



**mammoth  
film lakes  
festival '24**

# Festival Schedule

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22		7:00PM	9:00PM
FOREST SERVICE		Never Look Away	
SIERRA CENTER			Opening Night Gala

THURS. MAY 23	11:00AM	2:00PM	5:30PM	8:00PM	10:00PM
FOREST SERVICE	Shorts Block 1	Doc Shorts 1	Shorts Block 2	Inheritance	
SIERRA CENTER		Union	Welcome Filmmakers!		
DISTANT BREWING					Late Night Happy Hour

<b>FRI. MAY 24</b>		<b>11:00AM</b>	<b>1:30PM</b>	<b>4:00PM</b>	<b>6:30PM</b>	<b>8:30PM</b>
<b>FOREST SERVICE</b>	Winter Threshold	Shorts Block 3	The Last Night in the Life of Death	The Other Profile	The Complex Forms	
<b>SIERRA CENTER</b>		Brando with a Glass Eye	Mojave to Mammoth	Music Videos		

<b>SAT. MAY 25</b>		<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>12:30PM</b>	<b>2:30PM</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>FOREST SERVICE</b>	Panel Discussion	Psykhodrame	All I've Got and Then Some	Atikamekw Suns	Mediha	
<b>SIERRA CENTER</b>		Punishment	Doc Shorts 2	Shorts Block 4		
<b>BAR SIERRA</b>						10:00pm Filmmaker Bash

<b>SUN. MAY 26</b>		<b>10:30AM</b>	<b>12:30PM</b>	<b>2:45PM</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>FOREST SERVICE</b>	Animation Shorts	Shorts Block 5	Shorts Block 6	Offal Broth	Black Box Diaries	
<b>SIERRA CENTER</b>			Cu Li Never Cries	Documentary Shorts 3	9:30pm Awards Ceremony & Party	



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# Table of Contents

Map & Locations . . . . .	<b>5</b>	Mojave to Mammoth . . . . .	<b>48-49</b>
Welcome from Shira & Paul . . . . .	<b>7</b>	Music Videos . . . . .	<b>50-52</b>
Sponsors . . . . .	<b>9</b>	Screenplay Finalists . . . . .	<b>54-55</b>
Spotlight Screenings . . . . .	<b>10-13</b>	Parties & Events . . . . .	<b>58-59</b>
Narrative Features . . . . .	<b>14-21</b>	Awards & Prizes . . . . .	<b>60</b>
Documentary Features . . . . .	<b>22-26</b>	Jury . . . . .	<b>61-65</b>
Shorts Blocks 1 through 6 . . . . .	<b>28-39</b>	Participating Restaurants . . . . .	<b>67</b>
Documentary Shorts . . . . .	<b>40-45</b>	Staff & Credits . . . . .	<b>69</b>
Animation Shorts . . . . .	<b>46-47</b>	Film Index . . . . .	<b>70-71</b>



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# MAP & LOCATIONS

**1. US FOREST SERVICE AUDITORIUM**  
**2510 MAIN ST.**

**2. SIERRA CENTER  
SCREENING ROOM & LOUNGE /  
FESTIVAL HQ**  
**452 OLD MAMMOTH RD.**

**3. BAR SIERRA**  
**164 OLD MAMMOTH RD.**

**4. DISTANT BREWING**  
**568 OLD MAMMOTH RD.**



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**BEYOND  
IMAGINATION**



LOCATION AND PERMIT INFO: [FilmMonoCounty.com](http://FilmMonoCounty.com) 800-845-7922



# Welcome

Paul: Oh shit, I must've dozed off. I'm so chilly! What's going on Shira?

Shira: I am Princess Shira of Earth, and you must address me as such. And curtsy.

Paul: Wait, where are we?

Shira: We're on a spacecraft... let's see... about 7 billion light years from home. 7 billion and three. We lost the Edison Theater so we need to find a new location besides the Forest Service. There's a really good planet up here on the left...

Paul: How can we have two locations 7 billion light years apart? That's too far!!

Shira: We're just gonna have to make it work.

Paul: Aw jeez, it's our tenth year and I wanted everything to be perfect.

Shira: Actually it's our 10,000th year. I cryo-preserved us for the journey and I guess I put in too many zeros. Bad at math!



**SHIRA  
DUBROVNER**  
Festival Director



**PAUL SBRIZZI**  
Director of  
Programming

But this is actually a really cool galaxy, not too gentrified. Like, if our galaxy was Brooklyn, this would be Queens.

Paul: Look Shira...

Shira: Princess Shira. Of Earth.

Paul: ...we need to get back for the tenth annual festival! The filmmakers are relying on us! Look, there's a space available at the Sierra Center back on Earth — we can do a pop-up.

Shira: How do you know that?

Paul: I googled it.

Shira: How did you get the wi-fi password? I mean, people can't just be giving it out or we...

Paul: Shira! OK, Princess Shira... we gotta get back! Do something!!

Shira: Fine. This craft can exceed the speed of light, bending the time space continuum; I just hate how it affects my mileage. Get back in the freezer.

Paul: Are you sure we'll make it??

Shira: Oh yeah, it's a Honda.



— IT WILL MAKE YOU QUESTION —  
**SO MANY THINGS.**  
*LIKE REALITY.*

*#KEEPMAMMOTHUNREAL*

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VERDIER**

**STACEY &  
PAUL  
VON BERG**

Opening Night Spotlight Feature / Wednesday May 22, 7:00pm

# Never Look Away

New Zealand, 83 min, West Coast Premiere

**Director:** Lucy Lawless



Swashbuckling CNN combat camerawoman Margaret Moth risks it all to put the viewer inside the conflict. When a fateful injury gets in the way of her appetite for danger and adrenaline, she has to find the strength to carry on.

**Featuring:** Margaret Moth

**Director Bio:** Internationally known for her role as *Xena: Warrior Princess*, Lawless went on to star in a plethora of roles in film and television, notably: *Parks & Recreation*, *Jane Campion's Top of the Lake*, *Ash Vs Evil Dead*, *Bedtime Stories*, *Spartacus: Gods of the Arena*, *Battlestar Galactica*. Lucy executive produces and stars in Acorn's (AMC) *My Life Is Murder*. Her cult appeal had her cast in culturally significant shows like *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *The Simpsons* and *The 'L' Word*.

Closing Night Spotlight Feature / Sunday May 26, 7:30pm

# Black Box Diaries

Japan / USA / UK, 104 min

**Director:** Shiori Ito **Featuring:** Shiori Ito

Director and journalist Shiori Ito courageously investigates her own sexual assault, in an improbable attempt to prosecute her high-profile offender. Unfolding like a thriller and combining secret investigative recordings, vérité shooting and emotional first-person video, Shiori's quest becomes a landmark case in Japan, exposing the country's desperately outdated judicial and societal systems.

**Director Bio:** Shiori Ito is a journalist, writer, and documentary filmmaker. Her primary focus is gender-based human rights issues. She co-founded Hanashi Films, a production company that has collaborated with NHK, BBC, and Al Jazeera, among others. In 2017, Shiori wrote the book "Black Box," based on her own experience of rape. The book reveals the sexism in Japan's society and institutions. In 2020 she was listed as one of the 100 most influential people in the world by *Time* magazine.



Spotlight Feature / Thursday May 23, 2:00pm

# Union

USA, 100 min

**Directors:** Brett Story, Stephen Maing



This highly cinematic documentary captures the Amazon Labor Union's historic grassroots campaign to unionize thousands of their co-workers from day one of organizing. A core emotional arc arises out of the journey of these worker-turned organizers through a series of political battles, pivotal strategic events, and interpersonal tensions that test their commitments and their solidarity. Up against a corporate superpower and with legal protections at a drastic low for workers, all odds are against the ALU. Yet this rag-tag ensemble remains unswayed in their beliefs in collective action and the dignity and power of the working-class.

**Featuring:** Chris Smalls, Angelika Maldonado, Connor Spence

**Director Bios:** Brett Story is an award-winning filmmaker and writer based in Toronto. Her films have screened in festivals including CPH-DOX, SXSW, True/False, and Sheffield Doc/Fest. Stephen Maing is an Emmy-nominated Brooklyn-based filmmaker. He has directed films for the *New York Times*, *Time Magazine*, *The Nation*, *The Intercept* and *Field of Vision*.

Spotlight Feature / Thursday May 23, 5:30pm

USA, 81 min, World Premiere

# Welcome Filmmakers!

In the not-too-distant future/parallel universe/dream, Guy finds himself at a film festival for a movie that may or may not exist, that he has allegedly made. A paranoid and disorienting quest for identity leads him into a world of V.R. video games, underground raves, and other-worldly entities. Reality unravels leaving nothing behind, but that's fine.



