

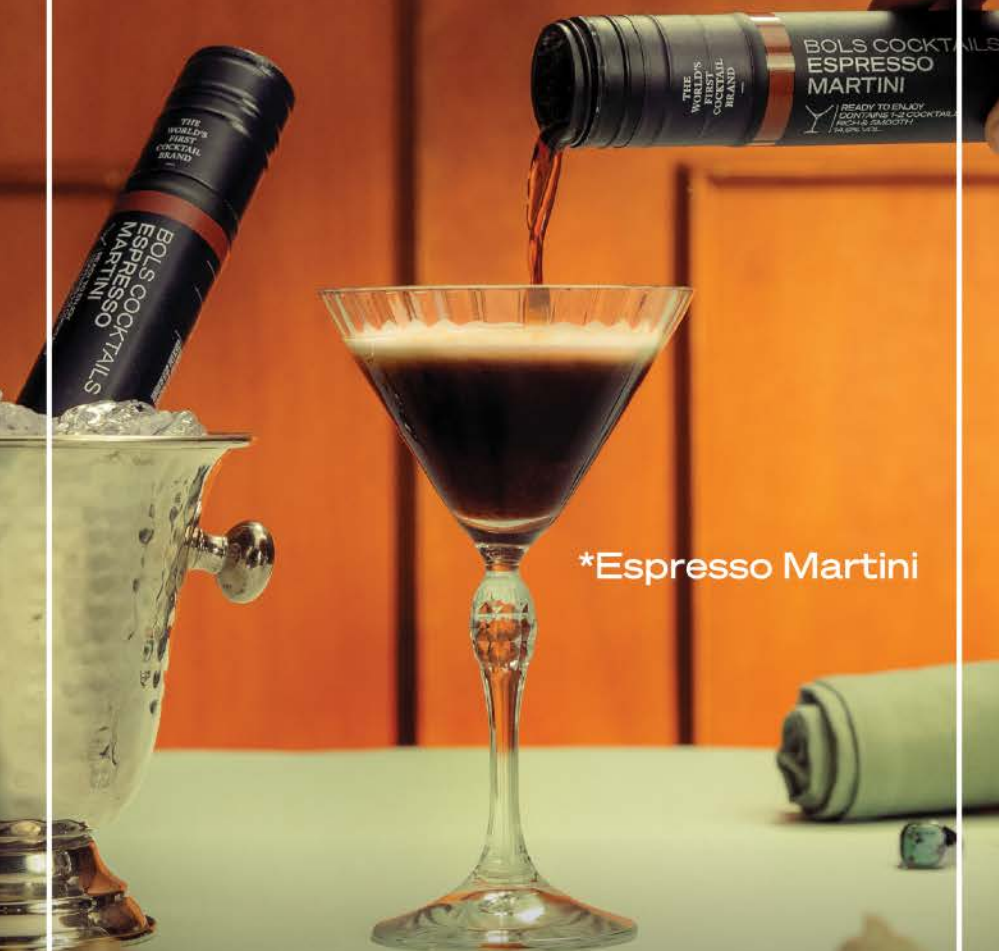
# DANCES WITH FILMS

LA'S FAVORITE INDIE FEST SINCE 1998

# AND THE BEAT GOES ON

JUNE 20-30, 2024 TCL CHINESE 6 THEATRES [DANCESWITHFILMS.COM](http://DANCESWITHFILMS.COM)

# Bols



\*Espresso Martini

## READY TO ENJOY COCKTAILS

1. Chill
2. Pour
3. Garnish

 @bolscocktailsUSA

# DANCES WITH FILMS

## LA'S FAVORITE INDIE FEST SINCE 1998

Since our beginnings in 1998, DWF:LA has championed an array of unique voices from across the globe.

This year we are honored to celebrate well over 200 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.

While the world continues to change all around us, one thing remains true – people need people. Often it can feel that technology pulls us apart, isolating our daily lives. Festivals are unique in that they bring people together and remind us that we *are* community.

We invite you to open your heart to experience a festival journey that is like no other. Even if we come from great distances, we are one. DANCES WITH FILMS was literally built on this idea.

**THANK YOU** to our incredible programming teams chaired by Evan Chofin, Ariana Farina, Jose Ortega, Lindsey Smith-Sands, Ethan Twardosz, Jackie Tepper and Bennie Woodell - who took on the herculean task of watching hundreds of hours culminating in this 27th year of spectacular programming. Largely because of their unparalleled commitment to indie filmmakers - DWF:LA (and now DWF:NY) continues to grow.

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

Welcome to the 27th annual DANCES WITH FILMS!

**Leslee & Michael**  
Founders

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

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### SHORTS

Lindsey Smith-Sands

### DOCUMENTARY

Jackie Tepper

### MIDNIGHT

Bennie Woodell

### OUTFEST

Ariana Farina

### DOWNBEAT

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Ethan Twardosz

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Austin Jones  
Leah Judge  
Yvette Kamin  
Grant Keller  
S.E. Sarah King  
Natalie Krenik

## SPECIAL THANKS!

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Kevin E. West  
Seth Wise  
Lynelle White  
Karl Zensen  
BooBoo, Lucky,  
Artemis, Pumpkin,  
Pocky, Lucy  
Blueberry, Nermal  
& Zoe too!

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

# DANCES WITH PILOTS

WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR FESTIVAL SPONSORS.  
WITH THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT,  
DWF CONTINUES TO CHAMPION  
THE TRUE INDEPENDENT DISCOVERIES.



**Opening Night!**  
THURSDAY, JUNE 20 @ 7:30PM

Guest  
Favreau  
Gerwig  
Polley  
Jolie  
Peele

# Paper Flowers

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 100 min.

WRITERS: Mary Krell-Oishi, Mahesh Pailoor

DIR: Mahesh Pailoor

PRODS: Asit Vyas

CAST: Kapil Talwalkar, Olivia Liang, Karan Soni, Faran Tahir,  
Meera Simhan, and Tom Everett Scott

Shalin Shah, an ambitious USC graduate, leaves behind his loving Indian American family and devoted girlfriend, Fiona, to pursue his dream of making a difference as a Peace Corps volunteer. However, his life takes a devastating turn when a check-up for a lingering cough reveals a shocking diagnosis: a rare and aggressive form of cancer. Forced to return home and undergo treatment, Shalin confronts the fundamental question: what is the true meaning of life when faced with limited time? Based on a true story, PAPER FLOWERS is a poignant and inspirational journey of love, loss, and hope. It serves as a roadmap to cherish the moments we have and to remember to stop and enjoy every sunset.



Be Independent. Act Professional.

## Hybrids

Whether you're in front of the camera, behind it, or both, SAGindie guides independent filmmakers through the SAG-AFTRA signatory process, making it even easier to hire top talent regardless of budget. Make a name for yourself. Connect with SAGindie. [www.sagindie.org](http://www.sagindie.org)

5

# PRINCETON'S IN THE MIX

WORLD PREMIERE

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024

5:00PM

TCL CHINESE THEATRE



A FILM BY  
JONATHAN DiMAIO  
PRODUCED BY ANTONIO ALONZO AYALA  
& HEATHER BRAWLEY

STARRING  
HEATHER BURNS

AND  
CHARLIE BESSO



When the wealthy mother of a high schooler discovers that her son can get extra time on the SAT if he gets injured, things spiral out of control.



Scan for Trailer



@princetonsinthemix

www.princetonsinthemix.com



Scan for Tickets

## FEATURE COMPETITION

### ADDY DADDY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 119 min.  
SCREENING: WED JUN 26 @ 715PM



WRITER/DIR: Patrick VanZandt  
PRODS: Alec Berger, Alexander Baker,  
John Chigas, Jared Treviño, Patrick VanZandt

CAST: Jared Treviño, Lexi Simonsen, Matt Kirkwood, Allan Weedman, Lynn Haro, Jackson Shipman, Lucas Ovalle, Duane Dell'Amico, Enya Umanzor, Sam Uehling, Trenton Whittaker, Joshua Ovalle, Drew Phillips, Nick La Marca, Dax Flame, Zakiyah Bradford, Makenzie Hart, Keaton Kane

A lonely young man introduces his new girlfriend to his parents and they immediately hate her for no reason.

### ALL THE WEEKEND'S DRAMA

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 108.5 min.  
SCREENING: SUN JUN 23 @ 715PM



WRITER/DIR: John Robb Saunders  
PRODS: Caroline Wu, John Robb Saunders  
CAST: Laken Giles, Sharihan Haddad,  
Alexis Figueroa, Cady Mariano, Brett Cormier,  
Micah Flamm, Cristal Bella,  
Barbara Crispino Saunders, Long You

Chloe Rousseau is a misfit, gentle hearted twenty year-old. She's hardly ever known anything outside of her wayward, poverty-stricken lifestyle. Surrounding her is nothing but trauma attached to young people who don't deserve it. Her glimmers of hope: a well-adjusted, now estranged childhood best friend, Nina, a young sweetheart teenager named Benny, and a wise-beyond-her-years corner store clerk, Imara. After Chloe has an accidental pregnancy, she turns to Nina for support, to which Nina shows Chloe that no one should ever feel their destiny is predetermined, no matter where you come from.

### ALTA CALIFORNIA

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 63.5 min.  
SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 715PM



WRITER/DIR: Andrés Taboada  
PRODS: Patricio Amerena, Andrés Taboada,  
Israel Vasquez

CAST: Alejandro de la Torre, Corbin Dean Porter, Ashley Crenshaw, Abram Cervantes, Aida Kohn, Andrés Taboada, Colin Devane, David Mendez, Francisco Rodriguez, Ramon Hernandez, Danny Minch, Lynda Estrada, Daniel Zambrano, Ricky Macías, Raphael Bono, Arsen Apkarian, Dave Apkarian, Isaac Morales

Carlos is a former Mexican aristocrat, now-undocumented college student living in Orange County. He longs for the privileged life he once had in Guadalajara and keeps his immigrant status a secret in fear of being grouped with "those other Mexicans," as his relatives would put it. A spring-break trip to Rosarito with Austin, his politically-incorrect American sidekick, provides the perfect opportunity to head south of the border, go out with a bang, and bid farewell to the struggles of a life he never wanted.

### BETWEEN THE LIGHTS

WEST COAST Premiere | UK, 2024, 104.5 min.  
SCREENING: WED JUN 26 @ 930PM



WRITER/DIR: Michael Groom  
PRODS: David Groom, Michael Groom  
CAST: Ines De Clercq, Samuel Edward-Cook,  
Richard Riddell, Alexander Cobb, Alana Ramsey,  
Naveed Khan, Siu Hun Li, Jason Langley

When skeptical scientist Alice falls for reluctant medium Jay, she's taken on an odyssey of love, loss and discovery that will turn her world upside down. Between the Lights (made with support from Creative England and filmed in York and the Lake District) is a romantic drama with a liberal dose of the supernatural, in which we visit our characters over three consecutive Christmases.

# BOUNDLESS IMAGINATIONS

Co-founded by Ali Mashayekhi and Zeus Kontoyannis, Boundless Imaginations is an international production company focused on original, innovative and high quality auteur and commercially driven genre and prestige films for the global market.

**Join us at the FEVER PITCH event during  
Dances With Films on June 29th, 2024**

As judges on the panel, we will witness twenty exceptional short screenplays being pitched at the Chinese Theatres, offering their creators a chance to elevate their industry connections. For more information on the event, visit [www.danceswithfilms.com](http://www.danceswithfilms.com)



Ali Mashayekhi  
Co-Founder, BI



Zeus Kontoyannis  
Co-Founder, BI

[WWW.BOUNDLESSIMAGINATIONS.COM](http://WWW.BOUNDLESSIMAGINATIONS.COM)

## FEATURE COMPETITION

### BOUND

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 99 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 930PM

WRITER/DIR: Isaac Hirotsu Woofter

EXEC PRODS: Isaac Hirotsu Woofter, Tom & Akemi Woofter

PRODS: Alexandra Faye Sadeghian,

Ashwin Kulkarni, Daniel & Robert Woofter,

David Robert Fulkerson, Gil Elbaz, Justin Michael Wagner, Laura Legacki, Mark Allen Kincer, Nelda Law, Ramin Karimloo, Ronald Woofter, Tim & Joni Woofter, Tom Kelly, Tom X

CAST: Ramin Karimloo, Jessica Pimentel, Alexandra Faye Sadeghian, Bryant Carroll, Pooya Mohseni, Jaye Alexander, Josh Alscher, Miguel Izaguirre, Alok Tewari, Ethan Herschenfeld, T.L. Flint, Gayle Samuels, Matt Magnusson, Quincey Giles, Christian Jake, Tai Brown, Octavia Plach, Eric Cuevas, Aaron Dalla Villa, Aixa Kendrick, William Bloomfield, Ollie Corchado, Jon Froelich, Vincent Chan, Janice Maya, Marisel Polanco, Jatnna Marte

*To escape her overprotective drug-dealing stepfather, a young introverted artist flees to NYC with only her pet pocket squirrel. After successfully reinventing herself with the help of some "found family," she realizes she must return home and confront her dark past to truly be free.*



### CULPRIT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 94 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUN 21 @ 930PM

WRITERS: Jamie Donovan, Rich Ronat

DIR: Rich Ronat

PRODS: cosmos kiindarius, Rich Ronat,

Laura Vale, Jamie Donovan, Jacy Gross

CAST: Laura Vale, Jamie Donovan, Carolyn Mignini, Ron Orbach, Michael Dempsey, Amy Motta, Richard Whiten, Jennifer Collins, Michael Naizu

*Huntsville, Texas. A dark cloud of mystery looms over the locals, who whisper of the unsolved rape and murder of nine-year-old Katrina Walters, 27 years ago. The suspected ex-con, Jack Harris, has been released from prison exonerated of all charges. The older sister of Katrina, Lucy, desperate for justice, teams up with Jack in secret to find the real killer. The two unlikely partners begin to uncover long-buried secrets that lead them down a perilous path towards the truth.*



### DREAMING OF YOU

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 95 min.

SCREENING: MON JUN 24 @ 930PM

WRITER/DIR: Jack McCafferty

PRODS: Bridgett Greenberg, Jack McCafferty

CAST: Lauren LaVera, Jack McCafferty, Ian Ross, Jake Westphal

*While attending a sleep study, Miles Puck meets Ren Helena, the girl of his dreams. Unfortunately, he's also diagnosed with anxiety driven night terrors. Now, his stress levels are going through the roof as he manages this new relationship, a job he hates and even more bad dreams. At least he has a teddy bear to help him through his nightmares in this mixed media rom-com.*



### FIGHT LIKE A GIRL

U.S. Premiere | DR CONGO/RWANDA, 2024, 118 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUN 23 @ 930PM

WRITER/DIR: Matthew Leutwyler

PRODS: Anton Laines, Innocent Munyeshuri, Yvette Gayle, Serge Ibaka

CAST: Ama Qamata, Hakeem Kae-Kazim, Malaika Uwamahoro, Clarck Ntambwe, Bahali Ruth, Arthur Nkusi, Kennedy Mazimpaka

*A young Congolese woman forced to work in an illegal mineral mine, escapes her captors and finds a new life for herself after joining a renowned all-women boxing club in the border city of Goma. Based on the True Story events. Shot on location in DR Congo and Rwanda.*



CARMEN BERKELEY REILLY WALTERS

# Step Back, Doors Closing

*Written & Directed by Carter Ward*



**WORLD PREMIERE**  
**Thursday | June 27 | 7:15 PM**

Scan the QR code to purchase tickets,  
watch the trailer, and learn more  
about the film.



## FEATURE COMPETITION

### INHERITANCE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 102 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUN 21 @ 715PM

WRITER: Rachel Noll James

DIR: Emily Moss Wilson

PRODS: Sienna Beckman, Rachel Noll James,  
Emily Moss Wilson, Austin Highsmith Garces

CAST: Austin Highsmith Garces, Rachel Noll James, Wes Brown, Chris Mulkey, Michelle Hurd,  
Brian McNamara, Dana Sparks, Cynthia Geary

*Estranged sisters Lucy and Paige reunite to bury their father, becoming entangled in the complicated web of their past as they realize that they have inherited more from their father than just money. Forced to reunite after years of not speaking, the two sisters are confronted by a whirlwind of resurfacing resentments, past traumas, well-kept secrets, and devastating losses, as they come to terms with their inner demons and work to mend their broken relationships.*



### THE MAN WHO SAVE THE INTERNET WITH A SUNFLOWER

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 101 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUN 28 @ 930PM

WRITERS: Oren Safdie, Izhar Har-Lev, Ori Yardeni

DIRS: Ori Yardeni, Emil Ben Shimon

PRODS: Kobi Hoffmann, Zehava Shekel

CAST: Martin Delaney, Leo Hatton, Troy Hewitt, Michael Curran- Dorsano, Sophie Hopkins

*The extraordinary true story of Rob Ryan, a brilliant mathematician with a rocky career in Silicon Valley, marked by numerous dismissals and resignations. Rob's groundbreaking 'Sunflower Code' averts the internet's collapse, transforming modern life. Despite being ousted from the company he founded sold for \$24 billion Rob, like a phoenix, establishes three master companies, each worth billions, and earns the Entrepreneur of the Year Award in Silicon Valley. A revered figure, Rob now mentors a new generation of entrepreneurs, while continuing to safeguard the internet from emerging dangers.*



### NOBODY WANTS TO SHOOT A WOMAN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 91 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUN 25 @ 930PM

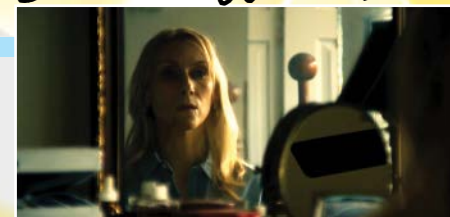
WRITER/DIR: Kerry Ann Enright

PROD: Marissa Velez

EXEC PROD: Cheyanne Kane

CAST: Tina Benko, Lev Gorn, Max Casella,  
Michael Godere, Kary Bury, Cheyanne Kane,  
Sean Mahon and Lucas Dixon

*A stark, intimate, yet unsentimental portrait of a mother marginalized by society who embraces a violent crime spree as a means to survive.*



### SHEPHERD

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 85 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUN 25 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Aaron Inman

PRODS: Rose Nguyen Inman,

Larnelle Foster, Julian Gant

CAST: Julian Gant, Ajarrae Coleman,  
Nirine S. Brown, Phillip Wright

*When a young minister struggles with the death of his only son, he is forced to question his faith as he searches for meaning in a time of suffering.*



FROM EXECUTIVE PRODUCER  
ACADEMY AWARD WINNER  
JANE FONDA

AND ORIGINAL MUSIC COMPOSER  
ACADEMY AWARD WINNER  
GUSTAVO SANTAOLALLA



# NORITA

A FILM BY JAYSON McNAMARA  
& ANDREA TORTONESE

## WORLD PREMIERE

TUESDAY, JUNE 25TH, 7PM | ARGENTINA, 2024, 88 MINS | DOCUMENTARY

A mother's search for her son leads to the defeat of a dictatorship and inspires a new generation of women to fight for their freedoms.

DOCTORASTORIES PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH PICABU FILMS & TIDETIVITY STUDIOS "NORITA" ORIGINAL MUSIC BY GUSTAVO SANTAOLALLA, JUAN LUQUE, PAGO CABRAL, MATIAS TOZZOLA  
SCREENPLAY BY BECHEN DE LOREDO, ASA & LEANDRO DE LOREDO, ASA AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ANDREA TORTONESE AND JAYSON McNAMARA EDITOR ANA GARCIA & JULIA STRAFACE (SAE)  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY FRANCISCO VILLA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JANE FONDA, GUSTAVO SANTAOLALLA, NAOMI KLEIN, AVI LEWIS, BARBARA MUSCHIETTI, JOHN FLYNN, ANDY MUSCHIETTI  
PRODUCED BY SARAH SCHOBELKOPF, JAYSON McNAMARA, FRANCISCO VILLA, MELISSA DANIELS DIRECTED BY JAYSON McNAMARA & ANDREA TORTONESE



@noritafilm



@norita.film



TIDETIVITY



TCL  
CHINESE  
THEATRES

## FEATURE COMPETITION

### SNAKE

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | SOUTH AFRICA, 2024, 109 m

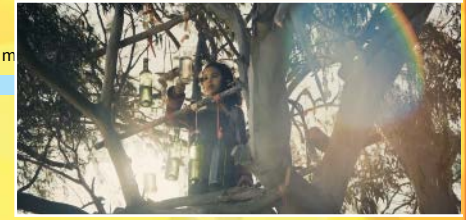
SCREENING: FRI JUN 28 @ 715PM

WRITER: Tracey Farren  
DIR: Meg Rickards

PRODS: Dan Jawitz, Paul Egan,

Joel Chikapa-Phiri, Tshepiso Chikapa-Phiri

CAST: Lamiyah Barnard, Neels van Jaarsveld, Keenan Arrison, Tarryn Wyngaard, Rika Sennett



*When a luminous stranger arrives on the farm, Stella's father stays sober and her mother begins to laugh again. But the man with the silver cross has not come to save them. As Jerry slithers his way into their hearts, his own dark wounds begin to show. Stella must shut up and watch him strangle her family or use the truth to fight for their lives.*

### SPARK

US Premiere | USA, 2024, 89 min.

