





The Fifth Annual

Pasadena International Film Festival




March 7 - 15, 2018



Time certainly does fly! We here at Team PIFF cannot believe that it has been FIVE years! ...Five years of films, galas, panels, parties, and joy. We have grown bigger and better and can only thank you, our patrons. Thank you for believing in us and supporting us. Thank you for all that you do for PIFF. Our Team has worked hard year round to bring quality film and filmmakers to our dear city. So sit back, relax, and get ready to party like it is 1929!

*Jessica J. Hardin,
Executive Director*



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By attending any event of the Pasadena International Film Festival (PIFF), you: Warrant that you indemnify and hold harmless Pasadena International Film Festival (PIFF), Marco Neves, Jessica Hardin, the Laemmle Theaters, all PIFF Sponsors, including but not limited to: the City of Pasadena and any/all city departments, as well as PIFF's affiliates, subsidiaries, and any of their respective directors, officers, employees, staff, volunteers, and representatives against any claim, including attorneys' fees.

You May Be Videotaped, Photographed or Recorded. Please be advised that Pasadena International Film Festival is filming scenes in this area that are intended for television and/or internet broadcast. Your entrance into this area will serve as your voluntary agreement to appear in these scenes to be exhibited as part of this or any other production in any and all media now known or hereafter discovered throughout the world in perpetuity, including in advertisements and promotions. There shall be no compensation monetarily or otherwise for your inclusion. Thank you for your cooperation.

TICKET POLICY

All sales are final. No refunds can be made on ticket purchases. The Pasadena International Film Festival is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets or items. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the management. One admission per ticket. Programs, dates, times, ticket prices and artists are subject to change. Ticket holder consents to allow PIFF to use his or her image for marketing purposes in all media. All performances will occur rain or shine. Assistance dogs are allowed but no pets are allowed.

PASSES

Passes can be purchased directly off of our website (www.pasadenafilmmfestival.org) or at Will Call at the Laemmle Playhouse 7 Movie Theater located at 673 E Colorado Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91101. It is only **\$130 for an "All-Access Pass"** (less than \$2 per film), **\$80 for a "Screener/Lounge" Pass** (includes all events except the Gala), **\$50 for a "Gala Pass"** and **\$30 for a "Day Pass"**. If you would like to attend the Great Gatsby Gala/ Award Ceremony, or our Filmmakers Lounge, a pass is required for admission. If purchasing a day pass, please email info@pasadenafilmmfestival.org to let us know which day you would like to attend. **PASSES ARE NOT MAILED, BUT CAN BE PICKED UP AT WILL CALL AT THE START OF THE FESTIVAL.** Please be sure to show picture I.D. when picking up your pass. You will also need to show ID for admittance to the Filmmakers Lounge. Alcohol will be available, so only 21 and over, please at the Filmmakers Lounge and the Great Gatsby Gala. All ages are allowed at our screenings at the Laemmle, but be advised that other than our "Family Friendly Fair" Block, our program is designed for adults.

TICKETS FOR INDIVIDUAL BLOCKS

Tickets for individual blocks are only **\$14** and can be purchased/ reserved at www.Laemmle.com or directly at the theater Box Office: **673 East Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA, 91101** (626) 844-6500, (626) 844-6444 or (310) 478-1041

PASS PICK UP

All passes must be picked up in person. You will be asked to show photo I.D. We encourage you to pick up your pass at least 30 MINUTES before your first screening.

WHY BUY A PASS?

When you purchase a pass, you receive specialty treatment. Seats are reserved for you at each screening and you are awarded special discounts at our parties and events. At only **\$130**, (less than \$2 per film) this is truly a deal that can't be missed... not to mention our Filmmakers Lounge with complimentary libations!

CAN I BUY JUST ONE TICKET TO JUST ONE MOVIE?

Yes. Either at www.laemmle.com or in person at the Laemmle box office.

ARE THERE FREE EVENTS AT THE FESTIVAL?

Yes, there are! We have made every effort to create something for everyone. Our panels on Saturday, March 10th at Vroman's Bookstore are free and open to the public. Seating is on a first come, first served, basis.

CAN WE SPEAK WITH FILMMAKERS OR ACTORS AT THE FESTIVAL?

Of course! This is one of the special perks of film festivals. Not only can you take in a film, but you can also get up close and personal with the filmmakers... as questions at our Q and A Sessions, or chat with them at one of our parties! This is a fantastic resource to learn about independent cinema.

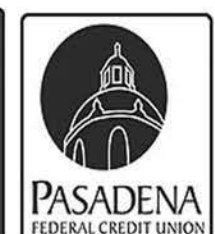
*Please arrive at least a half-hour ahead of time, especially if you haven't yet purchased your pass/ticket. Seating is based on a first come, first served basis. All screenings take place at the **Laemmle Playhouse 7 Movie Theater** located at **673 E. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA, 91101.** www.laemmle.com*

Please visit each venue's website for parking information.

Festival Sponsors

With enormous pride, we showcase our sponsors.
It is due to their generosity, dedication, and vision that this festival is possible.
We applaud their commitment to keeping Culture and the Arts alive and thriving.

PASADENA NOW



Schedule of Events

Please arrive at least a half-hour ahead of time, especially if you haven't yet purchased your pass/ ticket.

Everything is on a first come, first served basis. All screenings take place at the
Laemmle Playhouse 7 Movie Theater: 673 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101 (www.laemmle.com)

Filmmakers Lounge: Lineage Performing Arts Center: 89. S. Fair Oaks Ave., Pasadena, CA 91105
(www.lineagepac.org) (626) 844-7008

Panel: Vroman's Bookstore: 695 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101
(www.vromansbookstore.com) (626) 449-5320
Complimentary Parking in the lot behind the store.

Wednesday, March 7th, 2018

~ 5:00 P.M. ~
Film Screenings Begin

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge Opens

Thursday, March 8th, 2018

Happy International Women's Day!

~ 4:30 P.M. ~
Film Screenings begin

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge Opens

Friday, March 9th, 2018

~ 4:00 P.M. ~
Film Screenings begin

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge Opens

Alternate Venue: The Arbour Pasadena, 527 South Lake Avenue, Suite 120, Pasadena, CA 91101
(info@thearbourpasadena.com) (626) 396-4925

Saturday, March 10th, 2018

~ 11:00 A.M. ~
Film Screenings begin

~ 2:00 P.M. ~
Panel

Breaking into Screenwriting!
Presented by the Scriptwriters Network

Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis
and is free and open to the public.

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge Opens

Sunday, March 11th, 2018

~ 11:00 A.M. ~
Film Screenings Begin

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge Opens

Monday, March 12th, 2018

~ 4:30 P.M. ~
Screenings begin

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge Opens

Tuesday, March 13th, 2018

~ 5:45 P.M. ~
Screenings Begin

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge Opens

Wednesday, March 14th, 2018

~ 5:30 P.M. ~
Screenings Begin

~ 9:30 P.M. ~
Filmmakers Lounge



Thursday, March 15th, 2018

Great Gatsby Gala & Award Ceremony!

Re-live the roaring 20's at this hidden gem.
We recommend the cocktail the "Bee's Knees".
Yum!

Guests must have a pass to attend... Passes
sold online at www.pasadenafilmfestival.org and at
Will Call at the Laemmle Playhouse 7 Theatre.
GALA Passes will NOT be sold at the door.

The Speakeasy

25 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA 91103
www.Speakeasypasadena.com
(626) 676-1205

~ 7:00 P.M. ~
Red Carpet

~ 8:00 P.M. ~
Award Ceremony

Thank you and see you next year!

Highlights

SCREENINGS

All screenings take place at the Lovely Laemmle. We adore the hard-working “Laemmle Faemmily” and know you will, too. The lobby is decorated with our Step-and-Repeat, red carpet, and stanchions primed for your favorite “Selfie with the Stars”. Our volunteers are gathered to help assist you as needed, while our filmmakers and other guests are there interviewing with the press.

Laemmle Playhouse 7: 673 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101 (www.laemmle.com)



PANELS

Panels are free and open to the public and take place at the world-famous Vroman’s Bookstore.

Vroman’s Bookstore: 695 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena CA 91101 (www.vromansbookstore.com) (626) 449-5320
(Complimentary parking in the lot behind the store)



FILMMAKERS LOUNGE

A swank and lovely lounge dedicated to industry pros and lovers of art and culture. Every night features libations and music, not to mention a fabulous crowd! We will present delicious delights from Hint Water, ABK Beer, San Antonio Winery, Alexander’s Steakhouse, and Imperfect Produce.

Lineage Performing Arts Center: 89 S. Fair Oaks Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101
(www.lineagepac.org) (626) 844-7008

GREAT GATSBY GALA & AWARD CEREMONY

Appropriately taking place at “The Speakeasy”. Step back in time to 1920 and enjoy delectable delights and cocktails while we discover who goes home with awards!