**Director:** Noel David Taylor

**Featuring:** Noel Taylor, John Edmund Parcher, Ashley Mellinger, Danny Lane, Katy Fullen

**Director Bio:** Noel is an award winning English-American writer, filmmaker, and actor. His over 40 shorts and experimental films have screened at numerous international festivals, including the Marché du Film at Cannes.

## *CHOMP*

directed by Cricket Arrison, Suki-Rose  
USA, 9 min, California  
Premiere



A News Studio is the perfect breeding ground for a new kind of monster.

N. American Narrative Feature / Saturday May 25, 2:30pm

# All I've Got and Then Some

USA, 80 min

**Directors:** Rasheed Stephens,  
Tehben Dean

A day in the life of Rasheed, a homeless stand-up comedian living out of his car in Los Angeles, doing everything he can to make each day the best day of his life, one day closer to accomplishing his dream. Based on a true story.

**Cast:** Rasheed Stephens, Avise Parsons, Naiya Armour, Chuck Constant, Armie Hicks Jr. with Glen "Big Baby" Davis and Boo Kapone

**Director Bio:** Rasheed is an actor and stand-up comic from inner city Atlanta who has written, produced and directed multiple award-winning indie films since 2012. Tehben is a cinematographer and director who has worked on a number of eminent documentary films and TV shows.

**BEYOND FAILURE** directed by  
Marissa Losoya  
USA, 9 min,  
West Coast Premiere



A woman thinks she can hip thrust her way out of dealing with her potentially harmful internal monologue.





N. American Narrative Feature / Saturday May 25, 5:00pm

# Atikamekw Suns

Canada,  
103 min

On June 26, 1977, a vehicle drives into a river outside the Atikamekw community of Manawan in northern Québec. Two Whites survive the accident, but five Atikamekw lose their lives. The police conclude it was an accident, but for the victims' families, many questions remain unanswered.

**Director:** Chloé Leriche

**Featuring:** Mirociw Chilton, Wikwasa Newashish-Petiquay, Jacques Newashish, Wikwasa Newashish, Carl-David Ottawa, Oshim Ottawa

**Director Bio:** A self-taught filmmaker, Chloé has written, directed, edited, and produced films and videos since 1999. Her work has been presented at numerous international festivals. She has participated in more than 200 short films as a filmmaker-instructor and assisted First Nations' youths in producing their works with the "Wapikoni Mobile" production centre on wheels. *Atikamekw Suns* is her second feature film.



N. American Narrative Feature / Friday May 24, 4:00pm

USA, 79 min, World Premiere

# The Last Night in the Life of Death

**Director:**  
Isaiah Brody

Every night, Death comes to take care of people who move on from here to forever. But this night - tonight - something has changed, and Death is confronted with the possibility that there is no longer any use for his kind.

Through seven encounters, Death begins to understand his true fate.

**Cast:** Ron Brody, Susan Merson, Abner Brody, Bill Silverman, Gail Silverman, David Kaiser

**Director Bio:** Isaiah is an award-winning filmmaker, originally from Venice, California. This is his first feature-length film. Isaiah is 17 years old.



## ACID GREEN

directed by EXYL

USA, 8 min, West Coast  
Premiere

A person brushes the teeth of a dog  
and turns into a bus.



N. American Narrative Feature / Saturday May 25, 12:30pm

# Psykhodrame

USA, 50 min,  
World Premiere



Five actor friends take a trip to work on Chekhov scenes and revitalize their friendships, but the scenes take on a life of their own in a fractured and dreamlike psychodrama.

**Director:** Miles Blim

**Cast:** Zoë Olson, Sean Finnegan, Chloe Howard, Marielle Issa, Sinclair Willman

**Director Bio:** Miles Blim is a Brooklyn-based filmmaker. He co-wrote, co-directed, and co-starred in the web series *VIRAL* which made its world premiere at Tribeca in 2021. He is a proud alumnus of Northwestern University.



## FLAIL

directed by Ben Gauthier; written by Ben Gauthier, Allie Levitan

USA, 14 min

It's her boss's birthday, and Allie is trying as hard as she can.

International Narrative Feature / Friday May 24, 1:30pm

# Brando with a Glass Eye

Greece, 122 min, West Coast Premiere

**Director:** Antonis Tsonis



Athens, Greece. A method actor commits a heist that goes wrong. He befriends the critically injured victim and tries to reconcile his guilt before his one-shot audition in New York.

**Cast:** Yiannis Niarros, Kostas Nikoulis, Alexandros Chrysanthopoulos, Maria Kallimani, Giannis Tsortekis, Ksenia Dania, Hara Mata Giannatou

**Director Bio:** Antonis is a Greek-born, writer/director especially focused on stories about characters struggling on the fringes of society. His themes are contemporary, and his style is timeless – his stories could be set in any language or in any city. Antonis, celebrated as one of Greece's most successful independent short filmmakers, makes his feature debut with this film.

International Narrative Feature / Friday May 24, 8:30pm

# The Complex Forms

**Italy, 74 min,  
West Coast Premiere**

There's an ancient villa where desperate people have an opportunity to revive their fortunes by selling their bodies to mysterious entities in exchange for money. A series of strange and sinister events prompts three unlikely guests to band together for a desperate escape.

**Director:** Fabio D'Orta

**Featuring:** David Richard White, Michele Venni, Cesare Bonomelli, Enzo Solazzi, Giovanni Corridori, Giovanni Pochetti

**Director Bio:** Fabio studied at the Brera Academy of Fine Arts in Milan. He created set designs for theater and advertising, worked as an illustrator, VFX artist and directed commercials. He then focused on short films, winning numerous awards. This is his debut feature.



## **FREERUNNER**

directed by Chrystel Egal  
France, 6 min, Int'l Premiere

Simon, a parkour champion, risks his life on Paris rooftops. To escape the gravity of the world?!

International Narrative Feature / Sunday May 26, 2:45pm

# Cu Li Never Cries

Vietnam, 92 min, West Coast Premiere

**Director:** Phạm Ngọc Lân

**Writers:** Phạm Ngọc Lân, Nghiêm Quỳnh Trang

A woman clings to the fading links to her past after inheriting a pygmy slow loris from her long-estranged husband. Meanwhile, her niece prepares for marriage and the young couple ponders their uncertain future together. The present and the complex echoes of Vietnamese history intertwine with a contemplative, poetic perspective.

**Cast:** Minh Châu, Hà Phương, Xuân An, Hoàng Hà, Cao Sang, Tâm Anh

**Director Bio:** Phạm Ngọc Lân was born and raised in Hanoi. He rarely left his city (both in reality and in his imagination) until college. His short films include *The Story of Ones* (Visions du Réel 2012), *Another City* (Berlinale 66th); *Blessed Land* (Berlinale 69th) and *The Unseen River* (Locarno 74th, Sundance 2021).



## MIA

directed by Giovanni Labadessa, written by Rebecca Coco Edogamhe

Italy, 8 min, Int'l Premiere

Love. Loss. Grief. Obsession.

20

International Narrative Feature / Sunday May 26, 5:00pm

# Offal Broth

UK, 75 min, N. American Premiere

Anne and Daniel spend their lives pushing each other's limits: testing how much the other cares – no matter how it affects those around them. However, when Anne goes too far and Daniel's mother makes plans for him to move out, they have to find ways to stay together for as long as possible, escalating to toxic new heights.

**Director:** Nicholas Tuck **Cast:** Jake Ashton-Nelson, Molly Wood, Jaz Davison

**Director Bio:** Nicholas is a Birmingham, UK based writer, director and producer. His first produced work, his one-act play *The Grandmother*, was performed at Birmingham ArtsFest 2015. Since then, he has written, directed and produced stage plays, short films and a feature film. His latest short film, *Bovine Comedy*, was screened at the BAFTA Qualifying Flatpack Festival 2024.



## FISHING

directed by Josie Charles,  
written by Esme Allen  
UK, 8 min, West Coast  
Premiere

A dark comedy camcorder short exploring female sexuality and the impact of pornography.

Documentary Feature / Thursday May 23, 8:00pm

# Inheritance

USA, 83 min, West Coast Premiere

**Directors:** Matt Moyer, Amy Toensing



Filed in Ohio over the course of 11 years: Curtis, a bright and hopeful 12-year-old boy, grows up in rural Appalachia surrounded by poverty, love and hardship while every adult in his family battles addiction.

