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festival schedule

wednesday, may 24		7:00pm	7:00pm		9:00pm	
Minaret Cinemas		Up in Smoke				
Sierra Event Center					Opening Night Party	
thursday, may 25	3:00pm	5:00pm	7:00pm		9:00pm	
Edison	Shorts Block 1	Eight			Space Detective	
Forest Service		The Challenge	Strad Style			
Sierra Nevada Lodge		Happy Hour 5-7				

friday, may 26		2:30pm		5:30pm			8:00	pm
Edison Sho		Shorts Block 2	Shorts Block 2		Shorts Block 3		The Fixer	
Forest Service				What Lies Upstream		Forever B		
sat, may 27	10:00am	12:00pm	2:3	0pm	5:0	00pr	n	7:30pm
Edison		Shorts Block 4	The	Erlprince	Ма	chines		
Forest Service	Indie Cartoons for Kids	Rat Film	Olancho		Neighborhood Food Drive			Baby It's You John Sayles
Rafters						1	0:00p	m Filmmaker Bash
sunday, may 2	28	11:00am	2:0	0pm	5:0)0pn	า	7:00pm
Edison		Cold Breath	195	Lewis	Wil	hdraw	n	
Forest Service		Shorts Encore Screening		Great /ashed	Ме	nashe		Dina
Sierra Event Ce						n Awai ony &		

map & locations

- Edison Theater / Festival HQ
 College Parkway
- 2. U.S. Forest Service Theater 2510 Main Street
- 3. Minaret Cinemas 439 Old Mammoth Rd.
- 4. South Gateway Student Apts.121 College Parkway
- Sierra Event Center
 452 Old Mammoth Rd
- **6. Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa** 164 Old Mammoth Rd.
- 7. Rafters
 202 Old Mammoth Rd



table of contents

Welcome from Shira	.7
Welcome from Paul	.9
Sponsors	.10-11
Opening Night Screening	.13
Baby It's You / An Evening with John Sayles	.14-15
Spotlight Screenings	.16-19
Narrative Features	.23-29
Episodic—Nuqueer Power	.31
Doc Features	.34-41
Shorts Blocks	42-49
Indie Cartoons for Kids	.50-51
Parties & Events	.53
Jury	.54-56
Awards & Prizes	.57
Staff & Credits	.60
Film Index	.61



welcome from shira

In the third year of the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival we continue to pride ourselves on celebrating the independent filmmaker who stays true to a personal vision and pushes boundaries.

This year we chose to recognize John Sayles with the Sierra Spirit Award. Sayles' body of work epitomizes the kind of filmmaking we respect and want to encourage. We have programmed work by a group of filmmakers that stay true to that same integrity of vision. In these unsettling times, it's more important than ever to make sure that we are not only entertaining but taking responsibility with our art to mirror the human condition and bring it to the screen with the greatest possible honesty and sensitivity.

Over the past many months we have taken the time to carefully comb through over 1,100 submissions and put together a diverse collection of films that will push you to think, feel and hopefully react and create change.

As artists that is our job and our duty and I am so proud of each and every one of our 2017 filmmakers. This talented group of artists put their unique visions up on the screen

with a commitment to telling their stories their own way.

I hope you will come out and meet all the visiting filmmakers that we've brought to Mammoth Lakes. Engage them and make them feel welcome in the beautiful Eastern Sierra—a natural setting as inspiring as the films they have created.



Festival Director





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welcome from paul

In putting together the program for this year's Mammoth Lakes Film Festival we had the opportunity to comb through over 1,100 submissions—nearly four times as many as last year,

which is a hugely encouraging sign that we're doing things right. We received an amazing bit of recognition from MovieMaker magazine, who have included us in their "50 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee" two years in a row. Since the launch of our festival we have made it a priority to put filmmakers first, investing in bringing them to Mammoth Lakes, housing them and giving their films a lovingly produced showcase.

The challenge in programming the festival is to showcase inspired and innovative emerging filmmakers and at the same time create a program that will appeal to both mainstream audiences and highly adventurous cinephiles. To that end we've chosen a varied slate, including, on the one

hand, films with mainstream appeal that retain their gleaming raw edges and, on the other, films that boldly color outside the lines. We strive to bring our audiences an alternative to

mutiplex films, films that are more human, more imaginative, that are unafraid to probe at social taboos, to channel anger into action, to be hopeful or overly truthful or dazzlingly dishonest; to ignore the currents of fashion, to get awkwardly real and intimate, or to indulge in art for art's sake.

We do our best to create a fun, friendly and nurturing environment for filmmakers and audiences—I hope you'll come out to our screenings and events; we'd love to meet you!

paul sbrizzi
Director of Programming

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opening night screening

Up In Smoke



with Tommy Chong in Person



USA / 1975 / 93 min Wed. May 24, 7:00pm, Minaret Cinemas

As pot gets legalized across the country, our thoughts drift back to the heady days of the 1970s, when pot smoking was pervasive and totally illegal. We open of the third annual Mammoth Lakes Film Festival with the ultimate stoner comedy of the era: Cheech and Chong's massively popular first film *Up In Smoke*. The guest of honor will be Tommy Chong, who starred alongside Cheech Marin and was the uncredited co-director of the film. He will come up for a Q&A after the screening.