The Speakeasy: 25 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA 91103



About Us



STAFF

Jessica Hardin - Executive Director
Marco Neves - Creative Director
Andy Peeke - Master of Ceremonies
Laura Levin - Graphic Designer



JURY

Jenny Hayden, Hillary Jones, Linda Nelson, Beth Portello
 & Monika Skerbelis

AWARD RECIPIENTS

David Hayter - Career Inspiration Award
Macy Gray - Career Versatility Award
Mary Beth Hurt - Rose of Pasadena Award

A special shout out to our Volunteers! We seriously could not have done this without you. People have worked unbelievably hard, all for their love of film. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you.

EXPERIENCE THE PLAYHOUSE DISTRICT

Pasadena's center for culture,
commerce, & community.



The Playhouse District is Home to:

Pasadena Playhouse
 Boston Court Performing Arts Center
 USC Pacific Asia Museum
 Southern California Children's Museum
 Pasadena Museum of California Art
 Laemmle's Playhouse 7
 Ice House Comedy Club
 Vroman's Bookstore

Plus:

Art Galleries
 Renowned Dining Establishments
 Specialty Shops & Boutiques
 Historical Landmarks
 Community Events

**PLAYHOUSE
DISTRICT**

PlayhouseDistrict.org



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#playhousedistrict

Schedule of Films

Wednesday, March 7th

Block 1: SANCTUM

5:00 P.M.

Dancing in Limbo
Behind the Woods and Across the Sea
Resistance is Life

Block 2: CHANGE IN THE AIR

7:30 P.M.

Change in the Air

Thursday, March 8th

Happy International Women's Day!

Block 3: BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

4:30 P.M.

Tiff
Break the Chain

Block 4: POWER GRRRLS

6:30 P.M.

Joy
Arrested (Again)
L.A. Women's March
Buttercup
Bare
Vici
Passage
7 Days in November

Block 5: ELIXIR

9:05 P.M.

A Magician
Good Morning Beautiful
The Closet
The Wait
Mulch
Solitude
Limbo
This Fucking Town
The Only Way
Wake

Screening with David Hayter***

Actor, screenwriter David Hayter (*Buckout Road*, *Metal Gear Solid Saga*, *X-Men*, *X2*, *Watchmen*) to be honored with the PIFF 2018 Career Inspiration Award after the screening of *Buckout Road*.

Friday, March 9th

Block 6: THICKER THAN WATER

4:00 P.M.

The Rotting
Tea Time with Mr. Patterson
NotWithStanding (A pesar de que)
I Promised Her Life
Maxwell's Demon (O Demônio De Maxwell)
Our Barrio

Block 7: A VIEW TO A THRILL

6:30 P.M.

Bella Donna
Specter
Rule of Threes
Vellum
Underhanded
Five are Fallen
Dylan
The Zim

Block 8: THE EVIL WITHIN

8:35 P.M.

Dead Week
Papua
*Buckout Road****

Saturday, March 10th

Block 9: GOLDEN YEARS

11:00 A.M.

1943
As it Seems
Brooklyn in July
All Quiet on the Homefront
I Got You, Babe
Letters from Alcatraz

Block 10: ALL MY PRETTY ONES

1:35 P.M.

A Tiempo (In Time)
Parental Guidance
Darklight
Bear with Me
My Pretty Pony
Active Shooter
A Desert Storm
Crab Trap

Block 11: THE BEST MEDICINE

4:00 P.M.

Breakfast: The Series
*Stuck***Block 12: SCI-FI HIGH**

6:15 P.M.

The Babies
Echoes
Pushing Skills
The Hen
*The Manual***Block 13: SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES...**

8:20 P.M.

It Began without Warning
Silence Please!
The Daughters of Virtue
Found
Unexpected Company
Smiley's
Jax in Love
*Laboratory Conditions***Sunday, March 11th****Block 14: FAMILY FRIENDLY FAIR**

11:00 A.M.

Ukalliq and Kalla Go Fishing
The Pirate Cruncher
Night Light
*Tale of the Kite***Block 15: SHATTERING THE BOX**

12:30 P.M.

The Duel
The Candidate
Two DJs: Both Alike in Dignity
Your Call is Important to Us
Going Mental
Crosby
*Aw Rats!***Block 16: THE ART OF LIVING**

2:45 P.M.

Wish
The Performance
Wet Paint
*Lear's Shadow***Block 17: LA VIE EN ROSE**

5:10 P.M.

Once Upon a Dream
Margaux in America
L'Attente (The Wait)
Regarde
*Fils (Son)***Block 18: EMERALD ISLE**

8:00 P.M.

Saving Santa
*The Holy Fail***Monday, March 12th****Block 19: INVISIBLE**

4:30 P.M.

Trash
*Struggle in Paradise***Block 20: THE PHANTOM PAIN**

6:00 P.M.

Listen
Jupiter
Lawman
The 5th
*Krieg***Block 21: MORE THAN KIN**

8:00 P.M.

Like Mountain, Like Son
This is Home
WYRM
This is Jack
Three August Days
*Luca***Tuesday, March 13th****Block 22: CITY OF ROSES**

5:45 P.M.

*Sinatra in Palm Springs***Block 23: REVELATIONS**

8:05 P.M.

Tzeva Adom: Color Red
*Above the Drowning Sea***Wednesday, March 14th****Block 24: CONSERVATION**

5:30 P.M.

Thirsty Girl
*Shadow of Drought***Block 25: UP TO SNUFF**

7:00 P.M.

*Up to Snuff***Block 26: A SALVE FOR THE SOUL**

8:50 P.M.

The Dark and the Wounded
Nowhere Mind

Alphabetical Film Listing



7 Days in November

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (40 min.)

Synopsis: What happens when your estranged sister shows up on your doorstep 8 months pregnant? Izzie's had her share of disappointments. When her little sister Sam arrives with a chip on her shoulder and a baby on the way, it's time for Izzie to grow up. A dark comedy taking place all within the month of November, we learn what being a family is all about.

Awards: Semi Finalist - *Hollywood Screenings Film Festival*; Semi Finalist - *Los Angeles Independent Film Festival*

Exec. Producer/ Writer/ Director: Whitney Powell
Producer/ Director: Jordan Ehrlich

A Tiempo (In Time)

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35 p.m. (8 min.)

Synopsis: An undocumented, hardworking, family man fights to get to his daughter's dance recital on time.

Awards: Diamond Award - *LA Shorts Awards* (January 2018)

Producer: Jorel Balabala

Writer: Itzeel Flores

Director: Thomas Macias

Above the Drowning Sea

Block 23: Revelations



Tuesday, March 13
8:05 p.m. (92 min.)

CANADA

California Premiere

Synopsis: On the eve of World War II, tens of thousands of Jewish refugees are trapped in Nazi-controlled Vienna. This is the epic story of their dramatic escape to Shanghai.

Exec. Producer: René Balcer

Producer: Nicola Zavaglia

Writers: René Balcer, Nicola Zavaglia

Directors: René Balcer, Nicola Zavaglia

Website: www.abovethedrowningsea.com

Active Shooter

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35p.m. (15 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: When a school shooting erupts, a father suspects that his own son is the shooter.

Exec. Producers: Josh Litman, Jacob J. Tanenbaum

Writer/ Story: Jacob J. Tanenbaum

Story: Josh Litman

Director: Jacob J. Tanenbaum

All Quiet on the Homefront

Block 9: Golden Years



Saturday, March 10
11:00 a.m. (25 min.)

Synopsis: The true story of an Asian-American US Army soldier returning home after WWI to discover a law has passed that revokes citizenship from all Non-Caucasians and he is to be deported. Even though the war is over, he has to fight once again for the country and the ideals he was willing to give his life for.

Exec. Producers: Bicky Singh, Ravin Kohli

Producer: Angelo Ford

Writers: Harjus Singh, Ryan Hoskins

Director: Harjus Singh

Arrested (Again)

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (5 min.)

Synopsis: Activist Karen Topakian has been arrested dozens of times for using nonviolent civil disobedience to protest nuclear proliferation, human rights abuses, environmental issues, and war. What drives her to repeatedly put her body on the line? In turn lighthearted and moving, Karen's story speaks to the need for Americans, now more than ever, to exercise this important First Amendment right.

Awards: Best Very Short Film - *Earth Port Film Festival* (Massachusetts)

Exec. Producer/ Producer/ Director: Dan Goldes

Website: www.arrestedagain-film.com

As it Seems

Block 9: Golden Years



Saturday, March 10
11:00 a.m. (20 min.)

Synopsis: A 1960's housewife, believing her husband is having an affair with the maid, makes a drastic decision. But we soon discover that not everything is as it seems.

