

The Third Annual
**PASADENA
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL**

March 2-10, 2016

Revised Final Draft



WELCOME!

We are thrilled to return for our third year to engage the Pasadena community in arts, culture, and entertainment. And this year, we have nearly doubled in length! We now offer nine days/nights of networking, education, and well, a lot of fun. Every year we have been amazed at the joy and enthusiasm that we have experienced with the filmmakers, organizations, and guests. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the support and good will we have received. Join us as we party like it is 1929!

Warmest Regards,
Jessica J. Hardin
Festival Director
www.pasadenafilmmfestival.org





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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.

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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.

Passes:

Passes can be purchased directly from our website (www.pasadenafilmmfestival.org) or at Will Call at the Laemmle Playhouse 7 Movie Theater located at 673 East Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101. It is only **\$75 for a VIP All-Access Pass** (less than \$1 per film), **\$50 for Industry** (please show a union, guild, or business card) and **\$25 for a day pass**. If you would like to attend the Great Gatsby Gala/Award Ceremony, a pass is required for admission. All access, industry, or Gala passes are all accepted. **Gala Passes are \$40**. 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.

Tickets for Individual Blocks:

Tickets for individual blocks are only \$12.00 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. If picking up an Industry Pass, you will be asked to show your guild, union or industry business card. 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 \$75, (less than \$1 per film) this is truly a deal that can't be missed.

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! Our panels on Sunday, March 6, 2016 at Vroman's Bookstore are free and open to the public. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Where do I park?

There are many parking options in Pasadena. There is street parking, valet for most events, self park and garages. Please see individual venue websites for more parking info. We have made every effort to create a walkable event. This way, you can park your car in a garage without worrying about it for the rest of the evening. Many parking garages in Pasadena offer the first 90 minutes free of charge.

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, you can also get up close and personal with the filmmakers...ask questions at our Q and A sessions, or chat with them at one of our parties! This is a fantastic way to gain first-hand knowledge about independent cinema.

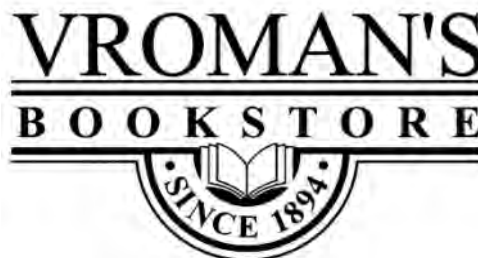
Refund Policy:

Ticket reservations/purchases are non-refundable and non-exchangeable. The Pasadena International Film Festival reserves the right to refuse service to anyone for any reason. We enforce this policy to ensure a secure, professional environment for all of our customers.



FESTIVAL SPONSORS

It is with enormous pride that we showcase our sponsors.
It is due to their generosity, dedication, and vision that this festival is possible.
We applaud their commitment to keeping the arts alive in Pasadena.



Hugo Arteaga Graphic Design



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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 East Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA, 91101. www.laemmle.com

Please visit each venue's website for parking information.

Wednesday, March 2

4:00 p.m. Screenings begin

After Hours: Opening Night Gathering at Du-par's!

Du-par's is a bar, bakery, and restaurant open 24 hours!!
Free parking in the back. Happy hour **10 p.m. - 1:45 a.m.:**

214 South Lake Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101

626.405.8820

www.du-pars.com

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Thursday, March 3

4:00 p.m. Screenings begin

Let's all meet up for delicious food, sumptuous wine, and listen to some live blues or jazz.

redwhite + bluezz

37 South El Molino Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101

626.792.4441

www.redwhitebluezz.com

8 p.m. till 10 p.m.

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Friday, March 4

4:00 p.m. Screenings begin

... With an introductory performance by Westridge School's Madrigals

Tonight's party:

White Horse Lounge

White Horse Lounge offers a craft cocktail menu and unique dining experience that will be unforgettable.

41 South DeLacey St.

626.583.9013

www.whitehorsepasadena.com

8 p.m. Kitchen closes at **11 p.m.**, bar closes at **2 a.m.**

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Saturday, March 5

12:30 p.m. Screenings begin

Industry Party:

Bring your honey to Madeline Garden Bistro!

Located in an old mansion, there is something for everyone. It's Downton Abbey with a modern twist... see you there! There will even be a Karaoke room! **8 p.m.**

1030 East Green Street, Pasadena, CA 91106

626.795.5599

www.madelinegarden.com

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Continued



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 6

11:15 a.m. Film Screenings begin

Vertical Wine Bistro

Come join in the libations as we all celebrate an amazing week of film and friendship. This is a party not to be missed!

70 North Raymond Ave.,
Pasadena, CA 91103
626.795.3999
www.verticalwinebistro.com

8 p.m.

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Monday, March 7

5:30 p.m. Screenings begin

Our first block, "Teensletown," features a performance by students from Muir High School

Tonight let's meet up at~

Paul Martin's American Grill

A classic American restaurant with a California twist. Serving fresh, locally sourced seasonal food, prepared from scratch. Local. Seasonal. Delicious.

455 South Lake Ave. 91101
626.773.7600
www.paulmartinsamericangrill.com

8 p.m.

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Tuesday, March 8

Happy International Women's Day!

3:00 p.m. Film Screenings begin

Evening Fiesta at Du-par's

Du-par's is a bar, bakery, and restaurant open 24 hours!!
Free parking in the back. Happy hour **10 p.m. - 1:45 a.m.:**
214 South Lake Ave, Pasadena, CA 91101
626.405.8820
www.du-pars.com

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Wednesday, March 9

3 p.m. Screenings begin

And we are back at Dupars!

Dupars is a bar, bakery, and restaurant open 24 hours!!
Free parking in the back.
Happy hour 10 p.m. till... :

214 South Lake Ave, Pasadena, CA 91101
626.405.8820

If you would like to guarantee seating, please call in advance to reserve a table.

Thursday, March 10

1:00 p.m. Interviews with our filmmakers at Laemmle's Playhouse 7

Great Gatsby Gala & Awards Ceremony!

Relive the roaring '20s at this hidden gem. We recommend the "Bee's Knees" cocktail .Yum. Guests must have a pass to attend... Passes sold online at www.pasadenafilmfestival.org and at will call at the Laemmle Theatre.

The Speakeasy

25 North Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA 91103
626.676.1205
www.speakeasypasadena.com

7 p.m. Red Carpet 8 p.m. Awards 9 p.m. Dancing



PANELS

Vroman's Bookstore

695 East Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101

www.vromansbookstore.com

626.449.5320

Parking: Complimentary parking in the lot behind the store.

Sunday, March 6

1. Mark Kirkland

1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Three-time Emmy Award winner Mark Kirkland presents “The Golden Age of Hollywood,” showcasing rare authentic equipment from the turn of the last century when Hollywood, as we know it, was born.

2. The Future of Screenwriting

Presented by ScriptWriters Network

2:30 p.m.

The ScriptWriters Network has stepped up to sponsor and produce this fantastic panel of experts.

3. Women in Entertainment

4:00 p.m.

Moderated by Jessica Ogilvie, LA Weekly

Join Jessica and Industry leaders as we discuss an age-old yet relevant topic.

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




Photo: Dena Burroughs



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www.playhousedistrict.org

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ABOUT US

Staff

- ◀ **Jessica Hardin**, Festival Director
- ◀ **Marco Neves**, Creative Director
- Giovanni Argueta**, Technical Director
- Hugo Arteaga**, Graphic Designer



Advisory Board

Jessica Hardin
Marco Neves
Clare Kramer
Lloyd Komesar

Jury

Monika Skerbelis
Mark Brazil
David Fury
Jenny Hayden



*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.*

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SCHEDULE OF FILMS

Wednesday, March 2

Block 1: *City of Roses*, 4 p.m.

(Presented by the
Pasadena Playhouse District Association)
Automotive Landscape No. 1 (short)
Go Public (feature)

Block 2: *Undone*, 6:30 p.m.

Figs for Italo (short)
It's My Heart (short)
Amok (feature)

Block 3: *Finding the Rainbow*, 9 p.m.

Life's A Drag (short)
The Shickles (feature)

Thursday, March 3

Block 4: *Tolerable Cruelty*, 4 p.m.

The Audition (short)
Conference Call (feature)

Block 5: *Historias*, 6:25 p.m.

Los Niños Sicarios (short)
Cookies (short)
Vicious (short)
Selling Rosario (short)
The Holy Cave (short)
400 Miles (short)

Block 6: *Hike*, 8:40 p.m.

