.

WRITER/DIR: Elazar Fine
PRODS: Jacob Bridgman, Kale Davidoff & Elazar Fine
CAST: Luzer Twersky, Malky Goldman, Mike Burstyn

After impulsively shaving off his beard and sidelocks, Eli Eisenstein is thrown out of his Hasidic family home. Stumbling through the streets in a fragile state of mind, Eli experiences a nightmarish transformation that leads him right back to where he started.

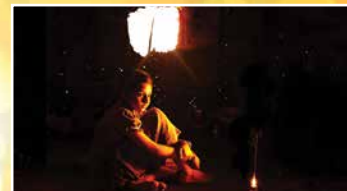


KANCHANA

WORLD Premiere | INDIA, 2022, 16 min.

WRITER: Senthil Jegannathan
DIR: Sriram Kanchana Thangaraj **PROD:** Thangaraj M
CAST: Manasvi Kottachi, Deepa, Chinnamani, Aneesha

Following ancient customs, a 10 year old girl is banished to a basic hut outside the village for menstruating. There she goes through a trauma of isolation, pain and feels ostracized. The story depicts how these ancient menstrual myths still haunt Indian women, and the stigma of menstruation is hard to overcome in this 21st century.



LILI

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Brian Rios **PRODS:** Cadiz Rodriguez, Brian Rios
CAST: Alexon Duprey, Lara Bravo, Jessica Rodriguez
Jessica Maria Rodriguez, Victor Segui

A father and daughter must cross the border in order to find a better life. However, the journey is made more difficult, because the daughter cannot speak.



MUD CRAB

AUSTRALIA, 2022, 12.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: David Robinson-Smith
PRODS: Adam Daniel, Adam Finney
CAST: Joshua Mehmet, Laneikka Denne

Reflecting on her culpability, a woman recounts the traumatising assault she witnessed of a young man in a small Australian coastal town.



SYCNIFICANT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 7 min.

WRITER: Rhett Wellington Ramirez **DIR:** Erik Bergamini
PRODS: Rhett Wellington Ramirez, Erik Bergamini, Hanna Stein
CAST: Hanna Stein, Rhett Wellington Ramirez

A young wife desperately attempts to salvage her husband's memories of their marriage.



ica judges

We are honored to welcome the judges for the
2023 Industry Choice Awards



CHRISTOPHER BARBOUR
– Writer/Producer
at Criminal Minds & CSI



GABI EBON
– Homegrown Films,
Director of Development



MAYA RODRIGO
– M88/MACRO,
Literary Manager



ADAM KOEHLER
– IFC Acquisitions



VALERIE MCCAFFREY
– Casting Director,
Producer, Writer, Director



GRACE ROYER
– Agent,
UTA Independent Film Group

ica judges

COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 5

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 245PM

CACTUS

WORLD Premiere | AUSTRALIA, 2023, 17.5 min.

WRITERS: Milena Bennett & Harry Greenwood

DIR: Milena Bennett

PRODS: Harriet Dixon-Smith, Harry Greenwood, Fiona Nix

CAST: Tiarnie Coupland, Antonio Goncalves, Jenna Owen,
Harry Greenwood, Wesley Senna Cortes, Luis Santos



When twenty-something year old Grace meets her elderly Portuguese neighbour Mr Rodrigues, it's instant friction; but mutual dislike soon grows into a bond of respect and understanding after an unexpected encounter forces them to connect.

DEVELOPMENT

WORLD Premiere | AUSTRALIA, 2022, 9.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Rebecca Metcalf

PRODS: Gabrielle Pearson, Erin Saliba, Luke Saliba

CAST: Finn Woodlock, Jennifer Elliott



Bored and isolated in a suburban development, two teenagers' budding romance rides an uncomfortable line between flirtation and violence. 'Development' documents the moment in time when the pair's push-pull relationship reaches breaking point.

FIRST CHAIR

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: Luke Montgomery, Ethan Montgomery

PROD: Luke Montgomery

CAST: Jin Kim, Ethan Montgomery, Bob Feller



A clarinet player tries to keep her spot in first chair when a new player joins the band.

I'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH KARL OVE KNAUSGARD

WORLD Premiere | NORWAY, 2022, 10.5 min.

WRITERS: Anniken Fjesme & Guro Ekornholmen

DIR: Guro Ekornholmen **PROD:** Anniken Fjesme



Ingeborg (32) has made a list of the most important people in her life, and calls around to thank them. The conversations don't end up as planned, until she calls her Italian ex-boyfriend.

ROSEMARY A.D. (AFTER DAD)

SOUTHERN CALIF. Premiere | USA, 2022, 9.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ethan Barrett

PROD: Tiffany Barrett

CAST: Rosemary Barrett, Tiffany Barrett, Ethan Barrett



As he cares for his infant daughter, a stay-at-home dad wonders if his child would be better off without him and imagines her life once he is gone.

THE THIRD BEDROOM

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 23 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kathryn Van Buren

PRODS: Kathryn Van Buren, Shane Greb & Maggie Bailey

CAST: Ava Torres, Ruben Caballero, Paul Michael Bloodgood



On a gloomy winter trip to help her father prepare their ancestral beach house for sale, little Isla illuminates some of the darkness that haunts the family tree.



COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 6

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 5PM

BAD ASIAN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 5.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kim Marcelino
PROD: Emily Wirth
CAST: Lee Hubilla, Rob Chen



An Asian American woman's internalized racism stands between her and a steamy one-night stand.

HICKEY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 19.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Giovanna Molina
PRODS: Cailin Lobb-Rabe, Giovanna Molina & Shen Wei
CAST: Chloe Carroll, Heidi Schwartz, Alvin Cowan, Adam Hersko-RonaTas, Seneca Fiedler, Holly Anne Jones



After discovering a hickey on her older sister's neck, Grace (15) attempts to expose her sister and win her conservative father's approval.

HOW IT GOES

INTERNATIONAL Premiere | USA, 2023, 26 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ryan Espinosa
PRODS: Henry Baime, Ryan Espinosa, Douglas Renison & Asia Bonetto
CAST: Lillian Conner, Matthew Nikitow, Jourdain Fisher, Aristeo Kardi, Sif Saga, Adam Bartoszesky, Ahmed Algaradi, Shaunna Espinosa



After an evening out, 22-year old Lily, decides to take a short train ride home over calling an Uber. Along the way she experiences interactions with three different men whose threatening behavior find Lily in the most vulnerable of situations searching for an escape.

IN THE EVENT OF AN EARTHQUAKE

WORLD Premiere | ARGENTINA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER: Francisco Bendorim
DIRS: Francisco Bendorim & Luis Montoya
PRODS: Francisco Bendorim, Camila Adaro Liloff & Javier de Pietro
CAST: Facundo Perez, Lola Ahumada



Upon arriving home after an earthquake, a teenager finds his mother's dead body lying under the dining room's ceiling lamp. Distraught about an uncertain future, he decides to carry out a strange plan with the help of his best friend.

MY VAGINA

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

WRITERS: Shannon Burkett & Danny K. Bernstein
DIRS/PRODS: Shannon Burkett & Neil Burns
CAST: Dee Roscioli



PTA Prez Keli Pam Convoy is the perfect mother who does everything perfectly except this one little thing...she accidentally sent a picture of her vagina to her nanny (male nanny), who also happens to be an assistant teacher at the school! Can Keli come back from this disastrous faux pas? Will she be able to show her puss (her face!) at the next bake sale? Tune in to find out....

THE STAIRS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jessica Aquila Cymerman
PRODS: Natalie Britton & Kate Hamilton
CAST: Briella Guiza, Guy Nardulli, Jayne Taini, Natalia Abelleira, Eanna O'Dowd, Daniel Adaro, Levi Oleesky, Anjella Guiza



Rose, a child of Irish and Italian immigrants in 1968 Brooklyn, attempts to fit in with the boys by joining the game her brother plays with his friend. Their tenement building super and local Deacon starts preying on Rose, until Mrs. Teruli, an old-world Italian healer breaks his hold.



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FUSION SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: MON JUNE 26 @ 5PM

BLIND STITCH

USA, 2022, 17 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alexander Bergman

PRODS: Caleb Negassa, Mario Kenyon, Sorina Vaziri

CAST: Jongman Kim, Dumbfoundead, Jine Kim

A Koreatown Tailor hides a side hustle as a criminal surgeon until his secrets burst at the seams.



CONFESSIONS

USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Stephanie Kaznocha

PRODS: C.E. Horton, Caroline Huber, Stephanie Kaznocha

CAST: Carol Herman, Eve Sigall



After the death of a friend, two nuns in their golden years contemplate what the future holds. One confession leads to another and before they know it, they're embarking on a journey of self discovery.