Awards: *Manhattan Film Fest.* - Best Student Short
Exec. Producers: Sheldon S. Goldstein, Arlyne Goldstein, Lucille Falcone, Douglas D. Menagh, Lisa Falcone, Neil Falcone

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Nancy Menagh
Associate Producers: Christopher Zou, Lindsay Paige Goldstein, Donna Marino, John Marino
Website: www.asitseemsfilm.com

Bare

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (13 min.)

Synopsis: The defiant act of shaving her head helps 25-year-old Ellie find hope in the face of a recent breast cancer diagnosis.

Awards: *Lady Filmmakers Fest.* - Best Alumni Film
Exec. Producers: Marcia Newlin, Ron Wayne, Joe Olk, Rebecca Scritchfield

Producers: Kerith Lemon, Mike Gugat, Angela Palmieri
Writers: Rebecca Hall, Kerith Lemon
Director: Kerith Lemon
Website: www.bareshortfilm.com

Bella Donna

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (6 min.)

Synopsis: A beautiful, faithful wife plans the perfect dinner for her husband, whose idea of perfection is far from hers.

Awards: *2017 Indigo Moon Film Festival* - Best Narrative Short (Fayetteville, NC)
Exec. Producers: Helen Bainbridge, Peter Heintz
Producers: Jeffrey K. Golden, Derek Maher, Harry Lang
Writer: Jeffrey K. Golden
Director: Christopher Basile
Facebook: Short Pajamas

Aw Rats!

Block 15: Shattering the Box



Sunday, March 11
12:30 p.m. (18 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A family of seven rats live in the attic of a 1950's suburban home until they are discovered by a villainous housewife.

Exec. Producer: Amina Eli Zadeh
Producer: Quran Squire & Tony Coyne
Writer/ Director: Alex Wherritt
Instagram: [awratsthefilm](https://www.instagram.com/awratsthefilm)

Bear with Me

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35 p.m. (14 min.)

West Coast Premiere

Synopsis: Over the course of an afternoon, a precocious teenage girl must help her disowned older brother get forgiveness from their parents.

Awards: *Los Angeles Independent Film Festival* - Best Drama Student Short, Best Produced Screenplay Short, Best Director Student Short
Exec. Producers: Joel Honigberg, Carol Honigberg
Producers: Frances Fagan, Sophia Haid
Writer: Benjy Steinberg
Director: Benjy Steinberg

Break the Chain

Block 3: Behind Closed Doors



Thursday, March 8
4:30 p.m. (64 min.)

Synopsis: Kwami and Debbie were enslaved and exploited as children for numerous years within the US before anyone took notice. Both survivors of sex and labor trafficking recount their experiences with a trafficker who promised them a better life.

Awards: *Hollywood Cinefest* - Best Documentary Feature; *Rivertown FF* - Best Documentary Feature
Exec. Producer/ Producer/ Writer: Laura E. Swanson
Directors: Laura E. Swanson, Kirk Mason
Website: www.breakthechainfilm.com

Babies, The

Block 12: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 10
6:15 p.m. (9 min.)

Synopsis: In an overpopulated futuristic world, a woman tries to prevent agents of the Population Control Authority from taking her babies away, and has to make difficult choices in this mind-bending exploration of abuse-of-power.

Awards: 11 Film Festivals - 26 Awards, 3 Honorable Mentions, 7 Nominations
Producer/ Writer/ Director: Yuval Shrem
Production Company: Fable Entertainment
Website: www.thebabiesmovie.com

Behind the Woods & Across the Sea

Block 1: Sanctum



Wednesday, March 7
5:00 p.m. (20 min.)

LA County Premiere

Synopsis: Born Onufry Filipovich in the Russian Empire, Owen Phillips came to America alone, with nothing, in 1907 at the age of 16. When his grandson Douglas visits Owen's home village in the former Soviet Union more than a century later, he learns things that Owen himself never knew.

Exec. Producer: Douglas Phillips
Producer: Douglas Phillips
Writer: Douglas Phillips
Director: Douglas Phillips
Facebook: Behind the Woods Film

Breakfast: The Series

Block 11: The Best Medicine



Saturday, March 10
4:00 p.m. (4 min.)

Synopsis: "It's kinda like if 'Black Mirror' had no budget and the writer was just a perv."

Awards: *Austin Revolution Film Festival* - Best Actor (Series) - Matthew Gudernatch
Exec. Producer: Matthew Gudernatch
Producer: John Orchard
Writer: Matthew Gudernatch
Directors: John Orchard, Matthew Gudernatch
Website: www.breakfasttheseries.com

Brooklyn in July

Block 9: Golden Years



Saturday, March 10
11:00 a.m. (21 min.)

Synopsis: Frank Walker is a Black WWII veteran, scarred by a past that is lurking skin deep. With a new job as a chauffeur, Franke struggles with the racist sentiments of 1940s America.

Awards: 13 Film Festivals - 17 Awards, 5 Nominations

Exec. Producers: Bob Celli, Laura Delano

Producers: Jouve' Productions, Daniel Delano, Trish Minskoff, Brian D. Villano, Margaret A. Romolo Zucor

Writer/ Director: Bob Celli

Website: www.delanocelli.com

Buttercup

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (12 min.)

Synopsis: Maggie is dealing with the aftermath of her mother's death when her old friend Janie unexpectedly swoops in to help her process her grief.

Awards: Best Narrative Short, Audience Award, Best Idaho Short

Exec. Producer: Megan Brotherton

Producers: Megan Brotherton, Elizabeth Bates, Max Montel

Writer/ Director: Megan Brotherton

Website: www.buttercupmovie.wixsite.com/buttercupmovie

Closet, The

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (8 min.)

LA County Premiere

Synopsis: In the aftermath of a loved one's death, father and son contemplate what to do with her personal belongings.

Awards: Canadian & International Short Film Festival - Award of Commendation, Canada Shorts

Exec. Producers: Fabian Martin, Victor Martin

Producers: Fabian Martin, Victor Martin, Bobby Soto

Writer: Fabian Martin

Director: Victor Martin

Facebook: Mano A Mano Productions

Buckout Road

Block 8: The Evil Within



Friday, March 9
8:35 p.m. (97 min.)

CANADA

Synopsis: Buckout Road might be known as the most haunted road in New York State, but nobody really believed it... until now.

Awards: 4 Film Festivals - 6 Awards

Exec. Producers: Brad W. Clark, Matthew Leutwyler

Producer: John Gillespie

Writer: Matthew Currie Holmes, Shahin Chandrasoma

Director: Matthew Currie Holmes

Website: www.buckoutroadthemovie.com

Candidate, The

Block 15: Shattering the Box



Sunday, March 11
12:30 p.m. (6 min.)

Synopsis: The Candidate goes through a rigorously impossible vetting process to determine if he is "the one" for someone's very specific agenda.

Awards: Hell's Half Mile - Audience Award Best Short Film; Cleveland IFF - Honorable Mention; One Reeler Short Film Competition - Award of Excellence; IndieFest - Special Mention

Exec. Producers/ Producers/ Writers: Blaire Baron, Robin McDonald

Director: Michael Hilf

Website: www.thecandidatethemovie.com

Crab Trap

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35 p.m. (22 min.)

Synopsis: Crawling back from the edge of society, Thirsty tries to prove to his sister Peru, that he's a changed man in order to gain access to his daughter once again. The house, the dinner, the new life – as the story unfolds, the truth unravels.

Awards: 3 Film Festivals - 10 Awards

Exec. Producer: Vanna White

Producers: Chip White, Jason McRae Smith

Writer/ Director: Shea Sizemore

Website: www.crabtrapfilm.com

Screening with David Hayter
Friday, March 9 - 8:35 p.m.



Actor, screenwriter David Hayter (*Buckout Road*, *Metal Gear Solid Saga*, *X-Men*, *X2*, *Watchmen*) to be honored with the PIFF 2018 Career Inspiration Award after the screening of *Buckout Road*.

Change in the Air

Block 2: Change in the Air



Wednesday, March 7
7:30 p.m. (94 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: This story embraces the imperfections that make us human, offers a way to set ourselves free and asks us all to take a good, long look at the wild birds in the sky.

Exec. Producer: Dianne Dreyer, Audra Gorman, Margarethe Baillou, Allan Neuwirth

Producer: Benjamin Cox

Writer: Audra Gorman

Director: Dianne Dreyer

Website: www.changeintheairmovie.com

Crosby

Block 15: Shattering the Box



Sunday, March 11
12:30 p.m. (25 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Al Fitzhugh faces life as a high schooler in New York City. He can't seem to find a trace of good fortune, all while his parents navigate a divorce. One day, a seemingly imaginary and eccentric 'guide' named Crosby appears, who, for better or worse, has his own ways of solving Al's problems.

