## color imagination

## DANCESEFILMS LA'S FAVORITE INDIE FEST HITS NY

NOV 30 THRU DEC 2, 2023 Regal Union Square | New York City Danceswithfilms.com

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through the power of great storytelling



Dances with Films: New York

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DANCESEFILMS

#### LA'S FAVORITE FESTIVAL **RETURNS!**

We are exhilarated to be back in the electric Apple! DWF has found itself a second home with this welcoming city that celebrates artists and visionaries alike.

So to give you an idea of the who, what, and why of it all....

DWF began in the '90s to champion storytellers who were being squeezed out by the big festivals because their films had no stars. It was the festival dawn before film festivals popped up on every street corner.

We began with a purpose, a reason, a vision.... and we adopted our motto "No politics. No Stars. No sh\*t." That's carried us far beyond and into the winter of our 26th year. Resilience, strength, fortitude, compassion, *passion* and vision. Words to describe these dreaming risk-takers and their projects that we champion each year. These words also describe the "why" of the festival itself.

We are profoundly grateful to the staff, volunteers, sponsors, film enthusiasts and filmmakers (numbering in the tens of thousands) who have been the core of this journey (and our family) from the beginning.

Now, as the world seemingly gets smaller and, at times, more divided; we are privileged to count you as family and in our circle of friends.

We encourage every one of you to bring kindness to those around you. Bring light to those in darkness, and humanity to those in need.

Welcome to the 2nd edition of DANCES WITH FILMS:NY! United. Independent. Risk-Takers. Always.

Leslee Scallon **Michael Trent** Founders

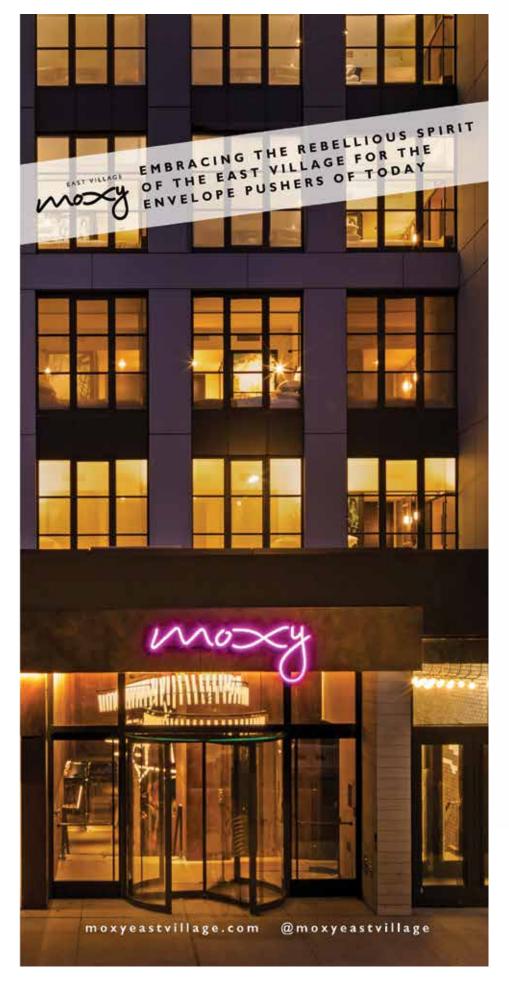
Effie Brown **Cindy Cowan** Jonathan Dana Steve Elzer Jane Fleming Kevin Kasha Adam Krentzman Eriq La Salle Michael Lehmann Mike Macari Valerie McCaffrey Mark V. Olsen Joel Ordesky Mark Ordesky Melissa Orlen Will Scheffer Hilton Smith David Spiegelman Steve Tisch **Ruth Vitale** Steve Wegner

ADVISORY BOARD

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#### TeamDWF

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Tracey Adlai Buster Akery APM MUSIC BAR 13 Steven Beer BOLS James Bowers **Kimberley Browning** Gwen Campbell Ernie Carrillo Jim Cathcart Heitor Celestino JOSH CELLARS

DCP FOR ALL

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**Bobby Elsasser** 

Anthony Ferrara

Kate Erbland

Randy Garza

Julie Gasparich

Chris Germano

Clare Gordon

**Geoff Haefling** 

Eddie Gray

Lisa Ha

who give so graciously of their time talent & energies and without whose dedication, DWF's efforts would go largely unrecognized. Dave Merlino Abby Monkarsh Meital Cohen Navarro Patricia Nazario

Lisa Navarro Newmann

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Chie Nomaki

Lance Orozco

Michele Palermo

Gioacchino Randazzo

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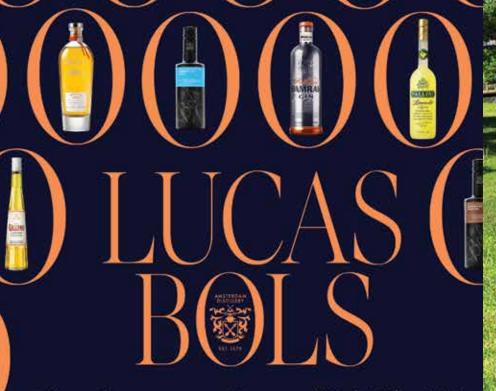
To All the incredible people and companies

**Christian Heintze** Kenny Hernandez Michele Hevman Philip Hopkins Lindsay Hurlic INDIEWIRE Paul Italia **Belinda Jacobs** Steven Jaffe Hooman Khalili Tore Knos Eric Kohn Adam Krentzman Thomas Larsen Eria LaSalle Adam Lebowitz-Lockard Liang-Chun Lin LOEWS HOLLYWOOD Bryan Lucena **IYRES** Scott Macaulay FILMMAKER MAGAZINE Adrina Madatyan Talpey Matt THE MOXY Patricia Nazario Mae Neil Lance Orozco Julia Pandolfo Sebastiano Pestoni

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#### SCREENING COMMITTEE

Jorge Ameer



m 32 mil

Proud to support Dances With Film NY



NEW YORK PREMIERE | USA, 2023, 109 min.

GERSHON

INS BILLY ZANE

**Opening Night!** 

WRITERS: Dylan K. Narang, Brad DeMarea DIR: Dylan K. Narang PRODS: Dylan K. Narang, Jeff Robinson CAST: Jon Heder, Jay Pichardo, Kim Matula, Sawyer Williams, George Psarras, Paul Psarras, Amanda Bearse, John Ratzenberger, Gina Gershon, Billy Zane, Chad Dukes, Chris Gethard

MAND

BEARSE

RATZENBERGER

MATULA

**HEDER** 

An oddball becomes the bodyguard for a misfit teenager and finds himself in the crosshairs of the town's family of bullies.

#### **NARRATIVE FEATURES**



JOSH CELLARS

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



SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 630PM

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

**CAST:** Samba Schutte, Ch<mark>aunte Wayans, Sarah Burns, Kiran Deol, Iqbal Theba,</mark> T'Keyah Crystal Keymah, Mikaela Happas, Sam Pancake

A scientist injects his lesbian best friend with a compound he's created to make her stop cheating on her wife (who is bi), but when the wife finds her new monogamous fixation suffocating, he injects the wife too, which backfires when she falls for him.

#### THE BASTATED SONS

SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 10PM

WRITERS: Kevin Interdonato, Glenn Rodriguez DIR: Kevin Interdonato

PRODS: Kevin Interdonato, Nic Larrabure, Joe Sernio, Amanda Clayton, Glenn Rodriguez, Jeff Stewart, Joe Minnella, Malik Whitfield



CAST: Kevin Interdonato, Frankie Edgar, Malik Whitfield, Joe Sernio, Kirk Ponton, Anastasia Ganias, Al Sapienza, Chuck MacLean, Joshua Paled, Isaiah Seward, Dan Robertson

Life for a crew of organized criminals is disrupted when Vincent Damiano's father, the family's boss, is murdered. Vincent's 'bastard' brothers (UFC legend Frank Edgar, Chicago Med star Malik Whitfield), a group of orphaned souls he raised together, have an idea of who killed their father... his partner Rome (TV/Film veteran Al Sapienza). In a valiant and calculated attempt to regain the business and enact vengeance on Rome over the course of one day, the Bastards wage an all out war in order to get their pound of flesh.

#### BETWEEN THE LIGHTS

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 645PM 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.

Between the Lights has been described as a nuanced, supernaturally tinged romantic ghost tale with echoes of A Ghost Story and Truly Madly Deeply. The film features West End stage supremo Ines de Clercq in her first leading screen role, and RADA graduates Samuel Edward-Cook (Peaky Blinders, Better, and Shane Meadows' The Gallows Pole) and Richard Riddell (Star Wars: The Force Awakens, Legend, The Terror, Curfew).

#### BOUND

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 101 min. SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 8PM

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

To escape her overprotective drug-dealing stepfather, a young introvert flees to NYC with her pet pocket squirrel. After successfully reinventing herself, she realizes she must confront her dark past, to truly be free.



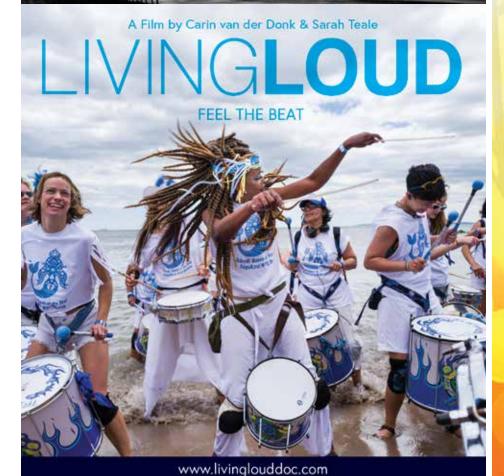
@2022 Josh Cellars. www.joshCellars.com. Please Enjoy Responsibly



A film by Tim and Barbara Tuttle Edited by Robin Richardson

Sunday December 3, 2023 11:30am

Regal Union Square Theater 850 Broadway, NYC



CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE YOU MINE WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 102 min.

SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 8PM

WRITERS/DIRS: Sara Katarina Burke,

Aaron Andrew Keene **PRODS:** Keenan Rice, Sarah Dodge-Rice, Haakon Overlii, Greg Becker, Jessica Barr, Morgan Raymond, Rhonda Gunther Hollinger, Dennis Hollinger

CAST: Zachary Ray Sherman, Lindsay Burdge, Jessica Barr, Journey Baker, James "Jay Mack" McClendon

A man who was just released from prison tries to make amends with his ex and become a father to his 6-year-old son while staying with a stripper he met on a pen-pal website.

#### DARUMA

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 104 min. SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 745PM

WRITER: Kelli McNeil-Yellen **DIR:** Alexander Yellen PRODS: Kelli McNeil-Yellen. Alexander Yellen, Jodi Binstock

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

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

#### GEOUNDED

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 84 min. SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 730PM

WRITER/DIR: Justin Chan PRODS: Mattheau O'Brien, Elliot Grant Lim CAST: Whit K Lee, Katherine Leidlein, Angela Chew, Alfredo de Guzman

William Lee, a 30-something Chinese-Filipino American, introduces his Caucasian girlfriend to his overbearing, immigrant parents when a mysterious cosmic force takes hold of their day.

#### YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 98 min

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 9PM

WRITER: Lenny Barszap **DIR:** Aaron Brown PRODS: Lenny Barszap, Aaron Brown CAST: Ryan Cownie, John Karna, Jashawn Lee, Annie Fox, Chau Long, Joe Hart, Annamarie Kasper, Shaun Benson, Jason Veasey,

Zina Wilde, Ryan Woodle, Andrea Rosen, Amy Downing, Samara Gonzalez, Sarah J Bartholomew, Jonathan J Tucker, Rochelle Robinson, Vanessa Gonzalez, Brian Coughlin, Eddy Clinton, Jessica Schwartz, Austin Hyde, Tyler Tipton, Ryan Graves, Dave Buckman, Bill Wise, Rachel Cameron, Isabel Wicker, Jillian Sherman, Jaytyler Ferretti

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

HOME FREE is a Trojan horse, a bold coming-of-age comedy aimed at reaching a mass audience, but also intended to be a catalyst for serious social change sharply focused on one of the most pervasive problems across America—the homelessness epidemic. Humor is our spoonful of sugar.

The film also features a 90's-inspired soundtrack of original music by Grammy Award winner Adrian Quesada (Black Pumas) featuring members of Beastie Boys, Dinosaur Jr, Luscious Jackson, The Pharcyde, Jurassic 5 and many more.

10% of profits from this film will be shared with our non-profit partner, The Other Ones Foundation.

#### NARRATIVE FEATURES







#### 116 E 16TH ST New York, Ny

#### WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 83 min.

SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 5PM

#### **NARRATIVE FEATURES**

#### WRITER/DIR: Ryan Moore PRODS: Ben Whalen, KT Kent, Ryan Moore

CAST: Cheyenne Perez, Grace Kaufman, Emily Hall, David Lengel, Indra Rios-Moore, KT Kent, Amy Begel, Hilty Bowen

A female filmmaker struggling with her career and her mental health reaches a breaking point and decides to kidnap a famous social media influencer in an attempt to coerce them into playing the lead role in her latest project.

#### KATTE'S MOM EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 111 min.

SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 745PM WRITERS: Meryl Branch-McTiernan

& Tyrrell Shaffner DIR: Tyrrell Shaffner

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



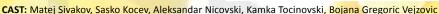
CAST: Dina Meyer, Aaron Dominguez, Julia Tolchin, Colin Bates, Jason Wiles, Shannon Dee, Clara York, Rib Hillis

A heartfelt comedy influenced by THE GRADUATE but told from the perspective of a protagonist inspired by Mrs. Robinson. Set in modern-day Pasadena, California. Nancy Rosenfeld (Dina Meyer (DETECTIVE KNIGHT; STARSHIP TROOPERS, SAW), a nurturing mom and recent divorcée, whose beloved Jewish/Christmas mashup holiday celebration with her adult children is derailed when she falls for Alex Rojas (Aaron Dominguez (Only Murders in the Building), her daughter's charming new boyfriend. Their electrifying affair upends her status quo and sets her on a path to becoming who she was meant to be.

#### M

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere MACEDONIA/CROATIA/KOSOVO/FRANCE/LUXEMBOURG, 2023, 99 min. SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 12PM

WRITERS: Vardan Tozija, Darijan Pejovski DIR: Vardan Tozija PRODS: Darko Popov, Vardan Tozija



In a secluded forest, young Marko lives under the watchful eye of his overprotective and mysterious father. Their sheltered existence is all he knows. Marko seeks solace in his cherished picture book, finding comfort and answers within its pages. One day, an encounter with a kind-hearted, helpless boy named Miko, brings a glimmer of warmth and connection into Marko's isolated world. As his curiosity grows, Marko yearns to uncover the secrets that lie beyond the confines of the wilderness. But, a cruel turn of events grants him his wish sooner than he expects...

VORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 83 min.

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 915PM

WRITER: Louisa Erlich DIR: Michelle Bossy PRODS: Louisa Erlich, Lenny Emery, Christopher Pasi, Michelle Bossy, Terek Ouertani CACTE Jouise Foliake Julia Lengide, Deire Duren, Duff

CAST: Louisa Erlich, Julio Lourido, Baize Buzan, Ruffin Prentiss, Tom Lipinski, Gabriel Rush

When Luca is released from the psychiatric hospital where he and his girlfriend Theodora live, she escapes with him. To remain in control, she takes him to his childhood home, the root of his trauma. Time lapses. Consciousness is distorted. A dead body is discovered. Theodora insists Luca committed the murder in his sleep. Is she telling the truth? A knock on the door suddenly diverts them. Angelica and Jeremy show up, high on acid. Theodora invites them in to test Luca's loyalty. Her jealousy increases to the point of danger. In the end nothing is what it seems. Everyone has darkness inside.



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#### **NARRATIVE FEATURES**

Thank you Dances With Films for selecting BROTHERS

#### HOW ROCK & ROLL TRIUMPHED OVER THE CULT OF SCIENTOLOGY

BROKEN

A full length documentary Directed by Geoff Levin, Produced by Leslie Bates Editor Toi Juan Shannon, Exec Producer Robbie Levin https://www.brothersbroken.com

#### WORLD PREMIERE SUNDAY DECEMBER 3 1:45 PM

"THIS FILM IS GUARANTEED TO LIFT SPIRITS AND CHANGE MINDS."



PAUMPSEST

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | FINLAND, 2022, 109 mir SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 730PM

WRITER/DIR: Hanna Vastinsalo PROD: Cyril Jacob Abraham CAST: Krista Kosonen, Riitta Havukainen, Emma Kilpimaa, Hannele Lauri, Leo Sjöman, Antti Virmavirta



Two elderly roommates are selected for a medical trial that makes them younger. Given a second chance at life, with the memories of their past life intact, they realize that growing young is not just fun.

SPACE BABY EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 99 min.

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 430PM



WRITER/DIR: Rex Dean PRODS: Rex Dean, Karyn Dean, Jamie Leutz, Carol Patton, Denise Skinner

CAST: Charles Brown, Sam Dean, Sophia Dean, Will Dean, Peter Wolf, Nancy Sirois, Andrea Kooharian, Joan Tolentino-Dunton

Searching for the unifying theory of everything, young Sam (aka "Mental Man") is given the blueprint for the Holy Grail, a walkie-talkie to the Universe. With help from his neighbor Blue Genes (a great ballplayer retired from the Negro Leagues), his 6-year-old sister Sophia ("Nature Girl"), and her squadron of ladybug fighter pilots, the forces of good must stand up to their bumbling nemesis, Nurse Nancy and a talking crow. Will Sam rebuild the Holy Grail and solve the riddle of the Universe in time to get a new soul for the earth? For fans of Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey, SPACE BABY is a lighthearted spiritual sci-fi adventure, a celebration of childhood innocence, imagination and courage for children of all ages.

#### TAUYWACKETZ WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 90 min.

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 4PM

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 2 bandmates whose relationship gets tested when one of them gets a gig touring with a major rock star.

#### THE ZOMBIE WEDDING

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 7PM

WRITER: Greg D'Alessandro DIR: Micah Khan EXEC PRODS: Grace Lovret, Robert Dragotta, Jijo Reed, John Harris, J. Todd Harris, John Fahy

PRODS: Greg D'Alessandro. Producers: Joe Corcoran, Maria Capp, Sue Wolf, Jeff Mazzola CAST: Cheri Oteri, Siobhan Fallon Hogan, Seth Gilliam, Kevin Chamberlin, Micky Dolenz, Vincent Pastore, Heather Matarazzo, Christine Spang, Deepti Menon, Donald Chang, Mu-Shaka Benson, Krystina Alabado, Katie Kuang, Jay De Yonker, Lawrence James, Julian Mazzola, Jueine Pallotta, Maya Knell, Anthony Arrigo, John Mac Schnurr, Sam Gipple, Ajay Naidu and Raffaela Capp

A young Cumberland County, NJ couple decides to go through with their wedding – during the Zombie Apocalypse. Unfortunately, he's a zombie and she's not. Both families are fearful, but the humans' behavior is brutish. When the Zombies begin feeling brain-deprived, the ceremony takes a turn for the weird. Weekly World News reporters are there to cover this wild wedding – while trying to get out alive!

DISTRICTOFSECONDCHANCES.COM



A comedic tale of life in the pursuit of happiness



#### SATURDAY, DEC 2 at 2:45PM





#### CREATED BY DANA MARISA SCHOENFELD

DANA MARISA SCHOENFELD JUSTIM JOLIE CURTSINGER & DANA MARISA SCHOENFELD JOLIE CURTSINGER NATALIE ROY STEPHANIE WEPPLER JEANINE BARTEL JEN RUDOLPH GUYVIAUD JOSEPH J.J. GONZALEZ

#### MAIN SEQUENCE ENTERTAINMENT



#### **44 LIGHTS:** Music from Ground Zero

WORLD Premiere | USA. 2023. 68 min. SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 1130AM

WRITERS: Tim and Barbara Tuttle DIR: Barbara Blackburn Tuttle PRODS: Joe Romeo, David Wakefield, Jeff Tuttle, Anne Blackburn

FEATURING: Tim Tuttle, Barbara Tuttle, Joe Romeo, Rich Lamb, Jeremy Slansky

A musical journey to healing in the aftermath of 9/11. A story of pain, loss, and ultimately rebirth through music.

#### **AMERICAN POT STORY:** Oaksterdam

NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 97 min.

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 415PM

WRITER: Dan Katzir DIRS: Dan Katzir and Ravit Markus **PROD:** Ravit Markus

FEATURING: Dale Sky Jones, Richard Lee, Jeff Jones, CA Governor Gavin Newsom, CA Congresswoman Barbara Lee, David Downs, Salwa Ibrahim, Kat Murti, Oakland Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan, Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf, Diane Goldstein, Neill Franklin, Kyle Kazan, Stephen Downing, Mikki Norris, Chris Conrad

What is the cost of being a rebel in the 21st century? The story of the infamous Oaksterdam -America's first underground marijuana university, one of the most wanted organizations in the country, since it became a Mecca for cannabis activists from all around the world. An inspiring award-winning documentary shot over 10 years. "A must-watch for every American." (Film Threat Movie Guide).

#### **BROTHERS BROKEN**

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 86 min.

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 1115AM



WRITER: Nathan Illsley **DIRS:** Geoff Levin. Lilv Richards **PROD:** Leslie Bates

FEATURING: Rick Springfield, Mike Rinder, Tony Ortega, Geoff Levin, Robbie Levin, Janis Gillham, Grady, Geoffrey Lewis, Bruce Chianese, Vickie Speers, Richard Hirsh, Max Levin, Calliway Levin

This is the story of brothers Geoff and Robbie Levin, separated for 28 years by Scientology's practice of "disconnection". The brother's rock group PEOPLE! had the hit record "I Love You" in 1968 and toured with The Who. Then Scientology entered their lives and destroyed their band. Years later the church split up the brothers when Robbie decided to leave the cult. After 46 years Geoff despite losing his children and friends left the faux church and reunited with his brother and band. It's a tale of breaking free from a modern day prison of belief.