THE COWBOY AND THE SAMURAI

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 11.5 min.

WRITERS: Sam Lewis and Jake Lewis DIR: Jake Lewis

PRODS: Jake Lewis, Sam Lewis, Jenna Socha,

Mark Waldman, Jon Walkup, Bri Klapproth, Emil Gurvin

CAST: Jamie Costa, Sandy Danto, Jake Lewis, Sam Lewis



In 1978, world renowned movie star, Jack Nicholson, made his feature directorial debut, a western called GOIN' SOUTH. Against the advice of his producers, he cast up and coming comedian, John Belushi. Both John and Jack are known as Hollywood's biggest bad boys and both are about to meet their match. Based on a true story... kind of.

FATHER FIGURES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alessandro Chillé

PROD: Wes Lawrence Snyder

CAST: Steven Hauck, Matthew Delamater, Alessandro Chillé,

Timothy Hackney, Taylor Pezza, Isabelle Van Vleet



Harold works as a professional father figure for young men who've lost their dads. But to truly help these shattered souls heal, he must confront his own devastating loss.

GOOD EGG

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 8.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Mitra Shahidi

PROD: Samara Al-Jumaily

CAST: Sonia Sawkar, Kevin Crisostomo,

Markus Kranzler, Jackie Harvel, Kim Singh



When a self-reliant woman is thrust into fertility treatments, she goes to painstaking lengths to become a mother. Produced by a women led team of creatives.

THE HUNTER

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 16.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Matt Hingstman

PROD: Melissa Burns

CAST: Ryan Caldwell, Ryan Larson



When a lone hunter is thrust into a strange and deadly situation, he must decide how far he's willing to go to stay alive...

West Coast
Premiere



DADDY



JUNE 23RD, 2023

9:30PM

PRG

FUSION SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: TUE JUNE 27 @ 5PM

13

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 13 min.

WRITER/DIR: Danielle Nicolet
PRODS: Danielle Nicolet, Kayla Compton,
Michael Kussman, Josiah Ruis

CAST: Danielle Nicolet, Greg Vaughan, Jennifer O'Dell

In an effort to find closure, a woman returns to her hometown to confront her teenage abuser. She soon realizes that forgiveness is... overrated.

#PIZZAGATE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 6 min.

DIR: Stuart Valberg **PROD:** Brandon Lescure
CAST: Ian Hayes

The United States of Conspiracy. Inspired by and based on the 'Pizzagate Incident' of December 4th, 2016.

LEAK

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 8.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jordan Martin
PROD: Ben Richardson
CAST: Ben Richardson, Rita Scranton,
Mel Ellis, Tiffany Montgomery, William A. Hill

Logan lives a blistering existence with his deaf mother Mary. His not-so-distant future is riddled with heat waves and worldwide shortage. The government rations drinking water and rumor has it, Logan's been stealing more than his fair share. The resource enforcement agency gets word and investigates. Logan would risk everything to protect his mother, but good intentions can only get him so far.

OMI

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 15.5 min.

DIR/PROD: Adam Lebowitz-Lockard

When he's ready to take the next step with his shiksa girlfriend, a young Jewish man gets possessed by the spirit of his dead Yiddish grandmother, OMI, who has plans of her own.

THE RECEPTION

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Will Crouse
CAST: Iesha Rochelle, Brenna DiStasio, Philena Gilmer,
Brandon Miller, Sierra White, Amy Heller, Scott West,
Cornelius Byrd, Leo St. Leo, Watson Swift, Cliff Richmond,
Mark Huddle, Guy Wicke, Alex Nolen, Ashley Crowe,
Jessica King, Matt Rosin, Lauren Partch, Morgan Alyse,
Kaitlyn Majoy, Reid Harrison, Steve Han, Scott Shimizu, Bethany Hart, Ben Page, Kristina Cottone

Shay and Becca's wedding reception goes off the rails when Becca's reiki healer shows up and takes the party by storm.

STRING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ryan Parsons
PRODS: Ryan Parsons, Shayan Ebrahim
CAST: Raquel Villarino, Angel Rincon,
Matt Catanzano, Dan Hodapp, Rufino Romero

In this Euro-throwback slasher comedy, a young socialite trapped in her apartment must dig deep using all her cunning and instincts to thwart a masked killer. All the while, two bumbling detectives stake out the area waiting for signs of trouble...

WHEEL

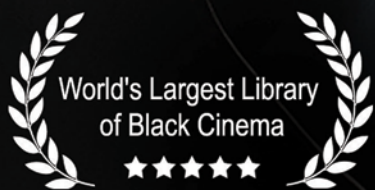
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Honora Talbott **PROD:** Thea Lux
CAST: Nancy Friedrich, Thea Lux

A casting director gets hit with some bad news while helping her eccentric neighbor tape a Wheel of Fortune audition. Tensions are high, nerves are shot, and it's awkward as hell.



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FUSION SHORTS: GRP 3

SCREENING: WED JUNE 28 @ 5PM

BRUSH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 5.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Summer Sveinson **PROD:** Jill Jordan

CAST: Olivia Stambouliah, Kristen Gutoskie

The story of a relationship, told through the intimate perspective of the bathroom mirror.



ESPERANZA

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 18 min.

WRITER/DIR: Shruti Parekh

PRODS: Laura Scarano, Shruti Parekh

CAST: Anwar Molani, Rosa Frausto, Vico Ortiz, Deepti Gupta, Joe Coffey, Keya Gupta, Yash Gupta, Sonny Singh, Melvin Hampton Sr., Regan DuCasse, Summer Knowles



Dev, a taxi driver in upstate New York, ferries asylum-seekers to an unmarked Canadian border crossing in the hopes of earning enough to bring his family over from India. One night, he picks up Estrella and Marisol, a Salvadoran couple with dreams of a new beginning and a great deal at stake. When they challenge his tactics, he must confront how far he will go for his American Dream.

FINDERS KEEPERS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 16 min.

WRITERS: Hernando Caicedo, Ryann Shane **DIR:** Kim Caicedo

PRODS: Hernando Caicedo, Ryann Shane, Kim Caicedo, Benjamin Johnson, Jennette Nelligan

CAST: Ryann Shane, Albee Castro, Michelle Yazvac, Hernando Caicedo, Jennette Nelligan



Two inexperienced crooks try to escape a botched break in when a dog walker and house cleaner show up.

FIVE AND A HALF

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Heidi Nyburg

PROD: Kristin Tegtmeier Higgins

CAST: Lauren Jude Rosa, James Hal Hardy, Katherine Cozumel, Valerie Gould, Chanden Jackson, Ratoya Banks, Marco Holt, Vivienne Page



Based on a true story, a sheltered little girl spends an unnerving afternoon with her estranged father where she's left with only her imagination to stop time and escape impending disaster.

MAKE THE CALL

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 15 min.

WRITER: Sal Neslusan **DIR:** Chelsea Gonzalez

PRODS: Amanda Markowitz, Chelsea Gonzalez, Sal Neslusan

CAST: Camille Chen, Sal Neslusan, Gunnar Anderson, Hazel Aubrey



Annie and Caro were best friends until a plague that turns American citizens into blood thirsty killers overtakes the country. Tonight, they reunite to finally find a way to rekindle their friendship. Can Annie and Caro bury the past behind them, or will Annie be forced to 'Make the Call' that will change her friend's life forever.

THE SINGING TELEGRAM

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 13.5 min.

WRITER/PROD: Eddie Grey **DIR:** Nic Cory

CAST: Eddie Grey, Andrew Chappelle, Chad Burris, Kaye Tuckerman, Jennifer Tulchin



An aspiring singer is stuck delivering singing telegrams to make ends meet. Blinded by his desire to succeed, he risks losing the one part of his life he needs most...until a surprise telegram changes his perspective.

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FUSION SHORTS: GRP 4

SCREENING: THU JUNE 29 @ 5PM

BAYARD STREET

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 15.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Cindy Chu **PRODS:** Mikel Butler, Cindy Chu
ASSOC PROD: Jenna You

CAST: Genevieve Shi, Haosong Yang, Andy Chu, XiaoXiao Sun,
Shu Hang Chan, Hung Choy Chung, Kamila Hoe,
Jenna You, Victor Zheng, Cindy Chu



In the kitchen of a late-night spot on Bayard Street in Chinatown, New York, Mei Ching, the new Chinese takeout gal fumbles to prepare orders. As the atmosphere overwhelms her, she clashes with the other workers. Just when the restaurant manager is about to fire her, Andy, another waiter steps in to defend her. When Mei Ching doubts herself coming to America, Andy brings hope back into her life, and they share their greatest dreams for the future.

