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Mammoth Lakes Film Festival
MAY 27-31, 2015

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FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27	6:30pm	9:00pm
Forest Service	Steve Jobs: Man in the Machine	
Sierra Event Center		Opening Night Party

THURSDAY, MAY 28	2:30pm	5:00pm	7:30pm
Edison	Shorts Block 1	Proud Citizen	Asco
Forest Service			Omo Child
Sierra Nevada Lodge		Happy Hour 5-7	

FRIDAY, MAY 29		2:30pm	5:00pm	7:30pm	10pm
Edison		Shorts Block 2	Diamond Tongues	Birds of Neptune	They Look Like People
Forest Service			Autism in Love	The Cult of JT Leroy	
Rafters					9pm Filmmaker Party

SATURDAY, MAY 30		10am	12noon	2:30pm	5pm	7pm
Edison		Shorts Block 3	Panel Discussion	Fantasticherie di un passeggiatore...	Female Pervert	
Forest Service		The Incredible Adventures of Jojo	20 Years of Madness	Dying to Know	The Chinese Mayor	Cartel Land
Sierra Event Center					9pm Awards Ceremony & Party	

SUNDAY, MAY 31		10am	12:30pm
Edison		Narrative Winner Encore	Documentary Winner Encore

MAP & LOCATIONS

1. Edison Theater

100 College Parkway
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

2. U.S. Forest Service Theater

2510 Main Street
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

3. South Gateway Student Apartments

121 College Parkway
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

4. Sierra Event Center

452 Old Mammoth Rd
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

5. Sierra Nevada Lodge

164 Old Mammoth Rd
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

6. Rafters

202 Old Mammoth Rd,
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

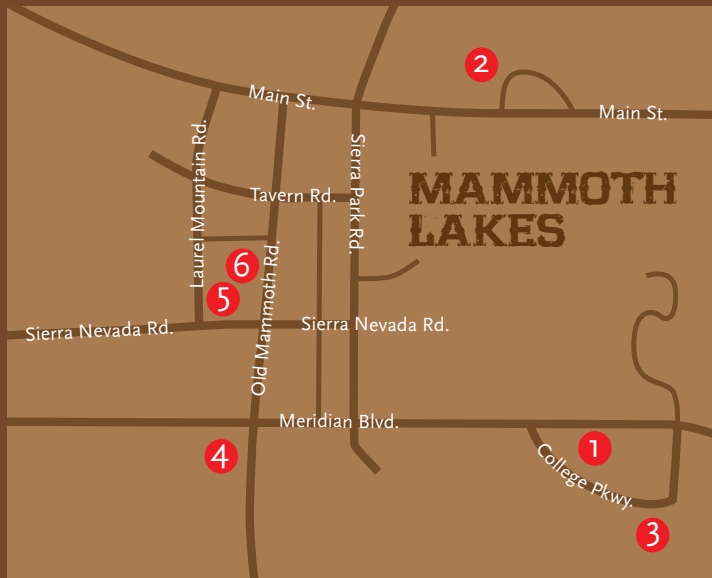


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome from Shira.	7
Welcome from Paul	9
Sponsors.	10
Opening Night.	13
Closing Night	15
Narrative Features	16-23
Doc Features.	26-31
Shorts Blocks	34-39
Parties & Events	41
Jury	42-44
Awards & Prizes.	45
Staff & Credits	48
Film Index	49



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WELCOME FROM SHIRA

I fell in love with this area in the '90s, and creating the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival (MLFF) has long been a dream of mine. After a 17-year hiatus in Los Angeles, where performing arts, theatre and film became my passion, I'm finally able to turn my dream into a reality.

In this era of rapidly-evolving modes of communication, bringing culture and the arts to the forefront is what drives communities to experience vitality and growth in America. My goal for MLFF is to create a destination and a haven for filmmakers and film lovers that also puts Mammoth on the map as a cultural center.

It's essential that we support emerging filmmakers. Independent film is an incubator of cultural trends, and it challenges us to think of our world from a different perspective. The magnificent topography of the Eastern Sierra nurtures inspiration on so many levels. It stimulates creative energies to look to the past, explore and comment on the present, and speculate on the future without limitations.



This festival would not be possible without the support of our inspirational founder, Dave McCoy. His passion and tenacity took an idea and created the reality we are living in today, just as our filmmakers take an idea and create films that tell stories and share experiences.

I hope that this festival inspires you, excites you, challenges you, and makes you hungry for next year, because we will be back!

**SHIRA
DUBROVNER**

Festival Director



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Welcome to California's Eastern Sierra! The diverse and dramatic alpine landscape of Mono County has starred in films dating back to 1930 and doubles for so many places on our planet...the Alps, autumn in New England, the wild West, high desert, ranchlands...even the moon! Whether you are visiting here to film or play (or both!), we offer you the world.

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WELCOME FROM PAUL

Thanks for checking out the inaugural edition of the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival! In the programming process we were looking for particular themes and styles that would best represent, in our opinion, the forefront of inspired, personal filmmaking.

We put together a program that we think will appeal to committed film junkies like ourselves but will also be enticing and accessible to a wider audience.

In our narrative section we programmed films that do what indie films do best, namely tell compelling, relatable stories, but that also find a certain dose of absurdity and humor in the daily struggle of being human, and sometimes spill over into the surreal.

Within our documentary section we found a group of films that dive deep into worlds that are difficult or dangerous to access—like China's local politics in *The*

Chinese Mayor, or the Michoacán anti-cartel vigilante movement of *Cartel Land*—but that root their stories in fascinating, layered characters.

