

2022 FLORIDA
FILM FESTIVAL
APRIL 8-17



WELCOME TO THE 31ST ANNUAL FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL.

On behalf of the board, staff, and volunteers of Enzian and the Festival, who put in countless hours over a challenging year to make this magical ten-day event a reality, we are excited you've decided to come back to the movies to join us in this celebration of the innovative spirit of filmmaking.

This year more than 2500 entries representing 108 countries (a record!) were submitted for consideration, and at press time, 166 films (48 features and 118 shorts) were selected from 37 countries to fill out the program. This festival has always been in the forefront of diversity and equality concerns, and I'm thrilled to announce that of the 78 films in this year's American Independent Competition, 42 women and four non-binary directors are featured (a record 59%). And throughout the festival lineup, a total of 84 women and eight non-binary directors will have their work on display, easily surpassing that 50% goal that so many of us are striving for in the film festival world.

FFF highlights not only the best in independent filmmaking but also the freshest—at least 145 titles in this year's festival will be celebrating a premiere of some kind, including 24 world, three North American, 38 East Coast, 46 Southeast, and 34 Florida premieres, plus 17 films will have their second US screening ever during the festival.

Our festival is passionately eager to expose quality cinema to as broad an audience as possible, enlightening films from around the world with unique cinematic voices that can also bring a fresh shot of culture and creativity to the Central Florida community. As eclectic as ever, we take enormous pride in truly offering something for everyone—from ingenious micro-budget filmmaking in Uganda, to the first all-female thrash band in the Middle East, to the jungles of Bolivia and Brazil. Countries that rarely if ever make an appearance in the festival are represented all over the lineup, and not just in the International Showcase—Oman, French Guiana, Sudan, Qatar, Greece, Malaysia, Rwanda, and Malta. Like Enzian does on

a year-round basis, the FFF opens a very special window to the world, and you'll find many exciting and unusual windows to gaze through over the next week and a half.

New developments in programming



"Eden Bar" at Enzian Theater by Peter Pettegrew, 2015

this year include shining a spotlight on "green" cinema or environmental work that speaks to preservation, conservation, sustainability, endangered species, and the wonders of the natural world. And after thirty years of bringing cutting edge cinema to Central Florida, we're excited to announce the addition of Virtual Reality (VR/AR) and New Media (Web) to the festival's official programming. This content will be part of an exclusive online program called "Visions" that will take place on our virtual platform from May 2-15, a couple of weeks after the

physical FFF has concluded. Stay tuned for details.

We would like to thank all the filmmakers who have chosen to share their stories and work with us—it is truly an honor to be part of your film's journey. And, of course, we salute our primary sponsor, Full Sail University, along with so many other faithful contributors and sponsors whose support enables us to keep pushing the envelope and producing a festival the whole community can take pride in.

Finally, I'd like to dedicate this year's festival to all the selection committee babies born in recent months—congrats Kate and Jim! Glad to see a new generation of film lovers is just around the corner...

Have a great festival!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matthew Curtis'.

Matthew Curtis
Programming Director

 **FILM BACKLOT**
Amsterdam facade

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FILM & Television



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To review important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended this program, please visit fullsail.edu/ge. © 2022 Full Sail, LLC



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2022 FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL



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Most films have not yet been rated by the MPAA. Please read the descriptions and choose responsibly.



Friends of Motion Picture Art,

As the Florida Film Festival embarks upon its 31st year, Full Sail University looks forward to once again serving as the primary sponsor of 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 of creative storytellers, 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 provided 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 40+ 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 in the ever-expanding world of entertainment, media, arts, and emerging technologies. On behalf of the students, graduates, and faculty of Full Sail University, it is indeed our privilege and pleasure to once again serve as the primary sponsor of the Florida Film Festival in 2022. I look forward to the unique and meaningful films this year's festival will offer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Garry Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Garry Jones
President,
Full Sail University



**2022 FLORIDA
FILM FESTIVAL**
APRIL 8-17

**ENZIAN IS GRATEFUL TO ITS 2022 FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL
SPONSORS & MEDIA PARTNERS FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS SUPPORT.**

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Enzian Theater and the Florida Film Festival are funded in part by United Arts of Central Florida, home of OrlandoAtPlay.com and UAArtsEd.com; Orange County Government through the Arts & Cultural Affairs Program; and the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

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Guests
31st Annual Florida Film Festival
Enzian Theater
1300 South Orlando Avenue
Maitland, FL 32751

Dear Guests:

It is my pleasure to welcome filmmakers, volunteers, and attendees to the 31st Annual Florida Film Festival held April 8 – April 17, 2022 at the Enzian Theater in Maitland, Florida.

Maitland is honored to be the home of Enzian Theater, Central Florida's only full-time, nonprofit, independent cinema, serving the community for more than two decades.

The Florida Film Festival, founded in 1992, highlights and celebrates the finest in American independent and foreign films. The Festival provides continuing education and support for the emerging Florida filmmaking community and greatly enhances the region's cultural identity, providing exposure to film art of varying genre.

Enzian Theater offers a wonderful opportunity for residents, visitors and businesses alike to enjoy annual film festivals, Popcorn Flicks in the Park, Saturday Matinee Classics and much more.

Best wishes to all for yet another successful event.

Sincerely,

John P. Lowndes
Mayor

City of Maitland • 1776 Independence Lane • Maitland, Florida 32751
(407) 539-6200 • www.ltsmymaitland.com



April 8, 2022



Welcome to the 31st annual Florida Film Festival, presented by Enzian. We are so pleased that you are visiting our community and are proud that one of the nation's premier film festivals is held right here in central Florida.

Throughout the past two years, our community has had to embrace a new normal, adapting to life with COVID-19 at the forefront. While it has not always been easy, the resilience and determination of our community to protect one another and preserve what makes Orlando so unique has been one of my proudest moments as Mayor.

I commend the staff at the Enzian Theater for spending the last two years ensuring our community had the option to attend the Florida Film Festival virtually and in person in a safe and socially-distanced way. This year, I am thrilled that we as a community are able to join each other in the same space, enjoying this event as it was intended to be. I have no doubt that the Enzian Theater has a spectacular program planned to officially welcome you back.

I invite you to explore our city during your visit, enjoying the one-of-a-kind hotels, shops, entertainment and restaurants that can only be found here, providing you with an authentic Orlando experience.

I hope you have a wonderful time at the Florida Film Festival.

Sincerely,

Buddy Dyer, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Orlando City Hall • 400 South Orange Avenue • Third Floor
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Phillip M. Anderson
Mayor

April 8, 2022

Dear Florida Film Festival Patron,

On behalf of the City of Winter Park, welcome to the 31st Annual Florida Film Festival, one of the finest in the United States. Enzian Theater and the city are great partners throughout the year, and we enjoy welcoming festival patrons each April.

It is my hope that you find time between film festival events to explore Winter Park and enjoy what we appreciate each day. The most recent addition to our city is the brand-new, state-of-the-art Library & Events Center which features the beautiful outdoor Tiedtke Amphitheater. Because of our generous donor, we are excited that the Enzian Theater and the city will be partnering to show great films at this new outdoor venue. I know you will also fall in love with our shopping, dining and internationally-recognized museums and galleries throughout the city.

Winter Park is particularly blessed with gorgeous parks and a pristine chain of lakes, which provide a high quality of life to both residents and guests alike. For complete details on all that Winter Park has to offer, please visit the city's official website at cityofwinterpark.org.

Again, welcome to the 31st Annual Florida Film Festival. We are thrilled you are here and look forward to offering you a warm Winter Park welcome.

Sincerely,

Phill Anderson
Mayor
City of Winter Park

City of Winter Park • 401 South Park Avenue • Winter Park, Florida 32789



ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR
Jerry L. Demings
P.O. BOX 1393, 201 SOUTH ROSALIND AVENUE, ORLANDO, FL 32802-1393
PHONE: 407-836-7370 • FAX: 407-836-7360 • EMAIL: MAYOR@OCFL.NET



February 8, 2022.

Greetings!

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to Orange County for the 31st Annual Florida Film Festival at the Enzian Theatre!

For over three decades, the Florida Film Festival, an Oscar®-qualifying festival will premiere the best in current, independent, and international cinema. Avid film enthusiasts and newcomers will enjoy over 160 films that will entertain and touch their hearts. We are proud to have the Enzian Theatre in Orange County, a true advocate for the arts in our community.

During your stay, I hope you set aside some time to explore our world-class hospitality, exciting theme parks, arts and cultural attractions. Whether you traveled across the country or you live right here in Orange County, we are thrilled to have you in attendance along with thousands of film festival guests. It is exciting to host an event that emphasizes the strong cultural diversity found not only globally, but here in our community.

On behalf of the over 1.4 million residents who call Orange County home, thank you for attending the 31st Annual Florida Film Festival. I wish you all the best for a successful event!

Sincerely,

Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Mayor

CONSERVATION CINEMA

Florida Film Festival Focuses on the Environment

Once a rural, subtropical peninsula, over the past 100 years Florida has transformed into the third most populated state in America, with over 21 million residents. Dotted with lakes, caves, natural springs, and wetlands, Florida is also the fourth highest state in terms of biodiversity. From the crystal blue waters of the Keys to the oyster-rich gulf shores of the panhandle and the majesty of the Everglades, Florida is a paradise. But, like all natural environments across this vast world,

Florida needs its residents—new and native—to care for the flora and fauna that that make it special. This year the Florida Film Festival has curated a selection of films with the hope of illuminating environment concerns all across this planet: from the fragile life of the Florida panther to the plight of indigenous tribes in an ever-vanishing Amazon rainforest. This Earth is all we have, and—as its stewards—we must be mindful of the impact we have today in order to guarantee a future tomorrow.



Path of the Panther (P. 28)
DIRECTED BY ERIC BENDICK

As the last big cat surviving in the eastern United States, and the state animal of Florida, the panther is an icon of Florida's ever-diminishing wild places. Will the panther continue to survive? And what does their struggle presage for us and other species?



River (P. 29)
DIRECTED BY JENNIFER PEEDOM
AND JOSEPH NIZETI

Director Jennifer Peedom follows her incredible 2017 film *Mountain* with this awe-inspiring view of the world's rivers. This is a stunning cinematic experience not to be missed.

PRECEDED BY

Tales of Sunshine: "The Biologist"

Director Vincent Marcucci profiles UCF PhD candidate Ian Biazzo, as he studies wild tree frogs and how they are impacted by fire.



The Territory (P. 30)
DIRECTED BY ALEX PRITZ

The Territory travels from what used to be "deep in the Brazilian rainforest" to what is now the front lines of a battle between an indigenous tribe on the verge of extinction and a logging company dead set on clear-cutting the area to make room for more illegal farmland.



Tigre Gente (P. 30)
DIRECTED BY ELIZABETH UNGER
Oscar®-winning producer Joanna Natasegara and director Elizabeth Unger weave together the dueling stories of a Bolivian park ranger with a Hong Kong journalist investigating into the illegal poaching of jaguars to fuel the traditional Chinese medicine trade.



"Seasons" in 4X Real (P. 72)
DIRECTED BY GABRIELLA CANAL
AND MICHAEL FEARON

An indomitable Korean woman, classically trained in dance and voice, builds a successful farming empire in New Jersey. Eager to maintain the family legacy, she prods her once estranged daughter to see the beauty of working the land and to embrace a future in the fields.



Look for this icon in the Festival Program for films that are part of Conservation Cinema



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As part of our continued efforts to embrace a culture of inclusion and diversity, we are pleased to support the Florida Film Festival and Enzian’s quest to expand respect, wisdom, and creativity within the community through independent film. We are proud to celebrate and reflect the diversity of independent cinema the same way we embrace, include, and reflect the experiences and perspectives of various cultures and identities in our workplace. —Travel + Leisure Co. Diversity Resource Groups

Reel Representation Films



DISABILITY

imperfect (P. 66)

DIRECTED BY

BRIAN MALONE AND REGAN LINTON

imperfect introduces a Denver theatre company for disabled actors mounting a production of the legendary musical *Chicago*. Capturing the raw, honest stories of the actors, this award-winning documentary reveals talented artists who push to succeed as professional performers, no matter the obstacles.



LGBTQIA+

Surviving Pulse: Life After a Mass Shooting (P. 42)

DIRECTED BY **ALEXA SHEEHAN**

Five years after the mass shooting at Pulse, a group of survivors share the intimate details of that night and offer perspective on how their lives have changed and what struggles still remain. A powerful and amazingly hopeful story to remind us that they are still here and that they are still strong.



LGBTQIA+

Wake Up, Leonard (P. 60)

DIRECTED BY **KAT MILLS MARTIN**

This fully improvised feature film follows Leonard, a young gay man who is juggling moving into a new place, meeting up with his ex, and seeking advice from friends and family. Part comedy, part self-help nightmare, *Wake Up, Leonard* follows one man’s quest for wellness while failing miserably to stay on his vibe.

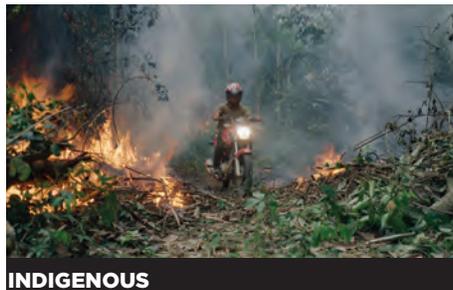


BLACK

The Sun Rises in The East (P. 71)

DIRECTED BY **TAYO GIWA**

What if the Harlem Cultural Festival featured in Questlove’s *Summer of Soul* continued for over a decade, eventually giving rise to dozens of pan-African institutions? The answer to that question is found in the inspiring and never-before-told true story of The East, a pan-African cultural organization founded in 1969 in Brooklyn.



INDIGENOUS

The Territory (P. 30)

DIRECTED BY **ALEX PRITZ**

Winner of two awards at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival and produced by Darren Aronofsky (*Black Swan*), *The Territory* travels from what used to be “deep in the Brazilian rainforest” to what is now the front lines of a battle between an indigenous tribe on the verge of extinction and a logging company dead set on clear-cutting the area to make room for more illegal farmland.

FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL PATRONS

The Florida Film Festival exists to serve the community, and only 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 2, 2022

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The entire Enzian and Florida Film Festival team would like to take a moment to acknowledge our wonderful head chef, Marcus Mahone. Marcus has always been a steadfast and reliable part of the Enzian family. Despite the devastating loss he and his family endured this year, he continues to pour love and passion into the kitchen at Enzian. Marcus, we are so grateful for you.

-The Enzian Family

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RJ Millard, Mike Jesson, Amanda Valley, and Rebecca Casey of Bleecker Street
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FESTIVAL FORUMS

ALL FORUMS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE WINTER PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1052 W MORSE BLVD., WINTER PARK, FL 32789. THEY ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

.....
Broken Wings: Jayne, Adonis, and the Plight of Injured Raptors
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 11AM-12:30PM

Join Jayne Lakhani—who is featured in festival documentary *Broken Wings*—as well as Maitland’s Audubon Center for Birds of Prey and some feathery friends as they dive into conservation and restoration efforts towards injured raptors. Inspired by *Broken Wings*, this forum proudly shares the spotlight with the Audubon Center, which seeks to educate viewers on their mission of protecting land, water, and wildlife.

.....
Visions of Tomorrow: Virtual Production & the Art of Next-Gen Filmmaking
PRESENTED BY FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 11AM-12:30PM

Push the boundaries of where physical and digital worlds meet. Hear from a panel of thought leaders, educators, and industry

professionals from Full Sail University, as they shed light on the unfolding possibilities for current and future filmmakers utilizing Virtual Production. Recently, Full Sail opened the doors to its own on-campus facility, “Studio V1: Virtual Production.” Learn what went into the creation of this studio and the numerous areas of exploration—filmmaking, game art, computer animation, and more—that this innovative space brings to our region. This forum is led and moderated by Rick Ramsey, Education Director of Visual Arts, Full Sail University, and Anne Russell, Program Director, Film Production MFA, Full Sail University.

.....
Filmmaker Forum
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 11AM-12:30PM

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 Coordinator Tim Anderson.

.....
The Uncertainty of Purpose-Driven Nature Documentaries
FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 11AM-12:30PM

What started as an ambitious and uncertain documentary project evolved into a remarkable film that has directly impacted saving the Florida Wildlife Corridor. Join the cast, producers, and director of *Path of the Panther* and experience the vision behind this odyssey of hope. This forum takes the audience behind the scenes of this captivating film to explore the heroic feat of documenting the elusive Florida panther and the future of this precarious species.

Live Streaming for the Florida Film Festival provided by:



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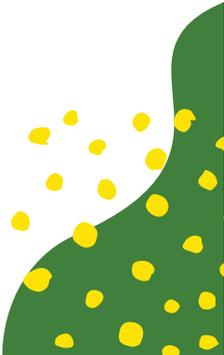
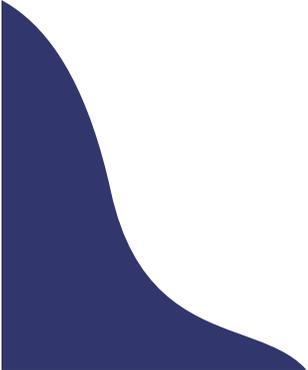
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AN EVENING WITH

WILLIAM SHATNER

featuring *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*

Friday, April 15, 7:30-11PM at Enzian



William Shatner is an actor, musician, singer, author, film director, spokesman, and comedian. He gained worldwide fame and became a cultural icon for his portrayal of Captain James Tiberius Kirk, commander of the Federation starship *USS Enterprise* in the science fiction television series *Star Trek* from 1966 to 1969, *Star Trek: The Animated Series* from 1973 to 1974, and in seven of the subsequent *Star Trek* feature films from 1979 to 1994. Shatner also played the eponymous veteran police sergeant in *T. J. Hooker* from 1982 to 1986. Afterwards, he hosted the reality-based television series *Rescue 911* from 1989 to 1996, which won a People's Choice Award for favorite new TV dramatic series. He was the host of *Shatner's Raw Nerve* on The Biography Channel. From 2004 until 2008, he starred as attorney Denny Crane, both in the final season of the legal drama *The Practice* and in its spinoff series *Boston Legal*, a role that earned him two Emmy Awards®, one on each series. He currently is host of the hit series *The Unexplained* on the History Channel as well as *I Don't Understand* on the RT cable channel. In his spare time, he went up to space on *Blue Origin's* second manned flight in October of 2021, and at 91 years old, became the oldest person to ever fly into space.

HATNER,



Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home

DIRECTED BY LEONARD NIMOY
USA, 1986, 119 MIN
RATED PG

**FOLLOWING THE FILM SCREENING,
MR. SHATNER WILL BE PRESENT FOR
A Q&A WITH THE AUDIENCE.**



In the fourth installment of the iconic *Star Trek* franchise, Admiral James T. Kirk (the legendary William Shatner) and his Starfleet officers once again boldly go where they have never gone before: San Francisco, California, circa 1986. With an alien probe threatening to destroy all life on Earth, the crew must travel back in time in a stolen Klingon warship to retrieve the only beings that can communicate with the aliens: the now-extinct humpback whale. Directed by Leonard Nimoy, from a screenplay that required the approval of both Shatner and Nimoy, *The Voyage Home* marked a stark change for the *Trek* franchise with the inclusion of critically lauded comedic elements

(fish-out-of-water time travelers), a strong 1980s environmental message (save the whales), and no specifically identifiable villain to fight. The film captured the public's imagination, making it the seventh highest-grossing film of the year, and it remained the highest-grossing *Star Trek* film at the domestic box office until the 2009 reboot. Nominated for four Academy Awards® and 11 Saturn Awards, *The Voyage Home* remains a beloved classic of the franchise whose compassionate humanity is on display even in the closing credits—which is dedicated to the brave crew of *Space Shuttle Challenger*.

OPENING NIGHT FILM

Friday, April 8
7-9PM at Enzian

Encore screening
Friday, April 8
8-10PM at Regal A

Pre Fab!

DIRECTED BY
TODD THOMPSON
USA, 2022, 91 MIN
EXCLUSIVE FIRST LOOK!

A Cartoon of a Cat Sleeping

DIRECTED BY
RANDALL CHRISTOPHER
USA, 2022, 7 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



Pre Fab!

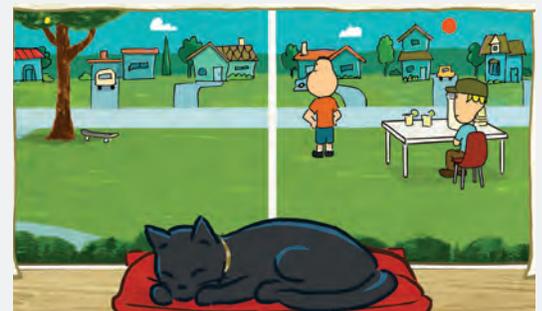
John, Paul, George...and Colin? Based on the book of the same name by musician Colin Hanton with Colin Hall—custodian for John Lennon’s childhood home—*Pre Fab!* is the story of one man, his drums, and the teenage John Lennon, Paul McCartney, and George Harrison. Hanton serves as tour guide through this fascinating and highly entertaining chronicle of the rise of “skiffle” music (an acoustic blend of folk, blues, and jazz) and its impact on post-World War II British youth, the influence of American rock ‘n’ roll, and how a boy named John Lennon rounded up his closest friends to learn music and form a group in 1956 called the Quarry Men that would evolve in just a few years into the biggest and most influential band in music history—The Beatles. Focusing mainly on the years 1956-59, the film provides incredible insight into not only Colin and

John’s early musical adventures, but a vivid social history of post-war Liverpool and Britain. Hanton was a Quarry Man when both Paul McCartney and George Harrison joined the group, and he tells the story of these heady and history-in-the-making days with both pride and a tinge of regret. Skillfully combining archival footage, home movies, photographs, film clips, and music of the period, along with interviews with the surviving Quarry Men, Paul McCartney, Mike Pender, Billy Bragg, Peter Asher, family, friends, Liverpool residents and many others, Orlando’s own Todd Thompson (*Woman in Motion*, FFF 2019) has created a joyous and enlightening documentary that will open eyes and bring a smile to your face. Peter Jackson’s *Get Back* was the epic and surprising conclusion to The Beatles’ story; *Pre Fab!* is where it all began.