**Featuring:** Curtis, Cheryl, John, J.P., Euva, George

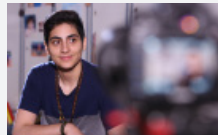
**Director Bio:** Matt and Amy are *National Geographic* Explorers. Matt covered 9/11 in NYC, the Iraq war for *The New York Times*, and has photographed multiple feature stories for *National Geographic* magazine. Amy has been a regular contributor to *National Geographic* magazine for over twenty years, and has photographed and reported on cultures and social issues around the world.

## UNNAMED

directed by Iranmehr Salimi, written by Iranmehr Salimi, Zahra Jesmani

Iran, 13 min

Zainab has decided to undergo gender transition, but risks being banned from professional volleyball forever.





Documentary Feature / Saturday May 25, 7:30pm

# Mediha

USA / Iraq / Syrian Arab  
Republic / Turkey, 86 min,  
West Coast Premiere



A teenage Yazidi girl who has recently returned from ISIS captivity turns her camera on herself to process her trauma while rescuers search for her missing family members. This is the story of the Yazidi genocide and its aftermath, shown through the lens of one young survivor as she confronts her past through personal video-diaries

**Director:** Hasan Oswald

**Director Bio:** Hasan Oswald has covered the water crisis in Flint, Michigan (*Forgotten USA*), drug trafficking and homelessness in Camden, NJ (*Higher Love*), and the international diaspora of conflict refugees for NatGeo (*Hell on Earth*). He was named one of Doc NYC's 40 under 40 documentary rising stars to watch.

## CYCLES

directed by Pisie  
Hochheim, Tony Oswald,  
written by Alicia Morgan  
USA, 14 min



A single mom from rural Kentucky donates her eggs, but must grapple with the effects on both her body and mind.

Documentary Feature / Friday May 24, 6:30pm

# The Other Profile

France / DR Congo, 82 min,  
West Coast Premiere

**Director:** Armel Hostiou

Filmmaker Armel Hostiou discovers he has a second Facebook account: a fake Armel who has real photos of him and many female friends, all of whom live in Kinshasa. Fake Armel invites them to audition for his next film, which is supposedly set in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Faced with the impossibility of closing this account, the filmmaker decides to go looking for his double.

**Featuring:** Cromix Onana Genda, Sarah Ndele, Peter Shotsha Olela

**Director Bio:** Armel Hostiou is a Paris based director. The Other Profile is his fourth feature film after Rives (Cannes 2011) Une Histoire Américaine (Viennale 2015) and The Invisible Pyramid (Cinéma du Réel 2019).



## WEREE

directed by Tal Amiran

UK, 15 min

Having fled the Liberian Civil War, renowned self-taught artist Johnson Weree creates otherworldly portraits while seeking asylum in the Netherlands.



Documentary Feature / Saturday May 25, 12:30pm

# Punishment

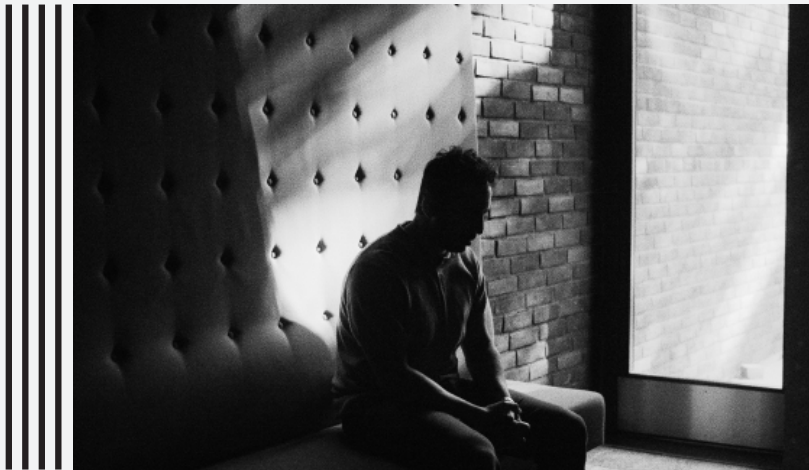
**Norway, 107 min,  
West Coast Premiere**

Four inmates have chosen to enter a three-week Jesuit silent retreat within a maximum security prison. They are guided by two priests. The film slowly observes this paradoxical situation, while looking beyond the question of religious belief. How do ethical exercises, rituals and communal silence affect us? The film evolves into a prism for gauging the existential landscape of the convicted.

**Director:** Øystein Mamen

**Featuring:** Bjørn, Christian, John, Hassan

**Director Bio:** Øystein Mamen (b.1978) is an award-winning cinematographer. His work spans both fiction and documentary, many of which have been selected for international festivals, such as the Toronto, Berlin, and Venice. Mamen is educated at the Norwegian Filmschool, the European Film College, the University Oslo, as well as the University of Copenhagen. His debut as director in long form now comes with the film *Punishment*.



Documentary Feature / Friday May 24, 11:00am

# Winter Threshold

**Iran, 53 min, International Premiere**

**Director:** Soudabeh Beizaei

An Iranian mother's unyielding love for her son leads to a powerful journey of self-discovery, as Mahsa navigates unexpected challenges, revealing not only her dedication to Kasra's education but also the haunting truth about her own marriage.

**Featuring:** Mahsa Zabolizadeh, Hosein Gholich, Kasra Golich

**Director Bio:** In 2016, Soudabeh participated in the film *Lord*, which won Best Film in Cannes' Un Certain Regard section. In 2017, she made her first short doc, the award winning *Like My Name, Pegah*, which explored the issue of addiction.



**#WAY\_AURELIO** directed by Alan Rexroth

Germany, 32 min, World Premiere



We live in a digital world. But we're fairly analog creatures. Part of #WHEREAREYOU.



**BLACK TIE**

**SKI & BIKE RENTALS**

**TM**

# Shorts Block 1

Thursday May 23, 11:00am



## ***RUNAWAY***

Director: César Oyarzabal /  
Writers: César Oyarzabal, Ellison  
Maan / USA / 8 min.

For Alexia, you either face your fears or run away forever. She ran away but made sure no one else could escape their secrets anymore.



## ***BURNING MOON***

Director: Ziwei Li / Writer: Sido  
Yao Lv / China / 23 min.

Ying, accompanied by her husband and a mysterious woman named Qiqi, returns to her hometown for her sister's wedding. But it seems that things are not going to be as smooth as she had hoped.

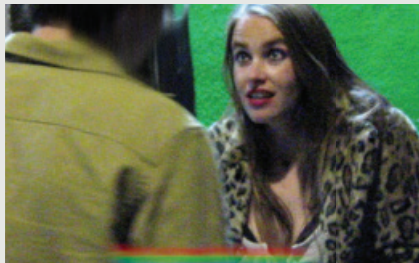
## ***HILLS FOR THE HEAD***



Director: Hyun Kim / USA / 5 min. /  
West Coast Premiere

A guy is forced by his therapist to run, facing the physical and mental hurdles of a marathon.

## MESSY LEGEND



Directors: Kelly Kay Hurcomb & James Watts / Canada / 15 min. / West Coast Premiere

An unstable, ageing party girl hits the streets of Montréal for one last night of drunken debauchery.

## BRIDGE / KEEPER



Director: Sinclair Rankin / USA / 8 min. / West Coast Premiere

A mysterious sequence of events accompanies a bridge keeper making his rounds, and pushes him into an unexpected reality regarding the bridge in his care.



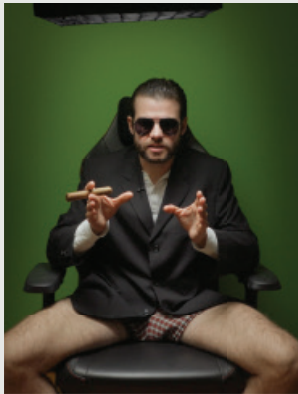
## ODE

Director: Diego Lisboa / Brazil / 15 min. / West Coast Premiere

An expressionist Christmas tale about the last breath of life. An Ode to emptiness and fulfillment.

# Shorts Block 2

Thursday May 23, 5:30pm



## *RED DROP*

Director: Gen Liu / Writers: Gen Liu, Benjamin Bartel / USA / 14 min. / World Premiere

A man struggles to live up to the reality he's created for himself on social media



## *CIELA*

Director: Mauricio Sierra / Writer: Walker Kalan / Mexico / 15 min.

An impressionistic fable, seen through the eyes of a young misfit named Ciela, who forms a secret friendship with an octopus.