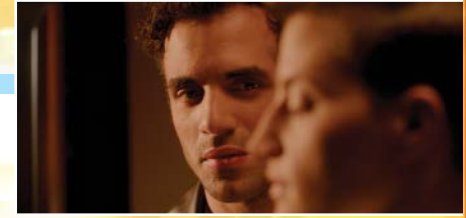
SCREENING: MON JUN 24 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Nicholas Giuricich

PRODS: Jackson Giuricich,

Nicholas Giuricich, Lesley Lopez

CAST: Theo Germaine, Danell Leyva, Vico Ortiz, Christina Villa, Abigail Achiri



*SPARK follows a hopeless romantic struggling to build intimacy with a man who inexplicably makes him time loop back a day every time they make love. As his feelings for the man grow, so do his suspicions that this stranger is aware of this cosmic insanity too.*

### STEP BACK, DOORS CLOSING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 98 min.

SCREENING: THU JUN 27 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Carter Ward

PRODS: Carter Ward, Jane Hollon,

Kathryn Crabtree

CAST: Carmen Berkeley, Reilly Walters, Michelle Macedo, Ashley Romans, Mershad Torabi



*This is a charming love story between Ryan and Julisa, two young adults who long for authentic and emotionally intelligent relationships. After a chance encounter on the DC metro, they spend the next twenty-four hours discussing their hopes, dreams, and fears. Slowly but surely, they reveal more and more about themselves, and fall in love.*

### TALLYWACKER

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 90 min.

SCREENING: THU JUN 27 @ 930PM

WRITER/DIR: Brendan Boogie

PRODS: Jeremy Dubs, Chris Goodwin,  
Brendan Boogie

CAST: Jeremy Dubs, Chris Goodwin, Adwoa Duncan-Williams, Rivera Reese,  
Laurie Mahoney, Shawn Ray



*A rock and roll buddy comedy about a disabled musician who gets to live his rock star dreams while his best friend reluctantly tags along for the ride.*





Well-made and directed  
Rotten Tomatoes



Inspired! A well-acted team  
Sun this week



Educational, Entertaining, Engrossing, Exciting!  
Brian Sebastian (Movies Reviews 'n more)

A must See!  
Larry Namer (E! Entertainment founder)



It's a rare feat!  
Chris Jones (Overly Honest Reviews)



# THE MAN WHO SAVED THE INTERNET WITH A SUNFLOWER



A FILM BY  
**ORI YARDENI**

Martin Delaney • Leo Hatton • Sophie Hopkins

Michael Curran-Dorsano • Troy Hewitt



## UNLEASHED & ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT FEATURES

### ADVANCED CHEMISTRY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 95 min.

SCREENING: WED JUN 26 @ 915PM

WRITER: Alec Moore  
DIR: Etana Jacobson  
PRODS: Alec Moore, Jane Miller,  
Etana Jacobson, Sarah Burns

CAST: Samba Schutte, Chaunte Wayans, Sarah Burns, Kiran Deol, Iqbal Theba, T'Keyah Crystal Keymah



*A scientist who has developed a compound to enhance bonding injects his married best friend to help her stop cheating on her wife, but when he also injects the wife, it backfires when she falls for him.*

### ALL HAPPY FAMILIES

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 90 min.

SCREENING: MON JUN 24 @ 915PM

WRITERS: Coburn Goss, Haroula Rose  
DIR: Haroula Rose  
PRODS: Liz Cardenas, Ian Keiser,  
Coby Goss, Mary Munez

CAST: Josh Radnor, Becky Ann Baker, Rob Huebel, Chandra Russell, John Ashton, Colleen Camp,  
David Pasquesi, Rodney Crowell, Eliza Chin, Antoine McKay, & Ivy O'Brien



*The Landrys gather for the weekend to fix up their family home in Chicago. Graham (Josh Radnor) really wishes his life was in a better place, especially since he's reconnected with his college crush, Dana (Chandra Russell). Sue (Becky Ann Baker) is looking forward to the next chapter in her life when an incident at her retirement party forces her to question things, including her marriage to complacent Roy (John Ashton). Then, Will (Rob Huebel), the television star blows in. What starts out as a benign family get-together ends up spiraling out of control.*

### ALMOST POPULAR

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 95 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 7PM

WRITER: Pamela Duffy-Little  
DIR: Nayip Anthony Garcia (aka Nayip Ramos)  
PRODS: Michael Mendelsohn, p.g.a., Grace Santos, p.g.a.  
EXEC PROD: Natalie Perrotta  
POST EXEC PROD: Jijo Reed

CO-PRODS: Elisabeth Makitalo, Margarita Reyes LINE PROD: Charles Berg  
CAST: Ruby Rose Turner, Reid Miller, Isabella Ferreira, Ellodee Carpenter, Arden Myrin, Kathleen Rose Perkins, Elijah M. Cooper, Avi Angel, Victoria Caro, Sharlize True



*Susie and Bobbie, high school juniors, go on a quest to fulfill their dream to become part of the elite POP Girls who rule the school. After a series of unfortunate and humiliating attempts, they learn what's really important.*

### MOTHER FATHER SISTER BROTHER FRANK

WEST COAST Premiere | CANADA, 2024, 85 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 915PM

WRITER/DIR: Caden Douglas  
PRODS: Michael Lomenda, Matt Schichter  
CO-PROD: Johnathan Sharp

CAST: Mindy Cohn, Enrico Colantoni, Melanie Leishman, Iain Stewart, Juan Chioran,  
Sharron Matthews, Izad Etemadi, Matthew G. Brown, Chad Connell



*The Jennings family couldn't be more painfully suburban, but when asshole Uncle Frank crashes their weekly Sunday dinner with a nasty surprise, murder turns up on the menu. Can the Jennings' overcome secrets and dysfunction to learn that, the family that slays together, stays together?*



# DREAMING OF YOU

A Feel-Good Rom-Com About Feel-Bad Dreams  
**Feature Film World Premiere**  
**Monday, June 24th 9:30PM**




Based on the hit new series  
**EROTECH** from SHP Comics!

"EroTech should  
 be the next great  
 HBO Max Series!"

-Matt Sardo, MFR Magazine

COURTNEY PAUROSO  
 DAVEY JOHNSON  
 APARNA NANCHERLA

SHAWN HAINSWORTH PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Saturday, 6.29 11:45 PM MIDNIGHT SHORTS

## UNLEASHED & ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT FEATURES

### TIM TRAVELERS & THE TIME TRAVELERS PARADOX

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 103 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUN 25 @ 915PM

WRITER/DIR: Stimson Snead  
 PRODS: Rich Cowan, Ben Yennie, Felicia Day, Casey Cowan, Kylie Walcuk, Stimson Snead  
 CAST: Starring Samuel Dunning, Co-Starring Felicia Day, Special Appearance by Keith David, With Joel McHale and Danny Trejo



*It is called the Time Travelers Paradox. In which a scientist creates a Time Machine and kills their younger self. So now a man who should not- can not- exist, somehow does. That is the Paradox, and Paradoxes are impossible. And the man who has created it, is Tim Travers. A reclusive mad scientist whose stated mission in life is to stand alone with God at the end of time, and tell the bastard off.*

## FUSION FEATURES

### AMERICA'S NEXT TOP IMMIGRANT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 83.5 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 5PM

WRITER/DIR: Benjamin-Shalom Rodriguez  
 PRODS: Jordyn Barber, Lydia Hooker, Benjamin-Shalom Rodriguez, Daniela Bailes, Colette Ussery, Benji Guerrero, Ross Boucher, Katherine Vucelic



CAST: Dara Emery, Emma West, Gabriela De Luna, Ebony Duran, Viviana Saavedra, Spencer Paez, Ryan Simantel, Theodore Mark Martinez, Lydia Hooker and Doug Hanson

*Chronicling the last two episodes of a reality competition show in which the final five immigrants compete against one another for a US passport.*

### ANXIOUS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 99.5 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUN 30 @ 2PM

WRITER/DIR: Nida Chowdhry  
 PRODS: Nida Chowdhry, Amira Mertaban  
 CAST: Nida Chowdhry, Anwar Molani, Linh Bui, Sammy Cantu, Charlie Q. Smith, Saman Hasan, Jessica Mosher, Ernest K. Walker, Cameron Crosby, Timothy Waldron, Ryan Quan, Laddie Singh, Kaveri Chaudhary, Abdul Hafeez, Maaz Ali, Josephine Nguyen, Aishveryaa Nidhi, Lara Shah, Seema Hari, Hishaam Siddiqi



*ANXIOUS. is a surreal dark comedy about a woman named Ruby who has an anxiety attack and trips down the rabbit hole of her mind, where she meets versions of herself who take over her life.*

*Inspired by the surrealism of Eternal Sunshine, quirky characters of Amelie, and the whirlwind journey of Alice in Wonderland, this fast-paced fashion film is set against the colorful backdrops of Little Saigon and Little India in Orange County, California. This debut feature is written, directed by and starring Nida Chowdhry.*

### BEST MAN DEAD MAN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 83 min.

SCREENING: WED JUN 26 @ 7PM

WRITER: Matthew Schlissel  
 DIR: Verner Maldonado  
 PRODS: Jack Ireland, Matthew Schlissel, Matt Ippolito, Molly Bernard, Verner Maldonado, Brandon Kraus, Tina Dazzo



CAST: Molly Bernard, David Gridley, Kimberly Crossman, Jonny Cruz, Leah Kilpatrick, James Heaney, Ben Fernandez, Jack Ireland, Dayana Rincon, Matt Ippolito, Atul Singh

*A bachelor party in the middle of nowhere quickly turns into a night of murder and mystery when the best man ends up with a knife in his head. Everyone is a suspect and only an eccentric private eye can solve the crime.*



From Executive Producer **RODNEY ASCHER** a film by **MATT WARREN**  
 From Executive Producer **RODNEY ASCHER** a film by **MATT WARREN**



William Leon Kelley Mack Kevin Bohleber Renee Leech  
 William Leon Kelley Mack Kevin Bohleber Renee Leech

# DELICATE ARCH

WRITERS: MICHAEL SUFFLEY, GUYTON; PRODUCED BY MATT WARREN; FROM "DELICATE ARCH" STARRING: WILLIAM LEON, KELLEY MACK, KEVIN BOHLEBER, RENE LEECH  
 WARREN; MACK; SUFFLEY; GUYTON; PRODUCED BY MATT WARREN; FROM "DELICATE ARCH" STARRING: WILLIAM LEON, KELLEY MACK, KEVIN BOHLEBER, RENE LEECH  
 CASTING BY: MARLA ROBISON; COSTUME DESIGNER: JACQUELINE; HAIR BY: JESSICA BOSS; MAKEUP BY: CARMELITA HUGHES; EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: RODNEY ASCHER, MATT WARREN; PRODUCED BY: LAURISSA HECK, JOSH LONG, AARON WILSON; WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY: MATT WARREN



WORLD PREMIERE  
**DWF LA**  
 2024 OFFICIAL SELECTION

TCL CHINESE THEATERS  
 Friday, June 28 at 9:15pm

## FUSION FEATURES

### FUTURE DATE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 81.5 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUN 30 @ 5PM

WRITERS: Patrick T. Dorsey, Stanley Wong

DIR: Stanley Wong

PRODS: Stanley Wong, Patrick T. Dorsey,  
 Nancy Y. Xu, Brielle Yuke Li

CAST: Stanley Wong, Shuang Hu, Johnny Pemberton, Matthew Harris, Amy Baklini, John Ennis

*In the distant future where the outside climate is unlivable and everyone is forced to spend their lives alone in tiny rooms, two people win the rare opportunity to go on a very unusual date – in person.*



### HAUNTOLOGY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 100 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 930PM

WRITER/DIR: Parker Brennon

PRODS: Rob Jarosinski, Lynda Buel,

Parker Brennon, Victoria McDevitt, Ryan Satre,  
 Catherine Clark, Marek Jarosinski, Dwayne Jarrell,  
 Rachael Scaccia, Irena Simons, Preston Simons,

Chris Trengove, Robert Barker, Alan Lastufka, La Donna Perry, Kim Matuka

CAST: Jaidyn Triplett, Samantha Russell, Jacinda Forbes, Kim Lea Mays, James DeForest Parker, Stephonika W. Kaye, Zoey Luna, Naomi Grossman, Gil Zabarsky, Gavin Herscher, Rosemary Ace Rosas, Abigail Esmena, Aubree Bowen, Alexandra Warr, Sarah Escandon, Aaron Turnbull, Kurt Oberhaus, Samantha Robinson, Kim Lea Mays, Noah Bunch, Ryan Satre, David Dietz, Jeremy Dubin, Jeanne Turczak, Gienieve Satre, Christan Buel, Lindsey McDowell, Nancy Loomis, Yesenia C. Buel

*In this queer horror anthology, 12-year-old Venus (they/them) decides to run away from home, but their journey is cut short when their older sister, Jazmin (she/her), spots them wheeling a suitcase down the sidewalk. Jazmin then takes Venus on a journey around town, where Jazmin tells supernatural tales in which characters have more in common with Venus than they first realize.*



### LISTEN CAREFULLY

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | USA, 2024, 80.5 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 1115PM

WRITER/DIR: Ryan Barton-Grimley

PRODS: Ryan Barton-Grimley, Ari Schneider,

Simone Barton-Grimley

CAST: Ryan Barton-Grimley, Ari Schneider, Simone  
 Barton-Grimley, Richard Gayler, Patrick Pankhurst

*When troubled assistant bank manager Andy McNeary's baby daughter goes missing, he must follow the instructions of a mysterious voice on the other end of a baby monitor to save her before she disappears forever.*



### NOBODY LEAVES

### TIL JESUS COMES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 80 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 715PM

WRITER/DIR: Jean Barker

PRODS: Jim Wareck, Spencer Garrett,

Magen Ashley Young

CAST: Alex Felix, Spencer Garrett, Joanna Going,  
 Garrett Coffey, Marla Robison, Max E. Williams

*Seventeen-year-old Mati stares down a rabbit hole of drugs, sex, and self-delusion in an LA trap house full of desperate people who show her what she could become.*



### UNNAMED

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 94.5 min.

SCREENING: THU JUN 27 @ 915PM

WRITER/DIR: Jessica Boss

PRODS: Mike Boss, Jessica Boss,

Dave & Cathy DeHart, Michael  
 and Carmelita Hughes

CAST: Jessica Boss, Lulu Grace Onwuaka, Brooke McCormick, Carmelita Hughes, Arturo Encinas, Charlie Rojas, Scarlett Islas, Gabriela Lopez, Jeannie Elise Mai, Godwin Asamoah Obeng, Cesar D' La Torre, Krisha Desai

*Inspired by true events, UNNAMED is a thriller about a young and beautiful Nigerian woman working as a hairstylist who meets a successful female producer on location in her country and convinces her to come to Hollywood. But her dreams of owning her own salon turn into a living nightmare when the producer forces her into sex trafficking.*



**Closing Night!**  
SUNDAY, JUNE 30 @ 7:15PM

a film by  
*Razieme Borra*

# HOW the WEST was ONE



*Elle Barbeito*

*Morgan Laughlin*

*Annie Bercy*

## WORLD PREMIERE

IN A CONTEMPORARY REIMAGINING OF THE AMERICAN WEST, THREE YOUNG WOMEN – A SNAKE HUNTER, A NEW YORK ARTIST, AND A RODEO QUEEN – CHALLENGE THE IDEA OF WHO IS PERMITTED TO BE A COWGIRL.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 30TH, 6:30PM | USA, 2024, 90 MINS | DOCUMENTARY**

DESPERADA FILMS PRESENTS HOW THE WEST WAS ONE A FILM BY RAZIEME IBORRA ANNIE BERCEY ELLE BARBEITO MORGAN LAUGHLIN  
MUSIC BY MATTHEW WANG COSTUME DESIGNER ANTHONY LAURETTA EDITOR LILY WILD EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEPHANIA DULOWSKI PRODUCED BY STEPHANIA DULOWSKI  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DAVID TURKOVIA PRODUCED BY ALEXANDER FALK NORA FALK RICHARD LIPPE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALEC SHANGOLD EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHRISTOPHER LEGGETT SAMANTHA APPEL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS RAZIEME IBORRA



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ROB  
MORROW

ZACHARY  
GORDON

MICHAEL  
MADSEN

# MAX DAGAN

A FILM BY  
TERRE WEISMAN



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 92 min.

**WRITER/DIR:** Terre Weisman

**PRODS:** Rafi Jacobs, Stephen Mastrocola, Liana Montemayor, Barry Katz, Terre Weisman

**CAST:** Rob Morrow, Zachary Gordon, Michael Madsen, Rob Brownstein, Lindsey Dresbach, Lisa Roumain, Jay Mohr, Jeff Ross, Kirk Fox, Eugenia Kuzmina, Richard Neil, Harry Holden White, Mara Swanson, Justice Gamble, Jacob Wysocki

After his father is sentenced to 15 years for the manslaughter of a California State Trooper, Max Dagan fights to uncover the truth and get his now terminally ill parent out of prison with a compassionate release. Max must open up old wounds, including seeking the help of his estranged uncle and the daughter of the dead trooper, to find evidence that could set his father free. In a race against time, two divided families discover they have more in common than they think.

# MIDNIGHT SHORTS BLK 1

## SAT JUNE 22

### 11:45 PM



@THECLOGGINGFILM  
WWW.THECLOGGING.COM

## The Clogging

DIRECTED BY ERIC LARSON



# VITCH

*(The Venice Witch)*

Party witch Theodora Thomas gets an alarming wakeup call when her mother warns her that the new Wiccan Counsel is cracking down on witches using their magic. Theo, who uses her magic in every aspect of her life, must now face the reality of the world as a normal twenty seven year old adult.

 @vitch\_theseries\_

  
World Premiere

JUNE 22ND \* 12:45PM \* TLC CHINESE THEATRE 6

# MIDNIGHT SERIES

## DEATH PERCEPTION

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 106 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUN 28 @ 1145PM

WRITERS: Kevin Mix, Sam Slade & Alec Wry  
DIRS: Alec Wry, Sam Slade, & Kevin Mix  
PRODS: Alec Wry, Nicole Murray,  
Kevin Mix & Sam Slade  
CAST: Omari Williams, Cody Laper, Laura Wichman, Nicole Murray, Brian Velazquez, Kevin Mix, Rosemberg Jimenez

A group of college students are invited to a screening party for a short film made by aspiring auteur filmmaker Sean Davis. The night takes a dark turn as each character gets picked off one by one by a mysterious masked killer. The story unfolds from the point-of-view of each of the six guests, and with each new perspective new clues come to light about the darkly comedic truth behind the violence.



## DELICATE ARCH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 85.5 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUN 28 @ 915PM

WRITER/DIR: Matt Warren  
PRODS: Larissa Beck, Josh Long,  
Aaron Nelson, Matt Warren  
CAST: William Leon, Kelley Mack,  
Kevin Bohleber, Rene Leech

Four young friends with fracturing relationships take a camping trip to Southern Utah in order to escape an ecological disaster in the northern part of the state. Alone in the desert, they begin to suspect that their reality might not be as it seems, and soon realize they're being observed by a mysterious cosmic force.



## THE DISINVITED

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | USA, 2024, 90.5 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUN 21 @ 1145PM

WRITERS: Devin Lawrence, Matthew Mourgides  
DIR: Devin Lawrence  
PROD: Matthew Mourgides  
CAST: Sam Daly, Dani Reynolds, Ryan Vincent,  
Alana Johnston, D.K. Uzoukwu,  
Samantha Jean Kwok, Ronnie Gene Blevins, Mia Challis, Darius Levanté, Clayton Hoff, Charlotte Gulezian, Bryson Robinson, Ingrid Haas, Patrick Gallo, Veronica Burgess, and Tommy Bechtold

Against his-or-anyones better judgment, Carl decides to crash an event where he is no longer welcome, setting off a day filled with betrayal, violence, heartache, and exes who should never get back together. When Carl discovers he isn't the only unwelcome guest in the desert, he is forced to decide whether to save himself or risk everything for those who have wronged him.



## MOURNING ROCK

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 84 min

SCREENING: FRI JUN 21 @ 915PM

WRITERS: Jeff Wolfe, Lance Oschner  
DIR: Jeff Wolfe  
PRODS: Jennifer Wolfe,  
Kevin Matossian, Jeff Wolfe  
CAST: Billy Burke, Alyshia Ochse, Taylor Handley,  
Raoul Max Trujillo, Jessica Frances Dukes, Kylr Coffman, Dani Oliveros

A Psychological Thriller about a state park ranger husband and his wife struggling to come to terms with their missing teenage son while dealing with a local mystery that questions their relationship and in the end, their grip on reality.



## STRAIGHT ON TILL MORNING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 103.5 min

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 1015PM

WRITERS: Craig Ouellette and Neal McLaughlin  
DIR: Craig Ouellette  
PRODS: Craig Ouellette, Bonnie Jean Tyer,  
Annalea Fiachi, Joanna Fang, Chad Crenshaw,  
Jacob Sorling, Davis DeRock, Anatasha Blakely  
CAST: Kelsey Christian, Bonnie Jean Tyer,  
Maria Olsen, Bill Hengstenberg, Michael Gmur, Travis Lincoln Scott

Dani and Kaitlin are two dreamers falling for each other on a romantic road-trip. The future is theirs — until they cross paths with a pious couple who have something much, much darker in mind.



# MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 22 @ 1145PM

## THE CLOGGING

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.



WRITER/DIR: Eric Larson  
PRODS: Jessica Hong, Eric Larson  
CAST: Brian Park, Willie Zabar, Angela Wong Carbone

*A man at a party must do the unthinkable after he clogs the only toilet.*

## DEATH OF AN EDITOR

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 10 min.



WRITER/DIR: Kyle Hartford  
PRODS: Reilly Thate, Kyle Hartford  
CAST: Clare Lefebure, Annie Gill

*A reclusive video editor receives footage of her own death.*

## THE EXPOSED

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 5 min.