Directors: Lou Adler, Tommy Chong Writers: Tommy Chong, Cheech Marin Cast: Cheech Marin, Tommy Chong, Stacey Keach, Strother Martin

Cheech and Chong meet up by chance on a highway in California. They go looking for some dope and are accidentally deported to Mexico. Desperate to get home, they agree to drive a van back to the States so they can get back in time for a gig they are due to play. Unaware of what materials the van is made of, they make their way back with a couple of female hitchhikers, avoiding the cops—without even realizing they're being followed.

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special presentation

Baby It's You

Saturday May 27, 7:30pm, Forest Service Theater

Director: John Sayles

Writers: Amy Robinson (story), John Sayles (screenplay)

Cast: Rosanna Arquette, Vincent Spano, Joanna Merlin, Matthew Modine

In 1966 New Jersey, Jill Rosen, a frustrated high schooler, is intrigued by an enigmatic new student known only as Sheik. Sheik is an Italian whose primary interests are his car, Frank Sinatra, and Jill. At first she is taken aback by his forwardness, but they soon develop a relationship, much to the chagrin of their parents. Sheik gets expelled from school, and Jill is accepted at an allgirls college. After a fight, Sheik goes to Florida to work in a club lip-synching Sinatra songs. Sheik becomes dissatisfied with his Florida lifestyle and goes back to New Jersey to try to win Jill over.



USA / 1983 / 105 Min

centerpiece sierra spirit award presentation

An Evening with John Sayles

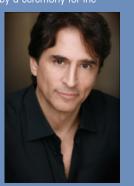


John Sayles

Sierra Spirit Award Ceremony and Conversation with John Sayles following the screening of Baby It's You

Spend an evening with John Sayles and watch his coming of age classic Baby It's You (1983) 105 min.) starring Rosanna Arguette and Vincent Spano and shot by legendary DP Michael Ballhaus. Considered by many to be one of the founding fathers of modern American independent cinema, Sayles has established

a reputation for refusing to abandon his values in favor of becoming a studio filmmaker. His films are richly nuanced explorations of personal and political relationships, a style that reflects Sayles' beginnings as a novelist. He once admitted, "My main interest is making films about people... The film screening will be followed by a ceremony for the SIERRA SPIRIT AWARD in which Sayles will be reunited with Vincent Spano, who has gone on to a luminous career in film and television both in the US and in Italy. Spano will present the award to John Sayles and there will be a Q&A to follow.



Vincent Spano

spotlight screening

The Challenge

Italy, Qatar / 84 min

Thursday May 25, 5:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Yuri Ancarani

In this breathtakingly-shot, dreamlike film shot in Qatar, the world's wealthiest country, the mega-rich are seen keeping a wild animal as a house-pet, driving a brand-new Lamborghini across the desert, riding in a biker gang with a solid-gold motorcycle, and flying in private jets to falconry competitions with their birds on luxurious perches.

Director Bio: Yuri Ancarani is an Italian video arlist and filmmaker. His works come from a continuous mingling of documentary cinema and contemporary art. His work has been exhibited around the world and has won numerous awards.

Hairat



Director: Jessica Beshir / USA, Ethiopia / 7 min

A story about Yussuf Mume Saleh's hypnotizing nightly ritual of bonding with hyenas in the outskirts of the walled city of Harar.

spotlight screening

Machines

India / 75 min

Saturday May 27, 5:00pm, Edison Theater



Director: Rahul Jain Writer: Rahul Jain

A stunningly-shot, intimate, observant portrait of the rich textures and rhythms of life and work in a gigantic textile factory in Gujarat, India. The film reveals the punishing realities of making a living from manual labor in an environment where unions are systematically destroyed. Special Jury Award for Cinematography, Sundance 2017.

Director Bio: Rahul Jain was born in Delhi and educated in the US. He went to a military school in Indiana and later, after dropping out of Engineering, studied filmmaking at Cal Arts. *Machines* is his first feature.

Railment



Director: Shunsaku Hayashi / Japan / 9 min

In a continuous scenery, his physical movement stays in the same position. The speed of the continuity and his movement have accelerated and gradually cause a distortion

spotlight screening

Menashe

USA / 82 min

Sunday May 28, 5:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Joshua Z Weinstein

Writers: Alex Lipschultz, Musa Syeed,

Joshua Z Weinstein

Cast: Menashe Lustig, Ruben Niborski, Yoel Weisshaus, Meyer Schwartz

Within Brooklyn's ultra-orthodox Jewish community, a widower battles for custody of his son. A tender drama performed entirely in Yiddish, the film intimately explores the nature of faith and the price of parenthood.

Director Bio: Joshua Z Weinstein's work has shown at the Toronto International Film Festival, South by South West, and Tribeca. In 2012 Weinstein directed *Drivers Wanted*, a feature documentary about a cab garage in Queens. He also directed the films *Flying On One Engine* and *I Beat Mike Tyson*. He has lectured on film at Duke, NYU and Vanderbuilt. He is an alumnus of Boston University's College of Communication Film department.