HECTOR'S HELL HOUSE

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | USA, 2023, 11.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: John Adam Krueger
PRODS: Julia Angley, John Adam Krueger, Reina Higashitani
CAST: Gabriel Storm, Bill Mendieta,
Christian Weissmann, Liesel Kopp



In a family that commands him to be tough, young Elliott must confront his fears to make his father proud. But on Halloween night, the blurry line between his imagination and reality pushes him to his limit.

LUNCH TATTOO

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 11 min.

WRITERS/PRODS: Kimia Behpoornia, Nicholas Luciano
DIR: Nicholas Luciano
CAST: Kimia Behpoornia, Nicholas Luciano, Jesse Lara,
Kenny Takar, Sophia Grosso, Tricia Lu



Blending a cast of professional actors and non-actors, Lunch Tattoo comedically explores and heightens what can go wrong when two anxiety driven friends decide to get their first tattoo in an attempt to break their family's anti-tattoo legacy.

PREET

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jayesh Jaidka
PRODS: Jayesh Jaidka, Arantxa Ibarra, Sohailla Mahjour
CAST: Manasvi Sharma, Manik Singh Anand



Originally hailing from Amritsar, Punjab, a young and naive Indian marital rape victim, Preet takes the advice of her childhood friend, Jugal, and moves to the city of dreams, New York City after running away from her abusive marriage. With a preconceived notion that the United States will treat her differently, Preet soon realizes that the male gaze and the trauma from her marriage still surround her.

SOIL

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sam Lembeck **PRODS:** Adam Bradshaw,
Vero Shamo-Garcia, Natalie Lembeck
CAST: Jason Tam, Rachna Khatau,
Todd Weeks, Hudson D'Andrea



A young man tries to grow an oak tree by combining soil, an acorn, and the ashes of his dead father.

TIKI BAR FUNERAL HOME

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Amy DePaola
PRODS: Amy DePaola, Aliethea D'Angelo, Danielle Beckmann
CAST: Danielle Beckmann, Jeanne Young, Christine
Schermerhorn, Will Brandt, Angelina Ramirez, Amy DePaola,
Walker Hare and Angela Matemoja



After 12 years, a failing actress returns to her hometown to attend her ex-boyfriend's tiki-themed funeral where she plans to tell his best friend she's in love with him, only when she arrives she finds her ex still alive.

FUSION SHORTS: GRP 5

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 245PM

B WORD

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.



DIR: Honora Talbott
PRODS: Honora Talbott, Bradford Hunter Wray, Bill Posley

A dark comedy about a 35-year-old woman who doesn't want kids, but is feeling the pressure to procreate from all sides. Tired of losing all her besties to motherhood, she makes a dramatic choice to make new friends.

DRIFTING BOAT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 20.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Luying Wang
PROD: Geling Guo
CAST: Sarah Gu

Drifting Boat follows Ying Zi, an elderly Chinese immigrant woman who has a strong desire to go back to her hometown in China when the traditional Chinese Spring Festival comes. However, she is stranded alone due to her poor health condition and practical reasons. On New Year's Eve, her son's American family comes home and holds a fake Spring Festival party...

FLYING TURTLE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 15.5 min.



WRITER: Dmytro Karlash
DIR: Daniel Golovnia
PRODS: Kateryna Pyschchykova, Anhelina Stepanenko
CAST: Anton Kocherha, Alisa Voznesenska, Oleksandra Soroka, Svitlana Bukhta, Vitalii Ishchenko, Mykhailo Myrnyi, Yan Bldnyi, Artem Yemelianov

Pavlo suffers from burnout on his job, and once again, he is sent on a work trip against his will. Nevertheless, he feels safe in this way of things. On the road, he meets mischievous explorer Alise on her travel around a country. This is where the clash of two different worlds happened. Will Pavlo break his shell and find freedom or just run away?

FUSION SHORTS: GRP 5

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 245PM

THE HAUNTED BABY CARRIAGE FROM HELL

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 8.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: JT Seaton
PRODS: Dylan Wayne Lawrence, JT Seaton
CAST: Dylan Wayne Lawrence, John Reddy, Kelli Maroney, James Sharinghousen, Noelle Guest, Paul Bright, Laura Welsh



In this LGBTQ+ Horror Comedy Short Film, Spencer and Cameron move into a new house that just so happens to be haunted by an old baby carriage. As the carriage endeavors to scare the couple, the attempts ultimately fail because the couple just doesn't care... like... you know... at all.

HAWAWSHI

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR: Waleed Bedour
PROD: Ahmed Barbary
CAST: Mouna Soualem, Tatiana Randores, Haythem Noor, Oliver Shirley, Thierno Diallo



At a late night eatery, Farida shows her friend traditional Egyptian food. When Farida witnesses a sexual assault, she confronts the situation and everyone else.

OUTPOST

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 7 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ben Anklam
PRODS: Jamie Costa, Ben Anklam, Julianna Ulrich, Brian Ulrich
CAST: Jamie Costa, Steph Barkley



In a futuristic wasteland, an overconfident marauder and his snarky robot companion pillage an abandoned bunker and have an unexpected encounter.

RED FLAGS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 2.5 min.

WRITERS/PRODS: Lain Ewing, Deb Foster
DIR: Lain Ewing
CAST: Alyssa Alexander, Forrest Hoffman, Deb Foster



Sometimes we can miss the signs around us, or maybe we see what we want.

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UNLEASHED SHORTS

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 5PM

ANIMUS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 10 min.

WRITER: Ron Osborn
DIR: Delaney Bishop
PRODS: Hrag Yedalian



A Nobel Prize-winning physicist suspected of murdering three husbands either has a very novel scientific defense or is delusional.

CHICKEN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15.5 min.

WRITER: Courtney Karwal
DIR: Alejandro Montoya Marin
PRODS: Matt Walsh, Morgan Walsh, John Kaler
CAST: Courtney Karwal, Matt Walsh, John Kaler, Aaron Mastriani and Criss Angel



An interstate journey with a chicken helps an aspiring comedian overcome her fear of failure.

2023 CANADASHORTS
2023 FANTASTIC FILM AWARDS
DWF+LA
Easthampton Film Festival

SHORTS
Fusion Group 3
Wednesday
June 28th
5:00PM

"A remarkable film. Fantastic performances especially Lauren Jude Rosa, gorgeous cinematography, and directing that is both subtle and deft."
CHRIS FERRY
EASTHAMPTON FILM FESTIVAL

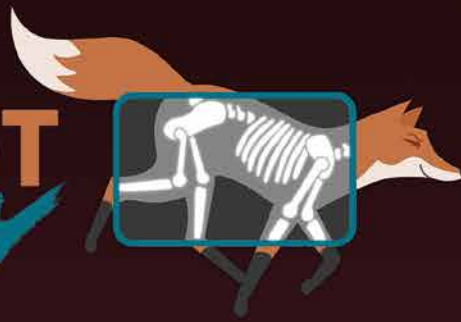
Watch the trailer

Five and a Half
A little imagination might save you

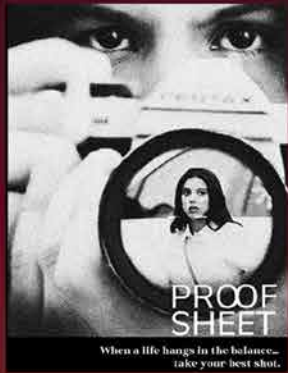
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UNLEASHED SHORTS

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 5PM

HIT FRIENDS

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 12.5 min.

WRITERS: Sterling Jones & Daniel Rashid

DIR: Daniel Rashid

PRODS: Sterling Jones, Daniel Rashid,
Elizabeth Valenti, Melissa Ganzi

CAST: Sterling Jones, Kelley Jakle, Lisa Schurga, Sterling Sulieman

Alice and Paul are best friends who do everything together, but when Alice reveals that she went to Six Flags without Paul, he starts to question their friendship. Oh, and they're hired assassins.



THE HOPE CHEST HAS A SECRET DOOR

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Laura Frenzer

PRODS: Skei Saulnier, Laura Frenzer,

Siobhan O'Neill, Rohana Kenin

CAST: Amy Hargreaves, Anna Stuart

What happens when you forget to forget? A stressed daughter working tirelessly as caregiver to her mother lost in an Alzheimer's haze, accidentally uncovers a dark family secret. From the award winning screenplay by Laura Frenzer and produced by a women led team. @hopechestfilm



THE TRAGEDY OF A DOG

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

WRITER: D.J. Mausner DIR: Tyler Davis

PRODS: Anosh McAdam, Lauren Bancroft

CAST: D.J. Mausner, Evan Mills,
Jake Szczepaniak, Joseph Lymous

A sweet and bubbly couple outfit their dog Jellybean with a translation collar only to receive a harrowing monologue.



