

2026
FLORIDA
FILM
FESTIVAL
APRIL 19
CELEBRATING
35 YEARS OF
INDEPENDENT FILM





Thirty-five years is an incredible achievement for any festival, and the Florida Film Festival is just hitting its stride as a platform for filmmakers from around the world. What sets the Florida Film Festival apart? We bring new voices and industry veterans, and even legends, to a collegial and collaborative, warm and welcoming atmosphere. That spirit is what drew me across the country from Washington State to join this team of passionate and dedicated film festival professionals who care deeply about film and filmmakers. While this FFF will be my first, the energy around creating this year's edition has been exhilarating, and we can't wait to share what's in store for our longtime fans and new arrivals.

Cinema is significant. It challenges, it soothes, it says "you are part of something larger." It is the best media to help us with deeper understanding of the world



and ourselves. No other medium can immerse the art lover like film and reach across space and time to make connections between us. Seeing films together creates conversation, friendship, and contact. So, as you are welcomed to this year's festival, look to your left, and your right. Talk to each other. What follows next flows naturally as a benefit of the power of film.

Filmmakers are the source of everything we do. We are grateful for all of your talent, and hard work,

making this supreme collaborative art come together with your full hearts. Thank you for visiting us and sharing your work. If you can be part of a post-film Q&A, thank you for adding a layer of understanding to your work that cannot be replicated anyway else. Long live Q&As.

This festival is ultimately about you, the audience! Without your love for FFF, we wouldn't be what we are today. Thank you for making the festival a cultural celebration of film like no other. Welcome back. We hope we are your favorite edition yet. If you are new to us, welcome! I hope you are swept away by the experience and become a devoted follower of FFF.

Yours in cinema,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wade Neal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wade N. Neal
Executive Director

DEGREES IN FILM & Television



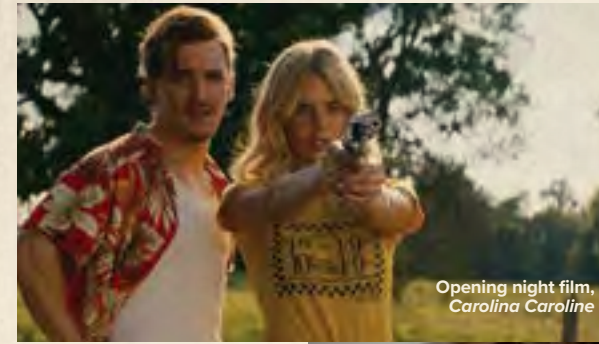
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Financial aid available for those who qualify • Career development assistance • Accredited University, ACCSC



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Opening night film,
Carolina Caroline



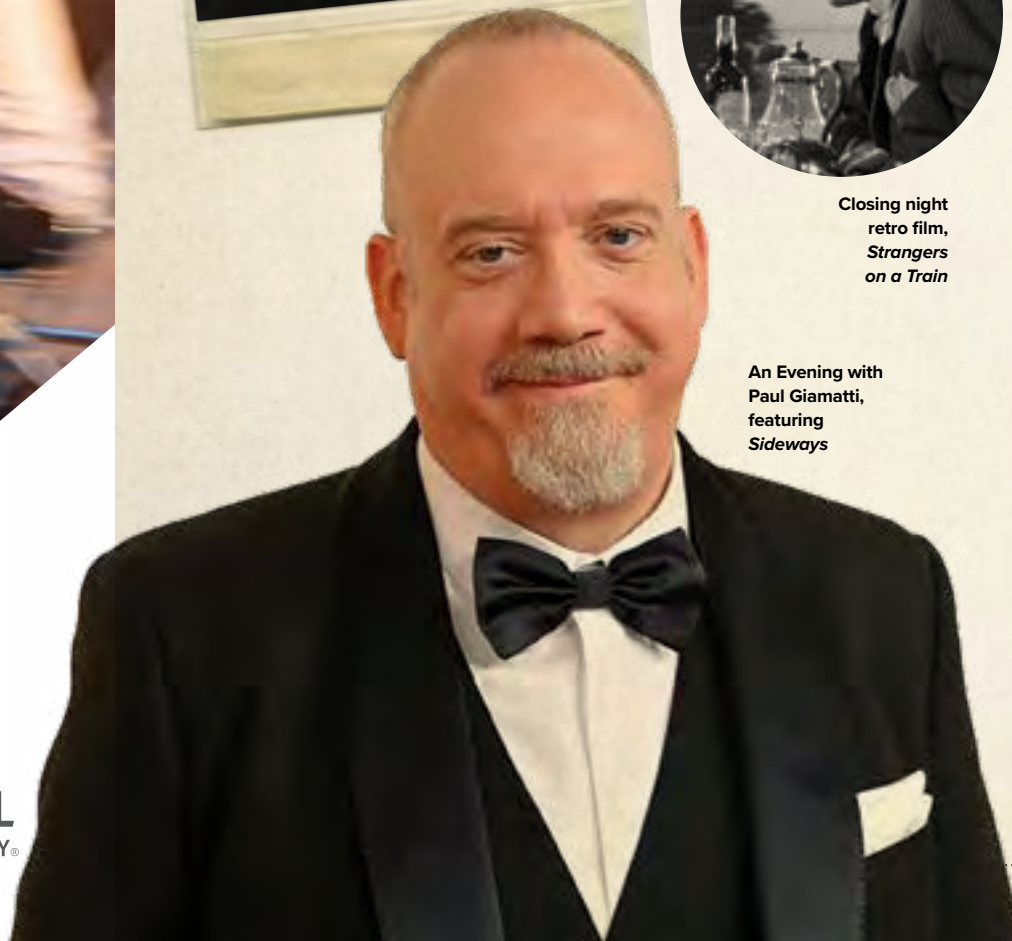
An Evening with Judge Reinhold,
featuring *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*



Midnight movie, *Hokum*



Closing night
retro film,
*Strangers
on a Train*



An Evening with
Paul Giamatti,
featuring
Sideways

2025 FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL

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MOST FILMS HAVE NOT YET BEEN RATED BY THE MPA.
PLEASE READ THE DESCRIPTIONS AND CHOOSE RESPONSIBLY.



Friends of Motion Picture Art,

I'm honored to share that this year marks Full Sail University's 23rd anniversary serving as the primary sponsor of the Florida Film Festival.

As the Festival embarks upon its 35th year, Full Sail University looks forward to this nationally renowned celebration of talented filmmakers. We anticipate yet another exceptional festival brought to us by Enzian Theater, where we will be entertained, educated, and emotionally moved through the art of filmmaking.

Home to a vibrant community that embraces entertainment media and emerging technologies, we at Full Sail University both respect and relish the notion that great motion pictures come in many genres and in many lengths. The Florida Film Festival is one of the premier festivals in the world where esteemed filmmakers and actors—as well as novices—showcase their personal art.

Each year the Florida Film Festival

provides us with the opportunity to lose ourselves in the stories displayed by these films, only to emerge afterwards knowing a bit more about ourselves after looking through the eyes and lenses of another's creative vision.

For over 45 years, Full Sail University has been providing a one-of-a-kind, innovative, and award-winning education centered on supporting our students, while helping to propel our graduates into their careers. On behalf of Full Sail University, it is indeed our privilege and pleasure to return in serving as the primary sponsor of the Florida Film Festival once again in 2026. I look forward to the unique and meaningful experiences this year's festival will offer.

Sincerely,

Garry Jones
President
Full Sail University

2026 Florida Film Festival

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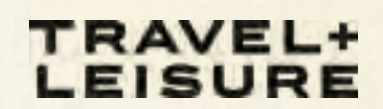
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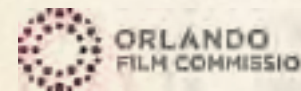
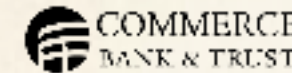
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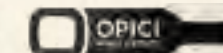
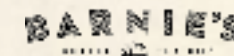
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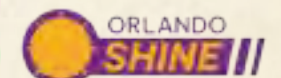
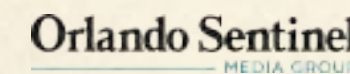
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Enzian Theater and Florida Film Festival is funded in part by Orange County Government through the Arts & Cultural Affairs Program and by United Arts of Central Florida, your local agency for the arts.

MYGRATION FILMS

CALL FOR FILMMAKERS & FILM SUBJECTS

Filmmakers will produce a 3-5 minute MYgration film for a chance to win the \$1,000 cash grand prize. Creatively tell the story of how a Central Floridian came to live here.

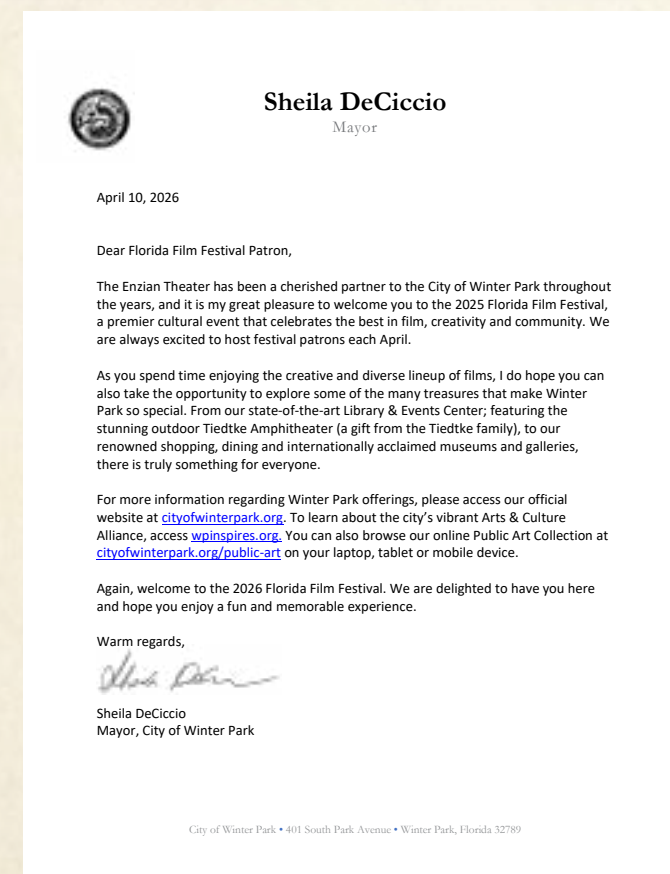
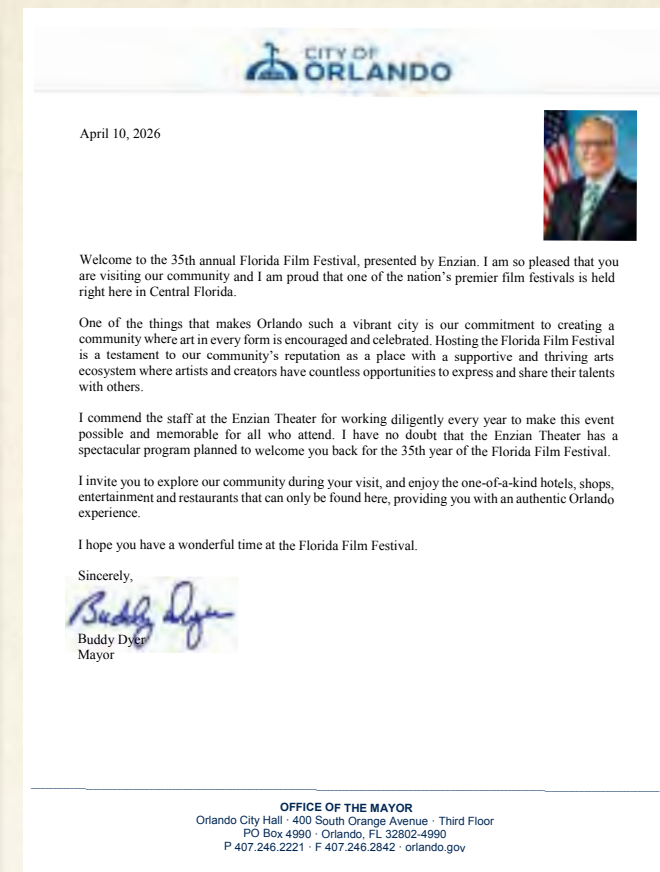
LEARN MORE AT [FUSIONFEST.ORG/FILM](https://fusionfest.org/film)



United Arts Central Florida is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission of celebrating the people and the many diverse cultures that make Central Florida a gem. We promote, support, and celebrate the arts, and we are committed to breaking down barriers of race and class. FusionFest is a project of the Orange County Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.



Official Letters



Florida Film Festival Producer Passholders

The Florida Film Festival exists to serve the community and continues to thrive due to the enthusiastic support of our patrons. The individuals on this list are some of our most committed attendees; they have made a significant contribution to the Festival and, by extension, to the culture of the community. To this extraordinary group, we say, “Thank you. We’ll see you at the movies.” List current as of March 10, 2026

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Dedication

This year’s FFF is dedicated to the memory of Brian Quain, who was a beloved part of our festival family for over a dozen years. His passion and enthusiasm for independent film, music and filmmakers (especially filmmakers!) continues to be an inspiration for everyone who knew him or had the pleasure of working with him.

L: Brian Quain. R: Mark Duplass.



2026 Florida Film Festival Volunteers

The Florida Film Festival acknowledges these terrific volunteers—all of whom deliver an extra-special spark that makes the event memorable, efficient, and friendly. Some of them go back decades with the festival. Thank you all.

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0013-2026 1/25

Reel Representation Film Series: A Curated Celebration of Diversity and Inclusion in Independent Cinema

Aligned with our global Travel + Leisure Co. culture of inclusion and diversity, we are pleased to support the Florida Film Festival and Enzian's commitment to strengthen respect, wisdom, and creativity within the community through independent film. We are proud to celebrate the diversity of independent cinema in a way that reflects the way we reflect the experiences and perspectives of various cultures and identities in our workplace. – The Travel + Leisure Co. Team

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LOOK FOR THIS ICON IN THE
FESTIVAL PROGRAM FOR FILMS
WITH "REEL REPRESENTATION."



DISABILITY REPRESENTATION

I Swear (p. 25)

DIRECTED BY **KIRK JONES**

Funny, frank, and deeply human, *I Swear* tells the inspirational true story of John Davidson, a trailblazer whose honesty and humor helped the world better understand what it means to live with Tourette syndrome. Winner of the BAFTA for Best Actor (Robert Aramayo) and the latest classic British crowd-pleaser from Kirk Jones (*Waking Ned Devine*).



WOMEN REPRESENTATION

A Life Illuminated (p. 67)

DIRECTED BY **TASHA VAN ZANDT**

Join Dr. Edie Widder, trailblazing marine biologist, on a descent 3,300 feet into the ocean's darkest depths. This stunningly beautiful scientific film features footage of the elusive giant squid in its natural habitat, and the earliest images of deep-sea bioluminescence.



WOMEN REPRESENTATION

Sender (p. 59)

DIRECTED BY **RUSSELL GOLDMAN**

Newly sober and attempting a fresh start, a woman (Britt Lower, *Severance*) begins receiving packages she never ordered—each more unnervingly personal than the last—in this stylish paranoid thriller about addiction, recovery, and the crushing expectations for normalcy in a consumer-driven world. Rhea Seehorn, David Dastmalchian and Jamie Lee Curtis co-star.



BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN REPRESENTATION

If I Go Will They Miss Me (p. 54)

DIRECTED BY **WALTER THOMPSON-HERNÁNDEZ**

Twelve-year-old Lil Ant is a sensitive artist, enamored with the legends of Greek mythology and yearning to impress his emotionally distant father, Big Ant. Writer-director Walter Thompson-Hernández sets this mesmerizing, lyrical portrait of masculinity and tenderness against the backdrop of a busy LAX flight path.



ASIAN REPRESENTATION

School for Defectors (p. 71)

DIRECTED BY **JEREMY WORKMAN**

Celebrated documentarian Jeremy Workman (*Secret Mall Apartment*, FFF 2024; *Lily Topples the World*, FFF 2021) takes his camera to Busan, South Korea, where he follows 20 students from the tiny Jangdaehyun Boarding School—all North Korean defectors.



SPANISH/LATINX REPRESENTATION

Valentina (p. 61)

DIRECTED BY **TATTI RIBEIRO**

During a 48-hour period at the U.S. and Mexico's busiest border crossing, resolving an ordinary parking ticket is derailed by family, friends, Valentina's own apathy, and the maddening bureaucracy of the system. This unique documentary-comedy hybrid is executive produced by Jessica Alba and stars Keyla Monterroso Mejia (*The Studio*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*).

AN EVENING WITH
PAUL GIAMATTI

FEATURING *SIDEWAYS*
SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 8-11:30PM AT ENZIAN

THIS VISITING ARTIST EVENT IS PRESENTED THROUGH
THE KIND GENEROSITY OF TERESA WILLIAMS AND VONESA WENZEL.

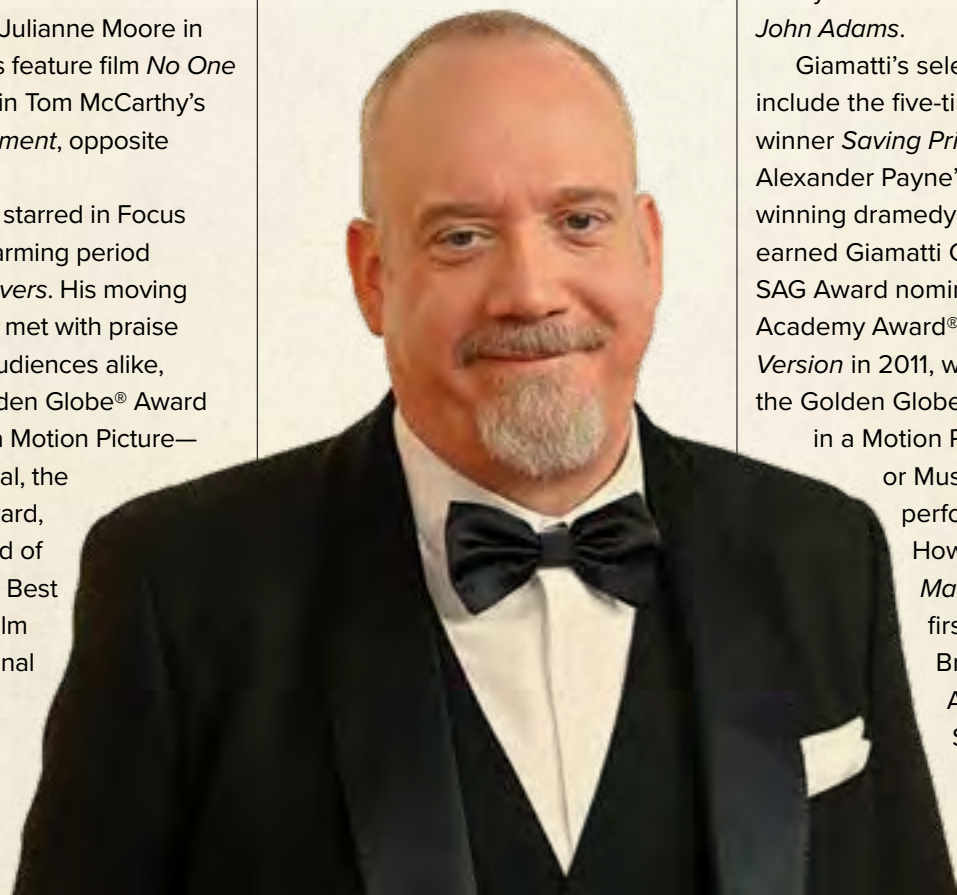
One of the most versatile actors of his generation, Paul Giamatti can currently be seen in Season Seven of Netflix's *Black Mirror*, which earned him a 2026 Golden Globe® nomination for Best Actor in a Limited Series. He can also be seen in *Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale* and in the Paramount+ series *Star Trek: Starfleet Academy*. Giamatti can next be seen starring opposite Julianne Moore in Jesse Eisenberg's feature film *No One Cares*, as well as in Tom McCarthy's feature *The Statement*, opposite Paul Rudd.

He previously starred in Focus Features' heartwarming period drama *The Holdovers*. His moving performance was met with praise from critics and audiences alike, receiving the Golden Globe® Award for Best Actor in a Motion Picture—Comedy or Musical, the Critics Choice Award, the National Board of Review Award for Best Actor, and The Palm Springs International Film Festival "Icon Award." Giamatti was also nominated for the SAG, BAFTA, and Academy

Award® for Best Actor. Giamatti also starred in the second season of HBO Europe's hit Spanish-horror series *30 Coins*, as well as in the final season of the Showtime hit *Billions*, for which he has been nominated for a Broadcast Film Critics Association Award and a Critics Choice Award for Best Actor in a Drama Series over the course of

the series. Previous television credits include HBO's *Too Big to Fail*, which earned Giamatti his third SAG Award as well as an Emmy® and a Golden Globe® nomination in 2011. In 2008, Giamatti won Emmy®, SAG, and Golden Globe® awards for Best Actor in a Miniseries for his portrayal of the title character in HBO's seven-part, Emmy Award®-winning miniseries *John Adams*.

Giamatti's selected film credits include the five-time Oscar®-winner *Saving Private Ryan*; Alexander Payne's Academy Award®-winning dramedy *Sideways*, which earned Giamatti Golden Globe® and SAG Award nominations; and the Academy Award®-nominated *Barney's Version* in 2011, which earned him the Golden Globe® for Best Actor in a Motion Picture—Comedy or Musical. In 2006, his performance in Ron Howard's *Cinderella Man* earned him his first SAG Award and a Broadcast Film Critics' Award for Best Supporting Actor, as well as Oscar® and Golden Globe® nominations in the same category.



Sideways

DIRECTED BY **ALEXANDER PAYNE**
USA, 2004, 124 MIN, RATED R

The Florida Film Festival is honored to welcome Paul Giamatti in celebration of this beloved film and his illustrious career.

A wine-soaked road trip through California's Santa Ynez Valley provides a pair of affable but mismatched friends—disillusioned writer Miles (Paul Giamatti) and carefree soon-to-be-married actor Jack (Thomas Hayden Church)—with an unexpected opportunity to confront where they

are in life and what they truly want before time, and opportunity, pass them by. At the film's heart is Giamatti's extraordinary performance as Miles, a man defined by quiet failures, fragile ego, and aching vulnerability. Giamatti brings remarkable depth and humanity to the role, balancing acerbic humor with deep melancholy, making Miles both frustrating and profoundly relatable. His work anchors the film's emotional resonance, elevating what could be a simple character study into something enduring and deeply affecting.

Alexander Payne's *Sideways*

is one of the most celebrated and beloved films of the 2000s and won the Academy Award® for Best Adapted Screenplay. Giamatti was nominated for the Critics' Choice, Golden Globe®, and SAG Award, and won the Independent Spirit Award for his brilliant performance. Enzian is proud to welcome two-time Academy Award® nominee and one of the most acclaimed actors of his generation, Paul Giamatti, to the Florida Film Festival.

Following the screening, Mr. Giamatti will be present for a Q&A with the audience.

AN EVENING WITH

JUDGE REINHOLD

FEATURING **FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH**

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 7:30-11PM AT ENZIAN



Judge Reinhold has been in over 75 motion picture and television roles and enjoys a 35-year relationship with an international audience of all ages. His films include *Stripes*, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, *Gremlins*, *Ruthless People*, and Disney's Christmas franchise, *The Santa Clause 1, 2, 3*. *Beverly Hills Cop 1, 2, 3* play continually internationally, making Judge a familiar presence worldwide. *Fast Times* and *Beverly Hills Cop* were recently voted by the American Film Institute as two of the "Top 100 American Comedies."