Preceded by

A Cartoon of a Cat Sleeping

Kleeman and Mike are back! After a nine-year hiatus (“Backyard Jam,” FFF 2013 Grand Jury Award for Best Animated Short), the boys return as the circus literally comes to town. Meanwhile, the family cat just wants to nap in front of the living room window...



FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

Opening Night

Film and Party (PG, 22)

Friday, April 8

Film

Pre Fab!

preceded by

A Cartoon of a Cat Sleeping

7-9PM AT ENZIAN
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVE.
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Party

8:30PM-MIDNIGHT
TIEDTKE AMPHITHEATER AND
WINTER PARK EVENTS CENTER
1050 W MORSE BLVD
WINTER PARK, FL 32789

Celebrate opening night of the 2022 Florida Film Festival with an exclusive first look at a never-before-seen documentary. Then, head over to the Winter Park Events Center's Tiedtke Amphitheater and Belvedere for a sensational Opening Night Party that kicks off ten days of non-stop, fun-filled celebration. Catered by the fabulous Arthur's Catering with an array of delicious dishes, the Opening Night Party offers the ideal launching pad to eat, drink, be merry, and discuss all the films you cannot wait to see at the festival ahead.

Festival Block Party

SPONSORED BY WINTER PARK VILLAGE
SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 3-5PM
FREE FOR ALL FESTIVAL TICKET
AND PASS HOLDERS
REGAL WINTER PARK VILLAGE
510 NORTH ORLANDO AVE
WINTER PARK, FL 32789

Look for the Winter Park Village fountain, located across from the Regal Cinema, for a block party celebration of the Florida Film Festival. Festival ticket and pass holders will receive free drinks and appetizers from select Winter Park Village restaurants. Space is limited, so plan to arrive early.

Gospel Brunch

SPONSORED BY COTERIE COFFEE CO.
SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 11AM-2PM
ENZIAN & EDEN BAR
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Enjoy a pre-movie brunch with friends, and compare notes on all things Florida Film Festival, before heading over to Regal for the gospel music film *Stay Prayed Up*. This delicious brunch prepared by our own chef is sure to leave a good taste in your mouth. Your first mimosa or Bloody Mary is on us. Brunch and film tickets sold separately.

Tuesday Tasting

SPONSORED BY IVANHOE PARK BREWING CO.
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 6-8PM
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
EDEN BAR
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVE.
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Join us on Tuesday for a sampling of some of Orlando's best beer, provided by Ivanhoe Park Brewing. Get a taste of their locally-produced offerings, then order a pint before kicking back at a table or heading into your next film.

Filmmaker Welcome Party

SPONSORED BY FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 8-11PM
BY INVITATION ONLY
SANFORD BREWING COMPANY
160 INDEPENDENCE LANE, SUITE B
MAITLAND, FL 32752

Full Sail University welcomes filmmakers and festival fans with this fun, casual night out. This exclusive event will bring the party to your Thursday night and get you ready for the final weekend of the festival.

Industry Party

**SPONSORED BY WOMEN IN FILM
& TELEVISION-FLORIDA**
FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 8-11PM
BY INVITATION ONLY
COPPER ROCKET
106 LAKE AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Filmmakers, film lovers, and industry movers-and-shakers gather for an evening of fun. New friends and future projects are celebrated in a casual atmosphere with plenty of beer, wine, and karaoke.

Awards Bash

**SPONSORED BY KILLGORE, PEARLMAN,
SEMANIE & SQUIRES, P.A.**
SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 8PM-MIDNIGHT
\$25 ADVANCE/\$30 DAY-OF
ARTISAN MOTORCARS
1116 SOLANA AVENUE
WINTER PARK, FL 32789

Have you picked your favorite films of the Festival? At the Florida Film Festival Awards Bash, you'll be among the first to find out if they have won prestigious Jury and Audience Awards. Following the ceremony, mingle with the winners, raise a glass, and uncover a chilling surprise at the Celluloid Circus.

Sunday Brunch

SPONSORED BY COTERIE COFFEE CO.
SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 11AM-2PM
ENZIAN & EDEN BAR
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVE.
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Enjoy a pre-movie brunch with friends and compare notes on all things Florida Film Festival. This delicious brunch prepared by our own chef is sure to leave a good taste in your mouth. Your first mimosa or Bloody Mary is on us. No movie ticket necessary.

Live Music at Eden Bar

**SPONSORED BY DORMAN FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH PERFORMING ARTS MATTER**
WEEKENDS 11AM-2PM AND 6-9PM
WEEKDAYS 6-9PM
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
EDEN BAR
1300 SOUTH ORLANDO AVENUE
MAITLAND, FL 32751

Eden Bar's lush, old-Florida atmosphere provides the perfect backdrop to relax, indulge, and discuss your favorite festival films, with daily live music at Eden Bar.

892

Saturday, April 16
4-5:45PM at Enzian

Sunday, April 17
6:30-8:15PM at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
ABI DAMARIS CORBIN
 USA, 2022, 103 MIN
 FLORIDA PREMIERE



Brian Brown-Easley was a lance corporal in the Marine Corps who served in Kuwait and Iraq before he was honorably discharged in 2005. On the morning of July 7, 2017, the 33-year-old veteran walked into a Wells Fargo bank in Atlanta's suburbs and told the only two people there that he had a bomb, but he was not there to rob the bank. He then calmly made his only demand: he wanted the Department of Veterans Affairs to reinstate his \$892 disability check. Outside, the SWAT teams began to arrive... John Boyega (Grand Jury and Audience Award winner at FFF 2015 for *Imperial Dreams*) turns in a quiet

but intensely powerful performance as a man who placed himself at the center of a deadly situation with almost no way out. *892* features an incredible supporting turn from Nicole Beharie (*Miss Juneteenth*) and a commanding and sympathetic final performance from the great Michael Kenneth Williams (TV's *The Wire*) as a hostage negotiator trying everything within his power to deescalate the situation. Winner of the US Dramatic Special Jury Award for Ensemble Cast at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival, *892* is a tense and gripping drama about what happens when the systems designed to protect us, fail.

Ali & Ava

Tuesday, April 12
4-5:35PM at Enzian

Friday, April 15
6:15-7:50PM at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
CLIO BARNARD
 UK, 2021, 95 MIN
 EAST COAST PREMIERE



Ali, a British-Pakistani bundle of good humor and nervous energy working as a landlord, is struggling to keep his recent separation from his wife a secret from his family. Irish-born Ava is a pragmatic, middle-aged teaching assistant, widow, and matriarch to a large and close-knit family, whose latest grandchild has just been born. When a chance encounter unites them, Ali and Ava begin a tentative friendship formed around their shared love of music that quickly blossoms into an unexpected romance. But can their mutual desire transcend a barrage of personal obstacles? Deftly weaving together conventions

of social realism and romantic drama, this intelligent and nuanced depiction of 21st century Britain explores themes of race and class dynamics, mental health, racism, happiness, and the delight of unexpected connection. Bolstered by Claire Rushbrook (*Ammonite*) and Adeel Akhtar's (*Four Lions*) extraordinary and authentic performances (including a BAFTA nomination for best actor), *Ali & Ava* is a small miracle—a tumultuous and fiercely affecting working-class midlife love story that's both heart-wrenching and joyous.



They are magical reindeer at parties, pink fluffy unicorns at Air Force reunions, and zombies at retirement homes. They perform at animal-rescue benefits, church fundraisers, or a shrimp parade. They are the Calendar Girls, Florida’s most dedicated dance team for women over 60, and they have plenty to give—impressive makeup, handmade costumes, elaborate routines, unparalleled enthusiasm, and sparkling personalities. These hardworking senior volunteer dancers are

determined to prove that age is just a number. Through a series of intimate portraits seamlessly interwoven with choreographed dance scenes, this surefire crowd pleaser is a fun and loving look at these incredible women in all their glory. A joyous reminder of the importance of having a tribe, *Calendar Girls* is an inspiring coming-of-golden-age film that will shake up the outdated image of “the little old lady,” and a call for everyone to dance their hearts out while they still can.

Calendar Girls

Saturday, April 16
10:30AM-12:15PM
at Enzian

Sunday, April 17
1:30-3:15PM at Regal B

DIRECTED BY
LOVE MARTINSEN
 AND **MARIA LOOHUFVUD**
 SWEDEN, 2022, 84 MIN



Karen Gillan (*Doctor Who*, Marvel’s “Nebula”) is Sarah, a woman who learns she is dying of a rare illness and agrees to undergo a cloning procedure that will create a “replacement” for her when she’s gone. It will look just like her, and Sarah’s last days will be spent teaching her double how to replace her. But after nearly a year of watching this alternate version insinuate herself into her life, Sarah’s mysterious illness completely vanishes. When she tries to have her clone decommissioned, it refuses to be terminated, and exercises its right to challenge her to a

duel to the death, which will be broadcast for a popular TV show. Straddling a line between savage deadpan satire and high-concept storytelling, filmmaker Riley Stearns (“The Cub,” FFF 2013; *The Art of Self-Defense*) takes us on a sci-fi journey into the ways a catastrophic life-change can force reconsideration of one’s entire existence. Gillan delivers two hilarious performances, and Aaron Paul’s crazy supporting turn as Sarah’s personal combat trainer just adds to the ruthless, deeply cynical, and jet-black humor of this darkly off-kilter comedy.

Dual

Saturday, April 9
7:15-9PM at Regal B

Sunday, April 17
4:15-5:50PM at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
RILEY STEARNS
 USA/FINLAND, 2022,
 95 MIN, RATED R
 EAST COAST PREMIERE

The Duke

Sunday, April 10
4-5:45PM at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
ROGER MICHELL
 UK, 2020, 96 MIN, RATED R



In 1961, Kempton Bunton, a 60-year-old taxi driver, stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London. It was the first and only theft in the gallery's history. Kempton sent ransom notes saying that he would return the painting on condition that the government invested more in care for the elderly, and he had long campaigned for pensioners to receive free television. Only 50 years later did the full story emerge—Kempton had spun a web of lies. The only truth was that he was a good man, determined to change the

world and save his marriage. How and why he used *The Duke* to achieve that is the story behind this entertaining and wonderfully uplifting tale. Starring two of the world's greatest actors, Oscar® winners Helen Mirren (*The Queen*) and Jim Broadbent (*Iris*), directed by Roger Michell (*Notting Hill*), and co-written by Richard Bean (*One Man, Two Guvnors*), the expertly crafted *The Duke* is an extraordinary true story that's funny, charming, and downright irresistible.

Juniper

Friday, April 15
1:30-3:15PM at Regal A

Saturday, April 16
9:30-11:05PM at Enzian

DIRECTED BY
MATTHEW J. SAVILLE
 NEW ZEALAND, 2021, 94 MIN
 EAST COAST PREMIERE



Upon returning home from boarding school and still dealing with the untimely death of his mother, a self-destructive Auckland teenager, Sam, discovers that his gin-soaked, wheelchair-bound, English grandmother, Ruth (Oscar® nominee and legendary actress Charlotte Rampling, *45 Years*, *Swimming Pool*), has moved in. Their first meeting is awkward; their second, ugly, as the 17-year-old is depended upon to care for her. Things get worse when Sam finds himself stranded alone with Ruth and her nurse, Sarah, for the school holidays. But the person

he gets to know is far from what he expected—she's a funny, rude, fearless, sharp-tongued, flirtatious, ex-war photographer who can drink him and his friends under the table. Both strong-willed characters, a battle of supremacy ensues, enabling Sam to embrace life again and for Ruth to face her mortality. Filmed in the stunning New Zealand countryside, *Juniper* is a small gem of a comedic-drama with a big heart—an unexpected and poignant story of friendship and care that transcends the boundaries of generations.



Bunny King (Essie Davis of *The Babadook*, FFF 2014), a headstrong mother of two with a sketchy past, earns her keep by washing windows for tips at traffic lights. For now, she's sleeping on her sister's couch, but she's saving up for a place of her own in order to regain custody of her kids, who have been placed in foster care. After promising her daughter a birthday party, Bunny can only keep her word by breaking the rules. However, in doing so, she risks losing her children altogether. Accompanied by her niece Tonya (Thomasin McKenzie, *Last Night in Soho*), a

teenager running away from her own problems, Bunny is in a race against the clock. With the world against both her and Tonya, Bunny's battle has just begun. An outstanding debut feature, *The Justice of Bunny King* is the deeply affecting story of a woman refusing to back down from a system that's stacked against her. At each step of Bunny's journey, the fearless Essie Davis brings a rough-edged authenticity to this portrait of a mother in crisis, which becomes a testament to resilience in the face of adversity.

The Justice of Bunny King

Tuesday, April 12
9-10:45PM at Regal A

Saturday, April 16
3-4:45PM at Regal A

.....
DIRECTED BY
GAYSORN THAVATT
NEW ZEALAND, 2021, 101 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Sammy (a perfectly cast Miya Cech, *Always Be My Maybe*) is a moody and rebellious 13-year-old Chinese-American teenager. Behind the snarl, cigarettes, and combat boots, she's struggling to cope with the loss of her mother as well as her father's ability to move on. After storming out of her first summer-school class, Sammy meets Margot (a terrific Rhea Perlman, TV's *Cheers*, *Matilda*), a surly children's-party magician old enough to be her grandmother, who forces her to be her assistant for a performance. Initially uninterested, Sammy eventually asks to become Margot's pupil, and an unlikely friendship grows that will change

their lives forever in unexpected and fantastic ways. Kate Tsang's refreshing debut feature is a unique and touching coming-of-age comedy filled with moments of whimsy and magic, as this surprising odd couple learn from one another and navigate grief, forgiveness, and finding hope in the darkest moments.

NOTE TO FAMILY AUDIENCES: RECOMMENDED FOR 11+. CONTAINS MILD PROFANITY, TEENAGE SMOKING, AND COMEDIC SCENES OF FANTASIZED VIOLENCE. NOT RATED, BUT COMPARABLE TO PG-13.

Marvelous and the Black Hole

Sunday, April 17
Noon-1:25PM at Regal A

.....
DIRECTED BY
KATE TSANG
USA, 2021, 81 MIN

Path of the Panther

Saturday, April 9
6:45-8:45PM at Enzian

Saturday, April 16
5:15-7:15PM at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
ERIC BENDICK
 USA, 2022, 90 MIN
 WORLD PREMIERE



“These animals are like ghosts,” says Carlton Ward Jr.—National Geographic explorer, photographer, and 8th generation Floridian—at the beginning of this captivating film that endeavors to keep the Florida Panther from becoming just that: a ghost. As the last big cat surviving in the eastern United States and the state animal of Florida, the panther is an icon of Florida’s ever-diminishing wild places, as revealed in the film’s sumptuous images. Leading a team that includes cowboys, wildlife biologists, photographers/videographers, and a lot of folks who simply care about the future of Florida’s fragile ecology, Ward treks repeatedly into the Everglades and

expanses of South Florida to seek, record, and save these ghosts. The Florida Wildlife Corridor policy, aimed at connecting habitats to protect panthers from encroaching development and toll roads (the greatest threats to cats and ranchers, both threatened species), represents the last best hope. Will the panthers survive long enough to stride the corridor? And what does their struggle presage for us and other species? *Path of the Panther* strives to answer these questions with extraordinary passion, stunning imagery, and heartbreaking pathos. This film has the capacity to create powerful change in our state and in our own hearts.

The Phantom of the Open

Saturday, April 16
6:45-8:30PM at Enzian

DIRECTED BY
CRAIG ROBERTS
 UK, 2021, 102 MIN



Maurice Flitcroft is not a familiar name, even for those devoted to the PGA tour. Golf in Florida is a way of life, but while the endlessly fine days of the Sunshine State might make it a mecca for golf lovers, the sport was born in the UK. Golf is a game of skill and a little bit of luck, and because of that, even the worst golfer (with a lot of luck) can have a good day or two on the links. Unless you’re Maurice Flitcroft, who 45 years ago, was named the “world’s worst golfer” after he managed to obtain a place in the 1976 British Open, where he scored a (not bad in my book) 121 for 18 holes. Naturally that made him

a household name across the pond. Academy Award® winner Mark Rylance (*Bridge of Spies*) stars as Flitcroft with a mischievous, boyish twinkle of madness in his eyes. Sally Hawkins (*The Shape of Water*) is his supportive and somewhat clueless wife Jean, and Rhys Ifans (*Notting Hill*) rounds out the cast as a put-upon and none-too-jolly gamekeeper who has had just about enough of Flitcroft’s antics. With a sweet and silly script from Simon Farnaby (*Paddington 2*) and a wealth of good cheer and generosity of spirit, you’d be hard pressed to find a more enjoyable film about golf.



Margaret (Rebecca Hall, BAFTA award-nominee for *Passing*) is a career-driven single mother, raising a fiercely independent daughter Abbie (Grace Kaufman, TV's *Man with a Plan*) who is preparing to leave for college. One day Margaret's well-manicured life is upended when she notices a man, just in the distance, watching her. Instantly she recognizes this dangerous relic from a past she thought she had left far behind. Enter David (Tim Roth, *Pulp Fiction*), a former lover from an inappropriate and abusive teenage romance. Decades after Margaret vanished from his life, David has finally tracked her down

in America, and he has unfinished business to attend to. In unsettling and nerve-wracking form, writer/director Andrew Seman's (*Nancy, Please*; FFF 2013) first film in a decade is a tense psychological drama that starts as a slow-burn mystery before accelerating into a break-neck nightmare thriller. Hall commands the screen, and Roth exudes menace with every wicked and sneering syllable of his performance. *Resurrection* will leave you breathless with anticipation as it barrels toward its earth-shattering conclusion.

Resurrection

Saturday, April 9
9:10:45PM at Regal A

Wednesday, April 13
6:15-8PM at Regal A

.....
DIRECTED BY
ANDREW SEMANS
USA, 2022, 103 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Throughout history, rivers have shaped our landscapes and flowed through our cultures and dreams. This dynamic and monumental film takes the audience on a journey through space and time—spanning six continents and an astonishing 39 countries—and drawing on extraordinary cinematography, including satellite filming, to show rivers on a scale and perspective never-before seen. Its union of image, music, and a sparse, poetic script creates a film that is both dreamlike and powerful, honoring the wildness of rivers while also recognizing

their vulnerability. *River* is the second installment, after 2017's *Mountain*, in a planned trilogy that Jennifer Peedom (here with co-director Joseph Nizeti) has created in concert with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and perfectly cast narrator Willem Dafoe. It is a stunning cinematic experience, not unlike 1992's legendary documentary *Baraka* (FFF 1993), that will leave you mesmerized by the natural wonders of our incredible world.

River

Saturday, April 9
Noon-1:45PM at Regal B

Sunday, April 10
8-9:45PM at Enzian

.....
DIRECTED BY
JENNIFER PEEDOM
AND **JOSEPH NIZETI**
AUSTRALIA, 2021, 75 MIN,
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

PRECEDED BY
Tales of
Sunshine:
“The Biologist”

DIRECTED BY
VINCENT MARCUCCI
USA, 2022, 18 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE
Central Florida filmmaker Vincent Marcucci profiles PhD candidate Ian Biazzo, of the conservation biology department at the University of Central Florida, as he studies wild tree frogs and how they are impacted by fire.

The Territory

Sunday, April 10
8:30-10PM at Regal A

Sunday, April 17
11:30AM-1PM at Regal B

DIRECTED BY
ALEX PRITZ
BRAZIL/DENMARK/
USA, 2022, 83 MIN
IN PORTUGUESE AND TUPI
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE



From producer Darren Aronofsky (*Black Swan*) and director Alex Pritz comes the story of the Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau people of Brazil. What might have once been described as “deep in the rainforest” is now on the front lines of a battle between an indigenous tribe on the verge of extinction and the logging company dead set on clear-cutting the area to make room for more illegal farming. With the looming election of a new president who is against protecting native lands, the fight becomes desperate for the Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau. But before all is lost, the election of a younger tribal leader leads to a

surprising turn of events in the fight to save the rainforest: technology! Armed with spears and digital cameras, the less than 200 people of the tribe can now bravely show the world what they are fighting for and who they are fighting against. Winner of the Audience Award: World Cinema Documentary and the World Cinema Documentary Special Jury awards at this year’s Sundance Film Festival, *The Territory* is both beautiful and devastating—part environmental thriller, part war movie, and beyond that, an incredible exploration of the human spirit in the face of overwhelming odds.

Tigre Gente

Sunday, April 17
2-3:35PM at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
ELIZABETH UNGER
USA, 2021, 93 MIN
IN, ENGLISH, CANTONESE
MANDARIN, AND SPANISH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES



From Oscar®-winning producer Joanna Natasegara (“Sophie and the Baron,” FFF 2021) comes the harrowing story of the clandestine jaguar trade. Spanning two continents, *Tigre Gente* centers around the dueling stories of a ranger monitoring the situation in Madidi National Park of Bolivia and a journalist digging into the traditional Chinese medicine trade of Hong Kong. With the continual Chinese demand for exotic cats to use in homeopathic prescriptions, illegal traffickers look toward the South

American jaguars as substitutes for the increasingly rare tiger parts. Director Elizabeth Unger embeds the audience in the underground jaguar trade, weaving together a sprawling conservationist thriller that spans from the beauty of the Amazon to the bustle of Hong Kong—making the film’s gorgeously shot locales all the more unsettling, as the audience is forced to bear witness to the harrowing environmental cause and effect playing out in real time.