WE HAVE NOTES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jordan McKittrick

PRODS: Gabe Godoi, Kevin Cooper,

Ginge Cox & Austin Welsh

CAST: Madeleine Coghlan,
Michael Strassner, James Tupper

The director of a big budget Joan of Arc movie struggles to implement increasingly frustrating studio notes.



YOU NEED TO PROCESS THIS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Eleanor Morrison

PRODS: Eleanor Morrison, Colin Hudock

CAST: Mary Holland, Matt Peters

A couple struggles to connect in the wake of a traumatic event. Content warning for discussion of sexual assault.



A NARRATIVE SHORT FILM BY TATYANA KIM

DWF LA
2023 OFFICIAL SELECTION



JUNE 26 2:30 PM



OFF HOLLYWOOD

THE UNDOCUMENTED JOURNEY OF HOPE

WALK FROM THE MOVIE SCENE STRAIGHT INTO TCL CHINESE THEATRES

A FILM BY D. MITRY
HEDGEHOG
І Ж А Ч О К

PERSPECTIVES GRP 2
MONDAY | JUNE 26 | 4:45 PM



As the war starts in Ukraine, six years old Nina is sent to her grandmother's village. In the shack outside, she discovers a wounded Russian soldier...



PERSPECTIVES: GRP 1

SCREENING: MON JUN 26 @ 230PM

BREATHLESS

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Wayne Yu
PRODS: Chenshou, Yucong Shi
CAST: Xiaoguang Zuo, Mingjie Guo, Hui Qiao, Muxi Shan, Kang Chen, Liya Bi, Dan Shang, Yanxin Chen

In a dilapidated cellphone shop on the outskirts of the city, two shady photographers are "appreciating" the intimate scenes of a couple in the hotel through a hidden camera. At this moment, there is a sudden virus outbreak spreading throughout the city. The actions taken by the shady photographers triggered a series of consequences that no one expected...



EVERYTHING IS OUT TO GET ME

INTERNATIONAL Premiere | UNITED KINGDOM, 2023, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Dustin Curtis Murphy
PRODS: Dustin Curtis Murphy, Joshua Carrington Birch
CAST: Ailish Symons, Joshua Whincup, Katrin Larissa Kasper

A 1950's housewife, struggling with her mental health, reflects on her failed marriage and history of domestic abuse. Her depression is fueled by the fact that her ex-husband now appears to be happily remarried with a newborn baby. But there's more to his happiness than meets the eye.



GHANIMAH

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | UNITED KINGDOM, 2022, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sai Karan Talwar
PROD: Adi Alfa
CAST: Miikhail Sen, Adil Akram, James El-Sharawy

The war on terror, the 7/7 bombings, the loss of the son's mother and the allegiance to either Islam or Britain. What will unfold. Family, Duty or Honour? A heated argument occurs when Abdullah declares he is joining the British Military to the shock of his pacifist father Omar and anger of his fundamentalist older brother Moh. As their debate unfurls past resentments and revelations rise to the surface, boiling to a point where they can no longer contain themselves.



HOME

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 14.5 min.

WRITER: A.J. Edwards
DIR: Stephen Robinson
PRODS: Eric Pham, Kris Pham
CAST: Nhan Le

Two Vietnamese sibling refugees must navigate their new lives in Houston, Texas following the Vietnam war. Based on a true story.



THE MONKS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 15.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Rick Ray

We explore the experiences of two Ukrainian Orthodox priests living in the countryside of North-east Ukraine, as Russian troops invaded, killed and starved villagers, burned crops and destroyed lives. Can these two humble men of faith forgive and forget? Or has the brutal invasion of their homeland tested their faith beyond repair? And what is their hope for humanity having witnessed such barbarity?



PERSPECTIVES: GRP 1 (CONT)

SCREENING: MON JUN 26 @ 230PM

OFF HOLLYWOOD: THE UNDOCUMENTED JOURNEY OF HOPE

USA, 2023, 22 min.



WRITER/DIR: Tatyana Kim
PRODS: Tatyana Kim, Anatoliy O, Julia Kostenevich
CAST: Anatoliy O, Naomi Gaia O, Timur Tregub, Michael Goff, Stephanie Lynn Arapian, Michael Umansky, Syrym Ablay, Victoria Myssik, Julia Goncharova, Tatyana Kim, Chuja Seo

A gifted musician from Kazakhstan is struggling to find cash-paying jobs that would help him and his two-year-old daughter to survive in Los Angeles as they wait for their immigration documents.

PERSPECTIVES: GRP 2

SCREENING: MON JUN 26 @ 4:45PM

ASHES

WORLD Premiere | AUSTRALIA, 2023, 13 min.



WRITER/DIR: Georgina Haig
PRODS: Georgina Haig, Dean Francis, Daisy Betts-Miller, Charmaine Kuhn
CAST: Georgina Haig, Michael Caton, Michala Banas, Toby Truslove

Bereft after the loss of her beloved Dad James, Frances misses the appointment to pick up his ashes. Through a bizarre posthumous prank, can James rectify his daughter's habitual lateness, even after he's gone? A darkly comedic story about grief, tough love and the unexpected ways those who have passed continue to influence us.

BETWEEN THE OCEAN AND THE SNOW

DENMARK, 2023, 11 min.



WRITER: Peder Thomas Pedersen
DIRS: Peder Thomas Pedersen, Heine Kaarsberg
PRODS: Tobias Vestergaard
CAST: Peder Thomas Pedersen, Sandra Kampp Guldberg, Nicolai Jandorff, Austa Lea

A man overtaken by deep sorrow and not able to choose life, tries to flee his own mind by taking a trip to eastern Europe. There he meets a darkness so dark that he is forced to make a choice. All the while reality dissolves.

DECISIONS

WORLD Premiere | ISRAEL, 2023, 9 min.



WRITERS/DIR/PROD: Bar Mardix
CAST: Ravid Ronen, Maayan Rahima, Ilan Gazit

Tal Movshovitz is a 20-year-old ballroom dancer. When she arrives at an international dance competition, the judge asks her why she came to the competition, and she remains on stage without an answer. The film is a journey into her head, heart, thoughts, and feelings.

PERSPECTIVES: GRP 2

SCREENING: MON JUN 26 @ 445PM

DON'T BE SORRY

USA, 2023, 10 min.

WRITERS: David Au, Mark Neal
DIR: David Au
PRODS: Joyce Liu-Countryman, David Au, Mark Neal
CAST: Angie Rhee, Nick Molari, Peter Liu

After her husband is assaulted in an Anti-Asian hate crime, a timid but resilient Korean-American senior is empowered to fight back when she discovers viral face-slapping competition videos.



DRAGONFLY

USA, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Julia Morizawa
PRODS: Julia Morizawa, Brian Sturges, James Babbin, Lucas A. Ferrara, Derek Kolterman, Christopher Luk, John Titchenal
CAST: Miya Kodama, Erika Ishii, Thomas Isao Morinaka, Julia Morizawa

Komoro, Japan, 1956. 10-year-old Sumiko chases a red dragonfly through her family's farm while her mother, Yoshiko, watches from a distance. Tokyo, 1945. Yoshiko, her husband, Susumu, and their baby boy, Kiyoshi, are forced to evacuate their home when hundreds of B-29 bombers drop incendiary bombs on the city, erupting into a massive fire.



HEDGEHOG

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 17 min.

WRITER/DIR: D. Mitry
PRODS: Citlalli A. Ruiz, Dave Messick, Simona Calin, Glen Reynolds
CAST: Emma Pearson, Elina Golde, Vladimir Varakossov, Nadia Lupiwok, Yuriy Brailko

As the war starts in Ukraine, six years old Nina is sent to her grandmother's remote village. In the shack outside, Nina discovers a badly wounded Russian soldier.



LUNCH WITH HITLER

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | SOUTH AFRICA, 2022, 8 min.

WRITER/DIR: Christopher Grant Harvey
PROD: Robert Dos Santos
CAST: Mila Guy, Briony Horwitz, Deborah Lettner, Andre Odendaal

A fearless group of young women fulfill their duty as taste testers for Adolf Hitler.



THE WASHROOM

WORLD Premiere | CANADA, 2023, 6.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Subhajit Ghosh

Two strangers stumble upon each other in an office washroom for the first time and a series of coincidences follow.



KIDZ BY PROS: GRP 1

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 2PM



BLUEBERRY

USA, 2023, 5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Stephanie Glover

A practical, determined boy has a change of heart when his favorite food comes to life.



CHASING JUPITER

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Linjie Huang
PROD: Tarun Kanakamedala
CAST: Flora Jiwu Hwang, Zoe

An odd young female who has devoted 120% herself to astrophotography becomes aggressive when she finds out her shooting plan is sabotaged by her dog. As she fights her dog to get everything back to control, she realizes she is losing her best friend in life and there is something more than just work in life.