Judge received an Emmy® nomination for his performance as "The Close Talker" on *Seinfeld*, and his guest-star appearances in *Seinfeld* and *Arrested Development* received two of the highest ratings on both series. Judge has been an active member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences since 1987.

Judge most recently co-starred with Eddie Murphy in the fourth installment of the *Beverly Hills Cop* franchise, which was Netflix's most successful summer movie of 2024, released globally in 250 million homes.

"Judge Reinhold is a very affable actor, a charming combination of Jimmy Stewart of Donald Duck."

— Pauline Kael,
New Yorker Magazine film critic



Fast Times at Ridgemont High

DIRECTED BY **AMY HECKERLING**
USA, 1982, 92 MIN, RATED R

One of the most culturally significant films of the last 40 years is also the ultimate snapshot of sun-soaked adolescence, where cruising, crushes, and minimum-wage jobs collide in a haze of hormones and hard lessons. At the center is Brad Hamilton, played with pitch-perfect frustration by Judge Reinhold, whose slow unraveling from confident big brother to humiliated fast-food employee remains one of the

film's most relatable and quietly hilarious character arcs. And that doesn't even address the film's most iconic sequence which pits Reinhold's expert comedic timing against male sexual fantasy gone awry. Directed by Amy Heckerling (*Clueless*) and written by Cameron Crowe (*Almost Famous*), the film follows a group of Southern California teens navigating sex, work, and identity. From Stacy's (Jennifer Jason Leigh) awkward romantic awakenings to Linda Barrett's (Phoebe Cates) poor life advice and Jeff Spicoli's (Sean Penn) blissed-out slacker archetype, the film reshaped the

conversation around teen sex comedies and launched more careers than any film since *American Graffiti*.

A defining teen classic, *Fast Times* reshaped the genre with its honesty, humor, and empathy—trading clichés for something messier and more real. Decades later, its influence echoes through every coming-of-age comedy that dares to tell the truth about the best worst years of our lives.

Following the screening, Mr. Reinhold will be present for a Q&A with the audience.

OPENING NIGHT FILM AND CELEBRATION

Carolina Caroline

FRIDAY, APRIL 10
6:15PM AT ENZIAN

SECOND SCREENING OF
CAROLINA CAROLINE:
FRIDAY APRIL 10,
7:30-9:45PM AT REGAL

DIRECTED BY ADAM REHMEIER
2025, USA, 105 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE



Adam Carter Rehmeier

**5:15PM AT ENZIAN:
Opening Night Happy Hour**

Before the film, join us at Enzian for an Opening Night happy hour, kicking off at 5:15pm. Enjoy the festival atmosphere with live music, complimentary champagne, and an assortment of light bites. Mix and mingle with fellow film lovers and industry insiders before the talks begin at 6:15PM followed by an introduction by *Carolina Caroline* director Adam Rehmeier.

**8PM-MIDNIGHT
AT TIEDTKE AMPHITHEATER
AND BELVEDERE**

Opening Night Party

After feeding your cinematic mind, treat your tastebuds at the legendary Opening Night Party. Enjoy tastings of craft cocktails, great wines, and exceptional bites from local vendors, all while dancing the night away to the tunes of *Life on Mars*. There's no better way to celebrate the start of ten incredible days of film, food, and friends than with this extravaganza.

Official Food & Beverage Sponsors of the 2026 FFF Opening Night Party include Edén Bar, Pizza Bruno, Jeremiah's Italian Ice, Chuan Fu, Jam Hot Chicken, Zymarium Meadery, City Barbeque, and Diageo.

The 35th Florida Film Festival kicks off with the Florida premiere of *Carolina Caroline*, the latest feature from writer/director Adam Rehmeier (*Dinner in America*). Known for his character-driven storytelling and sharp emotional insight, Rehmeier crafts an intimate crime story about two people in search of connection and reinvention in the contemporary South.

The film follows a small-time hustler (Kyle Gallner, *Strange Darling, Smile*) who becomes entangled with Caroline (Samara Weaving, *Over Your Dead Body, Ready or*

Not)—charismatic, determined, and unwilling to settle for the life in front of her. What begins as a spontaneous romance gradually reveals deeper tensions, as ambition, insecurity, and competing dreams test their bond. As the relationship intensifies, both are forced to confront who they are, what they want, and how far they're willing to go to escape their pasts. Reuniting with his *Dinner in America* director, Gallner delivers a deeply heartrending performance, capturing the vulnerability of someone desperate to matter to another, anchoring the film's emotional core

with a balance of tenderness and unease. Together with Weaving, this sexy and kinetic modern-day Bonnie and Clyde thriller burns with the reckless devotion of two lost souls chasing an American dream all their own.

Presented as the festival's Opening Night selection, *Carolina Caroline* sets the tone for ten days of bold independent cinema. Director Adam Rehmeier will be in attendance for this special screening, offering audiences the opportunity to engage directly with the filmmaker behind what promises to be one of the year's most talked about films.

**Opening Night
Special Guest**

Adam Carter Rehmeier (Director) is an American filmmaker from Nebraska City, Nebraska, unbound by genre, blending style, humor, and humanity into stories that entertain, move, and linger long after the credits roll. His breakout film, *Dinner in America* (2020), premiered in competition at Sundance, earned critical acclaim for its energy and performances, and developed a cult following in 2024 thanks to a TikTok-fueled rediscovery, trending on

Hulu, Google, and Letterboxd before a second theatrical run into 2025. *Variety* praised the film's "bright comic look and energy," while *The New York Times* reported on the film's most recent theatrical run, noting several theaters' requests to show the film "were the most they'd received for any film," with one critic adding, "this is what a cult film looks like" for modern movie fans. Rehmeier also co-wrote the film's theme song, "Watermelon," which aided the movie's virality. Rehmeier's follow-up, *Snack Shack* (2024), was produced by T-Street and MRC, and released theatrically by Paramount's Republic Pictures.

Named a "Critic's Pick" by *The New York Times*, the film was widely praised for Rehmeier's evocative vision of teen summer, with the A.V. Club calling the film "kinetic... Rehmeier constructs an intoxicating teenage dreamworld." Rehmeier premiered *Carolina Caroline* at TIFF50, starring Samara Weaving, Kyle Gallner, and Kyra Sedgwick. The film is produced by Star Thrower (*King Richard, Fair Play*) and Wonder Company. He just entered post-production on his wild genre-bending feature *A Bobby Thing*, starring frequent collaborators Gabriel LaBelle and Kyle Gallner.

We're honored to have been with you for the better part of the last 35 years as your design studio. Congratulations on this milestone. And, thank you, for your important contribution to the arts in Central Florida.



LURE DESIGN, INC.

LUREDESIGNINC.COM

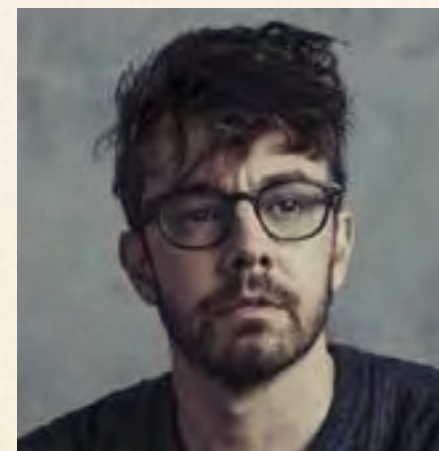
CENTERPIECE FILM

OVER YOUR DEAD BODY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
9:30-11:45PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **JORMA TACCONE**
USA, 2026, 105 MIN, RATED R

Jason Segel and Samara Weaving are a slightly deranged and bitterly unhappy Hollywood couple. He's a director who has never reached his full potential, and she's an unfulfilled actress trying to get her career back on track. Looking to get away for a weekend retreat at a remote cabin—supposedly to reconnect—each has secret plans to kill the other. But best laid plans go magnificently awry when they run into a trio of fugitives led by Timothy Olyphant and Juliette Lewis. Based on *Dead Snow* director Tommy Wirkola's cult hit *The Trip* (2021), *SNL*-alum—and The Lonely Island co-founder—Jorma Taccone (*Popstar*, *MacGruber*) and the cast blend gut-busting comedic set pieces with jaw-dropping WTF moments to deliver one of the most outrageous and slap-dash comedies of the year. A riotous collision of the blackest humor, over-the-top violence, and star-powered chaos, *Over Your Dead Body* is a wild, unhinged ride that proves sometimes the best relationship therapy is total, glorious mayhem.



Jorma Taccone (Director and Executive Producer) is an American producer, writer, actor, and director. Most recently, Taccone wrapped filming his third feature film, *Over Your Dead Body*. His additional directing credits include his feature directorial debut with Universal's *MacGruber*, starring Will Forte and Kristen Wiig, as well as *Popstar: Never Stop Stopping*, which he wrote and starred in alongside fellow Lonely Island members Andy Samberg and Akiva Schaffer and co-directed with Schaffer. In television, Jorma created, wrote, and directed the *MacGruber* series with Will Forte and John

Solomon for Peacock. He directed episodes of *Parks and Recreation*, *Up All Night*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, and the pilot episodes of TBS's *The Last O.G.*, and *Miracle Workers*.

As an actor, Taccone's recent credits include *Sonic the Hedgehog 3*. He also stars in the Amazon original romantic comedy *The People We Hate at the Wedding*. Additional credits include HBO Max's *An American Pickle* alongside Seth Rogen. Going back hella long ago, Jorma played Kevin in the Paramount cult classic *Hot Rod*, as well as *Popstar*, *Role Models*, and *Land of the Lost*. In television, Taccone recurred on HBO's critically acclaimed series *Girls* and guest-starred on NBC's *Up All Night*, *Parks and Recreation*, and FX's *The League*.

As one third of the Emmy®-winning comedy trio The Lonely Island, Taccone has produced, directed, and performed in much of the group's work, including the albums *Incredibad* and *Turtleneck & Chain*, and nearly 100 iconic *Saturday Night Live* Digital Shorts. He also served as a writer, composer, and director for *SNL*. More importantly, Jorma is a really nice person.

Following the film screening, Mr. Taccone will be present for a Q&A with the audience.

**Inside the Film Pitch:
Creating a Movie Deck Live—
An Interactive Experience
with Filmmakers**

SPONSORED BY FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 10–11:30AM
AT ENZIAN

Step inside the creative engine of filmmaking in this live, audience-driven exploration of how a movie pitch takes shape. In real time, the audience will help generate a film concept, choosing genre, tone, budget, and creative constraints. Mixed teams of select filmmaking students from local higher education institutions including Full Sail University, Valencia and UCF, will then build the pitch live, developing story, visual style, world, and production approach into a cohesive pitch deck. By the end, audiences will see completed pitch visions side-by-side and engage in an open discussion about what methods and tools work well from the filmmaker, producer, and investor perspective.

**Central Florida on Film:
Unlocking the Orange
County Tax Incentive**

SPONSORED BY ORLANDO FILM COMMISSION

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 10:30–11:30AM AT ENZIAN

Hosted by the Orlando Film Commission, this timely industry forum explores the role film incentives play in attracting production, creating jobs, and strengthening Florida's creative economy. Taking a page from other metro areas, in November 2025 the Orange County Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the first film incentive in over a decade. Orlando Film Commissioner Brooke Hill and newly appointed Film Incentive Administrator Jennifer Pennypacker will discuss how incentives work, why they matter, and what the future may hold for filmmakers looking to produce their projects in Central Florida.

Filmmaker Forum

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 10:30AM–NOON AT ENZIAN

The Florida Film Festival hosts some of the most talented new independent filmmakers every year and always sets aside one day just to pick their brains. This lively and dynamic exchange of ideas and know-how inevitably defines a high point in the festival—peppered with tales of triumph, challenge, and creative methods. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime airing of artistic laundry by the filmmakers who get the job done. Moderated by Enzian/Florida Film Festival Programming Manager Tim Anderson.

**A Note About
Our 2026 Design**

Lure Design, illustrator Brian Nutt, and FFF collaborated to create a concept rooted in the idea of an ancient, timeless goddess or mythic figure, like Cassandra, used to emphasize film's power to see the past, present, and future, and to serve as a kind of third eye for the filmgoer, helping them experience the world from other perspectives, times, and places.

For 35 years, the Florida Film Festival has embraced artists whose visions give shape to the timeless themes that bind humanity. Films entertain, illuminate, provoke breakthroughs, and bring forward ideas that insist on being seen. Like an ancient Greek muse or Egyptian goddess, this figure becomes a messenger for the art form we champion. We nod to our founding year, 1992, when our symbol was a sphinx with a single, projecting eye, letting the image tie present and future in deep honor to the past.

As we move forward in time, the design playfully pauses in the art deco era of grand movie palaces and the 1960s, both transformative times in film history. Two projectors anchor the bottom banner, connecting the flowing film, our 35th anniversary (35mm), and our ongoing respect for film history. We hope this art gives you a sense of timelessness and eternal artistic renewal as you experience the festival this year.



**Opening Night Film
and Celebration**

FRIDAY, APRIL 10 (SEE DETAILS P. 18-19)

Opening Night Happy Hour

5:15PM

ENZIAN
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Opening Night Party

8PM-MIDNIGHT

TIEDTKE AMPHITHEATER AND BELVEDERE
WINTER PARK EVENTS CENTER
1050 WEST MORSE BOULEVARD
WINTER PARK, FL 32789

**Winter Park Village
Block Party**

SPONSORED BY WINTER PARK VILLAGE

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 3-5PM

**FREE AND OPEN TO FESTIVAL
TICKET AND PASSHOLDERS**

WINTER PARK VILLAGE
510 NORTH ORLANDO AVENUE
WINTER PARK, FL 32789

Join us for our Florida Film Festival Block Party, proudly sponsored by Winter Park Village. Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon filled with fantastic music, delicious food, refreshing drinks, and a vibrant atmosphere. Don't miss out on this delightful community gathering—just show your FFF ticket or pass for entry!

Sunday Brunches

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 10AM-1PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 10AM-1PM

EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Enjoy a beautiful Sunday morning outside at the idyllic Eden Bar, catching up with fellow film lovers over a deliciously prepared brunch and exclusive cocktail offerings. No movie ticket is necessary.

Filmmaker Welcome Party

SPONSORED BY FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 7-10PM

BY INVITATION ONLY
ZYMARIUM MEADERY
1121 N. MILLS AVENUE
ORLANDO, FL 32803

Spice up your Sunday night with our Filmmaker Welcome Party, sponsored by Full Sail University. Join fellow film lovers and filmmakers at Zymarium to mix, mingle, and savor complimentary light bites and unique beverages. Trade notes on festival films while you enjoy legendary Florida Film Festival hospitality.

Industry Happy Hour

SPONSORED BY ENTERTAINMENT
LAW OFFICE OF SCOTT M. GOLDBERG

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 7-10PM

BY INVITATION ONLY

LAZY MOON
441 S ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Grab a slice, crack a cold one, and get ready to mingle during our Industry Happy Hour at local favorite Lazy Moon. Kick back with newfound friends to reminisce on fest gone by and look forward to the excitement of the closing weekend. Filmmakers and passholders will receive light bites and beverages with additional discounted offerings available through the evening.

Awards Celebration

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Awards Ceremony

7:30-8PM

ENZIAN THEATER
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Awards Celebration Party

8-10PM

EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Gather with your Film Festival family to celebrate the best of the 2026 Florida Film Festival. Join us inside the theater at 8PM ready to cheer for your favorites as we announce both jury and audience awards for this year's films. After the ceremony, head back to Eden Bar to toast our award winners and celebrate ten extraordinary days of mind-blowing movies. Your first drink is on us!

Live Music at Eden Bar

SPONSORED BY DORMAN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PERFORMING ARTS MATTER

SATURDAYS: 11AM-10PM

SUNDAYS: 11AM-2PM; 3-6PM

MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND THURSDAY: 6-9PM

FRIDAY: 3-6PM

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Sit back, unwind, and immerse yourself in all things Florida Film Festival while enjoying live music at Eden Bar. Musicians organized by Performing Arts Matter.

Spotlight Films

The Christophers

TUESDAY, APRIL 14
9-10:45PM AT REGAL A

DIRECTED BY STEVEN SODERBERGH
UK/USA, 2026, 100 MIN, RATED R



Oscar®-winner Steven Soderbergh returns with *The Christophers*, a bitingly funny and warmly entertaining chamber comedy about artistic legacy, the things we take from each other, and the things we give in return. Sallie and Barnaby (Jessica Gunning and James Corden), the spoiled and estranged children of the once-revered artist Julian Sklar (Ian McKellen), approach struggling artist Lori Butler (*I May Destroy You's* Michaela Coel) to pose as their father's new assistant. Her task is to locate a series of Sklar's famously abandoned paintings—"The Christophers"—and forge their completion, leaving his children something to sell when he passes away. Lori accepts the job (and a third of the future profits), but the grift is threatened when the two begin to break through each other's respective walls and form a tentative but sincere connection. The epitome of a personality clash, *The Christophers* is brought to life by the dueling presences of McKellen's flamboyant, prickly, and utterly commanding Sklar meeting head-to-head with Coel's reserved, cool-headed, and stunningly sharp Lori. They make for a dazzling duet, primed to wear down each other's defenses in a story entirely full of life, passion, and undeniable wit.

Cookie Queens

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
1:30-3PM AT REGAL B

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
11:30AM-1PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY ALYSA NAHMIA
USA, 2026, 91 MIN



Girl Scouts sell about 250 million boxes of cookies annually—totaling about \$800 million dollars—in just six weeks. A celebration of girlhood and the complexities that come with it, *Cookie Queens* is a heartwarming coming-of-age story that follows four tenacious fledgling entrepreneurs—ages five to twelve—and their families as they navigate the annual whirlwind of selling, striving, and succeeding during Girl Scout Cookie season. For Ara, Olive, Nikki, and Shannon Elizabeth, selling cookies isn't just about Thin Mints and sisterhood—it's a crash course in commercialism. Behind the smiles and cookie boxes lie real pressure: long hours, ambitious sales goals, and the weight of high expectations. Director Alysa Nahmias crafts a vibrant, captivating, entirely observational portrait that honors the girls' perspectives and candidly illuminates the emotional and intellectual stakes of their experiences. With humor, warmth, and a keen eye for the small moments that reveal big truths, she joyously shows what it means to grow up in a world shaped by the tensions between community and capitalism.



Funny, moving, and deeply human, *I Swear* tells the remarkable true story of John Davidson, a Tourette syndrome campaigner whose honesty and humor helped the world better understand the disorder. Robert Aramayo (*The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power*) plays Davidson, whose life was irrevocably changed in 1983, at 15 years old, when he developed uncontrollable vocal and physical tics. Tourette syndrome was barely understood at the time—even by doctors—causing John years of isolation, anxiety, and shame. Everything shifted when John, in his late twenties, met Dottie, the no-nonsense mother of a former schoolmate, who had been recently diagnosed with terminal cancer, and an unexpected and life-changing bond formed between the pair. With Dottie's unwavering support, John discovered the confidence to be himself. Written and directed by Kirk Jones (*Waking Ned Devine*), *I Swear* features an astonishing lead performance from Aramayo that earned him a BAFTA award for Best Leading Actor, joined by an excellent supporting cast including Maxine Peake, Shirley Henderson, and Peter Mullan. This is a classic British crowd-pleaser of the highest order.

I Swear

MONDAY, APRIL 13
6:30-8:30PM AT REGAL A

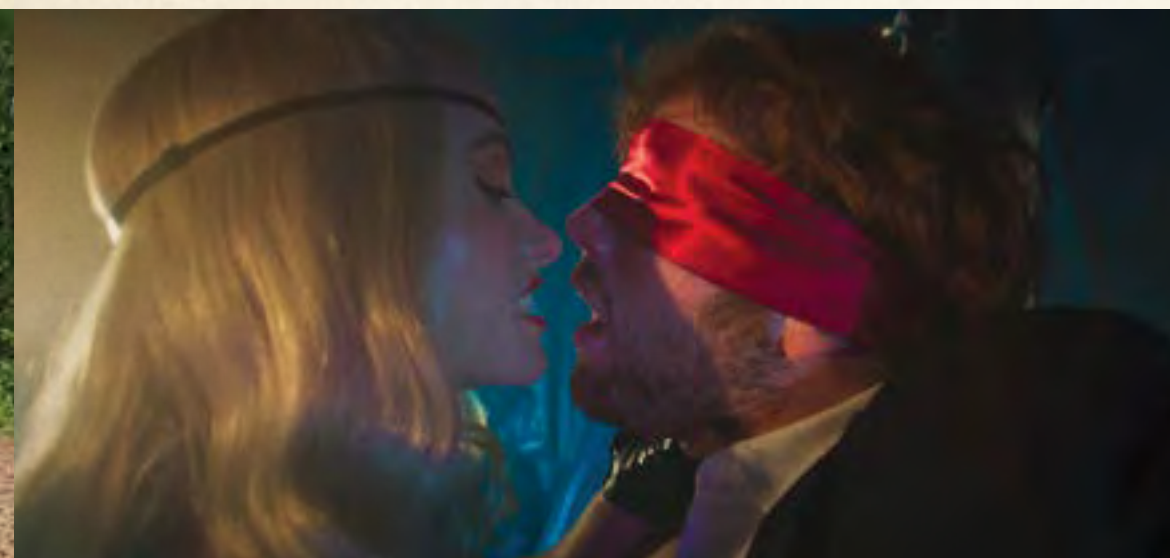
DIRECTED BY KIRK JONES
UK, 2025, 120 MIN, RATED R

I Want Your Sex

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
9-10:30PM AT REGAL B

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
7-8:30PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY GREGG ARAKI
USA, 2026, 90 MIN, RATED R



Twelve years after *White Bird in a Blizzard*, enfant terrible of the 1990s New Queer Cinema movement Gregg Araki returns with *I Want Your Sex*. The provocative voice behind indelible cult classics like *The Doom Generation*, *Mysterious Skin*, and *Kaboom*, Araki's latest premiered at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival and has already sparked buzz as one of the festival's most talked-about titles. This electrifying, erotic comedy-thriller stars Olivia Wilde as transgressive artist Erika Tracy, whose world is turned upside down when fresh-faced Elliot (Cooper Hoffman) arrives as her new assistant and unexpectedly becomes her sexual muse. Together, they tumble through a wild tapestry of art, desire, obsession, skewed power dynamics, and even a murder mystery that upends everything. With standout supporting turns from Daveed Diggs, Charli XCX, Margaret Cho, and Johnny Knoxville, Araki doesn't miss a beat—or an opportunity to skewer the art world. Bold, witty, and unapologetically daring, *I Want Your Sex* showcases Araki's signature blend of stylish subversion and emotional complexity, marking a vibrant return from a filmmaker whose three-decade career has helped define and inspire generations of boundary-breaking storytellers.

Spotlight Films

Normal

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
9:30–11PM AT REGAL A

MONDAY, APRIL 13
9:15–10:45PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **BEN WHEATLEY**
USA/CANADA, 2026, 90 MIN, RATED R
IN ENGLISH AND JAPANESE WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES



Ben Wheatley (*Sightseers*, FFF 2013 and *High-Rise*, FFF 2016) returns to FFF with this darkly comedic, action-packed thrill ride, where nothing—and no one—is quite as “normal” as they seem. Bob Odenkirk (*Better Call Saul*) stars as Sheriff Ulysses, an unassuming lawman sent to the sleepy Midwestern town of Normal, Minnesota, to serve as a temporary sheriff following his predecessor’s death. His hopes for peace are dashed when a botched bank robbery exposes a sinister criminal underbelly threaded throughout the community, forcing Ulysses to uncover deep-seated conspiracies while facing danger from all sides. With an exciting ensemble cast including Henry Winkler and Lena Headey, and co-written by Odenkirk and acclaimed neo-noir scribe Derek Kolstad (*John Wick*, *Nobody*), *Normal* marks another bold chapter in Wheatley’s eclectic directing career and a further extension of Odenkirk’s evolution into a badass action icon!