FilmFreeway

Digger

Wednesday, April 13
4-5:45PM at Regal A

Saturday, April 16
4:45-6:30PM at Regal B

DIRECTED BY
GEORGIS GRIGORAKIS
 GREECE/FRANCE/GERMANY,
 2020, 101 MIN
 IN GREEK WITH
 ENGLISH SUBTITLES
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Nikitas (Vangelis Mourikis in an unforgettable performance) is a lonely farmer who lives and works in the heart of the mountains in Northern Greece. For years, he has fought with the expanding industrial monster that's been encroaching on the town, digging up the forest, and causing mudslides that threaten his property. Yet his greatest threat comes with the sudden arrival of his estranged son after a 20-year separation. Confronting each other head-on, they turn into enemies under one roof,

with nature as their only observer. To prevent the muddy ground from being pulled out from under their feet for profit, father and son must dig deep to find their roots. What unfolds in this impressive debut feature is a complex and visually stunning father-son showdown that plays like a slow-burn contemporary Western. Winner of awards at the Berlin, Sarajevo, and Thessaloniki Film Festivals, and nominated for a whopping 14 Greek Oscars, *Digger* was Greece's official entry to the 2022 Academy Awards®.

Fire (Both Sides of the Blade)

Monday, April 11
9-11PM at Enzian

Saturday, April 16
7-9PM at Regal B

DIRECTED BY
CLAIRE DENIS
 FRANCE, 2022, 116 MIN
 IN FRENCH WITH
 ENGLISH SUBTITLES
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Sara (the incomparable Juliette Binoche, *Chocolat*) and Jean (Vincent London, *Titane*) have been in a loving, stable relationship for ten years. They are happy. When they first met, Sara was in a relationship with François, Jean's best friend at the time. One day, Sara sees François on the street. He does not see her, but she is overwhelmed by a sensation that her life could suddenly change. For the first time in years, François suddenly gets back in touch with Jean to suggest that they work together again. From here on, things spiral out of control. Winner of the Silver

Bear for Best Director at the 2022 Berlin Film Festival, *Fire (Both Sides of the Blade)*, is the latest work from fearless director Claire Denis (*High Life, Beau Travail*). A portrait of a relationship rocked to the core by the sudden reappearance of an old lover, it is a love triangle that builds in tension and suspense like a cerebral erotic thriller. Encircled by a wall of passionate flames, Denis's protagonists appear to be under siege in this blistering drama of the mind and heart that's ultimately a rich, nuanced exploration of female desire.



Panahi's *Hit the Road* opens at full speed. Where are we going and why? Unknown. But the rich relationships and terrific acting keep us involved. An ordinary and extraordinary family—moody, incapacitated father, emotional mother, silent elder son, exuberant youngster, and ailing family dog—are on the road through an unforgiving but transformative landscape. Audiences will recognize the imprimatur of car-based filmmaking by père Jafar Panahi (*Taxi*) and his mentor Abbas Kiarostami (*Taste of Cherry*), but the director-writer clearly takes the driver's seat in a phenomenal debut

feature. Remarkably self-assured, he turns tonal wheels on a dime, from unspoken tension to silliness, from laughter to devastation, as the trip's purpose is revealed. As one son cuts family ties, the other remains. The sagacious father explains, "When you see a cockroach, remember that his parents sent him out into the world with lots of hope." A pre-revolutionary soundtrack bolsters the action, as the film finds a sense of wonder in the ordinary and the magical. Don't miss the star-gazing riff on *2001: A Space Odyssey*! Tender, humanistic filmmaking at its finest and well worth the ride. "Bliss!"

Hit the Road

Friday, April 15
7-8:35PM at Regal B

Sunday, April 17
3:45-5:20PM at Regal B

DIRECTED BY
PANAH PANAHI
IRAN, 2021, 93 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND PERSIAN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES



You'll laugh out loud at this skewed buddy-comedy, Danish-style. Forty-something everyman Martin (Rasmus Bjerg) has gone off the grid ("the good life is suffocating me!") and is living like a Viking in a Norwegian forest—cell phone and trips to the convenience store aside. The absurdity of his larger-than-life appearance in homemade duds alone is funny. He meets up with fugitive Musa (Zaki Youssef), who, presuming his cohorts dead, has absconded with drug money. Soon the very alive and violent drug runners are on their trail, as well as inept deputies; a wise,

aging captain (veteran actor Bjorn Sundquist, excellent); and Martin's wife. Let the hijinks ensue! Fans of the *Klown* movies or the Coen brothers will find a kindred spirit here. However, at its core, *Wild Men* is a touching story about self-discovery and three stages of manhood: Musa's desire to be a good father to his young son without being criminal, Martin's discovery of meaning in his good life, and the Captain's acceptance of life's end. This madcap adventure turns sweet and endearing.

Wild Men

Saturday, April 16
9:30-11:15PM at Regal B

Sunday, April 17
6-7:45PM at Regal B

DIRECTED BY
THOMAS DANESKOV
DENMARK, 2021, 104 MIN
IN DANISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

International Shorts 1

Total Running Time: 104 MIN

Friday, April 15
4:30-6:30PM at Regal B

Sunday, April 17
2:45-4:45PM at Enzian

The act of expression binds the subjects of the films in this diverse program from eight countries. Whether characters are forced to suppress their identity, or discover it and flaunt it carefree, these films explore what it means to be seen and the impression that is left.



Customs

DIRECTED BY **ARMITA KEYANI**
NORWAY, 2021, 14 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND NORWEGIAN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A Chinese backpacker arrives at a Norwegian cottage he found through a Homestay app. The host is a nudist. There are rules.



Warsha

DIRECTED BY **DANIA BDEIR**
FRANCE/LEBANON, 2022, 15 MIN
IN ARABIC WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A Syrian migrant volunteers to work the highest and most dangerous crane at a construction site, if only for a moment of peace and freedom. Winner of the Short Film Jury Award for International Fiction at this year's Sundance Film Festival.



Sideral

DIRECTED BY **CARLOS SEGUNDO**
FRANCE/BRAZIL, 2021, 15 MIN
IN BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

As Brazil prepares to launch its first manned spaceship, a family living nearby go about their day. Everything is fine until the mother goes missing.



Listen to the Beat of Our Images

DIRECTED BY
AUDREY JEAN-BAPTISTE
AND **MAXIME JEAN-BAPTISTE**
FRENCH GUIANA, 2021, 15 MIN
IN FRENCH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

In the 1960s, the French government established its space center, displacing 600 Guyanese citizens. This archival séance tells the stories of an unseen people.



Bump

DIRECTED BY **MAZIYAR KHATAM**
CANADA, 2021, 3 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

An accidental bump leads a young man to seek an apology... or retribution.



Motorcyclist's Happiness Won't Fit into His Suit

DIRECTED BY
GABRIEL HERRERA
MEXICO, 2021, 10 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

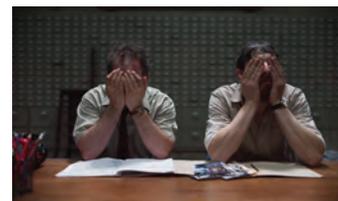
"Each one is responsible for his own beauty. Being ugly is an insult to other people." A proud motorcyclist and his bike. No one else can ride it.



All the Crows in the World

DIRECTED BY **YI TANG**
HONG KONG/CHINA, 2021, 14 MIN
IN MANDARIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/
2ND US SCREENING

Winner of the Palm d'Or for Best Short Film at the 2021 Cannes Film Festival. An 18-year-old girl navigates a very horny Hong Kong while visiting her cousin at a job where she "entertains" older men. From the director of "Black Goat" (FFF 2020).



Censor Of Dreams

DIRECTED BY **LEO BERNE**
AND **RAPHAËL RODRIGUEZ**
FRANCE, 2021, 18 MIN
IN FRENCH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/
2ND US SCREENING

Shortlisted for the 2021 Academy Awards® and executive produced by Gus Van Sant. A mysterious and overworked organization struggles nightly to monitor a grieving woman's dreams and avert them from resurfacing her trauma.

International Shorts 2

Total Running Time: 101 MIN

Saturday, April 16
2:30-4:15PM at Regal B

Sunday, April 17
5:45-7:45PM at Enzian

Whisking us around the world to seven countries, this program travels from the fractured mind of a Scotsman, through the frozen tundra of Manitoba, down the mountains of the Philippines, to the warm and inviting beaches of Australia; and features a colorful collection of characters, including an astute avatar, a bewildered bear, an indigenous instrumentalist, and tenacious teenage tricksters.



Man or Tree

DIRECTED BY **VARUN RAMAN**
AND **TOM HANCOCK**
UK, 2021, 4 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

This film revisits that timeless question: which came first—the tree or the man tripping on hallucinogens who thinks he’s a tree?



Nuisance Bear

DIRECTED BY **GABRIELA OSIO VANDEN** AND **JACK WEISMAN**
CANADA, 2021, 14 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Courtesy of *New Yorker* documentaries, this is a quiet and beautiful observation of an eccentric outsider mingling with the locals of Churchill, Manitoba. Unfortunately, this free-spirited stranger also happens to be a polar bear.



Beautiful They

DIRECTED BY **CLOUDY RHODES**
AUSTRALIA, 2021, 11 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Violet and Blue bond over an early morning toke in this lyrical, soul-stirring, queer surf-romance that flows along the waves of gender nuance and the sanctuary of truly being seen.



The Headhunter's Daughter

DIRECTED BY **DON JOSEPHUS RAPHAEL EBLAHAN**
PHILIPPINES, 2022, 15 MIN
IN ILOKANO WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE/
2ND US SCREENING

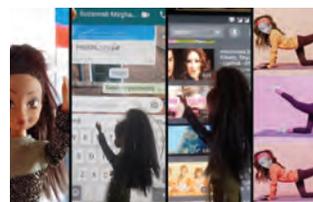
In this magnificent Igorot counterpart to *Coal Miner's Daughter*, Lynn mounts her beloved horse July to traverse the treacherous trek down the breathtaking Cordilleran highlands and manifest her aspirations of becoming a country music star. Winner of the Short Film Grand Jury Prize at this year's Sundance Film Festival.



Innocent Land

DIRECTED BY **FRANCESCO BOLOGNESI**
AND **MICHELE CARDANO**
ITALY, 2022, 10 MIN
IN ITALIAN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
WORLD PREMIERE

With a visual style and sound design reminiscent of *The Last Picture Show*, the film follows three blissful young boys as they soak up and savor a summer day until they receive some nerve-wracking news.



Virtual Voice

DIRECTED BY **SUZANNAH MIRGHANI**
SUDAN/QATAR, 2021, 7 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Suzi marches to the algorithms of social media, fueled by politics of the popular, and offers hypothetical help and abstract activism. She is the vacuous virtual voice of her generation.



Digital Video Editing with Adobe Premiere Pro: The Real-World Guide to Set Up and Workflow

DIRECTED BY **HONG SEONG-YOON**
SOUTH KOREA, 2021, 40 MIN
IN KOREAN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE

In this cutting-edge satire, South Korea's "King of Editing" must endure the assignment that she loathes more than anything else: collaborating with a pretentious director who won't compromise his vision, no matter how horribly awry his film has gone. Winner of Best Korean Short Film and the Audience Award for Best Korean Short Film at Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival.

International Animated Shorts

Total Running Time: 90 MIN

**Monday, April 11
9-10:45PM at Regal B**

**Saturday, April 16
7:45-9:30PM at Regal A**

This cavalcade of handcrafted, animated shorts illustrates the great forces that rule the universe, often thrumming just beneath the surface of our banal routines. The voices of artists from around the globe articulate their experiences through a vibrant tapestry of images, sound, and language.



Cat and Moth
DIRECTED BY **INDIA BARNARDO**
CANADA/UK, 2021, 7MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

A fluffy white cat yearns for the most comfortable spot in the universe. Little does she know someone else has their eye on it too.



Night of the Living Dread
DIRECTED BY **IDA MELUM**
UK, 2021, 11 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

When a power outage disrupts Ruby's bedtime routine, she finds herself haunted by unwanted guests. To get a peaceful night of sleep, she must confront them.



Black Slide
DIRECTED BY **URI LOTAN**
ISRAEL/UK, 2021, 11 MIN
IN HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Amidst puberty and turmoil, Eviah ascends the queue of the Aqua Fun's infamous Black Slide. He stares into the dark tube, then vanishes, confronting the unknown.



Selection Process
DIRECTED BY **CARLA PEREIRA**
SPAIN, 2021, 4 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A cat goes to a job interview where his aptitudes are assessed by three mice. The situation becomes increasingly awkward for everyone involved.



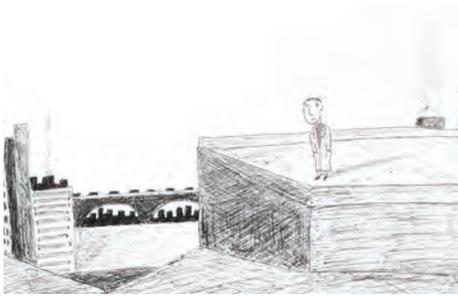
Eyes and Horns
DIRECTED BY **CHAERIN IM**
GERMANY/SOUTH KOREA/USA, 2021, 6 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A minotaur endures a violent struggle between masculinity and femininity. Finally, lines blur and the boundary of sexes disappear. From the director of "Mate" (FFF 2020).



The Fourth Wall
DIRECTED BY **MAHBOOBH KALAE**
IRAN, 2021, 10 MIN
IN PERSIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

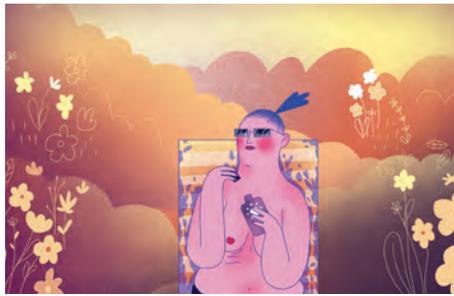
Home and family, relationships, and desires; everything is summarized in a kitchen. The stuttering boy is alone there, playing with his imagination.



Tap Runner

DIRECTED BY **PAOLO CHIANTA**
UK, 2021, 3 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

It's one man's job to check the taps for leakage, but he is not permitted to fix them. Much as he might want to...



Sweet Nothing

DIRECTED BY **JOANA FISCHER**
AND **MARIE KENOV**
SWITZERLAND, 2021, 4 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

Sunbathing in the garden on a hot summer afternoon, Rosa is set ablaze by her neighbor's tender touch with his flowers.



Freedom Swimmer

DIRECTED BY **OLIVIA MARTIN-MCGUIRE**
FRANCE/AUSTRALIA/UK/
HONG KONG, 2021, 15 MIN
IN CANTONESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Interweaving hand-drawn animation illustrates a grandfather's perilous swim from China to Hong Kong during the Cultural Revolution—a rhythmic parallel of the present.



Swallow the Universe

DIRECTED BY **NIETO**
FRANCE, 2021, 12 MIN
IN JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A Japanese Emaki manga (a hand-painted horizontal scroll) tells the exuberant blood-and-thunder saga of a beautiful child lost in Manchuria's wild jungles.



Orgiastic Hyper-Plastic

DIRECTED BY **PAUL BUSH**
DENMARK/UK, 2021, 7 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

An extravaganza of items collected from beaches, roadsides, attics, and junk shops. A fond farewell to that most beautiful material shackling our planet: plastic.

Fanny: The Right to Rock

Monday, April 11
4:30-6:10PM at Regal B

Thursday, April 14
9:30-11:10PM at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
BOBBI JO HART
 CANADA, 2021, 96 MIN



“Revivify Fanny. And my work is done.”- David Bowie
 Sometime in the 1960s, in sunny Sacramento, two Filipina-American sisters got together to play music. Little did they know their garage band would evolve into the legendary Fanny—the first all-women (and partially queer) band to release an LP with a major record label (Warner/Reprise, 1970). Despite releasing five critically acclaimed albums, touring with some of the greats, and amassing a dedicated fan base of music legends including David Bowie, Fanny’s groundbreaking impact in music was written out of music history. With incredible archival footage of the band’s

rocking past—intercut with its next chapter, recording a new LP in their late 60s—the film includes interviews with a large cadre of music icons, including Def Leppard’s Joe Elliott, Bonnie Raitt, The Go-Go’s Kathy Valentine, Todd Rundgren, The Runaways’ Cherie Currie, Lovin’ Spoonful’s John Sebastian, The B52’s Kate Pierson, and many more. Fighting early barriers of race, gender, and sexuality in the music industry, and now ageism, the incredible women of Fanny are finally ready to claim their hallowed place in the halls of rock ‘n’ roll fame...and it’s about time!

Stay Prayed Up

Sunday, April 10
Noon-1:15PM at Regal B

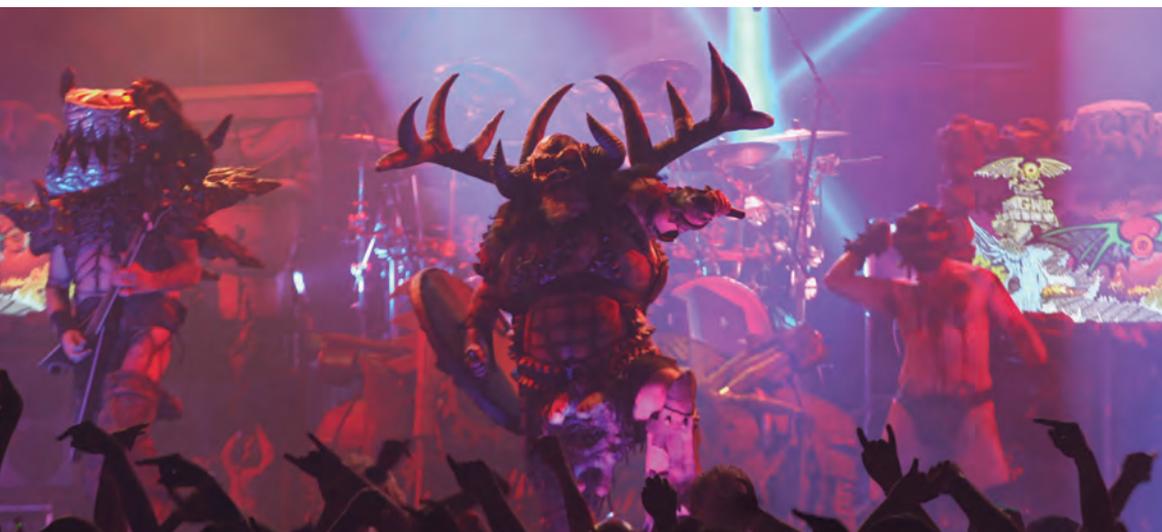
Thursday, April 14
1:30-2:45PM at Enzian

DIRECTED BY
D. L. ANDERSON AND
MATTHEW DURNING
 USA, 2021, 74 MIN
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Lena “Ma” Mae Perry is a force of nature. At age 82, she can blow the roof off any church, singing a passionate R&B gospel so infectious that atheists will question their beliefs. Leader of local legends The Branchettes, Ma Perry has been singing the good word for over a half century and serving as a community anchor for just as long. Every week she sits on her porch and makes calls to friends and strangers who have reached out for advice or comfort. As much as this film is about the recording of The Branchettes’s first live album, it’s also a window to Ma

Perry’s selfless philosophy on life and how faith can guide one through the most troubled times. This is a joyous and beautiful document that smartly stays focused on Ma Perry, music, and community, never seeking outside validation from professionals. Dubbed a “church gospel noisy crew” by their long-fingered pianist Wilbur Tharpe, they only need hymnals and harmonies to prove the intersection of music and faith is never stronger than on a steamy Sunday morning in rural North Carolina.



ARE YOU READY TO SUBMIT, EARTHLINGS?! Behold the unstoppable force of GWAR—a band of masked marauders from outer space who crashed landed on your pitiful planet and now live only to destroy stupidity, spew fountains of blood, and boldly blast the most metallic rock and roll narcotic to overwhelm the masses! This bone-crunching documentary is the wrenching story of the universe’s most iconic heavy metal/art collective/monster band, as told by the humans who have fought to keep it alive for over 30 years. From the slave pit to stages around

the planet, *This Is GWAR* spins an epic web of lunacy, degradation, and large latex heads, with band members past and present attempting to explain the madness and joy of the GWAR mission. Sniveling friends and followers like Weird Al Yankovic, Thomas Lennon, Alex Winter, and Bam Margera, put their spin on GWAR’s subjugation of the species. There is no escape—just deliriously convoluted tales of treason, friendship, ego, and mayhem that would frighten Shakespeare himself. SUBMIT NOW TO THE UNSTOPPABLE FORCE OF *THIS IS GWAR!*

This Is GWAR

Sunday, April 10
9:30-11:45PM at Regal B

Friday, April 15
9:15-11:30PM at Regal B

.....
 DIRECTED BY
SCOTT BARBER
 USA, 2021, 114 MIN
 EAST COAST PREMIERE



Once upon a time there was a plaid overnight case. Well, four identical cases to be precise: one containing top secret documents, one with jewels, one with igneous rocks, and one with underwear. Owners and would-be owners mistakenly swap and swipe them from one another over the course of a wild weekend in San Francisco. This simple premise kicks off one of the best screwball farces that has ever graced theaters. Our tour guides on this hilarious misadventure: Howard Bannister (a perfectly aloof Ryan O’Neal, a cinematic sibling of Cary Grant and Harold Lloyd) and his sharp-witted admirer Judy Maxwell (a verbose and ravishing Barbara Streisand). Featuring a sly screenplay co-written by Buck Henry (*The*

Graduate), lush production design from Polly Platt (*Paper Moon*), and vibrant cinematography from László Kovács (*Easy Rider*), combined with a coterie of character actors (including the Golden Globe-nominated screen debut of Madeline Kahn) under the masterful direction of the great Peter Bogdanovich—just coming off his film debut *The Last Picture Show*—results in an uproarious slapstick masterpiece that will leave you giddy when you finally catch your breath. Presented in glorious 35mm for the film’s 50th anniversary, the Florida Film Festival is proud to honor the late Peter Bogdanovich with this screening of his own tribute to the icons of slapstick comedy.

CLOSING NIGHT RETRO FILM

What’s Up, Doc?