Exec. Producer: Vincent Salvano

Producers: Austin Harris, Aaron Daniel Jacob

Writer/ Director: Vincent Salvano

Dancing in Limbo

Block 1: Sanctum



Wednesday, March 7
5:00 p.m. (17 min.)

MALAWI (filmed)
U.S.A. (produced)

Synopsis: When dance becomes the only way to express yourself and forget your troubles, true passion emerges. It's this passion to overcome, to prove themselves and to show the world that they're people too that drives a group of young dancers inside the Dzaleka Refugee Camp to prove they're just as good as their American idols.

Producers: Amanda Larsh, Caroline Roffe

Directors: Nick McDonald, Caroline Roffe, Amanda Larsh, Hannah Bradford

Facebook: Dancing in Limbo

Daughters of Virtue, The

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (13 min.)

Synopsis: A lonely housewife fears for her life when a women's prayer group meeting turns into a fanatical intervention to rid her soul of evil.

Awards: *Nightmares Film Festival* - Best Horror Short

Exec. Producer: Michael Escobedo, Nancy Kazar

Producers: Zahida Kazar

Writer/ Director: Michael Escobedo

Website: www.daughtersofvirtuefilm.com

Duel, The

Block 15: Shattering the Box



Sunday, March 11
12:30 p.m. (5 min.)

Synopsis: Two grizzled gunfighters meet for a duel in the Old West.

Awards: *Atlanta Shortsfest* - Best Western Digital Short

Exec. Producer: Mike Guzniczak

Producer: Amanda Barnes

Writer: Mike Guzniczak

Directors: Amanda Barnes, David Speck

Dark and the Wounded, The

Block 26: A Salve for the Soul



Wednesday, March 14
8:50 p.m. (26 min.)

CANADA/ U.S.A.

Synopsis: To become great, you must have a vision, courage and tenacity. Master Artist James Picard embodies all three. He begins exhibiting his new series in abandoned prisons and vacant asylums. But entering these unearthly venues creates a multitude of difficult obstacles, each one bringing him closer to his goal - Alcatraz Prison.

Awards: 6 Film Festivals - 6 Awards

Exec. Producers: James Picard, Kevin Haluk

Producer/ Writer: James Picard

Director: James Picard, Jeff Dean

Website: www.darkandwounded.com

Dead Week

Block 8: The Evil Within



Friday, March 9
8:35 p.m. (12 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Stay on camera!

Producers: Erik Evans, George Larkin

Writer/ Director: George Larkin

Dylan

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (12 min.)

Synopsis: When Nick asks his long-time girlfriend Maritza to let his old college buddy, Dylan, spend the night after not seeing him for a few years, she acquiesces without anticipating that she will be alone with their unpredictable guest.

Awards: *2018 Malibu International Film Festival* - Best Performance in a Leading Role: Rob Belushi

Exec. Producers: Kyle Lane, Michael Forsythe

Exec. Producer/ Writer: Rob Belushi

Producer: Julie Bersani

Director: Cory Miller

Website: www.thedylanfilm.com

Darklight

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35 p.m. (11 min.)

Synopsis: A confronting film about a parent's love for his child. A father is convinced that his missing son can be found within the walls of a local church, but he has no proof. When he confronts the local pastor, the answers he receives are inadequate. What level of depravity is excusable in the name of love? In the name of love, do the ends justify the means?

Exec. Producer: Nakia Trower Shuman

Producers: Daisy Betts Miller, Paul James Miller, Nakia Trower Shuman

Writer: Paul James Miller

Director: Daisy Betts Miller

Desert Storm, A

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35 p.m. (16 min.)

Synopsis: Miles, a young boy, stumbles across a homeless Vietnam veteran. Their strange encounter shocks Miles into a state of profound disillusionment as he struggles to hold on to his childhood fantasies amidst a newfound awareness of the violent, chaotic world that surrounds him.

Awards: *2017 LA Cinefest* - Semi-Finalist

Exec. Producers: Terry Faulkner, Joshua Raymond Lee, Sara Marcus

Producers: Alyssa Polk, Nathan Hertz

Writer/ Director: Joshua Raymond Lee

Website: www.joshuaraymondlee.com

Echoes

Block 12: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 10
6:15 p.m. (12 min.)

West Coast Premiere

Synopsis: What begins as an ordinary family outing becomes a waking nightmare as a young mother searches for her lost children. Her journey forces her to confront the reverberations of a past she cannot escape.

Producers: Mark Kerins, Brent Turman

Writer: Elliot Mayén

Directors: Mark Kerins, Elliot Mayén

Website: www.echoes-film.com

Fils (Son)

Block 17: La Vie en Rose



Sunday, March 11
5:10 p.m. (15 min.)

LUXEMBOURG

Synopsis: Sébastien, who cannot come to terms with his son being in a coma, begins to question his reality.

Awards: 39 Awards

Exec. Producer: Benedicte Hermesse

Producer/ Director: Cyrus Neshvad

Writer: Guillaume Levil

Five are Fallen

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (10 min.)

Synopsis: A desperate man is recruited by a secret society in hope of retrieving his kidnapped son.

Awards: *Bloodstained Indie Film Festival 2017 - Best Action Short*

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Johnny Rey Diaz

Found

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (16 min.)

Synopsis: While developing his film prints, a young photographer reflects on his journey through Death Valley and the terrifying event that changed his life.

Exec. Producer: Rudy Gutierrez

Producer: Robert Herrera

Writer/ Director: Vinny Macias

Going Mental

Block 15: Shattering the Box



Sunday, March 11
12:30 p.m. (20 min.)

Synopsis: After transferring to a new school, Shaina attempts to follow the advice of the high school counselor to bottle up her anxieties. But once she meets Dale. A happily depressed student, that idea is challenged by his views and the lyrics of songs they both enjoy.

Awards: *Indie Fest Film Awards - Disability Issues Award; Short and Sweet Film Festival - Best Narrative Short Award*

Producer: Aram Gevorgyan

Writers: Camara Rauen, Alec Meden

Director: Camara Rauen

Good Morning Beautiful

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (6 min.)

U.S.A. Premiere

Synopsis: A young woman wakes to find loving messages left on her pillow. She continues discovering romantic messages hidden throughout her daily routine, but what makes this day so unusual? Nothing.

Exec. Producers/ Producers/ Writers: Beth Goldberg, Dante De Silva

Director: Beth Goldberg

Hen, The

Block 12: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 10
6:15 p.m. (25 min.)

FRANCE

Synopsis: Year 2137, animals have so long disappeared that younger generations do not even have a memory. While the reigning environmentalist dictatorship is trying to reintroduce a hen in the forest, the eco-citizens are banned on coming up to it. But Oscar, who illegally kept an ancient cookery book at his place, has a bee in his bonnet: eating it!

Producer/ Director: David Braun

Co-Producers: Alpaga Films, Innervision, Alsace20

Writers: Camille François, David Braun

Facebook: Quand les Poules ont eu des Dents

Holy Fail, The

Block 18: Emerald Isle



Sunday, March 11
8:00 p.m. (86 min.)

IRELAND

World Premiere

Synopsis: An Irish comedy about four friends who rob a safe in an attempt to save a marriage. All is going well until they get caught by a force even greater than the law.

Exec. Producer: Michael Shipley

Producers: Jessica Lancaster, Owen Dara

Writer/ Director: Owen Dara

Website: www.theholylaifilm.com

I Got You Babe

Block 9: Golden Years



Saturday, March 10
11:00 a.m. (27 min.)

Synopsis: An ambitious young woman must decide what she is willing to sacrifice should she marry her boyfriend before midnight, to save him from the Vietnam War draft, due to an executive order signed by President Johnson on August 26, 1965.

Awards: *Highland Park Independent Film Festival - Women on the Verge Audience Choice Best Short Film; UCFTI Expo Film Competition - Semi-Finalist*

Producer: Shamola Kharkar

Writer/ Director: Ashton Avila

Website: www.igotyoubabefilm.com

I Promised her Life

Block 6: Thicker than Water



Friday, March 9
4:00 p.m. (16 min.)

Synopsis: On the day of her daughter's funeral, a grieving Armenian-American mother defies a centuries-old ritual and tests the limits of tradition as she walks the thin line between death and afterlife.

Exec. Producers: Gerry Ibanez, Matt Huffman, Karen Mikaelian, Christian Sookiasian, Lucy Demirdjian

Producers: Jonathan Maurer, Preston Clay Reed, Robert Nazar Arjoyan

Writer/ Director: Robert Nazar Arjoyan

Website: www.garunafilmgrou.com

It Began Without Warning

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (6 min.)

Synopsis: Sébastien, 'The time has come,' the Walrus said. And all the little Oysters stood and waited in a row.