Batfish Soup



Director: Amanda Bonaiuto / USA / 4 min

Wacky relatives give way to mounting tensions with broken dolls, boiling stew and a bana.

closing night screening

Dina

USA / 101 min

Sunday May 28, 7:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Directors: Antonio Santini, Dan Sickles Featuring: Dina Buno, Scott Levin

An inspiring, resilient middle-aged woman with deep emotional scars and mild autism navigates the difficult path to intimacy with a kind Walmart door greeter who may or may not be able to fulfill her needs. Grand Jury Winner for best Documentary at Sundance 2017

Director Bio: Antonio Santini is an artist and director born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. His first film was *Killer Tranny*, made as a present for John Waters. He then directed *Mala Mala* (2014) with Dan Sickles, a film about the trans experience in Puerto Rico. It premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and received an audience gward. *Dira* is his second film.

Dan Sickles is a filmmaker, actor, and writer best known for directing *Mala Mala* (2014), and for a 2011 stage production of Hamlet in which he played the title role. Born in Philadelphia and currently living between New York City and Paris, *Dina* is his second film with Antonio Santini and their production company, El Peligro.





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Cold Breath

Iran / 83 min

Sunday May 28, 11:00am, Edison Theater



Director: Abbas Raziji Writer: Abbas Raziji

Cast: Bita Baderan, Majid Mozaffari, Parichehr Riali, Hamideh Barati

A gritty, sensitive, beautifully-observed drama about a transsexual single parent who guards her secret as she grinds out a living and fights to keep good boundaries with the man who loves her. She gradually opens up to her employers when her daughter's illness forces her into asking for help.

Director Bio: Born in Ahwaz, Abbas Raziji got an MFA in acting before moving to Tehran, where he directed theater and worked as a film director's assistant. He has been a collaborator for the *Bani Film* newspaper and *Soroush* magazine. He has also worked in casting and as an acting coach.

Hür



Director: Onur Canpek / Turkey / 12 min / N. American Premiere

A little girl stands up to her domineering mother and dreams about escaping home.

The Erlprince

Poland / 101 min Saturday May 27, 2:30pm, Edison Theater



Director: Kuba Czekaj Writer: Kuba Czekaj

Cast: Staszek Cywka, Agnieszka Podsiadlik, Sebastian Lach

An exceptionally gifted teenage boy is about to start studying physics at university. He is working on the theory of parallel worlds, which are linked, he initially believes, by light. He has an extraordinary mind and a wounded soul, which his mother, who steers his life, is incapable of healing.

Director Bio: Born in Wrocław in 1984. Graduated in directing from the Krzysztof Kieslowski Radio and Television Faculty at the University of Silesia in Katowice and from the Wajda School in Warsaw. Director, screenwriter of the two short films Don't be Afraid of the numerous awards. His debut feature *Babv Bump*

narrative feature

The Fixer

Romania / 100 min Friday May 26, 8:00pm, Edison Theater



Director: Adrian Sitaru

Writers: Adrian Silisteanu, Claudia

Silisteanu

Cast: Tudor Istodor, Mehdi Nebbou,

Nicolas Wanczycki

Radu works occasionally as a fixer for European media, dreaming of becoming a journalist. Given the opportunity to work for French television on a story about juvenile prostitution, he tries to prove his abilities by pushing things to the limit of professional ethics. When he meets Anca, an underage girl who was forced into prostitution in France, he becomes aware of his abusive attitude.

Director Bio: Adrian Sitaru is a Romanian director. numerous shorts and features and won awards at Berlin, Locarno and many other festivals around the

The Great Unwashed

UK / 82 min / N. American Premiere Sunday May 28, 2:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Louis Fonseca

Writers: Louis Fonseca, Nick Horseman Cast: Jon Pointing, Bekka Bowling, Michael Rvan

An exciting new crop of up-and-comers from the British comedy and sketch circuit show off their chops in this charming, madcap comedy about a handsome but hapless 20-something forced to flee the city and hide out with a tribe of hippies after witnessing a brutal murder by a gang of criminal hairdressers.

Director Bio: Louis Fonseca, a former stand-up comedian, was DP on Baffa Cymru winning feature *Risen:* The Howard Winstone Phenomenon and The Feral Generation, winner of Best UK Feature at the Swansea Life Film Festival. As a director Louis won the Audience Award at the 2011 Cofilmic Comedy Film Festival for his short *Dwain Chambers: Life Guru*, which was picked up by BBC 3 as an online series.

Horseshoe Theory



Director: Jonathan Daniel Brown / USA / 12 min

A white supremacist and a member of the Islamic State begin to realize how much they have in common.

narrative feature

Neighborhood Food Drive

USA / 85 min

Saturday May 27, 5:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Jerzy Rose

Writers: Halle Butler, Mike Lopez,

Jerzy Rose

Cast: Lyra Hill, Bruce Bundy, Ruby McCollister, Ted Tremper, Marcos Barnes, Jared Larson

A group of awful idiots fail at throwing a party over

Director Bio: Jerzy Rose lives in Chicago. His films have shown at the Telluride Film Festival and Slamdance Film Festival. His 2014 feature, *Crimes Against Humanity*, was awarded Best Film by the Boston Underground Film Festival and received a Special Jury Award for Best Ensemble Cast at the Florida Film Festival. He works at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Crown Prince



Directors: Samy Burch & Alex Mechanik / USA 6 min / World Premiere

Prince Hubert Felix Jean-Marie of Luxembourg experiences independence for the very first time.