Sunday, April 17
8:45-10:20PM at Enzian

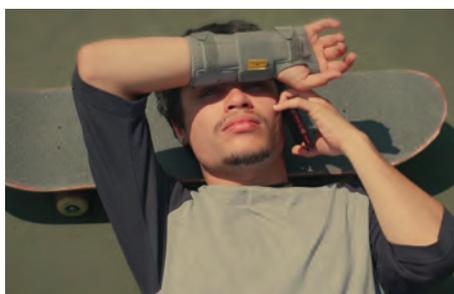
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 DIRECTED BY
PETER BOGDANOVICH
 USA, 1972, 94 MIN, RATED G

Sunshine & Swampland: New Florida Shorts

Total Running Time: 91 MIN

Saturday, April 16
12:30-2:30PM at Regal A

From landing the quintessential skateboard trick, to a sleepover that will be talked about for years to come, this program might seem a little crazier than most, but the films collected here actually address the human (and corgi) condition with profound insights into parent/child relationships, gender and identity, and making one's own inimitable mark on a world that has seen an overpowering sense of change in the last two years. So please join us in celebrating some unique voices working in the state today.



IOLLIE!
DIRECTED BY **ABIESEL ALEED BÁEZ**
AND **COREY RAY MARR**
USA, 2021, 5 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Winner of the Grand Jury Award at the 2021 Brouhaha Film and Video Showcase, this UCF film follows a young Hispanic man skating his way through life as he faces his biggest challenge yet: landing the ollie.



Julian Comes Home
DIRECTED BY **JOSEPH ZIAD KHOURY**
USA, 2021, 9 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

In this winner of the 2021 Central Florida Film Slam, 21-year-old Julian comes home from college after experiencing symptoms of agoraphobia and panic disorder. Fed up with anguish, he forces himself to leave his house.



I Won't Let You Get Lost
DIRECTED BY **DAKOTA RENÉE**
USA, 2021, 10 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

A UCF student's personal experience in coming out as a bisexual trans man to their mother presents in a series of interviews that take place in both subjects' cars. Through the combination of these interviews, we witness a very personal coming-out experience from two distinct perspectives.



Linda
DIRECTED BY **KALI KAHN**
USA, 2022, 12 MIN

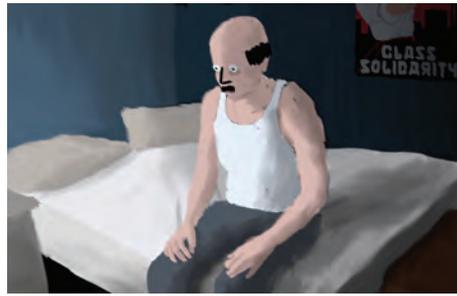
An estranged mother and daughter struggle to wade through their murky relationship during an insidious getaway in Central Florida. Evocative and richly imbued with Florida vibes comes a new film from the director of the equally exquisite "Fairchild" (FFF 2020)



Barking Orders

DIRECTED BY **ALEXANDER TULLO**
USA, 2021, 2 MIN

When the entire British royal family tragically dies, the Queen's corgi finds himself next in line for the throne in this hilarious animated short from Ringling College of Art & Design that received the student Oscars® Silver Medal.



Hot Dogs!

DIRECTED BY **FRANK VOLK**
USA, 2022, 7 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

UCF alum Frank Volk returns for his third visit ("Things Happen Because," FFF 2020; "Sitting Still," FFF 2021) with this unique animated film about a hot dog man who has a crisis of faith.



Chicks

DIRECTED BY **GEENA MARIE HERNANDEZ**
USA, 2022, 12 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

It could almost be a midnight movie! FSU alum Geena Marie Hernandez throws the covers back to finally dispel the myth of what teenage girls REALLY do at sleepovers.



Pink Is the Color of the Ocean

DIRECTED BY **SUMMER SCHANTZ**
USA, 2021, 14 MIN

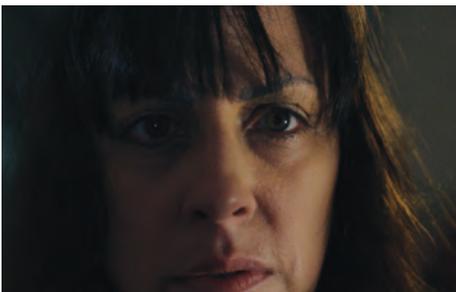
Living in a trailer by the sea, Carmen does everything to give her half-sister May a better childhood than the one she had in this haunting film about losing the freedom of youth by taking on the de facto parenting role in one's sibling's life.



Hammer

DIRECTED BY **MASOOD AHMED**
USA, 2022, 11 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Executive produced by Michael Jordan's son Marcus, this stunning documentary follows Delray Beach boxer Erickson Lubin as he prepares for his first pay-per-view fight.



Lioness

DIRECTED BY **MOLLY SMITH**
USA, 2022, 7 MIN

A moving and powerful look at the bonds of parenthood. Barricaded in a motel room, a mother's determination and primal instincts kick in to protect her child's innocence.



Dino Bone

DIRECTED BY **JORDAN POWERS**
AND **SAM DURKIN**
USA, 2022, 2 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

After seeing a suggestive fossil of two dinosaurs "getting it on," an anxious father tells his curious son a series of little white lies to avoid having "the talk," in this hilarious animated short from the Ringling College of Art & Design.

Surviving Pulse: Life After a Mass Shooting

Monday, April 11
6:15-8PM at Regal A

Saturday, April 16
1:15-3PM at Enzian

DIRECTED BY
ALEXA SHEEHAN
USA, 2022, 73 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE



Part of
Reel Representation Film Series
presented by Travel + Leisure Co.

On June 12, 2016, Pulse nightclub’s weekly “Latin Night” was in full swing on South Orange Avenue. Just over 300 patrons were dancing and laughing as last call rolled around 2AM. Moments later a terrorist attack shattered the seemingly “safe space” of one of Orlando’s beloved gay bars. When the madness subsided, 49 beautiful souls were lost, dozens more injured, and a community of thousands was left broken. In the aftermath, blood was donated, memorials were held, millions of dollars raised, fingers pointed, and some politicians offered hopes for change, while others offered little more than lip-service,

but Orlando is strong and somehow got through it. What has happened since that night to the survivors—the ones who lost friends and lovers, who are bonded together by an unthinkable act of violence? This powerful and amazingly hopeful testament gathers together many of the people who hunkered down in bathroom stalls and behind the bar (many of whom have never spoken before) and allows them a space to share the details of that night and the ongoing effects of living through a “national tragedy” from an incredibly intimate perspective. How have their lives changed, and what struggles remain?

Sylvie of the Sunshine State

Friday, April 15
2-4PM at Regal B

Sunday, April 17
Noon-1:45PM at Enzian

DIRECTED BY
SASHA LEVINSON
USA, 2022, 92 MIN
FLORIDA THEATRICAL PREMIERE



South Florida filmmaker Sasha Levinson aims her unflinching lens at her eccentric multigenerational Jewish family in this unconventional documentary, offering a startlingly honest glimpse into modern motherhood. For Sasha, the act of filmmaking is a way of life, a creative outlet, and a salve for the wounds of her past, so when the external world was turning to chaos in the early stages of the COVID-19 health crisis, she decided to make a film with her precocious but learning-challenged nine-year-old daughter, in an attempt to stay sane. *Sylvie of the*

Sunshine State began as a filmmaker’s experiment with her life narrative as a video diary, but what emerged is a therapeutic exploration of single motherhood, long-distance co-parenting, and multigenerational feminine trauma, which ultimately gives way to healing. A “lockdown” film that truly captures a unique moment in time, this amazing and intimate document provides a shockingly honest look at parenting, with the intention of helping families everywhere find peace within the knowledge that we are all gloriously imperfect.

Bringing people

TOGETHER

*through the power
of great storytelling*



Get tickets  Regal App

SUNSP

New Visions of the Avant-Garde

Total Running Time: 80 MIN

Saturday, April 16, 10-11:30PM at Regal A

Cap off your festival experience with this year's bleeding edge of cinema, featuring experimental documentaries, personal histories, and unexpected animation. Encounter filmmaking outside the bounds of tradition with a delightful slate of international and domestic avant-garde short films.



Sensual Pill

DIRECTED BY **SAM3**
GREECE, 2021, 4 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Travel the world during a global pandemic, using animated Google Earth satellite images.



We Had Each Other

DIRECTED BY **KELLY GALLAGHER**
USA/IRELAND, 2021, 15 MIN

Sisterhood and solidarity among Irish Republican POWs during their no-wash protest of British colonialism.



Up Close

DIRECTED BY **SAM GURRY**
USA, 2022, 3 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

A tactile exploration of earthly hungers, using animated domestic objects, from the director of "Winner's Bitch" (FFF 2019).



Impulse

DIRECTED BY **RADHIAH IBRAHIM**
USA/MALAYSIA, 2022, 6 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Pixilation, stop motion, and 2D animation portray a journey towards accepting the difficult emotions that make us human.

dots!



On Time Off Time

DIRECTED BY **HIROTOSHI IWASAKI**
JAPAN, 2021, 9 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Segmented animation sequences create a juxtaposition of movement, continuity, and fluctuation.



Difficult Donuts

DIRECTED BY **TREVON JAKAAR COLEMAN**
USA, 2022, 6 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A film about collective and personal memory and navigating surrogate spaces.



Ever Wanting (For Margaret Chung)

DIRECTED BY **TINA TAKEMOTO**
USA, 2022, 6 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

Inspired by San Francisco's first Chinese-American female physician, a found-footage film from the director of "Wayward Emulsions" (FFF 2019) that envisions the euphoria and despair of Margaret Chung.



Beef

DIRECTED BY **BRENDON KINGSBURY**
AND **SEAN WEBLEY**
USA, 2022, 13 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

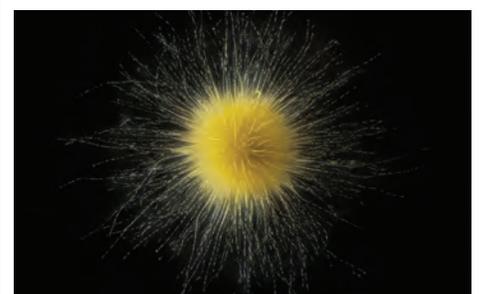
Some cows don't need to jump to make it over the moon.



Bite Mark Evidence

DIRECTED BY **DANIEL WATKINS**
USA, 2021, 3 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

During Ted Bundy's trial for the murder of Lisa Levy, a highly controversial forensic technique gained national prominence.



Planktonium

DIRECTED BY **JAN VAN IJKEN**
NETHERLANDS, 2021, 15 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Journey into a secret universe, invisible to the naked eye, inhabited by microscopic plankton.

Saturday, April 9
11:15PM-12:45AM
at Regal A

Saturday, April 16
Midnight-1:30AM
at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
HANNA BERGHOLM
 FINLAND/SWEDEN,
 2022, 86 MIN
 IN FINNISH WITH
 ENGLISH SUBTITLES



Hatching

Tinja is a 12-year-old girl caught in a tween angst suburban nightmare: friendless, shuffled to and from her gymnastics training by her image-obsessed video-blogger mother, and fighting with her obnoxious little brother. After finding a dying bird in the woods, she brings home its strange egg and swaddles it in bed sheets wishing for it to hatch. Be careful what you wish for. The supernatural hatchling that Tinja names Alli grows more and more aggressive as the days progress, and Tinja is forced to confront

the consequences of being a good parent to her own “offspring,” as Alli wreaks havoc on her life. Eschewing CGI and working with some truly nightmarish effects, director Hanna Bergholm’s debut feature is a dysfunctional family satire that quickly and mercilessly morphs into twisted teenage body horror, delivering a disturbing and grotesque look at maternal instincts gone horribly awry. With *Hatching* a new voice in horror is born.

Friday, April 15
10:45PM-12:30AM
at Regal A

DIRECTED BY
ANISIA UZEYMAN
 AND **SAUL WILLIAMS**
 USA/RWANDA, 2021, 105 MIN
 IN ENGLISH, KINYARWANDA,
 KIRUNDI, SWAHILI,
 AND FRENCH WITH
 ENGLISH SUBTITLES



Neptune Frost

Multi-hyphenate, multidisciplinary artist Saul Williams (star of *SlamNation*, FFF 1998) brings his unique dynamism to this Afrofuturist, queer, experimental, sci-fi musical. Co-directed with his partner, Rwandan-born artist and cinematographer Anisia Uzeyman, the film takes place in the hilltops of Burundi, where a group of escaped miners form an anti-colonialist computer hacker collective. From their camp in an otherworldly e-waste dump, they attempt a takeover of the authoritarian regime exploiting the region’s

natural resources—and its people. When an intersex runaway and an escaped miner find each other through cosmic forces, their connection sparks glitches within the greater divine circuitry. Executive produced by Lin-Manuel Miranda and set between states of being—past and present, dream and waking life, colonized and free, male and female, memory and prescience—*Neptune Frost* is an invigorating and empowering direct download to the cerebral cortex and a call to reclaim technology for progressive political ends.

Friday, April 15
Midnight-1:30AM
at Enzian

Sunday, April 17
8:30-10PM at Regal B

DIRECTED BY
CARLOTA PEREDA
SPAIN, 2022, 90 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Piggy

Firebrand Spanish filmmaker Carlota Pereda took Florida Film Festival audiences by storm in 2020 when her short film “Piggy” won the Audience Award for Best International Short. Now Pereda has returned with an expanded version of this harrowing genre tale of bullying and revenge. “Piggy” is the vicious nickname for Sara, a sullen, overweight teenage girl in rural Spain, who spends her days lost in music, reluctantly helping her father at the local butcher shop, and lying to her overbearing mother about her happiness. Small-town trauma has been the seed

of many great pieces of art because small towns have lots of secrets, and often blind eyes are turned to bad behavior. But beyond a trio of mean girls (including Sara’s former best friend) endlessly harassing her, Sara’s seemingly quaint village also has a serial killer on the loose, and he’s taken a very specific interest in her. Fans of the short film (which also won the Russo Brothers fellowship at Slamdance) will not want to miss the explosive and bloody evolution of Sara’s story!

FREAKY

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Total Running Time: 93 MIN

Saturday, April 9
Midnight-2AM at Enzian

Saturday, April 16
Midnight-1:45AM at Enzian

Midnight Shorts

For those uninitiated into the cult of the Midnight Shorts program, check your inhibitions at the door. A maddening collection of ten films—animated, narrative, and experimental in nature—all custom designed to deliver a visual and aural experience that will have you laughing, crying, and calling your therapist in the morning.



An Example of the Lee-Roth Fog Isolated Under Laboratory Conditions

DIRECTED BY **RYAN BETSCHART**
USA, 2022, 3 MIN
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

First discovered in 1972 by a band of Dutch/Indonesian researchers and isolated for the first time by engineers at 5150 in Studio City, California—ladies and gentlemen: the exotic and rare Lee-Roth Fog. An uncanny new short from the mad creators of “The Flaw in the Crystal” (FFF 2021).



Itch
DIRECTED BY **SUSANNAH FARRUGIA**
MALTA/UK, 2021, 8 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A psychological horror film about a novice nun who develops a severe skin condition, which continues to worsen along with her mental state, as she struggles with her feelings for another nun.



Guts
DIRECTED BY **CHRIS MCINROY**
USA, 2021, 8 MIN

Twisted Austin filmmaker Chris McInroy (“We Summoned a Demon,” FFF 2018; “Death Metal,” FFF 2017) returns with the workplace tale of one man who wears his guts on the outside of his body.



The Expected
DIRECTED BY **CAROLINA SANDVIK**
SWEDEN, 2021, 14 MIN
FLORIDA THEATRICAL PREMIERE

A father-to-be ends up in a feverish nightmare after a miscarriage, when a strange entity seems to be growing in the mother’s blood.



While Mortals Sleep

DIRECTED BY **ALEX FOFONOFF**
USA, 2022, 14 MIN

When a cold-case novelist's career implodes, she seeks refuge at her friend's remote vacation home. Upon arrival, she encounters a strange couple who claim to be the caretakers. As tensions build, a dark secret begins to emerge.



Parked

DIRECTED BY **YOON HEI CHO**
USA, 2021, 4 MIN

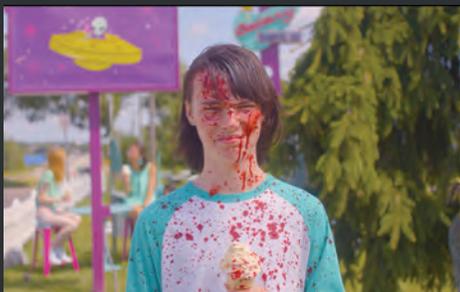
An incident of inconvenient panic attack: of having your internal consciousness struggle to get out of an inescapable internal torture chamber while your physical self—in reality—is paralyzed.



Buzzkill

DIRECTED BY **PETER AHERN**
USA, 2022, 5 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Peter Ahern ("Down to the Bone," FFF 2010) returns with the blind date woes of Rick and Becky (who has something in her eye...and her closet).



Every Time We Meet for Ice Cream Your Whole Fucking Face Explodes

DIRECTED BY **ANTHONY COUSINS**
USA, 2021, 7 MIN
FLORIDA THEATRICAL PREMIERE

Title says it all! A carnage coated confection from the director of "The Bloody Ballad of Squirt Reynolds" (FFF 2019).



Part Forever

DIRECTED BY **ALAN CHUNG-AN, OU**
TAIWAN, 2021, 13 MIN
IN MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

In the dark room, candles flicker faintly. A body lies in the middle of the hall. Huei and her husband Wen Hsiung come to say goodbye to Huei's dearest sister. The seemingly calm and sad farewell ceremony hides an astonishing and dark secret.



Visitors

DIRECTED BY **KENICHI UGANA**
JAPAN, 2021, 17 MIN
IN JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Haruka, Nana, and Takanori visit the house of Souta, a band member who has lost contact with them. But Souta's behavior is a little strange in this crazy mix of *The Exorcist*, *The Evil Dead*, and *The Grudge*.



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CASTO



Narrative Feature Films **Jury**



Jasper Basch joined IFC Films as their Head of Theatrical Distribution in 2020. He oversees over 30 releases annually, ranging from traditional releases with full theatrical windows to day-and-date titles that gross seven figures, such as *The Wretched*, *Relic*, and *The Rental*, the last of which was the #1 movie in America for two consecutive weeks. Prior to joining the team at IFC Films, Jasper was the vice president of theatrical sales at Greenwich Entertainment, where he handled the distribution of multimillion-dollar grossing films that include *Echo in the Canyon* and *Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice*. He had previously founded and operated Cartilage Films, an independent film distributor and theatrical booking agency. Jasper's work with IFC Films during the COVID-19 pandemic—where he led the industry in distributing titles to drive-in theaters—was covered in national news, including *The New York Times*, *Fox News*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *Variety*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, and *Deadline*. In addition to leading the company's theatrical distribution, Jasper manages scheduling for all titles for VOD, EST, and non-theatrical releasing. Jasper has further grown the company's nontheatrical business, increasing the company's slate's carriage in nontheatrical markets, and managing international theatrical and nontheatrical subdistribution.



Giovanna Vicini is the director of marketing at Magnolia Pictures and a freelance editor at Getty Images. She is a graduate of the University of California Santa Barbara and an alum of the Television Academy Foundation internship program. Giovanna is extremely passionate about independent film and the way that cinema can uplift and center marginalized voices. She also loves genre fare, coffee, large bodies of water, and her cat, Mateo.



Sara Zandiah is an award-winning film director based in LA. She recently directed episodes of NBC's comedy-drama television series *Good Girls*. Her debut feature film, *A Simple Wedding*, starring Emmy®-winning and Oscar®-nominated actress Shohreh Aghdashloo and veteran actress Rita Wilson, premiered at Film Independent's LA Film Festival. It was released theatrically on Valentine's Day 2020 and is now available on Amazon and Apple TV. Her first short film, "The Pool Party," won a jury award at the Tribeca Film Festival, won Best Short Film at Cinequest, and played at festivals worldwide. Her next short film, "Reza Hassani Goes to the Mall," premiered at the Telluride Film Festival, won the Focus Features Best Film Award at the Columbia University Film Festival, and won Best Short at the Hamptons International Film Festival. Sara is a recipient of the Fulbright Grant for filmmaking, the La Fémis director's workshop, a MacDowell Colony fellowship, and was chosen for the NBC Female Forward initiative. She holds an MFA in film from Columbia University's School of Arts.

As of Yet

DIRECTED BY
**TAYLOR GARRON
AND CHANEL JAMES**
USA, 2021, 82 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Taylor Garron and Chanel James, teaming up for their second project, co-directed *As of Yet*. Garron, who previously starred in James's feature *The Things We Do When We're Alone*, is a multi-hyphenate creator and performer based in Brooklyn, NY. James is a filmmaker, editor, and audiophile based in Delaware.

Demi's Panic

DIRECTED BY
BILL PLYMPTON
USA, 2021, 10 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Bill Plympton is the director of two Oscar®-nominated animated shorts, "Your Face" and "Guard Dog," and has also directed eight animated features ("The Tune," "Cheatin'," "Idiots and Angels"), music videos for Kanye West and Weird Al Yankovic, six couch gags for *The Simpsons*, and six Webby award-winning "Trump Bites" shorts.



Sunday, April 10, 11:15AM-1PM at Enzian
Tuesday, April 12, 6:30-8:15PM at Enzian

As of Yet

Having endured four months in quarantine, Naomi Parson's (writer/co-director Taylor Garron) only interactions have been through Facetime, voicemails, and the occasional conversation with her neighbor from her second-story window. Naomi finally makes plans to meet her online crush in person; however, her problematic best friend/roommate decides to return from living in Florida on the same day. Turning to her family, friends, and a digital diary, Naomi grapples with how to balance a waning friendship and

the chance for new love, all without leaving her New York apartment. This low-budget comedy—executive-produced by the Duplass Brothers (*Drought*, FFF 2020)—touches on how the circumstances of the coronavirus pandemic can bring up issues that have been brewing beneath the surface long before lockdown. Told mainly through Facetime and digital footage, with strong performances and witty dialogue, *As of Yet* is a fresh take on the complex anxieties of the last few years.