The Hike (feature)

Friday, March 4

Block 7: *YAF: Young Adult Female*, 4 p.m.*

A Social Life (short)
The Smiffenpoofs (short)
Every Two Minutes (feature)

Block 8: *The Phantom Pain*, 5:50 p.m.

Birthday (short)
The Lake (short)
A Ghost And The Boy [With A Box On His Head] (feature)

Block 9: *A View To A Thrill*, 8 p.m.

Drone (short)
After (short)
Lightning In The Hand (short)
Sirens (short)
The Dangle (short)
Burned (short)
Purpose (short)

Saturday, March 5

Block 10: *Last Call*, 12:30 p.m.

Flowers (short)
Last Call At Murray's (feature)

Block 11: *An Immovable Feast*, 3 p.m.

Angels With A Cause (short)
Kitchenistas Of National City (short)
Let Them Eat Cake (feature)

Block 12: *Truth*, 5:05 p.m.

The Modern Man (short)
Guilt (short)
Thicker (short)
Hush (short)
Silent War (short)
Sticks (short)



*Other than our blocks, **Young Adult Female** and **Tweenseltown** screenings are for adults (18 and over) only. *Parental Guidance suggested.*

Saturday, March 5 (continued)

Block 13: *Sci-Fi High*, 7:15 p.m.

Dark Specter (short)
First Contact (short)
Journeyman (short)
Variable (short)
Chrysalis (short)
Legend of Amba (short)
Helio (short)

Block 14:

Something Wicked This Way Comes..., 9:40 p.m.

It's in the Kitchen (short)
Flush (short)
Pareidolia (short)
El Aura Azul (short)
Zoë (short)
The Enigma of David Ellingham (short)
Last Man After the War (short)
June (short)

Sunday, March 6

Block 15: *Wicked Righteousness*, 11:15 am

Nicotine (short)
Family Unit (short)
After The Rain (feature)

Block 16: *Sweet Discoveries*, 1:45 p.m.

Rust (short)
The Itinerary (short)
Three Days (short)
Reservation for Three? (short)
Grandpa Arnold (short)
Climb (short)
Pony (short)

Block 17: *Darkest Day, Blackest Night*, 4 p.m.

The Visitor (short)
1440 and Counting (short)
Dreams My Master (short)
Ron Taylor: Dr. Baseball (short)
Gratuitous Violence (short)
Kingsland (short)

Block 18: *Power Grrrls!*, 6:30 p.m.

Beauty Shot (short)
Kessi Blue (short)
Shevenge (short)
June, Adrift (feature)

Block 19: *Breaking The Box*, 8:50 p.m.

Vivien (short)
Winter (short)
The Strange Lives of the Not
So Destined (short)
Burning Memories (short)
The Beauty of Disaster (short)
#3C (short)
HannaH (short)
Where We Begin (short)

Monday, March 7

Block 20: *Teenseltown*, 5:30 p.m.*

The Legend Of The Great Auk (short)
Steven Caught A Star (short)
Mariam (feature)

Block 21: *LaLa Land*, 7:15 p.m.

The First Pitch (short)
Must Sell Screenplay (short)
Attack of the Film Festivals (short)
Restoring Tomorrow (documentary)

Tuesday, March 8

Block 22: *State Of The World*, 3 p.m.

Poverty, Inc. (feature)

Block 23: *Roads Not Taken*, 5:20 p.m.

Young Bull (short)
Imperfect Sky (feature)

Block 24: *Wise Madness*, 7:50 p.m.

I Wasn't Me (short)
The Duke (short)
Jasmin (feature)

Wednesday, March 9

Block 25: *The Road to Awe*, 3 p.m.

Promise Me (short)
The Shadow Forest (short)
Death on a Rock (feature)

Block 26: *All Heart*, 5:30 p.m.

Driving the Heart (short)
Welcome to the Last Bookstore (short)
The Broken Legacy (feature)

Block 27:

The Best Medicine, 7:55 p.m.
The Barry and Ro Show (short)
Roller Coaster (short)
The Dissection of
Thanksgiving (feature)

Thursday, March 10

Block 28: *Interviews with the Filmmakers*, 1 p.m.

❖ *Great Gatsby Gala & Award Ceremony for Pass Holders Only* ❖





ALPHABETICAL FILM LISTING

#3C

Block 19: Breaking The Box



Sunday, March 6
8:50 p.m.

(15 min.)

Synopsis: With his life crumbling around him, David chooses to live life through the memory of better times; a reality that no longer exists. With the assistance of his wife, David is able to find solace through his memories. But, when the truth can no longer stay hidden, David's wife is forced to accept the truth and holding onto David is only causing him more pain and prolonging the inevitable. Regardless of the outcome, she guides David to face the truth and to find peace.

Awards: Honorable Mention & Best Cinematography, Big Mini Media Festival

Producer / Writer / Director: Mischa Auzins

1440 and Counting

Block 17: Darkest Day, Blackest Night



Sunday, March 6
4 p.m.

(14 min.)

Synopsis: A burned-out teacher is one day away, fourteen hundred and forty minutes from retirement when she is confronted by a desperate man from her past. When she discovers a beloved student of hers is in danger, her life is turned upside down with minutes.

Awards: Nominated best short film: Irvine International Film Fest and Long Beach Indie, SF Black Film Fest Merit Award winner, and SF Film award winner.

Executive Producer: Jesse Hagy

Producers: Ola Soler, Tony Gapastione

Writer / Director: Tony Gapastione

400 Miles

Block 5: Historias



Thursday, March 3
6:25 p.m.

(29 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: At his father's request, a young man returns home after several years to make peace with the man he vowed never to see again.

Executive Producers: Fabian Martin, Maria Conchita Martin, Victor Martin, Timothy Olague

Producers: Fabian Martin, Victor Martin, Felix Martiz, Timothy Olague

Writers: Fabian Martin, Maria Conchita Martin

Director: Felix Martiz

After

Block 9: A View To A Thrill



Friday, March 4
8:00 p.m.

(16 min.)

U.S. Premiere

United Kingdom

Synopsis: Following a world-changing event, Harry is left alone on his family's farm in a remote location. Without his wife and son, he tries to make do with his own company and daily chores that give him sustenance-that is until Dylan runs from the wilderness and into his life.

Producers: David Toms, Caitlyn Jayne & James Colley

Writers: David Toms and Caitlyn Jayne

Director: David Toms

After the Rain

Block 15: Wicked Righteousness



Sunday, March 6
11:15 a.m.

(95 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A young couple's romance is put to test by unexpected news.

Executive Producer (s): Roy Vongtama, Vitune Vongtama

Producers: Jordi Caballero, Hector Tinoco, Daniel Bonjour, Lisa Hoover

Writer: Ryan James Russell

Director: Daniel Bonjour

Amok

Block 2: Undone



Wednesday, March 2
6:30 p.m.

(76 min.)

Synopsis: A horrible work accident triggers a terrifying event from Adam's childhood. Newly settled in NYC with his wife and newborn son, he's haunted by the past while struggling to hold onto the present.

Awards: Best Feature Film, 2015 UK Film Festival, 2015 Williamsburg Independent Film Festival

Executive Producers: Andrew Renzi, Catherine Kellner, Andrew Corkin, Larry Fessenden, Brent Kunkle

Producer: Ed Vassallo

Writer: Robert Leaver

Director: Rick Rodgers

Angels With a Cause

Block 11: An Immovable Feast



Saturday, March 5
3:00 p.m.

(14 min.)

Synopsis: *Angels With a Cause* is an inside look at the nation's largest privately funded Meals on Wheels program in the country. Sister Alice Marie Quinn, a Daughter of Charity, and her committed staff and volunteers prepare and deliver 4,000 nutritious meals to homebound recipients in the poorest section of Los Angeles, CA. Dignity, compassion and nourishment for the soul is served one plate at a time.

Awards: Silver Award, 2015 Spotlight Documentary Film Awards (Atlanta)

Executive Producers: Rev. Edward R. Udovic, C.M., Sr. Joyce Weller D.C., Scott Kelley, PhD

Producer: JoAnne Zielinski

Director: Gary Novak

Aura Azul, El

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 5
9:40 p.m.

(8 min.)

USA/Colombia

Synopsis: An ordinary day at the pool for Sasha and her girlfriends turns horrifying when she unknowingly awakens a supernatural force.

Producer: Tatiana Harbeck

Writer / Director: Andy Harbeck

The Beauty of Disaster

Block 19: Breaking The Box



Sunday, March 6
9:40 p.m.

(12 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A psychic swindle tests the bonds of love between two sisters as a sexy detective threatens them with a nice long stay in a prison hellhole.