Going forward, we're committed to making Mammoth a Mecca for filmmakers willing to go to unexplored places, both within themselves and out in the world. We are so proud of our Class of '15 filmmakers and truly excited to see how their work will be received.



**PAUL
SBRIZZI**

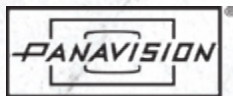
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OPENING NIGHT FILM

Steve Jobs: Man in the Machine



Wednesday May 27, 6:30pm, USFS Theater

Director: Alex Gibney

Producers: Viva Van Loock, Alex Gibney

Exec. Producers: For CNN Films, Vinnie Malhotra, Amy Entelis, For Jigsa, Stacey Offman, Gaby Darbyshire

Steve Jobs' image was ubiquitous. But who was the man on the stage? What accounted for the grief of so many across the world when he died? *Steve Jobs: The Man in the Machine* is a critical examination of Jobs who was at once revered as an iconoclastic genius and a barb-tongued tyrant. A candid look at Jobs' legacy featuring interviews with a handful of those close to him at different stages in his life, the film is evocative and nuanced in capturing the essence of the Apple

legend and his values which shape the culture of Silicon Valley to this day.

Director Bio: Alex Gibney is one of America's pre-eminent filmmakers. He won an Oscar for *Taxi to the Dark Side* and was nominated for *Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room*. In 2012, *Mea Maxima Culpa: Silence in the House of God* won three Emmys and a Peabody. This spring, *Going Clear: Scientology and the Prison of Belief*, and *Sinatra: All or Nothing at All* on HBO.

USA / 97 min



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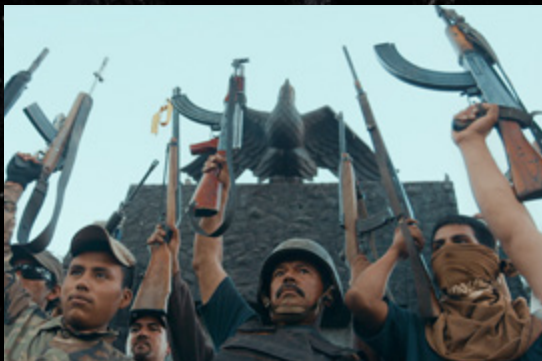
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CLOSING NIGHT FILM

Cartel Land



Saturday, May 30, 7:00pm, USFS Theater

Director: Matthew Heineman

Producers: Matthew Heineman, Tom Yellin

**Exec. Producers: Molly Thompson, Robert DeBitetto,
David McKillop**

With unprecedented access, *Cartel Land* is a riveting, on-the-ground look at the journeys of two modern-day vigilante groups and their shared enemy – the murderous Mexican drug cartels. Filmmaker Matthew Heineman embeds himself in the heart of darkness as Nailer, El Doctor, and the cartel each vie to bring their own brand of justice to a society where institutions have failed. *Cartel Land* is a chilling, visceral meditation on the breakdown of order and the blurry line between good and evil.

Director Bio: Matthew Heineman is an Emmy-nominated filmmaker based in New York. At the 2015 Sundance Film Festival, he received both the Directing Award and Special Jury Award for Cinematography in the U.S. Documentary competition. He recently directed and produced the documentary *Escape Fire: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare*, which premiered on CNN in March 2013, and was nominated for an Emmy. He also collaborated on the Emmy-nominated HBO series, *The Alzheimer's Project*, and directed and produced *Our Time* – a feature length documentary about what it's like to be young in today's America. *Cartel Land* will be released theatrically in the fall of 2015 and have its broadcast premiere on A&E in 2016.

USA / Mexico 98 min

NARRATIVE FEATURE

Asco

Thursday May 28, 7:30pm, Edison Theater



Director: Ale Paschoalini

Writers: Rafael Baliu, Ale Paschoalini

Producers: Leandro HBL, Ale Paschoalini

Cast: Sol Faganello, Guto Nogueira, Acaua Sol

A sculptor creates a ring for his beloved and she leaves him. Collapsed and helpless, he gathers the strength to rebuild through veiled approaches and unreasonable persecution. Utilizing limited dialogue and unique camera work, *Asco* explores themes of love and revenge in a fantastic and surreal manner. *Asco* is the poisonous feeling aroused in a heart broken by the blade of love.

Director Bio: Ale has been a director for five years at Prodigio Films in São Paulo and has been a film-

maker for the last three years at Wieden+Kennedy, for whom he traveled the world for a Coca-Cola 2014 FIFA World Cup campaign. His video installation, *CRU* (13'), debuted at the "Made by Brazillians" artistic intervention in the repurposed Cidade Matarazzo Hospital in São Paulo. Ale is also Otto's Dad.

Brazil / 70 Min

*For mature audiences



Uprising Pact

Dir: Ale Paschoalini / Brazil / 15 min / World Premiere

In the noisy metropolis of Sao Paulo, two poets unveil the poetry of one another, the body of one another, their fears, and desires. They sign with saliva, the ink of their tongue, their libertarian pact of passion and poetry.

NARRATIVE FEATURE

Birds of Neptune



Internacional de Cinema, a film school in Brazil. His credits include the Brazilian feature film *Center of Gravity*, which premiered at the Sao Paulo International Film Festival and had its European premiere at Raindance in London. *Birds of Neptune* is his second feature.