Space Detective

USA / 93 min

Thursday May 25, 9:00pm, Edison Theater



Director: Antonio Llapur Writers: Matt Sjafiroeddin,

Antonio Llapur

Cast: Matt Sjafiroeddin, Angela Rysk

With a unique aesthetic that puts raw, processed, punk-rock-esque live-action imagery into a richly detailed futuristic fantasy environment, this film noir parody follows an exiled space detective who returns to help an old flame but finds himself tangled in a web of interstellar intrigue, galactic gangsters, and a sinister scheme that threatens the very fate of the entire galaxy!

Director Bio: Antonio studied film at UNLV. His short films include *Joker Does Shakespeare!* He's also a nightclub / rave / music journalist, writing for the *Las Vegas Weekly* and the column *Digital Tony.* His acting roles include the psychotic Cannibal Chef at Eli Roth's Goretorium on the Las Vegas Strip.

Pedazos



Director: Alejandro Peña / USA / 9 min

A candy-coated fantasy about two young men fighting for their love against nefarious forces.

narrative feature

Withdrawn

USA / 74 min

Sunday May 28, 5:00pm, Edison Theater



Director: Adrian Murray Writers: Adrian Murray, Marcus

Sullican, Dean Tardioli

Cast: Aaron Keogh, Molly Reisman, Greg Wasylyszyn, Adrian Murray, Dean Tardioli

An overconfident, confirmed slacker with a gift for dubious monologizing spends his time and energy in a series of hilariously small-scale and unlikely grifts as he strives to unlock the secret of his Rubik's cube.

Director Bio: Adrian won the Cinesiege Award for Best Screenplay for his short *Free Parking*, which also played on the 2013 TIFF Film Circuit. His first feature comedy as writer/producer, *The Suicide Kid*, played at the 2013 Atlanta Film Festival. Adrian was a writer for *The Village Green*, a web series that won the Audience Choice Award at the 2016 Austin Webfest.

Pet Monkey



Director: Eric Maira / USA / 9 min

Terry wants to buy his girlfriend Gwen a pet monkey, and he just won't take no for an answer



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episodic - nuqueer power

195 Lewis

USA / 45 min

Sunday May 28, 2:00pm, Edison Theater







Director: Chanelle Aponte Pearson Writers: Rae Leone Allen, Terence Nance, Chanelle Aponte Pearson, Yaani Supreme Cast: Rae Leone Allen, Sirita Wright, Roxie Johnson, D. Ajane Carlton

"Black, gueer, filled with activists, artists and other producers of according to Pearson. This is the backdrop to this web series, about a group of young women, in which identity and polyamory

Director Bio: Pearson is a Bronx-bred, Brooklynbased visual artist and filmmaker. In 2015 she was awarded the euphoria Calvin Klein "Live the Dream" grant. Paste Magazine named her one of "10 Black Directors to Watch in 2016." She is a NBPC 360 Pitch Black Forum award recipient. She also produced *An* Oversimplification of Her Beauty, which premiered at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival.

Redmond Hand. **Private Dick**



USA / 13 min In her quest to find a beautiful woman's missing cactus, LA's most notorious detective gets caught up in some crazy shit.

Call Your Father



Director: Justin Firstman / USA / 19 min

50-year-old Greg is totally unprepared for his rollercoaster date with Josh, a brainy, unstable, unedited millennial





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documentary feature Eight

Thurs. May 25, 5:00pm, Edison Theater Finland, Russia / 55 min



Director: Marko Vuorinen Writer: Marko Vuorinen

Framed by stunning, high-contrast black and white cinematography, eight candid, articulate, thoughtful young Russian women share their most intimate feelings and insights about romantic relationships. A film about the unbearable lightness of being in love in contemporary St. Petersburg.

Director Bio: Marko Vuorinen is a Helsinki-based and internationally awarded documentarian, fine arts photographer and writer. Vuorinen's work concentrates on social issues, gender equality, and sexuality. He's primarily interested in the women's perspective.

52-The Trolleybus



Director: David Auerbach / Austria, Ukraine / 30 min / World Premiere

A look at the colorful people that try to keep a beloved former communist institution going amidst the political and economic turmoil of the region.

documentary feature

Forever 'B'

USA / 93 min / World Premiere
Friday May 26, 8:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Skye Borgman

Writers: Skye Borgman, Justin

Lebanowski

Featuring: Jan Broberg, Mary Ann Broberg, Bob Broberg, Susan Broberg, Karen Campbell

The twisting, turning, stranger-than-fiction true story of the Brobergs, a naïve, church-going Idaho family that fell under the spell of a sociopathic neighbor with designs on their twelve-year-old daughter.

Director Bio: Skye Borgman is an award winning director and cinematographer who shoots narrative and documentary films all over the world. She received an MFA from USC's Film Production program, and has bee working as a cinematographer for over 15 years.

documentary feature

The Islands and the Whales

UK, Denmark / 84 min
Friday May 26, 2:30pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Mike Day

Featuring: Professor Pál Weihe, Bárdur Isaksen, Elsa Jogvansdottir

Contemporary realities collide with deeply ingrained tradition in the spectacularly beautiful Faroe Islands, as the annual whale hunt is dramatically challenged by animal-rights activists (including Pamela Anderson) and whale meat, a traditional local food, is found to be contaminated with mercury.