## *UNTITLED, JACKSON HEIGHTS*

Director: Armon Mahdavi / USA / 3.5 min. / California Premiere

An Iranian mother living in Queens sends a letter to her far-away daughter. In the background, news of a revolution fills the air.



# MOTHERS & MONSTERS



Director: Edith Jorisch / Canada / 16 min. / US Premiere

A surrealist satire about modern-day maternity and the ideal of the family at a time when capitalism has reached its apex.



# ISAAC

Director: Samantha Carroll / USA / 11 min. / West Coast Premiere

In an attempt to be liked, Anna invites a stripper to her friend's bachelorette party.



# MIRAGE

Director: Atefeh Salehi / Iran / 17 min. / West Coast Premiere

A woman meets a truck driver on the road and spends a night with him. The man reminds her of her difficult past...

# Shorts Block 3

Friday May 24, 1:30pm



## *THE GIRL WHO CRIED*

Director: Jared Greenberg / USA /  
15 min. / West Coast Premiere

A family of four reunites when a  
dark revelation threatens not just  
their evening, but the family itself.

## *OPENING NIGHT*

Director: Sara Szymańska /  
Poland / 12 min. / US Premiere

The reunion of a young couple  
who recently split up stirs up  
intense emotion, as they relive  
their relationship's troubled past  
during a theatre afterparty.



## *TIDY HOUSE*



Director: Douglas Dezzani / UK / 13 min. /  
N. American Premiere

On a camping trip in Wales, an eight-year-  
old girl witnesses the emotional breakdown  
of her father and becomes his emotional  
support system.

## QUILLY

Director: Michael Arcos / USA / 15 min. / World Premiere

A stuffed rabbit gets destroyed and a toxic couple goes berserk.



## MOM

Director: Gabriel Bellone / USA / 0:42 min. / World Premiere

An incident from my childhood.



## THE YEAR OF STARING AT NOSES

Directors: Karen Knox, Matt Eastman / USA / 22 min. / California Premiere

A hybrid narrative/doc about a woman who undergoes plastic surgery (for real) in an attempt to become a contestant on a beloved reality television show.



# Shorts Block 4

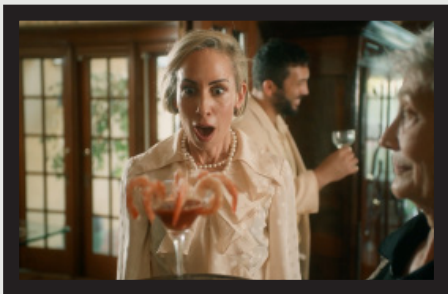
Saturday May 25, 5:00pm



## LIVING REALITY

Director: Philip Thompson / USA /  
16 min. / California Premiere

An exploration of the emotional  
divide between fiction and reality in  
the American sitcom.



## THE ARRANGEMENT

Director: Brett Maline / Writer:  
Jessica Pohly / USA / 6 min.

An allegorical look at the addictive  
nature of toxic relationships.

## FLUTZ



Director: Ryan McCown / USA / 8 min.

A rivalry between two figure skaters and their  
coaches. And a witch.

## HEAT SPELL



Director: Marie-Pier Dupuis / Canada / 14 min.

As the afternoon heat sets in, Maxime feels the weight of each passing moment.

## AU REGARD DE SES PENSÉES



Director: Arthur Mangiapan / France / 13 min. / World Premiere

A moment in the life of a single-parent family living in poverty. A social dead-end imposed

from the earliest age and conditioned, primarily, by a lack of attention is revealed through the eyes and journey of a child creating a gift for an absent mother.



## NEW

Director: Zhenia Kazankina / Russia, Italy / 20 min. / N. American Premiere

Outskirts of Moscow. A girl comes to an unfamiliar apartment to look after a dog. After a while, she realizes that the owner of the apartment has disappeared. She finds herself to be one of a series of people that have taken care of the dog for years in that same apartment, creating a weird community around this strange absence of the owner.

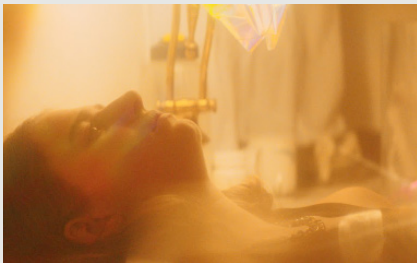
# Shorts Block S

Sunday May 26, 12:30pm

## *NIGHT MILK*

Director: Tiger Hornby / USA /  
13 min. / World Premiere

A troubled lesbian, experiencing  
intrusive sexual thoughts,  
confronts her girlfriend and the  
men of her nightmares.



## *ANYTHING HELPS*

Director: Max DeFalco / USA /  
8.5 min. / World Premiere

An injured, unemployed,  
irresponsible father fakes  
having cancer to pay for his  
broken ceiling.

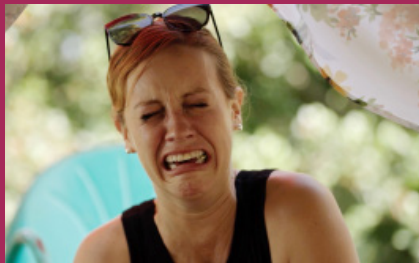
## *GOODNIGHT DREAM*



Director: Andrew Michalko / Canada / 16 min.  
/ US Premiere

During a night of sleep, a young dreamer  
wanders, confronting the nostalgia of  
his memories.

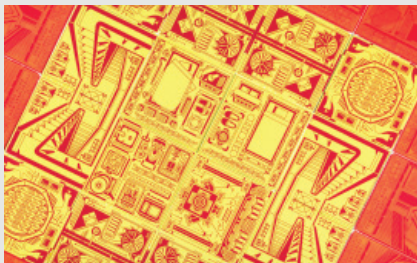
## DEEFAKE APOLOGY VIDEO



Directors: Brooke Bundy, Jerzy Rose / USA / 12.5 min. / World Premiere

A narcissistic filmmaker delivers a deeply fake apology for a libelous deepfake.

## I WOULD'VE BEEN HAPPY



Director: Jordan Wong / USA / 8.5 min.

An attempt to map a fraught relationship through the use of intricately coded pictographs and schematic abstractions applied

onto glazed ceramic tiles and quilted cyanotype fabric. The aesthetics of architectural language are used to reconstruct memories of my family's domestic spaces in the hope to uncover logic to a broken home.



## BOGOTÁ STORY

Director: Estaban Pedraza / Colombia / 15.5 min.

A young mother must choose between her family and her dreams during a dark time in Colombia's history.

# Shorts Block 6



## *THE KNEE TOUCH*

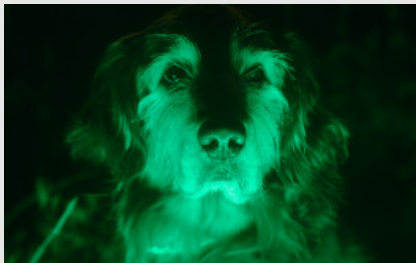
Director: Miles Triplett / USA /  
19 min. / World Premiere

In this romantic comedy, Brandon and Corn scramble to keep three women away from each other at a celebratory party.

## *RABBIT*

Director: Carson Culver / Writer:  
Jamie Granato / USA / 9 min. /  
World Premiere

When Jamie's dog catches a rabbit at a local park, Jamie ponders how to nurse it back to health, and what the rabbit and his future could look like.



## *NAJAN*



Director: Mohammad Mahdi Bagheri / Iran  
/ 15 min. / N. American Premiere

Mahmoud lies to his younger brother Najan that he has found a tree that makes wishes come true, but the tree actually does just that.



Sunday May 26, 2:45pm



## ***DAD SWAP***

Director: Ethan Mermelstein / USA /  
18.5 min. / World Premiere

Basically, my dad is a dick and I'm ready  
for a new one. So, I swap him out with  
his best friend/nemesis, Ron.

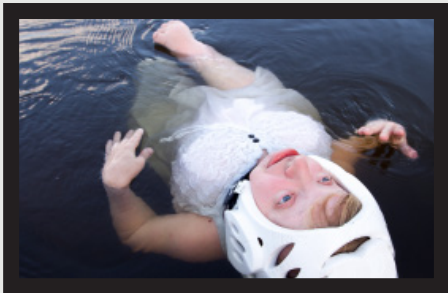
## ***IN SILENCE, WE ECHO***



Director: Alden Doyle  
/ Canada / 11 min. /  
World Premiere

An infatuated young  
couple spend a winter  
on a remote island,  
forcing them to face  
the dormant fears and  
desires hiding in the  
corners of their minds.