USA / 97 min

*For mature audiences

Friday May 29, 7:30pm, Edison Theater

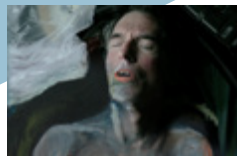
Director/Writer: Steven Richter

Producer: Lara Cuddy

Cast: Brit Harris, Mary Elizabeth Parker, Kurt Conroyd

Sisters Mona and Rachel have lost their parents and are now left to their own devices in their old childhood home – a reality they each experience differently. While Mona builds an illusory image of herself, Rachel finds solace in her music. A man enters their world and sees an opportunity to assert control, and a boy watches everything as if he had stepped into a dream. *Birds of Neptune* combines incantatory music and visual language to tell a tale of loss in a dream-like reality.

Director Bio: Steven Richter is a writer and director from Seattle, Washington. He is also the founder and director of the Academia



The Tide Keeper

Director: Alyx Duncan / New Zealand / 9 min

“Who knows how to stem the tide except through dreams?” One night an old seaman dreams the ocean into his bed. His sea green sheets become the polluted waters of his worst nightmare.

NARRATIVE FEATURE

Diamond Tongues



Friday, May 29, 5:00pm, Edison Theater

Directors: Pavan Moondi, Brian Robertson

Writer: Pavan Moondi

Producers: Brian Robertson, Pavan Moondi, Sarah Haywood

Cast: Leah Goldstein, Nick Flanagan, Leah Wildman, Adam Gurfinkel, Noah R. Taylor

Edith Welland dreams of being a successful actress but just can't seem to make things happen. Things get worse when the ex-boyfriend she broke up with to focus on her career takes up acting on a whim and immediately books a leading role. When Edith can't figure out what she's doing wrong, she begins to do everything wrong.

Director Bio: Pavan Moondi and Brian Robertson are Toronto-based filmmakers and producers. The

self-taught duo produce *The Seventh Art*, a digital video magazine on cinema. Their influences range from Albert Brooks, Noah Baumbach and Garry Shandling, to John Cassavetes, Abbas Kiarostami, and Jim Jarmusch. The two can often be seen arguing in public.

Canada / 100 min



Models

Director: Jérémi Roy / Canada / 4 min

A photographer hires a model for a picture that she wants to take. She gets what she wanted, but he is not convinced that the result will be good. He wants her to reshoot the picture the way he wants it. They argue.

NARRATIVE FEATURE

Saturday, May 30, 2:30pm, Edison Theater

Fantasticherie di un passeggiatore solitario (Reveries of a Solitary Stroller)



Director/Writer: Paolo Gaudio

Producer: Angelo Poggi

Cast: Luca Lionello, Lorenzo Monaco, Nicoletta Cefaly, Domiziano Cristopharo, Fabiano Lioi, Angélique Cavallari, Fabrizio Ferracane, Selene Rosiello

A combination live-action and animation tale of a twenty-something pair of friends who discover a mysterious manuscript in a library. Together, the couple head on a fantastic and magical adventure to discover its origin, and find they are more than friends in the process. The amazing visuals, in the vein of Terry Gilliam, dazzle the eye.



Director Bio: Paolo Gaudio is an Italian director and screenwriter. He studied Philosophy at the University in Calabria, then graduated in Motion-Picture Direction at the New University of Cinema and Television in Rome. Having written a number of short films, Paolo has experimented with animation techniques such as stop motion, cut-out animation and computer graphics. *Fantasticherie di un Passeggiatore Solitario* marks his feature debut.

Italy / 87 min

Focus

Dir: Flaminia Bonfiglio / USA, Italy / 9 min / World Premiere

A series of wishes mixing desire, longing, poetry, and humor, embedded over live footage revealing the psyche's need for fulfillment. Are you wishing for anything to happen today?

NARRATIVE FEATURE

Female Pervert

Saturday, May 30, 5:00pm, Edison Theater



Director/Writer: Jiyoung Lee

Producer: Melodie Sisk

Cast: Jennifer Kim, Skizz Cyzyk, Brian Cafferty, Joshua Mikel, Jesse Price, Kate McManus, Taylor Proctor, Eddie Ray

Phoebe is a lonely video game designer seeking a true connection in the modern world. Unfortunately, she doesn't relate to people like most in "normal society." So she starts seeing a therapist, changes her diet and joins a book club. As her path to self-improvement unfurls, some of her more eccentric interests lead her down a darker path. She meets a few men along the way, hoping to spark a love connection. But her perversions are hard to suppress. Will she be able to change? Or will she accept her fate as a female pervert?

Director Bio: Jiyoung Lee is a writer, director and actress of independent video-movies. She has directed and/or starred in films that have played at Slamdance, Indie Grits, San Diego Asian and Guam International Film Fest. Her videos have been broadcast on popular late night comedy network Adult Swim. She currently works as an assistant editor for a late night talk show. *Female Pervert* is her second feature film.

USA / 62 min

20



Unknown Unknown

Director: Ed Flynn / USA / 12 min

An errant ginger sends a peckish man on an existential journey through the bowels of a twenty-four hour grocery store.

NARRATIVE FEATURE

Saturday, May 30, 10:00am, USFS Theater

The Incredible Adventures of Jojo (and His Annoying Sister Avila)



Director/Writer: Brian Schmidt

Producers: Ann-Marie and Brian Schmidt

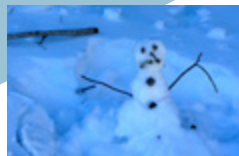
Cast: Joseph-Joseph Ogando, Avila vonGoosebottom, Peter Tahoe

When young Jojo is thrown into the woods and is forced to save his little sister, he also learns to get along with her in this adventure filled with ravenous wolves, raging rivers, and a crafty old hobo. It's about life and love being a grand adventure. Can Jojo overcome his differences with Avila and make it home to Grandma?