Awards: 2017 SXSW - Grand Jury Award nominee; 2017 Fantasia IFF - Silver Prize Audience Award for Best International Short Film; 2017 Los Angeles Horror Competition - 5 Awards

Exec. Producer: Couper Samuelson

Producers: Santiago C. Tapia, Jessica Curtright

Co-Producer: Efren Ramirez

Writer/ Director: Santiago Tapia, Jessica Curtright

Website: www.facebook.com/tapia.curtright.1

Jupiter

Block 20: The Phantom Pain



Monday, March 12
6:00 p.m. (12 min.)

Synopsis: Jupiter (46) is a failed bodybuilder megalomaniac who's going through an existential crisis.

Producer: Shujian Wang

Writer: Camille Lecoq

Director: Valentin Plisson

Facebook: Jupiter for Olympia

L.A. Women's March

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (7 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A short documentary to bring attention to the L.A. Women's March, as seen through the eyes of four young women, aged 15, 16, 17 and 18. It was an amazing and historical event that will always be relevant to our time and the film gives a glimpse of how it felt to experience it.

Exec. Producer/ Producer/ Director: Keely Martin

Jax in Love

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (20 min.)

Synopsis: A mysterious, lonely young woman, Jax is traveling through the expansive desert of American West, in search of some kindred spirit or like-minded soul with whom she can bond. We learn this seemingly sweet woman may not be who she seems.

Awards: 7 Film Festivals - 5 Awards, 2 Nominations

Exec. Producers: Rakefet Abergel, Jory Weitz, Cena Abergel, Yakov Abergel

Producer: Gabi Illoiu

Writer: Rakefet Abergel

Director: Colin Campbell

Website: www.jaxinlove.com

Krieg

Block 20: The Phantom Pain



Monday, March 12
6:00 p.m. (40 min.)

Synopsis: A soldier's remorse for inaction in the face of murder compels him to risk all to protect a wounded enemy airman.

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Jeff Fry

Website: www.krieg-the-movie.com

Laboratory Conditions

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (17 min.)

Synopsis: A physician investigating a missing patient uncovers an illegal experiment.

Producer: Joe Russell

Writer: Terry Rossio

Director: Jocelyn Stamat

Website: www.LaboratoryConditions.com

Joy

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (3 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Joy is a short film that deals with the distress of being an immigrant woman in America, juxtaposed against the courteousness one feels obliged to constantly present.

Exec. Producer: Brewster McCann

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Lorena Lourenco

Website: www.lorenalourenco.com/joyshortfilm

L'Attente (The Wait)

Block 17: La Vie en Rose



Sunday, March 11
5:10 p.m. (25 min.)

FRANCE

U.S.A. Premiere

Synopsis: Eloise, 21 years old, lives in a decrepit family-owned vineyard. On a winter's Sunday, she's alone on duty for the winemaking cooperative. Her parents are running errands. They left a note saying her cousin, Matis, will spend the night at the domain. The wait starts.

Awards: 2017 Cabourg Film Festival - Best Actress; 30th Saint-Paul Trois Châteaux Film Festival 2017 - Grand Prize

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Marie LeGrand

Writer/ Director: Eric Du Bellay

Lawman

Block 20: The Phantom Pain



Monday, March 12
6:00 p.m. (13 min.)

Synopsis: Based on True Events. 1875, Indian Territory: Bass Reeves, the first African-American deputy, U.S. Marshal arrests an outlaw, Glen Huddleston, and brings him toward encampment. A battle of wills arises between them as the outlaw tries to psych out the deputy to escape.

Awards: 5 Film Festivals - 5 Awards

Producer: Kalilah Robinson

Writer: Josh Aichenbaum

Director: Matthew Gentile

Website: www.lawmanthefilm.com

Lear's Shadow

Block 16: The Art of Living



Sunday, March 11
2:45 p.m. (65 min.)

Synopsis: When tragedy strikes two old friends, they find an unlikely path to recovery through Shakespeare's King Lear. The story begins in the days following an accident, as two good friends from a modern-day theater company cope with a shared loss, and repair their troubled relationship.

Exec. Producer: The Ensemble Shakespeare Theater
Producer/ Writer/ Director: Brian Elerding
Producers: Asia LeMasters, David Blue
Writer: William Shakespeare
Website: www.LearsShadow.com

Limbo

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (10 min.)

GERMANY/ U.S.A.

L.A. County Premiere

Synopsis: A grieving father struggling to deal with the death of his teenage daughter. He comes face to face with her living doppelganger.

Exec. Producers: Jean-Luc Julien, Caprice Crawford
Writer: Amy Fruchtman
Directors: John Orchard, Matthew Gudernatch
Website: www.anikafilms.com

Magician, A

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (4 min.)

UNITED KINGDOM

Synopsis: After witnessing a man behave violently towards his girlfriend, someone decides to intervene.

Producer: David Campbell-Bell
Writer/ Director: Max Blustin

Letters from Alcatraz

Block 9: Golden Years



Saturday, March 10
11:00 a.m. (20 min.)

Synopsis: It is Christmas Eve Day, 1962 and a teenage girl living on Alcatraz Island runs the risk of losing one of her best friends—an inmate.

Awards: 8 Film Festivals - 11 Awards
Exec. Producer: Alexis Morrell
Producers: Melani Hauser, Nicholas Busalacchi
Writers: Madeline Rozwat, Nicholas Busalacchi
Director: Madeline Rozwat
Website: www.lettersfromalcatraz.com

Listen (Escucha)

Block 20: The Phantom Pain



Monday, March 12
6:00 p.m. (6 min.)

MEXICO

World Premiere

Synopsis: A couple working as sound engineers have lost that loving feeling until all of a sudden, they identify with the actors on a film set, exemplifying the importance of listening to one another.

Awards: Short to the point - Best Screenplay (2017)
Exec. Producer: Ernesto González Díaz
Producer: Benjamín Pérez González
Writer/ Director: Ernesto González Díaz

Manual, The

Block 12: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 10
6:15 p.m. (29 min.)

California Premiere

Synopsis: In a dystopian future, the last human is raised by a machine. He struggles with the loneliness of no human interaction and questions the teachings of a mysterious religious 'Manual' which the machine claims is holy.

Awards: Tampa Bay Underground Film Festival - Audience Choice Short, Best Short Film, Best Science Fiction Film, Best Short Film Director, Best Effects, Best Supporting Actress
Producers: Sara Magness, Stacy Lorts
Writer/ Director: Wil Magness
Website: www.themanualfilm.com

Like Mountain, Like Son

Block 21: More than Kin



Monday, March 12
8:00 p.m. (17 min.)

CHINA

Synopsis: When his rebellious son disappears on Four Sisters mountain near Tibet, Dorji, a poor mountain guide, takes it upon himself to rescue the only family he has left.

Producers: Yiduo Hu, Zhang Xiaowei
Writers: Yiduo Hu, Zou Daifeng
Director: Yiduo Hu

Luca

Block 21: More than Kin



Monday, March 12
8:00 p.m. (15 min.)

GERMANY

Synopsis: The day of the dance competition and 15 minutes before the curtain goes up, the main female dancer drops out. The company's only hope is the co-choreographer Luca - but the trans man is not happy substituting for a girl; he has come too far for that. The most important performance is now at stake.

Awards: 5 Film Festivals - 5 Awards
Exec. Producers: Adi Wojaczek, Patrick Mölleken
Producer: Patrick Mölleken
Writers: Adi Wojaczek, Christian Lenz
Director: Adi Wojaczek
Website: www.arieshead.de/Luca

Margaux in America

Block 17: La Vie en Rose



Sunday, March 11
5:10 p.m. (18 min.)

Synopsis: Margaux is a high school French exchange student who is rapped by her hostess' boyfriend at a house party and has no one to turn to.

Awards: Best Shorts Competition - Award of Excellence for a Female Filmmaker
Exec. Producer/ Writer/ Director: Eleanor Hoppe
Producer: Sadé Clacken Joseph

Maxwell's Demon

Block 6: Thicker than Water



Friday, March 9
4:00 p.m. (22 min.)

BRAZIL

California Premiere

Synopsis: A Father tries to fix the relationship with his wheelchair-bound daughter after she has been expelled from the school for sexually assaulting another student. (*O Demônio de Maxwell*)

Awards: *Dada Saheb Film Festival (India)* - Best Short Film; *Short to the Point Film Festival (Romania)* - Best Editing

Exec. Producers: Marcos Vaz, Ludmilla Rossi

Producer: Mirella Saleh

Writer/ Director: Marcos Vaz

Facebook: Maxwell Demon

Night Light

Block 14: Family Friendly Fair



Sunday, March 11
11:00 a.m. (15 min.)

Synopsis: Ten-year old Elliott is afraid of the dark so he invents a way for the sun to always be out. His invention disrupts the balance of animals that rely on darkness for survival. Elliott must choose between facing his fears, or the well-being of his animal friends.