Marking the auspicious directorial debut of actor Maude Apatow (*Euphoria*), *Poetic License* is a smart and delightful comedy about college life, focusing on three seemingly mismatched people who find unlikely companionship at a pivotal point in their lives. Ari (Cooper Hoffman) and Sam (Andrew Barth Feldman) are inseparable best friends despite being very, very different: Ari is goofy and self-centered; conservative, buttoned-down Sam is pursuing a career in finance to be monetarily secure and please his family. Enter married, middle-aged mom Liz (Leslie Mann), who’s auditing the boys’ poetry class. Having just moved to this small college town at the insistence of her professor husband (Cliff “Method Man” Smith), she’s utterly discombobulated and struggling to find her footing. The trio’s friendship is soon imperiled when both boys fall madly for Liz, and the ensuing complications cause unexpected and hilarious friction between Ari and Sam—and in Liz’s family. Deeply affectionate and laugh-out-loud funny, *Poetic License* was one of the true discoveries of this year’s Toronto International Film Festival and proves the comedic apple doesn’t fall far from the tree (Maude is the daughter of Judd Apatow and Leslie Mann).

Obsession

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
9:30–11:30PM AT REGAL A

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
9–11PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **CURRY BARKER**
USA, 2026, 108 MIN, RATED R



From King Midas to W.W. Jacobs’ “The Monkey’s Paw,” the phrase “*Be careful what you wish for...*” has long served as a stark warning that fulfilled desires can bring unexpected consequences. Written and directed by YouTuber Curry Barker (*Milk & Serial*), *Obsession* marks Barker’s breakthrough transition from internet horror to mainstream cinema. The story follows Bear (Michael Johnston, star of *Slash*, FFF 2016), a hopeless romantic who uses a mysterious “One Wish Willow” to make his longtime crush (Inde Navarrette, *13 Reasons Why*) fall completely in love with him. A smash hit at the 2025 Toronto International Film Festival, where it sparked an overnight bidding war, Barker’s wish-fulfillment nightmare provides a deft launching pad for a promising new genre filmmaker. Blending gutpunch horror with an uncomfortable and thought-provoking look at autonomy and consent turns a familiar premise into something uniquely terrifying. *Obsession* promises to linger in your mind long after the credits roll, delivering exactly the kind of festival experience audiences will be obsessed with dissecting.



In the consistently surprising *Tuner*, Oscar®-winning documentarian Daniel Roher’s (*Navalny*) first narrative feature, Leo Woodall (*Nuremberg*) stars as Niki, a gifted young piano tuner with a unique auditory condition, who draws the attention of criminals who see his talents as useful for opening safes. With his once-promising musical career over, he works across New York with his mentor Harry (the one and only Dustin Hoffman), encountering a range of characters, including Ruthie, a spirited music composition student (Havana Rose Liu, *Bottoms*) with whom he forges an unexpected connection. Niki’s safecracking work threatens his budding romance with Ruthie and pulls him into increasingly dangerous territory as he goes down the criminal rabbit hole. Constantly shape-shifting in mood and tone with its whip-smart script and delightful mix of genre elements—odd-couple friendship, tense high-concept thriller, and charming romance—*Tuner* features a compelling, star-making performance by Woodall and a lovely, late-career showcase for Hoffman, along with terrific supporting turns from Liu and screen veterans Tovah Feldshuh and Jean Reno that ensure this quick-witted heist flick maintains its perfect pitch.

Poetic License

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
6–8PM AT REGAL A

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
5–7PM AT REGAL A

DIRECTED BY **MAUDE APATOW**
USA, 2026, 117 MIN

Tuner

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
7:15–9:05PM AT REGAL B

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
4:30–6:30PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **DANIEL ROHER**
CANADA/USA, 2026, 109 MIN

Spotlight Films

You Had to Be There: How the Toronto Godspell Ignited the Comedy Revolution...

**TUESDAY, APRIL 14
3:45-5:30PM AT REGAL B**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19
8:45-10:30PM AT REGAL A**

DIRECTED BY **NICK DAVIS**
CANADA/USA, 2025, 98 MIN



On June 1, 1972, a humble production of a hit musical adaptation of the Book of Matthew officially opened its run at the Royal Alexandra Theatre in downtown Toronto. As for what happened next, that may be most accurately expressed by the subtitle for Nick Davis's celebratory documentary, *You Had to Be There: How the Toronto Godspell Ignited the Comedy Revolution, Spread Love & Overalls, and Created a Community That Changed the World (In a Canadian Kind of Way)*. And that's no empty boast about a bunch of singin' hippies! Based solely on the bright futures of so many of the talents who formed the cast during the 14-month run—Martin Short, Eugene Levy, Gilda Radner, Victor Garber, Andrea Martin, Dave Thomas, plus musical director Paul Shaffer—*Godspell's* impact and influence cannot be overstated. The improvisational element of the musical itself helped foster a unique sensibility that comedy fans would soon recognize in *Saturday Night Live*, *SCTV*, and countless other TV shows and movies. This "hippie musical" became an historic incubator for modern comedy, and Davis's fascinating and hilarious film brings this special time back into the present with an irrepressible sense of joy.

International Showcase

Chopin, Chopin!

**MONDAY, APRIL 13
4-6PM AT REGAL A**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19
2:15-4:15PM AT REGAL B**

DIRECTED BY **MICHAL KWIECIŃSKI**
POLAND/France/Spain, 2025, 113 MIN
IN FRENCH AND POLISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Nominated for five Eagles Polish Film Awards, director Michal Kwiecinski's period biographical drama opens with the energized world of 1835 Parisian high society at a riveting play-off event featuring now-renowned pianists Fryderyk Chopin and his friend Franz Liszt—rising action for this aurally and visually rich telling of Chopin's life story. Kwiecinski's fluid camera sweeps around Paris in a sumptuous mise-en-scène, as it shadows the young virtuoso, a favorite of Parisian salons and the King of France, before the plot darkens. A diagnosis with chronic incurable tuberculosis saddles Chopin with often debilitating bouts of acute symptoms and creative frustration. These are tempered by travels: to Poland, his birthplace; and to Mallorca, Spain, in quest of relief. Key figures in Chopin's life, including the French novelist George Sand and Liszt, offer glimpses into the composer's relationships and psyche, all through the lens of an agile camera that delivers an often-breathless revue of space and spaces and, with precision, captures Eryk Kulm's commanding performance as Chopin, highlighting the depth and nuance he brings to the role.

Kikuyu Land

**TUESDAY, APRIL 14
3:30-5:30PM AT ENZIAN**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19
11:30AM-1:15PM
AT REGAL A**

DIRECTED BY **ANDREW H. BROWN**
AND **BEA WANGONDU**
KENYA/USA, 2026, 93 MIN
IN ENGLISH, SWAHILI, AND KIKUYU
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



For the Kikuyu—the largest Bantu ethnic group in Kenya—a multigenerational fight to protect their land, culture, and future is inexorably intertwined with Western corporate interests in the country's tea plantations and post-colonial African politics. Set in the beautifully photographed landscape of Kenya's tea highlands, Nairobi-based journalist Bea Wangonde investigates not only the newly elected Kenyan president's moves to challenge the legitimacy of the National Land Commission's efforts to secure land tenure for Kenyans but also the abuses of workers on tea plantations owned and operated by Western corporations. Along the way, Wangonde discovers her own ancestors' ties to traumas associated with imperial colonialism. Nominated for the World Cinema Documentary Prize at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival, directors Wangonde and Andrew H. Brown (producer/cinematographer/editor of *Kifaru*, FFF 2019 and editor on *Path of the Panther*, FFF 2022) blend archival footage with contemporary legal proceedings, centering the investigation on those directly affected by colonial policies and ongoing structures of power. *Kikuyu Land* reclaims the voice and agency of the Kikuyus in a story that emerges as a profound lens for understanding how the historical past weighs heavily on present day human rights.



This is a story of two brothers—Anker (Nikolaj Lie Kaas), a bank robber, and Manfred (Mads Mikkelsen), Anker's younger autistic brother. After a robbery, Anker stashes the money in a safe deposit box, giving the key to a traumatized Manfred, and directing him to hide the money at their childhood home. Years later, Anker is released from prison and returns to reclaim the money. Having changed his name and personality, Manfred no longer knows or wants to know where the money is. Anker's desperate need for the money launches the brothers on a darkly comedic and violent journey of self-discovery involving a group of outcast psychiatric patients and other misfits and miscreants. Written and directed by Florida Film Festival award-winner Anders Thomas Jensen (*Riders of Justice*, FFF 2021), this outrageous black comedy cleverly balances humor, darkness, and heartfelt moments that delve into the scars of childhood and how they shape us and our relationships for life. Mikkelsen (*Hannibal*) and Kaas (*Men & Chicken*) provide emotional and nuanced performances, and this unpredictable and outlandish tale will leave you smiling.



Acclaimed conductor Thibaut (Benjamin Lavernhe) has leukemia and needs a bone marrow transplant. In testing his sister for compatibility, Thibaut learns he was adopted, which starts a search leading him to a brother he did not know he had. Jimmy, (Pierre Lottin, *When Fall is Coming*, FFF 2025) a factory worker and part-time marching band member, is initially uninterested and disbelieving. The brothers eventually come to terms with their past and present as they have one thing in common: their love of music. With a variety of musical (orchestra, marching, individual instrumental and vocal) performances woven throughout, the film is a reflection on brotherhood, adoption, and altruism. Directed by Emmanuel Courcol and nominated for seven César Awards ("French Oscars") including best film, actor, and original screenplay, this crowd-pleasing triumph is a bittersweet class-comedy detailing the brothers' journey against a backdrop of resentment, privilege, and "luck of the draw" emotions. Combining tender moments with delicate humor, it entertains while provoking thought about our ability to live together and create meaningful connections.

The Last Viking

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16
3:30-5:30PM AT REGAL B**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19
6:15-8:15PM AT REGAL A**

DIRECTED BY **ANDERS THOMAS JENSEN**
DENMARK/SWEDEN, 2025, 116 MIN
IN DANISH AND SWEDISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

The Marching Band

**TUESDAY, APRIL 14
4:15-6PM AT REGAL A**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19
6:45-8:30PM AT REGAL B**

DIRECTED BY **EMMANUEL COURCOL**
FRANCE, 2024, 103 MIN
IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, AND ITALIAN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

International Showcase

International Shorts #1

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 103 MINUTES

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
11:30AM-1:30PM
AT REGAL B

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
NOON-2PM AT ENZIAN

Crossing borders and genres, these bold shorts explore what happens when survival demands defiance. From invisible threats and roadside chaos to supernatural reckonings and life under siege, ordinary people are pushed to the brink. In fractured landscapes thick with danger and longing, they must choose whether to comply or resist. Together, these films confront power, consequence, and the fragile courage it takes to act.



Vultures

DIRECTED BY **DIAN WEYS**
SOUTH AFRICA/FRANCE, 2025, 15 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND AFRIKAANS
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

In tense moments after a crash, amid twisted metal and rising tempers, a desperate tow truck driver battles to protect his tow.



The Last Ride

DIRECTED BY **VIJESH RAJAN**
AND **YASHODA PARTHASARTHY**
INDIA, 2025, 24 MIN
IN HINDI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

In Mumbai, a migrant ride-share driver's desperate theft takes a terrifying and unexpected turn when his final passenger turns out to be a demonic witch.



Free Fish

DIRECTED BY **BISAN OWDA**
AND **CAROLINA PEREIRA**
PALESTINE/PORTUGAL, 2025, 22 MIN
IN ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE

In this intimate and moving short documentary set in war-torn Gaza, two displaced brothers risk their lives fishing, as war turns survival into resistance.



Norheimsund

DIRECTED BY **ANA A. ALPIZAR**
CUBA/USA, 2025, 12 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A girl's long-distance romance with an older Norwegian man promises to pull her and her mother out of their austere life in Cuba, but her dreams are shaken when she realizes he isn't as idyllic as he seems, in this latest short from the director of "Hapi Berdey Yusimi in Yur Dey" (FFF 2021).



The Catcher

DIRECTED BY **LUKA GALLE**
BELGIUM, 2026, 30 MIN
IN FLEMISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

A lonely government bird catcher tasked with trapping invisible birds one day defies his orders and makes one dangerous choice.

International Shorts #2

TOTAL RUNNING TIME 103 MIN

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
2-4PM AT REGAL B

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
6-8PM AT ENZIAN

Six compelling stories journey across continents and experiences, exploring resilience, connection, and the unexpected. From haunting dramas and intimate human moments, to dark comedy and lyrical celebrations of joy, these films—set in Ukraine, Iran, Germany, and many more—offer a diverse portrait illuminating the delicate, complex textures of contemporary life worldwide.



I Gaze at the Sky

DIRECTED BY **ALEXANDRA STRUNIN**
POLAND, 2025, 24 MIN
IN RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

With precise direction, restrained performances, and an atmosphere of quiet dread, "I Gaze at the Sky" immerses us in the early days of the war in Ukraine, confronting the horrors of cultural genocide through the forced separation of children from their families. Depicting a world of whispers and watchfulness, the film's Orwellian undertones linger long after the final frame.



Swim Sistas

DIRECTED BY **CATHERINE JOY WHITE**
UK, 2025, 11 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

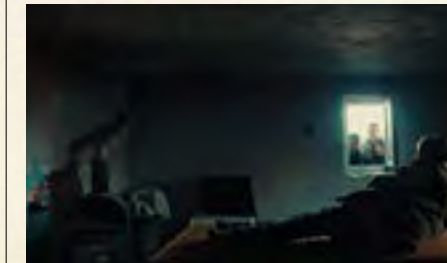
Featuring the voice of Academy Award® nominee Naomie Harris, "Swim Sistas" is a lyrical documentary about Black British women and girls reclaiming space, healing, and joy through swimming. Poetically crafted, the film allows an ensemble of voices to surface, revealing an emotional core rooted in resilience and intergenerational strength.



Candy Bar

DIRECTED BY **NASH EDGERTON**
AUSTRALIA, 2025, 6 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

A seemingly simple movie date spirals into a series of unexpected turns in this darkly comic short. Directed by three-time FFF alum Nash Edgerton ("The Captain," FFF 2013) and written by and starring Damon Herriman (*The Little Death*, FFF 2015).



The Spectacle

DIRECTED BY **BÁLINT KENYERES**
HUNGARY/FRANCE, 2025, 17 MIN
IN HUNGARIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A young boy is lifted into the spotlight, only to discover that its glow fades in unexpected ways. Blending magical realism with meticulous world-building, "The Spectacle" draws viewers into a richly textured environment where the wonder lies not in illusion, but realism.



It Means Hope

DIRECTED BY **SHADI KARAMROUDI**
IRAN, 2026, 15 MIN
IN FARSI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

Drawing from lived experience, writer-director Shadi Karamroudi ("It Turns Blue," FFF 2023) examines Iran's forced confession videos—tools of state repression that silence dissent. Anchored by two powerful lead performances, the film navigates the fraught space between complicity and resistance with emotional precision and moral urgency.



Skin on Skin

DIRECTED BY **SIMON SCHNECKENBURGER**
GERMANY, 2025, 30 MIN
IN ENGLISH, GERMAN, AND BOSNIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

In an industrial slaughterhouse in Germany, Jakob works as a security guard while Boris from Bosnia slaughters pigs. Amidst the cold brutality of their surroundings, the two men form a quiet, unspoken bond, united by a shared longing for freedom.

International Showcase

International Animated Shorts

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 94 MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
3:45-5:30PM AT REGAL A

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
3-5PM AT ENZIAN

The art of animation is one that offers complete control: each moment, frame, and pixel created by the animator behind the image. While it is completely fabricated in its construction, animation can often offer stunning revelations of reality—reflections of human experience, emotion, and evolution brought to life through immense creativity and vision. In this year's International Animated Shorts, the characters of these nine stunning new films come face-to-face with a world beyond their control. In their fight for resilience against the influences of their surroundings, they confront their fears and hopefully, discover a better understanding of themselves in the end.



Trading Cards

DIRECTED BY **RADHEYA JANG**
AUSTRALIA/UK, 2026, 15 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

An enigmatic man journeys back in time to make a trade with his younger self in this dark fantasy tale about the weight of living with obsessive compulsive disorder and yearning for the mind he once had as a child.



Um

DIRECTED BY **NIETO**
FRANCE, 2025, 8 MIN
IN JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

In this boldly psychedelic animation, the bird people of a twisted mythological world have fallen into violent chaos. Their self-destructive tendencies have left them prey to a disturbing phenomenon: their eggs seem to be haunted by demonic forces, and their hatching seems to herald an imminent catastrophe.



Venezia Diorama

DIRECTED BY **NICOLAS PIRET**
BELGIUM/FRANCE, 2026, 6 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Through a series of animated art boards depicting a decaying Venice, a mythical city's final moments of fragility unfold like a set of postcards in the conclusion of Nicolas Piret's ("Silent Panorama," FFF 2025; "La Bride," FFF 2023) trilogy on the balance between man and nature.



Horde

DIRECTED BY **JANINA KSIĘSKA**
POLAND, 2025, 7 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

A crowd of people under the influence of an alluring rhythm are drawn to a mysterious tower in the middle of nowhere where they are unable to fight the ritualistic urge to move, dance, and jump. Through the chaos walks a disoriented, indifferent person, untouched by the mania around them.



Ashen Sun

DIRECTED BY **CAMILLE MONNIER**
FRANCE/BELGIUM, 2024, 13 MIN
IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

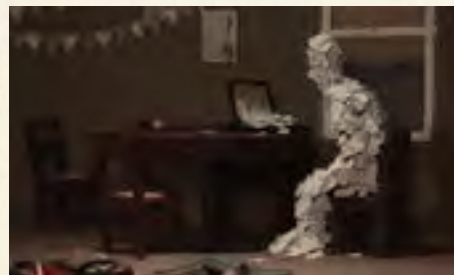
Charlie and her cousin Jess guard the poolside of a seedy motel under a scorching summer sun. On the radio, the monotone voice of a "collapsology" researcher predicts the imminent end of the world, which suddenly erupts into a blazing reality.



Mother's Child

DIRECTED BY **NAOMI NOIR**
NETHERLANDS/FRANCE, 2025, 9 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A loving mother and full-time caregiver, Mary spends her days wading through the bureaucratic mess that comes with providing care to her disabled, non-verbal son Murphy. After being dealt another blow by an obtuse administrator, reality begins to blur in this raw and surreal animation that lays bare the challenging beauty of dedicating one's life to others.



Winter in March

DIRECTED BY **NATALIA MIRZOYAN**
ESTONIA/ARMENIA/FRANCE/BELGIUM, 2025, 16 MIN
IN RUSSIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A young Russian couple, helpless in the face of the war, decide to leave their home for good. Their journey to Georgia becomes a surrealist nightmare when their greatest fear—being separated at the border—catches up with them in an unexpected way.



Once in a Body

DIRECTED BY **MARÍA CRISTINA PÉREZ GONZÁLEZ**
COLOMBIA/USA, 2025, 11 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A woman seeks to reconcile with her sister over an incident from their adolescence by exploring their shared experiences through their bodies.



Sorrow Doesn't Sleep at Night

DIRECTED BY **JOSEFINA MONTINO**
AND **MARTÍN ANDRÉ**
CHILE, 2025, 9 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE

Tormented by the ghosts of his past, a man secludes himself in the forest with his cat in this vibrant felt fabric stop motion piece from Josefina Montino and Martín André ("Chimera," FFF 2025).

Music Films

Occupational Hazard: The First Coral Reefers

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
5-7PM AT ENZIAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
6:30-8:15PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY
JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM
USA, 2026, 92 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE
2ND US SCREENING



Boasting sun, salt, and enough chaos to keep the party raging, *Occupational Hazard* dives into the early days of Jimmy Buffett, when Key West was cheap and bar tabs were legendary. Through rare archival footage and revealing interviews with surviving band members and musical associates, the film uncorks the tale of how this hard-partying family embraced success one afterparty at a time until the “heavy artillery” years fueled by reefer and rum inevitably began to take its toll. The film is set long before Buffett becomes an author and business mogul, instead zeroing in on the 1970s origin story of the Coral Reefers, their surprisingly influential music and self-destructive vices from that time period. One band member quips, “We had more liquor on our rider than Led Zeppelin and the Rolling Stones,” a line that pretty much sets the tone. Narrated by Jeff Bridges in his unmistakable Dude cadence, the film sails through dive-bar rehearsals, road-war stories, and studio sessions where this scruffy crew helped Buffett discover the easy-breezy island sound that would turn Parrot Heads into the most loyal fans on Earth, rivaling even the Grateful Dead’s ageless hippie entourage. Whether you’ve worn out your “Margaritaville” vinyl or just dream of life in flip-flops, this is a buoyant hang you’ll want to toast.

Peter Asher: Everywhere Man

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
12:15-2:15PM AT ENZIAN

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
3:45-5:45PM AT REGAL A

DIRECTED BY **DAN GELLER**
AND **DAYNA GOLDFINE**
USA/UK, 2026, 118 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE



What if the most important person in rock and roll history is someone you’ve never heard of? Meet Peter Asher—child actor, Swinging Sixties pop star, Apple Records pioneer, and behind-the-scenes genius who shaped the careers of James Taylor, Linda Ronstadt, Carole King, and many others. Even better, with those signature thick-rim glasses and impeccable mod style, he quite possibly inspired Mike Myers’ Austin Powers. Yeah, baby! The film blends itself around Asher’s celebrated one-man cabaret show to create a joyous, music-soaked romp through six decades of pop culture history. Part biography, part time machine, it transports audiences from London’s countercultural Indica Gallery (where Beatle John met Yoko) to the sun-drenched singer-songwriter scene of 1970s Los Angeles. Surprise! Asher had a major role in making both scenes happen. Bursting with intimate interviews from an astonishing roster—including a delightfully goofy Eric Idle, Steve Martin, Twiggy, and Paul McCartney (via voiceover)—the film reveals a man whose greatest gift may be the one rarely celebrated in the music business: Asher is a most honest gent—ethical, brilliant, beloved by all, and forever connected. This joyous romp reminds us why legends trust him—and why we can’t look away.



This dreamy love letter to Deadheads follows a group of young fans attending every show of Dead & Company’s 2023 goodbye tour. Director Mischa Richter (himself a Deadhead) captures events with intimate naturalism, lingering on parking-lot twirls, improvised economies, and the strange grace of communal life on the move. He never shows Dead & Company performing. No backstage access, no band interviews. Instead, his cameras spotlight the fans, particularly Jerry and Annie—young, barefoot, gloriously unbothered as they wander the country in a questionable camper van. Neither was alive when Jerry Garcia walked the earth, yet both have organized their lives around this music with an intensity that demands respect rather than mockery. They are totally serious and smarter than you think. One senses they’ll eventually run some small enterprise together (artisanal mushrooms, perhaps?). But not yet. Right now, the road is calling. Co-produced by actress Chloe Sevigny (who once followed the Dead with director Richter), *Summer Tour* does something rare and difficult: it takes easy targets and makes them fully, stubbornly human. It’s the film the Deadhead demographic deserves—sharp, tender, and utterly unwilling to apologize for its subjects. Looking for a miracle? Get on the bus.