Director Bio: Ann-Marie Schmidt is a graduate of Cal Poly. Brian

Schmidt has a background in animation and graduated from Cal Arts. With this film being their directorial debut, Ann-Marie and Brian spend their lives in utter poverty at the end of a very long dirt road. It's a place where kids come home with scratches on their knees, animal bones in their pockets, and mud caked over their clothes. They are married and seem like a really fun couple. Just don't let them babysit.

USA / 79 min



The Sad Snowman

Director: Pierre Schantz / USA / 2 min

A snowman sits on a mountain, watching skiers and snowboarders have fun. A passing snowboarder notices him, and suddenly a simple act of kindness makes the impossible, possible.

NARRATIVE FEATURE

Proud Citizen

Thursday, May 28, 5:00pm, Edison Theater



Director: Thom Southerland

Writers: Sami Allison, Ryan Case, Leif Erickson, Thom Southerland, Katerina Stoykova-Klemer

Producers: Jason Lewis, Mark B. Greene, Thom Southerland

Cast: Katerina Stoykova-Klemer, Natalie E. Cummins, Leif Erickson, Ryan Case, Judy Sanders, Sami Allison, Elliott Moore Haynes, Blakely Burger

After winning second place in a play writing contest, Bulgarian Krasi-mira Stanimirova travels to Kentucky for the premiere of her autobiographical, Communist-era play *Black Coat*. Expecting southern hospitality, Krasi instead finds herself isolated and lonely as she explores America on foot. A funny, sometimes heartbreaking meditation on disappointment, traveling, the comfort of strangers and the joy of funnel cakes.

Director Bio: Kentucky native and AFI graduate Thomas Southerland has been making films of various lengths and quality for 15 years. His short films have screened at numerous festivals and his documentaries have won a few shiny awards. His screenplay *65 South* is currently under option by Anecdote Films. He's a co-partner in Giant Dolphin Pictures, which has produced the award-winning animated shorts *Horses on Mars* and *The Looking Planet*.

USA / 90 min

22



Tourist Trap

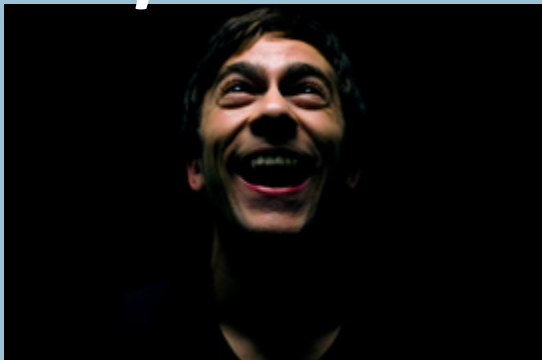
Director: Alana Purcell / USA / 13 min / World Premiere

A lovelorn Japanese tourist falls into a California romance with a local girl.

NARRATIVE FEATURE

They Look Like People

Friday, May 28, 10:00pm, Edison Theater



Director/Writer: Perry Blackshear

Producers: Perry Blackshear, Kimberly Parker

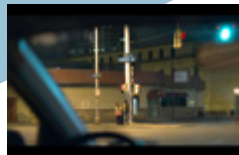
Cast: MacLeod Andrews, Evan Dumouchel, Margaret Drake, Mick Casale, Elena Greenlee

Suspecting that people are transforming into malevolent shape-shifters, Wyatt flees to New York City to seek out his estranged childhood friend Christian. As the mysterious horrors close in on Wyatt, he questions whether to protect his only friend from an impending war, or from himself. A genre-bending story about love, loyalty and living nightmares.

Director Bio: Perry Blackshear spent most of his childhood believing he was a mountain lion named Graxor. He is an alumnus of NYU's

Graduate Film Program, the IFP Emerging Narrative Lab, and the IFP Post-Production Lab. He currently works at a digital agency in Brooklyn while preparing his second feature film.

USA / 80 min



Drama

Director: Tian Guan / USA / 11 min

A young couple are going to have sex in a car, but realize there are no more condoms left. The girl in the car believes a young woman standing on a nearby street corner is a prostitute, and tells the guy to ask her for a condom.

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DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

20 Years of Madness

Saturday, May 30, 12:00pm, USFS Theater



Director: Jeremy Royce

Producers: Jeremy Royce, Jerry White Jr., Kaveh Taherian

Cast: Jerry White Jr., Joe Hornacek, John Ryan, Jesus Rivera, Matt Zaleski, Susan Piper, Andy Menko

When the eccentric cast of a mid-90s Public Access show in Detroit reunite after 20 years to make a new episode, they are forced to take a hard look at their lives and reconcile their teenage dreams with the realities of adulthood.

Director Bio: An MFA graduate from USC's School of Cinematic Arts, Jeremy Royce worked as a cinematographer for ten years before making his directorial debut. *20 Years of Madness* marks Jeremy's return to his teenage obsession with

stories about artists on the verge of insanity, chasing their unlikely dreams.

USA / 90m



Ding Dong

Director: Darren Coyle / USA / 13 min

Billy and Ray are in a house - and neither of them is supposed to be there. They're both con-men. One of them is an alien with a big appetite.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Autism in Love

Friday, May 29, 5:00pm, USFS Theater



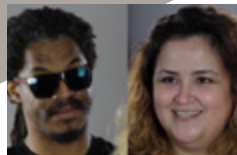
Director: Matt Fuller

Producers: Carolina Groppa, Matt Fuller

The story of four adults with autism spectrum disorders as they search for and manage love and relationships. Their stories, heart-breaking and brave, take audiences on a journey that urges them to question and reevaluate their own ideals of what it means to love and be loved.