WRITER/DIR/PROD: Xenia Leblanc  
CAST: Mack Ogden, Zoë Papia, Michael McWhorter, Zachary Zarvos

*A nurse returns home from a long shift to find herself haunted by a much more malevolent presence than she ever could have imagined.*

## INKED

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 14.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Kelsey Bollig  
PROD: Wendy Wang  
CAST: Mya Hudson (Kaikane), Chris Corte, Josh Mabie, Lizzie Zerebko

*A malevolent presence is invited into a young woman's life after she honors her recently deceased father by tattooing his ashes into her skin.*

## LOCKSMITH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 7 min.



WRITER/DIR: Corey Benson Powers  
PRODS: Corey Benson Powers, Gretchen Rolnicki, Blake Armstrong, Stephen Wester  
CAST: Paige Bourne, Pete Berwick

*Emma, a striving professional, has her morning routine interrupted when a slovenly locksmith arrives to fix her broken lock. She prepares for the day but soon realizes he has intentions other than repair.*

## MOTHERLY LOVECRAFT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 12.5 min.



WRITERS: Collin Black, Erin Bechler  
DIR: Collin Black  
PRODS: Aidan Tracy, Collin Black, Joey Caldwell  
CAST: Erin Bechler, Rosie De Candia, Méliá Lisette

*A young woman reluctantly meets with her estranged mother, only to discover that the visit is part of a larger plan to sacrifice her to the god of her mother's cult.*

# MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 22 @ 1145PM

## SHADOW

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 12 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kamell Allaway  
PRODS: Adam Tyree, Tim Smith, Ashley Rosenberg, Kamell Allaway  
CAST: Katy Wright-Mead, Valentina Gordon, Christy St. John

*A young mother's shadow takes on a life of its own, terrorizing her and her daughter over the course of one night.*



## THE STARDUST MOTEL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.

WRITERS: Ori Ben-Shahar, Stephanie Christie  
DIR: Ori Ben-Shahar  
PROD: Stephanie Christie  
CAST: Georgia Markey, Orion Smith, Agnete Strand, Allen Marsh, Ashley Wolff, Olivia Janicek, Isabella Spagnoli, Aidan Peterson, Tristan Foster

*After arriving at a desolate motel, a junior reporter must trust her instincts as she investigates a string of disappearances, risking her career and her life.*



## WHO DO YOU LOVE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 18 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: Lorin Doctor & Max Gottlieb  
PROD: Sadie Marchese-Moore  
CAST: Peter Vack, Lorin Doctor, Ian Michaels

*A couple in the midst of a breakup goes on a road trip, but when the sun sets, their journey takes a turn for the worst as the man's desperation spirals into one last violent act of control.*



## WIDE OPEN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Brian Ferenchik  
CAST: Andrew Hollinger, Nikole Davis, Brian Loud

*In a crime-ridden Los Angeles, an anxious young man is put up to a menacing test by his girlfriend on a weekend retreat.*



## YOU'RE IT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alexander J. Callens  
PRODS: Eric Hale, Glen Michel  
CAST: Eric Hale, Kaitlyn Marie Marshall, Krisztina Losonci

*Two fugitive travelers in a hideout are pursued by a relentless entity that mimics its victims.*



# MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 1145PM

## DAUGHTERS OF EVIL

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 12.5 min.



WRITER: Natasha Malone  
DIRS: Adam Taylor and Natasha Malone  
PRODS: Natasha Malone, Adam Taylor, and Rob Neilson  
CAST: Natasha Malone, Michael Pascetta, Joe Grisaffi, Jenessa Michelle Soto, Ariel Ditta, Taylor Shayne, Megan Scoma, CW McCarty, Joe Manco

In 1966, a girl group consulted a spirit board in order to find the perfect band name. They got one, Daughters of Evil, but they also got possessed by demons. Decades later, a YouTuber accidentally summons the band to the land of the living by playing their album backwards.

## THE DEBUTANTE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 14 min.



WRITERS/DIRS: Nat Moonhill, Veronica Moonhill  
PRODS: Courtney Hope Thérond, Nat Moonhill, Veronica Moonhill  
CAST: Kelly McCormack, Paul Soileau, Jasmine Alburquerque

In a bid to avoid her debutante ball, a girl teams up with a hyena and hatches a murderous plan for it to go to the party in her place. Based on a story by Leonora Carrington.

## GIRL UPSTAIRS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 10 min.



WRITER: John Gee  
DIR: Kevin Stevenson  
PRODS: Linda Trask, Jason Haffley, AJ El-Gammal  
CAST: Holly Blair, Luiz Gustavo Cintra, Sara Catherine Bellamy

A successful but isolated artist, struggling with agoraphobia, has her life turned upside down when one of her works of art comes to life. At first, she joyfully accepts this reprieve from her self-imposed exile, but her new friends are not all they seem, and her small world starts to come apart as her fear of the outside comes into conflict with her new creations and their need for freedom.

## HONK

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 12.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Charles de Lauzirika  
PRODS: Jeremy Emerman, Charles de Lauzirika, Renae Geerlings, Carlee Baker  
CAST: Zach Galligan, Carlee Baker, Tyler Mane

Reluctant divorcee Bill is awakened before dawn by a mysterious car horn in his normally quiet neighborhood. Unable to find the source of the honk, he ventures out into the darkness, only to face something far more disturbing.

# MIDNIGHT SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 1145PM

## PESTS

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 16.5 min.

WRITER: Tyler Beveridge  
DIR: Sean Crusier  
PRODS: Tyler Beveridge, Sean Crusier, Gavin Michael Booth  
CAST: Murphy Martin, Tyler Beveridge, Cami Storm, Greg Fink

To distract himself from a severe breakup, a man begins obsessing over a creature destroying his backyard.

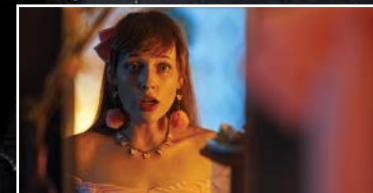


## PIPER MEETS A PSYCHOPATH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 10.5 min.

WRITER: Nicole Elliott  
DIRS: AJ Martinson III, Nicole Elliott  
PROD: Benjamin Hatmaker  
CAST: Nicole Elliott, Emily Gateley, Eliot, Shane Rogers, Dave Parke

Piper the People Pleaser is having a blast bopping around town on her no consequences "Door Driver" delivery job, until she crosses paths with a psychopath who just might be using her for nefarious errands in his evil business. Can Piper navigate this dangerous situation without sacrificing her hella chill lifestyle?



## RARE MEDIUM

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 10.5 min.

WRITER: Ryan Meharry  
DIR: Emily Maya Mills  
PRODS: Ryan Meharry, Alyssa Fritz, Ryan Rosenberg  
CAST: Dave Theune, Ryan Meharry

A bloodless horror-comedy about a straightforward spiritual possession, hijacked by murderous cannibals. When Dave, a grieving everyman, hires Gus, a maybe-too-legit spiritual medium, to contact his recently deceased girlfriend, their session starts off hopeful but soon starts to smell off. Twist after relentless twist propels them on a head-whipping thrill ride... without ever leaving Gus' office. A simple recipe yielding complex results.



## SWEATY LARRY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 6.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Vanessa Ionta Wright  
PRODS: Ryan Burton, Rozalyn Mattocks, Tony Reames  
CAST: Haley Leary, Victor Rivera, Sienna Burton, Quinn Reames, Camryn Bentley

Three curious young girls stumble upon an obscure urban legend and summon the infamous entity known as Sweaty Larry. They were warned...they were warned.



## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 8 min.

WRITER: Shawn Hainsworth AKA Darin X. Cape  
DIR: Kris Lefcoe  
PRODS: Shawn Hainsworth, Anthony Argento  
CAST: Courtney Pauroso, Davey Johnson, Aparna Nancherla, Brittany Carney, Clare O'Kane

Milton, a lonely middle-aged man, starts to fall in love with his new sex robot but his relationship is upended when she ignores his safe word, leading to the most awkward customer service call of his life.



# 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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## DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

### A LITTLE HOPE FOR CHICAGO

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 74 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 21 @ 7PM

WRITERS: Kevin Nichols, Leon Lozano

DIR: Leon Lozano

PRODS: Garrett E.B. Thompson, Kevin Nichols, Leon Lozano

FEATURING: Kevin Nichols, Karter Nichols, Maya Garcia, Kerby Garcia, Bailey Renée, Tuluv Price, Koby Nichols

Part narrative performance film, part documentary, A LITTLE HOPE FOR CHICAGO is a walk through the life of a Chicago hustler, narrowly avoiding the devastating consequences of death and incarceration, as he reflects on the systemic root causes of the violence and trauma that consume youth in urban centers like Chicago.



### A SCHOOL GROWS IN WATTS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 75 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 30 @ 12PM

DIR: Ryan S. Porush

PRODS: Ryan S. Porush, Oshea Luja, Melanie Luja, Baron Davis, Rao Yalamanchili

In one of the most notoriously underserved cities in the country, an innovative charter elementary school works toward a reimagined future through a community-based approach to education. Weaving together the personal narratives of educators, families, students and community members involved with the Watts Learning Center, A SCHOOL GROWS IN WATTS paints a lyrical, immersive portrait of a vibrant yet misunderstood community and the ongoing work of a mighty school with humble beginnings.



### THE BIG WHITE HOUSE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 67 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 23 @ 630PM

DIR: Christopher Riel

PRODS: Christopher Riel, Barbara Garner, Alexander Rodriguez

FEATURING: Christopher Riel, Barbara Garner, Ted Garner, Adam Lambert, Owen Scheid, Aaron Robison, Aubrey Wright, Ian Watson, Daniel Garner, Jordan Goldberg, Tam Chase, Robin MacDougall

In Montecito, California, 'The Big White House' traces director Chris Riel's journey from Bakersfield poverty to Santa Barbara opulence, reminiscent of the 'Beverly Hillbillies'. Over 20 years, Riel captures the wild escapades of Montecito teens defying societal norms. From go-karting to mud sledding, their adventures unfold against upper-class expectations. Through laughter and loss, they forge unbreakable bonds, navigating grief, divorce, and addiction. This adrenaline-laced documentary offers a poignant reflection on friendship and resilience, emphasizing love over materialism.



### CAMP RICSTAR

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 87 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 30 @ 415PM

WRITER: Lukas Hauser

DIR: Sam McConnell

PRODS: Sam McConnell, Lukas Hauser, Judy Winter and Richard Winter

CAMP RICSTAR explores the heartbreaking history and profound impact of a one-of-a-kind camp for people with disabilities, the Eric 'RicStar' Winter Music Therapy Camp. On the occasion of its 20th anniversary, we follow eight spirited campers who embrace being uninhibited as they sing, dance, create, connect, and discover new ways to express themselves. Finally, they perform at the "Be-a-Star Showcase," where every level of ability is included and celebrated center stage.





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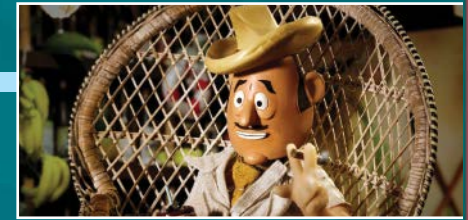
## DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

### THE DONN OF TIKI

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 100 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 28 @ 7PM

WRITERS/DIRS: Alex Lamb, Max Well  
PRODS: Alex Lamb, Max Well, Taryn Roraback  
FEATURING: Jeff Berry, Sven Kirsten,  
Marie King, Martin Cate



The life of Donn Beach has been re-written, embellished, and at times flat-out fabricated. He was an American maverick, constantly creating his own opportunities while reinventing himself, and embellishing the details of his extraordinary life.

This documentary takes on the task of separating fact from exaggeration to finally tell Donn's story, and how he inadvertently created the tiki subculture back in 1930s Hollywood. Mixing fun retro animation with newly found tapes of Donn's last interview, the film explores universal truths behind Donn's tall tales.

### HOW THE WEST WAS ONE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 90.5 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 30 @ 630PM

DIR: Razieme Iborra  
PROD: Alec Shangold  
CONSULTING PRODS: Christopher Leggett,  
Samantha Apfel  
FEATURING: Annie Bercy, Elle Barbeito,  
Morgan Laughlin



Amid infamously unprecedented times, three unconventional cowgirls reshape our vision of the American West. From deep Queens, artist Annie Bercy flees West to uncover the whitewashed history of Black Cowboys. In Miami, Latina designer Elle Barbeito confronts her own survival hunting the invasive Burmese Python. On the West Coast, rodeo queen Morgan Laughlin vies for the title of Miss Rodeo America.

### INTERPRETERS WANTED

USA, 2024, 84 min.

SCREENING: MON JUNE 24 @ 7PM

WRITER/DIR: Robert Ham  
PRODS: Michael Taylor, Jenna Cavelle,  
Robert Ham, Justice F. W. Pelton  
FEATURING: Robert Ham, Saifullah Haqmal,  
Ismail Haqmal



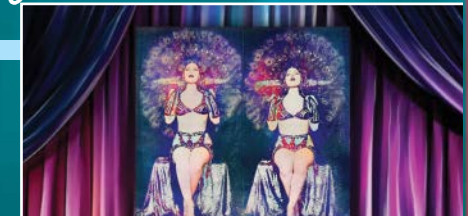
Saifullah and Ismail Haqmal are two brother interpreters who served alongside U.S. Forces in Afghanistan for over a decade. Interpreters Wanted follows the brothers from their childhood growing up during the Russian/Afghan war, through the Taliban era, then the invasion by NATO forces after 9/11. When Robert deployed to Afghanistan in 2009 he worked with the brothers and they all became close friends. After Robert's unit leaves Afghanistan the brothers become desperate to escape and turn to their American friends to petition Congress and help them escape the Taliban's rise to power.

### THE NITA & ZITA PROJECT

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 78.5 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 23 @ 830PM

WRITER/DIR: Marci Darling  
PRODS: Marci Darling, Sharon Gillen,  
ASSOC PRODS: Alison Gordon,  
Courtney Mico Nelson



The story of two Jewish immigrant sisters who rose to international burlesque stardom, then became recluses and the ultimate New Orleans eccentrics. Their journey, marked by both the dazzle of the spotlight and the shadows of solitude, is a testament to their unbreakable bond and their vibrant heritage. The film is designed to challenge Jewish stereotypes and gender norms, illuminating a slice of American culture rarely seen—the lives of burlesque dancers, acrobats, contortionists, and the courageous performers who dare to dream big.

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## DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

### NORITA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 88 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUNE 25 @ 7PM

WRITERS/DIRS: Jayson McNamara  
& Andrea Tortonese

PRODS: Sarah Schoellkopf, Jayson McNamara,  
Francisco Villa, Melissa Daniels

NORITA takes viewers on a gripping journey through Argentina's tumultuous history, where Norita's personal tragedy becomes a catalyst for change. As a mother seeking justice for her disappeared son during the dark days of Argentina's dictatorship, Norita's unwavering determination and fearless activism led her to co-found the renowned Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, a pivotal human rights organization. The film chronicles her journey to seek justice for the past while inspiring the next generation of women's rights activists. Norita has been held up as a symbol by the women's movement, dating back to the 1980s, and is seen as a fundamental fixture in the movement's success during Argentina's 2020 vote to legalize abortion.



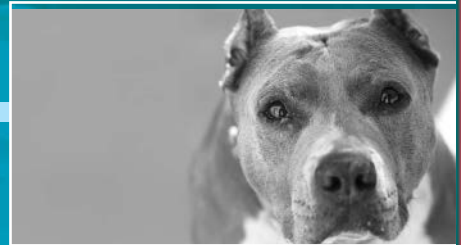
### SAVING JONES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 100 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 22 @ 445PM

WRITER/DIR: Rebecca Corry  
PRODS: Stand Up For Pits Foundation  
with Angel Forever Productions

Saving JONES is a biographical social commentary about the abuse and discrimination of dogs as it directly relates to humans. Rebecca Corry has dedicated her life to saving pit bull type dogs – the most abused, discriminated against and murdered dogs on earth. Saving Jones is a heartwarming yet tragic, inspiring and truthful look at why what is happening to these inherently good dogs is a direct reflection of a broken society and is in fact everyone's problem.



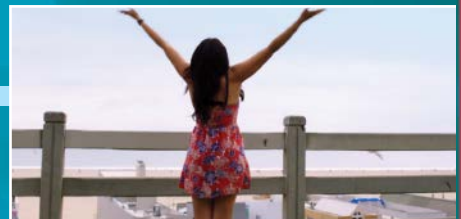
### SCARS UNSEEN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 69.5 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 30 @ 245PM

DIR: Meredith Yinger  
PRODS: Meredith Yinger, Natalie Perez  
FEATURING: Maha Bodhi, Adrienne Rouan,  
Trish Steele, Rachel Louise Snyder

'Scars Unseen is a 'triumph of the human spirit' documentary, following three women who have overcome domestic violence and are paying it forward. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the statistic of 1 in 4 women affected by domestic violence went up to 1 in 3 women. This inspiring documentary focuses on the resiliency of these phenomenal women and encourages us all to be more trauma informed. Scars Unseen aims to illuminate the power of healing, de-stigmatize victimhood, and encourage open communication about the causes, treatment, and prevention of abuse.'



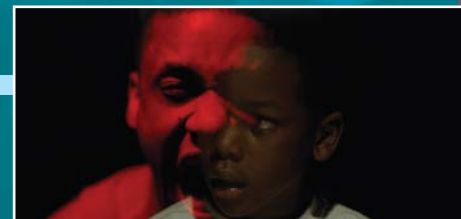
### SITTING IN THE FIRE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 78.5 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 29 @ 1230PM

DIRS: Alec Goldberg, Bosen Wang  
PRODS: Vaughn Miles, Jazmier Johnson,  
Zeontay Johnson, Clay Susick, Ryan Connors,  
Sam Vaughn, Robert Rogers, Doug Harris  
FEATURING: Havon Bakara

Arrested and sentenced to life in prison at age twenty, Vaughn Miles underwent decades of rehabilitation and was released after 24 years. Now, he's back in his hometown working toward ending gun violence in the place he once helped destroy.



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DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

## THE SOUTH GOT SOMETHING TO SAY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 96 min.

SCREENING: WED JUNE 26 @ 230PM

WRITERS: Ernie Suggs and DeAsia Paige  
DIRS: Ryon Horne and Tyson Horne  
PRODS: DeAsia Paige, Ernie Suggs, Sandra Brown,  
Byron Horne, Leroy Chapman and Andrew Morse



Hip-hop was born in New York and spread to LA, but its soul is in Atlanta. Shaped by the South's complexities and contradictions – civil rights and racial tension, wealth and poverty, tradition and innovation, churches and strip clubs – Atlanta pioneers played up their roots and spread the gospel of Atlanta hip-hop. From 80s to trap to crunk and snap, Atlanta created a new musical language, dominated the charts and gained global influence. In 1995, it was declared "The South Got Something to Say," and the world has been listening ever since.

## SPYRAL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 83.5 min.

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 29 @ 245PM

WRITER/DIR: Bill Guttentag  
PRODS: Jennifer Hutchins  
CO-PROD: Lee Rothenflue & Lila Schmitz  
EXEC PRODS: Jason French, Bill Guttentag,  
Terence Michael, Randall White, Kiki Teague,  
Robert Plotkin  
CO-EXEC PRODS: Tim Lynch, Tony Vu, Ryan Maki, Michelle Maki, Cameron Orme  
CONTRIBUTING PRODS: Garrick Baskerville, Nancy Lloyd, Stephen Martin, Tod Lockhart  
FEATURING: Voiceover by Michelle Trachtenberg



A tragic true story that reveals the mental health epidemic in America. This is a dramatic and powerful view of the toll that bipolarism takes on one woman's life and the family she leaves behind. With over a decade of home videos, diaries and social media, Oscar-winning director, Bill Guttentag, stitches together the tragic story and the mystery behind it.

## UNBROKEN

USA/GERMANY/ISRAEL, 2023, 96 min.

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 30 @ 1230PM

WRITERS: Beth Lane & Aaron Soffin  
DIR: Beth Lane  
PRODS: Beth Lane, Barbara & Mark Gerson,  
Jen Lane Landolt & Mark Landolt, Andy Hall,  
Jennifer Sofio Hall, Angus Wall, Mai Amalie Bak,  
Stacey Kessler Aungst, Doug Prochilo  
FEATURING: Philip Boehm, Beth Lane, Gertrude Chapman, Ruth Gilliana, Ginger Lane



The daughter of a Holocaust survivor embarks on an international quest to uncover answers about the plight of her mother and her six siblings who, as mere children, escaped Nazi Germany relying solely on their own youthful bravado and the kindness of German strangers.

## UNLIKELY ALLIES

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 95 min.

SCREENING: TUE JUNE 25 @ 230PM

WRITERS: Anthony Pedone, Max Blecker  
DIR: Anthony Pedone  
PRODS: Mike Marnagu, Michael Hollis Goldstein,  
Anthony Pedone, Patrick McManamee

FEATURING: Weldon, Angelos, Snoop Dogg, Lisa Angelos, Charles Koch, Michael Harris,  
Alice Johnson

Weldon Angelos's budding music career is abruptly terminated when prosecutors weaponize federal laws against him, turning a low-level cannabis case into 20 felony charges with a potential 105-year sentence. His case ignited a nationwide movement to reform the criminal justice system, uniting unlikely allies from billionaire Charles Koch, Senator Mike Lee and liberal icons like Senator Cory Booker, Van Jones and Snoop Dogg.



## DOC SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 21 @ 445PM

### IT'S FOR YOU: EPHEMERAL ART & THE DEATH OF THE PUBLIC PHONE



USA, 2023, 29 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Ryan Steven Green  
FEATURING: Andrés Cortes, Jennifer Korsen,  
@paperheadcase, @screwyblooms, @blk\_plms,  
@nickynailedit, @solopisist

Utilizing such varied materials as concrete, papier-mâché, and blown-out tires, disparate LA street artists give new life to the dwindling remnants of the city's payphones by repurposing them as canvases for unique creative expressions. With the streets as their gallery our heroes defy vandalism laws, maintenance crews, haters, and history itself to deliver a moment's levity to the right kind of passerby. By keeping its focus on the artists, the phones, and the ephemerality of art and technology, this short documentary invites its audience to appreciate what's being lost as the world moves on.