Summer Tour

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
7:30-9PM AT REGAL A

DIRECTED BY **MISCHA RICHTER**
USA, 2025, 82 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

CLOSING NIGHT RETRO FILM

Strangers on a Train

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
9-10:45PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **ALFRED HITCHCOCK**
USA, 1951, 101 MIN, RATED PG



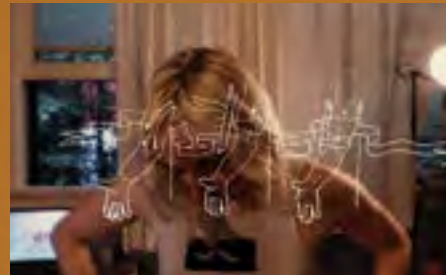
Co-scripted by legendary mystery writer Raymond Chandler (*The Big Sleep*) from the novel by Patricia Highsmith (*The Talented Mr. Ripley*), Hitchcock’s *Strangers on a Train* has come to be recognized as one of his masterpieces, a supreme thriller that launched an amazing decade of offbeat, craftily directed suspense classics. When two strangers—amateur tennis star Guy Haines (Farley Granger), whose wife will not grant him a divorce; and charming but psychotic mama’s boy Bruno Anthony (Robert Walker), who wants to be rid of his demanding father—happen to meet on a train from Washington to New York, the conversation casually turns to a possibly perfect crime: what if each committed a murder for the other? Laughing off Bruno as an eccentric, Guy takes the “exchange murders” scheme as a bad joke—until his wife ends up dead and Bruno returns for payback! With its ingenious, half-comical premise, gorgeous Oscar®-nominated B&W cinematography, and incredibly clever suspense-building devices leading up to the great merry-go-round climax, *Strangers on a Train* is as gripping and entertaining as it gets. We are proud to feature this timeless classic as the closing film of this year’s FFF in honor of its 75th anniversary.

SUNSPOTS:

New Visions of the Avant-Garde

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 80 MIN

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
9-10:30PM AT REGAL B



Tourniquet

DIRECTED BY **MARCELINE CHEVAKO**
USA, 2026, 9 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

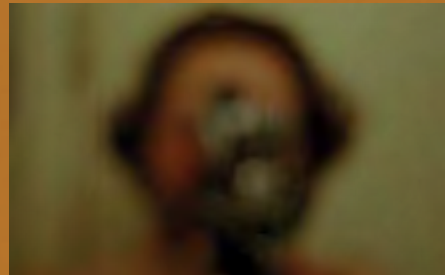
An interrogation of a camera's eyes, ears, and mouth—wrestling with, never away from, its eroticized gaze. The filmmaker whispers in its ear, tastes its sweet breath, and finds it looks pretty there, all tied up on its sticks.



The Stars Watch from Long Ago

DIRECTED BY **STACEY STEERS**
USA, 2026, 24 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

Stacy Steers's ("Edge of Alchemy," FFF 2018) latest work opens as a tiny farmhouse spins through the cosmos, carrying silent film icon Lillian Gish into the vast unknown. Meticulously crafted from thousands of handmade collages, this dreamlike, uncanny epic evokes wonder, loss, and longing against the shadow of wildfire.



explant/implant

DIRECTED BY **JOSH WEISSBACH**
USA, 2025, 3 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A lifetime of surgeries continues with an upgrade in battery life and a downgrade in scar tissue when the filmmaker has his original pacemaker replaced after sixteen years. An unavoidable and arduous situation—chaotic, anxious, and alive with the compulsion to document.



As Told by a Corpse

DIRECTED BY **YACE SULA**
USA, 2025, 5 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Nearly 25 years after their naming ceremony, a filmmaker reflects on how far they have strayed from the prayers bestowed that day. Pixelated, glitching, the body moves across time, more entity than tangible being, refusing gender, renouncing communal affirmation.



Advice for Immigrants #1

DIRECTED BY **SAIF ALSAEGH**
USA, 2025, 1 MIN
US PREMIERE

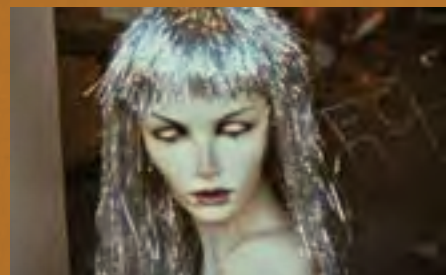
Strange, practical, and humorous advice for immigrants around the world. A microfilm that navigates, with wit, lightness, and a touch of sarcasm, what it means to be uprooted in the current era. From the director of "The Motherfucker's Birthday" (FFF 2025).



Wetland Impulse

DIRECTED BY **JIMMY SCHAUS**
USA, 2025, 2 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

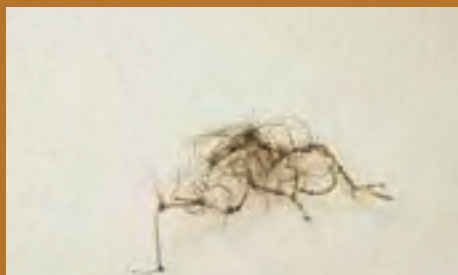
Florida-based director Jimmy Schaus ("Skeyesee (Dusk Chorus)," FFF 2025) returns with a series of single frame exposures through wetlands, alternating with quick observational etchings scratched directly into black emulsion. Projected at 24 frames per second, photographic image and hand-rendered marks appear superimposed—unifying the indexical and interpretive in a hypnotic, plein-air reverie.



The Story of the Cricket Queen

DIRECTED BY **NATALIE PERACCHIO**
USA, 2025, 4 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Digital tropes, trends, and aesthetics reborn in analog, a dazzling contemplation of contemporary information overload. This film weaves a rich, stimulating audio-visual tapestry that rewards both close attention and full immersion.



Everything that Fell from the Mourning Dove's Nest as She Built It

DIRECTED BY **NOAH ENGEL**
USA, 2026, 1 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

A mourning dove builds a nest in the yard, days after a grandfather's passing. Through documentation of each fallen piece, mourning finds meaning and takes motion in Noah Engel's ("A Diptych to Educate Birds," FFF 2018) tender meditation on what we leave behind.



Dance Film

DIRECTED BY **KELLY GALLAGHER**
USA, 2025, 1 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

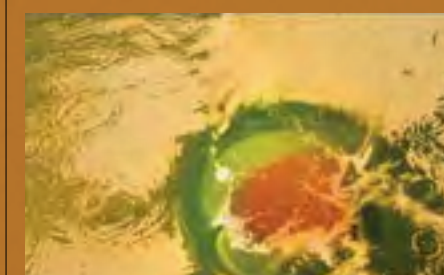
Award-winning filmmaker Kelly Gallagher's ("We Had Each Other," FFF 2022) latest work is an affectionate inversion of avant-garde choreography film. Instead of the dancer, we watch the spectator: a very happy baby, delighting in her mother's movement and colorful animations. A playful reverie of watching, being watched, and the mysterious inner world of infants.



Tuktuıt: Caribou

DIRECTED BY **LINDSAY AKSARNIO MCINTYRE**
CANADA/USA, 2025, 15 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND INUKTITUT
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Lichen developers help bring the images to life while caribou hide is processed into gelatin to make handmade emulsion. Filmed on the land in Nunavut, this texturally rich, poetic documentary explores the enduring connections between Inuit, caribou, lichen, and land.



Allegory of the Cave

DIRECTED BY **WEIPENG HUANG**
AND **YAJING WANG**
CHINA, 2025, 8 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

A visually stimulating work of dissent. Ingenious abstract image-making techniques conjure the sources of chaos and injustice alongside the persistent human call for fairness, love, and peace in this profoundly radical act of hope.



The Call

DIRECTED BY **KELLY SEARS**
USA, 2025, 7 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

FFF alum Kelly Sears ("Phase II," FFF 2023) returns with a rebellion decades in the making. Observed and filmed over three years at airports across the United States (including Fort Lauderdale), unlikely instigators issue their call. An eco-revenge film that is simultaneously comedic and revelatory, and an entirely serious call to action.

Sunshine and Swampland: New Florida Shorts

SPONSORED BY ORLANDO FILM COMMISSION

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 89 MIN

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18
NOON-2PM AT REGAL A**

From Gainesville drive-thrus to hurricane-ravaged neighborhoods, this collection of Florida shorts captures the beauty, absurdity, and friction that define life in the Sunshine State. These films wrestle with family, industry, identity, myth, and the ever-present heat, offering stories that are as playful as they are piercing. Featuring bold new voices alongside returning alumni, this program celebrates the filmmakers shaping Florida's cinematic future, one strange, heartfelt, and unforgettable story at a time.



Fantasma

DIRECTED BY **ULBRECHT TOMAS**
USA, 2025, 11 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A Spanish-speaking ghost attempts to help a stressed-out student with his homework, but miscommunication turns their interaction into a comedic nightmare. Winner of the 2025 Central Florida Film Slam.



In Lieu of Flowers

DIRECTED BY **STACEY TORKELSON**
USA, 2026, 18 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

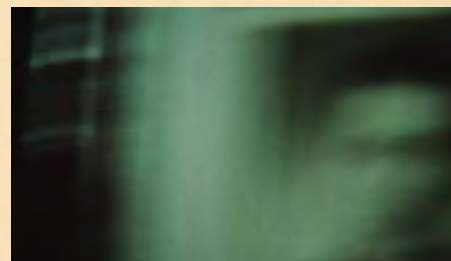
In the wake of Megan's sudden passing, Frances and Taylor work together to honor her wishes and preserve her image by "parent-proofing" her bedroom. Confronted by conflicting perceptions of Megan and her recent absence, Frances and Taylor are forced to beg the question: Will they remain friends without her?



Jit

DIRECTED BY **SAMUEL CORREA**
USA, 2025, 6 MIN

Marcus is on the cusp of adulthood and navigating fragile masculinity in a harsh environment. When older figures pressure him to betray a friend, Marcus faces a defining choice.



My Grandma Still Cleans My Uncle's Room (Mi Mamita Todavía Mantiene el Cuarto de Mi Tío)

DIRECTED BY **ALEX GUERRA**
USA/GUATEMALA, 2026, 5 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

An undocumented immigrant recounts memories of his childhood home while telling the story of the handmade wallet tied to his journey across the border.



It's Easy to Forget (Es Fácil Olvidar)

DIRECTED BY **YAMILE ABUID**
USA, 2025, 9 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

In the midst of a stressed relationship, a flawed but loving father spends the last day with his 11-year-old daughter before she moves to the States. He is determined to give her a very special day, without his drinking habits getting in the way.



Beetle Summer

DIRECTED BY **JIAN YUAN AND ANYUE CHEN**
USA, 2026, 3 MIN
2ND US SCREENING

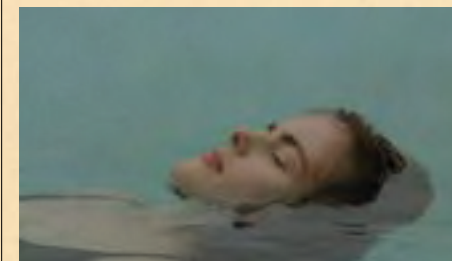
A young girl, Rika, who lives in the countryside of Japan, is raising a rhino beetle for beetle fights in order to gain friends. But before then, she needs to train and nurture it.



Photo Play XX

DIRECTED BY **ZOLOMON ZELKO**
USA, 2025, 16 MIN

A transgender suicide victim is washed ashore the River Styx. While paying the Ferryman's toll, she must confront the womanhood she tried to leave behind, in this winner of the Grand Jury Award at the 2025 Brouhaha Film and Video Showcase.



September, All Over.

DIRECTED BY **KALI KAHN**
USA, 2025, 21 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

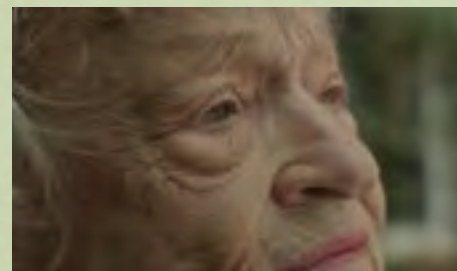
Three-time FFF alumna Kali Kahn ("In the Absence of Fruit and Flowers," FFF 2024) offers up this tale of a young woman, in the sweltering wake of Hurricane Irma, who strikes up a connection with her older neighbor, stirring up revelations that will last long after the floodwaters have receded.

Sunshine in Doc-land: New Florida Documentary Shorts

SPONSORED BY ORLANDO FILM COMMISSION

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 81 MINUTES

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
2:30-4:15PM AT REGAL A



Screw Lucy

DIRECTED BY **MARY PILON**
USA, 2026, 19 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

As corruption grows in 1980s Florida, a beloved and charismatic local sheriff hides dark secrets that involve the mob, drugs, and trafficking of local children. Faced with nonstop harassment and death threats, a local homemaker-turned-journalist, Lucy Morgan, uncovers the truth—and in doing so becomes one of the first women to ever win the Pulitzer Prize for investigative journalism.



Chasing the Passage of Time

DIRECTED BY **DENNIS SCHOLL AND ED TALABERA**
USA, 2025, 7 MIN

Fans of Werner Herzog's *Fitzcarraldo* will be enamored as a crew of 25 moves the largest Richard Serra sculpture in the world across the entire state of Florida in this new short from Dennis Scholl (*Naked Ambition*, FFF 2024)



Same Water

DIRECTED BY **MARTINE GRANBY**
USA, 2026, 21 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Drawing from institutional and personal archives, this film revisits a colored-only riverside recreation space that existed alongside the celebrated white-only Silver Springs water park, exposing the layered histories of segregation and unequal access to nature and leisure in Jim Crow America.



In God's Hands

DIRECTED BY **MODAR KAJO**
USA, 2026, 14 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

As a wave of religion-based legislation sweeps through the U.S. public school system, a Central Florida school district debates whether to allow chaplains to volunteer in its schools.



One Last Order

DIRECTED BY **LAUREN DEFILIPPO AND SAM SOKO**
USA, 2026, 22 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

At Mac's Drive-Thru in Gainesville, Florida, an ordinary day is about to become unforgettable. After 37 years of serving the community with a smile, Sighe Williams—the beloved, quick-witted voice who remembers your order before you do—is working her final shift. From co-director Lauren DeFilippo (*Clean Hands*, FFF 2017).



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Florida Films

The Call

MONDAY, APRIL 13
6:30-8:15PM AT ENZIAN

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
1:45-3:15PM AT REGAL A

DIRECTED BY **AHMED BOUCHALGA**
USA/MOROCCO, 2026, 70 MIN
IN ENGLISH, ARABIC, AND FRENCH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
WORLD PREMIERE



Inspired by a visit with Orlando's vibrant Moroccan community, Central Florida "arts instigator" Terry Olson travels to Rabat to uncover the human stories behind the 1975 Green March—when 350,000 unarmed Moroccan civilians crossed into the Western Sahara, prompting Franco's Spain to relinquish its colonial claim. Through firsthand accounts and historical reflection, Olson and Moroccan director Ahmed Bouchalga explore the legacy of that pivotal moment and the decades of regional tension that followed. Olson also delves into the enduring, little-known bond between Morocco and the United States, whose diplomatic relationship stretches back to 1777, when Morocco became the first nation to recognize American independence. Timely and illuminating, this powerful documentary reflects on one nation's struggle for independence amid the global pressures of decolonization, and the lasting lessons that continue to resonate today with those who choose to heed the call of freedom.

Frogtown

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
4:30-6:15PM AT REGAL B

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
NOON-1:45PM
AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY **COSTA KARALIS**
USA, 2026, 86 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



Making its world premiere in the Florida Sidebar, Costa Karalis' *Frogtown* is a genre-blurring feature that seamlessly merges narrative fiction with documentary realism. Set in the Panhandle town of Marianna, Florida, the film follows an adult woman's obsessive quest to prove the existence of a magical swamp creature she claims to have encountered as a child. Framed through the lens of a documentary crew, this slice-of-life portrait captures a community proudly defined by its "5,000 dreamers," revealing the quiet struggles, stubborn hope, and shared humanity that bind them together. *Frogtown* balances wholesome absurdity with a quiet undercurrent of melancholy, allowing its eccentric residents to emerge with genuine depth and humanity. The ensemble's grounded performances elevate the material beyond quirk, revealing something tender beneath the offbeat surface. In the spirit of *Vernon, Florida* by Errol Morris, *Frogtown* finds poignancy in the peculiar, delivering a heartfelt meditation on community and the enduring necessity of imagination.

Florida Sunspots Feature

The Man Whom the Trees Loved

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
2-3:30PM AT ENZIAN

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
4:45-6:15PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY **WOODRUFF LAPUTKA**
AND **TEHBEN DEAN**
USA, 2026, 73 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



After 8 years of pushing the cinematic envelope the Florida Film Festival's Sunspots program is expanding by spotlighting an experimental cosmic horror film, set on an isolated island in the St. John's River. Adapted from Algernon Blackwood's supernatural novella, *The Man Whom the Trees Loved* is about landscape painter Dave (co-writer/director Woodruff Laputka) who becomes mysteriously and wildly drawn to the Florida flora while on vacation with his wife Sophia (Avisé Narey Parsons). Filmmakers Laputka and Tehben Dean (2024 FFF Grand Jury Award for *All I've Got & Then Some*) utilize mesmerizing black-and-white and color cinematography, coupled with a lush soundscape, to invoke the psychedelic bliss and inexplicable horror of the forest beyond the couple's cabin. As Dave is transformed through his communion with nature, Sophia descends into grief and fear of losing her husband. *The Man Whom the Trees Loved* is a ghostly mix of atmospheric Florida filmmaking and the fear of forces beyond human comprehension.

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Midnight Movies

Butthole Surfers: The Hole Truth and Nothing Butt

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
11PM-12:45AM
AT REGAL B

SUNDAY, APRIL 19
9:15-11PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY TOM STERN
USA, 2025, 105 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE



Never sacred, always profane, this blistering doc plunges headfirst into the chaotic, psychedelic universe of Butthole Surfers, underground legends some still call the best live band of the 1980s. Packed with puppet obscenities, wacked-out animation, and jaw-dropping stories, it enshrines their legacy as noise-rock pranksters and fearless drug-fueled experimental freaks in equal measure. Director Tom Stern corrals nine bassists, dueling drummers, friends, and famous fans to frame the volatile creative romance between vocalist Gibby Haynes and guitarist Paul Leary as they roll through LSD-soaked club shows to major-label misadventures and late-in-life reckonings. “Seeing the Surfers, that is a changing point in your life,” director/fan Richard Linklater declares, and the film makes a convincing, mind-frying case to affirm. Legendary music producer Steve Albini and Melvins guitarist Buzz Osborne show up as gleeful detractors, insisting not everybody here deserves a halo. Yet beneath the blood, fire, and bad trips, Gibby’s journey from unhinged chaos agent to surprisingly tender, self-aware survivor gives the movie an unexpectedly moving emotional core. Hilarious, abrasive, and oddly heartfelt, this is a midnight howl for anyone who believes music should be dangerous and a little bit of puppet penis won’t hurt anybody.

Frogman Returns

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
MIDNIGHT -1:15AM
AT REGAL A

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
9:30-11PM AT REGAL A

DIRECTED BY ANTHONY COUSINS
USA, 2025, 75 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE



FFF award winner Anthony Cousins (“Every Time We Meet for Ice Cream Your Whole Fucking Face Explodes,” FFF 2022) is back to unleash *Frogman Returns*, a delirious descent into murky legend and camcorder paranoia. Years after the original viral footage of a Midwestern cryptid took late-night cable and Reddit threads by storm, a disgraced documentarian joins a persistent TV crew to prove the amphibious nightmare was real—and is still hungry. What begins as a nostalgic hunt for cult infamy spirals into a hallucinatory expedition through flooded woods, abandoned attractions, and conspiracy-soaked small-town lore. Executive produced by Peter Kuplowsky (FFF alum, *In a Violent Nature*, *The Artifice Girl*, and *Climate of the Hunter*), this follow-up to Cousins’ acclaimed cult film *Frogman* (2023) blends found-footage chaos with practical creature effects and a streak of absurdist humor, escalating the mythology while skewering our obsession with internet fame and manufactured myth. The film lurches from laugh-out-loud awkwardness to nerve-shredding terror, building toward a finale that refuses to stay buried. Equal parts creature feature and media satire, you are invited to wade back into the swamp—where every ripple could be a hoax, a memory, or something waiting just beneath the surface.



When reclusive novelist Ohm Bauman (Adam Scott, *Severance*) retreats to a remote Irish inn to scatter his parents’ ashes, he is consumed by tales of an ancient witch haunting the honeymoon suite. Soon, disturbing visions and a shocking disappearance draw him into a nightmarish confrontation with the darkest corners of his past. Writer/director Damian McCarthy’s (*Oddity*) audacious blending of folk horror, drama, mystery, and homages to the landscapes of Stephen King (*1408*, *The Shining*) combine in a methodical slow-burn descent into dread, where thick atmosphere envelopes you and every shadow feels imbued with unseen terror. Anchored by an evocative, brooding score from Joseph Bishara (*The Conjuring*, *Insidious*), McCarthy patiently tightens the screws, favoring creeping unease over cheap shocks, and crafting a haunting chamber piece that lingers long after the final frame fades to black.

Hokum

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
MIDNIGHT-1:45AM
AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY DAMIAN MCCARTHY
IRELAND/USA, 2026, 107 MIN



The midnight program dives headfirst into *Mermaid*, the latest fever dream from Tyler Cornack, the twisted mind behind 2019’s *Butt Boy*—and this time, he’s gone full Florida. Set against sun-bleached strip malls, algae-choked canals, hurricane fencing, and sagging waterfront condos, the film transforms the state’s humid absurdity into mythic nightmare. A broke dockworker (Johnny Pemberton, Amazon’s *Fallout*), strung out on meth, becomes convinced a wounded mermaid is hiding in the drainage canals behind his crumbling apartment complex. What begins as rescue mutates into obsession steeped in sweat, delusion, and brackish water. Cornack wrings both comedy and dread from the region’s tabloid weirdness and swampy isolation, grounding the fantasy in unmistakable Gulf Coast decay. A sharp ensemble—including Tom Arnold (*True Lies*), Kevin Nealon (*Happy Gilmore*), Robert Patrick (*Terminator 2*), and Kevin Dunn (*Transformers*)—amplifies the film’s off-kilter tone. Equal parts creature feature and Florida noir, *Mermaid* is sticky, sunburned, and defiantly strange.

Mermaid

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
MIDNIGHT-2AM
AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY TYLER CORNACK
USA, 2025, 105 MIN

Midnight Shorts: “Crazy Train”

SPONSORED BY ATOMIC HORROR

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 85 MIN

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
MIDNIGHT-1:45AM AT ENZIAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
11PM-1AM AT REGAL A

All aboard!!!

Going straight off the rails and into the void—no seatbelts, no chaperones, no apologies. If you’re looking for tasteful restraint, you took a wrong turn somewhere around 11:59. This is the witching hour, where logic clocks out, good decisions go to die, and cinema gets beautifully, gloriously unhinged. Mental wounds not healing? Maybe. But tonight, we’re not medicating; we’re detonating. So loosen your grip on reality. Embrace the chaos. The tracks ahead are twisted, the brakes are shot, and the only destination is bat-biting delirium. Crazy? That’s just how it goes.



Merrimundi

DIRECTED BY NILES ATALLAH
CHILE/France, 2025, 21 MIN
IN ENGLISH, LATIN, ITALIAN, FRENCH, CHINESE,
JAPANESE, INDOONESIAN, RUSSIAN, SWAHILI
AND QUECHUA WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A cosmic Dadá-esque sing-along! An ecstatic transmission from a sentient machine of the future trying to speak to us in our own crumbling tongue. Like a deranged oracle conjured through the legacies of Švankmajer, Nam June Paik, and Méliès, “Merrimundi” unfolds as a surreal symphony where singing cherubs dissolve into psychedelic decay.



Ultra Juice

DIRECTED BY CARL CONWAY MAGUIRE
USA, 2026, 4 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A lonely man finds friendship in an unexpected place: his new vape.