Awards: Award of Merit, Best Shorts Competition

Executive Producer: Janet Stilson

Producers: Janet Stilson, David Chachere, Nicole Gomez Fisher, Jennifer Wollan

Writer: Janet Stilson

Director: Nicole Gomez Fisher

Attack of the Film Festivals

Block 21: LaLa Land



Monday, March 7
7:15 p.m.

(20 min.)

Synopsis: If you ever wondered what really goes on at film festivals, look no further than *Attack of the Film Festivals*. Mockumentary filmmaker Pat McGreal goes behind the scenes and investigates the seedy underworld of these celluloid circuses where money and power go hand-in-hand with greed, sex and gluten.

Awards: Best Short Comedy, 2015 Burbank International Film Festival; Official Selection, NYC Independent Film Festival, Laughlin International Film Festival, Temecula Independent Film Festival

Producer / Writer / Director: Patrick McGreal

Automotive Landscape No. 1

Block 1: City of Roses



Wednesday, March 2
4:00 p.m.

(23 min.)

Synopsis: Audrey Steele, a conventional 1960s housewife, is consumed with grief after losing her young daughter. Audrey's psychiatrist, Dr. Koenig, believes selective amnesia is Audrey's obstacle to moving forward and pursues experimental therapy to help Audrey recover her memories of the car accident.

Producers: Anna Rowser, Arthur Hurley, Andy Kuester

Writers: Arthur Hurley and Anna Rowser

Director: Arthur Hurley

Beauty Shot

Block 18: Power Grrrls!



Sunday, March 6
6:30 p.m.

(8 min.)

West Coast
Premiere

Synopsis: A young woman struggles with her self image using a controversial product.

Awards: Best Suspense Short, SNOB Film Festival

Producers: Leticia De Bortoli, Marina Pitombeira

Executive Producer / Writer / Director:

Leticia De Bortoli

The Audition

Block 4: Tolerable Cruelty



Thursday, March 3
4:00 p.m.

(19 min.)

Synopsis: *If at first you don't succeed..try something desperate!* A tragicomic short film about the ups, downs, and melodrama of living one's imagined life.

Executive Producers: Betty J. Ward, Scott & Joan Barnes

Producer: Libby Ward

Writers: Libby Ward, screenplay; Libby Ward & Mike Hardy, story

Director: Mark Kirkland

The Barry and Ro Show

Block 27: The Best Medicine



Wednesday, March 9
7:55 p.m.

(5 min.)

Synopsis: Married TV stars Barry and Ro Hopkins attempt to shoot a promo for their 1970s variety show.

Awards: Best Ensemble, L.A. Indie Film Festival

Executive Producer: Todd Slawsky

Producers: Mike Olson, Michael Snyder, John Schneider

Writers: Mike Olson, Michael Snyder

Director: Jordan Liebowitz

Birthday

Block 8: The Phantom Pain



Friday, March 4
5:50 p.m.

(12 min.)

Synopsis: When a young military wife gets news that her Marine husband has been severely wounded in combat, she discovers that life ahead for them is going to be a difficult and yet amazing journey.

Awards: Best Live Action Short, St. Louis IFF; Best Narrative Short, HollyShorts FF; Best Short Film, Fort Lauderdale IFF

Executive Producers: Chris King, Heather King, Jacqueline Calkin

Producers: Chris King, Heather King, Eric Wheeler

Writer / Director: Chris King

The Broken Legacy

Block 26: All Heart



Wednesday, March 9
5:30 p.m.

(85 min.)

Synopsis: While voluntarily testing a new drug at a research facility, a lost screenwriter recruits the help of an egotistical philosopher in order to attract the girl of his dreams.

Awards: Best Male Actor/Feature Film, Gwinnett Center International Film Festival

Executive Producers: Miguel Garzón Martínez, Glix Entertainment

Producers: Miguel Garzón Martínez, Cynthia Bravo, Casey O'Brien

Writer / Director: Miguel Garzón Martínez

Chrysalis

Block 13: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 5
7:15 p.m.

(19 min.)

Synopsis: Genetics has transformed society. Instead of growing older, every person changes into someone new – but who, exactly, is unpredictable. The genetic regeneration is known as *Chrysalis*. Tristan Winters, an agent at Global Security, goes through the change but it threatens to reveal his past and endanger his life.

Producers: Lauren Brown, Ricky Lloyd George, Danielle Savre, Keaton McGruder

Writer / Director: Keaton McGruder

Cookies

Block 5: Historias



Thursday, March 3
6:25 p.m.

(12 min.)

Spain

Synopsis: A young banker goes to deliver an eviction notice to one of his best former clients' house. What he encounters makes him reconsider the reason of his visit.

Executive Producer: Silvia de Castro

Producer / Writer / Director: Ignacio Sepúlveda

Burned

Block 9: A View To A Thrill



Friday, March 4
8:00 p.m.

(17 min.)

U.S.A./Spain

Synopsis: Jason (Beau Knapp; *The Signal*, *Southpaw*) hides in a motel room afraid of coming out. The only person he trusts is his girlfriend Lila (Maika Monroe; *The Guest*, *It Follows*), who takes him to meet a friend in a remote house in the desert. At their arrival, an unexpected guest asks too many questions. Jason's trust for Lila begins to fade.

Executive Producers: Christi Catalpa, Jaime Valdueza

Producers: Adam Mutchler, Maggie Zulovic

Writer Director: Jaime Valdueza

Climb

Block 16: Sweet Discoveries



Sunday, March 6
1:45 p.m.

(14 min.)

Synopsis: A narrative drama about a man's journey to find peace and beauty in his own death, and his granddaughter's unwillingness to let him go.

Awards: Best Actor, Tampa Bay Underground Film Festival

Executive Producers: Andre L III, Jose Bedia Jr.

Producer: Kelly Todd

Writer / Director: Ryan Todd

Cuddle Party

Block 27: The Best Medicine



Wednesday, March 9
7:55 p.m.

(14 min.)

Synopsis: Executive produced by Jill Soloway, the Golden Globe and Emmy-winning creator of *Transparent*, *Cuddle Party* follows Jane and Drew, a couple on the brink of divorce, who attend an intimacy workshop to heal their marital issues. Their toxic bond sours the party and leads to an accident that ultimately reunites them.

Awards: Best Comedy Short, Best Supporting Actress, Hollywood Independent Film

Executive Producer: Jill Soloway

Producers: Tara Tomicevic, Amanda May Gavlick, Lex Benedict

Writer / Director: Matthew Irving Epstein

Burning Memories

Block 19: Breaking The Box



Sunday, March 6
8:50 p.m.

(12 min.)

Synopsis: Veronica is a 30-year-old woman who goes about her life using men to fill the void her father created when he abandoned her as a child, but one day, a knock at her door brings her 12-year-old half-brother Elliot into the picture, in the same situation she was in, to change the course of her life.

Awards: Official Selection, CSULB Film & Electronic Arts Fall Showcase 2015; nomination, Best Student Film, Long Beach Indie International Film

Executive Producer: Alex Balassa

Producers: Alyssa Anna, Rachel Witherspoon (Associate Producer)

Writer / Director: Amelia Benavente

Conference Call

Block 4: Tolerable Cruelty



Thursday, March 3
4:00 p.m.

(93 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Tyler Foster, manager of promotional partner sales for a major film studio, has just accidentally found out that after years of service he's going to be fired. His boss, Ken Wolfe, is on the verge of securing the biggest partnership deal anyone at the studio has ever seen, so Tyler decides that with nothing to lose, he's going to sabotage the deal.

Producers: Adam Davis & Will Corona Pilgrim

Writer / Director: Adam Davis

The Dangle

Block 9: A View To A Thrill



Friday, March 4
8:00 p.m.

(20 min.)

Synopsis: When down on his luck American spy Tom Ryder comes face to face with the world's greatest mercenary in 1975 Moscow he decides to take matters into his own hands... but she has other plans.

Awards: Best Short Film, 2015 California Independent Film festival; Top Ten Best Shorts, 2015 Harlem International Film Festival; Best Cinematography in a Short, 2015 Portsmouth International Film Festival; Best Performance By and Actor, 2015 Malibu International Film Festival

Producers: Michael E. Ravich, Victor Solis

Writer / Director: Michael E. Ravich

Dark Specter

Block 13: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 5
7:15 p.m.

(5 min.)

Synopsis: A villain must face his greatest nemesis.
Awards: Best Short & Festival favorite, Comics in Film Festival, Santa Fe Comic Con
Executive Producer: Bruce Nachsin
Producer: Roe Moore
Writer: Bruce Nachsin

Death on a Rock

Block 25: The Road to Awe



Wednesday, March 9
3:00 p.m.