### LOS SANDY'S

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 28 min.



DIR: Jaime Puerta  
PRODS: Jaime Puerta, Alan Thompson, Borja Campillo

Escaping poverty in Mexico, Julia had a lifelong dream of owning her land and living peacefully there with her family. But shortly after the birth of her seventh child, her husband Enrique dies, leaving Julia as the primary breadwinner, working in the scorching fields of California's farmlands. On top of that, Julia and her children must leave their family home of 18 years after her landlord decides to sell the property. But at the heart of this household is Los Sandy's, a Mexican folk band featuring his five elder children, who devotedly help sustain the family with all they earn.

### THE THIRD COUNTRY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 15 min.



WRITERS: Ellen Barnard, Sophia Qureshi  
DIR: Fr3deR1ck Taylor  
PRODS: Ellen Barnard,  
Sophia Qureshi, Frederick Taylor  
FEATURING: Kapor Shee, Han, Wah, Van Lian Kio

What's it like to leave everything you know? To flee war torn Myanmar and wake up in a refugee camp? And, finally, to be resettled in the US South? Young Burmese refugees navigate these waters, building new lives in Georgia with their homeland top of mind. They face a reality where many parents work endlessly at chicken factory jobs to make better lives for them. They overcome generational issues, learn English and try to fit in at school. They leave behind loved ones in peril in Myanmar, balancing difficult everyday lives with resilience and compassion, looking for brighter futures.

### WE ARE FLYING STARS

UK, 2023, 8 min.



WRITER/DIR: Todd Antony  
PRODS: Todd Antony, Kabba Kargbo

The civil war in Sierra Leone (1991-2002) not only killed more than 50,000 people, it also led to thousands of innocent civilians having legs, arms or hands forcibly amputated by rebel soldiers. Or removed by landmines. The film looks at the Flying Star Amputees who are a group of football teams born out of the adversity of this war. All the players are victims of civil war amputations, and football has brought them a level of joy, confidence, and hope for a better future for disabled people in Sierra Leone.

## DOC SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: MON JUNE 24 @ 445PM

### THE KATZ TAPES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 25 min.

DIR: Adam Fischer  
PRODS: Jorgy Cruz, Adam Fischer  
FEATURING: Larry Katz

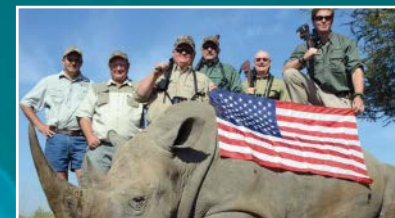


From 1980–2005, Larry Katz, a reporter for the Boston Herald, interviewed music's biggest stars and recorded their conversations onto cassette tapes. His collection has been sitting untouched and unheard for decades...until now.

### LAND OF THE FREE: OUT OF THE SHADOWS

WEST COAST Premiere | AUSTRALIA, 2023, 39.5 min.

WRITER: Lynn Santer DIR: James Ganiere  
PRODS: Lynn Santer, James Ganiere, Priscilla Presley,  
Larry Korman, David Leneman



Possibly one of the most important movies of our time, while there still is time, to reverse a tragedy our grandchildren will never forgive us for. It's time to "take out the trash" and put the heinous practice of LEGALLY slaughtering endangered species for nothing more than pride, pleasure and profit, into the dustbin of history where it belongs alongside mankind's other shameful past.

### THE PURSUIT OF A DREAM

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 20.5 min.

DIR/PROD: Brian Grigsby  
FEATURING: Jessica Lamarre



The Pursuit of a Dream follows Detroit singer, dancer, actor Jessica Lamarre as she embarks on a once in a lifetime opportunity as she prepares for the biggest performance of her career. We get a peek behind the curtain of what it really means to be an independent artist as she tackles creative and financial challenges as a music artist without the support of a major label. With the odds stacked against her, can she push through and revel in the excitement of the moment or will the pressure prove to be too heavy of a burden to carry on this next step in the pursuit of her dream.

### TAKE ME TO THE OCEAN

USA, 2023, 5 min.

DIR: Ilanna Barkusky  
PRODS: Ilanna Barkusky, Jacqueline Lehr  
FEATURING: Erena Shimoda



In the aftermath of a car accident that changes her life in a single moment, Erena struggles with survivor's guilt. Seeking solace, she turns to the water which holds a deep connection to childhood memories of time shared with her father.

## DOC SHORTS: GRP 3

SCREENING: TUE JUN 25 @ 445PM

### BASEBALL BEHIND BARBED WIRE

USA, 2023, 34 min.

WRITERS: Yuriko Gamo Romer, Shirley Thompson  
DIR: Yuriko Gamo Romer  
PRODS: Yuriko Gamo Romer, Marc Smolowitz  
CO-PROD: Loi Ameera Almeron  
FEATURING: Tets Furukawa, Howard Zenimura,  
Kerry Yo Nakagawa and Bill Staples, Jr.



Guard towers and barbed wired confined the Japanese Americans during the forced incarceration of the World War II. But there was no containing their love of baseball and it provided solace and hope at all ten WWII Japanese American Confinement Camps. The short documentary, Baseball Behind Barbed Wire, about this bitter history, is told with moments of cheer and laughter as the incarcerated rallied to build baseball fields, play ball and even travel long distances, to proclaim their American heritage through their beloved baseball.

## DOC SHORTS: GRP 3 (CONT)

SCREENING: TUE JUN 25 @ 445PM

### THE ELEPHANT IN THE DRIVEWAY



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 16 min.

WRITER/DIR: Hoag Kepner  
PRODS: Taylor Lukof  
FEATURING: Megan Hart

A middle school English teacher by day, Megan Hart one weekend morning decides to begin making a giant cyclops elephant puppet in her driveway. Expenses soon spiral and her project grows into an obsession, leaving her family and neighbors to wonder; what is this all for?

As she wrestles with her self-described “pointless” creation, Megan unconsciously mines her own identity and comes to discover that sometimes pointless things are worth doing.

### FAR WEST



USA, 2023, 18 min.

DIR/PROD: Stephen Michael Simon

The city lifestyle left New York City artist Lala feeling hollow, forcing her to make the bold decision of uprooting herself and seeking solace in the untamed landscapes somewhere far west. Stripped of the familiar comforts of running water, electricity, and constant connectivity, she faces the daunting challenge of building a bountiful life from scratch.

### IS THIS SOMETHING?



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 6.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Timothy Hautekiet

“Is This Something?” chronicles a creative journey that started in the 90’s and follows through to the present day as it ponders whether we are in a uniquely difficult time for storytellers or whether the core struggle never truly changes.

### TR(ol)L



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2024, 17 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Yourgo Artsitas

In 1999, a chain letter began to matriculate around online message boards. The goal? Get New Kids On The Block’s 1989 music video “Hangin’ Tough” on Total Request Live. Why?

Cuz it wud b funny lmao.

Told from the people who were there, TR(ol)L shows a catalytic moment in Internet history that helped birth modern online trolling and still influences keyboard pranksters to this day.

## DOC SHORTS: GRP 4

SCREENING: WED JUNE 26 @ 445PM

### DAVID AGAIN

USA, 2023, 17.5 min.

DIR: Adam Elliott  
PRODS: Adam Elliott, Cameron Taddeo, Jon Cryer, Dylan Tuccillo, Emily Kincaid, Lisa Schiller, Aaron Simms, Matthew Lincoln, Eliza Dennis  
FEATURING: David Dennis, Jon Cryer

The story of David Dennis, his road to recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, and his lifelong friendship with actor Jon Cryer. It is a story about redemption, the power of friendship, and the promise that it is never too late to ask for help.



### DEAR DAD

WORLD Premiere | USA/SOUTH KOREA, 2023, 12.5 min.

WRITED/DIR: Noah Kim  
PRODS: Noah Kim, Andrea Paterson, Jennifer Tyler, Marki Jones  
FEATURING: Noah Kim

A self-portrait documentary film about writer/director Noah Kim’s first time visiting Seoul, South Korea, his late father’s homeland.



### EL REGRESO' (THE RETURN)

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 23 min.

DIR: Samantha Ramirez-Herrera  
PROD: Sam Bathrick

At Age 7, Sam Ramirez-Herrera fled Mexico with her family in pursuit of the American Dream. 30 years later, on the eve of Day of The Dead, she embarks on a journey to reconnect with her past and convene with her Mexican family, both living and dead. As her homecoming stirs trauma on both sides of the border, it also reveals the great cost of her decades-old crossing and upends her conception of what it means to be a DREAMER. “El Regreso” explores rebirth through the lens of one woman’s awakening.

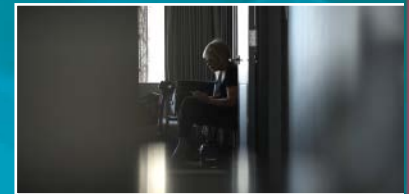


### HOW I ROLL

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 13 min.

DIRS: Brianne Berkson & Miguel Gluckstern, BriGuel  
PRODS: Robin Cohen, Brianne Berkson, Miguel Gluckstern, Stefany Dobken

Facing unthinkable hardships – murder, loss, battling MS for 25 years, Robin Cohen impressively defies the odds, finding light despite the darkness.



### IS IT BECAUSE I'M A GIRL

WEST COAST Premiere | KENYA/MEXICO/USA, 2023, 16 min.

DIR: Peter Decherney  
PROD: Peter Gitau  
FEATURING: Naomi Nyiel garang

This is the story of Nao.G, the first South Sudanese woman to perform hip-hop music, dance, and poetry in the Kakuma Refugee Camp. Nao.G overcame family abuse and social pressure to create music and poetry that heals her and empowers others. She started a dance troupe of all women. As she says, she is a superstar in the refugee camp, but at the same time she is going nowhere.

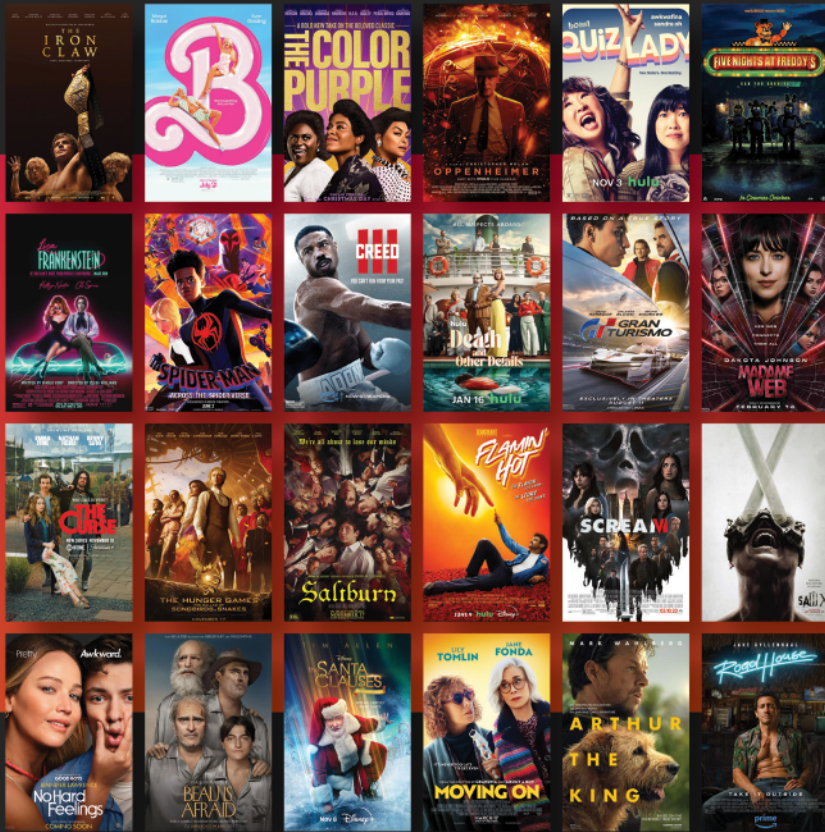




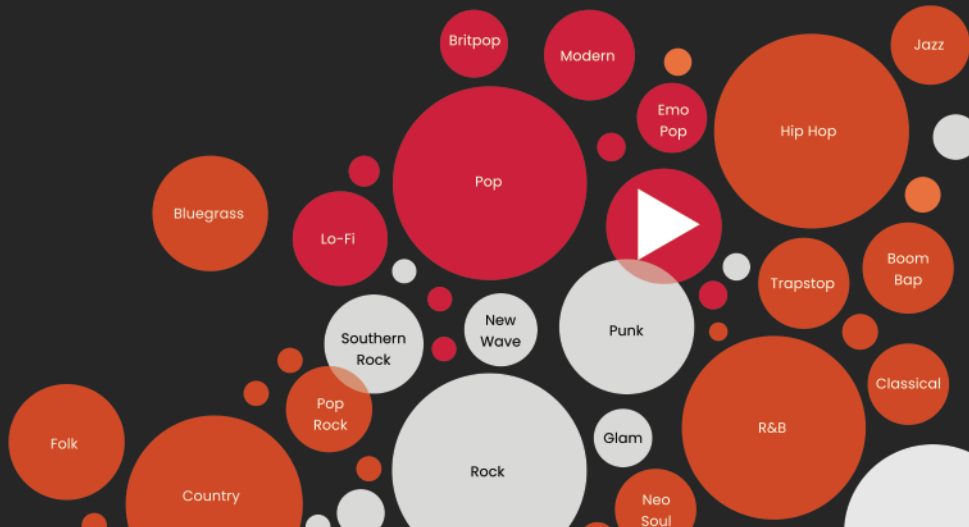
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## DOWNBEAT: A Celebration of MUSIC & DANCE

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 21 @ 5PM

### DANCE AS YOU ARE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 77 min.

SCREENING: FRI JUN 21 @ 5PM

DIR/PROD: Eryl Cochran



Filmed almost entirely on iPhones, this playful documentary follows 100 strangers from around Los Angeles as they come together to form adult dance teams for one recital. The dancers discover the incredible transformations that occur when they make time for joy and put on their dancing shoes.

preceded by

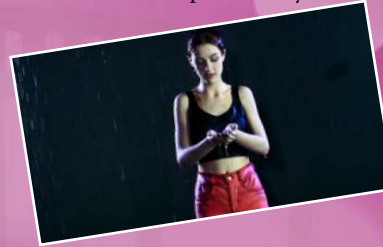
### DANI CALIFORNIA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Nicole Scimeca

CAST: Nicole Scimeca

Original by Red Hot Chili Peppers Cover by Nicole Scimeca



A girl navigates her life filled with struggles at home, isolation at school, and crushing inner sadness. She finds her muse in songwriting and learns how music is her positive outlet.

## DOWNBEAT: A Celebration of MUSIC & DANCE

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 28 @ 5PM

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 4.5 min..

DIR: Alexa May PROD: Sophie Gilmour FEATURING: Kate Short

### 2 AM

Americana-indie artist Kate Short's debut music video, "2 AM," in celebration of her Summer 2023 UK Tour "Seasons." Kate is a singer-songwriter originally from Texas, now based in Brooklyn, NY. Her video harks back to her Dallas teenage experiences, and that in-between, early-morning unease of 2 AM.

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 3.5 min.

### BED BY 9

WRITER: Max Castillo DIR: Christian Klein PROD: Olivia Isabel Comas Wood  
FEATURING: Max Castillo, Brittany Lewis, Tommy Wakefield, Aaron Monte, Deveon Chapple, Sara Ambra, Imke Hart, Natasha Murcia, Alexa Kornas, Maya Ristovski

Big Time Maca's beautiful girlfriend sensually saunters into their bedroom, ready for a night of lovemaking... but it's past Maca's strict bedtime of 9pm.



WORLD Premiere | MEXICO, 2023, 4.5 min.

### BORN TO FLY

DIR: Martin Bautista

PRODS: Luis Palomino, Molly Ferrill

FEATURING: Molly Ferrill, Fernando Bueno, Bernardo Benitez

Molly Ferrill's debut pop-rock single Born To Fly is all about liberation, and the music video reflects that spirit. Together, a woman and a caged hawk free themselves and set out on a road trip into the mountains—a journey of friendship, self-determination and freedom.

## BUNNY LOWE - LITTLE WHITE CHAPEL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ryan Noufer

PROD: Brian Buxton

FEATURING: Vinny Balbo, Cara Salimando, Hayden Ezzly

Bunny Lowe and Ryan Noufer present the music video for the single "Little White Chapel" — a tale of sick obsession and modern exploitation.

### 41

## CAR COLORS – OLD DEATH

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 7.5 min..

PROD/DIR: Kyle Garrett FEATURING: Charles Bissell

*The music video for the highly anticipated debut single from Car Colors (the new project from Charles Bissell, formerly of The Wrens), “Old Death.” “Old Death” – both the song and music video – ruminates on time, how one chooses to spend it, and what those choices cost. Set within the evocative framework of an old, detuned portable television, Charles Bissell (aka Car Colors) broadcasts a poignant exploration of music, memory, and mortality. The video captures the emotional depth and introspection of Bissell’s journey, creating a powerful and solitary reflection on the passage of time.*

## DYNASTY

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

WRITER/DIR: Yeva Dashevsky PRODS: Yeva Dashevsky, Dan Lutger, Melissa Koehl, Jeanne McClure, Al Rodis  
FEATURING: Savannah Dunn, Kayla Leanne Higbee

*In a distant present or immediate future, the Everyman’s repetitive daily routine is disrupted by the call of a mysterious oracle.*

## GOD ISN’T TALKING TO ME

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

DIRS: Kirsten Hoang, Matthew Katz PRODS: Jailyn Duong, Kirsten Hoang, Matthew Katz  
FEATURING: Jailyn Duong, Will Truong

*God is not talking to Jailyn.*

## IN THE AIR TONIGHT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

DIR: Jorel O’Dell PRODS: Jorel O’Dell, Adam McInnis, Mario Marchetti  
FEATURING: Adam McInnis, Mario Marchetti

*The music video for “In the Air Tonight” by Sons of Legion immerses viewers in a shadowy, evocative realm where contrasting images of nature and man-made technology create a striking visual metaphor. These seemingly out-of-place elements speak to a new and deeper interpretation of the classic song, suggesting the band’s commentary on the state of the world today. The band’s intense and soul-stirring performance, paired with powerful visuals, is masterfully produced, directed, and shot by Jorel O’Dell, transforming the video into a mesmerizing and thought-provoking experience.*

## KING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2021, 3.5 min.

WRITER: Atara Glazer DIR: Ron Geffen PRODS: Atara Glazer, Jack Glazer  
FEATURING: Atara Glazer, Emily Heath, Jade Kim, Gustavo Cubias, Nick Buzzerio, Nick Baird, Jack Glazer

*The battle of 2020 Zeitgeists in America represented in a nutshell as the 7 deadly sins. Which sin will win the battle for America’s throne? Watch and find out.*

## LOS ANGELES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jonathan Ehlers PRODS: Reverie, Loudon, Ron Lunceford  
FEATURING: Danny Trejo, Fabian Alomar, Reverie, Sick Jacken, Baby WestCoast, Felipe Esparza

*Set in the world of Chicano street culture in Los Angeles, a small unit of urban-dwelling angels commanded by God (Danny Trejo) intervene in the troubled lives of a young girl and her mother.*

## MUSIC FOR A WHILE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kelvin Z. Phillips PROD: Carla L. Jackson LINE PROD: Georgia M. Hill  
FEATURING: Grinell-Skot Gilmore, Kunal Singh, A-La Davis, Ryan Love, Malcolm Miles Young, Ricardo G. Barrett, Amir J. Blue, Melissa Wimbish, and Lisa Smith

*Wandering through busy New York City streets, a solitary figure’s quiet desolation is lifted by the serenade of a saxophonist’s solo. Answering its call, he transforms the urban scene into a beautiful street performance... if only for a while. Every time he looks up at the night sky, the moon is always there, reminding him of a love lost so many years ago.*

# DOWNBEAT: A Celebration of MUSIC & DANCE

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 28 @ 5PM

## NIGHT VIBE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 3.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Xingyu “Harry” Chen PROD: Yunyi “Sophia” Zhu  
FEATURING: Troy Seals

*Feeling trapped by his mundane life, Troy ventures on an unexpectedly trippy night drive, uncovering the truths about himself.*

## PAYBACK

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 3.5 min.

WRITER: Love Ghost PROD/DIR: King Zabb FEATURING: Dillan Knight, Tim Skold, Finnegan Seeker Bell

*“I met SKOLD and his wife Erin at the Viper Room on Halloween night, they are super nice people and I really wanted to work with Skold... then everything just magically fell into place. We had a few meetings, recorded the song “Payback” in my band’s studio. Having just come out of a difficult relationship myself, I wanted to make a song about revenge, redemption and love gone astray. When I was writing the lyrics, Tim had some very interesting tips and production choices that really brought the song to life.”*

## RAT FIGHT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 4 min.

WRITERS: Kim West, Ryan Devlin, Molly Sides and Cheryl Ediss DIR: Cheryl Ediss  
PRODS: Cheryl Ediss, Norm Tumolva FEATURING: Molly Sides

*Rat Fight is a solo dance exploration featuring Molly Sides as Detective Top Shelf. This visual expression introduces new music project mega cat – a disembodied multidimensional being most discernibly experienced as sound waves. mega cat transmits instrumental narratives that feel familiar to fans of 20th century science fiction, afro-beat, hip hop, and psychedelic music.*



## THIS TIME WE’LL STAY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR: Moh Azima PRODS: Moh Azima, Simone Cassas MUSIC by Leon Gruenbaum

*A whimsical story about a couple fighting to stay together and the mountain hideaway that provides them refuge.*

## UNPERFORMING

WORLD Premiere | CANADA, 2024, 4 min.