Director Bio: After graduating from the University of Central Florida, Matt Fuller worked for Sony Pictures Entertainment then MBST Entertainment before beginning his career as an independent filmmaker in 2012. Fuller recently launched The InSight Picture Company. *Autism in Love* is Fuller's first feature film.

USA / 75 min



The And (Marcela and Rocks)

Director: Topaz Adizes / USA / 12 min

An intimate conversation between a husband and wife about obstacles in their union, it is part of the larger interactive relationship genome project (www.theand.us). The And is the best couples' therapy you'll ever witness.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

The Chinese Mayor

Saturday, May 30, 5:00pm, USFS Theater



Director: Hao Zhou

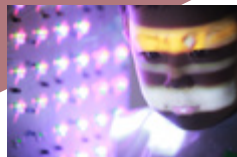
Producer: Qi Zhao

Granted remarkable access to the daily business of a high-ranking mainland Chinese official, Hao Zhou's *The Chinese Mayor* offers a fascinating verite portrait of the collision between progress, politics, corruption and citizens' rights in a rapidly changing People's Republic. This is the China that the authorities don't want you to see.

Director Bio: Hao Zhou started his career as a photographer for China's national news group Xinhua News Agency and Southern Weekly, the country's most influential weekly newspaper. His debut documentary *Hou Jie Township* (2001) won the Black Pottery Award (Best New Profes-

sional) at the Yunnan Multi-Culture Visual Festival. His credits include *Senior Year* (2006) and *Using* (2008), which won awards at the Hong Kong International Festival and the Taiwan International Documentary Festival. Zhou has been included on juries at the Chicago International Festival, Taiwan International Documentary Festival, and the Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival.

China / 86 min



N6-4Q: Born Free

Director: Sasha Gransjean / USA / 12 min

Originally in search of revolution, ultimately the owner of a pet fish store, Kyoto is forced by financial situations and health issues to return to his home country, Japan.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

The Cult of JT Leroy

Friday, May 29, 7:30pm, USFS Theater



the Berkeley Video and Film Festival for her short narrative, *The Cult of JT Leroy* is her first feature-length documentary.

USA / 90 min

Director: Marjorie Sturm

Producers: Josh Melrod, Marjorie Sturm

JT's life and death sprang open a Pandora's box of powerful questions about literature and culture, identity and celebrity, and the reality of the society we live in. A teen prostitute, addicted to heroin and infected with HIV, J.T. was encouraged by a therapist to write his life story – a bizarre tale that perplexes to this day.

Director Bio: Marjorie Sturm studied Psychology at the University of Michigan and received her MFA in cinema from San Francisco State University. She was an interviewer, cinematographer, and Bay Area media wrangler for the 99%-Occupy Wall Street Collaborative Film that had its premiere at Sundance in 2013. She received the Grand Festival Award at



Horse

Director: Shen Jie / China / 6 min

Five chapters about a horse are repeated and cut with escalating, violent revelations.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Saturday May 30, 2:30pm, Edison Theater

Dying to Know: Ram Daas and Timothy Leary



Director: Gay Dillingham

Producers: Gay Dillingham, Michael Donnelly

Cast: Timothy Leary, Richard Alpert (aka Ram Daas), Dr. Andrew Weil, Huston Smith, Roshi Joan Halifax, Ralph Metzner

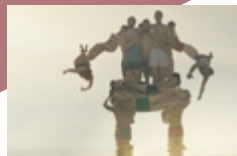
This intimate portrait celebrates two complex, controversial characters in an epic friendship that shaped a generation. In the early 1960s, Harvard psychology professors Timothy Leary and Richard Alpert began probing the edges of consciousness through their experiments with psychedelics. With interviews spanning 50 years, *Dying to Know* invites us into the future and encourages us to ponder questions about life, drugs, and death.

Director Bio: Gay has consistently juggled her passions for the envi-

ronment, public policy and communication through film in an effort to deepen our human experience. Her first documentary, *The WIPP Trail*, was narrated by Robert Redford and cast a critical eye at our nation's first and still world's only underground nuclear waste repository. *My Body Belongs to Me*, a children's pro-active educational program on sexual abuse, earned the American Film Festival award for "Guidance & Values Education". *Dying to Know* has been a labor of love on and off for 17 years; footage so compelling it was haunting her to finish.

USA / 95 min

30



Interesting Ball

Directors: Daniel Kwan, Daniel Scheinert / USA / 13 min

A red ball bounces past a cafe and a couple of folks' houses and then goes to the beach.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Omo Child

Thursday, May 28, 7:30pm, USFS Theater



John's journey to Southwest Ethiopia in 2004 to photograph the tribes of the Omo Valley dramatically changed his life's direction. On that first trip to the Omo Valley, Lale Labuko was John's guide and translator. After Lale shared with John the secret practice of "mingi" and asked for his help, John & Lale co-founded Omo Child in 2010. John donates his time and a portion of the profits from his photography to support the work of Omo Child.

Ethiopia, USA / 89 min

Director: John Rowe

Producers: John Rowe, Tyler Rowe

For many generations, people in the Omo Valley (southwest Ethiopia) believed some children are cursed and that these "cursed" children bring disease, drought, and death to the tribe. The curse is called "mingi," and mingi children are killed. Lale Labuko, a young, educated man from the Kara tribe decided to stop this practice. Filmed over a five year period, we follow Lale's journey along with the people of his tribe as they attempt to change an ancient practice.

Director Bio: San Diego, California-based photographer and filmmaker John Rowe has traveled the world photographing some of its most fascinating people and their cultures.