(82 min.)

Synopsis: Portland filmmaker Scott Ballard’s (*A Standing Still, Welcoming Departure*) latest feature follows a young woman coming to terms with a trying event in her life.
Awards: Best Actor, Best Ensemble, 2015 LA Indie Film Fest; Best Female Role, 2015 Philadelphia Independent Film Festival; Best Editing, 2015 Southhampton International Film Festival; Grand Jury Prize/Best Narrative Feature Film, 2015 Columbia Gorge
Producers: Jordan Eusebio, Meghan Lybrand, Scott Ballard
Executive Producer / Writer / Director: Scott Ballard

The Dissection of Thanksgiving

Block 27: The Best Medicine



Wednesday, March 9
7:55 p.m.

(97 min.)

Synopsis: Buffalo, NY. The day before Thanksgiving. Cliff and Carol Morgan take their three grown children out to dinner to tell them that, after 30 years, they are getting a divorce. As they spend what could be their last Thanksgiving together as a family, everyone tries to salvage what’s left. A dysfunctional family comedy with heart.
Producers: Mridu Chandra & Troy Hall
Writers: Troy Hall & Kevin Logie
Director: Rafael Monserrate

Dreams My Master

Block 17: Darkest Day, Blackest Night



Sunday, March 6
4:00 p.m.

(15 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Two single fathers struggle to give their kids the lives they wanted to have when they were young.
Producers: Daniel J. Pico, Maris Lidaka
Executive Producer / Writer / Director: Michael A. Krehan

Driving the Heart

Block 26: All Heart



Wednesday, March 9
5:30 p.m.

(12 min.)

Synopsis: It is 1994. The ‘driver’ for an organ delivery service, and his partner Dale, leave Los Angeles late at night on a mission to deliver a heart to a woman at the hospital in Wrightwood, the town where the ‘driver’ was born. They have four hours before the heart is no longer usable.
Executive Producer: Oliver Sykes
Producer: Mary Bonney
Writers: Jason Brown (original story), Matthew Eason (screenplay)
Director: Michael Tringe

Drone

Block 9: A View To A Thrill



Friday, March 4
8:00 p.m.

(14 min.)

Synopsis: A rookie Air Force drone pilot finds himself increasingly attached to a target he watches from halfway around the world.
Awards: Finalist, Student Academy Awards
Producers: Abi Damaris Corbin and Jess Gordon Maldaner
Writer: Tony Rettenmaier
Director: Justin S. Lee

The Duke: Based on the Memoir “I’m The Duke” by J.P. Duke

Block 24: Wise Madness



Sunday, March 6
7:50 p.m.

(23 min.)

Synopsis: Mired in a concussed haze, an ex-NFL player struggles to reconcile dreams of a comeback with impending fatherhood during Super Bowl Sunday.
Producer: Dan Leonard
Writers: Derek J. Pastuszek & Andy Siara
Director: Max Barbakow

The Enigma of David Ellingham

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 5
9:40 p.m.

(13 min.)

Synopsis: A man finds his wife brutally murdered with no recollection of what happened. Shortly after his best friend arrives to help him sort through the options. The question bodes, in our most vulnerable of moments, is it the ID or the EGO you should trust?
Awards: Silver Horror Award
Executive Producers: Jennie Jacobs & Logan Boyd
Producers: John-Paul Panelli & Mikey Lopez
Writer / Director: John-Paul Panelli

Every Two Minutes

Block 7: Young Adult Female



Friday, March 4
4:00 p.m.

(46 min.)

Synopsis: Every Two Minutes is a documentary film produced by Michigan State University students to raise awareness of the importance of addressing sexual assault.
Awards: Golden Award, World Documentary Awards; International Award of Excellence, Jakarta International Film Festival
Executive Producers: Geri Zeldes and Bob Albers
Producer: Laura Swanson
Director: Kirk Mason

Family Unit

Block 15: Wicked Righteousness



**Sunday, March 6
11:15 a.m.**

(15 min.)

Synopsis: An inmate receives her husband for a 3 day conjugal visit on prison grounds.

Awards: Best Director of Actors, 2015 UCLA Film Festival

Producer: Leah Applebaum

Writer / Director: Zach Marion

Flowers

Block 10: Last Call



**Saturday, March 5
12:30 p.m.**

(9 min.)

United Kingdom

Synopsis: A boy falls in love with a deaf and mute girl. When the boy tries to give the girl some flowers as a token of his affection, he discovers to his dismay that the girl is allergic to all flowers. Undaunted, the boy has to think creatively, to get his passion across.

Awards: Best Comedy, Cape Fear International Film Festival; Best Short Film, Interurban Film Festival; Best Actor, Pink City International Short Film Festival (India); Gold Kahuna Award, Honolulu Film Awards

Producer: Sabina Sattar, Gladys San Juan and Monika Kocian

Writer / Director: Sabina Sattar

Go Public

Block 1: City of Roses



**Wednesday, March 2
1:45 p.m.**

(90 min.)

Synopsis: Most people have opinions about public education, but how often do we see and hear from those actually living the public school experience.

50 filmmakers...50 subjects...28 campuses...1 day.

Awards: Best Documentary, Catalina Film Festival; President's Innovation Award, Edutopia; Best Editing, Burbank International Film Festival; Selected for the 2014/2015 American Film Showcase

Executive Producers: Carol Carson, Shawn and Jennifer McCreight, Robert Johnston and Catherine Barsotti

Producers: Dawn Carson O'Keeffe and James W. O'Keeffe

Director: James W. O'Keeffe

Figs for Italo

Block 2: Undone



**Wednesday, March 2
6:30 p.m.**

(18 min.)

Synopsis: A simple question from a journalist about a WWII veteran takes Dora back to a significant morning in her life in Italy during the war. That day she and her family were changed forever.

Awards: Numerous awards, including Best Short Drama, Trail Dance Film Festival; Best Short Film, Shawna Shea Film Festival; Audience Choice Award, Redlands Film Festival

Executive Producers: Laura Delano & Bob Celli

Producers: Associate Producer - Daniel Delano

Writer / Director: Bob Celli

Flush

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



**Saturday, March 5
9:40 p.m.**

(5 min.)

West Coast Premiere

Synopsis: It's man vs. technology in this dark comedy/horror mashup from first-time Director Matt Cooper.

Producer: Kris Phipps

Writers: Matt Cooper & Will Witwer

Director: Matt Cooper

Grandpa Arnold

Block 16: Sweet Discoveries



**Sunday, March 6
1:45 p.m.**

(13 min.)

Synopsis: After the death of his grandmother, Kevin must spend his summer with his grandfather in a boring small town, but they start bonding when Kevin falls in love with the girl next door.

Awards: Best Narrative Short, 2016 Borrego Springs Festival; Award of Merit, 2015 Best Short Competition

Executive Producer / Producer / Writer / Director: Anatoliy Kim

The First Pitch

Block 21: LaLa Land



**Monday, March 7
7:15 p.m.**

(3 min.)

Synopsis: In 1903, a young screenwriter pitches his first movie.

Producer: Kevin Maher, Eric Hendricks

Executive Producer / Writer / Director: Kevin Maher

A Ghost and the Boy [with a Box on his Head]

Block 8: The Phantom Pain



**Friday, March 4
5:50 p.m.**

(76 min.)

Synopsis: Theo, an 18 year old boy who has a shrewd perception on reality has an encounter with someone from deep within his sub-conscience, his image of a perfect girl; who he has been looking for since he can remember. Unaware that no one can see her, he is sent to a mental hospital as he cannot come to grips with the reality that others force onto him.

Awards: First Place, Feature Film, LA Art House Film Festival; Best Narrative Feature, On the Line Film Festival; Talented New Director, St. Tropez

Producer: Heather Lynn

Writer / Director: Philip Blue



Gratuitous Violence

Block 17: Darkest Day, Blackest Night



Sunday, March 6
4:00 p.m.

(19 min.)

Synopsis: An ambitious television reporter, trying to save her job, learns of two high school students who are planning a school shooting. Instead of turning them in, she helps make their story better for television - and better for herself.

Awards: Audience Choice Award, HollyShorts Monthly Screenings

Executive Producers: Sean Solan, Elaine Loh

Producer: Pamela Holt

Writers: Elaine Loh and Sean Solan

Director: Sean Solan

Helio

Block 13: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 5
7:15 p.m.

(19 min.)