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Ryan Oksenberg

Producers: Ari Schneider, Harmony Smith

Nowhere Mind

Block 26: A Salve for the Soul



Wednesday, March 14
8:50 p.m. (105 min.)

L.A. County Premiere

Synopsis: Ivan uses experimental meditation to induce out-of-body experiences that might make it possible for him to escape a mysterious illness. His training takes an unexpected turn when he finds himself getting between the marital engagement of two old friends, Emily and John. A dangerous game of cat and mouse ensues that might provide Ivan an unexpected route to a cure.

Awards: 10 Film Festivals - 10 Awards

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Katie Clementz

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Ben Nissen

Website: www.nowheremind.com

Mulch

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (7 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: What does 'Girlhood' mean for you? For Charlotte Parrott, it was a quandary. In this monologue, she recalls the instance that she began to see herself as 'other' to the girls around her. Our intent was to craft a visual narrative embellishing the themes of Charlotte's personal story. To create a cinematic monologue where the visuals conjured the same feelings of rejection and identity confusion that Charlotte felt so acutely in her childhood.

Producer: Florence Chater

Writer: Charlotte Parrott

Director: Katharine Stocker

Nineteen Forty Three (1943)

Block 9: Golden Years



Saturday, March 10
11:00 a.m. (7 min.)

Synopsis: In 1926, Adolf Hitler established the Hitler Youth to instill German children with the ideals of the Nazi Party, amassing 7.7 million members by 1938. In 1943, Ingrid Schindler would courageously defy her fate to rescue her children and aid the Allies in defeating the evil Nazi regime. Never underestimate the courage of a woman.

Awards: 6 Film Festivals - 8 Awards

Producers: Elizabeth Dean, Bill R. Dean

Writer/ Director: Elizabeth Dean

Once Upon a Dream

Block 17: La Vie en Rose



Sunday, March 11
5:10 p.m. (13 min.)

BELGIUM and
FRANCE

Synopsis: When Valentin meets Ludivine, he is convinced she's the girl of his dreams! Only, Ludivine has a feeling this "boy meet girl" scenario will take a nightmarish turn...

Awards: 58 Awards

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Delphine Louradour

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Anthony Nion

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mperfilm

My Pretty Pony

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35 p.m. (14 min.)

POLAND

Synopsis: An elderly man gives his young grandson an unusual gift.

Exec. Producer: Dobrochna Walkiewicz

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Maciej Barczewski

Facebook: My Pretty Pony

NotWithStanding (A pesar de que)

Block 6: Thicker than Water



Friday, March 9
4:00 p.m. (14 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A death in the family ignites old memories for Adrian, overwhelming him with guilt. He falls back into old habits as he attempts to let go of the past and accept the man he has become.

Exec. Producer: Edward Castro

Producers: Edward Castro, Chris Jensen-Soto

Writer/ Director: Chris Jensen-Soto

Facebook: A pesar de que

Only Way, The

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (21 min.)

Synopsis: A young man fights to save his mother's life, but the ticking clock seems to be his worst enemy.

Awards: *LA Cinefest* - Best Score Nomination; *Best Shorts Awards Competition* - Honorable Mention

Exec. Producers: Vera Bejanian, Vrej Jan, Arno

Yesayan, Amy Bagoasaryan, Aram Asatryan

Producers: Mike Coleman, Shaun T. Benjamin

Writer/ Director: Mike Coleman

Facebook: The Only Way Film

Our Barrio

Block 6: Thicker than Water



Friday, March 9
4:00 p.m. (29 min.)

Synopsis: The story of Gabriela, a young woman on the verge of adulthood. Struggling with her identity, Gabriela is forced to reckon with herself when her life comes to an abrupt halt. *Our Barrio* is an exploration of the Latino American experience -- and the human experience-- as it delves into the topics of compassion, community, and overcoming adversity.

Awards: 4 Film Festivals - 4 Awards

Exec. Producers/ Producers/ Writers: Ryan Casselman, Yvette Angulo
Director: Ryan Casselman
Facebook: A Focus Group

Passage

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (20 min.)

Synopsis: Jessie doesn't want to listen to her eccentric mom, but the more she is forced to spend time with her, the more sound her advice becomes.

Exec. Producers: Mark Cardone, Nancy & John Edwards
Producers: Linda Palmer, Julia Parker, Krisd Mauga
Writers: Linda Palmer, Mark Craig
Director: Linda Palmer
Website: www.passageshortfilm.com

Pushing Skills

Block 12: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 10
6:15 p.m. (17 min.)

California Premiere

Synopsis: A street-smart hustler uses his invention to give people extraordinary skills for few hours, but finds himself in trouble when the wrong people hear about it.

Exec. Producer: Michael A. Krehan
Producer: Maris Lidaka
Writers: Michael A. Krehan, Ryan Cook
Director: Michael A. Krehan
Website: www.pushingskills.com

Papua

Block 8: The Evil Within



Friday, March 9
8:35 p.m. (13 min.)

Synopsis: Twin brothers, along with their childhood best friend, visit their dying father. As they say their goodbyes, secrets are revealed that will change their lives forever.

Awards: Chandler Film Festival 2018 - Best Comedy Short
Producers: Aaron Arnold, Austin Arnold, Johnny Rey Diaz
Writer: Austin Arnold
Director: Johnny Rey Diaz

Performance, The

Block 16: The Art of Living



Sunday, March 11
2:45 p.m. (19 min.)

West Coast Premiere

Synopsis: The Three Sisters: The Director Father, the dying Mother and the Faithless husband, a mother dying and husbands are hard to keep. In a Theatre Family, everyone has their role to play.

Exec. Producer: Tim Radford
Producers: Tatyana Yassukovich, Tara Culp
Writer/ Director: Tatyana Yassukovich
Website: www.tatyanayassukovich.com

Regarde

Block 17: La Vie en Rose



Sunday, March 11
5:10 p.m. (25 min.)

FRANCE

Synopsis: While Emma has new-found sight by the creation of a new scientific invention, her confrontation with the world of the clairvoyants does not take place as seen meadow.

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Yohann Larssonneur
Producer/ Writer/ Director: Charles Grammare
Facebook: Regarde le film

Parental Guidance

Block 10: All My Pretty Ones



Saturday, March 10
1:35 p.m. (9 min.)

Synopsis: When a college student gets home for summer break, her parents must decide whether they want to support their daughter's dream of becoming a photographer, or instead, encourage her to pursue a more practical profession.

Exec. Producer/ Writer/ Director: Madeline Rozwat
Producer: Nicholas Busalacchi

Pirate Cruncher, The

Block 14: Family Friendly Fair



Sunday, March 11
11:00 a.m. (10 min.)

Synopsis: An old fiddler tells a crew of pirates about an island with hidden treasure. Once they've set sail for the mysterious island, he tells them it is guarded by the terrible Pirate-Cruncher. Eventually their greed overcomes their fear and, when they arrive on the island they learn that the island itself is the Pirate-Cruncher, who promptly swallows the whole crew.

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Howard Cook
Writer: Jonny Duddle
Director: Paul Connor

Resistance is Life

Block 1: Sanctum



Wednesday, March 7
5:00 p.m. (73 min.)

TURKEY/ U.S.A.

Synopsis: From a refugee camp on the Turkish-Syrian border, an 8-year-old girl, Evlin, characterizes the resistance of her homeland. The power of the human spirit emanates through Evlin as she shows us that hope and resilience prevail even in the most tragic of circumstances.

Awards: 7 Film Festivals - 7 Awards
Exec. Producers: Goran Zaneti, Coskun Abik, Sal Bazidi
Producers: Apo W. Bazidi, Goran Zaneti
Director: Apo W. Bazidi
Website: www.resistancemovie.com

Rotting, The

Block 6: Thicker than Water



Friday, March 9
4:00 p.m. (9 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: An elderly man reflects on the warning his grandfather gave him as a boy.

Exec. Producer: Mike Kobzeff

Producers: Mike Kobzeff, Jeff Feuerhaken

Writer/ Director: Mike Kobzeff

Instagram: therottingfilm

Shadow of Drought

Block 24: Conservation



Wednesday, March 14
5:30 p.m. (42 min.)

Synopsis: While California recovers from the worst drought in state history, a myriad of impacts resulting from climate change threaten Southern California's imported water supply. As a shadow of drought hangs over the region, this documentary explores the dire consequences of inaction that lie ahead.

Awards: *Impact DOCS Award* - Award of Excellence Special Mention

Exec. Producers: Bill Wisneski, Mona Urban

Producers: Ashley Olson, Chad Richmond

Writers/ Director: Bill Wisneski

Website: www.droughtfilm.com

Smiley's

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (18 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A country legend becomes a waking nightmare for Mitch, a college student. Not enough sleep and too much soda results in a descent into madness.