Preceded by
Demi's Panic

Animation legend Bill Plympton ("Odd Duck," FFF 2021) sets his sketchpad on the COVID-19 pandemic with this tale of Demi, a Latina in NYC whose nightmares foreshadow an unprecedented storm that will transform her city and her life.





Sunday, April 10, 2-4PM at Enzian
Wednesday, April 13, 9-11PM at Regal B

The Civil Dead

Clay (writer/director Clay Tatum) is a struggling photographer. While his wife is away on business, he drinks too much beer and discovers a questionable way to make some extra cash using his apartment. When he decides to get out and take some photos around LA, he runs into an old acquaintance, Whit (co-writer Whitmer Thomas, also appearing in *Homebody*). Thing is... Whit is

no longer “alive,” and for reasons unknown to both of them, Clay is the first and only person who can see him. *The Civil Dead* deftly presents an absurdist plot with understated (but very, very funny) comedy that deals with psychological themes such as friendship, the dynamics of marriage, and betrayal. Sometimes running into an old friend ends up being more of a curse than a blessing.

DIRECTED BY
CLAY TATUM
USA, 2022, 103 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE
2ND US SCREENING



Clay Tatum is a filmmaker from Gulf Shores, Alabama. After finishing co-directing and editing the comedy special *The Golden One* (HBO, A24), Clay directed his first feature *The Civil Dead*, starring and co-written by him and Whitmer Thomas.



DIRECTED BY
ANNA BAUMGARTEN
 USA, 2021, 100 MIN
 IN ENGLISH AND ASL WITH
 ENGLISH SUBTITLES
 EAST COAST PREMIERE



Anna Baumgarten hails from metro Detroit. As a filmmaker, Anna has an independent TV pilot, a dozen short films, and a digital PSA campaign under her belt. Most recently, Anna's short film "Line Dry" premiered at the Oscar®-qualifying Palm Springs International Shortsfest 2020. In 2018 she was selected as one of ten Short to Feature Lab Fellows for her short film "Disfluency" (directed by Laura Holliday, written and produced by Anna).

Sunday, April 10, 7-9PM at Regal B
Wednesday, April 13, 4:30-6:30PM at Regal B

Disfluency

Jane just doesn't seem to have it together. Once a bright student, now she can't even complete her senior year of college. Returning home to her family's lake house, she spends the summer slowly coming to terms with the trauma that derailed her final year. Jane, who studies speech, decides to use her time constructively by doing an independent study on her friend's speech patterns. In doing so, she discovers that her friend's two-year-old daughter is deaf. Seeing an opportunity to do something positive, she offers to teach the

girl sign language. But even with these new projects in her life, how can Jane get back to normal—and what constitutes "normal" in the first place? Executive produced by Jim Cummings ("Thunder Road," FFF 2016) and Danny Madden ("(notes on) Biology," FFF 2012), *Disfluency* is an expansion of director Anna Baumgarten's award-winning short film. It is a profound and moving story for all the women and men who have second-guessed themselves, the ones who have stayed silent, and those who have found their voice.



Saturday, April 9, 1:15-3PM at Enzian
Friday, April 15, 3:45-5:45PM at Regal A

The Falconer

In this powerful story inspired by true events, the friendship of two teenage boys from very different worlds is put to the test with a daring plan that goes awry. Best friends Tariq, an Omani teenager, and Cai, a privileged westerner, conspire to steal animals from the Oman Park Zoo and sell them on the black market to raise money for Tariq's sister's escape from an abusive marriage. Unexpectedly, they are forced to wrestle with morally complex choices that reveal the vast

distance between their worlds. Winner of Best Feature at several film festivals (including Newport Beach and Savannah), *The Falconer* offers fascinating insights into the challenges young males have in developing friendships, how our economic privilege determines our ethical perspective, and how young women fighting to find independence from abuse encounter a world that does not value their overall safety.

DIRECTED BY
ADAM SJÖBERG AND
SEANNE WINSLOW
USA/OMAN, 2021, 100 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE



Adam Sjöberg's work as a filmmaker has taken him to 50 countries and led to films *The Falconer*, *I Am Sun Mu*, and *Shake the Dust*. **Seanne Winslow** was creative producer on *The Lego Movie* before writing and directing *The Falconer* as well as forthcoming projects for Netflix and Disney.



DIRECTED BY
KEVIN T. MORALES
 USA, 2021, 112 MIN
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Saturday, April 9, 4:45-6:45PM at Regal B
Tuesday, April 12, 9:15-11:15 PM at Enzian

Generation Wrecks



Kevin T. Morales is a filmmaker from California, currently living in Brooklyn. Kevin has been the artistic director of two professional theater companies and is in post-production on his second feature *Shadow Vaults*, and pre-production on his third feature. *Generation Wrecks* is his feature directing debut.

Set in 1994, *Generation Wrecks* follows 11th graders Stacy and Liz, who were best friends until the seventh grade when a mysterious event drove them apart. Stacy joined the popular crowd, and Liz fell in with the freaks and became a goth. After years of antagonizing each other, Stacy is moved to repair the friendship when Liz experiences a family trauma. Featuring supporting turns from Emily Bergl (*The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*) and Heather Matarazzo (*Girl Flu*, FFF 2017), and a kick-ass alternative soundtrack featuring The Pixies, Beastie Boys, The Flaming Lips, Blind Melon, Beck, and many more, this John

Hughes-esque coming-of-age movie is a unique story based on a homework assignment that director Kevin T. Morales was given when he was a high school student. Told in collaboration with Morales, his daughter/star/co-writer Victoria Leigh (Liz), and her friend actress Bridget McGarry (Stacy), also a star/co-writer, the film is a sweet, funny, and smart teen comedy that provides an authentic and representational voice, while exploring the differences between being a teenager over 25 years ago, in contrast with what younger generations actively experience today.



Saturday, April 9, 11:30AM-1PM at Regal A
Thursday, April 14, 6:45-8:15PM at Enzian

Homebody

Nothing is quite as special as a child's relationship with their babysitter, and nine-year-old, genderqueer Johnny is obsessed with theirs, Melanie—so much so that they've transmitted their spirit right into her body! But when mom comes home early, Johnny must navigate the world as an adult woman (clothes, make-up, would-be boyfriends, witnessing childbirth as a doula). The result is a visually playful and emotionally resonant take on high-concept body-swap movies like *Freaky Friday* and *Big* that digs more deeply into the beauty and complexity of queer childhood and nascent gender expression. Starring Colby

Minife (*The Boys*), Maria Dizzia (*Martha Marcy May Marlene*), Whitmer Thomas (also appearing in this year's feature film *The Civil Dead*) and newcomer Tre Ryder as Johnny, this feature debut from Joseph Sackett ("Dominant Species," FFF 2019), inspired by his own genderqueer childhood (except for the body-swapping part, we think!), is a sweet comedy-fantasy that's sure to be fun for the whole family!

NOTE TO FAMILY AUDIENCES: RECOMMENDED FOR 12+, CONTAINS MILD PROFANITY AND A BIRTHING SEQUENCE. NOT RATED, BUT COMPARABLE TO PG-13.

DIRECTED BY
JOSEPH SACKETT
USA, 2021, 75 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Joseph Sackett is an award-winning filmmaker who has written, directed, and produced projects that have screened in competition at the Festival de Cannes, Slamdance, OutFest, the Atlanta Film Festival, and the Rooftop Films Summer Series, among others. He received his MFA in screenwriting and directing from NYU and is the recipient of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association grant. He is currently in development on his second feature film, *Cross Pollination*.



DIRECTED BY
ROBERT G. PUTKA
 USA/PORTUGAL, 2021,
 96 MIN
 FLORIDA PREMIERE



Robert G. Putka's first feature, *Mad*, premiered at the 2016 Slamdance Film Festival and was distributed by The Orchard. His second film, *We Used to Know Each Other*, was called "[One of the] can't miss independent film jewels of 2019" by *Vice*.

Monday, April 11, 8:30-10:30PM at Regal A
Thursday, April 14, 3:45-5:45PM at Enzian

Mister Limbo

Writer/director Robert G. Putka (*Mad*, FFF 2016; *We Used to Know Each Other*, FFF 2019) does it again with this beautifully shot dark comedy of friendship and redemption. *Mister Limbo* (Hugo de Sousa, this year's short "The Event") wakes in a desert—lost and confused—after a skydive. He meets the equally lost Craig (Vig Norris), and the two set out to discover where, and who, they are. Soon they meet other soul-searching survivors of this surreal wasteland who shed

light on the power of making amends. As memories deliver hard-hitting emotional moments, the unlikely pair begin to accept where they may be heading. *Mister Limbo* is an existential exploration on what it means to be a good person in a morally gray world. De Sousa once again delivers an emotionally moving performance doused in tragedy, that teaches us that the hardest person to ask forgiveness from is oneself.



Monday, April 11, 6:45-8:30PM at Regal B
Thursday, April 14, 9:15-11PM at Enzian

Poser

Lennon (Sylvie Mix) is a disconnected loner who starts a podcast to interview musicians and narrate the story of her local music and performance art scene. As she transitions from being an outsider fan to the close friend of the hip front woman of Damn the Witch Siren (Bobbi Kitten playing herself), Lennon's intentions take on more a sinister and obsessive spirit. Set in the real-life underground music scene of Columbus, Ohio, and featuring the actual musicians, *Poser* provides an authentic chronicle of a

burgeoning arts scene while transforming it into the setting for a *Single White Female*-style suspense thriller. The feature debut of music video directors Noah Dixon and Ori Segev, *Poser* wowed audiences at its Tribeca premiere, took home the Grand Jury Prize at the Nashville Film Festival, and is a phenomenal example of the kind of regional filmmaking that is hyper-focused in time, place, and setting, yet is universal in its themes of identity and loneliness.

DIRECTED BY
NOAH DIXON
AND **ORI SEGEV**
USA, 2021, 87 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE



Noah Dixon and **Ori Segev** studied film together at Denison University. After graduating, they started their production company Loose Films based in Columbus, Ohio. Together they've worked on many music videos and short films. *Poser* is their first feature-length film.



Part of
Reel Representation Film Series
presented by Travel + Leisure Co.

DIRECTED BY
KAT MILLS MARTIN
USA, 2022, 72 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Saturday, April 9, 9:45-11PM at Enzian
Wednesday, April 13, 7-8:30PM at Regal B

Wake Up, Leonard



Kat Mills Martin is a critically acclaimed filmmaker with a BFA in drama from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She has directed, written, and produced narrative, music videos, and experimental work. Her work has screened at the LA Asian Pacific Film Festival, Hawaii International Film Festival, DC Asian Pacific American Film Festival, and La Blogothèque.

Leonard (co-writer/producer Nigel DeFriez) is a young gay man with a patchy beard and clip in his hair. It's the eve of his birthday, and he's moving into a new place and getting some advice along the way from his sister, a questionable guru, and his mom, as he prepares for a date with his ex. Part comedy, part self-help nightmare, *Wake Up, Leonard* follows one man's quest for wellness while failing miserably to stay on his vibe. This is the story of a broken-hearted seeker with a

tenuous grasp on his mental health but an admirable faith in the universe. Will Leonard learn how to love not only his higher self, but his lower self too? Inspired by her decade working in the wellness industry, director Kat Mills Martin and DeFriez deliver an incredible, fully improvised film that is both hilariously witty and honestly vulnerable, exploring themes of mental wellness, queer love, and self-acceptance. All begging the question: "It's a wonderful life?"

Documentary Films Jury



Emily Russo is co-founder and co-president of the New York-based distribution company Zeitgeist Films. Russo and her partner Nancy Gerstman have been responsible for the release of over 200 films, including first films by notable directors like Todd Haynes, Christopher Nolan, Francois Ozon, the Quay Brothers; and films by other masters of cinema including Abbas Kiarostami, Atom Egoyan, Agnes Varda, Guy Maddin, Deepa Mehta, and Nuri Bilge Ceylan. Zeitgeist is also renowned for its collection of ground-breaking documentaries including *The Corporation*, *Ballets Russes*, *Manufactured Landscapes*, *Trouble the Water*, *Bill Cunningham New York*, and *Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story*. Zeitgeist's films have won numerous major prizes at film festivals around the world, including the Palme and Camera d'Or in Cannes, Sundance Grand and International Jury prizes, four Academy Award® nominations, and an Academy Award winner (*Nowhere in Africa* for Best Foreign Language Film). In summer 2008, the Museum of Modern Art held a month-long retrospective of Zeitgeist's films to mark their 20th anniversary.



Cameron Swanagon is a passionate cinephile who is dedicated to sharing quality films with a large audience. He has been an Oscilloscope Laboratories loyalist since his days slinging DVDs at a video rental shop in Santa Cruz, California. He has been an Oscilloscope employee since 2014, where he currently serves as the director of non-theatrical & festivals screenings. Throughout his time at Oscilloscope, he has assisted in the marketing, publicity, and distribution of over 80 independent films, ranging from new cult classics like *The Love Witch* and *Poser* (2022 Florida Film Festival official selection) to cinematic gems including Academy Award®-nominated *Embrace of the Serpent*. As a newly minted geriatric millennial, he drinks his coffee black and sustains mainly on burritos.



Jeremy Workman is the director of the documentaries *Lily Topples the World* (Discovery, Florida Film Festival 2021), *The World Before Your Feet* (Greenwich Entertainment / Kino Lorber), *Magical Universe* (IFC Films, Florida Film Festival 2014), and *Who Is Henry Jaglom?* (PBS), among others. Jeremy's documentaries have played at some of the world's most prestigious film festivals and been released in theaters across the globe. *Lily Topples the World*—about acclaimed domino artist Lily Hevesh—won the Jury Grand Prize for Best Documentary at the 2021 SXSW Film Festival and went on to become a high-profile acquisition for Discovery. *The World Before Your Feet* was released in over 75 US cities during 2019 and currently stands at 100% on Rotten Tomatoes. Jeremy is also well-known in the indie film community for his work as the creative director of Wheelhouse Creative, where he has created trailers for countless indie films.

Anonymous Sister

DIRECTED BY
JAMIE BOYLE
USA, 2021, 94 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Jamie Boyle is a two-time Emmy®-winning filmmaker. Her work has played at Sundance, SXSW, DocNYC, LA Film Festival, and many others. She has produced, shot, and edited Emmy-winning and Emmy-nominated films including *Jackson*, “Trans in America,” and *E-Team*. Her most recent films include “Take a Vote” and *Anonymous Sister*.



Saturday, April 9, 2:15-4:15PM at Regal B
Wednesday, April 13, 3:45-5:45PM at Enzian

Anonymous Sister

Growing up, Jordan Boyle was a competitive ice skater, but the pressure to succeed took its toll on her, both emotionally and physically. Like many others, Jordan suffers from a prescription opiate addiction, which we watch unfold through 30 years of intimate home movies. Our guide through the family’s struggles with addiction and distress is Jordan’s younger sister, director Jamie Boyle. Depicting more than just a family

in crisis, *Anonymous Sister* explores the big business interests that proliferated this man-made epidemic and brought it directly to the nation’s doorstep. Sprawling, ambitious, and powerful, Jamie Boyle’s profoundly impactful storytelling stuns the audience with jaw-dropping twist after jaw-dropping twist in this cautionary tale about how the nation’s opioid usage blossomed over the last two decades.

Shopping for the Dead

DIRECTED BY
GERRY CURTIS
USA, 2022, 12 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND MANDARIN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
WORLD PREMIERE



Gerry Curtis is a director, cinematographer, and founder of Forest Lake Films. His fascination with Singapore began when producing a video series about the Singaporean education system for the NYC Department of Education. “Shopping for the Dead” is part of a documentary series about ancient religious practices in modern Singapore.

Preceded by
Shopping for the Dead

As modern Singaporeans abandon the ancient Chinese ritual practice of burning joss paper for the veneration of dead loved ones, two joss paper shops struggle to carry on the family business.





Sunday, April 10, 5-7PM at Enzian
Thursday, April 14, 6:30-8:30PM at Regal B

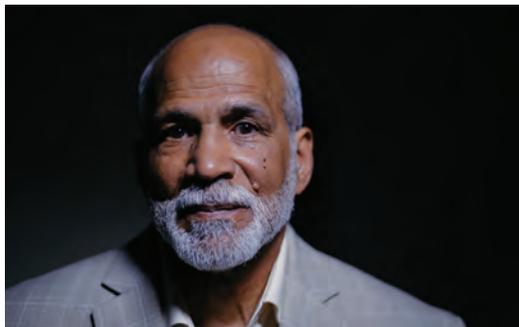
Being Michelle

Michelle Ricks is a survivor in every sense of the word. She reveals tremendous inner strength and resilience while relating her emotional story as a deaf and disabled woman, repeatedly traumatized by Florida's law enforcement and legal institutions. In the system since childhood, Michelle isn't offered protection by any of the people or institutions whose job it is to safeguard vulnerable people like her, and in fact, she is repeatedly denied accommodation as a deaf person with autism. Michelle's trajectory

changes promisingly when she meets Kim Law, a blind volunteer life coach who teaches classes to people in prison. Today, outside of prison, Michelle lives with Kim, and together they are beginning the process of healing Michelle's past using artwork as a means of expression and communication. Ultimately, *Being Michelle* is an astounding and hopeful story of redemption—revealing the bonds between two women committed to thriving despite a broken system.

Preceded by
The Interview

Incarcerated people serving life sentences in New York reveal their complex emotions around being up for parole in a state where they are usually denied.



Being Michelle

DIRECTED BY
ATIN MEHRA
USA, 2022, 80 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND ASL WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Born and raised in Varanasi, India, **Atin Mehra** picked up his first camera in 1999 and began taking photographs. Atin's uncanny ability to connect with individuals from behind the lens led him into filmmaking. His own struggles with abuse and discrimination drew him to stories of underrepresented individuals and communities.

The Interview

DIRECTED BY
JONATHAN MILLER
AND ZACHARY RUSSO
USA, 2021, 21 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Zach Russo is the creative director of Osmosis Films. Previously, he produced documentary features for HBO and A&E, as well as concert films and music videos. **Jon Miller** is a director and editor of non-fiction content, including series for Netflix, Showtime, Discovery, and A&E. commercial, and narrative spaces.

Broken Wings

DIRECTED BY
JONATHAN SUTAK
USA, 2021, 56 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Jonathan Sutak is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and editor based in Los Angeles. His debut feature documentary *Dons of Disco* screened at 20 international film festivals and was distributed worldwide by The Nacelle Company in 2021.

Dad Jokes

DIRECTED BY
MO WELCH AND DANIEL HARTIGAN
USA, 2022, 36 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Mo Welch is a stand-up comedian and cartoonist originally from Normal, Illinois. Her comics have been published in *The New Yorker*, *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, *Vice*, and more. **Daniel Hartigan** is a writer and director originally from Riverside, CA. He's written for MTV, the NFL, Nike, TBS, JFL, Nickelodeon, and more.



Sunday, April 10, 6:15-8PM at Regal A
Wednesday, April 13, 1-2:45PM at Enzian

Broken Wings

Adonis, an injured black vulture with a broken wing, is a local hero in Hot Springs, Arkansas. His survival depends on Jayne Lakhani, a waitress and artist who develops a special bond with Adonis. If you have never seen a vulture excited to see someone, it's surprisingly joyful and moving to witness. Years ago, Jayne's life was derailed when she was also seriously injured in an accident. She has a fondness for caring for people and animals who may be seen as "broken." She takes in Ann, an 80-year-old, formerly homeless Brit, who is quite

the character and presents another challenge for Jayne. However, Jayne's kindness, empathy, and charm rarely fades, even when she recounts her own traumatic past and her emotions around her LGBTQ identity. Jonathan Sutak, who last directed *Dons of Disco* (FFF 2019), returns to the festival with a very different kind of film. *Broken Wings* is a quirky yet intimate story about finding love, friendship, and community in the most unlikely of places.

Preceded by
Dad Jokes

Comedian Mo Welch has daddy issues. She sets out to meet her estranged father while purging all her dad jokes along the way.





Sunday, April 10, 2-4PM at Regal B
Thursday, April 14, 4-6PM at Regal B

Exposure

Eleven women from the Arab and Western worlds, with no prior adventure experience, accept an invitation to join together to ski to the North Pole. The Euro-Arabian North Pole Expedition is led by explorer Felicity Aston, who recruited the women on Facebook by announcing, “No experience necessary, but passion, enthusiasm, and willingness to work hard are essential.” Filmmaker Holly Morris (*The Babushkas of Chernobyl*, FFF 2016 Audience Award winner) and her all-women

crew document this daring and unprecedented group over three years. As the women embark on their journey, they navigate everything from frostbite and polar bear threats to sexism and self-doubt. The film’s breathtaking cinematography captures an exciting yet intimate story of resilience, survival, and global citizenry. With the climate crisis and political conflicts becoming more dangerous, the women may be on the last ever over-ice expedition to the North Pole.

Preceded by The Panola Project

Dorothy Oliver is a determined woman on a mission to keep residents in her rural African-American town in Alabama safe from COVID-19, in this new film from the co-director of *For Ahkeem* (FFF 2017)



Exposure

DIRECTED BY
HOLLY MORRIS
 USA, 2021, 88 MIN
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Holly Morris is an internationally known filmmaker, author, and presenter (*Adventure Divas*, *Globe Trekker*, *Treks in a Wild World*). Her last feature film, *The Babushkas of Chernobyl* (“Beautiful, affectionate and stirring”– NYT), premiered at the Los Angeles Film Festival, where it won the Jury Award for Directing.