CHILD MAGICAL

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 8 min.

WRITERS: Melek Karakus & Sam Breen
DIR: Chelsea Gonzalez
PROD: Amanda Markowitz

CO-PRODS: Melek Karakus & Sam Breen CAST: Kirra Southers, Melek Karakus, Sam Breen

A zany, supernatural story that follows the journey of a young wallflower who must learn to break free from her old self to harness her inner power. An ode to joy, love, family, and the magic within.



KIDZ BY PROS: GRP 1

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 2PM

LITTLE WING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 8.5 min.

WRITERS: Mateo Messina & Jeff Witzke
DIR: Mateo Messina

PRODS: Luke Barnett & Briana Goldberg

CAST: Kate Micucci, Kayvon Esmaili, Aliza Pearl, Carly Craig, Manhattan Win, Luke Barnett



Do we know where snow really comes from? Would you like to find out? Meet Oscar, who is "down on love", and not ready for the next chapter – until he meets a Pixie (yep, a real one) named Bo whose story changes his outlook on life.

OLD MAN AT THE CORNER STORE

USA, 2023, 8 min.

WRITER: Nadav Heyman

DIRS: Nadav Heyman, Anabella Casanova

PRODS: Cheryl Mann, Collin del Cuore

CAST: Zoe Rawlings, Fen Del Cuore, Mher Khachatryan, Adrian Dela Rosa, and Nadav Heyman
An elderly man crosses paths with the neighborhood mischiefs.



PINTO THE MEAN BEAN

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: R.J. Sullivan

CAST: Ellie George-Wallis, Matt Simpson, Brianna Lawrence, Scout Sullivan, Ryan Sullivan



Pinto is a bean who lives in a crowded, noisy place called Legumeopolis. The way Pinto sees it, there's a lot to be upset about. By helping his fellow beans, Pinto learns he's not alone in his struggle.

THE POLYCEES

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | NEW ZEALAND, 2023, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Celia Jaspers

CAST: Jed Brophy, Mischa Blake, James Jennings, Jessica Mutch-Mckay



A mysterious tunnel is beneath Parliament buildings, creepy voices are late for a meeting with their Queen, but who or what are they? Above ground, it's the Prime Minister's first day in the job and he's touring Parliament buildings with his enthusiastic young daughter Lee. But the Prime Minister is suddenly whisked away for important business, leaving Lee alone. After a run-in with his slimy deputy, the Prime Minister's young daughter is shocked to find a magical creature living in Parliament under her Dad's desk!

THE RISE OF SUPERMOUTH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 37 min.

WRITER/DIR: Daniel Robert Cohn

PROD: Evan J Cholfin

CAST: Joe Chambrello, Nova Gaver, Jack Brenner, Natalie Polisson, Jared Fleming, Daisy Isles, Acston Luca Porto



In this family adventure, we meet the SuperMouth Squad, a team of superhero dentists and their comical sidekicks, as they attempt to stop villainous candymaker Cavitar from spreading Sugar Bugs to ruin teeth throughout the galaxy—starting with an epic battle in the mouths of two children.

SANTA, MAYBE?

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR: Donovan McCarty

PRODS: Courtney Hardebeck McCarty, m'Archibald McCarty, Janet Marie McCarty, Christina Hardebeck

CAST: Jaya Winn, Aral Gribble, Janet Marie McCarty, m'Archibald McCarty



A young girl is forced to face her fear when she encounters Santa Claus in the most unlikely of places.

KIDZ BY PROS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 415PM



BUCKETS CITY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 7 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Dave Quion
CAST: Kyle Blanton Ross, Dave Quion, Desnar Pandiangan, Jana Joy Quion

The trials and tribulations of two best friends as they play streetball throughout their lives.



DOS BROS FORCE

USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kalyan Sura
PRODS: Kalyan Sura, James Canellos
CAST: Anisha Ruth Arlagadda, Viravara Shetty, Shalini Bathina, Sri Chilukuri

Los Angeles, 1996. The Suras are a financially struggling immigrant household of four – Jay, the workaholic, never-at-home dad; Rekha, the mom and the heart of the family; 11-year-old introvert Vicky, and 8-year-old peppy little Isha. For her 9th birthday, Isha has only one wish – to get \$12 dollars to play video games. Unable to convince her parents, she devises an ingenious plan with Vicky to raise money but when her plan fails, her reserved brother commits a well-intentioned mistake to fulfill her wish. The innocent act of love will change their lives forever.



LUX FREER

USA, 2023, 21 min.

WRITER: Jill Johnson Mann
DIR: Cynthia Gibb
PRODS: Jill Johnson Mann and Cynthia Gibb

CAST: Echo Bodell, Cameron Mann, Josy Pitaro, Jamie Martin Mann, Jean Louisa Kelly, Momo Burns-Min, Fin Maddaloni, Natalia Mann, Ariana Brodows, Sophie Jasmin Walther, Claire Butler, Blake Raho, Samantha Edwards, Leanna Mitev, Jasmita Mani Lorenzato, Rosie Kauppinen, Linde Gibb, Jennifer Malaquias Ryan, Deb Katz, Markley Rizzi, Mario Manna, Ken Barile, Barbara McKechnie, Jane Fiffer

Lux Freer, a non-binary teen, has recently moved to ritzy Westport, where they have the humiliating job of delivering pizzas. Nothing could be worse than arriving at aspiring prom queen Arabella Astor's mansion wearing a cap emblazoned with pepperonis. Lux's encounter with the bully Arabella and her beau Drew sets in motion a plot to upend the social stratosphere at Westport Academy. A mysterious wishing well adds to Lux's world morphing into a place of possibility rather than rejection. At the school talent show, Lux is emboldened as their fantasy comes true, and even the most macho jock in town learns something about tolerance.

KIDZ BY PROS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 415PM

THE OSSAN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITERS: Venita Ozols-Graham, Brigitte Graham
DIR: Venita Ozols-Graham

PRODS: Venita Ozols-Graham, Calvin Vanderbeek, Molly McVie, Brigitte Graham
CAST: Keisuke Hoashi, Brigitte Graham, Dean Hermansen, Pappy Faulkner, Toy Lei

The Ossan is a dark, mystical spin on a real Japanese custom. A new legend has been created that may strike fear into the hearts of misbehaving children everywhere...for this is an Ossan with an insidious skill! Come to him with a problem, and the problem WILL be solved!



TRAIL BOSS

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 10.5 min.

WRITER: Joshua Flanagan
DIR: Stephen Robinson
PROD: Christian Sosa
CAST: Stephanie Myers

A young girl in late 1800's Texas is forced to manage the sale of her family's cattle after the head of the family falls ill.



UNDER REFURBISHMENT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 24 min.

WRITER/DIR: Griffin Douglass
PRODS: Holly Chang, Emilio Mazariegos, Karen Corbett, Melody Eilts
CAST: Vinny Balbo, Matthew Rhodes, Tim Mollen, Meilani Tato

An animatronic cowboy at a Western-themed family entertainment center struggles to maintain his creative freedom.



SPACE BABY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 99 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 25 @ 630PM

WRITER/DIR: Rex Dean
PRODS: Rex Dean, Karyn Dean, Jamie Leutz, Carol Patton, Denise Skinner
EXEC PROD: Michael D. Palm

CAST: Sam Dean, Sophia Dean, Charlies Brown, Will Dean, Nancy Sirois, Peter Wolf, Stacy Jethroe, Joan Tolentino-Dunton, Andrea Koocharian, G. Zacharia White, Eric Alan West, Cindy Mizelle, Karyn Dean, Stad St. Fleur, Jean St. Fleur, Sophia Occena

Three friends — 8-year-old Sam (“Mental Man”), mad scientist; 6-year-old Sophia (“Nature Girl”); and 300-year-old Blue (a great ballplayer modeled on Satchel Paige), former keeper of the holy grail in Africa — must stand up to the bumbling nemesis next door to rebuild the holy grail and get a new soul for the earth. With help from a squadron of ladybugs, they fight the “greed, intolerance and just plain cruelty” that fascist Nurse Nancy and her demonic crow embody. A lighthearted romp through history, and a celebration of childhood innocence, imagination and courage for children of all ages.



Josh

JOSH CELLARS

“MAKING WELL-BALANCED WINE TAKES HARD WORK, BUT MY DAD WOULDN'T HAVE HAD IT ANY OTHER WAY.”