# Documentary Shorts 1



## *SURFACE*

Director: Anna Kekkonen /  
Writers: Anna Kekkonen, Jenny Timonen /  
Finland / 20 min. / N. American Premiere

Four people experience freedom and independence, born through water. Each has some disability or illness. Something in the water allows them to test their limits and express themselves outside of it.

Thursday May 23, 2:00pm



## *KARLOVO NÁMĚSTÍ, JULY 15*

Director: Rowan Gould-Bayba / Czech Republic / USA /  
17.5 min. / World Premiere

As day turns to night, we observe the flow of people in one of Prague's central squares. What do we see if we keep looking? What human stories and truths emerge?

## *FAR WEST*



Director: Stephen Michael Simon  
/ USA / 17.5 min. / West Coast  
Premiere

Drained by the fast-paced urban lifestyle, New York City artist Lala makes a bold decision to uproot herself and seek solace in the untamed landscapes somewhere far west.

## *KRISTIN DAN KUCHING KUCHINGNYA*



Director: Michael Kam  
/ Singapore / 6 min. /  
California Premiere

Shunned by her family, a 60-year-old trans woman seeks solace and balance between her faith, her identity and her beloved cats.



## *NO M'OBLIDIS*

Director: José Luis López Ortiz  
Writer: Sonia Giménez / Spain /  
19 min. / N. American Premiere

Is there a secret code to communicate on the threshold of dementia? Antonio, clad in his glass armor, resists the daily onslaught in a battle against time.

# Documentary Shorts 2

Saturday May 25, 2:30pm



## *FALLOUT*

Director: Madison Hill /  
USA / 20 min. /  
West Coast Premiere

Three individuals in a rural Appalachian town experience illnesses after exposure to environmental contamination from a nearby United States Army Ammunition Plant.

## *POQUINCA*



Director: Sasha Gransjean / USA / 25 min. /  
Int'l Premiere

A sociological journey about the transition between adolescence and adulthood that explores societal shifts through the discovery of identity in both physical and virtual spaces.

## ***A FAMILY PORTRAIT, QUEENS***



Director: Billy Silva /  
USA / 15 min.

A single mother  
struggles with  
loss and hardship,  
but through the  
resilience of her  
three young sons,  
she finds hope and  
joy once again.

## ***LOVE IN THE TIME OF MIGRATION***



Directors: Erin Kökdil, Chelsea Abbas /  
Canada / 21 min. / California Premiere

A modern day romance between two  
individuals from a community deeply  
impacted by migration. Ronny and Suly are  
in love. The only problem is that Ronny is  
in the US, while Suly is in Guatemala. Can love  
conquer all?

# Documentary Shorts 3

Sunday May 26, 5:00pm



## *VOICES*

Director: Irina Savon /  
Uzbekistan / 23 min.

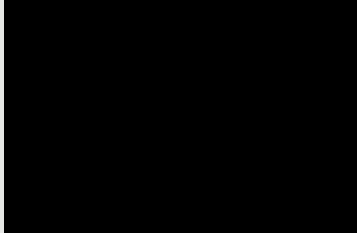
Nine male construction workers living in different cities of Uzbekistan come to the capital, where they live and work together far away from their families.

## *CHERRY*



Director: Laurence Gagné-Frégeau / Canada  
/ 22.5 min.

Cherry is the epitome of resilience,  
friendship and hope.



## WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU



Director: Alec Goldberg / USA / 25 min.

Two childhood friends, both now stand-up comics, explore their past trauma together.



## ROMEO

Director: Sara Gómez Cortijo / Spain / 11 min. / West Coast Premiere

Maria (15 years old) and Kevin (17) have been a couple for three years. In the summer of 2020 she discovers that she is pregnant. Despite the contrary opinions of their respective families, they decide to go ahead with the pregnancy. On April 8th, 2021 their son is born. Romeo is the name of the baby.

# Animation Shorts

Sunday May 26, 10:30am



## *SLOWLY WAKING*

Director: Sara Schiavone / Writer:  
Niamh Elain / UK / 8 min.

In a secluded boxed home floating in the void a 'Wish you were here' text is sent. But who or what is to blame for the silence it is met with?



## *REANIMATIONS*

Director: Benjamin Bertram Goldman  
/ Writer: Kyle Ben Donley / USA /  
12 min. / World Premiere

Must death be the end? In Reanimations, scientist turned daytime talk-show host Sage McMichael brings your loved ones BACK. TO. HIGH-DEFINITION. LIFE!

## *THIS IS A STORY WITHOUT A PLAN*



Director: Cassie Shao/ USA / 7.5 min.

Two characters witness a constant explosion in different fragments of their lives.



## THE DATE

Director: Langan Kingsley / Writers: James Dwyer, Langan Kingsley / USA / 10 min. / World Premiere

Two nightmares on a first date discuss everything from their mutual friend Santa Claus to cancel culture.



## SHACKLE

Director: Ainslie Henderson / UK / 10 min.

Three archetypal woodland spirits explore the conflicting human drives of creativity, possessiveness and our desire for status.



## NOHOMO



Director: J. Santos / USA / 5 min.

A young man is tormented by a phallic creature, sending him off the rails. Animated on Nintendo 3DS.



## VACATION

Directors: Yifan Jiang, James J.A. Mercer / USA / 26 min.

Barely surviving a volcanic eruption, a road tripping college student steps into an absurd fable exploring the nature of nature.

# Mojave to Mammoth

Friday May 24, 4:00pm



## ***INTRUDER***

Director: Abbs Stoiber /  
USA / 16 min. /  
World Premiere

Blake, a college junior, desperately tries to battle their reality-bending mental intrusions, finally seeking out the help they need. But an Intruder lurks in the shadows of their mind, resurfacing thoughts that can either heal or break them.

## ***TRACING HISTORY***



Director: Jalena Keane-Lee / USA / 13 min.

A Chinese-American filmmaker invites her mother on a journey of self-discovery and reclamation as they tour the railroad sites built by their ancestors six generations ago.

## 109 BELOW



Director: Nick Martini  
/ USA / 14 min.

An attempted rescue on Mount Washington in 1982 changed not only the course of two climbers' lives, but the lives of the rescuers who attempted to save them — and the future of prosthetics, forever.

## NEVER AGAIN



Director: Jack Cramer / USA / 20.5 min. / World Premiere

The possibility of a new route up Mt. Morrison's infamous north face lures three climbers to confront the meaning of the phrase "never again."



## EXTINCTION STORY ORIGIN STORY

Director: Terrie Samundra / Writers: Terrie Samundra, David Walter Lech / USA / 17 min. / West Coast Premiere

On their way home from school one day, two young girls find themselves in a haunted desert.

# Music Videos

Friday May 24, 6:30pm



## *CANDLE FLAME*

by Jungle,  
directed by  
J Lloyd



## *POWERBALL*

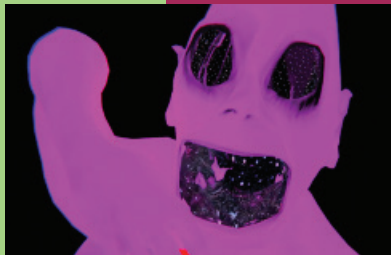
by Snōoper,  
directed by  
Blair Tramel



## *FREAKALIZER*

(Egyptian Lover Remix)

by Sudan Archives,  
directed by  
ALL CITY JIMMY



## *EYE WITNESS*

by Me Lost Me,  
directed by Joshua  
Roland



**THE LOW** by Forest Swords,  
directed by Sam Wiehl



**HOUNDS**  
by Puma Blue, directed by Jak Payne



**DAYDREAM**  
by Being Dead, directed by Katie Cheline



**IN A MOMENT DIVINE**  
by Freak Heat Waves feat. Cindy Lee,  
directed by Steven Lind



**CHAIRMAN** by Ekiti Sound  
feat. Aunty Rayzor, directed by FD Visualzz



**SHIVER** by Fever Ray,  
directed by Martin Falck

# Music Videos

Friday May 24, 6:30pm



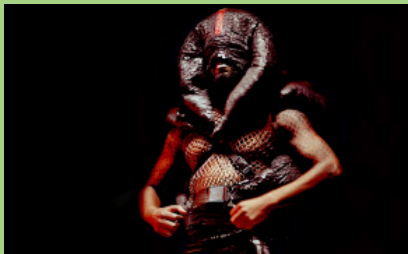
## *D'UN FEU SECRET*

by Cécile McLorin Salvant, directed by Amanda Bonaiuto



## *JOIN THE RESISTANCE*

by Goat, directed by Oliver Lewis



## *LEAVING THE LIGHT*

by Genesis Owusu, directed by Lisa Reihana



## *THE LONELIEST*

by Måneskin, directed by Tommaso Ottomano

**MAMMOTH**  
**BREWING CO.**

# Screenplay Finalists



## **The Familiar Ferry by William Scott Williams**

A struggling actor on the run from her cheating husband learns to parent her precocious teenage daughter with the help of her dying mother and her famously narcissistic grandmother.