WRITERS: Bryan Pham, Cristian Trout PROD/DIR: Cristian Trout FEATURING: Bryan Pham, Alice Lin

*To get the attention of his crush, a gay man competes with a popular personality in his community. As an insidious swarm of marketing and peer pressure drives him to obsess over how he measures up, he struggles to escape thoughts of inadequacy.*

## VEIL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 5.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jonathan Coleman PROD: Karis Danish FEATURING: Megan Shung

*Veil is a cinematic music video, exploring vulnerability – to others and to oneself. What are the ways we choose not to be vulnerable? What are the consequences? Is it possible to live a life unveiled?*

## WASTELAND

USA, 2024, 3 min.

DIR: Louisa Solarz PROD: Louisa Solarz, Eric McCambridge DP: Eric McCambridge  
FEATURING: Josephine Erb, Jacob Giancola

*Josephine takes a trip to the desert in her car. She’s attempting to escape something in her life, passing by barren landscapes that represents the extremes of nature. Soon, the car runs out of gas and she’s forced to start walking. She can’t shake these dream-like visions in her head of herself floating under the desert sun. Each time the visions returns, it becomes more clear and she realizes that she is not the only one present within them. Once the full vision is realized, she is transported elsewhere to an in-between of sorts. Will she escape?*



I Could  
**EAT**



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**PILOTS BLK 4 - SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH @ 11AM**

# COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 1

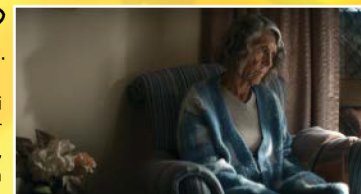
SCREENING: SAT JUNE 22 @ 12:30PM

## AND THE OCEAN AGREED

WORLD Premiere | AUSTRALIA, 2023, 14.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Tanya Modini  
PRODS: Tanya Modini, Luisa Martiri, Stephanie Dower  
CAST: Chrissie Page, Jazz Zhao, Jacy Lewis, Flossie Smith, Jenny Wynter, Ngoc Phan

*Vina is fading away, lost to dementia, but on a rare outing to the ocean, she finds herself and a chance for freedom.*



## FEIGN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 7.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Adam Rioux  
CAST: Jenna Kanell, Sam Drust, Tashae Henry, Hannah Alline, Chelsea Cutler

*A woman gets mugged in a club bathroom.*



## I'LL TAKE PORN FOR \$100

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Mischa Jakupcak  
PRODS: Mischa Jakupcak, Micah Knapp  
CAST: Annette Toutonghi, Ron Ford

*When Eddy comes home from work one day, Lillian surprises him by suggesting they watch porn together.*



## KARITA

WORLD Premiere | JAPAN/USA, 2024, 17.5 min.

WRITERS: Virginia de Witt, Haruka Hirata, Koji Ueda  
DIRS: Virginia de Witt & Koji Ueda  
PRODS: Takei Toshiyuki, Haruka Hirata, Mitsuhiro Kubo, Virginia de Witt, Koji Ueda  
CAST: Virginia de Witt, Koki Kutsuna, Hayato Kurihara, Mika Ushio, Haruka Hirata, Mitsuhiro Kubo, Susan de Witt, Pochi

*On a night out in Tokyo, an American straddles the person she was and the person she wants to become when she takes new friends out on a joyride.*



## MODEL CITIZEN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Rachael Dahl  
PRODS: Alex Chang, Dari Kreitenberg  
CAST: Travis Hammer, Katie Michel, Ronin Lee, Marilyn Brett

*A mailman with an unhealthy obsession for a pregnant woman on his mail route builds a model town to act out his fantasy of being with her. When she doesn't live up to his unrealistic expectations, the mailman's sinister side bleeds into his reality.*

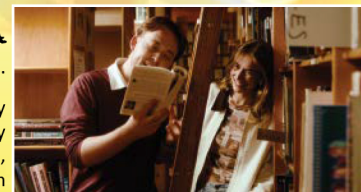


## TACENDA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 16 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: Luke and Rita Konopasky  
PRODS: Kevin Maxwell, Luke and Rita Konopasky  
CAST: Matt Davies-Morris, Grace Johnson, Kennedy Reed, Andrew Neaves, and Alexis MacAdam

*When his best friend, Dillion, has to move across the country, Noah must come to terms with the poignant reality that 'what could have been' is a chapter that may be forever closed.*



## TIPS UP!

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 6.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Leah Claire Borrie  
PRODS: Leah Claire Borrie, Otha Derek Hernández Peña  
CAST: Jane Stiles, Charlie Chaspooley Robinson, Zoe Nebraska Feldman

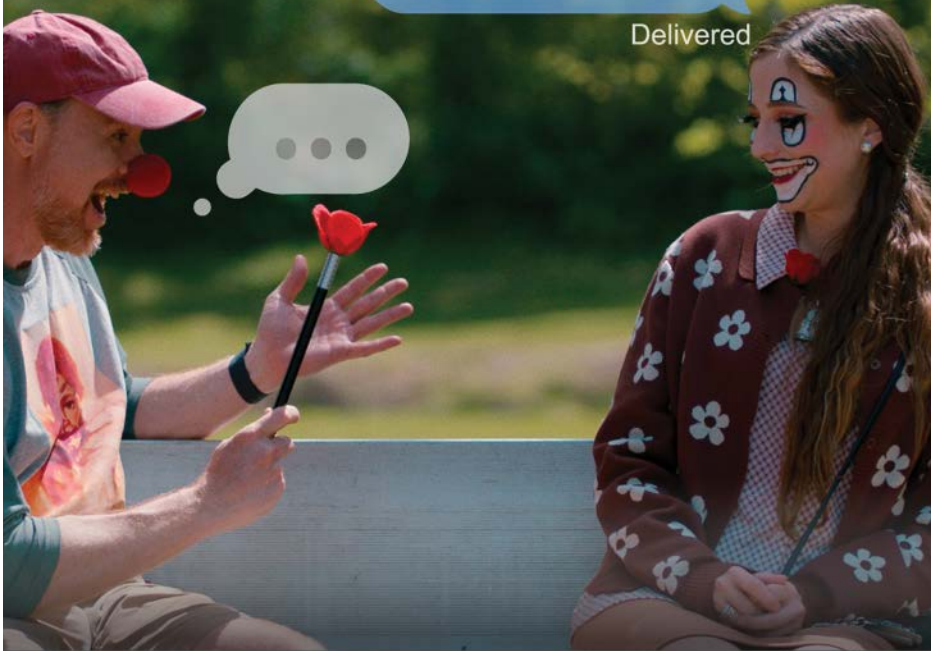
*Tips Up! is a 1980s-period piece following Keely, an up and coming starlet, as she attempts to confront the mounting pressures of stardom while participating in a chaotic and exhausting commercial magazine ski photo shoot, shot in a 5 minute, single take.*





# Clownfish

Delivered



Sunday, June 23 at 12:30pm  
Competition Shorts Block 4

@clownfish\_shortfilm



## COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 22 @ 2:45PM

### BACKWASH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 8 min.

WRITER/DIR: Dalton Ibarra  
PRODS: Dalton Ibarra, Nicky Rudolph, Jamie Portillo  
CAST: Kaleb Brand, Antonio Ramsey, John Anderson, Lola Gomez, Jesus Gomez

Calvin is expecting a child within a week but fears to face the fact he does not want to be a father. He discusses with his close friend LaSalle whether or not he'll stick around and the consequences of either decision.



### THE BURDEN OF CARE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sam Ripley  
EXEC PRODS: Kim Gillingham, Erich Treml  
PROD: Dhruvraj Singh Bhati  
CAST: Bernard White, Meera Kumbhani, Clay Wilcox

An aging man's understanding of his world is challenged when a strangely remorseful gunman breaks into his home and threatens his life.



### LOVELAND

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sofia Bonami  
PRODS: Dylan Paffe, Lauren Lukow, Lorenza Izzo  
CAST: Lorenza Izzo, Chris Zylka, Tiana Okoye, Sabina Friedman-Seitz, Esmée Ko, Jade Ramsey, Nikita Ramsey, Nicole McCullough

When a woman mysteriously disappears from the production of America's favorite dating show LOVELAND, one contestant becomes obsessed with uncovering what happened to her — jeopardizing the one thing she came for: happily ever after.



### THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | SPAIN, 2023, 5 min.

WRITERS/DIRS/PRODS: Nacho Garvía & Jorge Moratal  
CAST: Pablo Blasco, Sara Behe

Pablo runs into his ex-girlfriend Julia at the worst possible time.



### QUAYLE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Kyle Kenyon  
CAST: Mia Schauffler, PJ McCormick

Two roommates have one last chance to admit their true feelings.



### ROBBIE AIN'T RIGHT NO MORE

USA, 2023, 18 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kyle Perritt  
PRODS: Kyle Perritt, Owen Hamilton, Emmie Holmes, Brad Jayne  
CAST: Madeleine McGraw, Jadon Cal, Jason Davis, Mary Emily Deal, Revel Carpenter, Walker Trull

A young girl's brother returns from war with a most disturbing souvenir.



### THIS LITTLE PIGGY GOT SOME

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 21 min.

WRITER/DIR: Eleanor Vigneault  
PRODS: Eleanor Vigneault, Jaclyn Jaszgur, Ellie Satterwhite, Hardy Awadjie, Sarah Healey  
CAST: Jaclyn Jaszgur, Damien Leake, Daniela Couso, Mia Sandler, Luca Bleu Darnell, Karin Tracy, Carol Mikkelson

Esther is a listless new adult who is figuring out what to do with her life when she dips her toes into the periphery of sex work as propositioned through her dms.



# ASHES TO DUST

DIANE  
GAETA

ADAM  
WALTON

IT'S ABOUT  
US NOW

A FILM BY CLARK CHILDERS



BATS AT A BIRTHDAY PICNIC PRESENTS A CLARK CHILDERS FILM 'ASHES TO DUST' DIANE GAETA ADAM WALTON  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DAVID ARTEAGA ORIGINAL SCORE BY GREG LASWELL PRODUCED BY CLARK CHILDERS & ADAM WALTON  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BEN ILISUN & LIZ ROGERS WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY CLARK CHILDERS



TCL  
CHINESE  
THEATRES

## COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 3

SCREENING: SAT JUNE 22 @ 5PM

### BLACK SILK

USA, 2023, 16 min.

WRITER/DIR: Patrick Michael  
PRODS: Patrick Michael, Josh Akin,  
Tiffany Gist, Samuel Skeen  
CAST: Marcus Henderson, Jay Amir,  
Taylor Leigh Edwards, Tiffany Gist



When 12-year-old Quinton meets his father, Silk, he feels he's finally found a place to call home. But when the curtain is pulled back on Silk's criminal enterprise, Quinton must reconcile his place in his father's violent underworld.

### DURGA

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | AUSTRALIA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Abhishek Parasher  
PROD: Marco Alexiadis  
CAST: Sakshi Singh, Sahil Saluja, Shalvi Singh



A young woman tries to fashion an escape from her volatile household, as her husband and sister-in-law demand more in dowry payments.

### MAMA BEAR

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 7 min.

WRITER/DIR: Gregory Stees  
PRODS: Marshall Kistner, Gregory Stees  
CAST: Betsy Stover, Aldous Davidson, George Kareman



On the mean streets of beautiful downtown Burbank, CA a fed-up suburban mom unleashes on the bumbling scammers who almost ruined everything.

### MY LIGHT COME SHINING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 18 min.

WRITER/DIR: Anthony Lucido  
PRODS: Eric Colonna, Brian White  
CAST: Joey Hirsh, Mary-Ann Lucido,  
Karen Penley, L. Peter Callender



Tommy returns home to inherit his estranged mother's house after her recent passing.

### PICKLED CUCUMBERS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 10 min.

WRITER/DIR: Cal J.T. Moreno  
PRODS: Francisco Serna, Cal J.T. Moreno  
CAST: Kaitlin Large, Tim Wardell, Brandon Black,  
Steve Parminter, Dhiraj Pangal, Joey Scavone,  
Eliza Kellman, Sydney Parminter

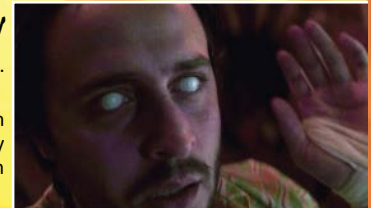


A couple learns to grieve in new ways after an unexpected guest returns home.

### STARZAW

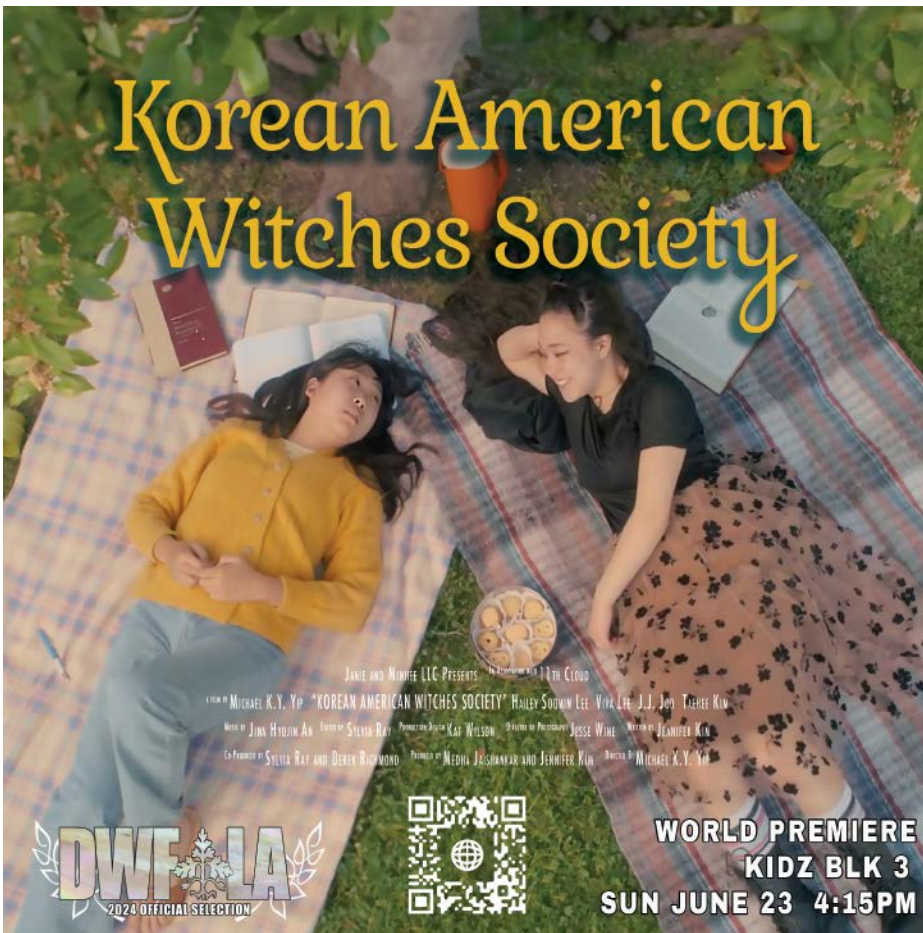
WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alex Tobin  
PRODS: D.J. Haye, Sam Skolnik, Katie Conboy  
CAST: Sam Skolnik, Tom Waits & Sophia Goodin



Conspiracy radio show host, Leonard Terry, profits off the fear of his audience. After prophesying a soon to be alien invasion on air, he receives a message from a mysterious caller revealing what will actually happen to humanity in their final days.

# Korean American Witches Society



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 A FILM BY MICHAEL K.Y. YIP "KOREAN AMERICAN WITCHES SOCIETY" HAILEY SODIUM LEE VIVA LEE J.J. JOO TAEHEE KIM  
 MADE BY JINA HYODIN AN EDITED BY STEVEN RAY PRODUCED BY KAT WILSON DIRECTED BY PRESIDENT JESSE WINE WRITTEN BY JEANIER KIM  
 CO-PRODUCED BY SYLVIA RAY AND DEBBE RICHMOND PRODUCED BY MEDHU JASIMANUR AND JENNIFER KIM DIRECTED BY MICHAEL K.Y. YIP

**DWF LA**  
 2024 OFFICIAL SELECTION



**WORLD PREMIERE**  
**KIDZ BLK 3**  
**SUN JUNE 23 4:15PM**

**PRG**

## COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 4

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 23 @ 12:30PM

### CLOWNFISH

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 10.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Clayton Henderson  
 PROD: Tamra Corley Davis  
 CAST: Chris Alan Evans,  
 Sheilava, Josh Munds, Melissa Munds



*Frank and Elle decide to meet in real life after connecting on a dating app... That's when things get weird!*

### GUACAMANIA!

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Andrew J. Lee  
 PRODS: Bri Johnson, Landon Kovalick  
 CAST: Jon Moon, Diana Garle,  
 Brian Childers, Melaine Bennett



*At a meet-the-parents-dinner, a man goes to outrageous lengths to save his prized guacamole from browning while his girlfriend processes the shocking revelation that her "dead" family dog is still alive.*

### Koi

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 18 min.

WRITER/DIR: Taige Shi  
 PROD: Tianyu Yang  
 CAST: Zhan Wang, Jack Wang, Jamie Zhang



*A newly-divorced Chinese immigrant and his son move to the Great Lakes area. The father, Lee Huan, starts a fishing business that catches only Asian Carp in the local river. However, the son, Lee Long, can't fit into the new environment and doesn't understand his dad's motives. With help from Uncle Kuan, a family friend and biologist, the father and son must confront their differences once and for all.*

### LEGALLY BROWN: THE MUSICAL THE SHORT

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 16.5 min.

WRITER: Maya Vyas DIR: Kirsten Hoang  
 PRODS: Alyssa Callahan, Ruhi Mansey,  
 Nicole McCullough, Sari Arambulo



CAST: Maya Vyas, Grace Kaufman, Sophia Werthmann, Olivia Gill, Jonathan Ingram, Abby Donnelly

*A scrappy brown high school girl must fight her way to be Elle Woods when the lead of her school's production of Legally Blonde: The Musical gets seriously injured ten minutes before showtime.*

### LOVEBUGS

USA, 2023, 12 min.

WRITER/DIR: Teddy Alvarez-Nissen  
 PROD: Will Noyce  
 CAST: Michael J. Gonzales, Tim Stephenson



*A snail invites you to read a preview of his upcoming autobiography.*

### THE RUNT

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 12.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Christy Stratton  
 STORY BY: Christy Stratton and Mark Norberg  
 PRODS: Katrina Rotondo, Daniela Inés Calvo, Christy Stratton



CAST: Luna Martin, Olive Epstein, Oliver Hamilton, Johnny Mann, Persephone Ferry, Summer Marie Thomas, Natasha Cody Hayter, Lola Jamin, Brendan Smith, Malika Michelle, Mateo Cartaya, Milo Benattar, Thabani Ncube, Jolee Iverson, Darwin Black, Audrey Chavez, Cameron Lucas-Tinter, Courtney Benattar, Piper Keeley, Lila Thornbury, Minh Nguyen

*In a coming-of-age story set in a roller rink 1979, a tween girl must couple skate with a boy to keep from being chosen as the 7th grade "runt" — a fate which would ruin her life forever.*

# COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 5

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 23 @ 2:45PM



## CART GIRLS

WORLD Premiere | CANADA, 2024, 14.5 min.

WRITERS/PRODS: Katelyn McCulloch, Mary Austin  
DIR: Katelyn McCulloch  
CAST: Mary Austin, Marietta Laan, Gil Anderson

Three beer cart girls hatch a plan to take advantage of the pretentious golfing guys; everything is going smoothly until one bedazzled golf ball goes rogue and lands our girls in some serious trouble.



## CIRCLE CIRCLE CIRCLE CIRCLE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 12 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: Libby Ewing and Katherine Skelton  
PRODS: Libby Ewing, Katherine Skelton, Corey Clifford, Dash Pomerantz, Morgan Schweitzer  
CAST: Katherine Skelton, Corey Clifford, Jessie Barr, Libby Ewing and Tea Jo

Four grieving friends gather to release the past year and their night takes a wildly unexpected turn.



## DOG

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ben Tan  
PRODS: Lewis Tan, Willis Chung  
CAST: Alexis Felix, Nastasia Koulich, Alexander Carstou

19-year-old Summer takes Lex, her blind younger sister, to a rave. When a junked-up boy becomes infatuated with Lex, the night quickly spirals out of control.



## HOW TO DISAPPEAR

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 20 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Milton Woods  
CAST: Allida Clark, Xavier Green, Lydia Aberkane

In this reflexive short follow couple Emma and Josh navigate their relationship after Emma reveals that she can uncontrollably disappear.



## I APPROVE THIS MESSAGE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 11.5 min.

WRITER: Michael Barringer DIR: Craig Newman  
PRODS: Craig Newman, Michael Barringer  
CAST: Craig Newman, Marquelle Young, Ed Malone, Caitlin Greenamyre, Emma Yarbrough, Carl Becker, Frank Jackson, Eli Banks, Aaron Nedrick

When video of a young politician's radical past is leaked online, his team will stop at nothing to rewrite reality.



## STUCK

WORLD Premiere | CANADA, 2023, 8.5 min.

WRITERS: Dan Abramovici, Liam Gareau  
DIR: Dan Abramovici  
PRODS: Myrthin Stagg, Kate Forrest

EXEC PRODS: Michael Pillarella, Raimo Strangis, John Hartman, Maurizio Strangis  
CAST: Michael Pillarella, Karen Knox

After a life-changing surgery, Rai retreats from the world, abandoning his rock and roll dreams. However, when a former bandmate unexpectedly reenters his life, Rai is compelled to confront his decisions, igniting a dramatic journey of self-discovery.

# COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 6

SCREENING: SUN JUNE 23 @ 5PM

## BRIGHT FORESTS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Chadwick Harman  
PRODS: Chadwick Harman, Samantha Wulff, Daniel Rentas, Jeffrey Larson, Debbie Vines  
CAST: Jeffrey Larson, Victoria Kelleher, Jim Meskimen, Matty Cardarople



An astronomer sends a message to a distant Alien intelligence, while his daughter waits forty years for the reply.

## DELIBERATE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14.5 min.

WRITER/DIRECTOR: Marta Roncada  
PRODUCERS: Raphael Gindre, Marta Roncada, William French  
CAST: Kelly Lou Dennis, Carl Beukes



A young woman returns to her abuser and former high school teacher in order to right the wrongs of their past.

## DRAFT NIGHT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 19 min.

WRITER: Shawn Williams DIR: Thomas Glinkowski  
PRODS: Avery Chung-Melino, Thomas Glinkowski, Tuan Quoc Le, Jillian Nordby, Sierra Oleson  
CAST: Joseph David-Jones, Justin Prentice, Shawn Williams, Gloria Stingily, Destiny Ekwueme, Corey Giffit, Bryan Philip Cruz



A young Black basketball prodigy struggles with expectations, pressure, and the weight of his own ambition as he waits to hear his name called on the night of the NBA draft.

## GAS STATION SUSHI

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 16 min.

WRITERS: Sydney Adams, Chad Corhan  
DIR: Chad Corhan  
PROD: Justin Trevino  
ASSOC PRODS: Andrew Gibson, Cutter White  
CAST: Sydney Adams, Jacob Wysocki, Joseph Schwartz, Jamie Loftus, Asha Michelle Wilson, Andrew Yackel, Katie Newacheck, Chris Tobin, Sarah Lilly, Brandon Raman, Bunny the Dog



A woman having a pregnancy scare faces an existential crisis during a weekend away at her boyfriend's insane weird rich friend's house.

## ITCH

WEST COAST Premiere | PAKISTAN/CANADA, 2023, 16 min.

WRITERS: Mohammad Anwerzada, Azra Abbas, Michael Gaty  
DIR: Mohammad Anwerzada  
PRODS: Ali Mashayekhi, Mohammad Anwerzada  
CAST: Shabana Hassan, Shahid Ahmad, Owais Sheikh



A woman needs to relieve an itch on a crowded bus.

## PETRENNIAL

WORLD Premiere | UK, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Austin Staton  
PRODS: Austin Staton, Giordan Gregory  
CAST: Austin Staton, Amelia Brown



A homeless drifter meets a lonely young girl who he reluctantly helps to pursue her dream of becoming a dancer, attempting to save himself a little in the process.

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FUSION SHORTS: GRP 1

SCREENING: MON JUNE 24 @ 5PM

## BIRDHOUSE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jerry Pyle

PRODS: Ioana Vasile, Victor Lord, Nick Daue, Adam Stilwell  
CAST: Jonah Ray, Riley Cooper, Rob Zabrecky,  
Kash Abdulmalik, Jillian Dunn, Trevor Dow, A Laura James,  
Damian Dunn, Kylee Levine, Nathaniel Peterson

*A man wants to live in his birdhouse. His troubled child-prodigy daughter is both his only way into it and the only thing keeping him out.*

## DAMNED IF YOU DO

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER: Liz Renner

DIR: Dans Karagannis

PROD: Maher Jafari

CAST: Olivia Grace Applegate, Brian Rooney

*After her friend is assaulted by a powerful man, Jen launches a one-night vigilante mission that leads to a twisted version of justice.*

## ELEPHANT HIDE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 18 min.

WRITER/DIR: Emily Schumann

PRODS: Emily Holland, Summer Cortes, Rebecca Rhodes

CAST: Quinn Nehr, Scot Scurlock

*A medical student interviewing for his residency program recalls an interaction with a patient that changed the course of his career.*

## PRICK

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 9.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alex DiBucci

PRODS: Amanda Talmadge & Karla Macias

CAST: Shane Mahn, Joan Darling, Shaina Feinberg,  
Ali Meier, Amanda Talmadge,  
Rusty Broome, Maddie Page, Jacob Stern

*When a man with a crippling needle phobia has an allergic reaction all alone at his grandma's house, he has two choices: face his biggest fear and stab himself with an epi pen, or die trying not to.*

## PRINCETON'S IN THE MIX

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 16 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jonathan DiMaio

PRODS: Antonio Alonzo Ayala, Heather Brawley, Matt Stoner

CO-PROD: David Zax EXEC PROD: Nagi Chami

CAST: Heather Burns, Charlie Besso,  
Syra McCarthy, Nate Duncan

*When the wealthy mother of a high schooler discovers that her son can get extra time on the SAT if he gets injured, things spiral out of control.*

## SOLD

USA, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER: Audrey Corsa DIR: Grace Gregory

PRODS: Eunice Park, Eloïse Descleves, Grace Gregory

CAST: Audrey Corsa, Nicholas Podany,  
Rosanny Zayas, Jill Remez

*Coles, recently uncoupled, returns from a night out at a friend's bachelorette party. Scared of being alone in her new apartment, Coles spends the day being avoidant and indecisive, attempting to connect with others as a means of distracting herself and delaying the inevitable. That night, a brief but resonant interaction with her neighbor Alice helps Coles realize that settling in after a breakup is supposed to feel painful.*



55

# FUSION SHORTS: GRP 2

SCREENING: TUE JUNE 25 @ 5PM



## THE CHAIN

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Tom Hipp  
PRODS: Tom Hipp, Jonathan Dillon,  
Chris Durr, Cory Hinesley  
CAST: Debbie Diesel, Matthew Schmidli,  
Brian Paulette, Tristan Wilder Hallett

*A family's life is thrown into chaos when the father doesn't return home one night.*



## DEEP TISH

USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Dave Paige  
PROD: Joshua Cohen  
CAST: Zack Fox, Zolee Griggs, Corey Podell,  
Sierra Fujita,  
Tim Simek, Kate Hollowell, Elena Campbell-Martinez

*A.J.'s massage could have been better.*



## HOME

WORLD Premiere | UK/CANADA, 2023, 6 min.

DIR: Kes Tagney  
CAST: Ronan Martin,  
Sophie Stephenson, Niamh Lakeman

*Shot in the stunning Celtic landscapes of Scotland and Cornwall UK, HOME explores the sense of belonging and fondness for the place you live. Leaving, returning and the feeling of deep connection with the place you call home.*

# FUSION SHORTS: GRP 2

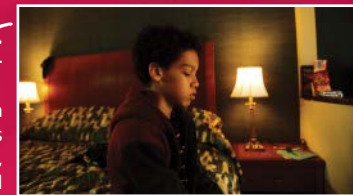
SCREENING: TUE JUNE 25 @ 5PM

## HOTELUNG

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 24 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ryan Buffa  
PRODS: Ryan Buffa, Mandy McCowan, Sara Kay Sheets  
CAST: Khary Payton, Jackson Abram, Kevin L. Johnson,  
Darian Rolle, Asher Clay, Nolla Wallace, Madison Hatfield

*In a desperate bid for stability and reunification, 13-year-old Eli must navigate his stay in a hotel by the Department of Family and Children Services while awaiting placement in a foster home and rely on his guardian, Matt, to overcome his trauma and learning disabilities as he prepares for a visit with his younger brother Isaiah.*



## I'M PRETTY SURE MY THERAPIST THINKS I'M A BAD ACTOR

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 12.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Spenser Davis  
PRODS: Spenser Davis, E.M. Davis  
CAST: E.M. Davis, Elizabeth Laidlaw, Jill Oliver, Tuxford Turner, Chase Wheaton-Werle,  
Anthony Williams, Vic Kuligowski, Robert Koon

*When therapist Shelley accidentally attends one of her client's theatrical productions but doesn't stick around after the show to congratulate them, the last place she expected to find herself was abducted. Tied to a chair. By that same client. Their mission: To "create space" and talk about what she reeeeeeally thought of their performance. I'M PRETTY SURE MY THERAPIST THINKS I'M A BAD ACTOR is a micro-budget dark comedy about anxiety, vulnerability, and the folks we turn to (and kidnap) for validation.*



## THE PICKUP

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 8 min.

WRITER/DIR: Nicholas Acosta  
PRODS: Nicholas Acosta, Xenia Leblanc  
CAST: Adam McArthur, Xenia Leblanc, Sam Puefua, Miki Nagida, Sarah Bitely, Adam Gotsens,  
Sean Crampton, Vincent Alvas, Mack Ogden, Brandon Clarke, Zachary Zarvos, Valerie Lucas,  
Rielly Alexander, Laura Marie Steigers and Sergio Bernal

*When a bumbling Uber driver unwittingly picks up a government spy who needs to deliver a top-secret package, he finds himself in the driver's seat of a high-stakes game of cat and mouse. With deadly assailants hot on their trail, the unlikely duo must navigate the city streets in a wild car chase involving bullets, crashes, and explosions at every turn in this hilarious action-comedy adventure.*



## YOU ARE HERE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 8 min.

WRITER/DIR: Michael Friberg  
PRODS: Vincent Mauro, James Roh  
CAST: Lehi Falepapalangi, Bridget Elsabe Galanis,  
Annie Flowers, Cameron Sawyer

*When insurance salesman Peter Kleebold reads an article about the size of the universe, it sends him into an existential tailspin that leads him on a journey to get out of this world.*



# FUSION SHORTS: GRP 3

SCREENING: WED JUNE 26 @ 5PM



## AMBUSH AT ST. MARY'S

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 14.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Anthony Parisi  
PRODS: Anthony Parisi, Sarah Parisi  
CAST: Jeremy Hoffman, Kate Hackett,  
Luke Barnett, Richard Riehle

Two outlaws disguise themselves as priests for a robbery at a desert chapel, but their plan is disrupted when Hannah, a parishioner, comes by looking for help.

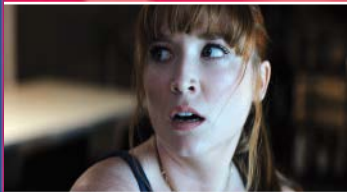


## ASHES TO DUST

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Clark Childers  
PRODS: Clark Childers, Adam Walton, Ben Ilisun, Liz Rogers  
CAST: Adam Walton, Diane Gaeta

Estranged siblings Elizabeth and Danny reunite in their childhood home after the death of their eccentric mother. Without a will or any instructions, old wounds are quickly reopened and disagreements abound. A Ouija board may be the only way for "Mom" to provide the guidance they both desperately seek.



## THE BOUGIE MAN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER: Jack Meyerhoff DIR: Timothy Hautekiet  
PROD: Ryan Blewett  
CAST: Danielle Dallas Roosa, Chris Sturgeon, Matt Devine,  
Brian Guest, Tara Moncure, Samat Turgunbaev, Mark Stefanos

A privileged rich girl learns that actions have consequences when she finds herself trapped on the peloton ride from hell, tormented by a mysterious stranger from her past who goes only by the alias: The Bougie Man.



## I KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING HERE FOR YOU

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 17 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sean Robert Kelly  
PROD: Jess Myers Rigoni  
CAST: Jackie Kelly, Kevin Veselka

An emotionally broken scientist looks to the stars in his search for a meaningful life. His sister tries to bring him back down to Earth.



## PUPPY LOVE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 11.5 min.

WRITERS: Daniel Rashid & Elizabeth Valenti  
DIR: Daniel Rashid  
PRODS: Reilly Anspaugh, Daniel Rashid, Elizabeth Valenti  
CAST: Elizabeth Valenti,  
Alfred Bardwell-Evans, Kevin Phan, Ryan Brophy

Emily has to decide if her connection with Austin is real or if she just likes his dog.



## RATTLED

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 14 min.

WRITER: Nick Coelius  
DIR: Adam Linkenhelt  
PROD: Cara Salmeri  
CAST: Nick Coelius, Jen Robyn Jacobs, Roz McHenry

Rattled is a study of intimacy and anxiety that transforms into a brutal tale of paranoia and vengeance. It weaves an intricate portrait of a thirty-something couple, Lizzie and Henry, through a genre-bending modern romance as they grapple with the harsh realities of infertility.

# UNLEASHED SHORTS!

SCREENING: THU JUNE 27 @ 5PM

## BURN OUT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 12.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Russell Goldman  
PRODS: Michael Fry, Wendy Wang, Everett Osborne  
CAST: Everett Osborne, Tommie Earl Jenkins



An assistant will do anything to get his presentation in front of his boss... even set himself on fire.

## CONCRETE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 16 min.

WRITER/DIR: Eli Vidis Newman  
PRODS: Annika Dawson, Lily Darragh Hartly  
CAST: Ed Harris, Henry Fulton Winship,  
Frankie Quinones, Sophia Ali



In an alternate version of 20th century America, all citizens are subject to government-issued neurological implants which they are told prevent their heads from exploding. When Arkady, the lone caretaker of his ailing mother, has his implant forcibly removed by an unknown assailant—his reality begins to collapse and he scrambles to find answers.

## DR. NO MEANS NO

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kestrin Pantera  
PRODS: Charlotte Ubben, Valerie Steinberg, Thomas Bond  
CAST: Breedaa Will, JJ Nolan, Emily Chang, Charlotte Ubben,  
Alex Klein, Eugene Kim, Randy Sklar, Jason Sklar, Jon Bangle



A James-Bond style action-comedy, told from the perspective of the Bond girls.

## MECÁNICA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.

WRITERS: Olivia Sandoval, Mike Harris  
DIR: Mike Harris PROD: Olivia Sandoval  
CAST: Haley Joel Osment, Olivia Sandoval, Megan Rippey,  
Joe Adler, Joss Glennie-Smith, Tomás Canseco



When a touring musician receives news that her rapist committed suicide, her bandmate's reaction fractures the evening and her future.

## THE POWER WITHIN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER: Kelsie McDonald DIR: Bo Youngblood  
PRODS: John Ierardi, Kelsie McDonald, Bo Youngblood,  
Ali Mashayekhi, Zeus Kontoyannis, Cristo Fernández  
CAST: Cristo Fernández, Tiffany Smith, Daniella Pineda,  
Dichen Lachman, Lorenza Izzo, Jamila Hache, Kelsie McDonald



Four women awake to find themselves in identical cells, strapped to identical medical chairs with nothing but a vial of glowing red liquid and a live feed of Dr Pérez as he gives his diagnosis.

## THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Danny Farber  
PRODS: Amy Poehler, Anjelika Washington, Connor Oriot,  
Danny Farber, Eric L. Byrd, Griffin Howes, Isaac Katzanek,  
Lex Dewart, Teresa Roberts, Summer Moore,  
Stacy Snyder, and Will Brunker



CAST: Anjelika Washington, Bourke Floyd, Clay Wilde, Danny Farber,  
Julio Cesar Ruiz, Kellen Shaffer, Lauren Elyse Buckley

In a world where gun violence is as common place as dwindling college romances, Simone and Tyler must stick together in order to survive a school shooting in this darkly satirical comedy.

# FUSION SHORTS: GRP 4

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 28 @ 245PM



## CINEMETA

USA, 2023, 10 min.

WRITER/DIR: James Arterberry  
PRODS: James Arterberry, Diamond Batiste,  
Danielle Poblarp  
CAST: Diamond Batiste, Paul Alan Dixon

*Two military veterans conspire to reverse engineer a film festival “shoo-in,” while trying (and ultimately failing) to avoid the clichés and pitfalls of first-time short filmmakers.*



## ISAAC

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Samantha Carroll  
PRODS: Jamie LaSorsa, Erin LaSorsa  
CAST: Isabelle Barbier, Samantha Carroll,  
Giovanna Zavala, Grace Jones,  
Jamie LaSorsa, Leigh Murray

*Anna invites a surprise stripper to her friend's bachelorette weekend.*



## LESSONS

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 13 min.

WRITERS: Shawn Butcher and Jon Boyer  
DIR: Shawn Butcher  
PRODS: Katherine Croft, Ana Vardi,  
Naomi King, Harriet Cauthery  
CAST: Kelly Lomonte, Teddy Day,  
Nancy Kimball, Lainey Helmers

*Bound by loyalty and a troubled past, a family of teenage runaways flees a botched bank robbery after one of their own is caught on camera. With capture imminent and their freedom at stake, they must decide their collective fate: to stay together or part ways forever.*

# FUSION SHORTS: GRP 4

SCREENING: FRI JUNE 28 @ 245PM

## MUM'S THE WORD

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 9.5 min.

WRITER: T.K. Ims  
DIR: Kim Wuan  
PRODS: Kim Wuan and Sarah White  
CAST: Barron Boedeker, Seth Clayton, Kim Wuan



*It's 1953, and the FBI suspects Chinese American housewife Lili Lewis of stealing U.S. nuclear secrets from her scientist husband. Is it anti-Communist sentiment, or is she actually a spy?*

## Not Us

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: James Kautz PROD: Kacey Mayeda  
CAST: Kacey Mayeda, Morgan O'Sullivan,  
Jazz Pierre, Julie Adamo, Eshaana Sheth,  
Aimiende Negbenebor Sela, Alec MacPherson



*Inside a mysterious group audition, pressure mounts for approval from a god-like director. As one performer cracks, another must decide whether to fall in line... or break the toxic pattern and offer comfort.*

## RENOVATION

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 10.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Joy Gregory  
PRODS: Joy Gregory, Erich Wilhelm Zander  
CAST: Sarah Sokolovic, Joby Earle, Tina Huang,  
Rich Hutchman, Phoenix Poisella-Rieck



*Looking for a new start, a couple tour a house — but is it ever possible to leave your ghosts behind?*

## VOULTION

CALIFORNIA Premiere | USA, 2023, 18 min.

WRITERS: Emily James, Andrew Levin  
DIR: Ashley George  
PRODS: Chase Manhattan, Emily James, Quentin Kirby,  
Ashley George, Andrew Levin



CAST: Emily James, Zachary Grant, Aminah Nieves, Sam Dunning, Tessa Richardson,  
MaryCharles Miller, Kenysha Davis, Mani Yarosh, Haley Hammonds

*After getting kidnapped and taken to a sex trafficking house on the outskirts of a southern town, Emma enlists the other victims to dive head first into a volatile escape plan where every girl must fight for her life.*





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## OUTFEST DOCS

SCREENING: THU JUN 27 @ 245PM

FILMS PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUTFEST

### IS GAY MARRIAGE NEXT?

US Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.

DIR: Emily Clark  
PRODS: Emily Clark, Julia Runagall  
FEATURING: Lauren Leslie, Elisabeth Noel Jones,  
Marcus Mabry, Beckett Leslie-Jones, Jess Kimball Leslie



Responding to a Supreme Court case in 2003, a groundbreaking cover of Newsweek featured a lesbian couple and asked: Is gay marriage next? A young, closeted woman saw the magazine and found the courage to come out. Two decades later, she searches for the couple who gave her hope. Together, they explore the LGBTQ political landscape then and now. In a post-Roe era, this compelling story asks a familiar question with a haunting twist: is gay marriage next—to go?

### LIVING LOW

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 40 min.

DIRS/PRODS: Carin van der Donk, Sarah Teale



In 2020 Fogo Azul, an all woman and non-binary drumming group from New York City traveled to Salvador, Brazil to learn from Banda Dida, the first black, female samba reggae drumming troupe and to take part in Carnival. Then in 2022 Adriana Portela, the charismatic leader of Dida, traveled to New York to rehearse with the 115 women of Fogo Azul to participate in the Mermaid Parade in Coney Island. What follows is a portrait of empowerment, joy, inclusion and the enduring power of the drum.

## OUTFEST SHORTS

SCREENING: THU JUN 27 @ 445PM

FILMS PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUTFEST

### BROKEN ART

USA, 2023, 7 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ryan Powers  
PRODS: Ryan Powers, Ivana Kingston  
CAST: Emrhys Cooper, Ryan Powers



A man struggles to accept the one major flaw in his near-perfect relationship.

### CHURCH CAMP

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITERS: Andrew Bourne, Matthew Romanski  
DIR: Andrew Bourne  
PROD: Jaelyn Ellis  
CAST: Espen Brante



Josh, a gawky counselor, puts the "bi" in Bible Camp. He misplaces a note revealing his secret, and races to find it before the worship service. In the process, he confuses his clueless youth minister and drags his rag-tag campers through a slew of camp misadventures.

### THE PARADISE ROAD

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 25 min.

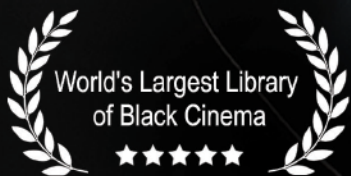
WRITER/DIR: Lisa Marie Tedesco  
PRODS: Lisa Marie Tedesco, Shelly Ro  
CAST: Mandahla Rose, Shelly Ro



Having just gotten married to the woman of her dreams, Ellie takes Shae on a romantic excursion to the west coast seaside for a moment of happiness and seclusion before inevitably coming to terms with a life-altering decision.



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## OUTFEST SHORTS (CONT)

SCREENING: THU JUN 27 @ 445PM

FILMS PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUTFEST

### SCRAPS

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 27.5 min.

WRITERS: Matthew Francis & Ryan Nordin

DIR: Ryan Nordin

PRODS: Chance Housley, Colton Underwood,  
Matthew Francis, Ryan Nordin

CAST: Peder Lindell, Dorian Giordano, Sophia Schumacher, Travis Breyer, Maximus Sanders



*During a 2003 summer, shy art student Gus works at his Uncle's Montana woodshop. He is quickly distracted by the attractive skateboarder, Bridger Owens. Gus promises to teach Bridger how he made his handcrafted board in exchange for skating lessons. Gus then meets the effortlessly-cool Tara Shae, who encourages him to make new friends. After a few weeks of skate lessons, Gus and Bridger become fast friends. Finally, after a boozy bonfire party in the woods, a vulnerable conversation sparks intense feelings that both Gus and Bridger can no longer deny.*

### STARZY EYED

WEST COAST Premiere | CANADA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER: Iain Stewart DIR: Al Braatz

PRODS: Iain Stewart, Sean Cage

CAST: Iain Stewart, Sean Cage, Natalia Gracious  
and Paisley the Dog



*Starry Eyed is a queer dark comedy about a delusional romantic on a quest to reignite an old flame. Blinded by love, the line between romantic gestures and illegal ones becomes blurred.*

## OUTFEST FEATURE

SCREENING: THU JUN 27 @ 7PM

### REGARDING US

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 98.5 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: David Beck and Jennifer Bobbi

PRODS: Catriona Rubenis-Stevens, David Beck,  
Alexandra Grey, Martine Rothblatt, Jack Meagher,  
Thomas Patrick Lane, Phil Newsom, Chuck Forester,  
Marcy Bowers, M.D.