Synopsis: *Helio* is a short, visceral film centered on a post-apocalyptic underground society where miners work for light to survive. But when a dying rebel thrusts the unexpected onto an unassuming worker's lap, all hell breaks loose. What begins as one man's race to escape the hostile government quickly escalates into a city-wide uprising of the people.

Awards: Audience Choice Award and Best Sci-Fi Short, MiSciFi 2015; Sci-Fi Award for Excellence, San Francisco Film Awards 2015; Certificate of Merit, Boston Science Fiction Film Festival 2015; Best Cinematography, Widescreen Film and Music Video Festival 2015

Producer / Writer / Director: Teddy Cecil

Hush

Block 12: Truth



Saturday, March 5
5:05 p.m.

(14 min.)

Synopsis: When a young ballerina performs as Little Red Riding Hood, the line between art and life blurs, and a real monster looms. As opening night approaches, she finds herself wanting to confide in a fellow dancer, but also afraid of the consequences.

Awards: Semi-finalist, Windrider International Student Film Festival; finalist, Revolt Film Festival; Best Drama (Student), Los Angeles Independent Film Festival Awards

Producer: Brian Knight

Writer / Director: Whitney Clinkscales

Guilt

Block 12: Truth



Saturday, March 5
5:05 p.m.

(11 min.)

Synopsis: By sharing guilt over their choice of action, two strangers find compassion in each other's arms for one night and leave the question of what could have been forever open

Awards: Award of Merit/Special Mention for Women Filmmakers, 2015 Best Shorts Competition

Executive Producer / Writer: Tahmina Rafaella

Producer / Director: Cynthia Bravo

The Hike

Block 6: Hike



Thursday, March 3
8:40 p.m.

(122 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: A currently separated couple agree to meet for a hike. Derek arrives full of optimism and charm. Brooke brings divorce papers for him to sign. They have no clue a psychopath is hiding from the law near the trail. When their paths cross, a terrifying game of cat & mouse ensues as the couple are forced to work together in order to survive.

Awards: Best Feature, Best Actress (Monica Olive), Nominated, Best Actor (Dave Fugett) Nominated, Best Director (Dave Fugett), The Independent Horror Movie Awards Dec. 2015

Executive Producers: Michelle Fugett & Dave Fugett

Producer / Writer / Director: Dave Fugett

I Wasn't Me

Block 24: Wise Madness



Tuesday, March 8
7:50 p.m.

(11 min.)

Synopsis: *I Wasn't Me* is a POV short film about one man's struggle to remember his tragic night of intoxication. Waking up naked in a park to a terrible feeling of regret, he pieces together his night, which centers on a love interest.

Producers: Stephen Ohl and Drew Tholke

Writers: Stephen Ohl Story by: Stephen Ohl, Rab Berry, Jeffrey A. Stallman

Executive Producer / Director: Stephen Ohl

HannaH

Block 12: Truth



Sunday, March 6
5:05 p.m.

(22 min.)

U.S. Premiere

Synopsis: Exhausted, Hannah, a woman in her twenties, has been wondering for days in desolate and endless ranges. She's seeking a special place, kept secret in a leather notebook, to accomplish her last mission. Pursued by a male presence, she will soon get caught up with.

And it's completely worn out that Hannah will have to engage in an ultimate struggle to challenge her destiny.

Awards: Award of Distinction, Canada Short Film Festival; Special Mention, Filmmaker International Film Festival (Spain)

Executive Producers: Jeremy Ferdman

Producers Sean Delecroix, Aurelie Desfour

Writer / Director: Sean Delecroix

The Holy Cave (La Cueva Sagrada)

Block 5: Historias



Thursday, March 3
6:25 p.m.

(15 min.)

Spain

Synopsis: Carlos is just another regular teenager in high school with just one friend: Juan, the classical nerdy guy. He's in love with Sofia; the girl of his dreams. But, when all of a sudden, Angel, the hottest guy in school is starting to date her, he'll work out something, along with Juan, that would change his entire life forever...*The Holy Cave*.

Awards: Best Editing, Indian Cine Film Festival; Best Comedy Short, LAIFFA; Award of Recognition, Student Short Film, HIMPFF

Executive Producers: Escac Films

Producer: Yaiza Navarro

Writer / Director: Aleix Massot

Premiere Status: Premiere

Imperfect Sky

Block 23: Roads Not Taken



Tuesday, March 8
6:25 p.m.

(105 min.)

Synopsis: A story of two brothers, love, family...and the perils of heroin. The film follows the younger brother, Abel as he sets out to New York for an early college acceptance program. But not before making an unannounced visit to Los Angeles to visit his estranged older brother Skyler who is battling addiction.

Awards: Best International Film, 2015 Dublin Underground Film Festival; Best Feature Film, 2015 Hollywood Independent CineFest; Best Picture, 2015 Big Pride LA Film Festival

Executive Producers: Graham Streeter, Alex Lebosq

Producer: Alex Lebosq

Writer / Director: Graham Streeter

It's in the Kitchen

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 5
9:40 p.m.

(5 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: In this single-shot film, a couple films themselves in their kitchen to find out what a possible entity may want from them.
Executive Producer / Producer / Writer: Mike Rad
Director: Michael Hilf

Jasmine

Block 24: Wise Madness



Tuesday, March 8
7:50 p.m.

(80 min.)

Hong Kong

Synopsis: A year after his wife's murder, once-successful Hong Kong businessman Leonard To is still reeling from the tragedy and becomes obsessed with a mysterious stranger he sees at his wife's grave, believing him to be responsible for her death.
Executive Producers: Jon Anderson, Nicole Watson
Producers: Dax Phelan, Stratton Leopold, Eric M. Klein, Jason Tobin, Jennifer Thym, Chris Chan Lee, Martin Strachan, Guy Livneh
Writers: Dax Phelan (screenplay), Dax Phelan (co-story), Jason Tobin (co-story)
Director: Dax Phelan

June, Adrift

Block 18: Power Grrrls!



Sunday March 6
6:30 p.m.

(84 min.)

Synopsis: Three millennial women escape Los Angeles on the impulse that building a sailboat can change their lives.
Awards: Best Narrative Feature, Best Lead Actress, 2015 Red Dirt International Film Festival; Silver Remi Award for First Feature, 2015 WorldFest Houston
Executive Producers: Christine Moore, Amanda McCann, Cassie Ramoska
Producers: Christine Moore, Amanda McCann, Cassie Ramoska, Reena Dutt, Kasia Trojak
Writers: Christine Moore, Amanda McCann, Cassie Ramoska
Director: Adrienne Subia

It's My Heart

Block 2: Undone



Wednesday March 2
6:30 p.m.

(18 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: In this dark yet comedic silent film set in 1920s St. Louis, a lonely schmuck searches for love only to find that it comes at a greater cost than expected.
Executive Producer: Leo Burgess Ramsey
Producers: Paula Van Camp, Joe Pirrie, Daniel Schmidt
Writer: Leo Burgess Ramsey
Director: Nick Henderson

'Journeyman', Chapter I, "An Orator's Tale"

Block 13: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 5
7:15 p.m.

(14 min.)

Synopsis: *Journeyman* is a sci-fi action thriller that follows college football star Johnson Creed as he is dragged into a strange world of cover-ups and conspiracies.
Executive Producer: Rob Valle
Producers: Kyle Valle, Erin Áine Smith, Navid Mayel
Writer / Director: Kyle Valle

Kessi Blue

Block 18: Power Grrrls!



Sunday, March 6
6:30 p.m.

(7 min.)

Synopsis: A day in the life of... Kessi. A young, troubled woman is confronted with the decision to face her pain or continue living in delusion.
Executive Producer: Jasmin Marsters
Producer: Jasmin Marsters
Co-producer: James Marsters
Writer: Jasmin Marsters
Director: Jasmin Marsters
Co-Director: James Marsters

The Itinerary

Block 16: Sweet Discoveries



Sunday March 6
1:45 p.m.

(10 min.)

Synopsis: An older waitress abruptly finds herself without a job, but receives a mysterious package in the mail about what to do next.
Executive Producers: Ricardo Perez-Selsky, Chase Hinton, Haskell Vaughn Anderson
Producers: Carla Perez-Selsky, Preston Geer, Sean Willis
Writers: Carla Perez-Selsky, Ricardo Perez-Selsky
Director: Ricardo Perez-Selsky

June

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Saturday, March 5
9:40 p.m.

(25 min.)