## **The Gene Rasp by Patrick McConnell**

A Story of Discovery and Friendship that weaves through time. Three Doctors create a new improved World with their invention, and as

time comes to a close for one, he finally finds and shares Love and its Immortality.



## **The Last Ride of the Blood Brothers by Johnny Galvan**

After being recruited by one of the Devil's sons, a ragged and troubled leader of a motorcycle club struggles to keep his friends alive and win an epic battle against a rival club for the survival of the human race.

## **Imogene's Tornado by Andrew Braunbhar**

A homeless schizophrenic, Imogene – accompanied by her romantic interest Hobbs – wants to track down and murder the tornado that she believes killed her brother. Their adventures through the city streets lead to unexpected encounters, resolutions, and new found love.



## **The Last Straw by Stacey Powells & Griff Lambert**

Brad and Stephanie, two neighbors who are both single parents, have their hands full with imploding jobs,

and unmanageable teenagers. Deciding to run away on Brad's sailboat and teach the ungrateful teens a lesson, this break from their chaotic lives results in them getting caught up in a bizarre drug smuggling scheme in Mexican waters.



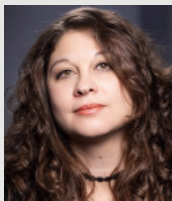


### **Love in the Time of Recycling by Micah Vassau**

Clairo is a young woman suffering from the same anxiety as the rest of her generation. The only difference, she is a can of soda. Clairo feels left alone

in the world after her best friend is drunk; she decides to write a letter to Governor Newsom. This letter snowballs until she is leading a recycling revolution.

---



### **Regression by Melissa Vitello**

When three college roommates experience the loss of their fourth roommate and best friend, grief begins to peel back the layers of their darkest behaviors as each of them sink into their

own destructive vices that drive resentment between them. Soon after her death, they are forced to work together when they encounter paranormal phenomenon, dreams that follow them from the darkness, and eerie messages from unknown sources that cannot be ignored.



### **Tits' Begonias by Grayson T. Johnson**

After a long career of authoring opinionated and

contradictory self-help books, Susan Stansbury is on her death bed. Her three daughters, Margie, Molly and Mary Ellen gather for the reading of the will along with Mary Ellen's husband, Kevin and Margie's caretaker, Denise. The will reveals cutting insults, raw disapproval and general indifference for them all. Their mother's true feelings laid bare, the women are now left to make sense of their mother's legacy and their relationships to one another.



### **The Ultimate Thrill by Alan Mah Baxter**

Inspired by the incredible true story, Mark Foo, a Chinese-American big-wave surfer living in Hawaii battles old school surfing biases, racism, and the

doubts of his own family during his quest to become a legendary champion of both the sport and his local community.

---



### **You Know by John T. Frederick**

Marines, ambushed. HENRY left standing. He looks to the heavens: Why? A prostitute dies, giving birth to... IT.

Years later, It, a ball of flesh, HUMS with life. As a former

President addresses his Party... epiphany strikes: "The World needs leaders who tell the truth. You know this." He immediately dies, happy. For ten days The You Know Syndrome kills billions... stops. It... God... tells Henry to teach The Answer to: Why? YOU KNOW it... The All-Life Golden Rule.

**Laura's  
Brownies**

an affair with chocolate



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# Parties & Events

## OPENING NIGHT GALA

**Wed. May 22, 9:00pm, Sierra Center Screening Room Lounge, 452 Old Mammoth Rd.**

Kick off Mammoth Lakes' tenth annual independent film festival in style! Dance the night away to some sweet party tunes, enjoy an open beer and wine bar, and meet our visiting filmmakers.



\$25 online, \$30 at the door.



## LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

**Thursday May 23, 10:00pm, Distant Brewing, 468 Old Mammoth Rd.**

Enjoy your sweetest happy hour yet at the local favorite tasting beer room DISTANT BREWING. Mingle with fellow film-goers and our visiting filmmakers. Party is open to all. Passholders receive a complimentary drink ticket.

## PANEL DISCUSSION WITH COFFEE & PASTRIES

**Saturday May 25, 10:00am, USFS, 2510 Main St.**

Come for an informative panel discussion with industry professionals and enjoy Coffee and Pastries while we discuss "How to Get Distribution and Kick Start Your Career"

\$12 online, \$15 at the door.



## FILMMAKERS BASH

**Saturday May 25, 10:00pm**

**Bar Sierra, 202 Old Mammoth Rd.**

Come celebrate and honor our visiting filmmakers with a party to end all parties (although we've still got one more night to party)! A night to remember! Spend the evening singing Karaoke with Local DJ Maurice. Party is open to all. Passholders receive a complimentary drink ticket.



## CLOSING NIGHT AWARDS CEREMONY

**Sunday May 26, 9:30pm, Sierra Center Screening Room Lounge,  
452 Old Mammoth Rd.**

It may seem like the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival is coming to a close. But this is just the beginning, right? Jury and Audience Awards will be presented in all categories. After the awards presentations (and during), we will celebrate. Let's talk, enjoy the open beer and wine bar, and dance about it into the wee hours of the night. \$25 online, \$30 at the door.

# AWARDS & PRIZES

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award  
\$10,000 Panavision Camera Rental Grant  
\$13,500 Light Iron Post Production Package  
Slated script + financial analysis bundle

Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award  
\$10,000 Panavision Camera Rental Grant  
\$13,500 Light Iron Post Production Package  
Slated script + financial analysis bundle

Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST SCREENPLAY

\$1,000 Cash award  
Slated script + financial analysis bundle

Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award

Orson Trophy

## BRAVERY AWARD FOR DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award  
\$5,000 Panavision Camera Rental Grant  
Slated script + financial analysis bundle  
Orson Trophy

## AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST INT'L DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

\$1,000 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST N. AMERICAN NARRATIVE SHORT

\$500 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST INT'L NARRATIVE SHORT

\$500 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

\$500 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST ANIMATION SHORT

\$500 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

## JURY AWARD FOR BEST MUSIC VIDEO

\$500 Cash award  
Orson Trophy

Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony, starting at 9:30pm on Sunday the 26th.



# Jury

## ALEX MECHANIK



Alex Mechanik is a filmmaker and editor based in Los Angeles. He was nominated for an Academy Award for his work co-creating the story for *May December*

(2023) alongside screenwriter Samy Burch, directed by Todd Haynes, starring Natalie Portman, Julianne Moore and Charles Melton. The film premiered in competition at the 76th Cannes Film Festival, and was the Opening Night Film of the 61st New York Film Festival at Lincoln Center. Burch and Mechanik also won Best First Screenplay at the Independent Spirit Awards. His short films have screened at Slamdance, Maryland, Calgary, Sidewalk, Sarasota, and Mammoth Lakes. He is currently in pre-production on his directorial debut, *This Is The One They'll Remember Me By*, a feature film starring O-Lan Jones, produced by Will Ferrell and Jessica Elbaum of Gloria Sanchez Productions, to shoot Summer 2024.

**NARRATIVE FEATURES**

## TIM MOORE

TIM MOORE (Producer) has overseen the physical production of all of Clint Eastwood's films since 2002, most recently producing *Juror #2*. He produced *Cry Macho*, starring Eastwood, *Richard Jewell*, *The Mule*, in which Eastwood also starred, *The 15:17 to Paris*, and *Sully*, starring Tom Hanks. Moore executive produced *American Sniper*, (2014) which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture. He was also executive producer of *Jersey Boys*. In 2009, he executive produced Oscar and Golden Globe nominee *Invictus*. He was an executive producer on *J. Edgar*, *Hereafter*, *Gran Torino* and *Changeling*, and served as a co-producer on *Flags of Our Fathers* and *Letters from Iwo Jima*, which was Oscar-nominated for Best Picture. His work with Eastwood also includes the dramas *Mystic River*, (six Oscar nominations, including Best Picture), and *Million Dollar Baby*, (four Academy Awards, including Best Picture). Moore has also produced award-winning films including *Sweetwater*, directed by Martin Guigui, *In the Land of Blood and Honey*, directed by Angelina Jolie, and *Bobby Jones: Stroke of Genius*, directed by Rowdy Herrington.