#### **DENIM HUNTER**

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | SWEDEN, 2023, 87 min.

SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 1PM

WRITERS: Emilio Di Stefano, Paolo Iskra, Fabian Sigurd **DIR:** Emilio Di Stefano PRODS: Paul Blomgren, Daniéla Frykstrand (AP) **FEATURING:** Viktor Fredbäck



In road movie documentary DENIM HUNTER, we meet Viktor – a regular guy from Sweden but with a burning passion for really old jeans.

The film follows Viktor on his wild journey through the deserts of California, Arizona, Nevada as well as up the snowclad Rocky Mountains of Colorado, where he hunts for denim treasures in hazardous run-down gold mines from the 1880's.

On his journey Viktor comes across an array of unificely descret characters, and Dynamite Dan, and Redneck-Mike. In various ways they all lead Viktor from one failure to the next. On his journey Viktor comes across an array of unlikely desert characters, like Indiana Jeans,

#### DOCUMENTARY FEATURES







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LUCKIEST GIRL ALIVE DONOR PARTY BED REST MACK & RITA SPIN ME ROUND CLERKS III GOD'S COUNTRY SEE HOW THEY RUN MEET CUTE SIDNEY EMILY THE CRIMINAL THE GREATEST BEER RUN EVER THE GOOD HOUSE THE REDEEM TEAM LOUIS ARMSTRONG'S BLACK & BLUES AMSTERDAM

#### THE DEPTHS FAST COAST Pr

ere | USA. 2023. 68 min SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 245PM

#### DIR: Elizabeth Lawrence **PRODS:** Elizabeth Lawrence, Andrew Ford

FEATURING: Elizabeth Lawrence, Joan Darling

"The Depths of My Despair" is a visceral rabbit hole toward the authentic self. Filmmaker Elizabeth Lawrence takes an emotional, first-person detour inward. Oscillating through saneness and psychosis; debris and lucidity, the film stares at depression dead-on.

#### **DISTRICT OF** SECOND CHANCES

WORLD Premiere | USA. 2023. 77 min

#### SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 145PM

WRITER/PROD: Wynette Yao **DIRS:** Wynette Yao, Travis Edwards

Pete, Gene, Colie. Each man experienced a violent youth and was convicted of murder in the shadow of the U.S. Capitol. Decades later, will our justice system give them a second chance at life?

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 86 min.

**DIR:** Grant Garry **PRODS:** Stacy Roque, Lisa Kauls & Sharolyn Schmiederer **DP/EDITOR:** James Slaven

FEATURING: Anthony Rapp, David Kessler, Cy O'Neal, Ron Marasco, John Farley, Julie Shaw, Donna Schuurman, Lisa Kauls, Ken Ithiphol, Jana DeCristofaro, and Mike Reynolds.

Winner of the Audience Award for Best Documentary at DWF:LA, Meet Me Where I Am explores the topic of grief through individual stories of loss, love, and hope. The film aims to normalize grief in our culture and explores how we can actively participate in helping others through grief. By accepting grief and its impact, we hope to help individuals find new meaning as they move forward with their grief.

#### **STUDIO ONE FOREVER**

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 96 min.

WRITER/DIR: Marc Saltarelli PRODS: Stephen Israel, Michael Alden, Alan Eichler, Gary Carnow, Michael Roth, John Duran, Lloyd Coleman, Gary Steinberg, Chris Isaacson, Steve Saltarelli, Steve Masterson, Loree Gold



FEATURING: Chita Rivera, Bruce Vilanch, Thelma Houston, Lance Bass, Charlo Crossley, Jule Budd, Melissa Rivers, Roslyn Kind, Sam Harris, Feliipe Rose

The untold story of America's iconic gay disco, a kaleidoscopic excursion into LGBTQ+ history through the lens of this groundbreaking club. From 1974-1994, Studio One and its adjoining live music venue, The Backlot, became symbols of hope and community for gay men during tumultuous times. Amidst the rise of gay rights, disco's heyday, and the devastating AIDS crisis, the club offered sanctuary from rampant homophobia and police oppression.

#### **TORCHED - THE STORY** OF AUSTIN TORCH

NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 66 min. SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 515PM

WRITER/DIR: Hoag Kepner PRODS: Philip Lee, Kim Walker, Steffan Stroud, Mark Udis, Taylor Lukof FEATURING: Cara Crouch, Annie Ortiz, Rachel Yeager, Dre Esparza, Jamie Estes, Elise Bjork, Bonesaw Kepner



#### **MEET ME WHERE I AM**

SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 515PM

SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 10PM





#### DOCUMENTARY FEATURES



Torched tells the story of the Austin Torch, a wild and fiery group of women/non-binary athletes in Austin who are trying to legitimize and professionalize their fringe sport of Ultimate Frisbee in a historically male-dominated sports industry. As we follow the Torch on the road and at home during their 2022 season, we come to realize that though the Torch might not always win, they

somehow never really lose, because it's more than a team; it's a movement.



The discovery of confiscated driver's licenses from 1938 leads a small German town to face its past.

## 13 DRIVER'S LICENSES







121 University Place NYC 10003



## THE ACTIVATED MAN

#### Closing Night! SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 @ 9.30PM

19

WORLD PREMIERE | USA, 2023, 115 min.

WRITER/DIR: Nicholas Gyeney PRODS: Nicholas Gyeney, Kelsey Aho CAST: Tony Todd, Kane Hodder, Sean Young, Andrew Keegan, Sab Shimono, Vladimir Kulich, Sonia Jackson, Jamie Costa, Ivana Rojas, Scott Brown

As Ors Gabriel struggles with the grief from losing his best friend and beloved dog to cancer, the trauma brings on strange visions only Ors can see. While he questions whether his mind has fractured or if it's actually real, a mysterious rise in murdersuicides takes hold of the city, and Ors becomes haunted by images of a shadowy figure known as 'The Fedora Man'. Through torments and terror, Ors must face his fears and confront 'The Fedora Man' as he uncovers dark secrets from his past, while finally embracing who he really is, and what he is meant to do.

#### DOC SHORTS GRP 1 SCREENING: THU NOV 30 @ 1PM



FAMILY TTELP WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 26 min.

**DIR:** Sean Dunne PRODS: Cass Greener, Jacob Motz, Nate Houghteling, Sean Dunne

Family Trip follows a single family as they embark on a psychedelic trip together, featuring an expert psychedelic facilitator to help guide them safely through the therapy. By exploring the challenges the family faces, we see just how high the stakes are and how impossible it seems for them to break through and come together.



FINDING FATE NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 27.5 min.

DIR/PROD: Beth Toni Kruvant

Following the lives of three powerful mothers in Poland, 2022 and their quest to be strong for their families and help others struggling under the shadow of war in Ukraine. Nastia, a Ukrainian refugee, with her five-year-old daughter battles to find a new "normal" as she vows to keep her child safe. Anna, a Polish mother shelters a Ukrainian mother with nowhere to go. And finally. Marzena, a Jewish, Polish, single mother, who's entire family was murdered by the Nazis. She sees the plight of her Jewish ancestors as occurring once again. Maybe this time, she can help them survive.



#### HOW ROU WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 13 min.

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

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





WRITER/DIR/PROD: Jessica Pons EDITOR: Chelsea Bond Stuart MUSIC COMPOSER: Jack Lipson

A daughter grieves the memories of her father through their shared love for making paper boats.



TRACING IMPERFECTION WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 8 min

DIR: Chehade Boulos PRODS: Chehade Boulos, Joshua Powel

As master conservator Naoko Fukumaru demonstrates kintsugi, the Japanese art of repairing pottery using gold, she recalls how learning the practice has taught her to embrace her own imperfections as it's mended her own life.

### DOC SHORTS GRP 2 SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 12:15PM

## I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING BUT LOVE: THE JIMMY MCHUGH STOTZY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 33 min



WRITER/DIR: Susan Morgan Cooper PRODS: Susan Morgan Cooper and Lee Newman

FEATURING: Johnny Mathis, Michael Feinstein, Lady Gaga, Tony Bennet, Billie Eilish, Laurence Juber, Lee Newman

An aspiring singer is tasked with promoting the music catalogue of his great-grandfather, the famous songwriter Jimmy McHugh, recorded by everyone from Sinatra to Lady Gaga. While licensing these songs for movies, commercials, TV and Broadway shows, the singer journeys through the magic of his great-grandfather's stellar career.

#### KIZISTIN DAN KUCHING-KUCHINGNYA

EAST COAST Premiere | SINGAPORE, 2023, 6 min.

**DIR/PROD:** Michael Kam FEATURING: Saad Bin Ismail

Shunned by her family, a 60-year-old trans woman seeks solace and balance between her faith, her identity and her beloved cats.



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 40 min.



DIR: Carin van der Donk, Isabella Vega, Sarah Teale PRODS: Carin van der Donk, Sarah Teale

In 2016 Stacy Kovacs formed Fogo Azul, a women and non-binary samba reggae band, with 15 drummers. By 2020 they had 110 members, forming a loud leadership at marches, including the Dyke March and the Women's March.

In February, 2020 44 members of Fogo Azul traveled to Brazil to learn from Banda Didà, the all-Black, all female samba reggae drumming group, run by the pioneer Adriana Portela. Our documentary profiles a few of the people who form Fogo Azul and Banda Didà.

We explore the power of drumming to transform lives, and to empower women in Brazil and the USA.



#### THE DANCETZ: THE BEAUTIFUL AND TIZAGIC LIFE OF GETZATZD ALEXANDETZ

NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 35 min

WRITER: Matt Kempner DIRS: Ryon Horne and Tyson Horne PRODS: Ryon Horne, Tyson Horne, Sandra Brown, Matt Kempner FEATURING: Viktor Fredbäck



The Atlanta Journal-Constitution presents the compelling short documentary "The Dancer," about Gerard Alexander, a professional modern and ballet dancer who ended up homeless in Atlanta.

### DOC SHORTS GRP 3 (CONT) SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 3PM



#### REBUZIH

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 10.5 min.

**DIR/PROD:** Olivia Burgess FEATURING: Alexandra Jacob

An avant-garde ballerina reflects on how pregnancy has healed past trauma and given new strength to her being. As she dances freely through the streets of Brooklyn, she gives appreciation to her body and the child it now carries. With vivid visuals through a black and white lens we hear the frank voiceover of her sharing her thoughts.



#### REVEALING THE INVISIBLE

WORLD Premiere | CANADA, 2023, 28.5 min

WRITER: Tony Chong DIRS/PRODS: Tony Chong and Marlene Millar FEATURING: Tony Chong, Oceane Usher, Ann Usher

Revealing the Invisible, weaves and dances through the telling of a Chinese Canadian family's story an imaginative jigsaw puzzle crossing between reality, fiction and fantasy with larger-than-life heroic characters. Creating a fractal kaleidoscope with dance as a portal that leads us to other dimensions of time, jumping in and out of a non-linear journey into the past and back to the present.

#### **DOC SHORTS GRP 4**

SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 11AM

#### 13 DIZIVETZ'S LICENSES

NEW YORK Premiere | USA/GERMANY, 2022, 27 min.