Joseph Cellars
FOUNDER, JOSH CELLARS

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TELEVISION BLOCK 1

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 11AM

HELMET

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 22.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sean Crampton

PRODS: Sean Crampton, Bart Rome, Brian Lally, Kyle Brady, and Jordan Wiseley

CAST: Jordan Wiseley, Eddie Shin, Nora Garrett, Alexa Silvaggio, Kyle Brady, Brian Lally, Gabriel Grier and Sean Crampton



Los Angeles in the 1970's grabs you by the collar and screams in your face. It is loud and brutal and unforgiving and tinged with nostalgia. It's the Wild West but with cars and instead of cowboys; its sweeping Western plains full of unhinged Vietnam vets, criminals, cops, and cops that are criminals, too. HELMET uses this circumstantial brutality as a barometer against which to measure growth, healing, and hope in its characters.

OVERSTIMULATED

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2022, 28 min.

WRITER/DIR: Taylor Karin

PRODS: Major Dorfman, Amanda D'Amico, Taylor Karin

CAST: Taylor Karin, Major Dorfman, Thea Brooks, Chikézié Nwankwo, Matt Walker



A neurodivergent woman moves to a new city, leaning on her maladaptive daydreaming to avoid what brought her there.

SAINT CITY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 15.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Daniel Lafrentz

PRODS: Kenneth Renaldo Reynolds, Daniel Lafrentz

CAST: Phil Biedron, Kim Collins, Brian Gilleece, Annie Gaia, Jacob Rainer



A sweetheart single dad moonlighting as a neighborhood PI juggles raising a teen boy and protecting his over-the-hill informant as he races across New Orleans to nab the dudebro strangler who killed his friend.

UGLY COP

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 7.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Chris Stacy

PRODS: Chris Stacy and Rebecca Stacy

CAST: Walter Talens, Dawud Abdullah, Allie Smith, Chris Stacy, Patrick McCord, Annette Lorant, Tibor Szakaly, Randy Robertson, Willie Poindexter jr, Rollin Herald, Andrew Greenberger, Mike MacLelland, Anthony Nemenz, Patrick Ho, Joe Valencia Tan, Conrad Manaois, Sally Abaygar Tan, Grant Berentsen, Vivian Berentsen, Audrey Berentsen and Jannah Abdullah



When Detective Johnny Lakas's family is killed by a crime syndicate known only as the Paisley Hand, he becomes every criminal's worst nightmare. They call him UGLY COP!

Bols

THE
WORLD'S
FIRST
COCKTAIL
BRAND



READY TO
ENJOY
COCKTAILS

1. CHILL
2. POUR
3. GARNISH

*RED LIGHT NEGRONI

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TELEVISION BLOCK 2

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 1:15PM

A KILLER SERVICE

USA, 2022, 25 min.

WRITER: Miranda Rausch **DIR:** Gio Randazzo

PRODS: Gio Randazzo, Alexa Niemi, Cynthia Zitter, The Roberts, The Randazzo Family, The Niclan Group, Pavlo Zengo

CAST: Efrangeliz Medina, Josh Server, Sophie Goldstein, Alexa Niemi, Pavlo Zengo, Diva Kakonde, Cynthia Zitter, Cassandra Escandell, Gio Randazzo



The hapless daughter of an incarcerated con-artist finds she has inherited a substantial debt to a dangerous crime boss. Forced into a corner, Elliott discovers how to take control of her life while helping empower other women.

FOR YEARS TO COME

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 27 min.

WRITER: James Patrick Nelson

DIR: Micah Stuart

PRODS: Chelsea Fenton, Jay DeYonker, James Patrick Nelson, Faith Fuerst, Jeffrey Weber

CAST: Richard Riehle, James Patrick Nelson, Jason W. Wong, Kristy Munden, Samia Mounts, Jay DeYonker, Suzanne Ford



A gay man falls in love with his dead mother's hospice nurse, while struggling to reconnect with his elderly father...who's secretly a porn director.

LARRY MCMURTRY'S ALL MY FRIENDS ARE GOING TO BE STRANGERS - CHAPTER I

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITTEN/ADAPTED BY: Stephen Purvis

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY Larry McMurtry

DIR: Stephen Purvis

PRODS: Stephen Semel, Kayli Fortun, Stephen Purvis, Elliott Coulter

CAST: Baxter Gaston, Victoria Jacobsen, Brian McArdle



In 1969, a young Texas writer attends Eeyore's birthday party in Austin where he falls in love at first sight. Complications ensue since "a man of honor never robs his host." Adapted from Larry McMurtry's autobiographical novel.

REMIXED

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 23.5 min.

WRITERS: Lauren Leon & Frank A. Leon

DIR: Mitch Yapko

PRODS: Lauren Leon, Frank A. Leon, Mitch Yapko, Jillian Sandler

CAST: Lauren Leon, Emily Bolcik, Jose Duran, Jon Chaffin, Zackry Colston, Michael Lanning, Suanne Spoke



Liz, pregnant and at an all-time low, is confused about her marriage and falling back into irresponsible habits. While packing, Liz and her best friend Aubrey discover a box left by Liz's deceased brother Owen. They find an audio-guided bucket list he made for his friends to complete...but 15 years ago. The girls recruit their friend Isaac to complete the first challenges, which were created for 20-somethings, not tired adults with complicated lives. On this journey, they rediscover their love for each other, address unhealthy coping mechanisms, and honor the final wishes of their friend.

TELEVISION BLOCK 3

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 3:30PM

CANUSA STREET

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 34 min.



WRITER/DIR: Zack Morrison
PROD: Carver Diserens
CAST: Lauren Tothoro, Sierra Tothoro, Jay Rincon, Bruce Bohne, John Wilson Bennett, Bick Smith, Jamie Janek, Stacey Thunder, Matt Roy, Nathan Tymoshuk, Isabel Sydney Moreno, Alison Edwards, Alan Branch, Jon Steinhorst, Mark S. Frensko, Christopher Pasi

In a small town absurdly divided by the US/Canada Border, a jaded US Border Patrol agent solves local cases while engaging in a fierce rivalry with her counterpart in the Canadian Mounties: her twin sister.

THE MANY WORLDS OF GEORGE GOODMAN

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 20.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Gregg Bishop
PRODS: Gregg Bishop, Blair Redford, Nils Onsager, Tony Reames, Randy McDowell, George Feucht
CAST: Blair Redford, Lesa Wilson, Mark Ashworth, Julia Vasi

A despondent high-school baseball coach struggles to get back home to his family after he is attacked by his ALTERNATE SELF from another dimension and sent to a parallel world.

ODE TO PSYCHE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 18 min.



WRITER/DIR: Alex Morf
PROD: Alex Morf, DDR Stewart
CAST: Will Dagger, Alex Morf, Blake DeLing, Marcia Debonis, Jonathan Hadary, Charise Greene, Brian Keane, Jennifer Ikeda

Adam Koenigsburg is a brilliant but sensitive college freshman obsessed with ancient languages. When his anxiety at school and at home becomes too much to bear, he follows a mysterious flyer for “people who don’t know how to be” in hopes that he will find an answer to his problems. After meeting the scientists behind the “flyer” Adam agrees to be part of their experiment and begins a journey of self-discovery that opens a doorway to an alternate reality where he sees his true love for the first time. “Ode to Psyche” is a meditation on finding the place where science meets the divine.

WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLENNIAL?

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 27.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Matt Devine
PRODS: Matt Devine, Mark Goodman, Tim Maloney
CAST: Charlie McNulty, Matt Devine (host)

Follow host/comedian Matt “TK” Devine traveling the country in search of normal Millennials living extraordinary, innovative lifestyles—defining (and lampooning) what it means to be a Millennial pursuing an alternative version of the American Dream. This pilot episode presents the secret life of artist/bartender Charlie, a “sneak- aboard”, living surreptitiously on his sailboat to buck high California rents. Charlie takes Matt out on the water, trying to teach him how to sail, while intertwining grounded talks about Millennial conundrums with humorous attempts at performing routine tasks.

TELEVISION BLOCK 4

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 5:45PM

ALL AT ONCE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 12.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Mustafa Eck
PRODS: Mustafa Eck, Mustafa Zeno, Amina Nada
EXEC PROD: Ahmed Soboh
CAST: Paul Elia, Maz Siam, Melissa K, John Wilcox, Alison Korman, Defecio Stoglin



Yasser, a first generation Arab-American, is painstakingly apprehensive before his future mid-western in-laws arrive for dinner for the first time. When his immigrant father, Ziad, prepares a traditional middle eastern dinner spread, Yasser must choose between supporting his dad or impressing his new family.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO GO MENTAL

USA, 2022, 30 min.

WRITER: Carly Glenn
DIR: Layne Marie Williams
PRODS: Ashton Swinford, Aimey Tien, Grace Hahn
CAST: Carly Glenn, Katie Maringer



When two women crash their cars into each other in a school parking lot, they are forced to spend some time in a psych ward together.

LIMITED EDITION: ITALIAN JOB

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 21 min.