The Panola Project

DIRECTED BY
RACHAEL DECRUZ
AND JEREMY S. LEVINE
 USA, 2021, 17 MIN
 FLORIDA PREMIERE



Rachael DeCruz, is the associate director of advocacy at the BU Center for Antiracist Research, founded by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi. She is working on *Nine*, her feature directorial debut. **Jeremy S. Levine** is an Emmy® award-winning filmmaker, co-founder of the Brooklyn Filmmakers Collective, and an assistant professor at Suffolk University.

imperfect

DIRECTED BY
BRIAN MALONE
AND **REGAN LINTON**
USA, 2021, 87 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Brian Malone is a storyteller specializing in documentary films and music. His films capture the intimate human perspective of society's most pressing contemporary issues. **Regan Linton** is an actor, director, writer, and theatre artist from Denver who lives with paraplegia. Regan is nationally recognized for inclusive practices in the arts.

Bacon 'N' Laces

DIRECTED BY
STEPHEN MICHAEL SIMON
USA, 2022, 19 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Stephen Michael Simon is an award-winning director, cinematographer, and editor based in Brooklyn, New York. He is currently editing a feature documentary on a member of Wu-Tang Clan as well as an on-air series on the origins of hip hop, featuring Ice T, Eve, and Ja Rule.



Saturday, April 9, 6:30-8:30PM at Regal A
Friday, April 15, 1:30-3:30PM at Enzian

imperfect

imperfect introduces a Denver theatre company for disabled actors as they mount a production of the legendary musical *Chicago*. In the opening scene, we're introduced to the company's director and the film's co-director, Regan Linton, starting her day in her wheelchair. Following the production from casting through opening night, we meet actors with disabilities ranging from spinal cord injury to Parkinson's Disease, cerebral palsy to autism, who tailor their performances to their individual strengths and uniqueness as disabled

artists. Capturing the raw, honest stories of these actors both inside the production and outside the theatre in their everyday lives, *imperfect* reveals a rare behind-the-scenes look at talented artists who push to succeed as professional performers, no matter the obstacles. Showcasing the joy, humor, and talent of all involved, this award-winning documentary focuses on the importance of the disability community telling their own story and highlighting people who have historically been denied their place in the spotlight.

Preceded by
Bacon 'N' Laces

John runs the family diner with his three sons. A charismatic and caring single father, he's also blind.





Saturday, April 9, 4-5:45PM at Enzian
Tuesday, April 12, 6-7:45PM at Regal B

Jack Has a Plan

Jack has a plan. And in the final hours of that plan, Jack will have a party with his friends, spend some time telling his wife how much he loves her, and finally, he will take a cocktail of medication custom-designed to end his life peacefully and painlessly. For the last 25 years, Jack has been given “six months to live” due to a malignant brain tumor. How then is it possible for someone to be terminally ill for two-and-a-half decades? This predicament propels Jack on a quest to reconcile with his mother, find his

biological father, and prepare for a dignified exit strategy. Despite its emotional subject, *Jack Has a Plan* is something of a revelation. The film is both intimate and moving, as the filmmaker and the subject weigh the implications and questions that arise from seeing this “project” to its natural conclusion, and provide a compassionate, entertaining, and surprisingly uplifting universal story that invites an audience along to reflect on the most serious topic of life—death.

Preceded by
Telos or Bust

Reverberating with mystic energy, Mount Shasta is haven to quite an odd collection of characters... and possibly the invisible city of Telos.



Jack Has a Plan

DIRECTED BY
BRADLEY BERMAN
 USA, 2022, 75 MIN
 WORLD PREMIERE



Bradley Berman received a Master of Fine Arts in film from New York University. Berman writes about transportation for *The New York Times* and other major media. In 2017, he directed *Nat Bates for Mayor*, which screened at film festivals across the U.S. and aired on public television's *Truly CA*.

Telos or Bust

DIRECTED BY
BRAD ABRAHAMS
 USA, 2021, 15 MIN
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Brad Abrahams is a documentary filmmaker from Canada, currently in Austin. His all-consuming interests in weird science, marginalized subcultures, and general esoterica inspire his stories. Brad's first feature, *Love and Saucers*, has become a cult favorite. Although he has not yet had a supernatural experience, he is ready and willing.

Love, Charlie: The Rise and Fall of Chef Charlie Trotter

DIRECTED BY
REBECCA HALPERN
USA, 2021, 96 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE/2ND US
SCREENING



From true crime and social justice docu-series that affect real world change to epic feature documentaries rooted in history and the arts, **Rebecca Halpern's** work evokes emotion and enlightens audiences. *Love, Charlie* marks Rebecca's directorial debut. Rebecca served as co-executive producer of *Helter Skelter*, a documentary series about Charles Manson.

Deerwoods Deathtrap

DIRECTED BY
JAMES P. GANNON
USA, 2022, 9 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



James P. Gannon has directed ten short films that have won awards at multiple film festivals including SXSW, Florida Film Festival, and Maryland Film Festival. His latest film, "Deerwoods Deathtrap," premiered at Sundance 2022. He often works with super 8mm film.



Sunday, April 10, 11AM-1PM at Regal A
Friday, April 15, 4:30-6:30PM at Enzian

Love, Charlie: The Rise and Fall of Chef Charlie Trotter

"My philosophy has always been, if it weren't for employees and it weren't for customers, the restaurant business would be the greatest business in the world... Basically, I hate people." So begins this captivating tale of Chicago restaurateur and foodie godhead Charlie Trotter. Those opening frames are a winking self-admission of every nasty story ever told about the guy. Trotter was such a prototypical psycho-chef that when producers of the Julia Roberts film *My Best Friend's Wedding* needed a crazed chef cameo, they cast Trotter to do what came naturally. "I'm gonna kill your whole family if you don't get this right," Trotter bellowed to a kitchen assistant. "I need this perfect!" Director Rebecca Halpern does not pull any punches

in the unvarnished profile of a gastronomic revolutionary and a culinary bad-boy who pursued perfection at all costs. Trotter was more than just a kitchen scold, and his namesake restaurant literally built the model for a quality-obsessed, Michelin-star-driven food movement that endures to this day. Halpern got access to everything from Trotter family home movies to chaotic behind the scenes restaurant footage, all of which frame modern interviews with those who loved, loathed, or sued Trotter. Whether you're vaguely familiar or utterly unaware of Trotter's legacy, *Love, Charlie* stands as a fascinating and definitive look at the man's life and times.

Preceded by
Deerwoods Deathtrap

In 1971, Jack and Betty were nearly killed in a horrible car accident. Almost 50 years later, the couple returns to the scene and discover they don't agree on a single damn thing. A new work from the director of "Betty Feeds the Animals," FFF 2019.





Monday, April 11, 6-8PM at Enzian
Thursday, April 14, 9-11PM at Regal B

Once Upon a Time in Uganda

In 2017, the Florida Film Festival was only the second venue in the United States to host a screening of *Bad Black*, a \$200 film shot in “Wakaliwood,” a self-proclaimed “Supa Action” movie studio on the outskirts of Uganda’s capital city of Kampala. At the heart of this venture are two men: Isaac Nabwana and Alan Hofmanis. Winner of the Grand Jury Award at DocNYC, *Once Upon a Time in Uganda* follows Hofmanis as he leaves the comfort of New York City for the chance to work with Nabwana. Alan’s knowledge of international film booking, matched with Isaac’s budding international stardom, cause

tensions to fester among the once close-knit crew. This film is more than a Ugandan *Heart of Darkness* or just another behind-the-scenes documentary. The over-the-top, irreverent, kung-fu action movies that emerge from Wakaliwood form a thoroughly modern version of the old “puttin’ on a show” story. Many films politely ask for your attention, but Wakaliwood movies—with their homemade weapons, car chases, explosions, and infectious voice-over narration—simply refuse to be ignored. Do not miss out what we promise will be the “Da Best” film you will be talking about with your friends for years to come.

Preceded by
Dress a Cow

Dress a cow in what, you ask? Blond wig? Check. Crown? Check. Full-body Tweety Bird costume? Definitely. Anything that might impress the judges at the yearly Mahoning County, Ohio, cow beauty contest is fair game in this hilarious gem from one half of the team that brought us *Greener Grass* (FFF 2019).



Once Upon a Time in Uganda

DIRECTED BY
CATHRYNE CZUBEK
AND HUGO PEREZ
 USA/UGANDA, 2021, 94 MIN
 IN ENGLISH AND LUGANDA
 WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Cathryne Czubek is a NY-based director and producer. *Screw You Cancer*, her award-winning doc series for Condé Nast, was the first digital series to receive a prestigious Television Academy honor. Czubek directed the feature documentary *A Girl and a Gun* that premiered at the 2012 DocNYC film festival. Writer/filmmaker **Hugo Perez**'s work often focuses on his Cuban heritage. As producer and or director, Perez's work includes *Neither Memory nor Magic*, *Summer Sun Winter Moon*, *Purgatorio*, *Adama*, and *Seed*. He received the Estela Award for Documentary Filmmaking as well as the Rockefeller Foundation/Tribeca Film Institute Emerging Artist Fellowship.

Dress a Cow

DIRECTED BY
DAWN LUEBBE
 USA, 2022, 10 MIN
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Dawn Luebbe is an Independent Spirit Award-nominated writer and director based in Los Angeles. She is best known for her debut feature *Greener Grass*, which she co-wrote and co-directed with Jocelyn DeBoer. *Variety* deemed the film, “The most pleasant surprise of this year’s Sundance.”

Sirens

DIRECTED BY
RITA BAGHDADI
USA/LEBANON, 2022, 78 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Rita Baghdadi is an award-winning, Moroccan-American documentary filmmaker. Her bold, character-driven work—including *My Country No More* and *City Rising*—has been supported by Sundance, Tribeca, Netflix, HBO, Film Independent, and the International Documentary Association. Rita is the co-founder of Lady & Bird Films, a member of Brown Girls Doc Mafia, and is dedicated to empowering women and girls of color through documentary film training.

Stranger than Rotterdam with Sara Driver

DIRECTED BY
LEWIE KLOSTER AND NOAH KLOSTER
USA, 2021, 9 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Living and working out of Brooklyn, Lewie and Noah Kloster are an animation duo retreating to how animation felt before the digital age claimed king over the medium. Cardboard, construction paper, cotton balls, and magic markers fill their studio to its brim.



Saturday, April 9, 9:30-11:15PM at Regal B
Wednesday, April 13, 9:30-11:15PM at Enzian

Sirens

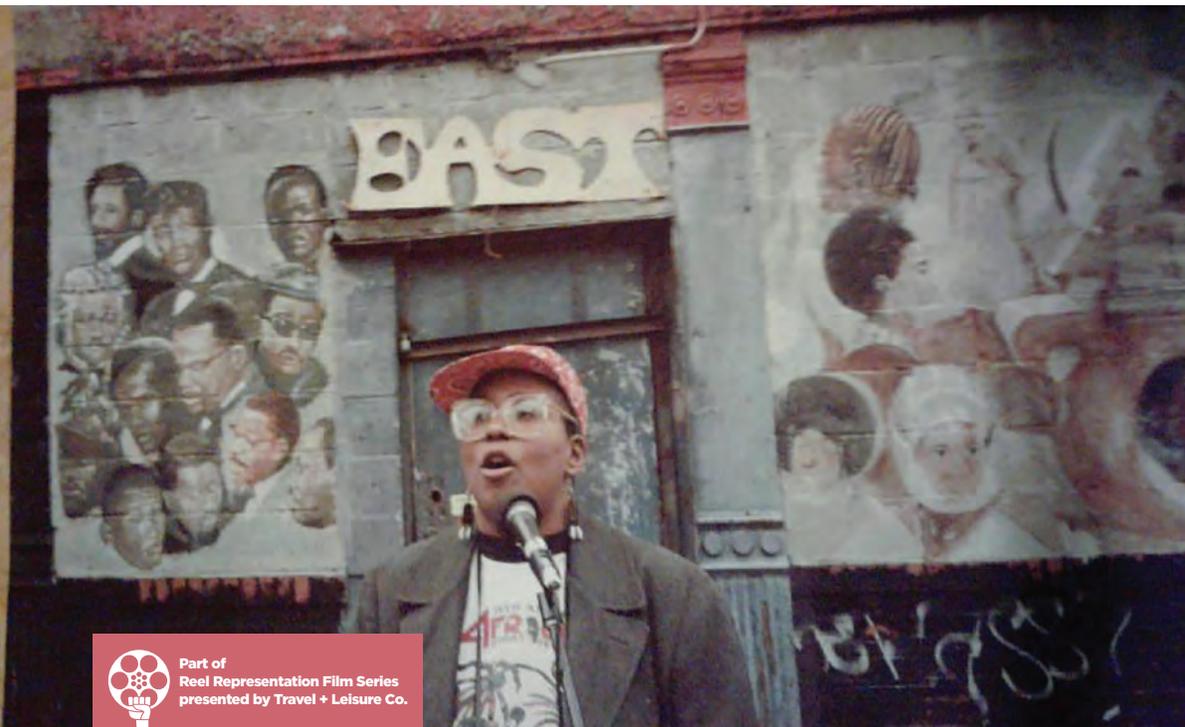
In every band's lifetime there comes a critical moment when the big question is "can we keep this going?" *Slave to Sirens* is at that moment. Based in Beirut, Lebanon, the Middle East's first all-female thrash metal band must deal with civil unrest, a failing electrical grid, economic instability, and—the most dangerous menace of all—the crumbling relationship between their guitarists, Lilas and Shery. Defying family expectations of early marriages and gender norms, the pair discovered heavy metal, formed the Sirens, and explored a romance before backing away. Now they wrestle with an uncomfortable *detente*, united

mostly by gigantic riffs and the age-old hope that music will be a road to somewhere else. Can they keep this going? Director Rita Baghdadi, who shot the footage herself for several years, captures something much deeper than a behind-the-music band doc. This is a coming-of-age story for people who understand they might not be alive tomorrow. Just as Beirut itself must find a way to survive amidst endless street protests and explosions, Lilas and Shery must wrestle with friendship, sexuality, and destructive tendencies if they're to succeed in their pursuit of becoming rock stars together.

Preceded by
Stranger than Rotterdam with Sara Driver

Little known fact: the completion of Jim Jarmusch's film *Stranger than Paradise* depended on producer Sara Driver smuggling one of the world's weirdest and most controversial films across the Atlantic Ocean. A legend is finally revealed in this new creation from multi-FFF alumni the Kloster Bros. ("Shots in the Dark with David Godlis," FFF 2021.)





Part of
Reel Representation Film Series
presented by Travel + Leisure Co.

Saturday, April 9, 10:30AM-12:15PM at Enzian
Tuesday, April 12, 8:15-10:00PM at Regal B

The Sun Rises in The East

What if the Harlem Cultural Festival featured in Questlove’s *Summer of Soul* continued for over a decade, eventually giving rise to dozens of pan-African institutions? The answer to that question is found in the inspiring and never-before-told true story of The East, a pan-African cultural organization founded in 1969 in Brooklyn. Led by the charismatic Jitu Weusi along with a cadre of dedicated volunteers, The East embodied Black self-determination. When New York City public schools (still the most segregated in the U.S.) wouldn’t provide opportunities for Black teachers or quality education for Black children,

The East founded an African-centered school that would positively impact the lives of all involved. World-famous jazz musicians and poets performed at its highly sought-after performance venue. The astonishing depth and reach of The East continued until 1986, when gender politics, financial struggles, and government surveillance led to its dissolution. Inspired by civil rights and Black power activists, The East serves as an empowering example for today’s racial justice movement, making this enlightening work both a fascinating piece of NYC history and Black history in America.

Preceded by
Échale Ganas:
The Villa’s Tacos Story

“Échale Ganas” means never giving up. Will Victor Villa’s family pop-up Villa’s Tacos become a top contender in Los Angeles’ highly competitive taco world?



The Sun Rises in The East

DIRECTED BY
TAYO GIWA
USA, 2022, 58 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE



Tayo Giwa is a filmmaker and co-creator of Black-Owned Brooklyn, a publication and Instagram account documenting local Black business, history, and culture. His first film, the 2020 documentary short “Soul Summit: Doin’ It in the Park,” examined a beloved house music party in Fort Greene Park. He lives in Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Échale Ganas: The Villa’s Tacos Story

DIRECTED BY
SHIRLEY YUMENG HE
USA, 2022, 29 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE



Shirley Yumeng He is a visual ethnographer and documentary filmmaker based in Los Angeles, California. She is an AMPAS alumna and a BAFTA member. Shirley’s background in ethnographic practices informs her storytelling, which recognizes the interwoven relationship between individual narratives and the cultural and social ambiance one participates in.

4X Real

Total Running Time: 100 MIN

Tuesday, April 12, 4-6PM at Regal A
Saturday, April 16, Noon-2PM at Regal B

Commitment is tough for most people. Can anyone stay focused on any single thing? In contrast, this program is all about commitment. It captures four people who've spent years, decades, and a lifetime utterly committed to goals the rest of us likely didn't know existed.



Neurodivergent

DIRECTED BY
AFTON QUAST SALER
 USA, 2021, 26 MIN
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

“My mind feels like somebody emptied the junk drawer onto a trampoline.” When a 35-year-old film student is diagnosed with ADHD, she turns the camera on herself and questions a lifetime of misdiagnosis, mental haze, and those damn gardeners outside. A serious topic handled with surprising charm and humor on the road to self-acceptance.



Afton Quast Saler began her professional storytelling career as an actor and singer, touring in Europe and working in regional theaters across the country. She is a recent alumna of USC School of Cinematic Arts, where she created her DGA Student Film Award-winning documentary “Neurodivergent,” detailing the underdiagnosis of women with ADHD.



Time & Temperature

DIRECTED BY
JUSTIN IAN FOREMAN
 USA, 2022, 21 MIN
 EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

Born into a family with 700 uninterrupted years in the tradition of Venetian glass blowing, Gianni Toso spent a lifetime creating beautiful works of art (including some commissioned by surrealist Salvador Dali). He’s also an Orthodox Jew, a homespun philosopher, and a teacher for glass blowing’s next generation, dedicated to furthering his medium as an art form instead of an industry.



Justin Ian Foreman is a filmmaker based in Baltimore, Maryland. Interning for Ken Burns, NPR, and Maryland Public Television as a student reinforced his passion for documentary film. He later earned his MFA in filmmaking at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), where he adjunct teaches production courses.



Seasons

DIRECTED BY
GABRIELLA CANAL
AND MICHAEL FEARON
 USA, 2022, 24 MIN
 IN ENGLISH AND KOREAN
 WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
 NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE



An indomitable Korean woman, classically trained in dance and voice, builds a successful farming empire in New Jersey. Eager to maintain the family legacy, she prods her once estranged daughter to see the beauty of working the land and to embrace a future in the fields. A new film from the co-director of “No Man’s Land,” FFF 2021 Audience Award for Best Short Film.



Gabriella Canal's independent work as a director and DP has been featured by The Video Consortium, New York Women in Film and Television, and the National Association of Latino Independent Producers. Her documentary short “No Man’s Land” received the Audience Award for Best Short Film at Florida Film Festival. **Michael Fearon's** documentary work explores the dynamic relationship between people and the natural world. He currently works at Blue Chalk Media, where he is producing and directing episodes of *The Cabin Chronicles*.



How Do You Measure a Year?

DIRECTED BY
JAY ROSENBLATT
 USA, 2021, 29 MIN
 SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Oscar®-nominated filmmaker Jay Rosenblatt (“When We Were Bullies,” FFF 2021 Grand Jury Award for Best Doc Short) has a daughter named Ella. When Ella turned two, Jay started a birthday ritual: he would place her on a couch and ask her a set list of questions. This went on until Ella turned 18, captured here in a quasi-stop motion evolution of a toddler transforming into young woman before our eyes.



Jay Rosenblatt is an internationally recognized artist who has been working as an independent filmmaker since 1980 and has completed over 30 films. His work explores our emotional and psychological cores. They are personal in their content yet universal in their appeal.

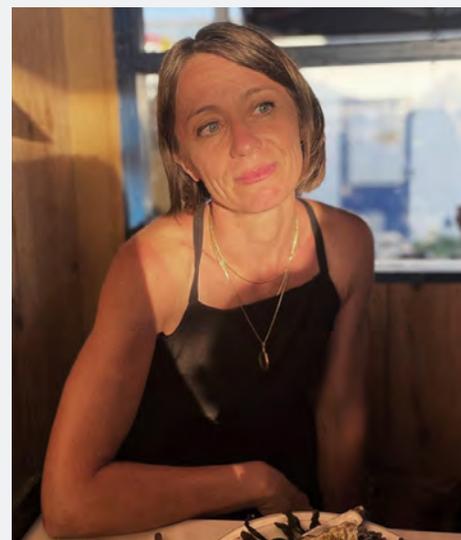
Short Films Jury



Matthew Bonifacio is an award-winning director/writer/producer and Film Independent Spirit Award nominee from Brooklyn, New York. His work includes numerous short films, commercials, music videos, and the feature films *Lbs.* (Sundance Film Festival), *Amexicano* (Tribeca Film Festival), and *The Quitter* (PBS, Hulu). All three feature films were theatrically released and critically acclaimed by The New York Times and others. His short film “Master Maggie” (Apple TV), starring Lorraine Bracco, Kenan Thompson, and Brian Dennehy, screened at over 20 film festivals and was Oscar®-qualified for the 92nd Academy Awards. Matthew wrote the MyCareer story mode for the NBA 2K 21 video game, which starred Michael K. Williams, Jesse Williams, Djimon Hounsou, and Britt Lower. Matthew is a four-time Florida Film Festival alum.



Kim Kalyka is a 20-year veteran of the independent film industry, who began her career at Miramax marketing such titles as *Bridget Jones’ Diary* and *Amelie*. In 2002, she joined IFC Films, working on such films as *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *Boyhood*, *The Trip*, *Blue Is the Warmest Color*, *Pina*, and *Cave of Forgotten Dreams*. Currently an executive at NEON, she’s part of the team that released such notable titles as the Oscar-nominated *I, Tonya*, *Spencer*, *Flee*, *Worst Person in the World*, *Honeyland*, and multi-Academy Award®-winning *Parasite*.