American Cheese

DIRECTED BY KATE THULIN
USA, 2025, 10 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

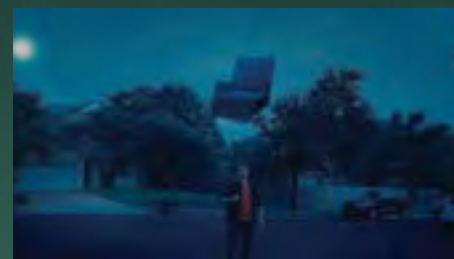
Writer/Producer, Kate Thulin (*Legion*, *Poker Face*) takes on suburbia with this tale of two mommies fighting over the last American cheese packet. After all, it is their babies’ favorite food!



Praying Mantis

DIRECTED BY JOE HSIEH
TAIWAN/HONG KONG, 2025, 18 MIN
IN TAIWANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A praying mantis mutant seduces and preys on men out of desperation to save her child. A failed mission leads to revelations of her past and dark secrets as the story unfolds in this anarchic short that stunned audiences at Toronto and Venice.



CHÄIR

DIRECTED BY CHRIS MCINROY
USA, 2025, 6 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Carl just wanted to sit down. The chair had other plans. No instructions needed when director Chris McInroy (“Skeeter,” FFF 2024) places an order for chaos.



Wall Udder

DIRECTED BY ALEXANDRA HAYDEN
USA, 2025, 9 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

A dissatisfied woman confronts repressed feelings of malaise after her partner comes home smelling like whole milk.



The Seeing Eye Dog Who Saw Too Much

DIRECTED BY ERIC JACKOWITZ
USA, 2026, 17 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

In 1975, Italian director Enrico Januzzi began filming a *giallo* set in Rome—a feverish tale of a blind violinist who rises to first chair of the symphony, only to find herself stalked as a black-gloved killer murders her fellow musicians one by one. The only witness: her seeing-eye dog. Production collapsed after a week, and the footage was presumed lost, until its rediscovery in 2025. Painstakingly restored by WBAZ Films, this surviving fragment is presented here for the very first time.

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Brian Andreotti is co-founder and director of acquisitions of Music Box Films, the North American distributor behind such acclaimed films as *Ida*, winner of the Best International Feature Film Oscar® in 2015, and the Spirit Award-nominated 2025 baseball comedy *Eephus*. Brian is also the director of programming at Music Box Theatre, Chicago's premier independent arthouse cinema, and was named one of the top 50 most influential people in Chicago's film scene by *Newcity Magazine*. Brian served as technical director of the Chicago International Film Festival, taught film history at Columbia College, and holds an MA in film from Northwestern University.



Aaron B. Koontz is an Indie Spirit-nominated filmmaker and the CEO/founder of Paper Street Pictures, where he's led production on more than 25 feature films. Most recently, Aaron was the lead producer on *Shelby Oaks*, alongside Mike Flanagan, which he sold to NEON and released globally in theaters. Also recently, Aaron was the lead writer, co-creator, executive producer, and showrunner of *Revival* for SYFY and Peacock, adapted from the bestselling Image Comics. As a writer-director, his credits include four features, including the horror-western *The Pale Door* and the meta-horror *Scare Package* franchise for Shudder.



Violet Lucca is the author of the book *David Cronenberg: Clinical Trials* (Abrams, 2024). Lucca was formerly the vice president of digital at *Harper's Magazine* and, prior to that, served as digital producer for *Film Comment*. (Fortunately—or unfortunately—she also hosted both their podcasts.) Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Criterion's The Current*, *Art in America*, *Defector*, *Discogs*, *Sight & Sound*, *Caimán Cuadernos de Cine*, *Harper's Magazine* online, the *Village Voice*, and elsewhere.



SUNDAY, APRIL 12
11:30AM-1:15PM
AT REGAL A

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
7:15-9PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY
RICHIE JAMES FOLLIN
USA, 2025, 88 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Richie James Follin (he/him) is an award-winning American musician, writer, actor, and filmmaker, and a proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation. A longtime Michel Gondry collaborator, his work bridges music and film. His debut feature *Crystal Cross* premiered at Austin Film Festival, winning the Audience Award for Best Comedy.

Crystal Cross

In Richie James Follin's debut feature *Crystal Cross*, an eccentric aspiring Christian singer named Dotty hitches a ride with James, a grief-stricken musician quietly driving cross-country with plans to end his life. When Dotty spots him in a store and decides he looks like Jesus, she takes it as a sign from God: it's her ticket out of town and a chance to change her fate. For James, however, the road to California carries a far darker intention borne from the devastating loss of his daughter. As their unlikely journey unfolds, what begins as a desperate escape becomes something stranger and more tender. Blending offbeat humor with raw emotion, *Crystal Cross* is an oddball road movie about faith, despair, and two lost souls finding unexpected comfort in each other. Winner of the Audience Award for Best Comedy at the 2025 Austin Film Festival, *Crystal Cross* explores the absurdity and tenderness of survival, faith, and failure in modern America. It is a bittersweet and darkly comic meditation on love that doesn't fix or promise, but simply keeps you alive for one more mile. Rubyrose Hill's irresistible performance of the naïve Dotty is perfectly juxtaposed against Richie James Follin's self-destructive James. And the original 15-song soundtrack by Follin is a terrific added bonus. With appearances by Missi Pyle (*Galaxy Quest*) and Lukas Haas (*Inception*).

Damned If You Do

After enthusiastically selling their souls to the devil in 1999, three former best friends—a fading rock star (Kate Siegel, *The Haunting of Hill House*), a tech mogul (Paulo Costanzo, *Royal Pains*), and a high-profile activist (Ginger Gonzaga, "Your Day" FFF 2017)—have to rely on the one friend who didn't sign the contract (Beth Dover, *Orange Is the New Black*) to find a devilish loophole to escape Hell's grasp before the contract's deadline: their 25th high school reunion. Hounded by a flamboyant demon (Harvey Guillén, *What We Do in the Shadows*) threatening an eternity of torment, the group must confront an impossible moral question: which souls will replace theirs and how best to dispose of them? With an all-star cast, including Mike Flanagan as Death, this hilarious and bloody horror-comedy is *Romy and Michelle's High School Reunion* by way of *Evil Dead 2*.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
2-4PM AT REGAL B

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
9:30-11:30PM
AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY **EVAN METZOLD**
AND **JAKE RUBIN**
USA, 2025, 107 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Jake Rubin (he/him) and **Evan Metzold** (he/him) met while studying at NYU Tisch in 2009 and

have since worked together on a bevy of different projects. They are especially drawn to genre-blending films that bestow the audience with a taste of everything on the cinematic menu.



REEL
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SATURDAY, APRIL 11
11AM-1PM AT REGAL A

TUESDAY, APRIL 14
6:30-8:30PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY
WALTER THOMPSON-HERNÁNDEZ
USA, 2026, 92 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Walter Thompson-Hernández is a multi-faceted director and writer, recently named one of *Variety's* 2026 "10 Directors to Watch." Known for his award-winning



storytelling across journalism, podcasts, and film, Thompson-Hernández's work often meditates on the concept of belonging in communities of color throughout the United States and the world.

If I Go Will They Miss Me

Twelve-year-old Lil Ant (Bodhi Jordan Dell) is a sensitive artist, enamored with the legends of Greek mythology and yearning to impress his emotionally distant father, Big Ant (J. Alphonse Nicholson). Big Ant just got out of prison and struggles to connect with his wife (Danielle Brooks, *Orange Is the New Black*, *Peacemaker*) and is embarrassed by the pictures his son draws of him looking heroic. Adapted from his Sundance-winning short film, writer-director Walter Thompson-Hernández sets this tender, lyrical portrait of a strained father-son relationship against the backdrop of Watts, Los Angeles, and a crowded flight path from LAX. Lil Ant's working-class neighborhood is transformed by his adolescent visions of Greek gods and neighborhood boys awaiting take off, like the airplanes overhead. Gorgeously imagined, the haunting and boldly ambitious *If I Go Will They Miss Me* is a singular vision of the intersection between masculinity, legacy, and vulnerability. It is a mesmerizing film about the power to transform at any age.

Junkie

Junkie, the gritty debut feature from writer-director William Means, follows a haphazard 72 hours in the life of Stevie Chapman (played by real-life recovering addict Rocky Shay). A perpetual screwup running on empty, Stevie has escaped rehab (again). On the run, she sets out to make amends and reconcile with her estranged, gay son, Liam, before she skips town for good. Through Stevie's eyes, we are plunged into an eccentric tour of America's southern underbelly. An unforgettable odyssey, *Junkie* evolves into a touching, emotionally raw mother-and-son story about dignity, identity, and the fragile hope of redemption. Executive produced by Patty Jenkins (*Monster*, *Wonder Woman*), *Junkie* announces a bold new voice in Means, while Rocky Shay's fearless, darkly comic, and deeply human performance as the bonkers yet endearing Stevie stands as one of the great breakout performances of this year's festival.

MONDAY, APRIL 13
8:45-10:45PM AT REGAL B

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
6-8PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **WILLIAM MEANS**
USA, 2025, 105 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



William Means (he/him) is a Los Angeles-based writer and director who earned his MFA in directing at the

AFI Conservatory in 2021. Since AFI, William worked alongside cinematographer Lawrence Sher as well as director Patty Jenkins. His most recent short, "Blue Square Heart," qualified for the 2024 Oscars®.



SATURDAY, APRIL 11
3-4:30PM AT ENZIAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
4:15-5:45PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY **JESSICA BARR**
USA, 2026, 75 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE
2ND US SCREENING



Jessica Barr is a Portland-raised, multi-hyphenate filmmaker whose work explores loss and coming of age through grounded naturalism. Her feature *Sophie Jones* was bought by Oscilloscope, and her psychological short thriller "Tight" premiered at SXSW. Barr's debut narrative feature film, *The Plan*, had its world premiere at Slamdance in 2026.

The Plan

Inside a modest Los Angeles apartment over the course of a single unbroken take, a group of disillusioned young revolutionaries prepare for a radical act they believe will change the world. As the clock ticks, paranoia intensifies and fractures deepen, blurring the boundaries between purpose, fear, and identity. Tense and edgy with a wry observational humor, director Jessica Barr ("Tight," FFF 2024) stages this technically dazzling real-time drama, with one continuous shot that never looks away from the anxieties, contradictions, and hypocrisies etched onto her characters' faces and actions. *The Plan* confronts the seductiveness of radical rhetoric and the psychological manipulation that transform conviction and idealism into obedience and dogma, revealing how a revolutionary cause can devolve into a cult.



Return from Tomorrow

Randy Moore's follow-up to the (in)famously filmed-in-secret Disney World fever-dream *Escape from Tomorrow* is an absurdist paranoid conspiracy thriller featuring the original cast in a completely new scenario. After the loss of his father (Udo Keir, in his final role), a middle-aged dad spirals into a Lynchian crisis of masculinity while on family vacation in Miami. As his inadequacies and unspoken desires drift him further away from his wife, he uncovers a mysterious plot involving his father, the gas company, cocaine, prostitution, and . . . Walt? Trading in its predecessor's 2010's micro-budget DSLR aesthetic for glorious 35mm film, Moore ratchets up both the budget and insanity, including an *Eyes Wide Shut*-style orgy with Disney princesses, a machine-gun massacre in a baby store, and impeccably recreated '50s-era Davy Crockett sequences with an R-rated edge. *Return from Tomorrow* uses nostalgia itself as weapon, transforming familiar Florida iconography into something both subversively hilarious and deeply unsettling.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
6:30-9PM AT REGAL A

TUESDAY, APRIL 14
9:30-11:45PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **RANDY MOORE**
USA, 2026, 117 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



Randy Moore's film, *Escape from Tomorrow*, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and became a cult favorite, winning the Noves Visions Experimental Award at the Sitges Catalan Film Festival and the Emerging Filmmaker Award at the Memphis Indie Film Festival. Moore studied filmmaking at Full Sail University.



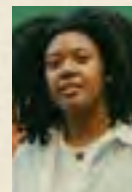
REEL
REPRESENTATION

PRESENTED BY
TRAVEL + LEISURE CO.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
8:30–10:15PM AT REGAL B

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
2–3:45PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY **JOSALYNN SMITH**
USA, 2025, 85 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Josalynn Smith
(they/them)
is a graduate
of Columbia
University's film
MFA program.
Smith's been

recognized by Sundance, SFFILM,
and the Sloan Foundation. Smith's
feature directorial debut, *Ride or
Die*, was produced by Jamie Foxx
and premiered at Tribeca 2025.
Currently, they are a 2026 fellow in
the Queer Art Mentorship program.

Ride or Die

It's too good to be true when introverted film school graduate Paula (Briana Middleton) runs into her high school crush and the sparks instantly fly. Despite a slew of red flags, Sloane (in an electric performance by Stella Everett) seduces Paula into leaving her Christian conservative family and embarking on a doomed road trip to Hollywood. As their romance deepens, Paula is caught up in the consequences of Sloane's reckless and color-blind view of life and a plot to avenge past traumas. Channeling early Gregg Araki (*The Living End*), award-winning director Josalynn Smith's sexy and thrilling feature directorial debut was made with a predominantly queer, woman, and non-binary crew. It is about an underseen power dynamic in interracial, queer couples, and at its core, explores the attraction of fixing "broken" people, even at the cost of one's own safety. What do you do when your manic pixie dream girl is also a heat-seeking missile for danger?

Sender

Recently fired and newly sober, a recovering alcoholic (Britt Lower, *Severance*) attempts a fresh start in a suburban rental owned by her sister (Anna Baryshnikov, *Love Lies Bleeding*). Seeking comfort—and control—through online shopping, she starts receiving packages she never ordered: a blender, a corkscrew, her signature shade of lipstick. What first appears to be an e-commerce delivery scam grows increasingly intimate and unnervingly tied to her past. As paranoia mounts, she turns to an unwilling new sponsor (Rhea Seehorn, *Better Call Saul*, *Pluribus*) and a delivery driver (David Dastmalchian, *Late Night with the Devil*) to uncover the identity of the anonymous sender. Produced by and co-starring Jamie Lee Curtis, Russell Goldman's debut feature, based off his 2023 Black List-selected screenplay, is a stylish paranoid thriller—sharply edited and darkly surreal—that explores addiction, recovery, and the crushing expectations for normalcy in a relentlessly consumer-driven world.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
7:15–9PM AT REGAL A

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
9–11PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **RUSSELL GOLDMAN**
USA, 2026, 94 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Russell Goldman
is a filmmaker
from Virginia.
His short films,
including "Burn
Out," "Closing
Time," and "Return
to Sender,"

have played at hundreds
of film festivals around the
world, including Fantastic Fest,
Fantaspoa, Frameline, Rooftop
Films, Sidewalk, Uppsala, and
Woodstock. His first feature,
Sender, premiered in competition
at SXSW.



REEL REPRESENTATION



PRESENTED BY TRAVEL + LEISURE CO.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
9:45–11:30PM AT REGAL B

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
3:15–5PM AT ENZIAN

DIRECTED BY **KYLE SMITH**
USA, 2025, 85 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Kyle Smith (he/him) was raised in Columbia, Missouri. His previous films include *Turkey Bowl* and *Blue Highway*. He lives in Los Angeles with his family.

Sylvania

In Kyle Smith's *Sylvania*, a marriage on the brink becomes the backdrop for a sharply observed and deeply human road trip. Stewart (Morgan Beck) and Gracie (Kerry Bishé, *Argo*) load their four-month-old baby and 17-year-old, basketball-obsessed son into the car and head to St. Louis to convince Gracie's estranged father, Frank (Paul Dillon), who is in the early stages of dementia, to accept help. But Stewart has his own coping mechanism: he's abandoned his iPhone and moves the family from Chicago back to his childhood home, committed to living as if it's the 1990s—complete with mixtapes, period-specific groceries, and analog nostalgia. For Gracie, already stretched thin by sleepless nights and emotional distance, the retro experiment feels less like a reset and more like regression. She's resolved to leave him after the trip. Once they arrive, her father is mean-spirited and stubborn, but still lucid and with plenty to say about the current family chemistry. Though dementia clouds his present, it sharpens his recollections of the past, offering Gracie fragments of the mother she barely knew. Beautifully acted and emotionally resonant, *Sylvania* blends road movie and dramedy into a smart, funny, and tender meditation on family, memory, and the ways we cling to the past—set against a perfectly curated '90s soundtrack.

Valentina

All the people, locations, laws, conversations, cops, priests, and city officials in this film are real; Valentina, played by the only actor in the film, the hilarious Keyla Monterroso Mejia (*The Studio*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*) is not. This hybrid film—part narrative comedy, part documentary—follows the bureaucratic mishaps that plague Valentina as she tries to tackle a simple to-do list at the El Paso-Juarez border. During a 48-hour period at the U.S. and Mexico's busiest border crossing, resolving an ordinary parking ticket gets derailed by family, friends, Valentina's own apathy, and the maddening bureaucracy of the system itself. Executive produced by Jessica Alba, this narrative feature debut from journalist Tatti Ribeiro is a rare, complex, and entertaining look at life on the border, addressing issues facing migrants in the U.S. as well as the systems that keep poor Americans poor.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
2:15–4PM AT ENZIAN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
4:15–6PM AT REGAL B

DIRECTED BY **TATTI RIBEIRO**
USA, 2025, 85 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE



Tatti Ribeiro is a journalist and filmmaker raised in the Bay Area. She is the founder of franknews and a graduate of the USC School of Cinematic Arts. *Valentina* is her first feature film.

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American Independent Competition Documentaries Jury



Brian Bolster grew up in suburban Boston before attending and graduating from the film program at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. His short documentary films have screened at over 100 international film festivals including Sundance, Tribeca, Hot Docs, and Full Frame, and have also been distributed by *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, Aeon, and United Airlines, among other channels. In 2014 his short documentary "One Year Lease" won the award for Best Documentary Short at the Tribeca Festival and was a nominee for the Cinema Eye Honors' Outstanding Achievement in Nonfiction Short Filmmaking. Brian is a five-time alumnus of the Florida Film Festival, and in 2019 his short documentary "Departing Gesture" won the festival's Grand Jury Award for Best Short Documentary. His most recent film, "The Conscience Files," is currently screening at numerous international film festivals. Brian is based in Las Vegas, Nevada.



Grace Cheung is the director of strategic initiatives at Magnolia Pictures, where she works across strategy, business affairs, and emerging technology to support the company's theatrical releases and film library. Magnolia is one of the longest running independent film distributors in the U.S., previously responsible for films like *Shoplifters*, *RBG*, and *Man on Wire*. Upcoming releases include *Normal* with Bob Odenkirk and Gregg Araki's *I Want Your Sex*. Outside of Magnolia, Grace is part of the programming team for the Asian American International Film Festival. She cares deeply about the communities that make independent film possible and is honored to support filmmakers through her role as a juror.



Clint Worthington (he/him) is the assistant editor at RogerEbert.com, and the founder and editor-in-chief of The Spool, as well as a senior staff writer for Consequence. He is also a member of the Chicago Film Critics Association and Critics Choice Association. The only child of farmers in downstate Illinois, Clint whiled away his adolescence developing a firm, abiding love for cinema and the performing arts. After graduating with a bachelor's in theater and English from Truman State University, Clint moved to Chicago, where he began his career in professional film criticism building the popular film podcast *Alcoholhollywood*. Currently, he lives in Evanston with his wife Julia, his cat, his dog, and a bookshelf full of far too many Criterion Blu-rays. Clint doesn't believe in having a "favorite" movie, but if pressed, he will extol the virtues of the under-sung Michael Douglas thriller *The Game*, or, as he calls it, "Gordon Gekko's Christmas Carol." You can also find his byline at Vulture, Block Club Chicago, and elsewhere.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
11:30AM-1:15PM
AT ENZIAN

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
7:15-9PM AT REGAL A

The Dads

DIRECTED BY **LUCHINA FISHER**
 USA, 2026, 72 MIN
 EAST COAST PREMIERE
 2ND US SCREENING



Luchina Fisher (she/her) is an Emmy® Award-winning filmmaker and educator who has directed several award-winning documentaries, including the short "The Dads" (Netflix), which won the 2024 Daytime Emmy Award, and her directorial debut *Mama Gloria* (PBS), nominated for a 2022 GLAAD Media Award. She teaches film at Yale and Fairfield University.



The Dads

As anti-trans legislation and hostility escalate in the U.S., a group of dads, building a nascent movement to support their trans and gender expansive kids, are forced to make an impossible choice: stay and fight or flee the country. Through semi-regular fishing retreats, these men find an outlet to be vulnerable, hold each other accountable, and work through their struggles at home. In the process, the dads question their own beliefs about gender and country, and how fatherhood can become both an act of radical resistance and love. GLAAD Media Award nominee Luchina Fisher expands upon her Emmy® award-winning short film—produced by NBA legend (and parent of a transgender child) Dwyane Wade—with this intimate and profoundly inspiring film which sheds a rarely seen light on a group of politically, generationally, and geographically diverse fathers navigating an ever-changing and increasingly vulnerable queer landscape.

Drag Me to Church

DIRECTED BY **ISABELLA SULLIVAN**
 USA, 2025, 13 MIN
 FLORIDA PREMIERE



Isabella Sullivan is an enthusiastic leader, a fast learner, and a gifted creator, dedicated to telling real stories that can be stranger than fiction.

PRECEDED BY

Drag Me to Church

A gay Lutheran pastor in Atlanta, Georgia, bridges the gap between two divided communities and throws a drag church service to commemorate Stonewall. This does not happen without a substantial amount of community blowback.



First They Came for My College

Patrick Xavier Bresnan (Grand Jury Award: Documentary Short "The Rabbit Hunt," FFF 2017; *Naked Gardens*, FFF 2023) examines the accelerating battle over academic freedom in the United States with the right-wing, conservative Republican takeover of New College of Florida, the state's designated honors college, in Sarasota. Through firsthand accounts from students, professors, administrators, and organizers, the film traces how campuses became flashpoints for culture wars, legislation, donor pressure, and social media outrage. What begins as isolated policy changes and speaker cancellations quietly snowballs into surveillance, self-censorship, and the erosion of shared governance. Blending vérité footage, archival news, and intimate interviews, the film captures moments of fear, courage, compromise, and resistance as communities grapple with who gets to teach, learn, and speak. Rather than arguing from a single ideology, *First They Came for My College* asks viewers to consider what is lost when higher education is governed by intimidation instead of inquiry. Urgent and unsettling, the film warns that the fate of colleges may foreshadow the future of a democratic society nationwide.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
5:30-8PM AT ENZIAN

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
4-6:15PM AT REGAL A

First They Came for My College

DIRECTED BY **PATRICK XAVIER BRESNAN**
 USA, 2026, 105 MIN
 EAST COAST PREMIERE



Using precise and illustrative cinematic images, **Patrick Bresnan** makes vérité stories that

counter the mythic concepts of America. He directed and shot *The Rabbit Hunt* which premiered in the US at Sundance and in Europe at the Berlinale. The film won over 20 awards including the Cinema Eye Honor. He co-directed the short "Skip Day" which won the grand jury prize at The Directors Fortnight at Cannes. He co-directed, shot, and produced the feature film *Pahokee*, which premiered in competition in 2019 at Sundance. The following year he was a cinematographer on the Sundance winning feature *Boys State*. His most recent feature *Naked Gardens* premiered in the 2022 documentary competition at Tribeca and in Europe at IDFA. His new short "The Passing" won the Golden Leopard at the Locarno Film Festival.