**NARRATIVE FEATURES**

## ODED REUVENY-HOROWITZ

Oded Reuveny-Horowitz is the owner of Panorama Films, a boutique distribution company based in Los Angeles. Oded is also part of the Greenwich Entertainment team, one of the most significant art house and documentary distribution companies in the US (Films like *Free Solo*, *Linda Ronstadt: The Sound Of My Voice*, *Citizen K*, *Billie*, *The Beasts*, *Never Look Away*). Oded started his career as the head of the movie channels in Israel's Cable Programming Company back in the 90's and then opened his own art house distribution company "Orlando Films and Theaters" that became one of the leading distributors and exhibitors in the country. He moved to Los Angeles in 2015 with his family and worked with various companies and in 2020 opened Panorama Films which distributed art house hits such as *Vishniac* By Laura Bialis, *Call Me Dancer* by Leslie Shampaine and Pip Gilmour, *Picture Of His Life* by Yonatan Nir & Dani Menkin, *The Other Widow* by Maayan Ryppe, and many more...



**NARRATIVE FEATURES**

cont. > 61



## SHAUN HILL

Shaun Hill serves as President of Indican Pictures, a motion picture distribution label, formed in 2004. Hill, along with her partner Randolph Kret, released 400+ films into the market since the company's

inception. Hill oversees the operation from acquisitions to legal and through release across all media including theatrical, digital, and cable television, home video and ancillary platforms worldwide. Prior to launching Indican Pictures, Hill produced features, music videos, commercials, programmed for the Slamdance FF, Hollywood FF, guest speaker at Cinequest FF, Sunscreen FF, UCLA Masters Screenwriting Program judge and is currently on the Advisory Board for the University of Riverside. Hill, along with Kret continues the Indican Pictures sponsorship with the Los Angeles LGBT Center and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

### INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURES

62

# Jury



## KEVIN ONDARZA

Kevin Ondarza is a Latin American Director, Writer and Creative Producer working out of Miami, Florida. Kevin's work is reflective of mirroring the

rich cultural diversity of South Florida through the art of cinematic storytelling. Through his filmmaking, he co-founded the White Elephant Group (WEG) Film Collective in 2013. A Miami-based collective that focuses on reflecting the regions multiculturalism and its many compelling stories both through film, as well as offering free public programming to assist the local filmmaking community. He has had films play internationally at the Miami Film Festival, HBO's New York Latino Film Festival, New Orleans, Global Shorts and Leeds International Festival.

### INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURES



## JACQUES THELEMAQUE

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* which played at the Sundance Film Festival, and won the Grand Prix du Jury Award in the Labo Competition at the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival. He also wrote, directed and produced the feature film *The Dogwalker* as well as produced five other feature films.

### INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURES





## ALLISON AMON

Allison Amon spent 18 years as the co-owner of Chelsea Pictures, winning multiple awards at Cannes Lions, Sundance and an

Emmy for #Likeagirl. She co-produced *Queen of Versailles* and *The Kingmaker*, This year producing *The Seven Faces of Jane* for Roman Coppola. She also is the President of Superconductor, an advertising agency owned by Justin Lin and The Russo Brothers. Along with winning ADAge's small Agency of the year, Superconductor has worked in the entertainment and metaverse to produce award winning work for its clients.

As an MLFF vet, Allison cannot wait for the Festival this year and all the creative energy that makes it happen.

## DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

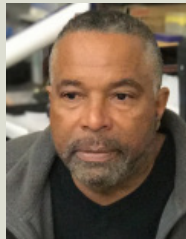


## RONALD BAEZ

Ronald Baez is an Afro-Caribbean film director, producer and immersive media artist from Miami, FL. His films and XR projects have been exhibited at film festivals and museums including Tribeca, Slamdance, Hot

Docs, IDFA, Sheffield DocFest and the New Orleans, Florida, Miami, Trinidad & Tobago, New York Latino and Short Shorts (Tokyo) Film Festivals. His work has been exhibited and distributed by PBS, Seed & Spark, the Norton Museum of Art, the New World Symphony and the Adrienne Arsht Center. His immersive projects have been exhibited at MIT, the Games for Change Festival, the Florida Museum of Natural History, and NAB. He served as Captain of Programming for the 2021 Slamdance Miami Film Festival. He is a founding member of the White Elephant Group, a Miami-based film and digital media collective, and serves as the Artistic Director of the After School Film Institute, a nonprofit organization mentoring students and emerging artists from underserved South Florida communities.

## DOCUMENTARY FEATURES



## DAVID MASSEY

David Massey, an Academy Award-Nominated filmmaker for his Live-Action Short film *Last Breeze of Summer* (1992), has an MFA in Advanced Film & Television from the American Film Institute.

His docudrama *Men of Courage* received an NAACP Image Award, airing on PBS and BET. Massey's short films include *Island Song* (winner 2013 Audience Award at the Pan African Film Festival). He has produced international documentaries including *Dare to Struggle, Dare to Win*. Massey's latest projects are *When Justice Isn't Just*, a short documentary (available on iTunes); *Not All Lost*, a reality-based, celebrity-driven PBS program; and *Passage*, a narrative short film in pre-production. Massey is the recipient of awards including The Martin Ritt Scholarship; 2011 PBS Innovation Award and the Eastman Kodak Second Century Honoree. A voting member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, he serves on the Oscar-qualifying Festival and Student Academy Award committees and the Executive Committee of the Live-Action and Animated branch.

## DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

## KIMBERLEY BROWNING

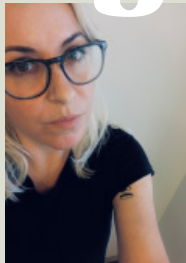


Kimberley Browning is a filmmaker & film festival professional based in Los Angeles. Originally from Washington DC, Kimberley studied music and film at USC, then began her career working in production at Disney's Touchstone Television. She is on the short film programming team at Tribeca Festival, and is the Production Advisor for the festival's AT&T UNTOLD STORIES million dollar feature film production program. She previously was the Executive Producer of HBO Access, the network's development and training program for directors and writers. Recent film credits include *Uprooted: The Journey of Jazz Dance* which premiered on HBO Max in 2022 and *Being Michelle*, currently on the festival circuit. Kimberley serves as the National Chair of Film at YoungARTS, the nominating organization for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts.

### NARRATIVE SHORTS

# Jury

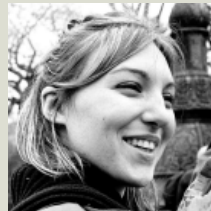
## SARAH DIAMOND



Sarah Diamond is the former Director of Programming for the Slamdance Film Festival and currently serves as a programmer for the Slamdance Narrative Features and Animated Shorts committees. She holds an MFA in Fiction from Otis College of Art & Design and is a practicing entertainment attorney.

### NARRATIVE SHORTS

## CORRINNE JAMES



Corrinne James is a Los Angeles-based animator from Alexandria, Virginia. She has created music videos for major label and indie artists such as Ice Spice, Feeble Little Horse, Slow Pulp, and Emily Yacina. She has also made animated sequences for TV, including Hulu's food docu-series *Searching for Soul Food*. In her own films, James often uses hand-drawn techniques to wrestle with themes of guilt, purpose, and jealousy in a non-linear, impressionistic fashion. James previously competed in the Animated Shorts category at the 2022 Mammoth Film Lakes Festival with a music video for her original song *Concession Stand Girl*. She also made the bumper/title sequence for the 2023 MLFF, and is over the moon to return to the festival for a third straight year. See you all at Wild Williy's!

### ANIMATION & DOC SHORTS

## SCENERY SAMUNDA

Scenery Samundra is an LA-based Music Supervisor who got her start working with the Emmy award winning music supervision team on *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, as well as Luca Guadagnino's HBO series, *We Are Who We Are* and several



other notable projects including Crystal Moselle's groundbreaking show *Betty*. She is currently an Associate Music Supervisor at Motive, specializing in trailers for films and TV shows. Previously, she worked for the in-house music supervision team at Warner Brothers TV Music, as well as at NTS Radio's LA headquarters, and served as a consultant for David Lynch's Festival of Disruption. Scenery also serves on the Guild of Music Supervisors Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee which recently launched a mentorship program for aspiring Music Supervisors from underrepresented backgrounds.