Clemence Tallandier is the director of theatrical sales at Kino Lorber, a leading independent art-house distributor for 35 years. Prior to Kino, she worked for nearly two decades in art-house film distribution and audience development expertise for boutique distributors such as Zeitgeist Films, Film Movement, Music Box Films, Good Deed Entertainment, and others. In March 2020, when theaters were being shuttered due to the pandemic, she was among the first distributors to implement, develop, and manage virtual cinema releases to help theaters stay connected to their audiences. Over the years, she has enjoyed working hand-in-hand with emerging and acclaimed talents, creating distribution opportunities for filmmakers working outside of the mainstream. It has always been her passion to provide audiences with thought-provoking and alternative voices in films and to make sure that they experience cinema *in* a cinema.

Shorts Program 1: **Keep on Moving**

Total Running Time: 93 MIN

Saturday, April 9
1:30-3:30PM at Regal A

Tuesday, April 12
6:30-8:30PM at Regal A

Sometimes persistence can pay off in small or large ways, whether it means wading through the long months of quarantine, a test of patience at game night with your partner's family, or tracking down your significant other in the Russian wilderness. Lord knows, we gotta keep on moving!



The Longest Day of the Year

DIRECTED BY **LAUREN HOOVER**
USA, 2021, 10 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

A comedic look at the lives of three roommates as they endure quarantine, in this directorial debut from the co-producer of "Alone Again (Naturally)" (FFF 2021).



The Syed Family **Xmas Eve Game Night**

DIRECTED BY **FAWZIA MIRZA**
USA/CANADA, 2021, 11 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

From the writer/director/star of "I Know Her" (FFF 2020), a queer Pakistani Muslim woman brings her Puerto Rican partner home for the first time on the family's annual game night.



Champ

DIRECTED BY **HANNAH PETERSON**
USA, 2022, 8 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

From the director of "East of the River" (FFF 2019), a teen reveals a dark secret to her teammates, and together they find a fitting way to cope.



The Downpour

DIRECTED BY **JADE COURTNEY EDWARDS**
USA, 2021, 11 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

When their car breaks down in rural America, a Muslim couple comes face-to-face with a farm's owner.



Dear Mama...

DIRECTED BY **WINTER DUNN**
USA, 2022, 14 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Set in 1996, an artistic teen and her father learn of Tupac's death and grapple with the emotional aftermath of their own tragedy.



Roommates

DIRECTED BY **ASHLEY EAKIN**
USA, 2022, 10 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

From the director of "Single" (FFF 2021), two disabled college students get placed together as dorm roommates and embark on a quest to party.

Shorts Program 1 Directors



Lauren Hoover's background in journalism and on-set experience as a producer, actress, and PA, all helped push her toward screenwriting and directing. She is currently working on re-writes on her first feature film. **"The Longest Day of the Year"** marks her debut as a writer and director.



Jade Courtney Edwards ("The Downpour") is an English-Irish writer/director, and her work reflects an acute interest in moral ambiguity, social injustice, underdogs, outsiders, and female-driven narratives. She graduated from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts with a BFA in film

production with a minor in entertainment business from Stern School of Business. A current scholarship recipient of Columbia University's MFA program in screenwriting and directing, she has been selected as a BAFTA 2020 Newcomer.



Fawzia Mirza ("The Syed Family Xmas Eve Game Night") (she/they) co-wrote/produced/starred in *Signature Move*, wrote on CBS series *The Red Line* (produced by Greg Berlanti and Ava Duvernay), and wrote and directed on the award-

winning TikTok series *Hidden Canyons*. Mirza is a White House Champion of Change in Asian American Art & Storytelling and a Tribeca Film Institute All-Access alum.



Winter Dunn ("Dear Mama...") is an award-winning director and producer. Her directorial debut, "Junebug," has screened at festivals including HollyShorts and the American Black Film Festival. She produced the feature film *Jezebel*

which premiered at SXSW 2019 and is streaming on Netflix. She's the recipient of the 2021 Amazon Studios Fellowship grant.



Hannah Peterson ("Champ") is an LA-based writer and director. She holds an MFA in film directing from California Institute of the Arts. Hannah was recognized by *Filmmaker Magazine* as one of "25 New Faces of Independent Film" in

2018.



Ashley Eakin ("Roommates") is a writer/director and has directed projects for Netflix, Apple, and Disney+. She is currently developing a half-hour TV show with 20th Century for FX, based on her short "Single."



William Pisciotta ("Skim") grew up in Naples, Florida. He then attended Full Sail University where he majored in film. In the past six years of his filmmaking career, he has produced such features as *Thunder Road* (SXSW) and *Beast Beast* (Sundance).



Trish Harnetiaux ("A Significant Problem") is a writer and director. Her 2021 short, "You Wouldn't Understand," was presented at Sundance, FFF, and more. Her podcast *The MS Phoenix Rising* is on Playwrights Horizons Soundstage.

Her plays have been developed with Clubbed Thumb, Soho Rep, Ars Nova, and New Georges. More at trishharnetiaux.com



Skim

DIRECTED BY **WILLIAM PISCIOTTA**
USA, 2022, 18 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Set in South Florida, a young woman in the pool cleaning industry, desperate to alter her lot in life, soon finds there is no easy way out.



A Significant Problem

DIRECTED BY **TRISH HARNETIAUX**
USA, 2022, 11 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

The director of "You Wouldn't Understand" (FFF 2021) returns with this hilarious tale of a Special Ops marine with marital problems, who is investigating a Russian safehouse and is blindsided when her husband arrives—fresh off a flight from Newark.

Shorts Program 2: **Come See About Me**

Total Running Time: 96 MIN

Saturday, April 9
4-6PM at Regal A

Wednesday, April 13
8:30-10:30PM at Regal A

These shorts all have characters searching for something, and their smiles have turned into tears. Whether this means performing comedy while processing recent trauma, seeking validation from a roommate, or asking for help from the only other person on the subway platform, sometimes outcomes don't turn out the way we hope.



Hysterical

DIRECTED BY **APRIL MOREAU**
USA, 2022, 15 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

In the days following a traumatic event, a stand-up comedian fails to find solace in comedy.



The Dogfriend

DIRECTED BY **FREDGY NOËL**
USA, 2021, 13 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A lonely young woman in New York City makes a wish for "man's best friend" to become her male companion. *wink*



Girls & The Party

DIRECTED BY **PALOMA LÓPEZ**
USA, 2021, 5 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

Between boy talk and makeup, a young woman navigates her blossoming attraction for her friend.



Hold Up

DIRECTED BY **ALEX ROLLINS BERG**
USA, 2022, 15 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

When a homeless man approaches him on the subway platform, Graham's night takes an unexpected turn.



Hide and Seek (Las Escondidas)

DIRECTED BY **RAGINI BHASIN**
USA, 2021, 11 MIN
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
EAST COAST PREMIERE

When a mechanic instructs his young daughter to tend to a little boy, jealousy dictates her actions. From the director of "Ghazaal" (FFF 2020).



In the Water

DIRECTED BY **DREW HIGHLANDS**
USA, 2022, 10 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

While hooking up at a party, two high schoolers unearth a dark secret leading to an unexpected catharsis.

Shorts Program 2 Directors



April Moreau was born and raised in Cape Coral, Florida, and is an alum of the University of Michigan. She currently resides in Los Angeles, where she works as a writer/director. Her latest project, **"Hysterical,"**

was made with the support of the American Film Institute's Directing Workshop for Women.



Alex Rollins Berg ("Hold Up")

is an award-winning writer and director, specializing in visceral, character-driven thrillers and dramas. Alex received the Blacklist and Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Fellowship for social

commentary. The son of two journalists, Alex is drawn to contemporary stories based on true events. He is based in NYC.



Paloma López ("Girls & the Party"),

originally from Caracas and based between Los Angeles and Paris, is pursuing film directing training at UCLA TFT and is a recipient of the Ignite Fellowship for Emerging Filmmakers from the Sundance

Institute. López's next short is on immigration and frogs.



Drew Highlands is a film and stage director, writer, actor, and producer. He regularly collaborates with SXSW award-winning filmmaker Wes Hurley, co-created and produced three seasons of *The Last Video Store on Earth*, wrote and directed

the short film **"In the Water,"** and recently produced the feature film *Cat*. @drew_highlands



The Event

DIRECTED BY **FRANK MOSLEY**
AND **HUGO DE SOUZA**
USA, 2022, 11 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

Directors Frank Mosely and Hugo de Souza (star of this year's feature film *Mister Limbo*) are Vince and Jack, two roommates who have a very heated conversation at far too late an hour.



Fredgy Noël ("The Dogfriend") is an

award-winning director/screenwriter based in Manhattan. Noël's films are quirky, inclusive, female-driven stories that balance narrative and documentary. Her latest short film, "Cotton Candy," premiered at the

2020 Woods Hole Film Festival. Noël is repped by Society for commercial work and is a featured Free the Work director.



Frank Mosley

("The Event") is an

alumnus of the 2015 Berlinale Talents, 2017 NYFF Artist Academy, and Auteur Workshop with Abbas

Kiarostami. Kinoscope and Spectacle Theater (NYC) have held retrospectives of his work. A graduate of HB Studio (NYC), **Hugo De Sousa** has won praise for his work in *Everything in the End* and *Mister Limbo*.



Ragini Bhasin ("Hide and Seek (Las

Escondidas)") is an Indian filmmaker and a graduate of Chapman University. She has made award-winning films like "Ghazaal" and "Las Escondidas," which have played festivals worldwide. She is also the

recipient of the BAFTA LA Newcomers program. She directs series for Jubilee Media, sponsored by Netflix and Google, among others.



A creative from The Bronx, **Aristotle**

Torres ("Silent Partner") has built a career as a visual artist directing culture-shifting music videos, experimenting with photography, and telling award-winning stories. He was a Sundance Institute 2019

Feature Film fellow, developing his debut feature, *Story Ave*, which begins production in 2022 with Jamie Foxx producing.



Silent Partner

DIRECTED BY **ARISTOTLE TORRES**
USA, 2021, 16 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

An accomplished Black trial attorney successfully defends a white woman charged with murder. Then he and his wife attend a dinner party, which brings promise of promotion to partner.

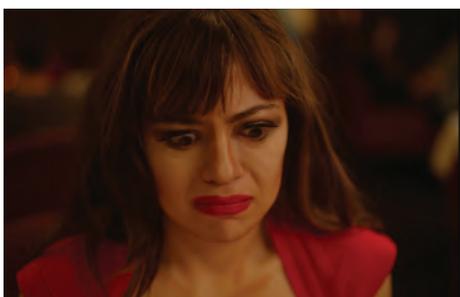
Shorts Program 3: **You Just May Be the One**

Total Running Time: 96 MIN

Sunday, April 10
1:30-3:30PM at Regal A

Thursday, April 14
4:30-6:30PM at Regal A

We all need someone in our lives — someone to love us, someone to help us through confusing journeys, sometimes someone just to turn the music down. The people at the centers of these stories search among strangers and intimates alike, hoping the one they find may be the one.



Training Wheels

DIRECTED BY **ALISON RICH**
USA, 2022, 15 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

In this hilarious and touching tale written and directed by and starring Alison Rich (“The Other Morgan,” FFF 2021), a successful but socially awkward woman hires an escort to teach her the ins and outs of dating—but just the PG stuff.



Valentine

DIRECTED BY **BECK KITSIS**
AND **CHRIS MCNABB**
USA, 2022, 10 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Co-directors Kitsis (“The Three Men You Meet at Night,” FFF 2020) and McNabb explore the unexpected complications that arise, with gender and identity in flux, as Corey and Mia struggle to redefine their relationship.



Mammalian Diving Reflex

DIRECTED BY **CAROLINE CONRAD**
USA, 2021, 10 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

At a party thrown by a once-close friend, a young woman learns a chilling fact about her own abusive ex, but she is more distressed by her friend’s nonchalance over the matter.



Maddie

DIRECTED BY **ZANE RUBIN**
USA, 2022, 12 MIN
WORLD PREMIERE

Drunk on the attentions of an older boy, a teenage girl accepts an invitation back to his house to listen to records, but she soon finds that he wants to enjoy more than just the music.



A Balcony in Brooklyn

DIRECTED BY **DENNIS WILLIAMS II**
AND **GLADIMIR GELIN**
USA, 2021, 9 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

At the height of lockdown in New York City, a man awakens to find the apartment that he’s just moved into is bursting at the seams with revelers enjoying an illicit house party.



Lux Noctis

DIRECTED BY **DAMIANA ACUÑA**
USA, 2022, 12 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

In an isolated and timeless community, a hesitant young woman is conscripted to perform an arduous ritual designed to bring light to the darkness.

Shorts Program 3 Directors



Alison Rich is a writer, director, and actor. **"Training Wheels"** is her second narrative short. It premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Her first short, "The Other Morgan," premiered at SXSW. Alison has written for *Saturday Night Live* and *The Goldbergs*. She can currently be seen on HBOMax's *The Other Two*.



Zane Rubin ("Maddie") is a young filmmaker from Los Angeles. She's directed projects for Hulu, Comedy Central, Jash, and Super Deluxe. Her independent shorts have been featured on Short of the Week, Vimeo Staff Picks, Huffington Post, Film School Rejects, Film Shortage, NoBudge, NOWNESS, BUST, and Vulture.



Beck Kitsis ("Valentine") (she/her) wrote/directed "The Three Men You Meet at Night" (Fantastic Fest) and the 20th

Digital-commissioned short "Red Is the Color of Beauty" (Hulu). She produced *Narrowsburg*, "The Rat," and "The Inconceivable Mountain." She was selected as a Sundance Screenwriters Intensive fellow and a member of Lincoln Center's Artist Academy at the 57th New York Film Festival. **Chris McNabb** (they/them) is a filmmaker, two-time Emmy-winning editor, and Sundance Documentary Edit Lab Fellow. Past documentary editing credits include Hulu's *Look at Me*, Magnolia Pictures' *Whose Streets?*, *Narrowsburg*, and "{The And} Marcela & Rock." Past fiction editing credits include "The Three Men You Meet at Night" and "The Rat."



Dennis Williams II ("A Balcony in Brooklyn") is a writer/director who first studied theatre as a playwright in college. Dennis was

chosen for Vanishing Angle's Short to Feature Lab, a fellowship based in Malibu, founded by Sundance alum Jim Cummings for his award-winning short, "Clout." He's focused on the feature-adaptation of *Clout*. **Gladimir Gelin** is a self-taught, Haitian-American director/photographer born and bred in New York City. He started his production company NewYorkMADE and has since grown to work with clients such as Dior, Calvin Klein, Starbucks, Adidas, Puma, Vogue, and musical acts including Mary J. Bilge, J. Cole, and Normani. He was named MTV's "Creator to Watch" in 2019 and The Creative Collective NYC Creative Class of 2020



Caroline Conrad ("Mammalian Diving Reflex") (she/they) is a writer and filmmaker with extensive experience in commercial, documentary, and narrative production with credits including "Twist" (FFF 2019). They directed a Comedy Central web series after serving as senior video producer for *Allure* magazine and creative producer for artist Petra Collins. This is their directorial debut.



Damiana Acuña ("Lux Noctis") is a Mexican film director with an MFA from the American Film Institute Conservatory, whose poetic visual storytelling focuses on female led, genre blurring narratives that hunt for the sublime through the mystical and the profound. Her work has screened on Pantaya and Dish Latino.



Cody Kostro ("Harvest Bowl") is a filmmaker and actor. His debut short "I'm Rapper Girlfriend" screened last year at the Cinequest Film Festival, Florida Film Festival, and LA Shorts International Film Festival. He appears on HBO's *Mare of Easttown*, Showtime's *Flatbush Misdeemeanors*, and the upcoming feature film *Jules*, starring Sir Ben Kingsley.



Korean-American filmmaker **Allen Cordell** has directed music videos for Beach House, Dan Deacon, Cloud Nothings, Girl Talk, and others, as well as various short form series for Super Deluxe. **"The Lizard Laughed"** is his narrative

film debut.



Harvest Bowl DIRECTED BY CODY KOSTRO USA, 2021, 7 MIN SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Two 19th-century women, preparing sweet potatoes for a harvest time festival, trade passive-aggressive barbs over their veiled iniquities in this wildly ribald period piece from the director of "I'm Rapper Girlfriend" (FFF 2021).



The Lizard Laughed DIRECTED BY ALLEN CORDELL USA, 2022, 21 MIN WORLD PREMIERE

In this breathtaking love letter to New Mexico's backcountry, an aging rambler (Sky Elobar, FFF 2016's *The Greasy Strangler*) is confronted by the son he abandoned long ago, resulting in an awkward reunion between the tortured young man and his unperturbed father.

Shorts Program 4: **I'm Free**

Total Running Time: 97 MIN

Sunday, April 10
4:30-6:30PM at Regal B

Thursday, April 14
7-9PM at Regal A

The world doesn't make it easy to be yourself. Power-tripping bosses, oppressive beauty standards, sometimes even ambitious young assassins all try to swoop in and make you behave the way they want you to. Here are seven stories of people putting their foot down, be it explosively or poetically, and saying no—I am free.



F^CK 'EM RIGHT B@CK

DIRECTED BY **HARRIS DORAN**
USA, 2022, 13 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

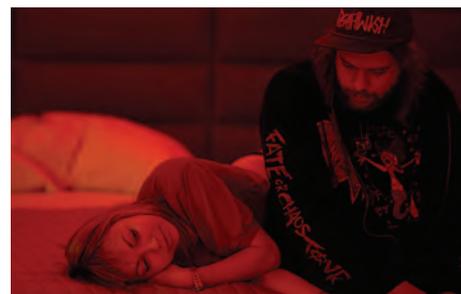
A Baltimore rapper accidentally gets high after a show and, knowing the vindictive supervisor at his civil-servant workplace intends to “randomly” drug test him, he attempts extreme detoxification to keep his job.



cosboi

DIRECTED BY **GOSHA SHAPIRO**
USA, 2022, 15 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

Inspired by cosplay advice videos on TikTok, a gender-fluid teen uses rideshare trips to try on different personas in a quest to determine their own identity.



Sweet Dreams Baby Girl

DIRECTED BY **JENNIFER DALEY**
USA, 2021, 14 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A well-meaning young woman accompanies her best friend to Tijuana so his dog can have surgery, but resentments and repressed feelings boil to the surface after a drunken night of mistakes and miscommunication.



Pretty, Please

DIRECTED BY **JONATHAN HOEG**
USA, 2022, 14 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A young woman (writer KayKay Blaisdell) struggles to emancipate herself from the standards of femininity that have been foisted upon her by society, her peers, and even her own mother ever since her infancy.



The Last Ferry from Grass Island

DIRECTED BY **LINHAN ZHANG**
USA/HONG KONG, 2021, 13 MIN
IN CANTONESE AND MANDARIN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
FLORIDA PREMIERE

In this serene and elegant take on an archetypal action story, a retired hitman living an unassuming life as a fisherman is visited by a fledgling assassin tasked with eliminating him.



Daddy's Girl

DIRECTED BY **LENA HUDSON**
USA, 2022, 10 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

A wily young woman enlists the help of her affable father (played by *Succession's* Peter Friedman) to move out of her older boyfriend's apartment, and by way of half-truths, omissions, and a little cannabis, she convinces him to help her steal a really nice couch.

Shorts Program 4 Directors



Harris Doran wrote/directed “F*CK ‘EM RIGHT B@CK” (Sundance Grand Jury Prize nomination), Beauty Mark (awarded at LA Film Festival, Woodstock, and Austin); *I See You and You See Me* (PBS/WNET), “The Story of Milo & Annie,” and *Bleeding Love*. He was a writer on Lifetime’s *I Love You... But I Lied* and an editor on *Ghostwriter* with Kate Mara and Adam Scott.



Jonathan Hoeg (“Pretty, Please”) is a filmmaker and music video director with a passion for telling heartfelt and exciting stories. He started his career in production, honed his visual sense with a stint in photography, and learned to edit to put it all together.



Gosha Shapiro (“cosboi”) is a nonbinary and first-generation American filmmaker. They tell stories about all the different versions of ourselves and how we fail to resolve them. Gosha’s first short, “Lena,” was featured on Short of the Week and won the Audience Pick award at Palm Springs ShortFest.



Linhan Zhang (“Last Ferry from Grass Island”), born on January 17, 1997, was a film and television undergraduate at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. He was one of 15 2017-2018 Sundance Ignite fellows, and one of the 20 recipients of the 2019 Adobe Creativity Scholarship.



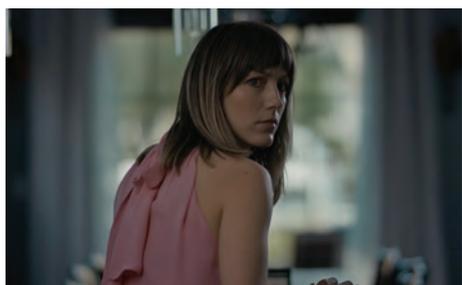
Jennifer Daley (“Sweet Dreams Baby Girl”) is an actor, writer, and filmmaker from Los Angeles. She studied film at UC San Diego and performed with renowned visual artist Paul McCarthy for five years. She has starred in dozens of films and TV shows and will be directing her first feature at the end of 2022.



Lena Hudson (“Daddy’s Girl”) was a 2020 Sundance Episodic Lab fellow with her series *Fantasia for You*, co-created with Jessie Barr, based on their award-winning short film “Too Long at the Fair.” Other work includes the upcoming short “Variations,” and the solo clown cabaret *Showwomanship*.



Bi-coastal between LA and NY, **Laura Seay** writes, acts, and directs for money and compliments. On-camera credits include *Superbad*, Marvel’s *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, and *NCIS*. Catch her doing stand-up at The Comedy Store & The Laugh Factory. Laura’s excited to share “The Coupon” and hopes it doesn’t get her canceled.



The Coupon

DIRECTED BY **LAURA SEAY**
USA, 2021, 18 MIN

EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

A woman finds herself embroiled in a Kafkaesque legal nightmare when her husband gives away the cutesy romantic coupon she made for him to a stranger, and that stranger shows up on her doorstep demanding she honor it.