CAST: Alexandra Grey, Abigail Hawk, Catherine Curtin, David Beck, Eliud Garcia Kauffman,  
Hudson Paul, Jacob Moran, Andrea Rosa Guzman



*After losing her teaching career in the Catholic school system, a transgender woman has a profound impact on the lives of two children—one with two fathers in marital strife, and the other a recent transplant from a conservative household. When the children form a unique bond, new questions and old prejudices erupt.*

# KIDZ BLK 1

SUNDAY JUNE 23 @ 12PM



## BREAKING EGGS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Ed Lawrence Robinson  
PRODS: Ed Lawrence Robinson, Jonathan W. Robbins,  
Jodie Younse, Matt Newcomb, Beth Newcomb,  
Robb Padgett, Tanya Ihnen, Rob Gokee  
CONSULTING PROD: Allison Vanore

CAST: Rudy Marquez, Zoe-Marie Robinson, Jillian Clare, June Robinson, Thea Robinson

A film about new beginnings. And creme brulee.



## BZZZIN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 2.5 min.

WRITERS: Eric Zayne, Mila Brener, Juju Brener  
DIRS: Mila Brener, Antonio Chavez Trejo  
EXEC PRODS: David Vered, Shirley Brener  
PRODS: Yoav Davis, Mila Brener, Kate Tumanova,  
Antonio Chavez Trejo

ASSOC PRODS: Bruce Rubenstein, April Mills

CAST: Juju Brener, Dreyia Castillo, Shayne Dovine, Sophia Leiberman, Mila Brener,  
Victoria Leiberman, Avi Julia Brown, Gabriella Kaylie, Liam Fernando, Maria Baghdasaryan

A concept/narrative music video combining the talents of rising star, Juju Brener, and the fashion of leading contemporary denim house YMI Jeans. The aspirational story embodies motifs of "dreams come true", individuality and triumph. Artistically, it combines the vibrant personality and talents of the artist, while reflecting the brand's appeal to girls who are confident, fashionable and want to express themselves through what they wear.



## CAREER DAY

USA, 2023, 10 min.

WRITER: Jason Robinson  
DIRS: Jason Robinson, Chris Hooper  
PRODS: Kelly Robinson, Jason Robinson, Chris Hooper  
CAST: Paul Bartholomew, Julianna Robinson

This is a story about a father, Paul Bartholomew (Mad Men), unemployed and uninspired, who was once the lead member of a popular 90's boy band. He polishes off his old dance moves for his daughter's elementary school Career Day and turns in a viral performance in her fourth grade classroom.



## THE GRATE DIRECTOR

US Premiere | GERMANY, 2024, 17 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Samuel J. Punto  
CAST: Samuel J. Punto, David Juarez, Jeff Book,  
Charys Schuler, Ethan Punto,  
and Peter McGiffin as The Inner Monologue

A young director with ADHD struggles to live up to his own expectations, voiced by a grandiose Inner Monologue.

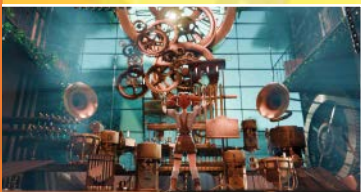


## NEON VOWELS

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER/DIR: Sergio Caballero  
PRODS: Kristina Kim, Smokey Nelson, Sergio Caballero  
CAST: Nick Urzetta, Dani Payne, Carmelita B. Lowe,  
Ruben Muller, Nati Rabinowitz

Set somewhere, somewhere in the Southwest, a service robot operating a taco stand learns, with the help of a Navajo elder, that it is mucho más more than a dumbwaiter, and a colorful cast of intersecting identities affects the lo-fi hero as it transitions beyond its small talk script.



## NIX'S SYMPHONY

WEST COAST Premiere | CANADA, 2024, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Karina Loerchner

Libelle, Nix's mother, possessed exceptional abilities. She not only excelled in the fields of science and engineering, but also gained fame as a distinguished inventor and composer. Nevertheless, at a tender age, Nix, an aspiring musician and inventor in her own right, is now burdened with the responsibility of upholding this remarkable legacy.

# (CONT) KIDZ BLK 1

SUNDAY JUNE 23 @ 12PM

## SPACE LIGHTNING

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 7 min.

WRITER/DIR: Michael Bauer  
PRODS: Michael Bauer, Adam Mellema  
CAST: Kay Sibal, Kathryn Schott, Michael Bauer,  
Pablo Martinez, Rogelio Douglas III

May Starshine, Intergalactic Influencer aboard the Star Ship Intellectus has her big live streaming concert tonight, but on a routine mission she gets lost in outer space! Can the crew find her in time or will she get sucked into the nebulae galaxy black hole? Find out on Space Lightning!



## THE STORYTELLER

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 7.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Allison Volk  
PRODS: Allison Volk, Colin Martin  
CAST: Colin Martin, Jacob Belliston, Brian Landis Folkins

A jaded Army veteran-turned-janitor works nights at a car museum loaded with history. One night, he receives an unexpected phone call that changes everything.



## SUPERZ DUDE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 5 min.

WRITERS: Andrew Gonzalez, Justin Fearon  
DIR: Michael Castelli  
PRODS: Nick Barth, Ryan Paduano  
CAST: Michael Castelli, Justin Fearon,  
Ryan Paduano, Victoria Russo, Nick Barth

High School student Michael believes that he is a super hero. No one believes him and he does not have any proof of a super power. He wants to prove that he can fly and be a real super hero proving everyone wrong. As he is trying to find his super power he has to defeat the evil mask of the lethal lizard as the evil takes over his friend Justin.



## VAX

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 4.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Stephen Burhoe  
PRODS: Stephen Burhoe, Abby Max  
CAST: Corbin Carreathers, Olivia Carter, Ivan Gonzales,  
Manuel Hunick, Auri Martin, Abby Max, Alix O'Birien

A patient questions the need to be vaccinated against the coming Zombie Apocalypse.



# KIDZ BLK 2

SUNDAY JUNE 23 @ 2PM

## A FIST FULL OF COLA AND A FEW PEPSIS MORE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 4.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Oscar Slater  
CAST: Oscar Slater, Jonah Twardosz

Two cowboys fight over which Cola drink is better.



## THE CHIHUAHUA SHAKE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Chase Olivera  
CAST: Jonathan Nyberg  
Jonathan Hartzendorf, Giovanni Pucci

Experience this musical comedy about a famous Parisian dachshund who is tasked with painting a portrait of a crazy chihuahua who just won't stop shaking. Only a local band can help the chihuahua explain that there's more to his shake than meets the eye. This project is a completely original and fresh tale, made by an 18-year-old director, told with beautiful scenery, an enchanting score, and knee-slapping visual gags throughout.



## KIDZ BLK 2 (CONT)

SUNDAY JUNE 23 @ 2PM



### PRESUMED INCOMPETENT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 29.5 min.

WRITER: Jill Johnson Mann  
DIR: Cynthia Gibb  
PRODS: Cynthia Gibb & Jill Johnson Mann  
CAST: Wynston Browne, Deb Katz, David Smith,

Cameron Mann, Brian Lombardi, Ellie Rockwell, Ella Davis, Momo Burns-Min, Echo Bodell, Alexandra Pearl, Mindy Fox, Jennifer Malaquias Ryan, Blake Ryan, Linde Gibb, Leanna Mitev, Lola Rockwell, Madyan Hemdan, Austin Jax, Matthew Bukzin, Isabelle Leeming, Sophie Jasmin Walther, Natalia Mann, Claire Butler, Markley Rizzi, Ken Barile, Fin Maddaloni, Jessica Harrison, Jasmita Mani Lorenzato, Blake Raho, Charlie Carroccio, Vivienne Leeming, Callie Sarro, Kassie Mundhenk, Bella Rizzi, Coco Aysseh, Jill Johnson Mann, Mario Manna, Dan Woog

*Chance, a nonspeaking autistic teen, has spent 15 years trapped inside his mind, unable to communicate. He is part of a big, boisterous family, yet he is painfully alone. All of the experts have told Chance's parents that he is profoundly cognitively impaired. He also has apraxia, which makes his motor movements erratic and out of his control and leads people to doubt Chance's potential. His parents then discover a spelling method that upends all of the assumptions about their brilliant son. Now if only Chance's peers and teachers will believe in him.*  
INSPIRED BY AND STARRING WYNSTON BROWNE.



### STORY OF THE SUN

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 7 min.

WRITER/DIR: Phillip Gladkov  
PRODS: Carmen Escobar Whitaker, Berman Fenelus  
CAST: Tsukuru Fors, Carmen Escobar Whitaker, Chike Robinson

*The first stop-motion animation in the world made entirely from birch bark. It shares the tale of how the first humans discovered fire, changing the world forever. It's especially meaningful that this film is made from birch bark—a material used for starting fires since the Neanderthal era.*

*"Story of the Sun" is a movie for both children and adults. It's filled with humor, valuable lessons, and emotionally touching moments.*



### SURVIVED BY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 12.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: K.D. Chalk  
PRODS: Nicole Crespo and Pinar Binay  
CAST: Chris Chalk, Kiarra G. Beasley, K.D. Chalk

*A newly orphaned kid dodging the foster care system spends a magical evening with a sock puppet hoping to unpack her complicated relationship with her father days after his death.*

## KIDZ BLK 3

SUNDAY JUNE 23 @ 415PM



### BREAKING PLANS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 10.5 min.

WRITER: London Houghton  
DIRS: London Houghton, Paul Houghton  
PRODS: Baylee Corona, Ella Greenwood, Maya Bartley O'Dea  
CAST: London Houghton, Gracelyn Surtees, Zoe Tran-Wofford, Carter Dau, Sophia Marie Sylvan, Luc Clopton

*Emma, Sarah, and Amelia are best friends navigating their way through 5th-grade life together. The friendship is tested when Sarah seemingly abandons Emma, Amelia and their school project assignment to hang out with Emma's older brother, Drake.*

## (CONT) KIDZ BLK 3

SUNDAY JUNE 23 @ 415PM



### CANTO SANTIAGO

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 11.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: James Valdez  
PRODS: James Valdez, Joel Vazquez  
CAST: Jacob Estrada, Eduardo Togi, David Saucedo

*A young mariachi faces his first performance alone but discovers his brother has always been by his side.*

### KOREAN AMERICAN WITCHES SOCIETY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 13 min.

WRITER: Jennifer Kim  
DIR: Michael K.Y. Yip  
PRODS: Jennifer Kim, Medha Jaishankar  
CAST: Hailey Soomin Lee, Viva Lee, J.J. Joo, Taehee Kim

*A lonely, anxious girl wishes to save her cancer-stricken father and befriends the granddaughter of a Korean shaman. Together, they create a secret witchcraft ritual which leads to unexpected consequences.*



### LILLO

US Premiere | MEXICO, 2023, 8 min.

WRITER/DIR: Andrea Figueroa Chavez  
PRODS: Alfonso Figueroa Santana, Andrea Figueroa Chavez, Grisel Chavez Delgado  
CAST: Logan Ramos, Mayte Delgado, Victor Delgado Silva, Maria Delgado Silva, Norma Delgado Silva, Hugo Delgado Silva, Sandra Delgado Silva, Marcos Delgado Silva, Victor Victor Mandujano

*Lillo's grief weighs heavily on him after his father's passing, slowing down his work in the cornfields. At the endless rows of corn, a little girl brings a spark of joy into his somber existence, but the other farmers, trapped in perpetual mourning, prohibit them from playing. Lillo confronts a haunting nightmare, from this darkness, he learns that life is beautiful because our loved ones who departed are still with us, in rivers, and in beautiful sunsets.*



### THE MANOR - EPISODE ONE

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 9 min.

WRITER: Charlotte Janssen DIR: Ella Jerrier  
PRODS: Ella Jerrier, Elaine Lim, Ella Pivar-Escobedo, David Pineda  
CAST: Justin Fry, Sorin Ruen, Breana Turner, Justin Wade, Brendan McManus, Wendy Garibay

*A mysterious billionaire invites a seemingly random group of people to his estate where everything is not as it seems.*



### SALLY, GET THE POTATOES

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 16.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Danicah Waldo  
EXEC PRODS: Ashley Garrett, Ginnie Gillen, Leela Malladi, Morgan Zoia  
PRODS: Jess DuBois, Sarah Parr, Cade Waldo  
CAST: Kynlee Heiman, Bohdana Madlova, Clark Carmichael, Quinn Hemphill, Amanda Ferguson, Travis Doughty, Charlie Ferrara

*A little girl's innocence is shattered when she takes an unexpected ride in her wealthy family's rolling laundry cart and learns their dark secrets.*



### SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Tamika Lamison  
PRODS: Tamika Lamison, Chris Beal, Dominique DeLeon, Carol Shine  
CAST: Ellis Hobbs IV, Jordyn McIntosh, Tamika Lamison, Mustafa Shakir, E. Roger Mitchell, Kellen Boyle, Mark Totty

*Based on a true story & set in the 70's during the Atlanta Child Murders, a young brother and sister with a love of comics, face a series of impactful events which cause them to question the meaning of heroes, villains, superman—and themselves.*



# PILOTS BLK 1

SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 11AM

## ADA



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITER: Elizabeth Cox  
DIRS: Elizabeth Cox, Kirill Yeretsky  
PROD: Brooke Brewer  
CAST: Rachel Rial, Jacob Barrens

*Should we eradicate mosquitoes? Create superintelligent AI? Create artificial wombs? These are some of the questions on Ada's mind as she heads to the first day of her new job at the public library. She soon realizes her daily reality—mundane duties, grumpy boss—is completely at odds with the urgency she feels about the pressing problems facing humanity.*

## EXPOSED



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 20 min.

WRITER: Hannah Merritt  
DIRS: Reece Melber, Rachel Othon  
PROD: Sina Crenshaw  
CAST: Sophie Kelly, Alex Matthews, Izzy Kaplan, Kyla Nova, Braxton Beckham

*After getting exposed for online stalking her crush, 16-year-old Jackie Abrams thinks her life is over. However, as news of her stalking spreads, she discovers that she can use her skills to redeem her reputation... and make a little money in the process.*

## TRUTH SAVES THE WORLD



USA, 2023, 29 min.

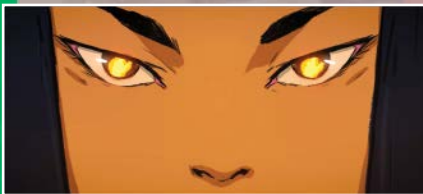
WRITERS: Shyla Nibbe, Jenni Melear  
DIR/PROD: Shyla Nibbe  
CAST: Faith Nibbe, Jeff Warden, Erika Bowen, Vivian Romero, LaRon Hines, Kennedy Nibbe, Mackenzie Nibbe, Shyla Nibbe

*A half-hour sitcom geared towards kids and teens that chronicles a mixed Black teenage girl who must overcome the everyday struggles of adolescence in order to fight the injustices she sees in the world and find her true voice and purpose.*

# PILOTS BLK 2

SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 1245PM

## THE BLIND ZONE

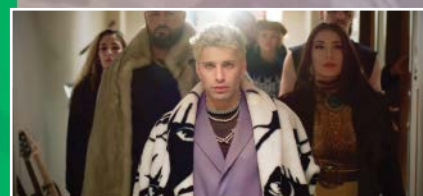


WEST COAST Premiere | CHINA, 2023, 31.5 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: Federica Marchese  
& Vinusha Sundaresan  
PROD: Brandon Chi-Wei Chen  
CAST: Shen Wei, Cheng Ya Zhao, Xie Ying Zhi

*A violent battle of wits ensues when the separate worlds of two teenage sociopaths collide after they set their eyes on the same target.*

## POPPED



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 18.5 min.

WRITERS: Noah Benjamin Miller, Annabelle Santino  
DIR: Noah Benjamin Miller  
PRODS: Noah Benjamin Miller, Amanda Seay, Will Brady, Annabelle Santino  
CAST: Noah Benjamin Miller, Molly Millard, Alexandra Kustin, Molly Millard, Anna Fikhman, Timothy Douglas, Jeff Kaplan, Joshua Paul, Diesel Madkins, Jennifer Van Horn, Dante Regghianti

*Mason Grate, a washed-up ex-boyband member who is now more famous for rehab stints than making music, is fired by his label and resorts to moving to his childhood home in a small town in Georgia, and then becomes mixed-up with the drug cartel who force him to create a new album and world tour through which they intend to launder cartel money.*

# (CONT) PILOTS BLK 2

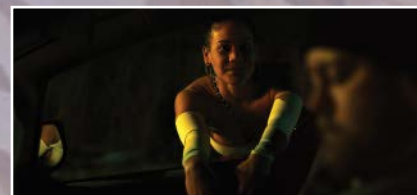
SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 1245PM

## SUGAR

USA, 2023, 6 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alyssa Brayboy  
PRODS: Alyssa Brayboy, Elisa Vazquez, Jillian Stewart  
CAST: Alyssa Brayboy and Sebastian Fernandez

*In this first scene of our Pilot Episode, we follow Banner on his search for a sex worker. He stumbles across Alora, who is usually up for anything, but she quickly learns Banner isn't a typical John.*

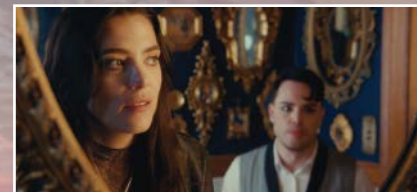


## VITCH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 16.5 min.

WRITERS: Lily Richards, Taylor Gregory  
DIR: Lily Richards  
PRODS: Lily Richards, Lisa Lovaglio  
CAST: Lily Richards, Jace Manoli, Nanci Kelham, Stephanie Kramer, Alexa Blair Robertson, Sam Meader, Nicole Santamaria

*Party witch, Theodora Thomas gets an alarming wake up call when her mother warns her that the new Wiccan Counsel is cracking down on witches using their magic. Theo, who uses her magic in every aspect of her life, must now face the world as a regular twenty five year old adult.*



# PILOTS BLK 3

SCREENING: SAT JUN 22 @ 315PM

## BUTRANS AND SONG

WEST COAST Premiere | SOUTH AFRICA, 2024, 33 min.

WRITER/DIR: Tendayi Nyeke  
PROD: Tendayi Nyeke ASSOC.PROD: Dikelo Mamiala  
CAST: Fulu Mugovhani, Hakeem Kae-Kazim, Baxo Mfidi, Chi Mhende, Mongi Majola, Daisy Maphathe, Sandile Makhoba, Bantu, Dikelo Mamiala

*Housewife RISIMU (Simu for short) is the perfect housewife to Tendero and a doting mother to Nicole. Her life appears perfect and tranquil, but Simu runs from a dark past. One chaotic morning ignites a vengeful spirit, NGOZI. Ngozi warns Simu that her life will crumble if she doesn't repay the debt she owes by Nicole's 13th birthday. Simu endures tests and temptations that threaten to ruin her carefully crafted life. She must find a way to turn her destructive streak into a force that will help her build anew, or everything she loves will become ash.*



## LOS ANGELES

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 22.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Louisa Hill  
PRODS: Louisa Hill, Sarah Chang Tadayon, Michaela Slezak, Jeff Ciabattari, Craig Harmer, Anna Gustafson, Briana Walden  
CAST: Vico Ortiz, Adrian Gonzalez, Louisa Hill, Taylor Barrett, Sarah Chang Tadayon, Jackson Davis

*Amelia's got a date with the hottest woman in the world. Only problem is—she's never been on a gay date before. Panicking that she's not queer enough, Amelia attempts to reinvent herself in the two hours before her crush arrives.*



## REVELATION

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 15.5 min.

WRITER: Felise Garcia  
DIR: Libe Barer  
PRODS: Seth Chitwood  
CAST: Michelle Mazza, Cathy Curtain, Peter Gerety, Alfred Kemp

*REVELATION is a pilot about a veteran detective named Rachele who has recently lost her daughter to a rare brain cancer DIPG. She is returning to work with a new partner, Anthony, and is faced with a case that will test how ready she is to return to the force.*



# PILOTS BLK 4

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 11AM

## EXPERT OF ...

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 22 min.



WRITERS Jack Ireland, Robyn Lynne Norris, Atul Singh  
DIR: Brooke Trantor  
PRODS: Jack Ireland, Robyn Lynne Norris, Atul Singh  
CAST: Jack Ireland, Robyn Lynne Norris, Atul Singh, Tiwana Floyd, Matt Marcy, Landon Lee Kirksey

*Expert Of...* gets deep into details with professionals at the top of their game through detailed interviews that inspire a team of writers to create comedic sketches with a twist. Think you know the behind the scenes challenges of a magician? Think again. In the pilot episode, our host, Jack, interviews Matt Marcy — a professional Comedy Magician. While discussing Matt's inspiration for getting into magic, Jack hears several stories that inspire the "Expert Of..." writing team to create comedic sketches resulting in fantastical scenes.

## I COULD EAT

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 22.5 min.