Director Bio: Mike is a director, cinematographer and producer from Scotland. His documentary *The Guga Hunters of Ness* was commissioned by the BBC and screened internationally. Mike was listed as one the "10 Filmmakers to Watch in 2012" by *Filmmaker Magazine*, he was one of *EDN's* 12 for the Future 2012, the first Scot on the Nordic programme, and he is a Sundance Documentary Film Program Fellow.

Nutag-Homeland



Director: Alisi Tlengut / Canada / 6 min

A visual poem and surrealist requiem for the Kalmyk people that were mass-deported by USSR from 1943-1957; half of them died before they were allowed to return home.

documentary feature

Olancho

USA, Honduras / 72 min Saturday May 27, 2:30pm, Forest Service Theater



Directors: Chris Valdes & Ted Griswold Writers: Ted Griswold & Chris Valdes Featuring: Manuel Chirinos

Manuel, a Honduran musician, writes and records a song for a local drug cartel, but when it becomes a hit a rival cartel puts a price on his head. He faces a harrowing escape from death and the prospect of trying to survive in the U.S. as an undocumented immigrant.

Director Bio: Ted and Chris met in 2010 when they were both teaching English at a small school in Olancho, Honduras. They became embedded in the community, living in Olancho for two years. Because of the incredible access to the characters, they are the only ones that can tell the story of Olancho from this perspective. Challenges ranged from staring down the barrel of an AK-47 in Honduras to overcoming the obstacles inherent to first-time filmmaking.

Paloma



Director: Giovanni Autran / USA, Cuba / 11 min

A series of intimate vignettes are woven together by the memories and dreams of people in central Havana.

documentary feature

Rat Film

USA / 82 min

Saturday May 27, 12:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Theo Anthony Featuring: Harold Edmond, Maureen Jones

A wise and charming exterminator guides us through a stylishly post-modern and painstakingly researched story about how rats—and the humans that love them, live with them, and kill them—mirror contemporary and historical class divisions in Baltimore.

Director Bio: Theo Anthony (b. 1989) is a writer, photographer, and filmmaker based in Baltimore, MD. His work been featured by the *The Atlantic, Vice, Agence-France Presse* (AFP), and other international media outlets. His films have premiered at Toronto, Locarno, Rotterdam and Anthology Film Archives. In 2015, he was named one of *Filmmaker Magazine's* "25 New Faces of Independent Film."

Service



Director: Josh Schaffner / USA / 5 min

Josh Schaffner

A dark vision of Los Angeles, told through the life of a waiter dreaming of artistic recognition and personal vindication.

documentary feature

Strad Style

USA / 104 min

Thursday May 25, 7:00pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Stefan Avalos Featuring: Daniel Houck, Razvan Stoica, David Campbell, Rodger Stearns, Mary Houck

A dreamer from Ohio meets a famous European concert violinist over the internet and convinces him that he can make a perfect copy of the most famous violin that ever existed—even though he has no formal training in violin making and has never even seen the actual violin. Fighting time, poverty and himself, he attempts to deliver on his brash promise in time for an important concert.

Director Bio: Stefan's life started as a violinist, making his debut with the Philadelphia orchestra at age 10. But even then he knew he wanted to be a filmmaker. Avalos is best known for *The Last Broadcast*, made with Lance Weiler. *Strad Style* is a return to Stefan's violin roots and is his first feature documentary.

Sleep with Me



Director: Summre Garber / USA / 8 min / World Premiere

A podcast that puts people to sleep, the man who creates it, and the insomniacs who are eternally grateful. 39



documentary feature

What Lies Upstream

USA / 93 min

Friday May 26, 5:30pm, Forest Service Theater



Director: Cullen Hoback

Featuring: Dr. Marc Edwards, Dr. Rahul Gupta, Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, Randy Huffman, Dr. David Lewis, Maya Nye, Dr. Andrew Whelton

Investigative filmmaker Cullen Hoback travels to West Virginia to uncover the truth behind a massive chemical spill that left 300,000 people without drinking water for months, and traces cover-ups and conspiracies all the way up to the highest levels of government.

Director Bio: As a brash teenager, Cullen Hoback started a public-access program for the purpose of speaking truth to power. As an adult, he became an investigative documentary filmmaker. His 2013 doc, *Terms And Conditions May Apply*, exposed the hidden dangers of online user agreements ahead of the Snowden NSA revelations.

Big Surf



Director: Brian Smee / USA / 7 min

March 12, 1928: The sound a horse makes as it's drowning.

shorts block 1

Thursday May 25, 3:00pm, Edison Theater



Director: Evelyn Jane Ross / USA / 2.5 min



In the beginning of them
She created us. A hypnotic,
monochromatic vision of
human figures merging in and
out of bodies of water.

Ape Sodom

Director: Maxwell McCabe-Lokos / Canada / 14 min



Three degenerates navigate the descending hierarchy of post-consumerist enlightenment.

Serpentine

Director: Bronwyn Maloney / USA / 2.5 min



In the midst of reflective fantasy, a young woman's thoughts of herself arouse a surreal exploration of sensuality, self-esteem, and deeply rooted fears.

My Gay Sister

Director: Lia Hietala / Sweden / 14 min



Gabbi's new girlfriend becomes a role model for her younger sister, putting the two sisters' relationship to the test.

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Fault Lines

Director: Mandy Wong / USA / 3 min



*I only see in neon." An exploration of abstract movements deriving from spatial forms through processes of deconstruction and reconstruction

Boys

Director: Eyal Resh / USA / 14.5 min / N. American Premiere



A friendship between two adolescent boys takes several abrupt turns one night.