Synopsis: *June* is a story about a girl named Ellie who moves in a house with her older sister and mom. Her loneliness leads her to befriend a ghost living upstairs. This is the first film written and directed by 13-year old Keely Martin.
Awards: Honorable Mention, SaMo Indie Fest; Best Youth Filmmaker, Long Beach Indie International Film Festival; Award of Merit, Best Shorts Competition
Executive Producers: Victor Martin, Alisha Martin
Producer: Victor Martin
Writers: Keely Martin, Maggie Lezcano
Director: Keely Martin

Kingsland

Block 17: Darkest Day, Blackest Night



Sunday, March 6
4:00 p.m.

(33 min..)

World Premiere

United Kingdom

Synopsis: Set in the rapidly changing East End of contemporary London, *Kingsland* is the story of Victor Monroe, a semi-professional boxer who is at a crossroads in his life, torn between a past he is trying to escape and a future that is not going the way he planned.
Executive Producer: Bill Furman
Producer / Writer: Tom Gabbay
Director: Jake Gabbay

The Kitchenistas of National City

Block 11: An Immovable Feast



**Saturday, March 5
3:00 p.m.**

(23 min.)

Synopsis: A community of mothers learns to cook traditional dishes in a healthy way in their attempt to transform a predominately Latino community that is suffering from a health crisis.
Awards: Award of Merit, Best Shorts Competition; Award of Recognition; Women Filmmaker Accolade Global Film Competition
Executive Producer / Producer / Director: Mary Ann Beyster

Last Man After the War

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



**Saturday, March 5
9:40 p.m.**

(20 min.)

Synopsis: *Last Man After The War* is the tale of two families’ tragic struggle for survival after the collapse of civilization.
Writer: Erich William Bergmeier
Director: Robert Cappelletto

Let Them Eat Cake

Block 11: An Immovable Feast



**Saturday, March 5
3:00 p.m.**

(54 min.)

Synopsis: Five years in the making, filmed in a dozen countries, *Let Them Eat Cake* takes a global view of the perils and pleasures of pastry.
Awards: Special Jury Mention, Best Editing, 2014 Sole Luna Festival, Italy
Executive Producer: Rafael Film, LLC
Co-Producers: Alexis Krasilovsky (USA), Sanjoy Ghosh (India), Hamidou Soumah (USA/Guinea).
Unit Producers include: Daigo Nakayama (Tokyo), Georges Vandalle (Lille, France), Emel Celebi (Turkey) and others
Writer: Alexis Krasilovsky
Directors: Alexis Krasilovsky
Unit Directors include: Rosa Carrillo (Mexico), Ajit Nag (India), Shabnam Ferdousi (Bangladesh), Moussa DIkite (Guinea); Christian Lanazca (Peru), Anouchka Walewyck (Paris), Arthur de Leeuw (Kenya) and others.

Photo credit: Alpha Oumar Bah

The Lake

Block 8: The Phantom Pain



**Friday, March 4
5:50 p.m.**

(15 min.)

Synopsis: Faced with a terminal diagnosis, Matt Streeter makes a choice to protect his wife and young girls from the deliberate march to its conclusion.
Writer / Director: Michael Buie

Legend of Amba

Block 13: Sci-Fi High



**Saturday, March 5
7:15 p.m.**

(35 min.)

Synopsis: A group of childhood friends reconnect under mysterious circumstances—and are invited on a trip together. While hiking in the woods, they encounter a magical force that reveals what they truly feel about themselves, each other, and the world at large.
Executive Producer: Kaelan Strouse
Producer: Kaelan Strouse, Brian Morgan
Writer / Director: Kaelan Strouse

Life’s A Drag

Block 3: Finding the Rainbow



**Wednesday, March 2
9:00 p.m.**

(23 min.)

Synopsis: A straight actor becomes an unlikely star, after entering a drag competition to overcome hard times.
Awards: Outstanding Pilot at the Brooklyn Web Festival
Executive Producer: Ian Verdun, Diva Verdun, Toofun West
Producers: Ian Verdun, Toofun West, Sebastian La Cause
Writer: Ian Verdun
Director: Sebastian La Cause

Last Call at Murray’s

Block 10: Last Call



**Saturday, March 5
12:30 p.m.**

(105 min.)

Synopsis: Dwindling clientele and those damn anti-smoking laws have finally forced veteran bar-owner Murray to close his remote mountain-town watering hole. But when a freak blizzard blows through, his hopes for a quiet closing are dashed when a disparate collection of dysfunctional misfits get stranded together in Murray’s crazy little pub. Between drinks and karaoke, bonds are formed, broken, and blown sky-high.
Executive Producers: Brian Beatty, Rae & Mark Davis, Sandra Beatty, Andreas Bernatschek, Oliver A. Duersteler, Mike Fuhrmann
Producers: Linda Palmer, Marvin Glover, Colleen Keane
Writers: Brian Beatty & Betsy Morris
Director: Linda Palmer

The Legend of the Great Auk

Block 20: Teenseltown



**Monday, March 7
5:30 p.m.**

(5 min.)

Synopsis: An animated story evoking the feeling of an indigenous peoples story, *The Legend of the Great Auk* educates viewers about the history of an extinct penguin-like seabird. A “conversation” between a curious common murre chick and his Great Auk ancestor identifies the hazards faced by these birds in the past, present and future.
Producer: Rachel Price
Writer: Elizabeth Heffron
Directed: Karen Lewis



Lightning in the Hand

Block 9: A View To A Thrill



Friday, March 4
8:00 p.m.

(15 min.)

Synopsis: Big business, the law, struggling silver miners, and a lone Apache clash over a claim dispute in 1890s New Mexico.

Awards: Third Prize, Black Maria Film Festival; Best New Mexico Short, Santa Fe Independent Film Festival; Best Short Film, Best Short Film Director, Black Hills Film Festival; Best Short Film, Almeria Western Film Festival; Best Short Film, Santa Fe Film Festival; First place, Native American Films

Executive Producers: Joey Grossfield, Andrew Reuland, Syd Butler

Producer: Lava Buckley

Writers: Andrew Reuland, Joey Grossfield

Director: Joey Grossfield

The Modern Man

Block 12: Truth



Saturday, March 5
5:05 p.m.

(41 min.)

Synopsis: *The Modern Man* is a story about the decision points in our lives and how our choices impact those around us. In a culture that is always asking for more, what happens when you just can't get enough?

Executive Producers: Jay Coile, Seth Davis, Rocky Coile

Producer: David Thornton

Writer: Jay Coile

Director: Will Coile

Pareidolia

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Sunday, March 6
9:40 p.m.

(8 min.)

Synopsis: Having trouble distinguishing nightmare from reality, Desmond Parker starts to question his own identity.

Awards: Best Short Film, Los Angeles Spotlight Film Festival

Producers: Lauren Fash & Susan Graham

Writer / Director: Daniel Russell

Los Niños Sicarios

Block 5: Historias



Thursday, March 3
6:25 p.m.

(10 min.)

Synopsis: *Los Niños Sicarios*, the title of the film, refers to the child hitmen working for Mexican drug cartels. Along the Southwestern border states the most desired recruits are Mexican-American teenage boys. After 9 months of military training the boys are released back into U.S. communities and are 'on call' for specific targets. This is a day in the life of an American born child hitman or 'Little Assassin.'

Awards: Honorable Mention, Best Film, Los Angeles Movie Awards; Honorable Mention, Director

Executive Producers: Rimrock Pictures

Producer: Rimrock Pictures

Writer / Director: Rob Lambert

Must Sell Screenplay

Block 21: LaLa Land



Monday, March 7
7:15 p.m.

(4 min.)

Canada

Synopsis: A fun music video for film lovers, screenwriters, and the people who love us.

Awards: Best Music Video, Toronto Independent Film Festival 2015

Producer / Writer / Director: Arun Lakra

Pony

Block 16: Sweet Discoveries



Sunday, March 6
1:45 p.m.

(31 min.)

Synopsis: Claudia, a hardworking single mom, has to go out of town on an important last minute business trip, forcing her to leave her 5 year old daughter Miko with uncle Jeff, a rock musician in his 50's who is still running on fumes of his glory days.

Awards: Winner of 26 Awards including; Best Short Film 31st Boston Film Festival; Best Short Film and Emerging Filmmaker Awards, Hollywood Film Festival; Best Screenplay, Gold Lion award, London film Awards.

Executive Producers: Candice Carella, Xander Berkeley, Samuel Bayer

Producer: MaryAnn Tanedo

Writer / Director: Candice Carella

Mariam

Block 20: Teenseltown



Monday, March 7
5:30 p.m.

(44 min.)