MONDAY, APRIL 13
9-11:15PM AT REGAL A

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
1-3:15PM AT ENZIAN

If These Walls Could Rock

DIRECTED BY **TYLER MEASON**
AND **CRAIG A. WILLIAMS**
USA, 2025, 93 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Tyler Meason

(he/him) had two feature films premiere at TIFF in 2024: *Takin' Care of Business* (director) and *Space Cowboy*

(producer). Meason also directed the Paramount+ series *I Wanna Rock: The '80s Metal Dream*.



Craig A. Williams

(he/him) wrote the feature films *Kung Fu Panda*, *Hotel Transylvania*, and *Underdog*, among others.

If You Really Love Me, Outlive Me

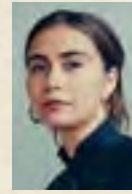
DIRECTED BY **ALEJANDRO RUAX**
AND **SASKIA D'ALTENA**
USA, 2026, 20 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



Alejandro Ruax

is an Argentine director, known for his Netflix documentary *Rocanrol Cowboys*, charting the

rise and fall of Argentina's iconic, Stones-inspired Ratonés Pranoicos.



Saskia d'Altena,

a NYC-based filmmaker originally from the UK, produces identity-driven stories that combine

lived experience with real-world observation.



If These Walls Could Rock

What do Slash, Springsteen, Ringo Starr, Sheryl Crow, Dave Grohl, Ozzy Osbourne, Simon Le Bon, Darius Rucker, Gene Simmons, Cyndi Lauper, and Morrissey, among other famous rockers have in common? The Sunset Marquis Hotel in West Hollywood! This is the place where iconic musicians have checked in, coked up, wrote music, broke the rules, and bonded for decades. Built in 1963 as an apartment hotel, the place became nothing less than a destination for debauchery, while at the same time being a safe haven for musicians. It even had a recording studio in the parking garage. Billy Bob Thornton, who's haunted the place between his many divorces, narrates its history and literally walks us through rooms, corridors, and winding outdoor paths that make up the grounds of the infamous hangout. How has this place flown under the radar of the general public for so long? This movie is nothing less than a raucous party!

PRECEDED BY

If You Really Love Me, Outlive Me

Austin Rockabilly legend Dale Watson and his Florida-born wife, Celine, celebrate their love and southern roots in this colorful, quirky, and retro-inspired film.



REEL REPRESENTATION



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A Life Illuminated

This is a thrilling call to adventure. But be warned: once you step through this portal, you will descend 3,300 feet into the ocean's darkest depths. Join Dr. Edie Widder, the trailblazing marine biologist who became one of the pioneers in her field, and among the first humans to venture into the ocean's "twilight zone." Through breathtaking original footage, you will witness the elusive giant squid in its natural habitat and encounter some of the earliest recorded images of deep-sea bioluminescence. Dr. Widder has devoted her life to making the invisible visible, transforming our understanding of a world few have ever seen. Her story is a testament to the resilience required to challenge scientific convention and to the power of curiosity to illuminate the unknown. Following its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, *A Life Illuminated* stands out as one of the year's most transporting and emotionally resonant documentaries. It doesn't just show us the depths of the sea—it changes the way we see our planet.

PRECEDED BY

Panther Pat

Come meet the first rebellious woman to play professional football, way back in 1970! Fun fact: it happened right here—she was an Orlando Panther! Winner of the Documentary Short Grand Jury Prize at Slamdance 2026.



SATURDAY, APRIL 11
11:30AM-1:30PM
AT REGAL B

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
3:30-5:30PM AT ENZIAN

A Life Illuminated

DIRECTED BY **TASHA VAN ZANDT**
USA/AUSTRALIA, 2025, 89 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Tasha Van Zandt

is an award-winning film director, cinematographer, and Emmy® nominated producer. Her

latest feature documentary, *A Life Illuminated*, follows pioneering marine biologist Dr. Edie Widder on a groundbreaking deep-sea expedition in search of never-before-seen bioluminescent life. The film premiered at the 2025 Toronto International Film Festival.

Panther Pat

DIRECTED BY **ASHLEY BRANDON**
USA, 2026, 12 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE
2ND US SCREENING



Ashley Brandon

is a filmmaker from Defiance, Ohio. Ash's films have screened at Sundance, SXSW, and Fantastic

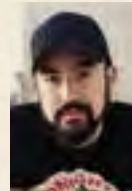
Fest. Her projects have been distributed by Disney+ and featured on *Bloody Disgusting's Bloody Bites* series. She has received support from the Tribeca Film Institute, the Adrienne Shelly Foundation, and Rooftop Films.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
4:30–6:45PM AT REGAL A

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
9:30–11:45PM
AT REGAL A

Never Get Busted!

DIRECTED BY **STEPHEN MCCALLUM**
AND **DAVID ANTHONY NGO**
USA/AUSTRALIA/UK, 2025, 109 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



David Anthony Ngo is an award-winning writer, director, and producer of narrative and documentary. In 2025, he helmed the critically acclaimed Sundance hit *Never Get Busted!* which was executive produced by John Battsek (*Searching for Sugar Man*) and Chris Smith (*Tiger King*). He is currently working on a true crime adaptation about international drug smugglers.



Never Get Busted!

If you don't know Barry Cooper, buckle up and enjoy the ride. Charismatic, controversial, and a former narcotics officer turned drug-reform advocate, Cooper is best known (make that "infamous") for his *Never Get Busted* DVD series—famously sold in the back of *High Times Magazine*—which teaches drug users how to conceal their stash and navigate police encounters. Taking his crusade even further, Cooper began filming and exposing corrupt officers, hosting the footage online for the world to see. Executive produced by John Battsek (*Searching for Sugar Man*) and Chris Smith (*Tiger King*), this provocative, funny, and unafraid documentary is as entertaining as it is unsettling. Beneath the showmanship lies something more tragic: a man reckoning publicly with his own past misconduct and corruption while serving in law enforcement. From villain to folk hero, Barry inspires fierce loyalty among those who share stories of his wild exploits and unlikely transformation. Yet his legend remains unfinished. As of today, he is still on the run, his whereabouts unknown, even to the filmmakers. This is the story of one man's chaotic quest for redemption, and his determination to never get busted.

PRECEDED BY

Trapped

The Venus flytrap only grows naturally in one place in the world—North Carolina—and ecologists worry that the plant is in danger. With new legislation passed to protect the species, a local Black community that had depended on the plant for generations find themselves designated criminals overnight.



Trapped

DIRECTED BY **JOE PURTELL**
AND **MADS ENGEL**
USA, 2025, 11 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Joe Purtell (he/him) is a researcher and independent journalist based in New York working on the social implications of climate mitigation and adaptation. This is his first documentary film.



Mads Engel (she/her) is a filmmaker based in Los Angeles. Between documentary films, she works as a video editor creating visuals for stadium concerts.



Punkie

If you think you know Punkie Johnson based on her legacy as the first openly gay, Black Not-Ready-for-Primetime Player, get ready, because the gloves are about to come off. In this intimate and unflinching documentary, the *SNL* breakout and stand-up comedy powerhouse steps out from behind the punchlines to reveal the powerful, driven woman beneath the spotlight. As cameras frenetically trail her through the relentless grind of touring, writing, and performing, Punkie wrestles with mounting pressures that threaten both her personal stability and her fiercely protected artistic voice. What begins as a portrait of a comedian in motion becomes something far more vulnerable: a real-time chronicle of ambition colliding with exhaustion, with public visibility clashing with private crises. An outspoken "dyke" known for her sharp wit, magnetic presence, and disarming honesty, Punkie allows unprecedented—full frontal—access to a chapter of her life marked by volatility and emotional reckoning, and captures the fragile space where performance slips away and truth takes center stage. The result is a powerful meditation on resilience, authenticity, and the cost of staying true to yourself while the world is watching and laughing.

PRECEDED BY

Welcome

In this compelling portrait, Shawn Welcome reflects on the winding path he's taken to becoming Orlando's first African American poet laureate, the community he's built along the way, and the incredible power that spoken-word poetry has to change lives.



SATURDAY, APRIL 11
9–11PM AT ENZIAN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
6:30–8:30PM AT REGAL A

Punkie

DIRECTED BY **AUDREY OLSEN**
USA, 2026, 72 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE
2ND US SCREENING

THIS FILM CONTAINS NUDITY AND LANGUAGE. VIEWER DISCRETION IS ADVISED



Audrey Olsen (she/her) is a graduate of Chapman University film school and an Emmy®-nominated television producer.

After her partner of sixteen years tragically passed away in 2020, she decided to reassess her career and focus on making documentaries that would have a meaningful impact.

Welcome

DIRECTED BY **JUSTIN WHITTINGHAM**
USA, 2026, 22 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



Born and raised in Orlando, FL, **Justin Whittingham** is a documentary filmmaker with a focus on human stories and people pursuing their passions. He has directed and shot documentaries all over the globe, seeking to make the world a better place by showcasing diverse experiences, cultures, and forms of vulnerability.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
2-4PM AT REGAL A

TUESDAY, APRIL 14
8:30-10:30PM
AT REGAL B

SANTACON

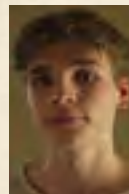
DIRECTED BY **SETH PORGES**
USA, 2025, 87 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Seth Porges produced, directed, and originated the films *Class Action Park* (HBO Max) and *How to Rob a Bank* (Netflix). He is the co-author of *Our Polyvagal World: How Safety and Trauma Change Us*. *Class Action Park* premiered at the 2020 Florida Film Festival, where it won the Audience Award.

The Chimney Sweeper

DIRECTED BY **JACK RAESE**
USA, 2025, 9 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Jack Raese (he/him) is a Chicago-born, LA-based filmmaker whose debut short film, "The Chimney Sweeper," was an official selection at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival.



SANTACON

From the creators of *Burning Man* and the inspiration for *Fight Club* came *SantaCon!* Sometimes called Santarchy, Santapalooza, Santa Rampage, or even the Red Menace, this global phenomenon has lured tens of thousands of revelers to don red suits and white beards while descending upon cities worldwide. What began as shock-and-awe street theater has, over time, evolved into one of the most controversial—and frequently banned—public spectacles of the holiday season. Bars close their doors, neighborhoods brace for impact, and critics cry foul. Yet the allure of festive anarchy proves irresistible year after year. Director Seth Porges (*Class Action Park*, FFF 2020) returns to the festival with exclusive footage and never-before-seen home videos that chronicle the chaotic origins, cultural backlash, and undeniable exuberance behind this unlikely tradition, revealing just how much mischief, mayhem, and twisted holiday cheer have fueled the legend of SantaCon.

PRECEDED BY

The Chimney Sweeper

A fourth-generation nutcracker maker discusses his craft and his decision to take up the family business instead of his inclination to become a chimney sweeper.



REEL REPRESENTATION
PRESENTED BY TRAVEL + LEISURE CO.

School For Defectors

Jeremy Workman has become a familiar and celebrated presence at the Florida Film Festival. A three-time alum, his most recent documentary *Secret Mall Apartment* played to sold-out audiences in 2024. Now, he returns with a powerful new work that takes us far beyond his usual terrain. In Busan, South Korea, we meet 20 students at the small Jangdaehyun Boarding School, all of them North Korean defectors. Workman's camera follows these teenagers as they navigate the weight of family histories marked by escape and trauma, while also confronting the complexities of cultural integration in a society that often prefers its stories remain unspoken. The documentary offers rare insight into an outsider community—one seldom portrayed on film with this level of intimacy—allowing the students to reveal not only what they've endured, but who they are becoming. Through quiet observation and compassionate storytelling, Workman finds hope in the simple, radical act of being seen and heard. It is a moving testament to resilience, identity, and the possibility of belonging.

PRECEDED BY

A Man Who Takes Pictures of Flowers

With stunning stop-motion animation, we hear a Korean photographer share his passion for capturing images of flowers for 45 years. From three-time FFF alumna Yoo Lee (Grand Jury Award, "7LBS, 8OZ," FFF 2022).

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
4:30-6:45PM AT REGAL B

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
4:15-6:30PM AT ENZIAN

School For Defectors

DIRECTED BY **JEREMY WORKMAN**
USA, 2026, 97 MIN
IN KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Jeremy Workman (he/him) is a documentary filmmaker who has been praised for creating his own genre of uniquely cinematic character portraits that bring you deep inside extraordinary worlds. His acclaimed films include *Secret Mall Apartment*, *Lily Topples the World*, *Deciding Vote*, *The World Before Your Feet*, and *Magical Universe*.

A Man Who Takes Pictures of Flowers

DIRECTED BY **YOO LEE**
USA, 2025, 13 MIN
IN KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Yoo Lee is a Film Independent Project Involve LAIKA Animation fellow, and her work has screened through *The New Yorker Screening Room* and HBO Max. Her latest documentary was made possible by Proof of Concept and incubated by Dirty Films, Netflix, and USC Annenberg.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11
NOON-2PM AT ENZIAN**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 14
6-8PM AT REGAL B**

Seized

DIRECTED BY **SHARON LIESE**
USA, 2026, 94 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Sharon Liese (she/her) is an Emmy® award-winning director who is passionate about telling stories that move people. Her work includes the HBO documentary feature *Transhood* and acclaimed short films, including “The Flagmakers” (NatGeo, Disney+), “The Gnomist” (CNN Films), and “Parker” (The New Yorker).

Correspondence

DIRECTED BY **PAUL OH**
USA, 2026, 5 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



Paul Oh (he/him) is a Korean American filmmaker based in Maryland. He graduated from University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2017. In 2021, he was awarded a grant for his documentary project “Everlasting Life” through the Saul Zaentz Innovation Fund, based out of Johns Hopkins University.



Seized

Marion, Kansas, is thrust into the international spotlight after a police raid on the *Marion County Record* and the death of its 98-year-old co-owner. A debate ignites about the abuse of power, journalistic ethics, local journalism, and the Constitution. The town—population 1,900—holds many secrets, but the film is so much more than an entertaining depiction of local gossip. Unfolding like an Errol Morris movie, it becomes clear that the First Amendment rights of the paper and its journalists are being violated by the mayor and police chief in retaliation for exposing corruption. As the town becomes divided, dirty laundry starts flying, and Eric Meyer, the paper’s owner/editor, seeks retribution against those that have wronged him in the raid. Emmy® award-winning director Sharon Liese (“Parker,” FFF 2023) crafts this “you won’t believe what you’re seeing” true story that is equal parts wildly infuriating and exceptionally entertaining.

PRECEDED BY

Correspondence

Narrated from transcripts, the filmmaker conducts a mediated interview with the man convicted of murdering his grandmother in a robbery in 2005.



Y Vân: The Lost Sounds of Saigon

Legendary Vietnamese composer Y Vân is rediscovered by his granddaughter in this story that spans three generations and two continents. Khoa Ha, a first-generation Vietnamese American, uncovers a tale of love, music, and family, as she searches for evidence of her grandfather’s legacy. Born in 1933 Hanoi, Y Vân made his way to Saigon, where he became a musician and prolific songwriter in the 1950s and ‘60s. Described as “the Quincy Jones of Saigon,” he composed some of Vietnam’s most popular and treasured tunes. After the war, however, many of his songs were banned, and he was nearly forgotten. Khoa seeks to revive his work throughout the film, as she painstakingly searches for his sheet music, high-fidelity tapes, and vinyl recordings. A talented artist herself, Khoa weaves together a story of heritage and resilience that is complemented by her clever graphics and cinematography. Part history lesson, part travelogue, this vibrant film is much more than just a “Finding Your Roots” project.

PRECEDED BY

Hollywood’s Mermaid: The Esther Williams Story

From swimming champion to Hollywood starlet, Esther Williams broke down barriers and persevered through tragedies to become “Hollywood’s mermaid.”

**MONDAY, APRIL 13
6-8:15PM AT REGAL B**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
12:15-2:30PM AT ENZIAN**

Y Vân: The Lost Sounds of Saigon

DIRECTED BY **KHOA HA**
AND **VICTOR VELLE**
USA/VIETNAM, 2025, 91 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

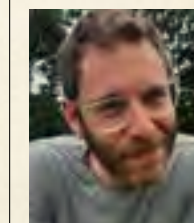


Khoa Ha is a multifaceted artist whose creative journey spans continents, cultures, and

disciplines. She leads impactful projects and campaigns, recognized by prestigious awards, weaving her unique perspective as an immigrant and artist into each compelling narrative. **Victor Velle** is always working to capture the truth of what binds and connects all humans. His two most recent feature documentaries have garnered over 30 festival selections, five of which were awarded a win.

Hollywood’s Mermaid: The Esther Williams Story

DIRECTED BY **BRIAN GERSTEN**
USA, 2026, 20 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Brian Gersten is an award-winning documentary filmmaker, non-fiction writer, editor,

and educator based in NY’s Hudson Valley. Brian’s work has screened at film festivals around the globe and can be seen on the likes of Netflix, HBO Max, PBS, Amazon Prime, Kanopy, and *The Atlantic*.

5X Real

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 104 MIN

MONDAY, APRIL 13
3:30-5:30PM AT REGAL B

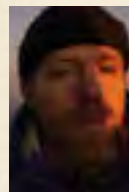
FRIDAY, APRIL 17
1-3PM AT REGAL A



Oh Whale

DIRECTED BY **WINSLOW CRANE-MURDOCH**
USA, 2025, 26 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A small Oregon town, an exploding whale, and the man who made the story famous. When news anchor Paul Linnman arrived in Florence on November 12th, 1970, he had no idea that the story he was about to tell would forever define his career.



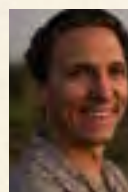
Winslow Crane-Murdoch (he/him) is a director and cinematographer based in Portland, OR. His debut documentary feature, *The Quiet Epidemic*, premiered at HotDocs 2022. His short film, "Strong Grandma," was acquired by *The New Yorker* and premiered at True/False. His work has appeared on HBO, *Time* magazine, and the San Francisco MOMA.



The Book of George

DIRECTED BY **DANNY SCHMIDT**
USA, 2025, 15 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

George McKenzie, Jr. turned his back on a life of crime and gang life to become an accomplished wildlife photographer in the Everglades. Swapping the weight of a gun for the promise of a camera, George found his calling amid nature's raw grandeur.



Danny Schmidt is a director, producer, and cinematographer of non-fiction television, documentaries, and short films. He won an Emmy® Award for cinematography for his DP work on the Disney+ film *Path of the Panther*. He has an MFA in documentary filmmaking from Montana State University. He currently lives in Salt Lake City.



The Baker's Hotline

DIRECTED BY **DAVE SCHUMAN**
AND **EMILY SCHUMAN**
USA, 2026, 13 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

A dedicated team of passionate bakers work the King Arthur Flour call center, offering expert advice and answering perplexing baking questions from an eclectic array of callers. During lockdown, calls start coming in for sourdough recipes, but really people are just looking for a connection.



Dave Schuman has over a decade of experience in post-production on award-winning documentaries and series for CNN, HBO, Netflix, and Discovery. "The Baker's Hotline" marks his directorial debut.



Emily Schuman is an award-winning documentary producer and filmmaker whose work includes the Emmy®-nominated *Judy Blume Forever* (Sundance 2023), *The Stroll* (Sundance 2023), and *Lift* (Tribeca 2022).

Each year, so many great documentary shorts come our way that it's impossible to fit them all into the opening slots for our documentary competition features. This feature-length "X Real" program was created to showcase some of our favorites. Don't be surprised if some of these are being discussed come Oscar® season next year—it would not be the first time.



Being Bublé

DIRECTED BY **DAN PERLMAN**
USA, 2025, 21 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A comedian who looks nothing like Michael Bublé is asked to perform as an impersonator at a birthday party. He accepts the gig as a joke, but also as a challenge, in this new film from FFF Grand Jury award winner Dan Perlman ("Flatbush Misdemeanors," FFF 2018).



Dan Perlman is a NYC-based comedian, writer, and director. He co-created, wrote, and starred in Showtime's *Flatbush Misdemeanors* (100% Rotten Tomatoes). He directed award-winning shorts "Cramming" and "Practice Space." As a stand-up, Dan has been featured on Comedy Central and headlined nationwide. His writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*.



The Baddest Speechwriter of All

DIRECTED BY **BEN PROUDFOOT**
AND **STEPHEN CURRY**
USA, 2026, 29 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Winner of the Grand Jury Award at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival, this is the story of Clarence B. Jones—Juilliard-trained clarinetist, music copyright lawyer, and ultimately Martin Luther King Jr.'s trusted lawyer and speechwriter. At 92 years old, Jones still commands attention to every word he says—stories not only of his time with Dr. King, but also of the reasons he was originally uncertain about working with him. From FFF alum Ben Proudfoot ("A Concerto is a Conversation," FFF 2021) and four-time NBA champion Stephen Curry.



Born in Nova Scotia, Canada, **Ben Proudfoot** is a two-time Academy Award®-winning filmmaker and the founder and CEO of Breakwater Studios, leading a filmmaking staff producing original and commissioned documentaries. His work includes Oscar®-nominated "A Concerto is a Conversation," and Oscar®-winning "The Queen of Basketball" and "The Last Repair Shop."



Stephen Curry's on- and off-court legacy is underscored by transformation and innovation. He is the co-founder of Unanimous Media, a multimedia company rooted in the mission to develop, create, and distribute compelling family, faith and sports-based content across a range of mediums—from film to podcasts and publishing.



FilmFreeway

American Independent Competition Shorts Jury



Dwight Brown writes film reviews for his website DwightBrownInk.com as well as the NNPA News Wire, and he is a top critic at Rotten Tomatoes. His reviews and articles have also appeared in *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Essence*, and *HuffPost*. As a past chairman of the New York Film Critics Circle, he championed the organization's "Best First Film" category, which spotlights new directors. Brown has served as a juror or speaker at film festivals in Toronto, Tribeca, New Orleans, and Miami, and as a guest critic on radio, television, and at colleges. He previously served as the director of HBO's film & talent evaluation department. He earned his BA and MA from San Francisco State University as well as a NAMIC ELDP certificate from the John E. Anderson Graduate School of Management at UCLA.



Radha Mehta is an award-winning filmmaker with an MFA in directing from the American Film Institute. Her work explores self-empowerment, identity, and the dismantling of cultural taboos. A native of Central Florida, she is a two-time alumna of the Florida Film Festival, where her film "Evan Ever After" won the Audience Award and "Witness" screened in competition. She is also an alumna of the festival's affiliate, South Asian Film Festival, where her film "Dosh" was featured. Radha has received fellowships from Women in Film (including being an inaugural recipient of the e.l.f. Beauty grant), CAPE, and the Alliance of Women Directors. She is currently developing her debut feature film, *Anitya*.



Guillermo Restrepo is the director of publicity at IFC Entertainment Group—encompassing Independent Film Company, Shudder, RLJE Films—whose recent releases include *Good Boy*, *Memoir of a Snail*, *Ghostlight*, *In a Violent Nature*, and *The Ugly Stepsister*. He was previously at Brigade, where he spearheaded festival, theatrical, and streaming release publicity campaigns for clients, including A24, Amazon, GKIDS, Hulu, Magnolia, Netflix, Oscilloscope, Utopia, and more. He was born in Colombia and is based in New York City.

SHORTS 1: Many Rivers to Cross

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 94 MIN

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
1:30-3:30PM AT REGAL A

TUESDAY, APRIL 14
6:30-8:30PM AT REGAL A

Just where to begin? The troubled people at the heart of these films are wandering and lost and can't seem to find their way over. Join them on their journey out of the darkness. Not everyone will make it, but I guess they have to try.



Afufu

DIRECTED BY **ELLIE FOUMBI**
USA, 2026, 18 MIN
IN ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE, AND CREOLE
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
WORLD PREMIERE

An African woman working as a live-in housekeeper for an affluent white family finds herself at the center of an explosion of repressed resentments when she accidentally breaks a valued artifact in this tense short, featuring Saffron Burrows (Netflix's *You*) and Tate Donovan (*Argo*) as the embittered couple.