Cloacinae

Directors: Serge Onnen & Sverre Fredriksen / Netherlands / 25 min / N. American Premiere



Money and the sewer, connecting everybody. Cloacinae is the name of the Roman goddess of the first sewer of modern civilization.

shorts block 2

Friday May 26, 2:30pm, Edison Theater

Sadhu In Bombay

Director: Kabir Mehta / India / 15 min



A gritty, explicit, postmodern portrait of a Mumbai chauffeur—his meditations on life and his bitterness toward the rich family he works for. (For Mature Audiences)

Insect Bite

Director: Grace Nayoon Rhee / USA / 2.5 min



A violent, childlike, pencildrawing animation about a tiny bug trying to figure out what he wants to be

Oui Mais Non (Yes but No Thanks)

Director: Alexa-Jeanne Dubé / Canada / 11.5 min / US Premiere



Émilie arrives unannounced at her neighbor Joëlle's house. activating admiration, power games, maternal tenderness and sexual attraction.

Cold **Shivers**

Director: Marius Myrmel / Norway / 18.5 min / **US Premiere**



Kristoffer brings a girl home for the first time: his mother makes an effort to conceal her displeasure.

Chella Drive

Director: Adele Han Li / USA / 3.5 min

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A disembodied memory of adolescence in a Southern Californian suburb—the stuck stillness of endless summer expressed through projected animation

Lucas Camry Alex

Director: Maia Pulcheria, Yamil Rodriguez, Michael Arcos / USA / 16.5 min



Impulsive behavior, sex. love, fire, debauchery—New Orleans. From the French Quarter to the Gulf of Mexico, a couple works out the kinks in their polyamorous relationship

The Sacred Mushroom **Edition**

Director: Rvan Betschart / USA / 4 min



Two fallen angels graue over ELO and lead singer Jeff Lynne's affiliated supergroup The Travelina Wilburys and his connection to the dark side

4:15PM The End Of The World

Director: Gabriela Suciu / Romania / 15 min



A cynical deliveryman picks up a hitchhiker who claims to be Jesus and warns him that the end of the world is near.

shorts block 3

Friday May 26, 5:30pm, Edison Theater

It's a Date

Director: Zachary Zezima / USA / 7 min



A Tinder date with typical back and forth banter starts to get unreal.

Our Friend the Moon

Director: Velasco Broca / Spain, India / 14 min



A young, disabled Hindu man loses everything; his subsequent relationship with a strange spiritual leader has consequences, through a synchronous principle, in the West

Death in a Day

Director: Lin Wang / USA / 14 min



A cute 7-year-old Chinese boy has to come to grips with his father's impending death, watching helplessly as his mother tries to cope with single parenthood.

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I'm in Here

Director: Willy Berliner / USA / 12 min



When a man finds a family of strangers in his house, he has a hard time asking them to leave.

Flowereyes

Director: Chris Brady-Denton / USA / 18 min



A man, haunted by a past love, sells white noise machines door-to-door.

Dreaming of Baltimore

Director: Lola Quivoron / France, USA / 26 min



Freedom means only one thing for Akro: riding his dirtbike in the street, his front wheel aiming at the sky. But one night the engine gives out on him.

Shorts block 4 Saturday May 27, 12:00pm, Edison Theater

I Am JUPITER I Am the **BIGGEST** PLANET

Director: Matthew Victor Pastor / Australia. Philippines / 14.5 min



Silence in the Red Light District of Manila, as a confrontation builds between local sex workers and a John

Separar

Director: Mainak Dhar / USA / 11.5 min



Madelyn comes home to a rare clean house Isabel is excited to see her after cleaning the apartment all day. Madelyn has a bia alass of wine...

Little Red Giant. the Monster That I Was

Director: Laura Harrison / USA / 15.5 min



An unhinged artist goes berserk at an academic's barbecue, as her boyfriend stronaly encourages her to focus on traditional forms. such as portraiture.

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Sound Speeds

Directors: Alex Kavutskiy & Ariel Gardner / USA / 17 min



An invisible and disrespected sound mixer becomes infatuated with the lead actress

Q

Director: James Bascara / USA / 4.5 min



Pencil-drawing characters draw close as an apple falls from the sky.

Shell

Director: Hagai Adorian / Israel / 23 min / N. American Premiere



Unable to dispel terrible images of war, a young veteran drives aimlessly around the countryside, eating and sleeping in his banged up car.

indie cartoons for kids

All the way from Calgary, Canada, the Bum Family will appear in person to present a program of their crazy cartoons and kooky short films and do a demonstration to show kids how to make their own cartoons!



5 min

How Canola was created, and the havoc it wreaks on hapless farmers.



The Garaseal

A short documentary about the elusive Garaseal, a unique creature that lives just off the Horn of Africa.



5 min

Three kids take on Alberta's oilsands and create a holy mess of their own, complete with oil-drowned ducks. And a pink bunny.

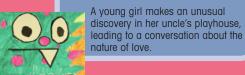
The **Birthday**

2 min

A cranky cat lists all the things she hates, including birthdays.



2 min





Saturday May 27, 10:00am, Forest Service Theater

sponsored by



Friendship

4 min

Two turtles go on a quest for friendship, encountering danger, fairies and even a saskquatch before discovering a true friend.