Die Soldaat

Director: Will Henke, Jacques Strauss / UK, South Africa / 9 min

South Africa, 1974. A war raging in the north has spilled over the South African border, threatening the lives of a rural farming community. Two young friends decide to go hunting, changing their lives forever.

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SHORTS BLOCK 1

Thursday May 28, 2:30pm, Edison Theater

Mulignans

Director: Shaka King /
USA / 5 min



mulignan(s) / moo.lin.yan(s)/
n. 1. Italian-American slang
for a black man. Derived
from Italian dialect word
for “eggplant.” See also:
moolie. Source: Urban
Dictionary and pretty much
every mob movie ever.

Una Nit

Director: Marta Bayarri /
Spain / 17 min



A romantic, psychological
thriller. Two strangers
connect, observe, and find
intimacy. Or do they?

Jam

Director: Brett Fleischer
/ USA / 8 min



18 characters are stuck
in traffic in the middle
of nowhere. Ranging
from comically absurd to
tragically honest, each
vignette pushes us forward
through the traffic jam
to ultimately answer the
question... what are they
doing here?

T'es pas game

Director: Sandrine
Brodeur-Desrosiers /
Canada / 12 min



David and Margot have been
in a relationship for seven
years, and their secret is
to continuously challenge
one another. One night
they lock themselves up in
their apartment and push
their limits. Who's the least
chicken?

Upon the Rock

Director: James Bascara / USA / 9 min



After having a vision of a deserted island paradise, a man's desire to leave his mundane life takes over him, both mentally and physically. He leaves everything behind in search of his island.

Forcer Baby

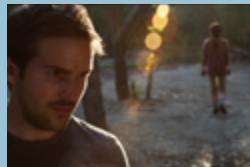
Director: Spencer Showalter / USA / 14 min



A lone greaser and his cyborg sidekick thwart a syrup-junkie Sheriff's plan to overthrow a desolate town.

Lay in Wait

Director: Jonathan Ade / USA / 25 min



A young married woman in the midst of an affair loses her wedding ring in the woods and must find it before the sun sets.

SHORTS BLOCK 2

Friday May 29, 2:30pm, Edison Theater

Batman & Jimbo

Director: Angus Mullane / Australia / 7 min



Two low-life guys, Johnny and Jimbo, pretend to rob the local store in an effort to win back Johnny's ex-wife. The situation turns horribly wrong when they find an actual robbery taking place.

The Hypnotist

Director: Jon Braver / USA / 18 min



Elijah, the brilliant and now banished psychologist, sees no other option but to use the controversial device he created to enter his wife's unconscious mind and attempt to pull her out of her five-year coma.

The Last Ones

Director: Amy Heidt / USA / 9 min



Jenny and Joe are the last two single people in a group of couples. A dinner party becomes an impromptu intervention around why they're still single. Their only choice - shoot their way out with words.

Pauline Alone

Director: Janicza Bravo / USA / 13 min



A friendless woman tries hard to connect. She confronts people she's never met through their lost and found postings. As she gets close to a potential friend her desperation gets in the way.

Dolphin Lover

Director: Kareem Tabsch
/ USA / 15 min



The incredible true story of the romantic and sexual relationship between Malcolm Brenner, a freelance photographer, and Dolly, a captive bottle-nosed dolphin.

Day of the Dutch

Director: Martha Colburn /
Netherlands, USA / 5 min



Like the Dutch genre paintings from the Golden Age, *Day of the Dutch* depicts the traditional values of family and standards... until an event changes a young girl's life.

Waiting for the Sun

Director: David Arslanian
/ France / 27 min



Tristan, a 24 year old man, is going to leave the only city he's ever lived in. It's time for him to think about his future, and enjoy the moment.

SHORTS BLOCK 3

Saturday May 30, 10am, Edison Theater

Timmy II

Director: Imran J. Khan /
USA / 9 min



An absurd, fast-paced comedy about a robot with an identity crisis.

Un Signe, Un Geste

Director: Don Duncan /
Belgium / 18 min



It is only when Rosaline stops believing in God that she meets Georges, a puppeteer. Lovelorn, he sees in her aspects of a woman he once loved and lost.

Cruising

Director: Zachary Zezima
/ USA / 3 min



Based on a true story, *Cruising* follows a young man through an extrovert's dream and an introvert's nightmare: the chaotic and cacophonous world of forced-fun aboard an insular cruise ship.

My Best Friend's Death

Director: Eric McCoy / USA
/ 15 min



A comedy about a guy who tries to commit suicide. When the Grim Reaper shows up, the two discover they went to high school together.

Surf Noir

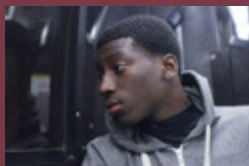
Director: Tommy Bertelsen / USA / 15 min / World Premiere



In a stylized world of neon-drenched sunsets, the cult of Santa Muerte keeps a gang of rebel surfers young forever. Hitchcock set to surf rock in a land of dark sands.

Stop

Director: Reinaldo Marcus Green / USA / 9 min



A young man's livelihood is put to the test when he gets profiled and stopped by the police on his way home from practice.

Locanda

Director: Lucas Pannatier / Switzerland / 20 min



Vincent, a shy man in his thirties, is in love with a courtesan who dreams of eye surgery. Discovering she can't afford it, Vincent decides to finance the operation.



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PARTIES & EVENTS

Opening Night Gala

Wednesday May 27, 8:30pm-1:00pm, Sierra Event Center

Kick off Mammoth Lakes' first juried, independent film festival in style! Dance the night away to some sweet digital tunes, enjoy an open bar, and meet our visiting filmmakers.