WRITERS: Peter Frumkin, Elisabeth Gareis, Ryoya Terao **DIR:** Ryoya Terao **PRODS:** Vinit Parmar, Elisabeth Gareis



The discovery of 13 confiscated driver's licenses from 1938 leads a small German town to face it's regrettable past. With no other clue but those licenses, a group of high-school students with their tenacious teacher research the fates of 13 Jewish driver's license holders. A year later, an unexpected turn takes place. The modern-day Germans and some of the Jewish descendants from overseas gather in "their hometown," and a fortuitous friendship begins.

#### BIZOTHETZS FOTZ LIFE

WORLD Premiere | ISRAEL, 2023, 17 min.

#### WRITER/DIR: Alon Juwal

PRODS: Alon Juwal, Amit Hay Ben Shlomo, Elhanan Oren FEATURING: Nir Reichert, Or Eilon, Hagai Zadok

Three IDF veterans embark on a breathtaking journey to the Langtang Valley of Nepal in an attempt to heal wounds and find peace.

## THIS IS WHY WE TTZAIN - THE SEA GHZT BEACH PATTZOL EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 19.5 min.





**DIR:** Kevin Nulty PRODS: Sean Bell, Kevin Nulty, Tim Harmon, Paul Bouchard

A gripping documentary short recalling a July 4th, 2021 incident. Surfer Paul Bouchard's life changed dramatically that day when his surfboard accident caused a neck injury. Bystanders and the vigilant lifeguards rushed to his aid, showcasing heroism. With astonishing GoPro, worn by the victim, and police body cam footage, the film offers a front-row view of their courage and teamwork. It's a testament to the lifeguard's dedication, illustrating that their training is not merely a job, but a calling to safeguard their community.

#### WHETZE IS AMETZICA THE BEAUTIFUL?

WRITER: Frederick Taylor **DIR:** Fr3deR1cK **EXEC PROD:** Ellen Barnard **PROD:** Frederick Taylor



Part documentary and part cinematic art, this beautiful film searches for America through real story, music and spoken word. Inspired from the black and white era of 20th century filmmaking and 1970's NYC art installation movement, director Fr3deR1cK takes you on a journey of why are we here and why we are all Americans?



## ica judges

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



**STEVEN BEER** – Esq -Partner, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP



ERIQ LASALLE – Actor, Director, Writer, Producer, Novelist



SHAYNA MARKOWITZ – Casting Director



GABI EBRON - Homegrown Films, Director of Development



**VALERIE MCCAFFREY** - Casting Director, Producer, Writer, Director



**CARYLANNA TAYLOR** - Manager of Sales & Acquisitions, The Film Sales Company





PROTECT

YOURSELF

WITH LIGHT

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CONTRACTOR OF CO









#### Spirits crushed. Hopes dashed. What's a small fry have to do to win the big race? Murder?

Sunday Dec. 3rd, 1:30pm Support the effort to turn the short into a feature length series

#### The 1971 Kitchen Grand Brie



# <section-header>

WRITER/DIR: Nicholas Gyeney PRODS: Nicholas Gyeney, Kelsey Aho CAST: Tony Todd, Kane Hodder, Sean Young, Andrew Keegan, Sab Shimono, Vladimir Kulich, Sonia Jackson, Jamie Costa, Ivana Rojas, Scott Brown

As Ors Gabriel struggles with the grief from losing his best friend and beloved dog to cancer, the trauma brings on strange visions only Ors can see. While he questions whether his mind has fractured or if it's actually real, a mysterious rise in murder-suicides takes hold of the city, and Ors becomes haunted by images of a shadowy figure known as 'The Fedora Man'. Through torments and terror, Ors must face his fears and confront 'The Fedora Man' as he uncovers dark secrets from his past, while finally embracing who he really is, and what he is meant to do.

#### SHERYL WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 71 min.

SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 10:15PM

WRITER/DIR: Justin Best PRODS: Justin Best, Anthea Neri-Best CAST: Anthea Neri-Best, Shaan Sharma, Christopher Cendana, Chelsea Spirito, Jade Ramirez, Adam Bussell, Alessandra Marandola, Phillip Cole White, Cedric Houle, Elise Robertson, Joseph Ruud

After she's dumped by her serial killer boyfriend for not being "hot enough", a beauty-obsessed woman goes on a bloody quest to create the perfect face, all while navigating her new relationship with the cop investigating the murders.

#### WILD EYED AND WICKED

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 99 min.

SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 10:30PM

WRITER/DIR: G.S. Foxwood PRODS: Patrick R Young, Powell Robinson CAST: Molly Kunz, Michael X. Sommers, Stefanie Estes, Colleen Camp, Claire Saunders

Lily Pierce is sick of being haunted. She decides to reconnect with her estranged father, a disgraced history professor, and learn how to draw upon a time of steel and blade when armor-clad knights rode out and dueled their monsters to the death.



#### MIDNIGHT SHORTS 1 SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 10:30PM

#### BASTARD

WORLD Premiere | USA. 2023. 14 min.

WRITER: Haley Elise Pehrson DIRS/PRODS: Haley Elise Pehrson, Gretta Wilson CAST: Nancy McArthur, Armando Rivera, Tru Hawkins

A disgraced knight attempts to rob a grave protected by a wily young woman who wrestles with the horrifying truth of what lies inside.

#### D.O.D.

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2022, 18 min.

WRITER/DIR: Paul Davis PRODS: Paul Davis, Gina Lombardo, Eric Dern CAST: Joseph Lake Guffey, Paul Davis, A.J. Moorehead

Two survivors of the zombie apocalypse stumble across the remains of a demolished 747. They search the wreckage for supplies, but neither are prepared for what they finda mysterious horror that changes their lives forever.



#### **DEDLY WAGONS** WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Martin Balaguer

CAST: Martin Balaguer, Emily Dahlke, Leeann Kerst Davidson, Chris Grilli, Pedro Balaguer, Esther Cammi, James Davidson, Agustin Balaguer, Dayna Michelle Kurtz, Dave Eastwood, Megan O'Leary, Jerry Dahlke, Darcy Dahlke, Megan Balaguer, Josefina Glass, Gabe Glass, Xavier Rodney

A parody commercial for an Oregon Trail Wagon service.

#### GOOD GIRLS GET FED EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 20.5 min.

WRITERS: Kelly Lou Dennis, Kayla Klein, Sarah Rebottaro DIR: Kelly Lou Dennis

PRODS: Shannon Elizabeth Clark, Beck Williams, Kelly Lou Dennis, Mikail Chowdhury, Jamie Ohlsen CAST: Kelly Lou Dennis, Kayla Klein, Paula Velasquez, Ryan Vincent, Kenny Johnston, Allison Wise, Nate Thomas, Roma Scarano,

Carolyn Alise, Julia Rose Barnett, Chad Willoughby, Aidan Carroll

Trapped in a windowless room, three desperate women perform objectifying, misogynistic challenges for a surveillance camera. If they complete a challenge, they're rewarded with food. If they fail, they go hungry. As resilience cracks and tensions rise, they hatch a shaky escape plan... but they'll have to work together. And they're only going to get one shot.



MATTRESS EXPRESS NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 17.5 min.

WRITERS: Noah Morse, Dylan Trupiano, Nir Liebenthal

DIR: Noah Morse PRODS: Talia Light Rake, Page Brady, Dylan Trupiano,

Noah Morse CAST: Isabella Tagliati, Nir Liebenthal, Jeremy Roth-Rose, Lloyd Morse, Carol Drewes, Bob Gallagher

After twins Ben and Rosie botch their only chance to pull their childhood home out of foreclosure, their night spirals out

of control.

#### PEE PEE PLATTER

USA, 2023, 11 min.

WRITERS/DIR: Jon Conklin PRODS: Jeremy Koenig, Johnny Komar, W. Ian Ross CAST: A.J. Urias, Sarah Wisser, Jess Kellner, Robert Wilde, T.L. Flint

Pete is nearly 30 years old and still working as a waiter in his hometown. His life takes a sharp turn when his love interest, Maria, shows up with Greg, the very bully who traumatized him in high school. Pete's lingering humiliation from a locker room incident where Greg publicly humiliated him fuels a vengeful plot.

#### THE SPIRIT BECAME FLESH

NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 17.5 min.

WRITERS/DIR: Jesse Aultman PRODS: Bryce Ferendo, Robin Wang and Angus Yates CAST: Christopher Dietrick, Chloe Baldwin, Anthony Gaeta, Bries Vannon

An unbeliever returns to his old religious community, only to find that they have fallen prey to a sinister monster that they believe is the Holy Spirit of God.

SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 10:15PM MIDNIGHT SHORTS 2





1 Same



WRITER: Mike Powell DIR: Colin J. Mason PRODS: Colin J. Mason, Mike Powell

CAST: Taylor Alden, Maggie Gough, Joshua Michael Payne, Baakari Wilder, Bria Roberts

On Halloween night, two young women leave a party to venture into the woods in search of their friend, who has mysteriously disappeared. They stumble on a vast ruined building that shouldn't be there – when they go inside, they soon realize that they shouldn't be there either.



WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 13.5 min. WRITER/DIR/PROD: David Grace CAST: Mor Cohen

When a devout Jewish woman begins her Friday night Shabbat ceremony, a demonic presence will do whatever it takes to have her break with tradition.



#### INNER DEMONS

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 11 min. WRITER/DIR: Jasmine J, Johnson EXEC PRODS: Whitney Fuller, Jasmine J. Johnson PROD: Mary Bonney CAST: Ariel Brown, Tamiah Bantum, Jasmine Ashanti Mya prepares to fight the horrors lurking within.



WRITER/DIR: Wylie Rush PRODS: Wylie Rush, Shannon Balazs, Bryon Evans CAST: Gia Ochsenbein, Darius Devine, Aaron Foster, Jessie Gill

This girl's got a kink for necks. Better pop your collar.





WRITER/DIR: Cameron A. Tubbs PRODS: K. Bevin Ayers, Cameron A. Tubbs CAST: Jonathan Brugioni, Cameron A. Tubbs

Eccentric collector of the occult Dr Jacoby invites his colleague Barlow to discuss an artifact that is connected to a string of murdersuicides. As the night goes on, we begin to learn Jacoby has ulterior motives - as does Barlow himself. The two men are forced to confront their dark natures and gaze deep into their very souls.



#### NIGHT SHIFT

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 28 min.

WRITERS: Karlee Boon, Shade Standard DIR: Karlee Boon PRODS: Karlee Boon, Mikyla Bordner, Mckinzie Smith CAST: Marlowe Eduvijes Ostara, Chynna Rae Shurts, Eddie Lee Wollrabe

After a mysterious late-night animal attack, a teenage waitress undergoes a strange transformation that forces her to confront her anxieties around growing up and break free from her suffocating small-town life once and for all.