Lilly Gets a Pet

5 min

Lilly undertakes an epic adventure in search of a true friend, in a pet shop.



S is for Storytelling

1.5 min

Mama Starfish tells Baby her favourite story about Silky the Seal.



Lilly's Big Day

4.5 min

Lilly, a giant orange monster steps out for a special day at a beauty salon.



Lilly Hits the Road

5 min

Lilly and her adorable friend Fluffle are abducted by aliens as they try desperately to return home in the nick of time.



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parties & events

Opening Night Gala

Wednesday May 24, 9:00pm, Sierra Event Center (across from Vons)
Kick off Mammoth Lakes' third annual independent film festival in style! Dance
the night away to some sweet digital tunes, enjoy an open beer and wine bar,
and meet our visiting filmmakers.

Filmmakers Happy Hour

Thursday May 25, 5:00pm-7:00pm, Duke's Bar, Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa Enjoy your sweetest happy hour yet - an open bar at Duke's in the lobby of the Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa. Mingle with fellow film-goers and our visiting filmmakers.

Filmmakers Bash

Saturday May 27, 10:00pm, 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)! Enjoy an open beer and wine bar at
a stellar venue. With a performance by Renobased Jelly Bread, who blend desert twang
with the urban tones of funk and rock.



ally Brand

Shorts Encore Screening

Sunday May 28, 11:00am, Forest Service Theater
An additional screening of shorts by filmmakers who
are in attendance.

Closing Night Awards Gala

Sunday May 28, 9:00 - 12:00am, Sierra Event Center

It may seem like the 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, Documentary Feature, Narrative Short, Animation Short and Documentary Short as well as a Bravery Award. Audience Awards will be presented for Narrative Feature and Documentary Feature. After the awards presentations (and during), we will celebrate. Let's talk, enjoy the open beer and wine bar, and dance about it with another D.J. into the wee hours of the night.



Narrative Features

54

Judy Coppage

is the president of The Coppage Company, a Literary Management Company. Ms. Coppage sold the *Die* Hard novel to 20th Century Fox. Other



movies which have been produced from her sales include *Rainbow Drive* (Showtime), *Mad Dog Time* (Feature/MGM), *Underworld* (Feature/Trimark), *Forever Lulu* (Feature/Millennium), *Second Skin* (HBO), *Purgatory* (TNT – nominated for a WGA Award), and *Locusts* (ABC), which Ms. Coppage Associate Produced, to name a few. Other sales include *Death Sentence*, a novel, written by Brian Garfield, which was released by 20th Century Fox and *Hell Ride* which was released by Dimension Films and presented by Quentin Tarantino and was written, directed, produced, and stars her client, Larry Bishop. Prior to starting her own company, Ms. Coppage taught at UCLA, was Vice President and Executive in Charge of Production for Hanna-

Barbara Productions, Director of Development and Executive in Charge of Production for Paramount Television, Director of Development and Producer for Johnny Carson Productions, and Head of Development, researcher, and Associate Producer for Stirling Silliphant. With Silliphant, she worked on *The Poseidon Adventure, Towering Inferno, New Centurions*, all the original *Shaft* films, along with *Locusts*, which she Associate Produced, *Longstreet* (ABC series) and many other television shows.

Devin DiGonno is

Director of Acquisitions at Lakeshore Entertainment. She has over 15 years' experience in the film industry working on large studio productions as well as developing independent features. She began her career at ICM in the Literary Department working closely with authors to help adapt their literary visions for film and television. She then moved to



Universal Motion Pictures, where she worked on Shakespeare In Love, Out Of Sight and Meet Joe Black, before moving to MGM, where she worked on The Thomas Crown Affair and Flawless. In 2002, she opened her own independent film company, String and A Can Productions. Her first independent feature, SPIKE, was a prize winner at Edinburgh Film Festival and Screamfest. Her second film, Disappearing In America, debuted at the Newport Film Festival.

Jacques Thelemaque is an award-winning writer, producer and director who founded the Los Angeles filmmaking collective Filmmakers Alliance in 1993 and FA

Productions in 2004. He was also Chief Community Officer of Withoutabox.com in 2005. Jacques has also been a programming associate at the Los Angeles Film Festival since 2011 and has been an advisor, board member, programmer, juror or invited speaker at numerous film-related organizations and events. Jacques has written and directed numerous short films, including *Transaction*

five other feature films.



Documentary Features

Allison Amon was co-owner of Chelsea, a creatively driven, independently owned production and talent management company that cultivated and curated a roster of unique and diverse talents and garnered the advertising industry's top accolades, from Gold Lions to Pencils. The wor

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. She has represented independent

e e

film makers David Gordon Green, Kyle Patric Alvarez, Lauren Greenfield, Alex Gibney, Greg Kohs, Neil Abramson, Amir Bar-Lev, and Robb Bindler amongst others. In 2015 Amon became an Emmy award winning producer for *Like A Girl*.

Kelly Leow is the Deputy Editor of *Moviemaker Magazine*, the independent film publication based in Santa Monica, California. Born and raised in Singapore, she graduated



from UCLA with a B.A. in English, and has remained in Los Angeles ever since. Kelly has done jury duty (festival, that is) in New Orleans, journeyed to Malaysia to attend screenings of censored cinema, and eaten porridge in Park City with Pulitzer Prize-winner Jonathan Gold. She aims to make independent filmmaking more rewarding one article at a time.