Gloria

DIRECTED BY **KIM BLANCK**
USA, 2025, 10 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

An elderly Chinese woman (Emily Kuroda, Mrs. Kim on *Gilmore Girls*) struggling to keep hold of her memory decides to learn Spanish and strikes up an unlikely friendship with a young stocker at a Bay Area *carniceria*.



Man in Motel

DIRECTED BY **FARYL AMADEUS**
USA, 2026, 12 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Director Faryl Amadeus ("Any Sign at All," FFF 2024) returns to the festival with this complicated and emotionally raw tale of a lonely old man's suicide attempt that is interrupted by the arrival of a transgender sex worker who claims to be escaping her pimp but may have a secret agenda.



This Blows

DIRECTED BY **TALIA SMITH**
USA/SOUTH AFRICA, 2025, 13 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A precocious but sheltered tween girl learns, to her horror that thanks to a hilarious (to us in the audience anyway) miscommunication, she has unwittingly committed to performing a thoroughly inappropriate feat, and it's up to her slacker babysitter to devise a scheme to rescue her from it.



I Walked Through the Wall

DIRECTED BY **PABLO LARCUIEN**
USA/SPAIN, 2025, 8 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

A dissatisfied housewife is briefly elated when she suddenly discovers she has the ability to walk through walls, but she finds her joy short-lived when her husband and son start concocting schemes to profit from her newfound gift.



Peace Corps

DIRECTED BY **JESSICA LI**
USA, 2026, 13 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND MANDARIN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
WORLD PREMIERE

Drifting directionlessly around her hometown after unexpectedly being dismissed early from a stint in the Peace Corps, a 30-year-old Asian American woman butts heads with her mother, goes on an ill-advised date with a figure from her past, and ruminates on the meaning of her life.



The Last Day of Byron Bray

DIRECTED BY **MICHAEL BORRELLI**
USA, 2026, 20 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Legendary character actor William Sadler (*The Shawshank Redemption*, *Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey*) delivers an unexpectedly heartfelt turn as an elderly gay man who has a dream portending his nearing death and tries to impart some final wisdom to his young friend in this stirring film featuring music from M83 and Japandroids, from the team that brought you "She's Clean" (FFF 2023).

Shorts Program 1 Directors



Ellie Foubi ("Afufu") is a Cameroonian American filmmaker and novelist whose debut film, *Our Father, the Devil*, premiered at the Venice Film Festival. It received universal critical acclaim, including Independent Spirit Award and Gotham Award nominations. Ellie was named one of "25 New Faces of Independent Film" by *Filmmaker Magazine*.



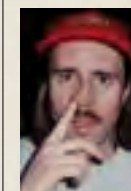
Kim Blanck's (she/her) short film "Gloria" made its world premiere at Tribeca and won the Narrative Jury Award and Audience Award at the Austin Asian American Film Festival. She is currently developing the feature adaptation of Jenna Dioguardi's *Nipples for Christmas*, a Tribeca Studios X Vital Stories finalist.



Faryl Amadeus ("Man in Motel") (she/her) is a writer/director. She is a Spielberg fellow, Scholarship Gold Key recipient, and winner of Aspen Film's Independent by Nature contest. She has worked alongside Julie Taymor, Lynne Ramsay, and most recently with Nathan Fielder on HBO's *The Rehearsal*. She is a proud FFF alum.



Talia Smith ("This Blows") is a South African-born filmmaker. A Tisch alum, she directed the Oscar®-eligible short "Umama"—a Gold Medal winner, 2020 Student Academy Awards and Student BAFTA shortlist. She hones her craft in directing short form while writing and developing long-form projects. Talia lives between London and the U.S., developing her next cinematic ventures.



Pablo Larcuen ("I Walked Through the Wall") (he/him) is a Spanish filmmaker whose work merges the intimate and the fantastic, exploring alienated characters through precise and visually crafted staging. His short films, shot on 16mm and 35mm, have been selected and awarded at renowned festivals such as Sundance, Los Angeles Film Festival, and Sitges



Jessica Li ("Peace Corps") is a New York-based filmmaker from New Jersey pursuing a joint MBA/MFA at NYU Stern and Tisch. She is drawn to stories that explore humanity through underrepresented voices and unexpected places. Jess began her career on the business side of entertainment before moving into producing, writing, and directing.



Michael Borrelli (he/him) has been an actor and a producer in the independent film space for the past fifteen years. He is thrilled to launch his directorial and screenwriting debut with "The Last Day of Byron Bray" at The Florida Film Festival.

SHORTS 2: **The Other One**

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 91 MIN

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
4-6PM AT REGAL A

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
9-11PM AT REGAL A



Neuman

DIRECTED BY **TIMOTHY JACOB ELLEDGE**
USA, 2025, 16 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

A recovering alcoholic clings to her daily routine, after a well-liked newcomer disappears just days before his first sober anniversary.



Tub

DIRECTED BY **KATHREEN KHAVARI**
USA, 2026, 14 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND FARSI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

Laleh is the sole caretaker of her abusive mother, when suddenly she finds herself desperate to fix a newly leaky tub. But perhaps the tub will fix her instead?



The Daughter

DIRECTED BY **MARY ANN ANANE**
USA, 2025, 7 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

While her father strikes up an awkward flirtation with a stranger, a young girl tries to salvage their beach day.



Nut Milk in May

DIRECTED BY **BROOKE TRANTOR**
USA, 2026, 17 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Director Brooke Trantor (“Oh, Baby,” FFF 2020) returns with this tale of a Los Angeles couple that goes camping to “detoxify.” But tensions flair when a neighboring camper inadvertently exposes where the true toxicity lies.



All at Once

DIRECTED BY **MAGGIE BRILL**
USA, 2025, 15 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

On a walk across Central Park, an introspective high school senior develops feelings for her charismatic co-valedictorian, inspiring some unexpected consequences from her body.



Study Hall

DIRECTED BY **STERLING HAMPTON IV**
USA, 2026, 9 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

An all-white faculty corrals several Black students into a separate classroom to watch the inauguration of President Barack Obama. From the director of “Merman” (FFF 2024).



Xolo

DIRECTED BY **MATTHEW SERRANO**
USA, 2025, 13 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

A hungry pup searches his home for food and his missing owner, Maria. He finds her lying motionless on the couch just as the Aztec god of death, Xolotl, arrives.

Shorts Program 2 Directors



Timothy Jacob Elledge (“Neuman”) (he/him) is a filmmaker living and working between New York and London. When not on set, he’s either at the movies or watching the Buffalo Bills—either of which he would be all too happy to discuss with you.



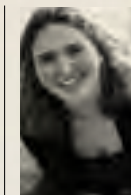
Oakland native **Kathreen Khavari** (“Tub”) got her master’s degree in the control of infectious diseases because she harbored an obsession with the Ebola virus after seeing *Outbreak* as a child. The pilot that she co-wrote, *Embrace*, premiered at Sundance in 2020 and won the Episodic Pilot Competition Jury Award at SXSW.



Mary Ann Anane (“The Daughter”) (she/her) is a Ghanaian-born, New Jersey-raised filmmaker. She is a 2026 AFI DWW+ fellow, a 2021 Sundance Screenwriters Lab fellow, a 2021 SF Film Rainin fellow, a 2020 Athena Feature Lab fellow, and a 2020 Film Independent’s Project Involve fellow.



Brooke Trantor (“Nut Milk in May”) (she/her), a director/actor/writer, is based in Los Angeles. Her passion lies in the improv/comedy world where she has studied, taught, and performed at various institutions, including Second City, UCB, Groundlings, and iO. She tells stories of resilient women navigating life’s darker moments through a comedic lens.



Maggie Brill (“All at Once”) is a director and cinematographer based in Brooklyn, New York. She is dedicated to telling character-driven stories with emotional depth, honesty, and visual intention, with a particular passion for queer representation and coming-of-age narratives.



Sterling Hampton IV (“Study Hall”) (he/him) is an American film director, photographer, producer, writer, and composer from Southern California, and a *Forbes* “30 Under 30” recipient for 2025. He is the creator and head of Clash of the Artistic Minds (COTAM). Best known for his films “Kylie” and “Merman.”



Matthew Serrano (“Xolo”) (he/him) is a first-generation Salvadoran American filmmaker, based in Los Angeles. From 2024 to 2025, he was selected for filmmaking programs with Walmart, Netflix, and Hoorae. He is a mentor at Youth Cinema Project, co-founded the clothing brand Toby & Linus, and frequently collaborates with the Peabody-nominated YouTube channel *Defunctland*.

SHORTS 3: Can't Get Enough

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 89 MIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
11AM-1PM AT REGAL B

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
6:30-8:30PM AT REGAL B



Scout's Honor

DIRECTED BY **ISABEL PASK**
USA, 2026, 14 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

When their favorite childhood musician announces a surprise tour during their last summer together, two lifelong friends commit to doing whatever they can to raise the money for tickets—even taking up with a nefarious ring of bogus Girl Scouts selling counterfeit cookies.



Somewhere to Be

DIRECTED BY **CHRISTY CHAN**
USA, 2025, 9 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND MANDARIN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE

An eight-year-old girl watches from the backseat with mounting dread as her mother, who speaks little English, demands service from a recalcitrant gas station proprietor on the side of a highway somewhere in the middle of nowhere in 1985.



Dear Shop Girl

DIRECTED BY **NIRA BURSTEIN**
USA, 2025, 15 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

After a tense call from her landlord (Fred Armisen), a struggling vintage-shop owner—eager to make a sale—enthusiastically offers her help to a gentleman (Rory Culkin), only to learn he's searching for the outfit he plans to wear when he takes his own life.



Cake

DIRECTED BY **CARO RIBEIRO**
USA, 2025, 6 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Mortified to learn she wasn't invited to a coworker's birthday party, a young woman lies about having been there and then spends the rest of the day agonizing that she'll be found out, until her festering anxiety erupts into an even more embarrassing spectacle.



All the Real Boys

DIRECTED BY **OHAD IRA AMRAM**
USA, 2025, 11 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A young inmate working trash pickup in Altadena cajoles his fellow inmates to keep the mood light, but when a member of his cohort locks himself in a bathroom, he has to intercede to prevent a tragedy before the corrections officer catches wind that anything's wrong.



Squall Mouth

DIRECTED BY **EVA CHAITMAN**
USA, 2025, 14 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A young biracial Southern girl, hungry to establish herself in the sphere of hunting-dog breeders, is accompanied by her father to a potential sale and finds herself contending not just with preconceived expectations, but also the uncomfortable attentions of the buyer.



Iron Lake

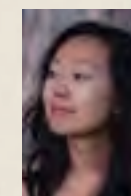
DIRECTED BY **GRANT SWANSON**
USA, 2026, 20 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Wrestling with a maelstrom of confusing emotions, a closeted teen boy on a scouting trip vents his frustration by tormenting the object of his affection, continually escalating the abuse until it explodes in an impulsive act of violence with potentially dire consequences.

Shorts Program 3 Directors



Isabel Pask ("Scout's Honor") is a Brooklyn-based, Texas-born filmmaker with Puerto Rican roots. Her directorial debut, "Goodnight," premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Her feature "The Lord's Work" is currently in development with Fit Via Vi Film. She is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University.



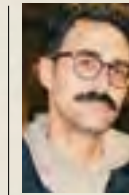
Christy Chan ("Somewhere to Be") is a Guggenheim Fellowship-awarded filmmaker and visual artist. Informed by her early years in the rural American South, her films often employ an absurdist, dark comedy to question the everyday social codes that normalize racialized violence in the United States. She lives in the San Francisco Bay area.



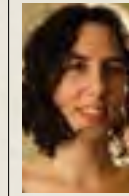
Nira Burstein (she/her) is an award-winning filmmaker. She is one of *Filmmaker Magazine's* "25 New Faces of Independent Film" and DOC NYC's "40 Under 40." Her documentary *Charm Circle* is a *New York Times* Critic's Pick which premiered on Criterion Channel. Her latest, "Dear Shop Girl," premiered at Woodstock Film Festival.



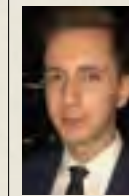
Caro Ribeiro (she/her) is a Brazilian American writer/director. She graduated from Harvard and worked as a McKinsey consultant prior to pursuing filmmaking. Her short film "Cake" qualified for the Oscars® after winning the Grand Prize for Best Comedy Short at Flickers' Rhode Island. She is currently developing a feature film with Princess Pictures.



Ohad Ira Amram ("All the Real Boys") (he/him) is a Los Angeles-based writer/director originally from Atlanta, Georgia. He graduated from Hofstra University in 2014 with a degree in film studies and production. Thereafter, Ohad has spent the last decade in Los Angeles writing and directing his shorts, as well as writing his upcoming features.



Eva Chaitman ("Squall Mouth") (she/her) is film director based between NYC and Austin, TX. She holds an MFA in film and media production from the University of Texas at Austin and BA in sociology/anthropology from Earlham College. She is inspired by community-led stories and focuses on building these narratives into her work.



Grant Swanson ("Iron Lake") is an LA-based writer-director. His shorts have screened at Fantasia, on Short of the Week, and in numerous other festivals. He received his MFA from the American Film Institute Conservatory. He previously worked as a TV editor, earning a national Daytime Emmy® nomination for his editing with NBC.

SHORTS 4: **Everyday People**

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 92 MIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
3:30-5:30PM AT REGAL B

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
9-11PM AT REGAL B

The butcher, a banker, the drummer, and then, makes no difference what group I'm in. A film festival, a Mexican restaurant, a commercial shoot, home with an ailing mother, in a dilapidated house, at a senior center, a virtual reality escape. All these settings have everyday people, different strokes for different folks, and so on and so on and Scooby-Dooby-Do.



Doctor Death Grip

DIRECTED BY **AMBER SCHAEFER**
USA, 2026, 21 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

While at the Key West Film Festival, a writer's (director Amber Schaefer, *Saturday Night Live*) recently published essay exposes some embarrassing and intimate truths about her boyfriend (Yoni Lotan, *Hacks*).



To-Go

DIRECTED BY **BRYAN POYSER**
USA, 2026, 6 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

A father, meeting with his college-aged daughter at a Mexican restaurant, interjects their lunch conversation with a desperate and inappropriate request in this new film from multi-FFF alum Bryan Poyser (*Dear Pillow*, FFF 2003 and "More than Four Hours," FFF 2016).



Fruithead

DIRECTED BY **MIKE DIVA**
USA, 2025, 9 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Thirty years after directing an iconic commercial, Richard (Bradley Whitford, *Get Out*, *The Handmaid's Tale*) finds out what happens when you needlessly involve the occult in capitalist endeavors.



Imago

DIRECTED BY **ARIEL ZENGOTITA**
USA, 2025, 13 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

From Florida native Ariel Zengotita and executive producer Jordan Peele comes the twisted tale of Ana's codependent relationship with her ailing mother, made exponentially worse by a Kafkaesque predicament.



Esther

DIRECTED BY **JOEY HUNT**
USA, 2025, 13 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

As a hardened grandmother's health deteriorates, her once-lively home falls into disrepair, mirroring her own descent.



Betty St. Clair

DIRECTED BY **SYRA MCCARTHY**
AND **KYLE CASEY CHU**
USA, 2026, 12 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND CANTONESE
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
WORLD PREMIERE

From the writers and director of "After What Happened at the Library" (Special Jury Award, FFF 2025), an anxious Chinese American drag queen hosts a showcase for an unconventional audience, when a surprise guest sends her spiraling into self-doubt.



Idyll

DIRECTED BY **AUSTIN CAULDWELL**
USA, 2026, 18 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

A quiet young woman, stuck in the repetition of an unremarkable life, finds escape through a virtual reality platform that offers the chance to live life as a celebrity . . . for a cost.

Shorts Program 4 Directors



Amber Schaefer ("Doctor Death Grip") (she/her) is a writer-director and undercover actor who's directed for *Saturday Night Live*, *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, and *Last Week Tonight with John Oliver*. She created award-winning shorts, including "NYC Tips and Tricks." After producing 100+ ads, she's developing projects with Irony Point and Warner Bros. Discovery in Los Angeles.



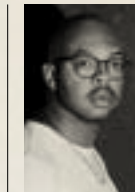
A two-time Independent Spirit Award nominee, **Bryan Poyser** ("To-Go") (he/him) has directed four features that premiered at festivals like SXSW, Sundance, and Tribeca. He's made numerous award-winning shorts and projects for Comedy Central, HBO, Ridley Scott Associates, and the USA Network. He teaches filmmaking at Texas State University.



Already an internet phenomenon by his early 20s, **Mike Diva** ("Fruithead") has a proven talent for creating engaging, award-winning content. His innovative commercial work earned a 2023 Titanium Grand Prix at Cannes Lions. He directs digital shorts for *Saturday Night Live* and has helmed sketches for *That Damn Michael Che* and *I Think You Should Leave*.



Ariel Zengotita ("Imago") (he/him) is a writer-director based in North Carolina. His films have screened at festivals such as SXSW, Palm Springs Int'l ShortFest, and TIFF. He was recently part of the NO DRAMA Initiative, powered by Monkeypaw, Universal, and TIFF. Ariel's work tends to explore the space between horror and dramedy.



Joey Hunt ("Esther") is a Houston-raised director and cinematographer based in Austin, Texas. He studied film at The University of Texas. As a cinematographer, his work has premiered at SXSW, Cleveland International Film Festival, and Austin Film Festival. His debut narrative short, "Esther," screened at Fantastic Fest and Denton Black Film Festival.



Syra McCarthy ("Betty St. Clair") (she/they) is a 5'2", half Filipino, half New Zealander, first-generation, American filmmaker and actor, whose portfolio spans national commercials, music videos, and short films. **Kyle Casey Chu** (she/her) is an author, filmmaker, and one of the founding queens of *Drag Story Hour*.



Austin Cauldwell ("Idyll") is a Los Angeles-based director whose work centers on performance, collaboration, and emotional honesty. He previously co-created and directed the web series *Rhinebrook* and has directed for the stage. He also works as an acting coach, collaborating closely with film and television actors to deepen character-driven storytelling.

SHORTS 5: Don't Worry Baby

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 92 MIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
6-8PM AT REGAL B

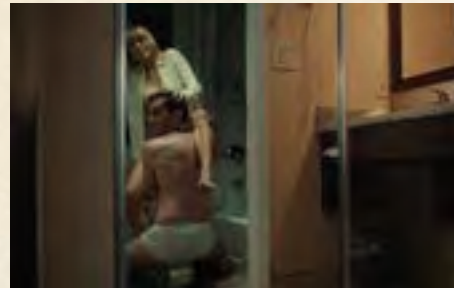
FRIDAY, APRIL 17
3:30-5:30PM AT REGAL A



TEOTWAWKI

DIRECTED BY **CRISTIN STEPHENS**
USA, 2025, 7 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

At the height of Y2K paranoia in 1999, a young girl who lives in desperate fear of the Rapture—thanks to the fundamentalist preacher constantly sermonizing from her household television—wonders that she may have squandered her eternal reward by watching a PG-13 movie.



DISC

DIRECTED BY **BLAKE WINSTON RICE**
USA, 2025, 14 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Awakening from an intended one-night stand at a professional conference, a young woman is horrified to learn that her menstrual disc has gotten stuck—and even more horrified to learn that the only person available to help her is her hookup from the night before (Jim Cummings, “Thunder Road,” FFF 2016) in this cringe-worthy comedy from the director of “Tea” (FFF 2025).



House Cat

DIRECTED BY **KYLE SPLEISS**
USA, 2026, 14 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Wallowing in gig-work hell, a broke woman at the end of her rope accepts a sketchy-sounding role: taking care of a house cat for an inordinate sum of money. But when she arrives, she quickly realizes that she seriously misunderstood the job description.



Are You Fucking Kidding Me?!

DIRECTED BY **ZEN PACE**
USA, 2025, 12 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A broke party clown learns in the middle of an already miserable birthday gig that his ailing mother will be dead within hours, and he scrambles to get his hands on some money for a plane ticket while simultaneously clinging to his disintegrating grip on reality.



Scissors

DIRECTED BY **HANNAH ALLINE**
USA, 2026, 12 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

Adorkable late-'90s heartthrob Ethan Embry (*Empire Records*, *Can't Hardly Wait*) takes a turn for the scuzzy, starring as a regressive serial killer who feels his bloodlust incensed by the sight of an attractive young woman and follows her home to discover a coven of queer femmes (including Jenna Kannell, “Spray Bottle,” FFF 2025) who are completely unimpressed by his threats.



Stairs

DIRECTED BY **RILEY DONIGAN**
USA, 2026, 14 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

Indie film luminary Betsey Brown (“Nepotism, Baby!” FFF 2025; www.rachelormont.com, FFF 2025) delivers a smoldering performance as a fastidiously put-together woman nearing her wedding whose composure crumbles after she inadvertently discovers in herself an addiction for falling down stairs.



Grampa

DIRECTED BY **JUSTICE SMITH**
USA, 2026, 19 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Justice Smith (*I Saw the TV Glow*, *Paper Towns*) makes his directorial debut with this scathing horror-comedy about a young Black man who visits his white boyfriend's family for the first time and balks at the lengths to which they'll go to excuse the, ahem, monstrous behavior of their patriarch.

Shorts Program 5 Directors



Cristin Stephens (“TEOTWAWKI”) is a Philly-raised and Brooklyn-based filmmaker whose work centers the emotional landscapes and interior lives of Black people.



Blake Winston Rice is a writer-director from NJ. His breakout short “Tea” (2024), starring Michael Gandolfini, premiered in competition at Cannes. “DISC” premiered at TIFF’s 50th edition and plays Clermont-Ferrand

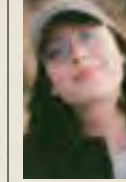
2026. Named a 2025 Vimeo Breakout Creator, he is currently developing debut feature *The Empty Lot* with Wild Atlantic Pictures.



Kyle Spleiss (“House Cat”) is a writer and director drawn to the quirky, overlooked moments of everyday life. He earned his MFA in directing from AFI in 2012. As a storyteller, Kyle explores characters navigating the absurdities lurking just beneath the surface of the mundane.

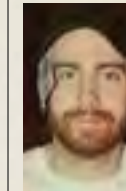


Zen Pace (“Are You Fucking Kidding Me?!”) (they/them), a nonbinary, two-time Emmy®-nominated filmmaker, creates soulful work exploring identity, inner child work, and challenging the status quo. Raised in Flint, Michigan, Zen has collaborated with Gucci, Meta, and more. Their film “Play Again” won Best Animated Short at Provincetown, and their short “Fraud” premiered at Tribeca.



Hailing from Arkansas, **Hannah Aline** (“Scissors”) (she/her) co-founded Juice Box Films and produced “Ragamuffin,” which premiered at Sundance 2025 and won Kodak’s Best Shot on Film at HollyShorts. As an actress, she’s

known for *Doom Patrol* and *Mayfair Witches*, and will appear in the upcoming *I Love Boosters*.



Riley Donigan (“Stairs”) is a New York-based filmmaker whose films typically blend elements of horror and absurdist comedy. They have played at various festivals, such as Sundance, SXSW, and HollyShorts. Currently,

he is developing his first feature, the premise of which is equally as bizarre as his previous films.



A first-time writer/director, **Justice Smith** (“Grampa”) is most known as an actor of stage and screen. From hits like *Jurassic World* to *I Saw the TV Glow*, Justice has procured over ten years of experience. Now holding the

baton, he’s honored to give audiences stories from his own world.