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Mike James

Producers: Paul Symons, Wilson Mack

Writer/ Director: Mike James

Facebook: www.facebook.com/smileysfilm/

Rule of Threes

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (11 min.)

Synopsis: Haunted by the murder of their leader in this post-apocalyptic world, the remaining three friends struggle to maintain enough resources to survive. As secrets reveal, tension and desperation rise within the group, putting their friendships and their lives on the line.

Awards: *One-Reeler Short Film Competition* -

Award of Merit; *Accolade Global Competition 2016* -

Award of Merit; Women Filmmakers

Producers: Avalonne Hall, T. L. Quach

Writer/ Director: T. L. Quach

Website: www.tlquachfilms.com/rule-of-threes.html

Silence Please!

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (12 min.)

West Coast Premiere

Synopsis: After a long and tiresome journey, all our exhausted traveler desires is a good night sleep, but it turns out that the house he is staying in has other plans for him.

Exec. Producers: Salvador Lleo, Rajan Patel

Producers: Brenda Weimair, Bill Fishmam

Writer/ Director: Salvador Lleo

Solitude

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (7 min.)

AUSTRALIA

Synopsis: Eighty-year-old Margaret spends each day visiting her local train station, which has become a very important place in her life. But why is it so important? A short, but sweet story about love and cherished memories.

Awards: *12 Film Festivals* - 14 Awards

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Michael Raso

Producer: JD Cohen

Writer/ Director: Michael Raso

Website: <http://solomonpictures.com.au/>

Saving Santa

Block 18: Emerald Isle



Sunday, March 11
8:00 p.m. (18 min.)

NORTH. IRELAND

L.A. County Premiere

Synopsis: A little girl by the name of Ruby Fair, is still dealing with her mother's death when she comes across a seemingly destitute man in the street. He's a street drinker who bears a striking resemblance to Santa Claus. Despite his protestations, she takes great comfort in helping him.

Awards: *Over 20 Film Festivals* - 8 Awards, 5 Nominations

Producer/ Director: Keith O'Grady

Writer: Jonathan Fulton

Facebook: Santa McCann

Sinatra in Palm Springs

Block 22: City of Roses



Tuesday, March 13
5:45 p.m. (93 min.)

Synopsis: Palm Springs, a small desert oasis 100 miles East of Los Angeles, was Sinatra's true home for 50 years. During his brief yet turbulent marriage to Ava Gardner, his Palm Springs home was center stage. For the rest of his life, the Rancho Mirage compound on Frank Sinatra Drive was the home he called "My Heaven". Palm Springs still feels the ghost of Frank Sinatra.

Awards: *Santa Fe FF 2018* - Official Selection

Exec. Producer/ Producer/ Director: Leo Zahn

Website: www.sinatrapalmsprings.com

Specter

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (10 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Legendary private investigator Sam Specter tracks down an alleged child molester in an attempt to dole out his own version of justice. As the two face off in the dead of night, they discover a series of dark truths that neither can escape.

Exec. Producer: Zo Zosak

Writer/ Director: Grant Deliberto

Website: www.LiberationMediaLA.com

Struggle in Paradise

Block 19: Invisible



Monday, March 12
4:30 p.m. (47 min.)

Synopsis: Struggle in Paradise is the gripping story of the skyrocketing number of homeless people living and dying on the streets of Los Angeles. I have been shocked at the amount of trauma that people have sustained that contributed to their homelessness and, once on the streets, are repetitively traumatized.

Awards: National Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis - Best Movie; American Psychological Association FF - Honorable Mention

Exec. Producer/ Producer/ Writer/ Director:

Stuart D. Perlman, Ph.D.

Website: www.struggleinparadise.com

Tea Time with Mr. Patterson

Block 6: Thicker than Water



Friday, March 9
4:00 p.m. (17 min.)

Synopsis: Lucy, a young girl, yearns for connection from her single mother, Stacey. When she doesn't find it, she turns to her imaginary friend Mr. Patterson, who ends up an unfriendly familiar face.

Awards: IndieFest Awards of Merit - Short Film, Director, Lead Actress, Cinematography

Producers: David Mandell, Peter Vogel, Lorena Lorenzo, Brewster McCann

Writer/ Director: David Mandell

This Fucking Town

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (14 min.)

Festival Premiere

Synopsis: A web series about actors looking for love and work in L.A.

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Jim Armogida

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Courtney Daniels

Stuck

Block 11: The Best Medicine



Saturday, March 10
4:00 p.m. (104 min.)

Synopsis: Darby Dixon is a nurse who never met a rule she didn't break, bend or ignore. After getting into trouble with the law, Darby is sentenced to 30 days of house arrest, and is now confined to the same house she once shared with her ex-boyfriend, who now shares it with his beautiful new fiancée.

Awards: Scottish IFF - Best Picture; Hollywood Reel Independent FF - Best Actress: Heather Matarazzo

Producers/ Writers: David Mickel, Heather Turman

Producer/ Director: Jillian Armenante

Website: www.stuckfeature.com

The 5th

Block 20: The Phantom Pain



Monday, March 12
6:00 p.m. (7 min.)

Synopsis: In the wake of a shocking revelation, a boxer haunted by his past and a trainer weighed down by a history of bad choices must decide whether they are prepared to throw it all away.

Producers: Andrew Oliveri, Robert Jekabson, George Perez, Peter J. Dorsey

Writers: Andrew Oliveri, Robert Jekabson

Director: Katharine White

This is Home

Block 21: More than Kin



Monday, March 12
8:00 p.m. (18 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A young boy observes his parents and their relationship with alcohol.

Exec. Producer: Jason P. Schumacher

Producers: Amanda Day

Writers: Jason P. Schumacher, Jesse Frankson

Director: Jason P. Schumacher

Tale of the Kite

Block 14: Family Friendly Fair



Sunday, March 11
11:00 a.m. (30 min.)

Synopsis: His dreams of flight began with a kite. A young test pilot finds himself in a mysterious desert region out of contact with his airbase and with little hope of survival. But childhood memories of his grandfather may provide the key to his ultimate destiny.

Awards: 2017 Pasadena International Film Festival - Best Short Film

Exec. Producer: Michael Lantieri

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Michael Fallavollita

Website: www.taleofthekite.com

Thirsty Girl

Block 24: Conservation



Wednesday, March 14
5:30 p.m. (15 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Lily, a once apathetic millennial now throws herself into the task of saving Los Angeles from the intensifying water crisis as a means to avoid her own reality. Heroic intentions aside, she alienates those around her as she descends into self-destruction and insanity, ceasing to consume water all together.

Exec. Producers: Lisa Brenner, Alisa Baker, Rob Davis

Producer/ Writer: Karina Wolfe

Producer/ Director: Sean Berger

Producer: Stephan Tramontana

Facebook: Thirsty Girl Movie

This is Jack

Block 21: More than Kin



Monday, March 12
8:00 p.m. (21 min.)

Synopsis: High School senior Jack has trouble living in reality. Socially isolated and hopelessly in love with fellow bandmate, Daisy, Jack finds the catalyst for personal transformation through a creative writing assignment.

Awards: 9 Film Festivals - 15 Awards

Exec. Producer: Kristi Anderson Ornstein

Producers/ Writers/ Directors: Darrett Sanders, Amanda Tepe

Website: www.jkoproductionsllc.com

Three August Days

Block 21: More than Kin



Monday, March 12
8:00 p.m. (21 min.)

ESTONIA/ U.S.A.

World Premiere

Synopsis: In the midst of the political upheaval of the early 1990s, an Estonian girl and a Russian boy reach across cultural lines to unite over a shared bottle of American soda.

Producer: Anneli Ahven

Writer/ Director: Madli Lääne

Facebook: Three August Days

Two DJs: Both Alike in Dignity

Block 15: Shattering the Box



Sunday, March 11
12:30 p.m. (15 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A down-on-his-luck DJ aspires to greatness, but when he shows up to DJ a sweet 16 birthday party, he must face off against another DJ who has already claimed the gig as his own. However, things get complicated when the beat drops and feelings are involved.

Producer: Jason Rodriguez

Writer: Baxter Smith

Director: David Bashford

Underhanded

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (13 min.)

Synopsis: A young boy who was shielded from the criminal underworld by his father, a rising mobster, witnesses the assassination of his dad by gangsters in Atlantic City. These mobsters flourish after seizing his dad's bootleg operation and expanding it to Chicago. Now a young man, he vows revenge.

Exec. Producers: Jordan Robert, Kevin Liao

Producers: Byron Vanquez Jr., Chris Darkes,

Stephen Gregory Curtis

Writer/ Director: Stephen Gregory Curtis

Writer: Chris Darkes

Facebook: Underhanded Film

Tiff

Block 3: Behind Closed Doors



Thursday, March 8
4:30 p.m. (14 min.)