Shorts Program 5: Animated Shorts: Tell Me Is It True

SPONSORED BY LURE DESIGN

Total Running Time: 87 MIN

Wednesday, April 13
6:45-8:30PM at Enzian

Friday, April 15
8:30-10:15PM at Regal A

Truth is something to be savored, taken advantage of, feared, investigated, sought after, treasured, hidden away, uncovered, and faced head-on in this incredible program of the best, most striking, and unquestionably original new animated works to cross our paths this year. Welcome to Animated Shorts, 2022 style!



Local Middle Schooler

DIRECTED BY **SANJNA BHARADWAJ**
USA, 2021, 11 MIN
SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

California Institute of the Arts proudly kicks off this year's festivities with this funny and eccentric short about a young teenage girl who discovers her eyelashes have magical powers, and quickly becomes a commodity to be exploited by, literally, everyone.



Still Life

DIRECTED BY **CONNER GRIFFITH**
USA, 2021, 7 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE

In this experimental, black & white, non-narrative work, over 1000 engravings from the 18th and 19th century are utilized to create visual poetry and become a meditation on objectivity and meaning.



Tennis Ball on His Day Off

DIRECTED BY **JULIAN GLANDER**
USA, 2022, 3 MIN
EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

While leaving a voicemail to his grandma, a tennis ball questions a lot of his life choices and struggles to find his place in the world.



TRICHOTILLOMANIA!

DIRECTED BY **KELLY SCHIESSWOHL**
USA, 2021, 4 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

The filmmaker tries to process her own bizarre struggle with a hair pulling disorder, getting progressively more freaked out as she begins a Google-search-gone-wrong.



My Parent, Neal

DIRECTED BY **HANNAH SAIDINER**
USA, 2021, 8 MIN
FLORIDA THEATRICAL PREMIERE

In this sweet documentary rendered in a watercolor visual style, the director interviews her parent about coming out as transgender, the process of transitioning, and what it has meant for their relationship.



7LBS 8OZ

DIRECTED BY **YOO LEE**
USA, 2022, 7 MIN
FLORIDA PREMIERE

When a young mom with a newborn baby moves onto the 8th Street block in Jersey City, NJ, she learns the value of community and how looks can be deceiving. A stop motion, clay-mation love letter to a neighborhood.



Life Is a Particle Time Is a Wave

DIRECTED BY DANIEL ZVEREFF

USA, 2022, 10 MIN

EAST COAST PREMIERE/2ND US SCREENING

In this uniquely hand-drawn, black & white, silent drama, an elderly widowed watchmaker spends his remaining days in solitude, distracting himself with routine chores and hobbies as he looks for meaning in the memories of his past.



Launch

DIRECTED BY LEAH SHORE

USA, 2021, 3 MIN

FLORIDA PREMIERE

Midnight favorite Leah Shore ("Don't Touch Your Face," FFF 2021; "Horses," FFF 2017) is back with this bonkers work about scientists using the mirrors that were left on the moon to conduct experiments, yielding unexpected and terrifying results.



Soft Animals

DIRECTED BY RENEE ZHAN

USA/UK, 2021, 3 MIN

SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Two ex-lovers cross paths in a train station, and as they converse, their small talk is punctuated by imagery from their past sexual and psychological history in spectacular ways. The latest extraordinary multi-media work from the director of "Reneepoptosis" (FFF 2019).



My One Minute Memoir

(Dreams of a Fallen Astronaut)

DIRECTED BY CHEL WHITE

USA, 2021, 2 MIN

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Award-winning multi-FFF alumnus Chel White ("Little Donnie, The Ten Inch Terror," FFF 2018) returns with this short reevaluation of his childhood obsessions with astronauts and Jacques Cousteau. A fleeting and sardonic autobiographical work that combines direct xerography animation, stop motion, live action, and CGI.



fulcrum

DIRECTED BY TIMOTHY DAVID ORME

USA, 2021, 8 MIN

SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

In this stunning and meditative experimental work, a young woman in a boat is rowing through space, self, and consciousness, as the math of the universe unfolds.



Oldboy's Apples

DIRECTED BY BRAD HOCK

USA, 2021, 7 MIN

FLORIDA PREMIERE

Beyond the hedge, beneath the well, ancient spirits sing their song to reawaken the mystery of the hidden apple. Nearly three years in the making, this is a transfixing and hallucinogenic stop motion portal to another realm. David Lynch would love this!



People Person

DIRECTED BY RYMALENA

USA, 2021, 14 MIN

SOUTHEAST PREMIERE

Desperate to escape her reality, a young woman uses technology to immerse herself in her own subconscious through a myriad of virtual personas. A gorgeous piece of sci-fi, originally shot live-action, then rotoscoped, giving the story a hypnotic and dream-like quality.

Shorts Program 5 Directors



Sanjna Bharadwaj (“**Local Middle Schooler**”) can eat cereal with milk in a moving car. She enjoys finding humor in most things and telling stories about growing up in the Silicon Valley. Currently, you can find her hunched over her desk storyboarding for Pixar. She recently graduated from CalArts with a BFA in character animation.



Conner Griffith (“**Still Life**”) is an experimental filmmaker and editor living in Los Angeles. His process often involves working with collections to explore the universal stories that can emerge from visual choreography and the relationship

between sound and image.



Julian Glander (“**Tennis Ball on His Day Off**”) is a 3D artist based in Pittsburgh. His clients and collaborators include Disney, Cartoon Network, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and more. He is also the creator of the video game ART SQUOL.



Kelly Schiesswohl (“**TRICHOTILLOMANIA!**”) is a 22-year-old director and motion designer currently based out of New York City. Her most recent work could be described as “Like a hotdog. It takes the most slimy,

overlooked, underbelly of life and turns it into something tasty and erotically shaped.”



Hannah Saidiner is an illustrator and animator, based in her hometown of Los Angeles, California. She has a passion for creating colorful and meaningful multi-media artwork. Her animated short films have screened at festivals internationally, including her most recent work completed as her thesis film at CalArts, “**My Parent, Neal.**”



Yoo Lee is a writer/director specializing in stop-motion animation, based in Los Angeles. As a Film Independent, Project Involve Animation fellow, she received the Laika animation grant to finish her latest animated short, “**7LBS 80Z.**”

She is currently finishing her MFA degree in animation at USC.



Daniel Zvereff (“**Life is a Particle Time is a Wave**”) is a first generation American, whose Russian family emigrated to the USA in 1951 after decades of stateless exile in China. He was raised in Oregon and now resides in Brooklyn, NY.



Chel White’s (“**My One Minute Memoir (Dreams of a Fallen Astronaut)**”) body of work includes independent films, television, music videos and soundtracks. He cites dreams as his greatest

influence, often adopting darkly humorous and poetic sensibilities. His festival screenings include Sundance, Tribeca, Berlinale, Annecy and SXSW. His film “Magda” won Best Animated Short at the 2004 Florida Film Festival.



Leah Shore (“**Launch**”) is a director and artist living in Brooklyn, NY. She attended the Rhode Island School of Design where she majored in film, video, and animation, and graduated in 2009. She has been fortunate

to have her films shown at over 100 film festivals, museums, galleries and shows worldwide.



Timothy David Orme (“**fulcrum**”) is a writer, filmmaker, and animator. His short films have been shown at film festivals and art venues all over the world, including European Media Arts Fest, Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Philadelphia Film and Animation Festival, Raindance, and others.



Renee Zhan (“**Soft Animals**”) is a Chinese-American director/ animator from Houston, Texas. She earned her BA at Harvard University in 2016 and her MA at the National Film and Television School in 2020. In her films, Renee is primarily

interested in exploring issues of the body, nature, and sexuality—all things beautiful, ugly, and squishy. Her short films have screened and won awards internationally, including the Jury Prize for Animated Short at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival.



Based in Oakland, California, **Brad Hock** (“**Oldboy’s Apples**”) is a stop-motion filmmaker that uses the medium to explore the stories of the past. He views his work as a continuation of a constant transformation as these symbols endure through time and telling.



Fueled by a distinct passion for character and individuality, **Rymalena** (“**People Person**”) is an artist-turned-director who is committed to bridging the gap between realism and animation. As a self-taught illustrator and animator, they are thoroughly hands-on in every part of the production process.

As human beings,
We speak without talking.
We communicate through
gestures, movement,
and mannerisms.
We create impressions.
We form impressions.
Same goes for business.
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FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

ENZIAN THEATER	
6P	
7P	
7-9PM	Opening Night Film: <i>Pre Fab!</i> preceded by "A Cartoon of a Cat Sleeping" (p. 22)
8P	
9P	
10P	
11P	
12A	
1A	

TIEDTKE AMPHITHEATRE AND BELVEDERE	
6P	
7P	
8P	
8:30PM	Opening Night Party begins for "Party Only" ticket holders (p. 23)
9P	
9PM-midnight	Arrivals of Opening Night Film + Party ticket holders
10P	
11P	
12A	
1A	

REGAL A	
7P	
8P	
8-10PM	<i>Pre Fab!</i> preceded by "A Cartoon of a Cat Sleeping" (p. 22)
9P	
10P	



PRE FAB!

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

ENZIAN THEATER	
11A	
10:30AM-12:15PM	<i>The Sun Rises in The East</i> preceded by "Échale Ganas: The Villa's Tacos Story" (p. 71)
12P	
1P	
1:15-3PM	<i>The Falconer</i> (p. 55)
2P	
3P	
4P	
4-5:45PM	<i>Jack Has a Plan</i> preceded by "Telos or Bust" (p. 67)
5P	
6P	
6:45-8:45PM	<i>Path of the Panther</i> (p. 28)
7P	
8P	
9P	
9:45-11PM	<i>Wake Up, Leonard</i> (p. 60)
10P	
11P	
12A	
MIDNIGHT-2AM	Midnight Shorts (p. 48)
1A	

REGAL A	
12P	
11:30AM-1PM	<i>Homebody</i> (p. 57)
1P	
2P	
1:30-3:30PM	Shorts #1: "Keep on Moving" (p. 74)
3P	
4P	
4-6PM	Shorts #2: "Come See About Me" (p. 76)
5P	
6P	
7P	
6:30-8:30PM	<i>imperfect</i> preceded by "Bacon 'N' Laces" (p. 66)
8P	
9P	
9-10:45PM	<i>Resurrection</i> (p. 29)
10P	
11P	
11:15PM-12:45AM	<i>Hatching</i> (p. 46)
12A	
1A	

REGAL B	
12P	
Noon-1:45PM	<i>River</i> preceded by "Tales of Sunshine: "The Biologist"" (p. 29)
1P	
2P	
2:15-4:15PM	<i>Anonymous Sister</i> preceded by "Shopping for the Dead" (p. 62)
3P	
4P	
4:45-6:45PM	<i>Generation Wrecks</i> (p. 56)
5P	
6P	
7P	
7:15-9PM	<i>Dual</i> (p. 25)
8P	
9P	
9:30-11:15PM	<i>Sirens</i> preceded by "Stranger Than Rotterdam with Sara Driver" (p. 70)
10P	
11P	
12A	
1A	

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

- Eden Bar
11AM-2PM AND 6-9PM
Live Music (p. 23)
- Regal Winter Park Village
3-5PM
Festival Block Party (p. 23)



GENERATION WRECKS



PATH OF THE PANTHER



HATCHING

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

ENZIAN THEATER	
12P	11:15AM-1PM <i>As of Yet</i> preceded by "Demi's Panic" (p. 52)
1P	
2P	2-4PM <i>The Civil Dead</i> (p. 53)
3P	
4P	
5P	5-7PM <i>Being Michelle</i> preceded by "The Interview" (p. 63)
6P	
7P	
8P	
9P	8-9:45PM <i>River</i> preceded by "Tales of Sunshine: "The Biologist"" (p. 29)
10P	
11P	

REGAL A	
12P	11AM-1PM <i>Love Charlie: The Rise and Fall of Chef, Charlie Trotter</i> preceded by "Deerwoods Deathtrap" (p. 68)
1P	
2P	1:30-3:30PM Shorts #3: "You Just May Be the One" (p. 78)
3P	
4P	
5P	4-5:45PM <i>The Duke</i> (p. 26)
6P	
7P	6:15-8PM <i>Broken Wings</i> preceded by "Dad Jokes" (p. 64)
8P	
9P	8:30-10PM <i>The Territory</i> (p. 30)
10P	
11P	

REGAL B	
12P	Noon-1:15PM <i>Stay Prayed Up</i> (p. 38)
1P	
2P	2-4PM <i>Exposure</i> preceded by "The Panola Project" (p. 65)
3P	
4P	
5P	4:30-6:30PM Shorts #4: "I'm Free" (p. 80)
6P	
7P	7-9PM <i>Disfluency</i> (p. 54)
8P	
9P	
10P	9:30-11:45PM <i>This is GWAR</i> (p. 39)
11P	

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Enzian & Eden Bar

11AM-2PM
Gospel Brunch (p. 23)

11AM-2PM AND 6-9PM
Live Music (p. 23)



THE CIVIL DEAD

MONDAY, APRIL 11

ENZIAN THEATER	
4P	
5P	
6P	
7P	6-8PM <i>Once Upon a Time in Uganda</i> preceded by "Dress a Cow" (p. 69)
8P	
9P	
10P	9-11PM <i>Fire (Both Sides of the Blade)</i> (p. 32)
11P	

REGAL A	
4P	
5P	
6P	
7P	6:15-8PM <i>Surviving Pulse: Life After a Mass Shooting</i> (p. 42)
8P	
9P	8:30-10:30PM <i>Mister Limbo</i> (p. 58)
10P	
11P	

REGAL B	
4P	
5P	4:30-6:10PM <i>Fanny: The Right to Rock</i> (p. 38)
6P	
7P	6:45-8:30PM <i>Poser</i> (p. 59)
8P	
9P	9-10:45PM International Animated Shorts (p. 36)
10P	
11P	

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Eden Bar

6-8PM
Tuesday Tasting (p. 23)

6-9PM
Live Music (p. 23)



ONCE UPON A TIME IN UGANDA

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

ENZIAN THEATER	
4P	
5P	4-5:35PM <i>Ali & Ava</i> (p. 24)
6P	
7P	6:30-8:15PM <i>As of Yet</i> preceded by "Demi's Panic" (p. 52)
8P	
9P	
10P	9:15-11:15PM <i>Generation Wrecks</i> (p. 56)
11P	

REGAL A	
4P	4-6PM 4 x Real (p. 72)
5P	
6P	
7P	6:30-8:30PM Shorts #1: "Keep on Moving" (p. 74)
8P	
9P	
10P	9-10:45PM <i>The Justice of Bunny King</i> (p. 27)
11P	

REGAL B	
4P	
5P	
6P	6-7:45PM <i>Jack Has a Plan</i> preceded by "Telos or Bust" (p. 67)
7P	
8P	
9P	8:15-10:00PM <i>The Sun Rises in The East</i> preceded by "Échale Ganas: The Villa's Tacos" (p. 71)
10P	
11P	

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Winter Park Public Library

11AM-12:30PM
Forum: Broken Wings: Jayne, Adonis,
and the Plight of Injured Raptors (p. 11)

Eden Bar

6-9PM
Live Music (p. 23)



THE JUSTICE OF BUNNY KING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B
12P	12P	12P
1P	1P	1P
2P	2P	2P
3P	3P	3P
4P	4P	4P
5P	5P	5P
6P	6P	6P
7P	7P	7P
8P	8P	8P
9P	9P	9P
10P	10P	10P
11P	11P	11P

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Winter Park Public Library

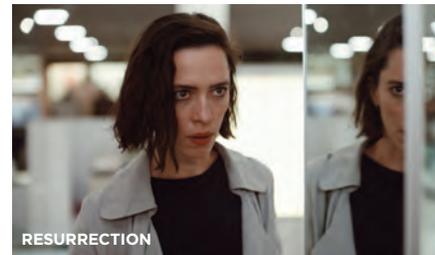
11AM-12:30PM

Forum: Visions of Tomorrow: Virtual Production & the Art of Next-Gen Filmmaking (p. 11)

Eden Bar

6-9PM

Live Music (p. 23)



RESURRECTION



WAKE UP, LEONARD

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B
1P	1P	1P
2P	2P	2P
3P	3P	3P
4P	4P	4P
5P	5P	5P
6P	6P	6P
7P	7P	7P
8P	8P	8P
9P	9P	9P
10P	10P	10P
11P	11P	11P
12A	12A	12A
1A	1A	1A
2A	2A	2A

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Winter Park Public Library

11AM-12:30PM

Forum: Filmmaker Forum (p. 11)

Eden Bar

6-9PM

Live Music (p. 23)

Sanford Brewing Company

8-11PM

Filmmaker Welcome Party (p. 23)



STAY PRAYED UP



BEING MICHELLE

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

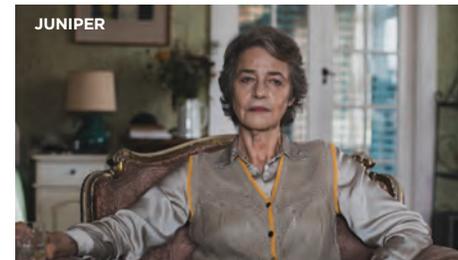
ENZIAN THEATER		Regal A		REGAL B	
1P	1:30-3:30PM <i>imperfect</i> preceded by "Bacon 'N' Laces" (p. 66)	1P		1P	
2P		2P	1:30-3:15PM <i>Juniper</i> (p. 26)	2P	2-4PM <i>Sylvie of the Sunshine State</i> (p. 42)
3P		3P		3P	
4P		4P	3:45-5:45PM <i>The Falconer</i> (p. 55)	4P	
5P	4:30-6:30PM <i>Love, Charlie: The Rise and Fall of Chef Charlie Trotter</i> preceded by "Deerwoods Deathtrap" (p. 68)	5P		5P	4:30-6:30PM International Shorts #1 (p. 34)
6P		6P		6P	
7P		7P	6:15-7:50PM <i>Ali & Ava</i> (p. 24)	7P	7-8:35PM <i>Hit the Road</i> (p. 33)
8P	7:30-11PM An Evening with William Shatner, featuring <i>Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home</i> (p. 20)	8P		8P	
9P		9P	8:30-10:15PM Animated Shorts (p. 82)	9P	
10P		10P		10P	9:15-11:30PM <i>This is GWAR</i> (p. 39)
11P		11P	10:45PM-12:30AM <i>Neptune Frost</i> (p. 46)	11P	
12A	MIDNIGHT-1:30AM <i>Piggy</i> (p. 47)	12A		12P	
1A		1A		1A	

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Winter Park Public Library
11AM-12:30PM
Forum: The Uncertainty of Purpose-Driven Nature Documentaries (p. 11)

Eden Bar
6-9PM
Live Music (p. 23)

The Copper Rocket
8-11PM
Industry Party (p. 23)



SATURDAY, APRIL 16

ENZIAN THEATER		REGAL A		REGAL B	
11A	10:30AM-12:15PM <i>Calendar Girls</i> (p. 25)	12P		12P	Noon-2PM 4 x Real (p. 72)
12P		1P	12:30-2:30PM Sunshine & Swampland: New Florida Shorts (p. 40)	1P	
1P		2P		2P	
2P	1:15-3PM <i>Surviving Pulse: Life After a Mass Shooting</i> (p. 42)	3P	3-4:45PM <i>The Justice of Bunny King</i> (p. 27)	3P	2:30-4:15PM International Shorts #2 (p. 35)
3P		4P		4P	
4P		5P		5P	4:45-6:30PM <i>Digger</i> (p. 32)
5P	4-5:45PM <i>892</i> (p. 24)	6P	5:15-7:15PM <i>Path of the Panther</i> (p. 28)	6P	
6P		7P		7P	
7P	6:45-8:30PM <i>The Phantom of the Open</i> (p. 28)	8P	7:45-9:30PM International Animated Shorts (p. 36)	8P	7-9PM <i>Fire (Both Sides of the Blade)</i> (p. 32)
8P		9P		9P	
9P		10P	10-11:30PM Sunspots: New Visions of the Avant Garde (p. 44)	10P	9:30-11:15PM <i>Wild Men</i> (p. 33)
10P	9:30-11:05PM <i>Juniper</i> (p. 26)	11P		11P	
11P		12A		12A	
12A	Midnight-1:45AM <i>Midnight Shorts</i> (p. 48)	1A	Midnight-1:30AM <i>Hatching</i> (p. 46)	1A	
1A					

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Eden Bar
11AM-2PM AND 6-9PM
Live Music (p. 23)

Artisan Motor Cars
8PM-MIDNIGHT
Awards Bash (p. 23)



SUNDAY, APRIL 17

ENZIAN THEATER	REGAL A	REGAL B
12P Noon-1:45PM <i>Sylvie of the Sunshine State</i> (p. 42)	12P Noon-1:25PM <i>Marvelous and the Black Hole</i> (p. 27)	12P 11:30AM-1PM <i>The Territory</i> (p. 30)
2P	2P	1P
3P 2:45-4:45PM International Shorts #1 (p. 34)	3P 2-3:35PM <i>Tigre Gente</i> (p. 30)	2P 1:30-3:15PM <i>Calendar Girls</i> (p. 25)
4P	4P	3P
5P	5P 4:15-5:50PM <i>Dual</i> (p. 25)	4P 3:45-5:20PM <i>Hit the Road</i> (p. 33)
6P 5:45-7:45PM International Shorts #2 (p. 35)	6P	5P
7P	7P 6:30-8:15PM <i>892</i> (p. 24)	6P 6-7:45PM <i>Wild Men</i> (p. 33)
8P	8P	7P
9P 8:45-10:20PM Closing Night Retro: <i>What's Up, Doc?</i> (p. 39)	9P	8P
10P	10P	9P 8:30-10PM <i>Piggy</i> (p. 47)
11P	11P	10P
12A	12A	11P
1A	1A	12A
		1A

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Enzian & Eden Bar
11AM-2PM
 Sunday Brunch Buffet (p. 23)

Eden Bar
11AM-2PM AND 6-9PM
 Live Music (p. 23)



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