France

Synopsis: It's 2004 and France has passed a law banning religious symbols in public schools. *Mariam*, French-born with Arab parents, recently wore the hijab after performing the hajj with her grandmother. At the start of the academic year she pretends the law does not exist. She doesn't want to acknowledge it and be forced to make a decision...

Awards: Special Jury Prize, Dubai International Film Festival

Producer: Jérôme Bleitrach

Writer / Director: Faiza Ambah

Nicotine

Block 15: Wicked Righteousness



Sunday, March 6
11:15 a.m.

(8 min.)

Synopsis: A man and a woman share a cigarette along with their ideals in life.

Executive Producer: Jon Roger

Producer / Writer / Director: Jon Ryan Sugimoto

Poverty Inc.

Block 22: State Of The World



Tuesday, March 8
3:00 p.m.

(1 hr., 51 min.)

Synopsis: Examining the influence of corporate globalization and exposing the destructive nature of our modern financial system, Poverty, Inc. offers a sobering look into how the predatory economic policies instituted by America's new elite class have contributed to the nation's descent into Third World status.

Awards: Jury Award, Best of Festival, Hoboken International Film Festival 2015; Jury Award, Best of Festival, WorldFest-Houston 2015; Jury Award, Best of Festival, Yosemite Film Festival 2015

Executive Producer: Gary Null

Producers: Valerie Van Cleve, Richard Gale

Writers: Gary Null, Valerie Van Cleve

Director: Gary Null

Promise Me

Block 25: The Road to Awe



Wednesday, March 9
3:00 p.m.

(8 min.)

Synopsis: A once flourishing woman, now at the end of her life, who struggles to ensure that her recently reconciled son does not make the same mistakes that she did.
Executive Producer / Producer / Writer/ Director: Kevin Machate

Restoring Tomorrow

Block 21: LaLa Land



Monday, March 7
7:15 p.m.

(78 min.)

Synopsis: Religious institutions through history have always formed the bedrock of American communities. Today they are losing members and even closing their doors at an alarming rate. Director Aaron Wolf’s personal journey of rediscovery, comes alive in Restoring Tomorrow. The film tells the story of a Los Angeles treasure, Wilshire Blvd Temple, built by the original Hollywood moguls, its near demise and its determination to achieve the impossible-raise \$150 million to restore its majesty and vibrancy, thus also restoring the future of the Jewish community, the greater Los Angeles community-and on a personal level, Wolf himself.
Executive Producers: Howard Bernstein, Janet Dreisen-Rappaport, Bruce Karatz, Timothy Nuttall, Richard Pachulski,Brian Shirken, Mark Siegel, Don Schwarz, Wilshire Boulevard Temple, Aaron Wolf
Producer: Tim Nuttall
Writer / Director: Aaron Wolf

Rust

Block 16: Sweet Discoveries



Sunday, March 6
1:45 p.m.

(9 min.)

U.S.A./Canada

Synopsis: While many metalworkers go to great lengths to prevent rust from occurring on their designs, Kennedy uses rust to his advantage. Fascinated by the natural, ever-changing designs of oxidization, Kennedy creates abstract metal sculptures that embrace the iron’s natural evolution and in doing so, finds perspective in the patina.
Awards: Best Director, Raindance Webfest 2015, Nominated, Best International Series, Raindance Webfest 2015; Nominated, Best Achievement in Production Raindance Webfest 2015
Executive Producers: Bernard M. Burton, Susan Hanrahan, and Andrea Batista
Producers: Ben Proudfoot and Gary Swim
Director: Ben Proudfoot

Purpose

Block 9: A View To A Thrill



Friday, March 4
8:00 p.m.

(10 min.)

Synopsis: At the brink of his death, a radical jihadist reflects on his purpose when he encounters the first child he killed.
Executive Producer: Utkarsh Sharma
Producer: Logan Day
Writer: Utkarsh Sharma, Carter Moon
Director: Utkarsh Sharma

Roller Coaster

Block 27: The Best Medicine



Wednesday, March 9
7:55 p.m.

(15 min.)

Synopsis: A young actress encounters “Murphy’s Law” while on the way to a potentially career-making audition
Awards: Awards of Merit, Short Film, Direction, Editing, Music Score, and Sound Editing/Mixing, IndieFEST International Film Festival 2015 :
Executive Producers: Jared Odrick, Karl Holtz, and Rolando Vega
Producer / Writer / Director: Bradley Hawkins

The Shickles

Block 3: Finding the Rainbow



Wednesday, March 2
9:00 p.m.

(1 hr., 40 min.)

World premiere

Synopsis: *The Shickles* is a comedy about sex, love, death, and the sweetness of life. It explores the lives and loves of an eccentric Jewish family following the death of their beloved grandparents.
Executive Producers: Safi Porat, Lynn Elliot
Producers: Jason McHugh, Donna Trousdale
Writer / Director: Donna Trousdale

Reservations for Three?

Block 16: Sweet Discoveries



Sunday, March 6
1:45 p.m.

(13 min.)

U.S.A./Canada

Synopsis: A romantic dinner for two is upended when a high-strung woman serves up a meal time discussion of personal reservations and doubts. Two people, One menu, lots of reservations!
Awards: Festival Darling Award, 2015 Devour! Food and Film Festival; Producer’s Choice Award, 2016 Idyllwild International Festival of Cinema
Executive Producers: David Wetzel, Hank White and Anthony Kantor.
Co-Executive Producer: Fred Mletzko
Producers: Michael P. Mason, Leanne Melissa Bishop and David Wetzel
Writers: Leanne Melissa Bishop & Kelly Perine
Director: Steven Bennett

Ron Taylor: Dr. Baseball

Block 17: Darkest Day, Blackest Night



Sunday, March 6
4:00 p.m.

(19 min.)

Canada

Synopsis: *Ron Taylor: Dr. Baseball* is the story of an 11-year major League pitcher, who after winning two world championships with the 1964 St. Louis Cardinals and the 1969 Miracle Mets, embarked on a USO tour through Vietnam that would change his life.
Awards: Numerous awards, including Audience Choice Best Documentary Short, 2015 Napa Valley Film Festival; Audience Choice Best Short Film, 2015 Cinefest Sudbury International Film Festival.
Executive Producers: Syd Cooper, Claire Peace-McConnell
Producers / Writers / Directors: Drew Taylor and Matthew Taylor



Selling Rosario

Block 5: Historias



Thursday, March 3
6:25 p.m.

(16 min.)

Synopsis: A family of migrant workers send their 12-year-old daughter and her outlaw cousin into the night on the promise of a stranger. It's a risky plan, expect to be surprised.

Awards: Jury Award, Best Short, Napa Valley Film Festival; Audience Award, Napa Valley Film Festival; Best Director, Film Score, Best Actor (Mia Xitlali), Audience Award, Napa Valley Film Festival

Executive Producers: Michael Winokur and Iana Simeonov

Producer: Emily Miller

Writer / Director: Michael Winokur and Iana Simeonov

Silent War

Block 12: Truth



Saturday, March 5
5:05 p.m.

(12 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: After following her deceased father in the military, a young woman is abused by her commander and betrayed by the institution itself.

Executive Producers: Joel Gretsche, Bill Webb, Kimberly Quinn, Kristin Alcala, Pete Dress

Writers / Director: Joel Gretsche

A Social Life

Block 7: Young Adult Female



Friday, March 4
4:00 p.m.

(8 min.)

Synopsis: A Social Life is a short film about a career driven woman who's living the life she always dreamed of... online.

Awards: Best International Actor, Canberra International Short Film Festival; Best Ladies First Short, Lady Filmmakers Festival; Best Short Film, Monarch Film Festival

Executive Producers: Mike Gugat

Producer: Kerith Lemon and Associate Producer Gia Viscuso

Writer / Director: Kerith Lemon

Las Cieni / The Shadow Forest

Block 25: The Road to Awe



Wednesday, March 9
3:00 p.m.

(14 min.)

Poland

Synopsis: While hunting a wolf in a sinister forest, a man is startled by the sound of guns firing. Suddenly, there are people running... even the wolves are overwhelmed by a sense of the impending danger.

Awards: Numerous awards, including Gold Remi Award, 48th WorldFest Houston International Film Festival; Silver Tadpole Award, 22nd Camerimage International Film Festival, Poland

Executive Producer: Sandra Staletowicz

Producer: Jerzy Lukaszewicz

Writer / Director: Andrzej Cichocki

Sirens

Block 9: A View To A Thrill



Friday, March 4
8:00 p.m.

(23 min.)