Synopsis: Tiff, a troubled young girl whose life is on a downward spiral, finds cutting as a means to escape and cope with the physical, verbal, and sexual abuse suffered at the hands of her drug-addicted mother.

Awards: Best Actress

Exec. Producer/ Producer/ Writer/ Director:

Kimberley T. Zulkowski

Producer/ Director: Stephen Gregory Curtis

Website: www.mzkinproductions.com/

Tzeva Adom: Color Red

Block 23: Revelations



Tuesday, March 13
8:05 p.m. (21 min.)

Synopsis: As tensions rise on both sides of the border, a female Israeli soldier forms an unlikely connection with a Palestinian boy over social media.

Exec. Producers: Lynne Pasternack, Bruce Pasternack, Fran Harvey

Producers: Todd Felderstein, C. Ashleigh Caldwell

Writers: C. Ashleigh Caldwell (screenplay), Michael Horwitz (story)

Director: Michael Horwitz

Website: www.colorredmovie.com

Unexpected Company

Block 13: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 10
8:20 p.m. (16 min.)

L.A. County Premiere

Synopsis: Dysfunctional sisters Angela and Ellen are forced to endure a dreary reclusive existence, due to the dark secret they share. An unexpected visit from Ellen's handsome co-worker may prove to be their salvation or their undoing. Delicious and haunting, this fractured fairytale serves up dark comedy with a real bite.

Exec. Producer/ Writer: Wendy Mae Shelton

Producers/ Director: Kerry Vaughn Miller

Trash

Block 19: Invisible



Monday, March 12
4:30 p.m. (13 min.)

California Premiere

Synopsis: A homeless trash collector's routine life is shaken when he finds an unsettling message in a bottle.

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Kemp Lee

Producer/ Writer: Kimberly Turner

Producer: Jada Bates

Website: www.trash-film.com

Ukalliq and Kalla Go Fishing

Block 14: Family Friendly Fair



Sunday, March 11
11:00 a.m. (5 min.)

CANADA

Synopsis: Two unlikely friends--a lemming and an Arctic hare--decide to go ice fishing together. The lemming embodies a calm, thoughtful nature. This is contrasted with the well-meaning, but impatient Arctic rabbit. This is a fun, educational story that shows how important it is to be kind, thoughtful, and prepared for whatever comes.

Awards: 2017 Smithsonian NMAI Cinema Showcase - Best Animated Short

Exec. Producer: Neil Christopher

Producers: Danny Christopher, Louise Flaherty

Writer/ Director: Nadia Mike

Up to Snuff

Block 25: Up to Snuff



Wednesday, March 14
7:00 p.m. (80 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: The incredible true story of American composer: W.G. Snuffy Walden. The excesses of rock and roll success lead Snuffy Walden to Hollywood, where he overcomes addiction and becomes one of the most beloved composers in television history.

Featuring: Aaron Sorkin, Martin Sheen, Tom Arnold, Fred Savage, Timothy Busfield, Eric Burdon, Steve Lukather, Mike Post, Snuffy Walden.

Exec. Producers: Ron Gaboury, Judi Pulig

Producers: Mark Maxey, Gino Scofidio

Writer/ Director: Mark Maxey

Website: www.uptosnuffmovie.com

Vellum

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (12 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Vellum is the story of a young woman who's Rydeshare turns sinister.

Exec. Producers: Alison Yates, Kelly Hallmark, Ashtyn Karachristos

Producers: Peyton Skelton, Rebecca High, The People Zoo

Writer: Alison Yates

Director: Kelly Hallmark

Website: www.welcometothepeoplezoo.com

Wake

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (26 min.)

L.A. County Premiere

Synopsis: Michelle must face her past mistakes when she returns home for the funeral of her estranged best friend.

Awards: 2017 Golden Door International Film Festival - Best Short (Nominated)

Exec. Producers: Amy Goodman, Judy Smith, Laurie Smith

Producer/ Writer: Jake Smith

Producer/ Director: Darin Guerrasio

Producer: Lindsay Goodman Smith

Facebook: Short Film Wake

WYRM

Block 21: More than Kin



Monday, March 12
8:00 p.m. (20 min.)

Synopsis: Wyrms has two days to get his first kiss or he'll be held back as part of the school district's No Child Left Alone program, forced to wear his My.E.Q. Remote Monitoring collar through high school.

Awards: Sunscreen Film Festival - Best Short, Best Actress

Exec. Producers: Carmella Southward, Steven Winterbauer, Ann Marie Lewis

Producers: Faissal Sam Shaib, Marc Mounier

Writer/ Director: Christopher Winterbauer

Website: www.wyrmsworld.com

Vici

Block 4: Power Grrrls



Thursday, March 8
6:30 p.m. (17 min.)

Synopsis: A young woman looks to overcome her haunting past through the means of a boxing match.

Awards: 2016 Milwaukee Women's Film Festival - Jury Award for Dramatic Short Film; 2016 Martial-Con Film Festival - Best Breakout Action Star (Female); Jenna Kanell, Best Cinematography, Best Drama; Action on Film International Film Festival, USA 2016 - Runner up: Best Urban Film

Producers: D.Y. Sao (Consulting Producer), Jonathan M. Torres, Houston Williams Jr.

Writer/ Director: Johnny Kirk

Wet Paint

Block 16: The Art of Living



Sunday, March 11
2:45 p.m. (5 min.)

Synopsis: Greg is employed to cover graffitied walls with grey paint. Greg hates his job. Greg hates his life. He wonders why the world never seems to give him what he deserves. On the day we meet Greg, he discovers a wall with a strange property of indirectly delivering any item he paints over. He soon realizes that he can have anything his heart desires if he's willing to take it - anything, but not everything...

Exec. Producer/ Writer: Laurel Costill

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Yi Cheng

Website: www.kinemapictures.com

Your Call is Important to Us

Block 15: Shattering the Box



Sunday, March 11
12:30 p.m. (16 min.)

Synopsis: A young woman calls customer service for help, only to find herself lost in the automated system.

Exec. Producer/ Writer: Schell M. Peterson

Writer/ Director: Micky Shiloah

Wait, The

Block 5: Elixir



Thursday, March 8
9:05 p.m. (7 min.)

West Coast Premiere

Synopsis: Jenny has met her soul mate, but he won't text back.

Exec. Producer/ Producer: Bryan Ricke

Exec. Producer/ Writer/ Director: Melissa Vitello

Wish

Block 16: The Art of Living



Sunday, March 11
2:45 p.m. (8 min.)

Synopsis: Set in a magical forest, a lonely ballerina wishes on a shooting star for a companion. The next morning a male robot appears holding a basket of golden keys. The ballerina learns that the keys bring the robot to life, but only temporarily, leading to a fateful choice about the final key that will change her life forever.

Producers: Heather Blodget, Krista Haley

Writer: Marcus Lee

Director: Pun Wiantrakoon

Zim, The

Block 7: A View to a Thrill



Friday, March 9
6:30 p.m. (80 min.)

Synopsis: A farmer struggles to protect his home and loved ones amidst the violent turmoil of the Zimbabwean land seizures.

Awards: 2017 LA Shorts Fest - Best of Fest

Exec. Producers: Jeremy Robinson, Kevin Kebodeaux, Nathan Stoeber, Maurice LaMarche

Producer/ Writer/ Director: Alexander Bedria

Producers: William Barfield, Shannan Keenan

Website: www.thezimfilm.com

Screenplay Finalists

The Biker's Wave
Casablanca 101
Cherry Glazed
Effulgent
God is not Purple
The Hammer: Subjugated
Honey Boy
Honor
*The Indestructible Light
of Rose Lewis*
The Island of Eter
Isonzo
The Kid Next Door
Lariat Girl
Little Warrior of Manzanar
Metro
My Atari Christmas
Nour
Perfidies
Red Light
The Rental
Sect
Selah Selam
Sepulchre
Siblings
The Sins of the Script
Soulbreak
Stray Cat Jazz
The Venus Syndrome
This Man Will Save Us
A War on Terror

Damien Mazza
John Madill
Christine Sherwood
Jacob Pence
Matt Pacini
Ryan Jaroncyk
Shia LaBeouf & Otis Lort
Ed Vela
Melissa Vitello

Elisabeth Hayward
Brando Boniver & David Reynié
Jim Norman
Suzanne Prescott
Zachary Clark
Tristan Aird
Chris Parish
Maitha Alawadi
Bill Baber
Dempsey Tillman & Ted Dewberry
L.P. Lee
Andrew Fitzgerald
Michael Vincent Montgomery
Matthew McLaughlin
David Samuels
Walter Hochbrueckner
Richard Levine & Marie Bailey
Jake MacPherson
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