Due to Graphic Content, Recommended for Mature Audiences Only

ANIMATED SHORTS: Personality Crisis

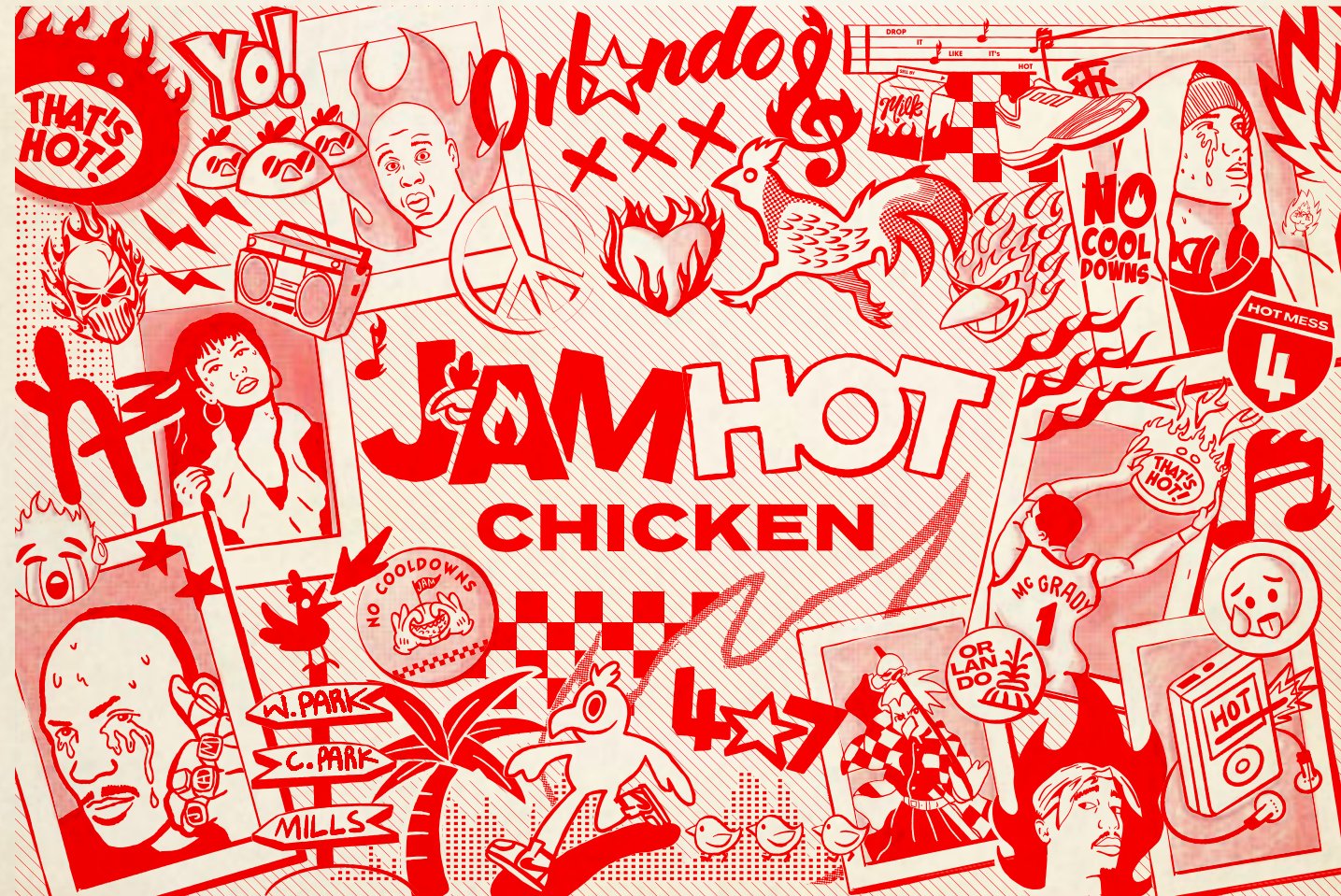
SPONSORED BY LURE DESIGN, INC.

TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 92 MIN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
6:30-8:30PM AT ENZIAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
8:30-10:30PM AT REGAL A

Frustration and heartache is what you got,” howl the New York Dolls, and these films howl back, matching the fury and angst of life in the world right now with equal measures of raw emotion and virtuosic artistry—exactly what you’d expect from the domestic animated shorts program. A life told in scribbles and scrawls, grief unloaded on an unwitting stranger, intimacy achieved in a moment of destruction, glory recaptured in defiance of the haters, catharsis in a crumbling system of monotony, cosmic revelation discovered at the fringes of customer service hell, riotously confused sexual awakening at a birthday party, delirious debauchery at the drop of a text, nirvana hiding beneath the skin of an apple, despair seeping up from the earth itself and crashing from the heavens, and at the end of it all, a wrenching and scintillating and ultimately liberating sadness drifting on a sea of gray cotton are only some of the emotions bubbling and bursting from this chaotic collection of the most outstanding animation we’ve seen this year.



Paper Trail

DIRECTED BY **DON HERTZFELDT**
USA, 2026, 14 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

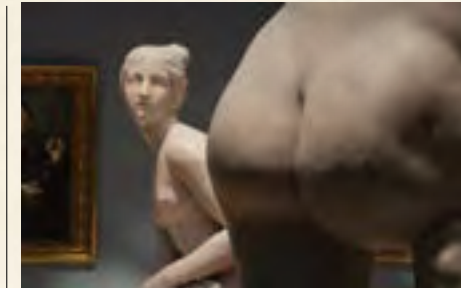
Two-time Academy Award® nominee and six-time FFF alum Don Hertzfeldt (“It’s Such a Beautiful Day,” FFF 2012; “World of Tomorrow,” FFF 2015) journeys beyond his iconic existentialist stick-figure style to weave a hypnotic montage of a man’s entire life comprising only the scribbling sounds and frenetic ultra-closeup images of the words and shapes the man writes with his own hand. Winner of the Short Film Special Jury Award: Creative Vision at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival.



Dreams

DIRECTED BY **EDDIE MAULDIN**
USA, 2025, 4 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

Plagued by stressful dreams and wrestling with grief, an anxious man reaches out for help from a—let’s say—nontraditional mental health provider.



Yearn

DIRECTED BY **BEN SMITH**
USA, 2025, 4 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Two tragic romantic figures, desperately in love but unable to touch, finally find a chance to indulge their passion just as the world begins crumbling around them in this impressive feat of hyper realistic computer animation.



Tuna Tartare

DIRECTED BY **LENA GREENE**
USA/FRANCE, 2025, 11 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

In a post-apocalyptic Los Angeles populated by living trash—literally—an aging burlesque diva suffers a crisis of confidence when her haters dredge up an embarrassing gaffe from her past, and it’s up to her young protégé to remind her who she is. Sort of.



Busy Bodies

DIRECTED BY **KATE RENSHAW-LEWIS**
USA, 2025, 6 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A mesmerizing amalgam of hand-drawn illustration and screen printing in which lilliputian laborers engage in monotonous and over-productive industrial processes, while their system and the film itself disintegrate into pieces. Winner of the Animated Shorts Grand Jury Prize at Slamdance 2026.



Crab Diane

DIRECTED BY **RYAN MCCOWN**
USA, 2025, 18 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animated Shorts alum Ryan McCown (“Flutz,” FFF 2024) returns with an epic hand-drawn animation that tells the tale of a discontented young waitress in a seaside diner who finds herself transported to a cosmic colony of crustaceans only to discover that no place, no matter how far flung, is exempt from tedium.



1981

DIRECTED BY **CAROLYN LONDON**
AND **ANDY LONDON**
USA, 2026, 8 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A sullen Long Island teen, fighting an internal battle with his own burgeoning desires, is nonplussed to learn that his parents have forgone KISS tickets to instead get him a stripper for his 14th birthday, in this psychedelic rotoscoped animation from seven-time FFF alum Carolyn and Andy London (“The English Teacher,” FFF 2019)



Girls Night Out

DIRECTED BY **ASHLEY SENGSTAKEN**
USA, 2025, 3 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Despite already having her feet up for a quiet evening home alone with *Suits*, a valiant young woman is ready to leap up and join the fray when her girlfriends text her “EMERGENCY GIRLS NIGHT” in this hyperkinetic short where everyone is depicted in collages of body parts.



Juicy and Sweet

DIRECTED BY **SASHA UIJEONG SHIN**
USA, 2025, 4 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A twenty-something girl living in her mother’s apartment uncovers ample opportunities for existential contemplation in simple acts such as slicing an apple and cutting her own bangs in this minimalist animation marked by stark primary colors and haunting sound design. From the director of “new(bird) life” (FFF 2025).



Hell

DIRECTED BY **PARKER CROFT**
USA, 2026, 5 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A despairing Depression-era farmer sees in his ravaged fields only a grim reminder of the emptiness of his home in the wake of his wife’s passing in this bleak but masterfully animated stop-motion short from the producer of “Le Charade” (FFF 2025).



Perfect City: The Mushroom

DIRECTED BY **SHENGWEI ZHOU**
USA, 2026, 14 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Florida-based director Shengwei Zhou returns to the raw emotional wasteland of “Perfect City: The Bravest Kid” (FFF 2024) with another haunting stop-motion epic, this time weaving a tableau of tattered fabrics and frayed fibers to symbolize an artist’s grief over the loss of her brother.

Shorts Program 5 Directors



Don Hertzfeldt (“Paper Trail”) (he/him) is a two-time Academy Award® nominee whose animated films include “It’s Such a Beautiful Day,” the *World of Tomorrow* series, “ME,” “The Meaning of Life,” and “Rejected.” His work has played around the world, received hundreds of awards, and in 2014 made a special appearance on *The Simpsons*.



Eddie Mauldin (“Dreams”) (he/him) is a writer, director, and cartoonist, based in Los Angeles, and originally from Fort Pierce, Florida. His previous films were selections for the LA Comedy Shorts Festival and LA International Film Festival. Past work includes the feature film *Repeater* and for studios including NBC, Nickelodeon, and Gearbox Studios.



Ben Smith (“Yearn”) (he/him) has been making videos since childhood. He studied digital art at Chapman University, worked in VFX for television in college, and has worked in advertising in the Bay Area ever since.

He’s currently an art director and lead motion designer at Remedy Editorial in San Francisco.



Lena Greene (“Tuna Tartare”) (she/her) is a NYC-based animator. Her work is playful and absurdist, drawing from her Hollywood-adjacent upbringing. She’s directed animations for Lauren Greenfield, Lana Del Rey, and Celeste; storyboarded and character designed for Adult Swim and HBO; and freelanced with Vice and Droga5.



Kate Renshaw-Lewis (“Busy Bodies”) (she/they) was born in England, raised in New Jersey, and currently resides in Los Angeles. Using hand-drawn animation, she explores how the tactility of the medium can strengthen the connection between the viewer and her works. Her films flow with dream-like logic as her creatures uncover hidden worlds.



Ryan McCown (“Crab Diane”) (he/him) is a Brooklyn-based animator and illustrator. He lives with a ten-pound Pomeranian named Bosco. For the past two years, he has been heavily inspired by crustaceans.



London Squared is **Andy and Carolyn London** (“1981”). Andy and Carolyn are writers, directors, animators, and co-founders of London Squared Productions. Since 1999,

they’ve been creating films, music videos, and animated content.



Ashley Sengstaken (she/her) is a multimedia animator and artist based in Los Angeles. Her work blends analog and digital techniques to explore the relationship between the girly and the grotesque. “Girls Night Out” is her first animated short film.



Sasha Uijeong Shin (“Juicy and Sweet”) is an animator and filmmaker based in New Jersey. Her works primarily focus on her feminine experience inspired by her personal anecdotes. She tells her stories through 2D digital and traditional media, while abstracting her reality with minimalistic yet intricate imagery.



Parker Croft (“Hell”) (he/him) “As Easy as Closing Your Eyes” earned 144 awards across film festivals, including 16 for best director. His “Suncatcher” was acclaimed at 62 festivals and earned 13 awards. Croft made his mark with “Falling Overnight,” which won the Special Jury Prize-Cinequest and streamed on Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon.



Shengwei Zhou (“Perfect City: The Mushroom”) (he/him) is an independent filmmaker and animation artist. He is an assistant professor in USF Tampa. His representative works are “SHe,” *Art Is Dead*, “Let’s Fall in Love,” and *Perfect City* series. His artwork dives into human psyche, dream world, and unconscious.

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You Had to Be There: How the Toronto Godspell Ignited the Comedy Revolution, Spread Love & Overalls, and Created a Community That Changed the World (in a Canadian Kind of Way) (p. 28)
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FRIDAY, APRIL 10

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
5P	5:15PM Opening Night Happy Hour (p. 19)			
6P	6:15-8:30PM Welcome and Film: <i>Carolina Caroline</i> (p. 18-19)			
7P		7:30-9:30PM Second Screening: <i>Carolina Caroline</i> (p. 18-19)		
8P			8PM-MIDNIGHT TIEDTKE AMPHITHEATER AND BELVEDERE Opening Night Party (p. 19)	
9P				
10P				
11P				
12A				

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
10A				
11A		11AM-1PM <i>If I Go Will They Miss Me</i> (p. 54)	11:30AM-1:30PM <i>A Life Illuminated</i> preceded by "Panther Pat" (p. 67)	11AM-10PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
12P	Noon-2PM <i>Seized</i> preceded by "Correspondence" (p. 72)			
1P		1:30-3:30PM Shorts #1: "Many Rivers to Cross" (p. 78)	2-4PM <i>Damned if You Do</i> (p. 53)	
2P				
3P	3-4:30pm <i>The Plan</i> (p. 56)			3-5PM WINTER PARK VILLAGE Winter Park Village Block Party (p. 23)
4P		4-6PM Shorts #2: "The Other One" (p. 80)	4:30-6:45PM <i>School for Defectors</i> preceded by "A Man Who Takes Pictures of Flowers" (p. 71)	
5P				
6P	5:30-8PM <i>First They Came for My College</i> (p. 65)	6:30-9PM <i>Return from Tomorrow</i> (p. 57)	7:15-9:05PM <i>Tuner</i> (p. 27)	
7P				
8P				
9P	9-11PM <i>Punkie</i> preceded by "Welcome" (p. 69)	9:30-11:30PM <i>Obsession</i> (p. 26)	9:45-11:30PM <i>Sylvania</i> (p. 60)	
10P				
11P				
12A	MIDNIGHT-1:45AM Midnight Shorts: "Crazy Train" (p. 48)	Midnight-1:15AM <i>Frogman Returns</i> (p. 46)		
1A				

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
10A				10AM-1PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Sunday Brunch (p. 23)
11A		11:30AM-1:15PM <i>The Dads</i> preceded by "Drag Me to Church" (p. 64)	11AM-1PM Shorts #3: "Can't Get Enough" (p. 82)	11AM-2PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
12P		11:30AM-1:15PM <i>Crystal Cross</i> (p. 52)		
1P			1:30-3PM <i>Cookie Queens</i> (p. 24)	
2P	2:15-4PM <i>Valentina</i> (p. 61)	2-4PM <i>SANTACON</i> preceded by "The Chimney Sweeper" (p. 70)		
3P			3:30-5:30PM Shorts #4: "Everyday People" (p. 84)	3-6PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
4P		4:30-6:45PM <i>Never Get Busted!</i> preceded by "Trapped" (p. 68)		
5P	5-7PM <i>Occupational Hazard:</i> <i>The First Coral Reefers</i> (p. 36)			
6P			6-8PM Shorts #5: "Don't Worry Baby" (p. 86)	
7P		7:15-9PM <i>Sender</i> (p. 59)		
8P	8-11:30PM An Evening with Paul Giamatti featuring <i>Sideways</i> (p. 14)		8:30-10:15PM <i>Ride or Die</i> (p. 58)	7-10PM ZYMARUM MEADERY Filmmaker Welcome Party (Invitation Only) (p. 23)
9P				
10P		9:30-11PM <i>Normal</i> (p. 26)		
11P				

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Schedule

MONDAY, APRIL 13

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
3P				
4P		4-6PM <i>Chopin, Chopin!</i> (p. 30)	3:30-5:30PM 5x Real (p. 74)	
5P				
6P	6:30-8:15PM <i>The Call</i> (p. 44)	6:30-8:30PM <i>I Swear</i> (p. 25)	6-8:15PM <i>Y Vân: The Lost Sounds of Saigon</i> preceded by "Hollywood's Mermaid: The Esther Williams Story" (p. 73)	6-9PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
7P				
8P				
9P	9:15-10:45PM <i>Normal</i> (p. 26)	9-11:15PM <i>If These Walls Could Rock</i> preceded by "If You Really Love Me, Outlive Me" (p. 66)	8:45-10:45PM <i>Junkie</i> (p. 55)	
10P				
11P				

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
10A				
11A				
12P				
1P				
2P				
3P				
4P	3:30-5:30PM <i>Kikuyu Land</i> (p.30)	4:15-6PM <i>The Marching Band</i> (p. 31)	3:45-5:30PM <i>You Had to Be There</i> (p. 28)	
5P				
6P	6:30-8:30PM <i>If I Go Will They Miss Me</i> (p. 54)	6:30-8:30PM Shorts #1: "Many Rivers to Cross" (p. 78)	6-8PM <i>Seized</i> preceded by "Correspondence" (p. 72)	6-9PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
7P				
8P				
9P	9:30-11:45PM <i>Return from Tomorrow</i> (p. 57)	9-10:45PM <i>The Christophers</i> (p. 24)	8:30-10:30PM <i>SANTACON</i> preceded by "The Chimney Sweeper" (p. 70)	
10P				
11P				

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
10A	10:00-11:30AM Forum: Inside the Film Pitch... (p.22)			
11A				
12P	12:15-2:30PM <i>Y Vân: The Lost Sounds of Saigon</i> preceded by "Hollywood's Mermaid: The Esther Williams Story" (p. 73)			
1P				
2P				
3P				
4P	3:30-5:30PM <i>A Life Illuminated</i> preceded by "Panther Pat" (p. 67)	3:45-5:30PM International Animated Shorts (p. 34)	4:15-6PM <i>Valentina</i> (p. 61)	
5P				
6P				
7P	6:30-8:30PM Animated Shorts: Personality Crisis" (p. 88)	6:30-8:30PM <i>Punkie</i> preceded by "Welcome" (p. 69)	7:15-9PM <i>Crystal Cross</i> (p. 52)	
8P				
9P	9:30-11:45PM CENTERPIECE FILM: <i>Over Your Dead Body</i> (p. 21)	9-11PM Shorts #2: "The Other One" (p. 80)	9:30-11:30PM <i>Damned If You Do</i> (p. 53)	
10P				
11P				

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
10A				
11A	10:30-11:30AM Forum: Central Florida on Film... (p. 22)			
12P	12:15-2:15PM <i>Peter Asher: Everywhere Man</i> (p. 36)			
1P				
2P				
3P				
4P	3:15-5PM <i>Sylvania</i> (p. 60)	4-6:15PM <i>First They Came for My College</i> (p.65)	3:30-5:30PM <i>The Last Viking</i> (p. 31)	
5P				
6P	6-8PM <i>Junkie</i> (p. 55)		6:30-8:30PM Shorts #3: "Can't Get Enough" (p. 82)	6-9PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
7P		7:15-9PM <i>The Dads</i> preceded by "Drag Me to Church" (p. 64)		7-10PM LAZY MOON Industry Happy Hour (Invitation Only p. 23)
8P				
9P	9-11PM <i>Sender</i> (p. 59)	9:30-11:45PM <i>Never Get Busted!</i> preceded by "Trapped" (p. 68)	9-11PM Shorts #4: "Everyday People" (p. 84)	
10P				
11P				
12A	Midnight-2AM Secret Screening			
1A				

Schedule

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
10A				
11A	10:30AM-Noon Forum: Filmmaker Forum (p. 22)			
12P				
1P	1-3:15PM <i>If These Walls Could Rock</i> preceded by "If You Really Love Me, Outlive Me" (p. 66)	1-3PM 5X Real (p. 74)		
2P			2-3:45PM <i>Ride or Die</i> (p. 58)	
3P				
4P	4:15-6:30PM <i>School for Defectors</i> preceded by "A Man Who Takes Pictures of Flowers" (p. 71)	3:30-5:30PM Shorts #5: "Don't Worry Baby" (p. 86)	4:15-5:45PM <i>The Plan</i> (p. 56)	3-6PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
5P				
6P		6-8PM <i>Poetic License</i> (p. 27)		
7P			6:30-8:15PM <i>Occupational Hazard: The First Coral Reefers</i> (p. 36)	
8P	7:30-11PM An Evening with Judge Reinhold, featuring <i>Fast Times at Ridgemont High</i> (p. 16)	8:30-10:30PM Animated Shorts: "Personality Crisis" (p. 88)	9-10:30PM <i>I Want Your Sex</i> (p. 25)	
9P				
10P				
11P		11PM-1AM Midnight Shorts: "Crazy Train" (p. 48)		
12A	Midnight-2AM <i>Mermaid</i> (p. 47)			
1A				

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
11A				11AM-10PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live Music (p. 23)
12P	11:30AM-1PM <i>Cookie Queens</i> (p. 24)	Noon-2PM Sunshine & Swampland: New Florida Shorts (p. 40)	11:30AM-1:30PM International Shorts #1 (p. 32)	
1P				
2P	2-3:30PM <i>The Man Whom the Trees Loved</i> (p. 45)	2:30-4:15PM Sunshine in Doc-land: New Florida Documentary Shorts (p. 42)	2-4PM International Shorts #2 (p. 33)	
3P				
4P				
5P	4:30-6:30PM <i>Tuner</i> (p. 27)	5-7PM <i>Poetic License</i> (p. 27)	4:30-6:15PM <i>Frogtown</i> (p. 44)	
6P				
7P				
8P	7:30-8PM Awards Ceremony (p. 23)	7:30-9PM <i>Summer Tour</i> (p. 37)	7-8:30PM <i>I Want Your Sex</i> (p. 25)	7:30-8PM ENZIAN Awards Ceremony (p. 23)
9P	9-11PM <i>Obsession</i> (p. 26)	9:30-11PM <i>Frogman Returns</i> (p. 46)	9-10:30PM Sunspots: New Visions of the Avant-Garde (p. 38)	8-10PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN Awards Celebration Party (p. 23)
10P				
11P			11PM-12:45AM <i>Butthole Surfers: The Hole Truth and Nothing Butt</i> (p. 46)	
12A	Midnight-1:45AM <i>Hokum</i> (p. 47)			
1A				

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

	ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B	ADDITIONAL EVENTS
10A				10AM-1PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER
11A				11AM-2PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER
12P	Noon-2PM International Shorts #1 (p. 32)	11:30AM-1:15PM <i>Kikuyu Land</i> (p. 30)	Noon-1:45PM <i>Frogtown</i> (p. 44)	Sunday Brunch (p. 23)
1P				Live music (p. 23)
2P		1:45-3:15PM <i>The Call</i> (p.44)		
3P	3-5PM International Animated Shorts (p. 34)		2:15-4:15PM <i>Chopin, Chopin!</i> (p. 30)	
4P		3:45-5:45 <i>Peter Asher: Everywhere Man</i> (p. 36)		3-6PM EDEN BAR AT ENZIAN THEATER Live music (p. 23)
5P			4:45-6:15PM <i>The Man Whom the Trees Loved</i> (p. 45)	
6P	6-8PM International Shorts #2 (p. 33)	6:15-8:15PM <i>The Last Viking</i> (p. 31)		
7P			6:45-8:30PM <i>The Marching Band</i> (p. 31)	
8P				
9P	9-10:45PM Closing Night Retro: <i>Stangers on a Train</i> (p. 37)	8:45-10:30PM <i>You Had to Be There</i> (p. 28)	9:15-11PM <i>Butthole Surfers: The Hole Truth and Nothing Butt</i> (p. 46)	
10P				
11P				
12A				



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