WRITER/DIR: Cole Mueller
PRODS: Cole Mueller, Jon Martin, Matthew Helderman, Luke Taylor, Kate Surinskaya
CAST: Christopher Dietrick, Sydney Scotia, Martin Thompson, Sade Katarina, Jack Murillo, Bob Mclean, Alan Woolf, Cody Laper, Cole Mueller, BJ Williams, Devin Drain, Victor A Zaragoza Jr, Julian Curtis



In this episode, Cary is trying to make a decision on whether or not to accept the job offer from Percy. His relationship takes a dark turn with Gwen and he hits rock bottom. He decides to accept the offer from Percy and is immediately sent out on his first mission. He quickly realizes that he may have signed up for more than he bargained for.

THE SHIPMENT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 22.5 min.

WRITER: RJ Lucci **DIR:** Jose Peña
EXEC-PRODS: RJ Lucci, Derek S. Nelson, Frank Malakauskas
PRODS: Margarita Karaghiozakis, Jose Peña, Ammar Assad
CAST: RJ Lucci, Liam Fountain, Jeremy Luke, Patty Malcolm, Jimmy Alvarez, Alan Pontes, Jerri Aquino, Vaughndio Forbes



Two New York Criminals, escaping a sticky situation, head out west to California, where an opportunity to steal a new cosmetic drug may provide them the score they've been looking for.

Y2K BABES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 19 min.

WRITERS/PRODS: Jaden Label, Mashka Wolfe, Sara Pearce
DIR: Caroline Parker-Stark
CAST: Mashka Wolfe, Jaden Label, Jeff Torres, Ngozi Kim, KP Parker, Brad Gage, Quonta Beasley, VJ Foster, Chelsea Morgan, Harwood Gordon, Emmie Nagata, Jon Lee Brody



Two women somehow successfully make shows for TV while navigating a male-dominated workplace, industry, and planet. Absurdist, meta, and referential, this show is about trying to be a good feminist in a hostile professional world and how friendship and humor makes it all suck slightly less. Feminism is hard.

TELEVISION BLOCK 5

SCREENING: SAT JULY 1 @ 8PM

BLACK MARIA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 31 min.



WRITER: Marcus W. Albino
STORY BY: Marcus W. Albino & Barbara Estelle DeJesus
DIR: Marcus W. Albino
EXEC PRODS: Brad Frizzell, Marcus W. Albino
CO-EXEC PROD: Casey Merrill
PROD: Brad Frizzell
CO-PRODS: Barbara Estelle DeJesus, Amy Werges, Justin Arbabi

CAST: Michael Raymond-James, Vanessa Vasquez, Augusto Aguilera, Jason Manuel Olazabal

Ana Morales is the wife of a local gangster, a petty thug with a penchant for violence. When the infamous Allende Brothers darken her doorstep, Ana is forced to confront her husband's horrifying truth. Black Maria is a matriarchal story of brotherhood and bloodshed, of honor found in a den of thieves.

DANGEROUS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 45 min.



WRITER: Jacob Dalton
DIR: Adam Moses
PRODS: Jacob Dalton, Adam Moses, Caleb Harris
CAST: Spencer Vaughn Kelly, Aleis Work, Leslie Stevens, Hunter C Smith, Jacob Dalton

Theo Troezen is a religious vigilante with a strict 'eye-for-an-eye' philosophy. After being injured in a gunfight he takes refuge in a backwoods motel. However, the motel's owner, the sweet-as-pie Polly, plans to seduce, torture, and murder him before the night is over.

HIGH SOBRIETY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2020, 26 min.



WRITER/DIR: Victor Velle
PROD: Douglas Emerson
CAST: Lenny Clarke, Ellen Colton, Mike Zuccola

High Sobriety is a deep dive into the dark, surreal world of addiction and recovery. In the first episode we get introduced to the cast of characters and set the stage for a wild ride. Set in Boston it navigates through the gritty and emotionally raw situations sprinkled with a good helping of black humor. It's your local AA meeting with your strangest friends. The series is a journey that is as weird and twisted as the path to recovery and salvation.

TELEVISION BLOCK 6

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 30 @ 9:15PM

IN THROUGH THE OUT DOOR

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 37.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Dale Peterson
PRODS: Kirk Roos, Brad Brizendine, Wendy Peterson
CAST: Martin Copping, Christine Kilmer, Jesse Boyd, Garrett M. Brown, Tony Robinette, Vic Stagliano

After selling his genealogical tech start-up, Eric Chapman impulsively buys a decrepit Chicago hotel set for demolition, which was once owned by America's first serial killer, H.H. Holmes. When Eric and his actress fiancée Kate discover a hidden room in the hotel's basement containing Holmes' time machine, they inadvertently get thrown back in time to 1893. Trapped in the midst of Holmes' murder spree, they must find a way to survive and escape his clutches. A thrilling journey unfolds as they navigate the horrors of the past and fight to return to their own time.

LAST VICTIM (ULTIMA VITTIMA)

WORLD Premiere | ITALY, 2023, 54.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Daniele Favilli
PRODS: Consuelo Cipriani, Matteo Vanni, Daniele Favilli
CAST: Daniele Favilli, Lavinia Zaccarella, Francesco Grifoni, Paolo Giommarelli, Massimiliano Cutrera, Diego Casale, Tommaso Termine, Diego Termine, Selvaggia Termine, Stefano Termine, Eleonora Cappelletti, Cristina Paoletti

In a dystopian world where murder is legal, assassins are celebrities even if their identities are unknown. When Guglielmo, a gentle man heir to a wealthy family, meets Giulia on his business trip, he falls madly in love with her. Discovering that Giulia is followed by a mysterious man worries Guglielmo more than the revelation that she is a prey in the Game of Duels. Finding himself in the midst of unexpected conflicting feelings, Guglielmo will have to make an extreme decision that will change his life forever.

What if anger is a superpower?



WEB BLOCK 1

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 11AM

ALPHA/BETA

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 10 min.

WRITER: Misha Calvert

DIRS: Misha Calvert, Leven Rambin

PRODS: Alyssa Schroeter,

Jackie Schwartz, Jordan Hart

ASSOC PROD: Cronin Cullen

CAST: Leven Rambin, Josh Bonzie, Berto Colon



When a young woman accidentally gets her best friend fired, she uses her secret past to help both of them launch their careers in venture capital.

MICROAGGRESSIONS | SEASON 2

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 20 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Brian Padian

CAST: Ben Buehler, D'Vonte Robinson,

Shaughn Uihlein, Jennifer Lanier,

Nickole Cheron, Jason Esquerro, Todd Tschida

Set across two hours on a summer morning in 2020, a report of human waste in a municipal break room sink sets things in motion.



PLAY IT BY EAR - EP. 1-2

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 25 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: Simon Kienitz Kincade
& Emily Ann Zisko

PRODS: Brian Reilly, Dillon Bentlage, Emily Ann Zisko,
Simon Kienitz Kincade, and Virginia Blatter

CAST: Emily Ann Zisko, Dillon Bentlage,
Elise Rose Martin, Nastassia Firestone,
Enosa Ogbeide, Diede Zillinger Molenaar



Play It By Ear follows Mila and Lukas, a young couple, who struggle to grow together as they start their new lives thousands of miles apart.

WEB BLOCK 2

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 1245PM

2 COPS AND A CAR - THE WEB SERIES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sean Spence

EXEC PROD: Kelvington

CO-PRODS: Sean Spence, Robin Shelby

CAST: Sean Spence, Robin Shelby



Officers Wayne Dwopp and Sue Shee find ways to deal with the boredom and monotony of staking out the elusive Tommy "Pickles" Picollo.

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WEB BLOCK 2

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 1245PM

HOT ANGRY MOM

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 35 min.



WRITER: Mel House
DIR: Clarissa de los Reyes
PRODS: Mel House, Katie Rosin, Clarissa de los Reyes, Vander Beatty
CAST: Mel House, Ivory Aquino, Devin Haqq, Eric Ruffin, Welker White, Pun Bandhu

Marie is a people-pleasing New York City mom who thought she'd have money, success, and respect by middle age. Instead, she's working too many survival jobs and failing to meet her family's expectations. But Marie's the kind of woman you can count on to swallow her anger and put on a bright fucking smile. When she gets an opportunity to step into the role of a sexy powerful Goddess, Marie thinks she's finally getting what she deserves. But her world is turned upside down when a video of her unleashing her anger becomes a viral sensation.

HOT ANGRY MOM is like Fleabag meets I May Destroy You for moms. It brings the audience along for a wild ride as Marie learns to embrace her whole self, including the parts she's been taught to fear—like anger—or to feel shame about—like sexual power. It offers space for healing through laughter and invites us to risk being seen in all of our complex authentic messiness.

TRUE REVIEWS

WEST COAST Premiere | UNITED KINGDOM, 2022, 11.5 min.