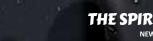
#### SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 10:30PM MIDNIGHT SHORTS 1

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## I Can't Give You Anything But Love

The Jimmy McHugh Story

December 2nd, 2023 12:15 PM The Regal Theatre New York City

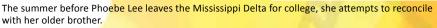
> "The film strikes all the right chords!" –Broadway World

Morgan Cooper Productions Heads "I Can't Give You Anything But Love" Renard IV Jimmy McHugh Eductor Bipasha Shom Recent of Perspective Alexandra Cooper Housed IV Susan Morgan Cooper & Lee Newman Recently Susan Morgan Cooper

#### SHORTS BLK 1

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jing Ai Ng PRODS: Sandra Tan & Graham Raubvogel CAST: Zoe Lam, Sean Choi, Ryan Curley, Alyssa Latson and Pedar Garred



ENTTRAINMENT T COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 10 min.

WRITER/DIR: Bill Prokopow PRODS: Bill Prokopow, Luca Malacrino CAST: Luca Malacrino, Christina Higa, Caitlin Morris, Herf Yamaya

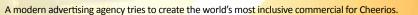


Trapped in a fractured quantum realm, a broken nightclub owner fights to regain his memory in order to save himself, and the love of his life.

INTETZIZACIAL COUPLE IN A CHEETZIOS AD NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 4 min.

WRITER: Yuriy Mikhalevskiy, David Roth DIR: Christine Lakin

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





Woltz Heinere Forkabe, 222, 22 initial WRITER/DIR: Ravi Steve Khajuria PRODS: Colin Glazer, Ravi Steve Khajuria, Michael Jari Davidson CAST: Raven Dauda, Alexander Elliot

A pediatric oncologist and her terminal teenage patient attempt to fit a lifetime of experiences into a single day.

#### SANE MEN USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITERS: Jess Fritz, Krista Nave DIR: Jess Fritz PRODS: Stephanie Bell, Michael Lipoma, Jess Fritz, Corinne Jayaweera CAST: Aleis Work, Sarah Rose Harper, Jason Brown, Jody Booth



Two polar opposite sisters have only one thing in common: a united front against their mother's criminal boyfriends. But when Mom brings home a recently released wife killer, new doubts arise. Is he innocent or guilty, and will the sisters be ripped apart...or bonded forever?

THIZEE WAYS OUT

WRITER: Zachary Freier-Harrison DIR: Lizzie Morgan PRODS: Jessie Jennison, Zachary Freier-Harrison CAST: Eddie Carroll, Sinclair Daniel, Zachary Freier-Harrison, Kiarra Hamagami Goldberg, Jessie Jennison, Lim Mui, Grace Rao

When Mira and Jules reveal their best friend Claire's affair with a professor, Claire drives off in a drunken rage and fatally crashes her car. Years later, at the opening party for Mira's play dramatizing the events leading up to Claire's death, Jules reveals her version of the truth.









TIPS UPI WORLD 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

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.

#### **SHORTS BLK 2** SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 2:30PM

BLOODWORM WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 13 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kai Wen **PRODS:** Shuyin Zheng, Zing Chen CAST: David Zaldivar, Dan Berkey, Evan Feist

Blood, money, and a second chance converge on a meek Drifter's life after he finds a corpse in a suit, complete with wallet and keys.



BURRACO /ORLD Premiere | ITALY, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Isabella Tagliati CAST: Isabella Tagliati, Wanda Morando

When Wanda's American granddaughter comes to stay with her in suburban Rome, she seeks to close a generational divide and satisfy an unanswered desire for closeness before the summer ends.



#### HEOL

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 18.5 min. WRITER/DIR: Yeajoon Cho **PRODS:** Becca Suh-Hee Han, Da Eun Kim, Chelsea Patricia Ramírez CAST: Daniel J. Kim, Sean Yoon, Branden Lee and Flora Hwang

A Korean American son returns to his estranged father's home bearing news that he'll be conscripting the way he thinks his father would've wanted – only for him to discover his father's objection and late stage leukemia.



CHUTZCH CAMP

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

Josh, a gawky camp counselor who puts the bi in Bible Camp, teeters on the edge of coming out to the entire camp.

#### KEVELATION

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15.5 min

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

Veteran Detective Rachelle Cippolletti (Michelle Mazza) has recently lost her daughter to a rare brain cancer DIPG. Upon returning to work, Rachelle is faced with a case that will test how ready she is to return to the force.When she discovers that her closeted partner Detective Anthony Vello secretly limelight's as a drag queen, the duo bonds over their hidden truths that will ultimately change how Rachelle views her career for the better.

You NEED TO PTZOCESS THIS EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: Eleanor Morrison PRODS: Eleanor Morrison, Colin Hudock **CAST:** Mary Holland, Matt Peters

A married couple discusses a sexual assault



#### **SHORTS BLK 3** SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 3PM

BISECTED

WRITER/DIR: Danny Piñeros PRODS: Mateo Vergara, Enrique Mendoza, Danny Piñeros CAST: Robin Zamora, Natalie Polisson, JC Smith

A couple witnesses a paranormal event that separates them into two distinct dimensions.

#### CHAUNCEY

niere | USA 2023 10 5 r

WRITERS/DIRS: Reilly Anspaugh & Daniel Rashid PRODS: Reilly Anspaugh, Daniel Rashid, Elizabeth Valenti CAST: Reilly Anspaugh, Daniel Rashid, Doug Tompos, Miya Kodama

Zoe is afraid to introduce her new boyfriend to her old stuffed animal, Chauncey.

#### /ETO>

WRITER: Wes Hopper DIR: Alex Hanno PRODS: Wes Hopper, Alex Hanno CAST: Caitlin Morris, Bill Prokopow

While away on a technology detox in the northern reaches of Maine, an impressionable social media addict becomes the target of an unexpected visitor.

#### KHATZISH / ITCH

WRITER/DIR: Mohammad Anwerzada PRODS: Ali Mashayekhi, Mohammad Anwerzada **CAST:** Shabana Hassan

A woman on a bus full of people needs to relieve an itch.





#### SHORTS BLK 3 (Con't) SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 3PM



#### NEWBIE EAST COAST Premiere | UK, 2022, 8 min.

WRITERS: James Skinner, Christopher Marchant DIR: James Skinner PRODS: Premila Puri, James Skinner CAST: Jack Carroll, Stephanie Levi-John, Alexander Garcia, Louis Gaughan-Reed, Noor Borhanjoo, Sabastian Wilson

On his first day at a new school, novice teacher Mike is worried the children won't be able to see past his disability but soon realizes that he too has lessons to learn.



#### RED, WHITE AND BLUE

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 22.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Nazrin Choudhury PRODS: Nazrin Choudhury, Sara McFarlane CAST: Brittany Snow, Juliet Donenfeld, Redding Munsell, Mo Collins, Jud Tylor

Rachel, a single parent in a precarious position, is forced to cross state lines in search of an urgent and necessary abortion. As we learn more about Rachel and the series of events that led to this journey, we learn a heartbreaking truth which means her life will never be the same again.



#### SPEAK UP BROTHA! NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITERS: Roderick Lawrence, Obbie West, James J. Johnson **DIR:** Wes Andre Goodrich EXEC PRODS: Ron Gillyard, Will Campbell, Ike Mbanefo, Obbie West, Cameron Carr

PRODS: Salma Qarnain, Roderick Lawrence

CAST: Roderick Lawrence, Toni Lachelle Pollitt, Madeline Grey DeFreece, Alphonso Walker Jr., Justin Winley, Jaleeca Yancy, and featuring Terrence 'T.C.' Carson

Grad student Ahmad Jones drives for a rideshare company. He receives a request from a mysterious woman — a poet. They connect over music, but she seems to ignore him. When the opportunity arises to see her again, Ahmad must learn how to communicate in ways beyond his understanding to win her heart.

#### **SHORTS BLK 4** SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 5PM



#PIZZAGATE NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 6 min.

DIR: Stuart Valberg PROD: Brandon Lescure CAST: lan Hayes

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



#### BOUNCE HOUSE

NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 15.5 min.

WRITERS/DIRS: Callie Bloem, Christopher Ewing PRODS: Callie Bloem, Christopher Ewing, Sean Patrick Kelly CAST: Jade Kaiser, Eilise Patton

Civilization has ended. Everyone Polly loves is dead. But at least she has a bounce house.



DEATZ OWNETZ EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 16.5 min

WRITER: Marc Paykuss DIR: Jonathan T. Coleman PRODS: Karis Danish CAST: Karis Danish, Juan Javier Cardenas, Marianna Houston

When a young married couple meet the owner of the home they hope to buy, they soon learn the meaning of the phrase "Buyer Beware."

#### SHORTS BLK 4 (CONT) SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 5PM

ROPPING EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 9.5 min



WRITER: Anna Klassen DIR: RJ Collins PRODS: Ryan Huffman, Katie Sarrels, Jami Arceo, Nicole Jordan Webber, John Trefry, RJ Collins, Anna Klassen CAST: Mia Threapleton, Reign Edwards, Devin Druid, Anthony Norman, Drew Scheid

Thrust right into the Dropping, we follow Nora as she orients around this ritual for which her stepbrother Bram and his friends have done immense training. Upon calling her estranged father to express concerns, he assures her everything will be fine, but after Nora wakes up with a bloody forehead and nearly slides off a cliff, was her father telling the truth?



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.

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Merle Dandridge **PRODS:** Merle Dandridge, Hunter Arnold, Shane Osgood, Tyler Newhouse CAST: Merle Dandridge, Isaac Powell



On the anniversary of a tremendous tragedy, one woman chooses hope again. In her journey to living, she comes out of the quiet.

PIZETTY AS A PICTURE WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 8 min.



WRITER/DIR: Ryan Nielsen **PRODS:** Ari Wojciech, Ryan Nielsen **CAST:** Claire Manning, Garrett Pominville, Mike Danner

A young model becomes the focus of a mysterious photographer who will do anything for the perfect image.

#### USED CHAITZ FOTZ SALE WORLD Premiere | CANADA/USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Dylan Paffe **PRODS:** Dylan Paffe, Nicole Bushong CAST: Kate Krieger, Nicole McCullough



When a woman posts a "used furniture" ad, an eerily similar version of her younger self shows up at the door.



#### BUGHT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min

WRITERS: Markus Hoeckner, Barkhad Abdirahman DIR: Markus Hoeckner PROD: Mario Howard CO-PRODS: Aaron Huber, Mahamed Salad CAST: Mahamed Salad, Barkhad Abdirahman, Vienna Howard



Amidst a global exodus from earth, two brothers must confront their differences about leaving

VETZYTHING GOES DATZK ATIONAL Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min

WRITERS: Alex Casimir and Mackenzie Chang Russell **DIR:** Alex Casimir PRODS: Lexi Notrica and Mackenzie Chang Russell



Beauty, language, and fragility. A Black high school student prepares to take her senior yearbook photo when insecurities and a tense friendship push her towards a difficult breaking point.

#### I KEEP BUMPING WTO ANDY MALDONADO miere I USA 2023 11 mi

WRITER/DIR: Luke Black PRODS: Ali Mashayekhi, Gillian Fortin, Maryam Remtulla CAST: Samba Schutte, Candy Maldonado, Tennille Read



After a chance meeting with his childhood hero, a man's euphoria over the encounter turns into an existential crisis as he continues bumping into the former major league baseball player everywhere he goes.