WRITER/DIR/PROD: Rick Bedrosian  
CAST: Rick Bedrosian

Episode 2 of, "I Could Eat", a new TV Series showcasing the cuisine and music that unites the diverse cultures of our world. Episode 2 focuses on some of the interesting and off the beaten path restaurants in New York's Hudson Valley. Host, Rick Bedrosian ("George" in a Beatlemania stage show for 7 years, leader of Celtic Music powerhouse, *Hair Of The Dog* and an international tour guide) spans the globe seeking out the finest food and the most interesting music makers.

## LEGACY IN THE MAKING

USA, 2023, 12.5 min.



WRITERS: Mark Miller, Lucas Conley, Dominic Gill, Nadia Gill  
DIR: Dominic Gill  
PROD: Nadia Gill

Based on the book "Legacy in the Making", the series profiles patient, purpose-driven leaders across industries — at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Taylor Guitars, Lo & Sons, Me & The Bees, and The Bluebird Cafe—who have taken the long view to ensure their socially-conscious brands will endure and thrive for generations.

## WORLD TWISTORIES

WORLD Premiere | USA/UK, 2023, 22.5 min.



WRITERS: Brian Wallace and Paul Longley  
DIRS: Brian Wallace and James Longley  
PRODS: Fancy Movies (Brian Wallace & Matt Mitchell) and Oakmead Productions (James Longley & Paul Longley)  
Original score by Roman Falkenstein  
CAST: Paul Longley, Christopher Hatfield, Whit Spurgeon, Bill Pryor

*World Twistories* is an exciting new series that explores eccentric people and their offbeat ideas throughout history. Each topic explored is verifiably true, exhaustively researched, and presented by the effortlessly charming Tik-Tok sensation Paul Longley. In this pilot episode, we look at a coffee shop that opened in London in 1703, but a coffee shop "with a twist"—in order to get their caffeine fix, patrons were required to speak Latin.

# PILOTS BLK 5

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 115PM

## DICK BUNNY

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 34 min.



WRITER: Susie Mendoza  
DIR: Katie Locke O'Brien  
PRODS: Kim Griffin, Susie Mendoza, Katie Locke O'Brien

CAST: Kim Griffin, Drew Droege, Kate Micucci, Betsy Sodaro, Brendan Griffin, Gracie Mercedes, Jackie Seiden, Anna Lamadrid, Hayley Marie Norman, Marie Buck, Tate Ellington, Nardeep Khurmi, Becca Q. Co, Lorene Chesley, Savannah Brown

*Max Griffin* was a high-powered lawyer with a great marriage, total freedom, and friends who understood her. That was before. Now, Max has a baby, and her extreme isolation, anxiety, and desperate attempts to keep up with LA mom culture are taking her to a pretty dark place. When a mysterious British children's book appears on her doorstep, Max begins to hallucinate Dick Bunny—a sarcastic man-rabbit who is precisely the ally Max needs as she navigates her new life. *DICK BUNNY* explores anxiety, loneliness, and an unraveling psyche through the lens of modern motherhood.

## EVENTS AT HEMLOCK MANOR

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 14.5 min.



WRITER/DIR: Katie North  
PRODS: JT Tsou (EP), Katie North  
CAST: Daniel Yaiullo, Katie North, Michael Gardiner, Lee Arden, AliRose Harton, Florian Wahl, Logan Shallow, Kathy Smith, Roxane Durand, Jeanne Vigouroux

*Laughs. Gore. Grim reapers with head booboos.* At its core, this is a series about underdogs: a ragtag group of spooky weirdos with nowhere else to go. *Hemlock Manor* is not only a year-round haunted house with a terrible business model, it's also a home.

But what do you do when the thing you love is in trouble? You fight for it. Even when that means throwing a baby shower for a group of rich ladies who didn't realize "the historic Hemlock Manor" was a haunted house open in July, not a charming country villa. And sometimes that means pulling it together with the demon babies you have.

## PROPHET

USA, 2023, 26 min.



WRITER/DIR: Diana Savone  
PRODS: Diana Savone  
CO PROD: Ethan Gross  
ASSOC PRODS: Bobbie Blyle, Danielle Goodman  
CAST: Diana Savone, Sarah Cornell, Dwayne Colbert, Meaghan Ryan Coates, Matthew Downs, Abra Moore, Jasmine Elist, Maggie Slack, Lynne Manino, Nancy Linari, Ray Abruzzo

Diagnosed with breast cancer but unable to afford her treatments, a young woman meets an unqualified wellness guru who leads her down a path of questionable alternative therapies

## SEEKING...

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 25 min.



WRITER: Alex Ringler  
DIR: Jason Lee Courson  
PRODS: Alex Ringler, Katie Iverson, Javi Morgado  
CAST: DeMarius Copes, Alex Ringler, Darius Rose, Lauren Renahan, Stacey Scotte, Michael West, Sutton Lee Seymour, Evita Loca, Les Gibbs, Dylan Thompson, Greg Sullivan, Din Griffin, Alexander Gil Cruz, Andrew Glaszek, Alex Stewart, Ricky Schroeder, Austin Peek, Tim Hausmann, Mark MacKillop, Andrew Madsen, Daniel Duggan

Becoming a "chosen family" can have it's growing pains. "Broad City" meets "New Girl" and "Will and Grace" with a sprinkling of *Kimmy Schmidt*, "Seeking..." is a show about three roommates (2 gay men, 1 straight man) all from different backgrounds, learning to cohabitate and navigate love and life in the big city.

# PILOTS BLK 6

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 330PM

## GEORGE OF TUSUNGA

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 13.5 min.



WRITER: Curt Neill  
DIR: Dave Seger  
PRODS: Curt Neill, Dave Seger  
CAST: Curt Neill, Tobie Reid, Brooke Bundy, Paul Danke, Brady Novak, Megan Gailey, Kyle Helf, Adam Jacobs, Robby Massey, Cornell Reid

*A small-town moron has his perfectly meaningless life upended when his eight-year-old niece shows up at his door with nowhere else to go.*

## LOFT AND FOUND

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 30 min.



WRITER: Zach Weiss  
DIRS: Pete O'Hare and Phillip Kibbe  
PRODS: Pete O'Hare, Zach Weiss, Kristin Kirkley, Helen O'Hare  
CAST: Amanda Kristin Nichols, Eli Bridges, Rashad Brown, Richard M. Carrillo, Taylor Plas

*Faced with rising rents and a final chance to live their dreams, five artists in their mid 30s turn their sketchy Brooklyn warehouse loft into an event venue. Amidst wild lifestyles, aging roommate drama, and the creep of modern anxiety, they have to decide: does growing up mean giving up? Or will they get their shit together and save their unorthodox community despite it all?*

## MS. PINK

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.



WRITER/DIR: Lauren McCann  
PRODS: Lauren McCann, Gary Millward  
CAST: Lauren McCann, Tahtianna Fermin, Marcus Troy, Steven Strickland, Stefanie Colon, Brian Reilly, Jo-Anne Lee, Robert Lachina, Ken Perlstein, Helene Galek

*Ms. Pink follows the journey of a single mother as she navigates motherhood while working towards being inducted into an ancient ban of female assassins. This 15-minute proof of concept is designed to introduce the viewer to the world we have created and the characters who live in it. Those identifying as woman are placed in positions of power – raising children is powerful, holding a job is powerful.... Eliminating evil is powerful.*

## ROOMIES

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2024, 35 min.



WRITERS: Nevada Grey and Lisa Altmann  
DIRS: Nevada Grey and Anthony Vietro  
PRODS: Andy Calatayud, Nevada Grey, Lisa Altmann, Jack Altmann, Ric Griffith, Joshua Minyard  
CAST: Nevada Grey, Kylr Coffman, Annie Karstens, Chris Wylde, Edgar de Santiago, Jonathan Tanigaki, Keala Starr, Ben O'Loughlin, Shaun Leonard, Nick McLoughlin, Brittany Randle, Miska Kajanus, Taylor Rae Krasne, J. Lyle

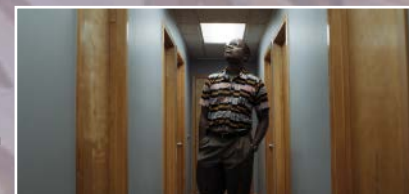
*Roomies follows the story of stay-at-home mom Kenzie whose world is turned upside down after her cheating husband leaves her in financial ruin. Completely ill-equipped to deal with her suddenly shattered life, she is forced to move into an apartment with her freshman son and his three college roommates.*

# PILOTS BLK 7

SCREENING: SAT JUN 29 @ 545PM

## GHOST WALKER

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 10 min.



WRITER/DIR: Abraham Amkpa  
PRODS: Nick Betancurt, Abraham Amkpa, Luke Midlin  
CAST: Leandro Cano, Abraham Amkpa, Miguel Najera, Caroline Bloom, Ian McQuown, Reed Marvin

*An unsuspecting African journalist stumbles on a cold case murder on a Native American reservation.*

## HAPPY SONGS ABOUT UNHAPPY THINGS

SOCAL Premiere | USA, 2024, 30 min.



WRITER: Nikki Lynette  
DIRS: Nikki Lynette, Roger Ellis  
PRODS: Jamie Foxx, Datari Turner, Qadree Holmes, Jeff Snyder, Brannon Bowers, Ted Reilly, Kelly Waller, Mark Glassgow, Ira Antelis, Daryl Jones, Roger Ellis, Matt Hennessy, Chris Karabas, Nikki Lynette

CAST: Nikki Lynette, Dr. Willie Mae Jackson, Dr. Schnaude Dorizan, Jacinda Ratcliffe, Quimaya Sewell, Justus Brown, Rakitta Boylan, Darling Shear, Kelsey Stone, Brenda Pennington, Terrance Morris Jr

*A groundbreaking new documusical that aims to disrupt the harmful narratives around mental health. By blending documentary footage, statistics, digital art, and mental health expert testimonials with sensational theatrical performances, Nikki Lynette invites us into a musical playground that allows audiences to explore the deepest parts of themselves while feeling empowered along the way.*

*Everybody's got a song to sing. It's doesn't have to be a sad one.*

## I NEED YOUR LOVE

WEST COAST Premiere | USA, 2024, 25 min.



WRITER/DIR: Walker Kalan  
PRODS: Walker Kalan, Camille Trust, Christina Campagnola, Susie Talbot, Jayne Sullivan, Thomas Glinkowski, Megaera Stephens, Nadine Bedrossian, Isabel Haro

CAST: Camille Trust, Inés Nassara, Athan Chekas, Willy Rincón, Ben Becher

*I Need Your Love is a bittersweet comedy about pop singer Camille Trust's struggle to make a name for herself in New York's cutthroat music scene—from sleazy producers and vengeful Swifties to heartbreak and self-sabotage. It's raw. It's messy. And most of it actually happened.*

## KNAWBONE CREEK

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 24.5 min.



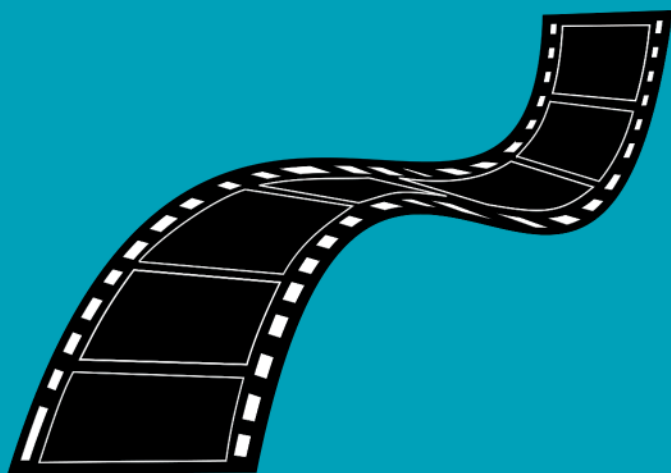
WRITER: April Smallwood  
DIR: Scott Vandiver  
PRODS: Scott Vandiver, April Smallwood  
CAST: Preston Flagg, Matthew Flynn, Lara McHugh, E. Abmriz Delcolosio, Shenita Moore

*A man's suburban life is turned upside down by a tragic event. While attempting to mitigate the damage, he crosses paths with a malevolent stranger who takes sadistic delight in making his bad situation worse. Much, much worse.*



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56 HOME  
26 HONK  
57 HOTELING  
39 HOW I ROLL  
31 HOW THE WEST WAS ONE  
52 HOW TO DISAPPEAR  
52 I APPROVE THIS MESSAGE  
74 I COULD EAT  
58 I KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING  
77 I NEED YOUR LOVE  
45 I'LL TAKE PORN FOR \$200  
57 I'M PRETTY SURE MY ...  
42 IN THE AIR TONIGHT  
11 INHERITANCE  
24 INKED  
31 INTERPRETERS WANTED  
65 IS GAY MARRIAGE NEXT?  
39 IS IT BECAUSE I'M A GIRL  
38 IS THIS SOMETHING?  
60 ISAAC  
36 IT'S FOR YOU: EPHEMERAL ART...  
53 ITCH  
45 KARITA  
37 THE KATZ TAPES  
42 KING  
77 KNAWBONE CREEK  
51 KOI  
71 KOREAN AMERICAN ...  
37 LAND OF THE FREE ...  
74 LEGACY IN THE MAKING  
51 LEGALLY BROWN ...  
60 LESSONS  
63 LIKEYOU (COMO TU)  
71 LILLO  
19 LISTEN CAREFULLY  
65 LIVING LOUD  
24 LOCKSMITH  
76 LOFT AND FOUND  
42 LOS ANGELES  
73 LOS ANGELEZ  
36 LOS SANDY'S  
51 LOVEBUGS  
47 LOVELAND  
49 MAMA BEAR  
11 THE MAN WHO SAVED ...  
71 THE MANOR  
21 MAX DAGAN  
59 MECÁNICA  
45 MODEL CITIZEN  
15 MOTHER FATHER SISTER ...  
24 MOTHERLY LOVECRAFT  
23 MOURNING ROCK  
76 MS. PINK  
61 MUM'S THE WORD  
42 MUSIC FOR A WHILE  
49 MY LIGHT COME SHINING  
68 NEON VOWELS  
43 NIGHT VIBE  
31 THE NITA & ZITA PROJECT  
68 NIX'S SYMPHONY  
19 NOBODY LEAVES 'TIL JESUS ...  
11 NOBODY WANTS TO ...  
33 NORITA  
61 NOT US  
47 THE ONETHAT GOT AWAY  
5 PAPER FLOWERS  
65 THE PARADISE ROAD  
43 PAYBACK  
53 PERENNIAL  
27 PESTS  
49 PICKLED CUCUMBERS  
57 THE PICKUP  
27 PIPER MEETS A PSYCHOPATH  
72 POPPED  
59 THE POWER WITHIN  
70 PRESUMED INCOMPETENT  
55 PRICK  
55 PRINCETON'S IN THE MIX  
75 PROPHET  
58 PUPPY LOVE  
37 THE PURSUIT OF A DREAM  
47 QUAYLE  
27 RARE MEDIUM  
43 RAT FIGHT  
58 RATTLED  
67 REGARDING US  
61 RENOVATION  
73 REVELATION  
47 ROBBIE AIN'T RIGHT NO MORE  
76 ROOMIES  
51 THE RUNT  
71 SALLY, GET THE POTATOES  
33 SAVING JONES  
33 SCARS UNSEEN  
67 SCRAPS  
75 SEEKING...  
25 SHADOW  
11 SHEPHERD  
33 SITTING IN THE FIRE  
13 SNAKE  
55 SOLID  
35 THE SOUTH GOT ...  
69 SPACE LIGHTNING  
13 SPARK  
35 SPYRAL  
49 STAR.WAV  
25 THE STARDUST MOTEL  
67 STARRY EYED  
13 STEP BACK, DOORS CLOSING  
63 STILL LIFE  
70 STORY OF THE SUN  
69 THE STORYTELLER  
23 STRAIGHT ON TILL MORNING  
52 STUCK  
73 SUGAR  
69 SUPER DUDE  
71 SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL  
70 SURVIVED BY  
27 SWEATY LARRY  
45 TACENDA  
37 TAKE ME TO THE OCEAN  
13 TALLYWACKER  
27 TECHNICAL SUPPORT  
36 THE THIRD COUNTRY  
47 THIS LITTLE PIGGY GOT SOME  
43 THIS TIME WE'LL STAY  
59 THOUGHTS and PRAYERS  
17 TIM TRAVERS & THE ...  
45 TIPS UP!  
38 TR(OL)L  
72 TRUTH SAVES THE WORLD  
35 UNBROKEN  
35 UNLIKELY ALLIES  
19 UNNAMED  
43 UNPERFORMING  
63 THE VALLEY OF HEARTS...  
69 VAX  
43 VEIL  
73 VITCH  
61 VOLITION  
43 WASTELAND  
36 WE ARE FLYING STARS  
25 WHO DO YOU LOVE  
25 WIDE OPEN  
74 WORLD TWISTORIES  
57 YOU ARE HERE  
25 YOU'RE IT

# DANCES WITH FILMS

**THURSDay**  
JUN 20

7:30 PM PAPER FLOWERS (OPENING NIGHT FILM)

**FRIday**  
JUN 21

4:45 PM DOC SHORTS BLK 1  
5:00 PM DANCE AS YOU ARE + DANI CALIFORNIA  
7:00 PM A LITTLE HOPE FOR CHICAGO  
7:15 PM INHERITANCE  
9:15 PM MOURNING ROCK  
9:30 PM CULPRIT  
11:45 PM THE DISINVITED

**SATurday**  
JUN 22

11:00 AM PILOTS BLK 1  
12:30 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 1  
12:45 PM PILOTS BLK 2  
2:45 PM PILOTS BLK 3  
2:45 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 2  
4:45 PM SAVING JONES  
5:00 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 3  
7:00 PM ALMOST POPULAR  
7:15 PM ALTA CALIFORNIA  
9:15 PM MOTHER FATHER SISTER BROTHER FRANK  
9:30 PM BOUND  
11:15 PM LISTEN CAREFULLY  
11:45 PM MIDNIGHT SHORTS BLK 1

**SUNday**  
JUN 23

12:00 AM KIDZ BLK 1  
12:30 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 4  
2:00 PM KIDZ BLK 2  
2:45 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 5  
4:15 PM KIDZ BLK 3  
5:00 PM COMPETITION SHORTS: GRP 6  
6:30 PM THE BIG WHITE HOUSE  
7:15 PM ALL THE WEEKEND'S DRAMA  
8:30 PM THE NITA & ZITA PROJECT  
9:30 PM FIGHT LIKE A GIRL

**MONday**  
JUN 24

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE BELOW)  
4:45 PM DOC SHORTS BLK 2  
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS BLK 1  
7:00 PM INTERPRETERS WANTED  
7:15 PM SPARK  
9:15 PM ALL HAPPY FAMILIES  
9:30 PM DREAMING OF YOU

## PANEL SCHEDULE

TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES ON PANELS  
AND COMPLETE BIOS  
Go to the DWF web site or SCAN HERE



# DANCES WITH FILMS

**TUESday**  
JUN 25

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE TO THE LEFT)  
2:30 PM UNLIKELY ALLIES  
4:45 PM DOC SHORTS BLK 3  
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS BLK 2  
7:00 PM NORITA  
7:15 PM SHEPHERD  
9:15 PM TIM TRAVERS & THE TIME TRAVELERS PARADOX  
9:30 PM NOBODY WANTS TO SHOOT A WOMAN

**WEDSday**  
JUN 26

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE TO THE LEFT)  
2:30 PM THE SOUTH GOT SOMETHING TO SAY  
4:45 PM DOC SHORTS BLK 4  
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS BLK 3  
7:00 PM BEST MAN DEAD MAN  
7:15 PM ADDY DADDY  
9:15 PM ADVANCED CHEMISTRY  
9:30 PM BETWEEN THE LIGHTS

**THURSDay**  
JUN 27

1:00 PM PANEL (SEE QR CODE TO THE LEFT)  
2:45 PM OUTFEST DOCS  
4:45 PM OUTFEST SHORTS  
5:00 PM UNLEASHED SHORTS  
7:00 PM OUTFEST: REGARDING US  
7:15 PM STEP BACK, DOORS CLOSING  
9:15 PM UNNAMED  
9:30 PM TALLYWACKER

**FRIday**  
JUN 28

2:45 PM FUSION SHORTS BLK 4  
5:00 PM DOWNBEAT: A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC & DANCE  
5:00 PM FUSION SHORTS BLK 5  
7:00 PM SNAKE  
7:00 PM THE DONN OF TIKI  
9:15 PM DELICATE ARCH  
9:30 PM THE MAN YOU SAVED THE INTERNET WITH A SUNFLOWER  
11:45 PM DEATH PERCEPTION

**SATurday**  
JUN 29

11:00 AM PILOTS BLK 4  
12:30 PM SITTING IN THE FIRE  
1:15 PM PILOTS BLK 5  
2:45 PM SPYRAL  
3:30 PM PILOTS BLK 6  
5:00 PM AMERICA'S NEXT TOP IMMIGRANT  
5:45 PM PILOTS BLK 7  
7:15 PM NOBODY LEAVES 'TIL JESUS COMES  
8:00 PM THE DONN OF TIKI (ENCORE)  
9:30 PM HAUNTOLOGY  
10:15 PM STRAIGHT ON TILL MORNING  
11:45 PM MIDNIGHT SHORTS BLK 2

**SUNday**  
JUN 30

12:00 PM A SCHOOL GROWS IN WATTS  
12:30 PM UNBROKEN  
2:00 PM ANXIOUS.  
2:45 PM SCARS UNSEEN  
4:15 PM CAMP RICSTAR  
5:00 PM FUTURE DATE  
6:30 PM HOW THE WEST WAS ONE  
7:15 PM MAX DAGAN (CLOSING NIGHT FILM)

## SCREENING SCHEDULE



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Most importantly, our dedicated team ensures your shoot runs smoothly from start to finish.

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