## ANIMATION & DOC SHORTS

## SEAN BARNES

Found in the woods at a young age by a poor family of carpenters on a trade route to Northern California the boy spoke only the language of the 4-leggers. After learning the trades for some years he was ultimately bartered to a rich family of tech enthusiasts in the Bay Area purely as Friday night entertainment where his lack of civilized manners or speech was of no consequence. His simple mind and keen sense of humor sent him swiftly into a loving embrace with these tech nerds and before long he was not only accepted as a member of the family but embraced by their whole community of creators for his skills in trades, kindness in friendship and his childlike admiration for the simplest pleasures in life. The boy went on to use his skills in storytelling and furniture making and even learned to walk on two legs.



## MUSIC VIDEOS

## BRIAN MORATAYA

An LA native with Central American parents, Brian likes to tell people that music was his first love, before getting into the film/tv world. Back in his teens he was a bass player in a small local punk rock band, playing house and backyard shows and some famous local venues. During that time he started to get passionate about photography, specifically analog photography, and still shoots primarily on 35mm with his collection of cameras. He is also a seasoned projectionist for film festivals and events and has worked in many aspects of the film/television world — he is now a member of IATSE Local 600 as a digital utility and sometimes as a second camera assistant. He hopes to continue his work in the camera world and one day to become a professional camera operator. His dedication to his craft and his unwavering passion for art and film make him the person you want on your team.



## MUSIC VIDEOS



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# Restaurants

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### *THE WARMING HUT*

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**PAUL SBRIZZI**

Technical Director  
**BRIAN MORATAYA**

Festival Manager  
**JOHANNA JENNEMAN**

Projectionist  
**SEAN BARNES**

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**JAALA JONES**

Coordinator  
**JULIANA  
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JOSEPH MARRONE  
LEW JONES**

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Mammoth Artwork  
**LORI MICHELON**

Festival Trailer  
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Programmers  
**CLEMENTINE LEGER  
CODY INCHES**

Associate  
Programmers  
**RANDALL GOOD  
BRIDGET MCMILLAN  
ANDREW CRANE  
CHUCKLES KLOWN  
ANDREW PICCONE  
MICHAEL BARTOLOMEO**

Best Helper Ever  
**JEFFREY FROME**

Festival Interns  
**TALIA KEDEM  
MAYA KEDEM  
JAMES CODY JAMES-  
CARDENAS**

Orson the Bear Awards  
**JEFF FLEMING  
BEAR COUNTRY GALLERY**

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the Eastern Sierra  
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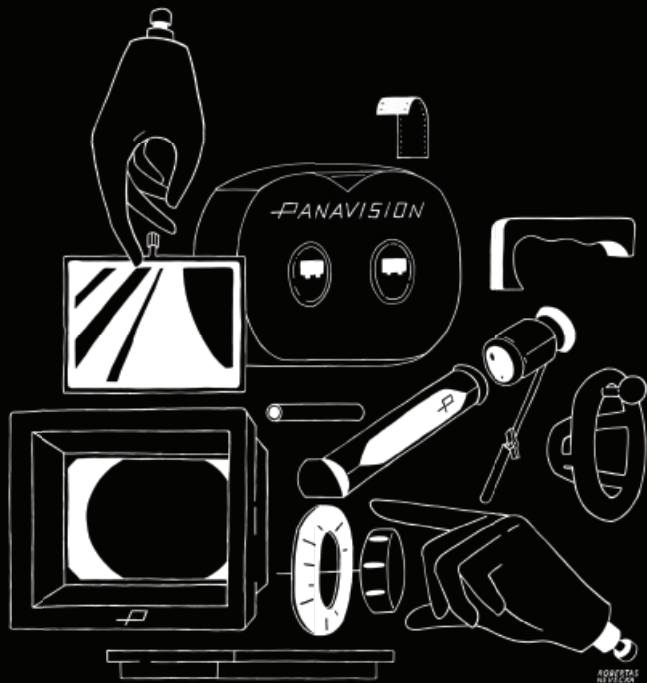
Program Booklet Design  
**PAUL SBRIZZI**

# Film Index

- #WAY\_Aurelio . . . . . **26**
- 109 BELOW . . . . . **49**
- Acid Green . . . . . **16**
- All I've Got  
and Then Some . . . . . **14**
- Anything Helps . . . . . **36**
- The Arrangement . . . . . **34**
- Atikamekw Suns . . . . . **15**
- Au regard  
de ses pensées . . . . . **35**
- Beyond Failure . . . . . **14**
- Black Box Diaries . . . . . **11**
- Bogotá Story . . . . . **37**
- Brando  
with a Glass Eye . . . . . **18**
- Bridge / Keeper . . . . . **29**
- Burning Moon . . . . . **28**
- Candle Flame  
- Jungle . . . . . **50**
- Chairman - Ekiti Sound  
feat. Aunty Rayzor . . . **51**
- Cherry . . . . . **44**
- Chomp . . . . . **13**
- Ciela . . . . . **30**
- The Complex Forms . . . **19**
- Cu Li Never Cries . . . . **20**
- Cycles . . . . . **23**
- D'Un Feu Secret - Cécile  
McLorin Salvant . . . . . **52**
- Dad Swap . . . . . **39**
- The Date . . . . . **47**
- Daydream  
- Being Dead . . . . . **51**
- Deepfake  
Apology Video . . . . . **37**
- Extinction Story  
Origin Story . . . . . **49**
- Eye Witness  
- Me Lost Me . . . . . **50**
- Fallout . . . . . **42**
- The Familiar Ferry . . . . **54**
- A Family Portrait,  
Queens . . . . . **43**
- Far West . . . . . **41**
- Fishing . . . . . **21**
- Flail . . . . . **17**
- Flutz . . . . . **34**
- Freakalizer (Egyptian  
Lover Remix)  
- Sudan Archives . . . . **50**
- Freerunner . . . . . **19**
- The Gene Rasp . . . . . **54**
- The Girl Who Cried . . . . **32**
- Goodnight Dream . . . . **36**
- Heat Spell . . . . . **35**
- Hills for the Head . . . . **28**
- Hounds - Puma Blue . . . **51**
- I Would've  
Been Happy . . . . . **37**
- Imogene's Tornado . . . . **54**
- In a Moment Divine  
by Freak  
Heat Waves . . . . . **51**
- In Silence, We Echo . . . **39**
- Inheritance . . . . . **22**
- Intruder . . . . . **48**
- Isaac . . . . . **31**
- Join the  
Resistance - Goat . . . . **52**



Karlovo Náměstí, July 15 . . . . .	40	Mediha . . . . .	23	Poquinca . . . . .	42	Tits' Begonias . . . . .	55
The Knee Touch . . . . .	38	Messy Legend. . . . .	29	Powerball - Snōoper. . .	50	Tracing History . . . . .	48
Kristin dan Kuching Kuchingnya . . . . .	41	Mia . . . . .	20	Psykhodrame . . . . .	17	The Ultimate Thrill . . . .	55
The Last Night in the Life of Death . . .	16	Mirage . . . . .	31	Punishment. . . . .	25	Union . . . . .	12
The Last Ride of the Blood Brothers. .	54	Mom. . . . .	33	Quilly . . . . .	33	Unnamed. . . . .	22
The Last Straw . . . . .	54	Mothers & Monsters . .	31	Rabbit . . . . .	38	Untitled, Jackson Heights . . . .	30
Leaving the Light - Genesis Owusu. . . .	52	Najan . . . . .	38	Reanimations . . . . .	46	Vacation. . . . .	47
Living Reality. . . . .	34	Never Again . . . . .	49	Red Drop. . . . .	30	Voices . . . . .	44
The Loneliest - Maneskin. . . . .	52	Never Look Away . . . .	10	Regression . . . . .	55	Welcome Filmmakers! .	13
Love in the Time of Migration. . . . .	43	New . . . . .	35	Romeo . . . . .	45	Weree. . . . .	24
Love in the Time of Recycling . . . . .	55	Night Milk . . . . .	36	Runaway . . . . .	28	What Happened to You. . . . .	45
The Low - Forest Swords . . . .	51	No m'oblidis. . . . .	41	Shackle . . . . .	47	Winter Threshold . . . .	26
		Nohomo. . . . .	47	Shiver - Fever Ray . . .	51	The Year of Staring at Noses. . . . .	33
		Ode. . . . .	29	Slowly Waking. . . . .	46	You Know. . . . .	55
		Offal Broth. . . . .	21	Surface . . . . .	40		
		Opening Night. . . . .	32	This Is a Story Without a Plan. . . . .	46		
		The Other Profile . . . .	24	Tidy House . . . . .	32		



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