WRITERS: Hannah Garces, Julia Hoff, Grace Dambier, Dan Bruhl
DIR: Dan Bruhl
PRODS: Dan Bruhl, Neal Cornell, Grace Dambier, Wiv Hannay, Kenny Kline, Jordan Simkovic

CAST: Jason Moore, Grace Dambier, Molly Beucher, Patricia A Smith, Kristi Cashman, Jennifer Buckingham, Alexandra DeMartini, Elinor Gunn, Rob Moore, Mayank Bhatler, Joel Sinensky, Joe Willand, Dalia Rooni, McKale Jude Bingham, Jimmy Silk, Katy Drury, Jordan Simkovic

A spoof on the true crime genre, TRUE REVIEWS investigates and reenacts real 1-star reviews with the help of our mysterious host, Jason Moore.

WORK-LIFE BALANCE

USA, 2023, 6 min.



WRITER/PROD: Christy St. John
DIR: Danielle Swanson
CAST: Christy St. John, Hari Sivaskandan, Miley Yamamoto, Caroline O'Neil, James Topmiller, Morgan Herman

A gender-swapped *Workaholics*, this workplace comedy features two gal pals avoiding work by gossiping about Charlie's latest one night stand with nerdy Kabir, who mistakes their sloppy sex for a Casablanca-level romance.

WEB BLOCK 3

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 24 @ 230PM

BILL & BETTY BUILD A PYRAMID

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITERS: Alex Wroten & Lisa Jill Anderson
DIR: Alex Wroten
PRODS: Lisa Jill Anderson, Well Dang! Productions
CAST: Lisa Jill Anderson, Kai Chapman, Francis Lloyd Corby, Chelsea Gonzalez, Ian Poake



Bill and Betty are thrilled to be attending an exclusive work party, but things get weird when their hosts offer them an opportunity to be even more successful.

INTERSECTION

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 13.5 min.

WRITERS: Jacinte Blankenship, Karen Ceesay, Jennica Hill, Meg Messmer, Muretta Moss
DIRS: Meg Messmer, Charlene Fisk, Avery O Williams, Alycia Cooper
PROD: Meg Messmer



CAST: Déjà Dee, Jacinte Blankenship, Muretta Moss, Meg Messmer, Jason Echols, Jennica Hill

A dark comedy, digital series that follows six characters as they navigate the integration of a close-knit, historically Black Atlanta neighborhood, each side striving for their own self-preservation on a path that's not always black & white.

WHAT THE ELF?!

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 36 min.

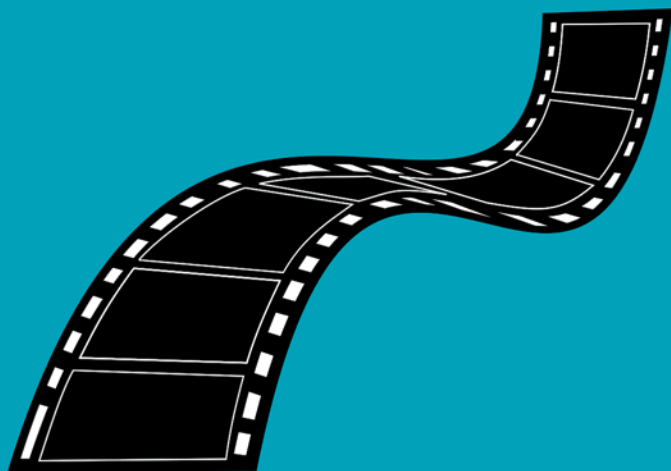
WRITER: Cameron Kelly
DIR: Tate Hanyok
PRODS: Amanda Markowitz, Caden Douglas, Michael Lomenda
CAST: George Wendt, Cameron Kelly, Nicole Alyse Nelson, Kenton Chen, Ena Fleming



Your typical workplace-comedy... if your workplace is a Santa House at the mall. The series follows Elle, an actress who gets canned from her network show, and is forced to take the only other job she's qualified for: A Christmas Elf at the mall. But with the help of her unlikely new friends, and Santa Claus — played by the incomparable George Wendt (Cheers) — she just might discover the magic of Christmas and become the elf she was always meant to be.

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DANCES WITH FILMS

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JUN 22

7:30 PM GOOD SIDE OF BAD

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JUN 23

5:00 PM ALMOST HOME: LIFE AFTER INCARCERATION
7:00 PM HOLLYWOOD'S FINEST
7:15 PM HEIGHTENED
9:15 PM SCREAM THERAPY
9:30 PM DADDY
11:45 PM THE UNSEEN

SATurday
JUN 24

11:00 AM PILOTS: WEB GROUP 1
12:30 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 1
12:45 PM PILOTS: WEB GROUP 2
2:30 PM PILOTS: WEB GROUP 3
2:45 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 2
4:15 PM HEART & SOUL
5:00 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 3
6:30 PM 7000 MILES
7:15 PM FOREVER NOW
8:45 PM IMMEDIATE FAMILY
9:30 PM FAREWELLING
11:00 PM TERROR FIRMA
11:45 PM MIDNIGHT SHORTS GRP I

SUNday
JUN 25

11:30 AM KIDZ BY KIDS
12:30 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 4
2:00 PM KIDZ BY PROS GRP 1
2:45 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 5
4:15 PM KIDZ BY PROS GRP 2
5:00 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 6
6:30 PM SPACE BABY
7:15 PM TWO LIVES IN PITTSBURGH
9:00 PM 26.2 TO LIFE
9:30 PM MERMAID'S LAMENT

MONday
JUN 26

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE BELOW)
2:30 PM PERSPECTIVES SHORTS GRP 1
2:45 PM IMMEDIATE FAMILY - ENCORE SCREENING
4:45 PM PERSPECTIVES SHORTS GRP 2
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS: GRP 1
7:00 PM THE MAD WRITER
7:15 PM FOOTNOTES
9:00 PM END OF THE ROPE
9:30 PM PROOF SHEET

PANEL SCHEDULE

TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES ON PANELS
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DANCES WITH FILMS

TUESday
JUN 27

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE TO THE LEFT)
4:45 PM DOC SHORTS GRP 1
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS: GRP 2
7:00 PM MAMA!
7:15 PM BETTER HALF
9:15 PM SNAKEEATER
9:30 PM ANGIE'S CURE

WEDSday
JUN 28

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE TO THE LEFT)
4:45 PM DOC SHORTS GRP 2
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS: GRP 3
7:00 PM DARUMA
7:15 PM MY HOME UNKNOWN
9:15 PM WAITING FOR THE LIGHT TO CHANGE
9:30 PM STATE OF GRACE

THURSDay
JUN 29

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE TO THE LEFT)
2:30 PM DOC SHORTS GRP 3
4:45 PM DOC SHORTS GRP 4
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS: GRP 4
7:00 PM AMERICAN POT STORY: OAKSTERDAM
7:15 PM BIBI
9:15 PM MICKEY HARDAWAY
9:30 PM GLUE TRAP

FRIday
JUN 30

2:30 PM CORKY
2:45 PM FUSION SHORTS: GRP 5
5:00 PM DOWNBEAT: A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC & DANCE
5:00 PM UNLEASHED SHORTS
7:00 PM THE HUMBLER - DANNY GATTON
7:15 PM UNFIX
9:15 PM PILOTS: TV GRP 6
9:30 PM THE BLACK GUELPH
11:45 PM FOIL

SATurday
JUL 1

11:00 AM PILOTS: TV GRP 1
12:30 PM ABLED: THE BLAKE LEEPER STORY
1:15 PM PILOTS: TV GRP 2
2:45 PM YOU HAVE NO IDEA
3:30 PM PILOTS: TV GRP 3
5:00 PM THE GIRL IN THE BACKSEAT
5:45 PM PILOTS: TV GRP 4
7:15 PM ESCAPING OHIO
8:00 PM PILOTS: TV GRP 5
9:30 PM ME, MYSELF & THE VOID
10:15 PM WINTERTIDE
11:45 PM MIDNIGHT SHORTS GRP 2

SUNday
JUL 2

12:15 PM MEET ME WHERE I AM
12:30 PM BALDY FOR THE BLIND
2:30 PM SCUBA
2:45 PM KATIE'S MOM
4:45 PM BANDED TOGETHER: THE BOYS FROM GLEN ROCK HIGH
5:00 PM APACHE BLUES: WELCOME HOME
6:30 PM YOU, ME & HER
7:15 PM HOME FREE

SCREENING SCHEDULE

CELEBRATING INDEPENDENT FILMMAKING

With camera prep facilities across the U.S. and an extensive inventory of gear, we're primed to support your project anywhere it goes. Whether you're a fearless indie spirit or a passionate filmmaker, our doors are open to equip your cinematic process.

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