THE INVADETES

WRITER/DIR: Erin Doyle Cooper EXEC PRODS: Allison Tolman, Erin Doyle Cooper, Hilary Walker, James P. Stephens PROD: Briana Goldberg ASSOC PRODS: Will Cooper, Angela Cristantello CAST: Christy St. John, Lorelei Olivia Mote, Claudia Elmore, Will Cooper, Simon Haycock

A pregnant pioneer woman and her family meet a supernatural fate after breaking from their wagon train to California and ignoring a series of ominous dreams.

EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 20 min.

WRITER/DIR: Jay Zaretsky



PRODS: Lauren Bates, Sam Cohan, Jay Zaretsky, Amber Sellers, Chris Bottoms CAST: Paddy Wilkins, George Cantero, Irlyan Mondschein-King,

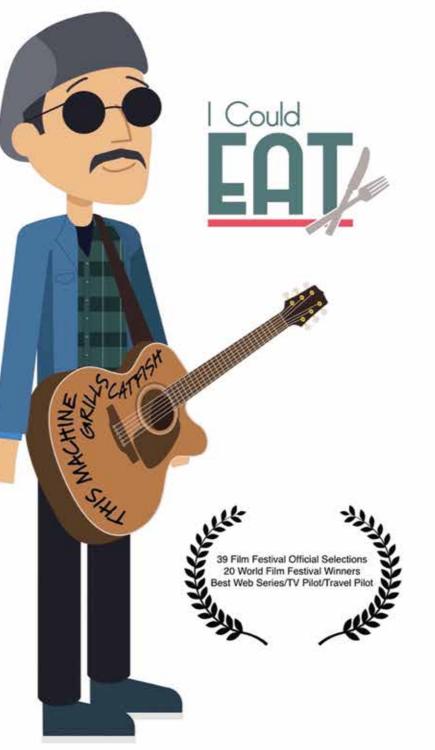
Damian Washington, Tess Miyao, Jay Zaretsky, Jason Kekich, James Fahselt, Amber Sellers, Steve C. Wood, Christian Euman, Anna Butterss, Jennifer Lafleur, Chris Murray

Struck with grief, a legendary Jazz piano player spends his days making music for his sick father and tuning others' pianos. Making his rounds, Piano Man encounters a saxophonist he used to play with who convinces him to return to the stage once again.

> ROOM 107 ere | USA, 2023, 17

WRITERS: Leandro Imaz, Kathleen Cannon DIRS: Steve Anderson, Leandro Imaz PROD: Mari Muscio, Monsoon Productions CAST: Olivia Potter, Winter Andrews, Mari Muscio, Keith Lopez, Auggie Telles, Xander Mason, Matt Barre, Rosie Zwaduk

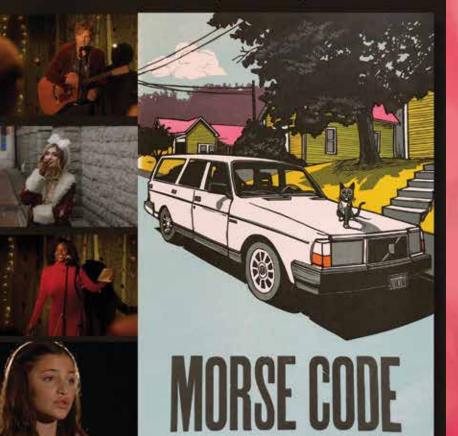
16-year old Kenzie dreams of hitting the open road, finding herself, and becoming a writer. Her parents are so focused on her brother's tennis career they unconsciously ignore her, leaving her feeling alone and depressed. The only bright spot in Kenzie's life is her charming boyfriend Matt, who is 24 and therefore a secret. He talks Kenzie into taking a road trip with him, but can he be trusted?



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#### SCREENING PILOTS GRP 1 - THURSDAY, NOV. 30TH @ 3:30PM

#### FROM THE ECCENTRIC MUSICAL LANDSCAPE OF EAST NASHVILLE COMES A STORY ABOUT HOLDING ON, LETTING GO, AND GROWING UP





#### SAT DEC 2 Regal Union Square 5:30PM

WATCH THE TRAILER | LEARN MORE | BUY TICKETS

#### SHORTS BLK 6 SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 12:30PM

#### BLACKSILK

VORLD Premiere | 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, Stevie Johnson, Maurice Mack, Byron Thomas

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.

> ESPETZANCE TO FIZEMANTLE WORLD Premiere | AUSTRALIA, 2023, 17.5 min.

> > WRITER/DIR: William Sebastian Turner PRODS: Patrick Nichols, Cameron Whiteford, Alexander Turner



CAST: Luke Jai McIntosh Not having seen his Father since he was an infant, Rob searches for him in Fremantle. Tracking him to a bar, Rob approaches him as a stranger in order to discover who he really is and his reasons for leaving.

> HOT SODA OAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 14.5 min,



WRITER/DIR: Nello DiGiandomenico PRODS: Olia Zimarova, Yula Safanova CAST: Tuisdi Layne, Aeron Macintyre

MEG protests her town's approval to double the fracking that's decimated the land. In an effort to relax, she microdoses magic mushrooms and starts another day working at the family restaurant with her sick father, JACK. Their typical routine is interrupted when the CEO of the fracking company shows up to dine. Meg refuses to serve him. Jack, however, exists in denial knowing they need the fracking company's business to survive. Meg hallucinates her rebellious mother, giving her the idea teach the CEO a lesson by slipping a massive dose of shrooms into his spaghetti.

RATTLED DRLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14 min

WRITER: Nick Coelius DIR: Adam Linkenhelt PRODS: Cara Salmeri, Nick Coelius CAST: Nick Coelius, J<u>ennifer Robyn Jacobs, Roz McHenry</u>

Lizzie, a vibrant woman worn down by societal pressure to conceive, and Henry, a tech workaholic silently wrestling with his role in their shared dream, struggle with the oft-understated facets of conceiving in the modern day. A series of miscommunications fuel escalating tensions when Lizzie misinter prets Henry's discrete actions as signs of abandonment, igniting her anxiety into full-blown hysteria.

SUGATZ



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 client.

WE LOVE YOU RAY WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 14 min.

WRITER/DIR: John Hays PRODS: John Hays, Nyssa Grant, Sam Cieri, Adam Potter CAST: John Hays, Marina Pires, Kevin Paul Woods

Ray visits an old fling from college and discovers some things are better left unsaid.





#### **SHORTS BLK7**

SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @

CLOWNFISH EAST COAST Premiere | USA, 2023, 10.5 min.

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



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

(IN) CONVENIENCE NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2022, 11.5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Alexandra Greenspan



PROD: Haley Baldwin CAST: Eisa Al-Shamma, Amy Stringer, Edna Mira Raia

The Blind Zone Traile

An unexpected love story develops over a box of tampons between Phoebe, a mini-mart cashier, and Kirby, a guy in transition.

MUSIC FOTZA WHILE WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 9 min.

WRITER/DIR: Kelvin Z. Phillips PROD: Carla L. Jackson LINE PROD: Georgia M. Hill CAST: 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.



WRITER/DIR: Devon Wycoff PRODS: Amanda Gostomski, Andrew Yang, Dylan Martin, Yoson An, Devon Wycoff CAST: Stephanie Barkley

The gut-punch feeling of grief and the healing process are exposed in this narrative short when Alex returns home for the first time since her father's death to prep the family farm for auction.

PUTZGY'S

WRITER/DIR: Robbie Bryan PRODS: Christie Botelho, Drea Castro, Spero Stamboulis CAST: Arnold Chun, Richard Riehle, Brooke Lewis Bellas, Luciana Elisa Quinonez

At a magical bar, spirits from the other side are able to take the form of another human and interact with those in their past who need closure and re-connection.

#### THE SINGING TELEGIZAM USA, 2023, 13.5 min.

WRITER: Eddie Grey DIRS: Nic Cory, Eddie Grey PRODS: Eddie Grey, Emily Haling CAST: Eddie Grey, Andrew Chappelle, Chad Burris

A beleaguered singing telegram performer questioning his life choices has perspective changed by a unique client.



NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 16 min.



PRG

THE FEDERICA MARCHESE VINUSHA SUNDARESAN BRANDON CHIWEI CHEN THE FRANKON CHIWEI CHEN

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SUNDARESAN JORDAN DEFAZIO ERANDON CHE-WEI CHEN JUSTIN CHEN FEDERICA MARCHESE MICHAEL J. MUNOZ

www.theblindzoneseries.com



#### SHORTS BLK 7 (Con't) SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 2:30PM

#### SKATEBOATED



WRITER/DIR: Peyton Michelle Edwards PRODS: Mark Alan Edwards, Matthew Brennan, Peyton Michelle Edwards CAST: Young Mazino, Nokomis Lenox

Two childhood friends, Tess and John reconnect in the driveway of Tess's parent's home. John realizes Tess never learned to ride the skateboard he left with her when they were teens and offers to finally teach her. As the lesson progresses, their walls come down. Nostalgia prevails until old wounds are opened. Will they reignite their connection or will this be their last goodbye?

#### SHURTS BLK 8 SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 1:30PM



#### THE 1971 KITCHEN GEAND BIZLE NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2022, 10.5 min.

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Ian Beckman CAST: John Fantasia, Ian Russell, Doriana Schöner, Edward Schwartz, Florian Stanek

Your favorite food competes in the greatest auto race the kitchen has ever seen - until there's a murder. 'Mario Kart' meets 'True Crime' mockumentary in this animated short dripping with '70s Formula 1 nostalgia



( ANDICE NEW YORK Premiere | USA, 2023, 15 min.

WRITER/DIR: Tyler Martin (ASST. DIR: Chelsea Childs)

PROD. David Gov CAST: Tyler Martin, David Gow

After the loss of his family, a reclusive young man is left with an RV, a collection of taxidermied animals, and the deep fear he's incapable of connection, so he hires a professional to teach him how to love. Candice is a raw exploration of intimacy and the obstacles that stand in its way, while tackling other nuanced topics such as grief, trauma, gender expectations, vulnerability, economic and geographic status, and what it means to love.



#### WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 13 min

WRITER/DIR: Terrence Shu **PRODS:** Terrence Shu, Rui Dong-Scott CAST: Mingjie Li, Zhan Wang, Ao Lan Guo

A woman drafts imaginary letters to her daughter describing a secret her husband is forcing her to keep.



#### MAN BABY

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 9.5 min. WRITER/DIR: Aaron Murtagh PRODS: Jeri Rafter, Kat Bitnar, Aaron Murtagh, Jenny Hatchadorian CAST: Aaron Murtagh, Kate Britton, John Budge, Leland Budge A new father turns into a baby.



#### NEATZLY NEVETZ

NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | UK, 2023, 15 min. WRITER/DIR: Peter Franklyn Banks **PROD:** Danielle Wright CAST: Charley Palmer Rothwell, Hannah Khalique Brown, Mim Shaikh, Remmie Milner, Nicola Alexis, Daniel Betts, Antony Somers, George Osborne

After suffering a horrific injury, a young amateur footballer finds himself isolated in a hospital crumbling under mounting pressure.