Filmmakers' Happy Hour

Thursday May 28, 5:00pm-7:00pm, Duke's Bar, Sierra Nevada Lodge

Enjoy your sweetest happy hour yet - an open bar at Duke's in the lobby of the Sierra Nevada Lodge. Mingle with fellow film-goers and our visiting filmmakers.

Filmmakers' Bash

Friday May 29, 9:00pm-1:00am, Rafters

Come celebrate and honor our visiting filmmakers with a party to end all parties (although we've still got one more night to party)! But this one's got SPINDRIFT, the psychedelic and acid western rock band who film their own indie westerns in ghost towns and mountain towns across the US. Enjoy an open bar, a stellar venue, and this one-of-a-kind band with us at RAFTERS.

Panel Discussion with Jury Members

"Women's ever changing roles in Hollywood"

Saturday May 30, 12:00pm, Edison Theatre

Free – First Come First Serve Seating.

Closing Night Awards Gala

Saturday May 30, 9:00 - 12:00am, Sierra Event Center

(across from Vons, next to Shogun) This is the last one. This is it. And although our winning films will be shown for an encore tomorrow, it may seem like our inaugural Mammoth Lakes Film Festival is coming to a close. But this is just the beginning, right?

JURY AWARDS will be presented for Best Narrative Feature, Best Documentary Feature, Best Narrative Short, and Best Documentary Short. AUDIENCE AWARDS will be presented for Favorite Narrative Feature and Favorite Documentary Feature.

After the awards presentations (and during), we will celebrate an incredibly diverse, resourceful, and innovative group of filmmakers. Did they make you think? Did they make you laugh, cry, jump out of your seat? But most importantly, did they make you think? Let's talk, enjoy the open bar, and dance about it with another D.J. into the wee hours of the night.

JURY

ALLISON AMON developed a strong passion for film at The University of Wisconsin Madison, where she majored in Anthropology with a strong focus on ethnographic documentary filmmaking. Following university, she and her then future husband spent over a year hitchhiking through northern Africa and Europe. Her passion for filmmaking landed her in Los Angeles during the mid-'90s, during which time she worked as a Head of Production at the now shuttered Palomar Pictures. At the close of the decade, Allison joined Chelsea and opened their Los Angeles branch. She and her partner Lisa Mehling became co-owners in 2001. Chelsea is a creatively driven, independently owned production and talent management company. Chelsea has cultivated and curated a roster of unique and diverse talents and garnered the advertising industry's top accolades, from Gold Lions to Pencils. The work of Chelsea directors has been featured at Sundance, Venice, Cannes, Toronto and The Berlin Film Festival amongst others. Allison was an executive producer on the documentary, *Queen of Versailles*, which opened the Sundance Festival in 2012 and became one of the top grossing US documentaries of all time. Chelsea represents independent film makers David Gordon Green, Kyle Patric Alvarez, Lauren Greenfield, Alex Gibney, Greg Kohs, Neil Abramson, Amir Bar-Lev, and Robb Bindler amongst others. Allison and her family own a home in Mammoth Lakes



and spend a considerable amount of time in the Easter Sierra, especially in the winter, as her two children ski for the Mammoth Mountain Ski Team.

KIMBERLEY BROWNING is the Founder and Festival Director of Hollywood Shorts Film Festival, which launched in 1998. The festival hosts monthly short film & animation screenings, and is the longest running short film series in LA. Kimberley currently serves as the Associate Short Film Programmer at the Guadalajara International Film Festival Los Angeles (FICGinLA), and was part of the short film selection committee for the Los Angeles Film Festival in 2013 & 2014. Kimberley has been a director and producer in LA for over 20 years, and works extensively in film & tv production, live music entertainment, and new media/transmedia creation. Kimberley most recently directed *Room 19*, a documentary on the impact of Arts Education in the Southern California area which is currently on the festival circuit.



YANA GORSKAYA received the American Cinema Editor's Award for her first feature, the Academy Award nominated documentary *Spellbound*, which followed eight children on their way to the National Spelling Bee. Other credits include the dark comedy *Rocket Science*, which won the Sundance directing prize for long time collaborator Jeffrey Blitz.

Other films at Sundance include Blitz's documentary *Lucky*, the Miramax comedy *Smart People*, and the dramedy *Celeste And Jessie Forever*. Most recently, she worked on Jemaine Clement and Taika Waititi's mockumentary *What We Do In The Shadows*, which took home the People's Choice Award at the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival. Yana frequently consults on both documentary and fiction films. Last year, she had the honor of consulting on the multi-award winning and Emmy-nominated documentary *Valentine Road* and helped *Call Me Kuchu* prepare for the Berlin Film Festival. There, *Call Me Kuchu* won two awards and placed second for the Panorama audience award. The film also went on to win top honors at nine other major festivals. Yana immigrated to the United States from Russia as a child, and is now a dual citizen of France and the US. She received her BA from Columbia University and MFA from USC's School of Cinema Television with numerous honors. She also holds an honorary degree from Whittier College.