Synopsis: After losing her job as a nurse, Sarah now finds herself lost on a dangerous path as her efforts to pay for her daughter's operation by any means necessary begin to backfire. Sarah, the once promising ballerina in her youth, becomes entangled with a murder plot at an underground brothel.

Awards: Best Original Score, Tampa Bay Underground Film Festival; Honorable Mention, Idyllwild International Festival of Cinema

Executive Producers: Garry McMahon, Suzanne Klein, Edna Meyer-Nelson, Linda Reeves

Producers: Jen Cutler, Beth Thibodeaux, Joey Spillane

Writer / Director: Joey Spillane

Steven Caught a Star

Block 20: Teenseltown



Monday, March 7
5:30 p.m.

(20 min.)

Netherlands

Synopsis: The imaginative, 9-year old Steven grows up with divorcing parents. The only place he can visit to escape his home situation is his imagination. In his imagination he catches a shooting star in a glass jar which becomes the light in his life.

Awards: Best Fantasy, Los Angeles Independent Film Festival 2015, Audience Favorite Award, Sunderland Shorts Film Festival 2015, Best Dramatic Short, El Dorado Film Festival 2015; 2nd place, Short Feature, NxMW 2015

Executive Producer / Producer: Jacco Post

Writer / Director: Michiel ten Kleij

Shevenge

Block 18: Power Grrrls!



Sunday, March 6
6:30 p.m.

(11 min.)

Synopsis: This dark comedy jumps in and out of film genres by following three best friends' fantasies of murdering their terrible boyfriends.

Awards: Best Actress, Riverbend Film Festival

Producers: Amber Benson, Jessica Sherif, Megan Lee Joy

Writers: David Greenman (story by Megan Lee Joy and Jessica Sherif)

Director: Amber Benson

The Smiffenpoofs: A History of Female A Cappella

Block 7: Young Adult Female



Friday, March 4
4:00 p.m.

(24 min.)

West Coast
Premiere

Synopsis: A short film documentary exploring the history and evolution of the United States' oldest traditionally female a cappella group, The Smiffenpoofs, as their trajectory developed alongside national historical events.

Awards: Best Documentary Short, 2nd Place, Desert Rocks Fame 2015

Executive Producer / Writer / Director: Abbie Duquette

Sticks

Block 12: Truth



Friday, March 5
5:05 p.m.

(37 min.)

Synopsis: Growing up in a backwoods, dead-end town, Jaclyn is a 17 year old girl who is about to inherit her late daddy's lottery winnings which everyone wants. Fighting to support her decadent, wicked parents and mentally-challenged brother, who is the only person she loves, finds herself surrounded by secrets and spiraling events that can only end in sacrifice or death.

Awards: -Audience Choice, Highland Park Film Festival; Best Thriller, Red Dirt International Film Festival

Executive Producer: Matthew Thomas

Producer: Kris Phipps

Writer / Director: Seth Christian

The Strange Lives of the Not So Destined

Block 19: Breaking The Box



Sunday, March 6
8:50 p.m.

(10 min.)

U.S. Premiere

Synopsis: Searching for purpose, a recently widowed man wanders into a psychic shop where he forced to reevaluate his perception of the world and the control he may or may not have over his future.

Executive Producer: Ashley Donigan

Producer: Theodore James

Writers: Theodore James & Ashley Donigan

Director: Theodore James

Variable

Block 13: Sci-Fi High



Saturday, March 5
7:15 p.m.

(12 min.)

Synopsis: A scientist working to discover the secrets of time travel gets a visit from a familiar face — himself, one day in the future. Now, he must follow his mysterious alter ego on a mission to correct the timeline he has created, forcing him to decide between himself, his family and the future.

Executive Producer: Maurice Whitfield

Producer: Maurice Whitfield

Writer / Director: Chris Valenziano

Vivien

Block 19: Breaking The Box



Sunday, March 6
8:50 p.m.

(4 min.)

Synopsis: A young woman receives an anonymous letter on the same day each month. Today is that day. As she awaits the letter's arrival, and receives it, she must decide whether or not to open it.

Executive Producer: Lexie Helgerson

Producers: Julia Aks and Lexie Helgerson

Writer: Lexie Helgerson

Director: Julia Aks

Thicker

Block 12: Truth



Saturday, March 5
5:05 p.m.

(11 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Two brothers, one a twenty-something slacker and the other a high school honor student with a talent for petty theft, try to get by on their own.

Producers: Justin Olson, Jonathan Dorf

Writer / Director: Jonathan Dorf

Vicious

Block 5: Historias



Thursday, March 3
6:25 p.m.

(19 min.)

World Premiere

Synopsis: Told through the eyes of those affected, *Vicious* takes an unflinching look at the tragic cycle of gang violence perpetuated over the course of one brutal and heartbreaking night.

Awards: Panavision Young Filmmakers Grant, the Irving Lerner Endowment Grant

Producers: Maritte Go, Bernardo Duran Jr, Leslie Marchand, Andrew Jeric

Writer: Andrew Jeric

Director: Andrew Jeric

Welcome to The Last Bookstore

Block 26: All Heart



Wednesday, March 9
5:30 p.m.

(11 min.)

Synopsis: This documentary short focuses on the life of Josh Spencer, owner and operator of The Last Bookstore in downtown Los Angeles. Against the closure of massive bookstore chains and the rise of eReaders, Josh has been able to create a local resurgence of the printed word. We explore his life as a father, husband, small business owner, and paraplegic as well as the store's magnetic attraction of the community.

Awards: Best Cinematography, Hollywood Short Film Festival; Best Documentary Short, Los Angeles Movie Awards

Producer: Matt Olson

Director: Chad Howitt

Three Days

Block 16: Sweet Discoveries



Sunday, March 6
1:45 p.m.

(11 min.)

Synopsis: A man attempts to reconnect with a woman from his past; telling the story of how the two were whimsical teen lovers, married for the three days in 1989.

Awards: Best Original Score (Short Film), Idyllwild International Film Festival; Indie Spirit Award, Idyllwild International Film Festival

Executive Producer: John D. Kiggins;

Co-Ep - Mike Leavitt

Producers: Chris Tung, Jessica Howard, John Swansiger

Writers: Mike Leavitt and John Swansiger

Director: John Swansiger

The Visitor

Block 17: Darkest Day, Blackest Night



Sunday, March 6
4:00 p.m.

(8 min.)

Synopsis: *The Visitor* deals with the news a young girl gets from her biological mother who she has never met ... and this impacts not only the mother, but the father who raised her alone and has a 'secret' of his own.

Executive Producer: Song Liu

Producer: Song Liu

Writer: Song Liu

Director: Song Liu

Where We Begin

Block 19: Breaking The Box



Sunday, March 6
8:50 p.m.

(20 min.)

Synopsis: A portrait of eternal love expressed through movements and sound.

Awards: 7 Awards - Best Short Film, Best Director, Best Cinematographer, Best Ensemble Cast, Best Musical Score, Best Edit, Mary Austin Award - Excellence in Directing (Best Female Director), Idyllwild International Festival of Cinema 2016

Executive Producers: Shin Yamaguchi,

Jeremy Robinson and Ryuji Yamagata

Producers: Mitsuyo Miyazaki, Peter Maestrey, Yvonne Jimenez

Writer: Mitsuyo Miyazaki

Director: Mitsuyo Miyazaki

Winter

Block 19: Breaking The Box



Sunday, March 6
8:50 p.m.

(6 min.)

Synopsis: Upon discovering first snowfall, two immigrant children uncover the harsh reality between truth and imagination.

Executive Producers: Canada Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council

Producers: Aaron Kopff, Agnieszka Gutkowska, Lina Roessler

Writer / Director: Lina Roessler

Young Bull

Block 23: Roads Not Taken



Tuesday, March 8
5:20 p.m.

(15 min.)

West Coast
Premiere

Synopsis: A young man dodging a drug debt scrambles to rebuild the relationships in his life that were destroyed by his problems with addiction.

Awards: Merit for Directing, Cinematography, and Lead Actor, IndieFEST Global Film Awards 2015

Executive Producer: Nathaniel Lezra

Producer: Austin Simons

Writer / Director: Nathaniel Lezra

Zoë

Block 14: Something Wicked This Way Comes...



Sunday, March 5
8:00 p.m.

(10 min.)

Synopsis: Following the birth of her baby brother, a devoted 7-year-old girl is caught in a storm of love and madness that sweeps up her mother – suffering from postpartum depression, and her father – desperate to keep the family whole.

Producers: Anwar Cantillo & Steven Baker

Writer / Director: Steven Baker

THE END



Photo: Dena Burroughs



Photo: Dena Burroughs



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