#### (CONT) SHORTS B

SONSHINE INTERNATIONA

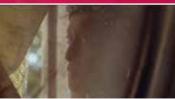
WRITER/DIR: Corey Podell PRODS: Courtney Pape, Matthew Pollock, Jack Schurman, Bemnet Kibreab CAST: Yonas Kibreab, David Futernick, Natalie Palamides,



Erik Huerta, Courtney Parchman, Neska Rose, Libi Rose, Kensington Tallman, Brady Amaya, Ian Bratschie, Kevin Krieger, John Bradford, John Norris, Max Baumgarten, Chad Damiani

When phone-less, ride-less and pissed off eleven year old Sonny gets invited to the gorgeous Shapiro twins' party, he embarks on a journey through Venice Beach enlisting help from the locals to get to the event that will surely change his young life.

> Tossou WORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 3 min



WRITER: Melisande McLaughlin DIRS: Melisande McLaughlin, Sika Stanton PRODS: Uloaku Anyiam-Osigwe, Sika Stanton, Melisande McLaughlin

CAST: Alpha Richards, Casseus Limes, Jolie Kanama, Carter Jones-Figures

The veil between the living and dead is thinning. An aging woman is visited by an anthropomorphic bird (Azétor) and the spirits of her deceased children in a dream before joining them in the ancestral world.

#### SHORTS BLK 9 SCREENING: SUN DEC 3 @ 2PM

#### CATZEETZ VAY

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



THE CHAT



WRITER/DIR/PROD: Artie Brennan CAST: Emmy Harrington, Artie Brennan

A couple has to have the most difficult conversation of their lives after the wife is diagnosed with breast cancer.

CHOES OF MY FATHETZ WORLD Premiere | USA/JAPAN, 2023, 6 min.

WRITERS/DIRS/PRODS: Junko Kajino & Ed M Koziarski CAST: Hotaru Kajino Koziarski, Kurumi Akira Koziarski, Nobuko Ueda, Kaori Urano, Kohana Urano

Two little girls set out on a journey that will bring them through mystery, fear, loss, and renewal.



WRITER/DIR: Chris Edgar PROD: Jenn Page CAST: Alejandro Fuenzalida, Jacob Alden Roa, Keiko Elizabeth, Emma Reinagel

Because of a freak electrical accident, an outcast teenager finds a strange new friend — an '80s-styl heavy metal rocker made of electricity who follows him around singing inspiring songs.





Julianna Robinson, Aria Perry, Abby Eiland

#### **(CONT) SHORTS BLK 9**



#### WRITER/DIR: Laura Sedlak

PRODS: Laura Sedlak, Sunseray, Michael Day, Rolan Meyer, Christian Garrido, Brian Jonason, Krystal Ellsworth, Rebecca Michelle Bartlett, Brandon Kraus



TZOM THE DATZK RICAN Premiere | USA 2023 7 min

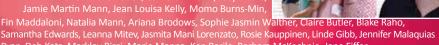
WRITER/DIR: Erika Sanz PRODS: Erika Sanz & Brady Kirchberg CAST: Josephine Le Sourd, Zhannz Gómez, Erin Soler, Maria Jenell



Laura, a quite shy and introverted thirteen year old girl, embarks in a dark journey to get free from her

LUX FREER

WRITER: Jill Johnson Mann DIR: Cynthia Gibb PRODS: Jill Johnson Mann & Cynthia Gibb Jamie Martin Mann, Jean Louisa Kelly, Momo Burns-Min



Samantha Edwards, Leanna Mitev, Jasmita Mani Lorenzato, Rosie Kauppinen, Linde Gibb, Jennifer Malaquias Ryan, Deb Katz, Markley Rizzi, Mario Manna, Ken Barile, Barbara McKechnie, Jane Fiffer Lux Freer, a non-binary teen, has recently moved to ritzy Westport, where they have the humiliating

job of delivering pizzas. Nothing could be worse than arriving at aspiring prom queen Arabella Astor's mansion wearing a cap emblazoned with pepperonis. Lux's encounter with the bully Arabella and her sweet beau Drew sets in motion a plot to upend the social stratosphere at Westport Academy. Emboldened by a mysterious wishing well and a compassionate peer, Lux takes center stage at the school talent show, where even the most macho jock in town learns something about tolerance.



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WORLD PREMIERE SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND @ 10 PM



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A FILM BY KEVIN INTERDONATO

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#### PILOTS GRP 1 SCREENING: THU NOV 30 @ 3:30PM



#### **AWESOME** USA, 2023, 16 min.

WRITER/DIR: Paul Munger

PRODS: Paul Munger, Sofia Barsher, Casey Tomchek, Bradley Virshup, Michael Mendenhall, David Scarpetti, Sasha Bates

CAST: Sidney Rose White, Nick Byron, Jud Meyers, Daniel Kwon, Rahul Gajasamharamoorthy

Every night, 20-year-old Joy gets a glimpse of the future. But with a dad on parole, a pill-popping boyfriend, and a recent lay-off, that doesn't mean she can stop it from being shitty. That is, until she foresees an event that will ruin the lives of her loved ones forever. She'll have to figure out how to change her future-or live with the consequences.



COULD FAT USA, 2022, 27.5 min

WRITER/DIR/PROD: Rick Bedrosian CAST: Rick Bedrosian (Host), Jayme Albin (Sidekick)

A new TV/Web Series showcasing the cuisine & music that unites diverse cultures. Host, Rick Bedrosian ("George" in a Beatlemania stage show for 7 years, leader of Celtic music powerhouse, Hair Of The Dog, since 1993 and an international tour guide) spans the globe seeking out the finest food and the most interesting music makers



#### XANDETZ\_

VORLD Premiere | USA, 2023, 10.5 min.

WRITER: Alec Bantivoglio DIR: Jonathan Chao PROD: Gabriella Lee CAST: Tanner Hagen, Derrick Rose, Jacob Ehm, Gracie Stewart, Gershwin Garing, Howard Leder, Roarke Menegaz

When lonely high school student Luke befriends Xander the Genie, he's forced to consider if mak-ing his one wish is worth losing his new genie best friend.

#### LOTS GRP 2 SCREENING: THU NOV 30 @ 4PM



#### EVENTS AT HEMLOCK MANOTZ

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 thought "the historic Hemlock Manor" was a charming country villa, not a haunted house open in July.



MOMENTS NORTH AMERICAN Premiere | USA, 2023, 23 min.

WRITER: Malachi Rivers DIR: Aaron Lewis PRODS: Malachi Rivers, Rob Byrd, Carlton Jordan, Aaron Lewis, Jeff Gardere

CAST: Malachi Rivers, Rutina Wesley, Sufe Bradshaw, Desean Terry, Jeff Gardere, Thomas Hobson, Devere Rogers, Tiffany Snow, Brooklyn Chance, Jowanda Durham, Crystal Porter-Bazemore

A gripping 9-episode digital series, each under 13 minutes, offering intimate glimpses into characters on the brink. Driven by black trauma and mysticism, it unravels mind-reading and hidden truths through therapist Dr. Winston. An enigmatic narrator, Rutina Wesley, introduces time travel adding layers of self-discovery. "Moments" hints at an expanded episodic journey, diving deepe into characters' histories and relationships, while authentically addressing themes of healing and transformation within the mystical. Boasting a stellar ensemble cast and profound storytelling.

#### ULOM: THE PTZIMATZY EXPETZIMENT

WORLD Premiere | USA, 2021, 25 min.

#### WRITER/DIR: Jon DA

PRODS: Jon DA, Greg Porper, Ellie Legerski CAST: Dileep Rao, Sujata Day, Kelly Nugent, Kerry Knuppe, Caroline Harris, Paul Stanko, James Victor

In Ülom, one can find anything, even meaning. A desperate scientist undertakes a labyrinthian experiment he believes will locate his missing daughter. Journeying ever deeper into the labyrinth, he must confront an invasive, fictional reality. Remember: what feels real, is real. Ülom is here.

#### SCREENING: FRI DEC 1 @ 12:15PM

#### KULETZ SETZVICE

WRITER: Miranda Rausch DIR: Gio Randazzo PRODS: Gio Randazzo, Alexa Niemi, Cynthia Zitter, The Randazzo Family, Pavllo Zengo, The Niclan Group, The Roberts

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

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

#### SILENT PATETNETES WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 52 min.



DIR: David Jorge "Jokes" Yanes PRODS: Ciro Dapagio, Barry Jay Minoff

CAST: Ciro Dapagio, James Russo, Nick Vallelonga, Garry Pastore, Oscar Torre, Joseph Donofrio, Phyllis Spielman, Saul Stein, Michael Villar, Antoni Corone, Ronnie Marmo, Pearls Daily, Mike Marino

Inspired by true events during Miami's drug wars of the 1980's. Valentine, a psychotic hitman, realizes his only shot at a free life would mean hijacking the CHICAGO OUTFIT'S elaborate insurance scam. Now being forced to work with sworn enemies who have a cop problem of their own, this silent partnership could turn deadly.

### SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 11:30AN

#### THE BUND ZONE WORLD Premiere | CHINA, 2023, 31.5 min.

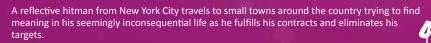


WRITERS/DIRS: Federica Marchese & Vinusha Sundaresan PROD: Brandon Chi-Wei Chen CAST: Shen Wei, Cheng Ya Zhao, Xie Ying Zhi

Battle of wits and violence ensues when the separate worlds of two teenage sociopaths collide after they set their eyes on the same target.

HIT MAN: SECTZETS OF LIES UK, 2023, 19 min.

#### WRITER/DIR/PROD: Elias Plagianos EXEC PRODS: Tara Westwood, Jonathan Shafter, Stacey Van Gorder, Kevin Applegate, Jeff Fried, Craig Blair, Matthew Woolf CAST: RIchard Kind, Karen Allen, Peter Reigert, William Sadler





(Con't) PILOTS GRP 2



#### **PILOTS GRP 4** (CONT) SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 11:30AM



#### HOT ANGTZY MOM WORLD Premiere | USA, 2022, 33.5 min.

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

A people-pleasing mom must face her rage, as a video of her epic meltdown goes viral.



#### OFF THE MENU

WRITER/DIR: Daniele Sestito PRODS: Cooper Yeager, Eric Dyer, Mackenzie Zambo, Lenny Manzo, Daniele Sestito CAST: George Lombardo, Chuja Seo, Cory Shanbom, Garrett Hendricks, David Pridemore, Mai Delapa, Mike Weiner

"Chef" is a perfectionist, Italian cook who works for an unordinary institution. Typically stern and grandiose, a new side of Chef is revealed when he's forced to make a meal that's beyond his grasp.