Film Festival. industry's top accolades, from Gold Lions to Pencils. The work cont. > 55



Zackary Gilanyi, a native of rural Ohio, has



immersed himself in the entertainment world for the majority of his life. A graduate of Ohio University's esteemed school of Media Arts and Studies, he has worked on over twenty short films and documentaries in the past few years, predominantly in the areas of development, casting, and art direction. Since the move to Los Angeles, he has primarily worked in talent representation, finding that his passion lies with helping

actors achieve their dreams. A self-proclaimed old soul, he believes in breaking the stereotypical stigmas that surround his millennial generation. Other hobbies of his include baking, hiking, antiquing, extreme socializing, and a love of all things Old Hollywood.

Shorts

Sandra Seeling Lipski

Born in Berlin and raised in Mallorca, Spain, she is the founder and program director of the Evolution! Mallorca International Film Film Festival (EMIFF). She is also an accomplished actress with notable

credits such as CSI NY, Borat and Jane The Virgin. She splits her time between Mallorca and Los Angeles. After having produced, directed and acted in several award winning short films, Sandra is currently preparing the 6th edition of EMIFF and in development of her first feature film as a producer and actress. Sandra holds an AA in dramatic arts from the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in

New York City and graduated from the Los Angeles Film School with a degree in Filmmakina.

Robert Putka's first feature, MAD, premiered at the 2016 Slamdance Film Festival and was distributed by The Orchard. Critics have compared it to the character-driven work of Noah Baumbach, David O. Russell and Alexander Payne, with



The Film Stage noting "It doesn't make excuses for its characters or their flaws. This isn't a feel-good movie about the way family makes everything better. It's sharp-edged in its humor, and emotional in its understanding of personal histories." Putka's two short films premiered at SXSW (in 2012 and 2014, respectively), which led to a job with HBO, developing one of his shorts into a series for their short-lived

DIGITALS division. Putka would like to be able to buy a used stand-up jetski and a Toyota Prius at some point in his life.

awards & prizes

Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony and Party, starting at 9pm on Sunday the 28th at the Sierra Event Center.

Jury Award for Best North American Narrative Feature

\$1,000.00 cash

\$10,000,00 Panavision Camera Rental Grant

\$10,000.00 Post-Production package from Light Iron

\$2,500.00 credit for DCP transfer from Adrian Geyer

Jury Award for Best International Narrative Feature

\$1,000.00 cash

Jury Award for Best Feature Documentary

\$1,000.00 cash

1x REDucation Voucher (\$1,500.00 Value)
60 Day EPIC-X DRAGON Rental
(valued at \$21,480.00)

Jury Award for Best Narrative Short

\$500.00 cash

\$5,000.00 VER Rental Grant

Jury Award for Best Animated Short \$500.00 cash

Jury Award for Best Documentary Short \$500.00 cash

Audience Award for Narrative Feature

\$1,000.00 cash

\$5,000.00 Panavision Camera Rental Grant

Audience Award for Documentary Feature

\$1,000.00 cash

Bravery Award for Documentary Feature

\$500.00 cash

The trophy for the winning filmmaker in each category is a carved bear named Orson.



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film index

195 Lewis	Dina
4:15 P.M. The End	Dreaming of
of the World45	Baltimore
52-The Trolleybus 34	Eight
Adam	The Erlprince 24
Ape Sodom	Fault Lines
Baby It's You	The Fixer
Batfish Soup	Flowereyes
Big Surf	Forever `B'
The Birthday	Friendship
Boys	The Garaseal 50
Call Your Father	The Great Unwashed26
The Challenge	Hairat
Chella Drive45	Horseshoe Theory 26
Cloacinae	Hür
Cold Breath	I Am JUPITER I Am
Cold Shivers	the BIGGEST PLANET48
Crown Prince	I'm in Here
Death in a Day46	Insect Bite
•	

The Islands and the	Railment
Whales	Rat Film
It's a Date	Redmond Hand,
Lilly Gets a Pet51	Private Dick
Lilly Hits the Road51	S is for Storytelling51
Lilly's Big Day 51	The Sacred
Little Red Giant, the	Mushroom Edition 45
Monster That I Was48	Sadhu in Bombay44
Lucas Camry Alex 45	Separar
Machines	Serpentine
Menashe	Service
My Gay Sister	Shell
Neighborhood	Sleep with Me 39
Food Drive	Sound Speeds 49
Nutag Homeland 36	Space Detective 28
Olancho	Strad Style
Oui Mais Non	Super Canola
(Yes But No Thanks) .44	Tar Sand Pudding 50
Our friend the moon46	Up in Smoke
Paloma	What Lies Upstream41
Pedazos	When I Met Dottie50
Pet Monkey	
Q 49	Withdrawn29
	Whales 36 It's a Date 45 Lilly Gets a Pet 51 Lilly Hits the Road 51 Lilly's Big Day 51 Little Red Giant, the Monster That I Was 48 Lucas Camry Alex 45 Machines 17 Menashe 18 My Gay Sister 42 Neighborhood 27 Nutag Homeland 36 Olancho 37 Oui Mais Non (Yes But No Thanks) 44 Our friend the moon 46 Paloma 37 Pedazos 28 Pet Monkey 29

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