Fraternity Vacation, horror films, *Halloween 4* and *Bride of Re-Animator*, and went on to work in the Stephen J. Cannell series,

KATHLEEN KINMONT, actor, writer, producer, cinematographer and director, was born and raised in the entertainment industry. Her mother, actress Abby Dalton, carried Kathleen through *The Joey Bishop Show*, and its final season. The last episode was Kathleen's birth. Kathleen started acting as a child with her mom and her brothers Matt and John. She began working as an actor, straight out of high school, in *Hardbodies* and

Renegade. She was directed by Tom Hanks in *That Thing You Do* working alongside Kevin Pollack as his Secretary. Her mom was always had such a great influence. "That's why I had to have her star in my first opportunity to direct. My brother, Matt, and I wrote a short, that my brother, John, and I produced. *Mrs. Sweeney* took us to several film festivals, an award and several nominations. I love the independent film community, there's never been a greater time to be able to do so much." Kathleen is currently creating her own film and television projects which can be screened at kinmontproductions.com



ANDREW LAZAR is an Academy Award-Nominated Producer Andrew Lazar formed Mad Chance in 1995 with a mandate to focus on smart, intriguing material in every genre and budget range. His debut was the Shakespeare-influenced teen comedy *10 Things I Hate About You*, starring Heath Ledger, Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Julia Stiles. Lazar is currently in pre-production on *It's What I Do*, based on the memoir by

war-photographer Lynsey Addario. Steven Spielberg is directing, and Jennifer Lawrence starring. Lazar recently wrapped *Mort-decai*, an action comedy based on the book by Kyril Bonfiglioli. Johnny Depp, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ewan McGregor, Paul Bettany and Olivia Munn star in the film, directed by David Koepp. Set up at Warner Brothers, Lazar has *QUEEN OF THE AIR*, an epic and true love story set in the circus at the turn of the century, and the fantasy action movie *LORE*, based on the graphic novel

cont. >

JURY

of the same name, with Dave Green directing and Dwayne Johnson starring. Among his many other additional upcoming credits, Lazar is working alongside Leonardo DiCaprio's Appian Way to adapt the cult classic Japanese manga *Akira*, with Jaume Collet-Serra directing.



KRISTANNA LOKEN is best known as the dangerously beautiful “Terminatrix” in the highly successful Warner Bros. franchise film *Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines*. She has starred in numerous cult favorites including *Painkiller Jane*, *The L-Word*, and the Sy-Fy mini-series, *Dark Kingdom: The Dragon King*. On the feature film side, Kristanna starred opposite Robert Patrick and Gabriel Macht in Sony's *Swat: Firefight*, as

well as *Bloodrayne*, the film adaptation of the highly popular video game of the same name. After recurring as “Rebecca” in seasons 5 and 6 of *Burn Notice* on USA Network, Kristanna produced and starred in *Fighting For Freedom*, the first feature by her production company LokenMann Productions, starring Bruce Dern, Jose Maria Yaspik, and Patricia De Leon.

LARRY MEISTRICH In 1990, at the age of 24, Larry Meistrich, with just \$7,000, founded The Shooting Gallery (TSG). In his triple role as Founder, Chairman of the Board, and Chief Executive Officer of TSG, Meistrich was hands-on producer and an

integral part of the production of roughly 100 films, commercials and music videos including the Academy Award-winning *Sling Blade* and the Academy Award nominated *You Can Count On Me*. Meistrich made industry history when Thornton's *Sling Blade* was purchased by Miramax for a price that broke all previous sale records in independent film. Meistrich's other well-known films include Cannes winner *Henry Fool*, Clive Owen's breakout film *Croupier*, and *Belly*. His pictures have won the gamut of international awards including the Academy's Oscar and include Golden Globes, SAG Award, DGA Award, Top Five category awards at Cannes, Sundance, Berlin. Actors and directors Meistrich has produced include Al Pacino, Laurence Fishburne, Spike Lee and Billy Bob Thornton.



BREVEN ANGAELICA WARREN founded and directs an arts and ecology non-profit, Angaelica, hosting the Columbia Gorge International Film Festival, in its 8th season and a Pop-up Gallery in its 6th year during Art Basel Miami Beach. Sitting on granting committees for the Sundance Institute as well as being actively involved in programming at AFI Fest, LA Film Festival, Outfest and Slamdance, she loves independent film.

Breven's a working artist who is passionate about encouraging her creative community.

AWARDS & PRIZES

Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony and Party, starting at 9pm on Saturday the 30th at the Sierra Event Center.

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Jury Award for Feature Narrative

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Jury Award for Narrative Short

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Juliana Olinka

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Aleksandra Gajewski

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Matt Johnstone

PR

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Sharon Clark

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Eduardo Praça

Festival Trailer Music

SPECIAL THANKS:

Mitchell Amundsen

Pam Bartley

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Todd Robertson

Paul & Kathleen Rudder

Evan Russell

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FILM INDEX

20 Years of Madness	26	Fantasticherie di un passeggiatore solitario	19	Omo Child	31
The And (Marcela and Rocks) . . .	27	Female Pervert	20	Pauline Alone	36
Asco	16	Focus	19	Proud Citizen	22
Autism in Love	27	Forcer Baby	35	The Sad Snowman	21
Batman and Jimbo	36	Horse	29	Steve Jobs: Man in the Machine . .	13
Birds of Neptune	17	The Hypnotist	36	Stop	39
Cartel Land	15	The Incredible Adventures of Jojo (and his annoying sister Avila) . . .	21	Surf Noir	39
The Chinese Mayor	28	Interesting Ball	30	T'es pas game	34
Cruising	38	Jam	34	They Look Like People	23
The Cult of JT Leroy	29	The Last Ones	36	The Tide Keeper	17
Day of the Dutch	37	Lay In Wait	35	Timmy II	38
Diamond Tongues	18	Locanda	39	Tourist Trap	22
Die Soldaat	31	Models	18	Un Signe, Un Geste	38
Ding Dong	26	Mulignans	34	Una Nit	34
Dolphin Lover	37	My Best Friend's Death	38	Unknown Unknown	20
Drama	23	N64Q: Born Free	28	Upon the Rock	35
Dying to Know: Ram Daas and Timothy Leary	30			Uprising Pact	16
				Waiting for the Sun	37

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