#### OTS GRP 5 SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 2:45



#### FAST

WRITER/DIR: Dana Marisa Schoenfeld **PRODS:** Jolie Curtsinger, Dana Marisa Schoenfeld CAST: Dana Marisa Schoenfeld, Jolie Curtsinger, Natalie Roy, Stephanie Weppler, Jeanine Bartel, Nicholas Baroudi, Beth Chamberlin, John Bolger, Kaye Tuckerman, Vin Scalia,

Guyviaud Joseph, Jen Rudolph, Sagar Kiran Patel, Naya James, Shannon Hamm, Kisha Barr, Amanda Brooke Lerner, Michael Piper-Younie, J.J. Gonzalez, Ashley Markel Greenberg, Willa Skye, Ava Greisberg

When Ella Goldman, a New York City Corporate attorney, gets engaged to her longtime boyfriend, Josh, she is ecstatic to embark on the next stage of her life. With a wedding to plan, and a blossoming career, Ella thinks she has it all. But when she suddenly loses her job and catches her boyfriend cheating, her world comes crashing down. This devastating turn of events forces her to confront the truth about her life - and what it is she really wants. Convinced that this is a "wake-up call", Ella pursues her childhood dream of being an actress.



#### FOTZ YEATZS TO COME USA, 2022, 27 min.

WRITER: James Patrick Nelson DIR: Micah Stuart PRODS: Chelsea Fenton, Jay DeYonker, James Patrick Nelson, Faith Fuerst, Jeffrey Weber

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

An irreverent and heartfelt romantic dramedy about a gay man who falls in love with his dead mother's hospice nurse, while struggling to reconnect with his elderly father...who's secretly a porn director.



#### THE SELECTMAN WORLD Premiere | USA. 2023. 26 min.

WRITER: Robert Hadlock DIR: David Antonio Martin PRODS: Benjamin Kirkwood, Benjamin Stor David Antonio Martin, Gabby Gammon, Gaines Semler, Robert Hadlock, Will Reynolds CAST: Benjamin Kirkwood, Bruce Campbell,

Eilise Patton, Gaines Semler, Jade Kaiser, Robert Hadlock, Tess Campbell

In the wake of Selectman Joseph Allenby's untimely death, this absurd comedy begins amid a memorial service in the small town of Picasquiddy, Maine. As two unlikely successors emerge as candidates for the Board of Selectmen, the town's fate hangs in the balance. Does anybody have what it takes?

#### TRAVEL FOX

WORLD Premiere | UK, 2023, 5 min.

WRITER/DIR: Henk Pretorius

PRODS: Llewelynn Greeff, Petro Magos, Jim Petrak CAST: Abigail Eggleton, Anna Wolf, Tjaard Venter

Get ready for a wild adventure in Travel Fox, the pilot episode of an animated series tailor-made for curious kids. Follow the inquisitive Travel Fox and Bogie the Tortoise as they race across the world, chasing rainbows in search of a legendary pot of gold. But here's the twist – instead of gold, our friends discover something even more precious: a treasure trove of unique characters and

L.I.F.E.: IT'S WONDERZFUL EAST COAST Premiere I USA. 2022. 22 min.



WRITER/DIR: Dathan Smith PROD: Michele Condrey, Kevin Clark CAST: Allyn Carrell, Patty Pell, Rachel Dee, JB Edwards, Michelle Sherrill, Bruce Melena, Jaquai Wade, Garrett Schenck

L.I.F.E. is an anthology series set in the near future where citizens receive a hand delivered card notifying them the day they will die. Rose feels trapped in her new "home". Emilia feels trapped by her daughter's recent news. Bob is forced to deliver a card he has been dreading since joining L.I.F.E. Corp. as Diane adjusts to her new job.

MOTZSE CODE USA, 2022, 36.5 min.



WRITERS: Korby Lenker, Travis Nicholson

PRODS: Randa Newman, Korby Lenker, Travis Nicholson CAST: Korby Lenker, Savannah Welch, Shea Saliba, Quinnlan Ashe, James Kyson, Jessejames Locorriere, Liz Atwater

In the eccentric community of modern day East Nashville, Simon, a talented but flawed thirty-something indie folk singer finds himself at a crossroads as he struggles to strike a balance between family and career.

TZAIN



Nayib Felix, Emily Pazik

A Brooklyn based DJ explores the queer dating scene.

ROBOTO JSA, 2023, 18 mir



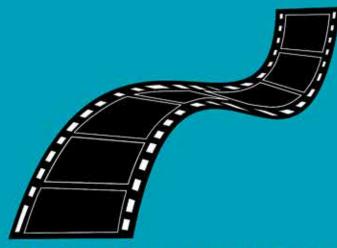
WRITERS/DIRS: Mari and Keone Madrid PRODS: Christianne Cruz, Samantha Manalang, Cheyenne Kibblewhite, Mari and Keone Madrid CAST: Lawrence Kao, Devin Looc, Samantha Tan

Ky loses his entire career as a highly successful choreographer when AI takes over the dance industry and world by storm. This throws Ky into suicidal ideations until Mikah, a bright and optimistic 12 year old boy, decides to disregard the latest craze of dancing with Roboto and instead asks Ky to choreograph for his school performance. While at first Ky reluctantly decides to help the kid, he begins to find a bit of light in his life again. And when it's revealed that Mikah had a battle with cancer Ky's perspective is completely shifted.



#### **ICONTI PILOTS GRP 5** SCREENING: SAT DEC 2 @ 2:45PM

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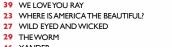
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45 LUX FREER

42 MAN BABY 29 THE MANTIS

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49 TRAVEL FOX

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43 SONSHINE 3 SPACE BABY

39 SUGAR

41 THE SINGING TELEGRAM

29 THE SPIRIT BECAME FLESH 17 STUDIO ONE FOREVER

23 THIS IS WHY WE TRAIN

**20** TRACING IMPERFECTION

47 ÜLOM: THE PRIMARY EXPERIMENT 35 USED CHAIR FOR SALE

31 THREE WAYS OUT 32 TIPS UP!

28 PEE PEE PLATTER

41 PORTRAIT OF A COWBOY

35 PRETTY AS A PICTURE

31 THE PROS AND CONS

34 RED.WHITE AND BLUE 22 REVEALING THE INVISIBLE

6 KHARISH / ITCH

## SCREENING SCHEDULE

#### THURSday NOV 30

FRIday

IPM DOC SHORTS GRP I

		· FAMILE TRIP · FINDING FATE · HOW TROLL			
		PAPER BOATS • TRACING IMPERFECTIONS			
3	:30PM	PILOTS GRP I			
		AWESOME • I COULD EAT • XANDER			
3	:45PM	SHORTS BLK I			
		DELTA • ENTRAINMENT • SANE MEN • THREE WAYS OUT			
		INTERRACIAL COUPLE IN A CHEERIOS AD • TIPS UP!			
		THE PROS AND CONS OF KILLING YOURSELF			
	4PM	PILOTS GRP 2			
		EVENTS AT HEMLOCK MANOR • MOMENTS			
		ÜLOM: THE PRIMARY EXPERIMENT			
7	:30PM	OPENING NIGHT FILM: TAPAWINGO			
	12PM	M			
12	:15PM	PILOTS GRP 3			
		A KILLER SERVICE • SILENT PARTNERS			
	IPM	DENIM KILLER			
2	:30PM	SHORTS BLK 2			
		BLOODWORM • BURRACO • CHEOL • CHURCH CAMP			
		REVELATION • YOU NEED TO PROCESS THIS			
2	:45PM	THE DEPTHS OF MY DESPAIR			
		SHORTS BLK 3			
		• BISECTED • CHAUNCEY • DETOX • KHARISH/ITCH			
		NEWBIE • RED. WHITE AND BLUE • SPEAK UP BROTHA!			
	5PM	SHORTS BLK 4			
		#PIZZAGATE • BOUNCE HOUSE • DEAR OWNER			
		DROPPING • HOW TO DISAPPEAR • IN THE OUIET			
		PRETTY AS A PICTURE • USED CHAIR FOR SALE			
5	:15PM	TORCHED			
5	:30PM	SHORTS BLK 5			
		BLIGHT • EVERYTHING GOES DARK • THE INVADERS			
		• I KEEP BUMPING INTO CANDY MALDONADO			
		PIANO MAN • ROOM 107			
7	:30PM	GROUNDED			
7	:45PM	DARUMA			
	8PM	CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE YOU MINE			
	IOPM	STUDIO ONE FOREVER			
10	:15PM	SHERYL			
10	:30PM	MIDNIGHT SHORTS BLK I			
		•BASTARD • D.O.D. • DEDLY WAGONS			
		THE SPIRIT BECOMES FLESH  MATTRESS EXPRESS			
		• PEE PEE PLATTER • GOOD GIRLS GET FED			

## DANCESEFILMS

SAT

SL

	11.30AM	PILOTS GRP 4
urday	TI.SUAN	• THE BLIND ZONE • HIT MAN: SECRETS OF LIES
DEC 2		• HOT ANGRY MOM • OFF THE MENU
	12:15PM	DOC SHORTS GRP 2
		• I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING BUT LOVE
		KRISTIN DAN KUCHING KUCHINGNYA • LIVING LOUD
	12:30PM	SHORTS BLK 6
		BLACK SILK • ESPERANCE TO FREMANTLE • HOT SODA
		RATTLED • SUGAR • WE LOVE YOU RAY
	2:30PM	SHORTS BLK 7
		CLOWNFISH • (IN)CONVENIENCE • MUSIC FOR A WHILE
		PURGY'S  PORTRAIT OF A COWBOY
		THE SINGING TELEGRAM • SKATEBOARD
	2:45PM	PILOTS GRP 5
		• EAST • FOR YEARS TO COME • THE SELECTMAN
		TRAVEL FOX
	3PM	DOC SHORTS GRP 3
		• THE DANCER • REBIRTH • REVEALING THE INVISIBLE
		INFLUENCE
		MEET ME WHERE I AM
	5:30PM	PILOTS GRP 6
		L.I.F.E.: IT'S WONDERFUL  MORSE CODE
	7.20DM	• Q TRAIN • ROBOTO PALIMPSEST
		KATIE'S MOM
		BOUND
		THE BASTARD SONS
		MIDNIGHT SHORTS BLK I
		•THE CUSTODIAN • HEVEL • INNER DEMONS
		THE MANTIS • NIGHT SHIFT • THE WORM
	10:30PM	WILD EYED AND WICKED
	LIAM	DOC SHORTS 4
JNdav	TIAM	• 13 DRIVER'S LICENSES • BROTHERS FOR LIFE
DEC 3		• THIS IS WHY WE TRAIN – THE SEA GIRT BEACH PATRO
		• WHERE IS AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL?
	LI-ISPM	BROTHERS BROKEN
		44 LIGHTS: MUSIC FROM GROUND ZERO
		SHORTS BLK 8
		THE 1971 KITCHEN GRAND BRIE  CANDICE
		MAN BABY • LETTERS TO THE WIND • NEARLY NEVER
		SONSHINE • TOSSOU
		DISTRICT OF SECOND CHANCES
	2PM	SHORTS BLK 9
		• CAREER DAY • THE CHAT • ECHOES OF MY FATHER
-		THE ELECTRO-ROCKER • FATE VS. ELENA FROM THE DARK • LUX FREER
	4DM	TALLYWACKER
		AMERICAN POT STORY: OAKSTERDAM
		SPACE BABY
		ADVANCED CHEMISTRY
		BETWEEN THE LIGHTS
		THE ZOMBIE WEDDING
		HOME FREE
		NOBODY'S HOME
	9:30PM	THE ACTIVATED MAN



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