Fifth Annual

mammoth lakes festival

May 22-26, 2019



Festival Schedule

wednesday, may 2	2		7:00	pm		9:00pm	
Minaret Cinemas			In Fabri	ic			
Polo Event Center						Opening Night	: Party
thurs, may 23	11:30am	2:00p	m	5:30pm	8:0	00pm	10:00pm
Edison	Mojave to Mammoth Shorts	Shorts Blo	ock 1	The Goose	Mor	105	
US Forest Service					Kni	ves and Skin	
The Public House							Happy Hour
Minaret Cinemas				Cold Case Hammarskjöld			

fri. may 24	10:30am	1:30pm	4:00	om 6	:30pm	8:30pm
Edison		Shorts Block 2	Shorts B	lock 3 Pa	ariah Dog	Clean Hands
US Forest Service				Ju	ian	Olympic Dreams
Minaret Cinemas			4:30pm	Buddy		
sat. may 25	10:00am	12:00pm	2:30p	om 5:	:00pm	7:30pm
Edison		Monument	A Great I	.amp Me	emphis '69	
US Forest Service	Saturday Morning Kids Shorts	Shorts Block 4	Cat Stick	s 17	Blocks	Sierra Spirit Award
Polo Event Center	10:30am Panel Brun	ch	·	R	afters	10:00pm Filmmaker Bash
sun. may 26	10:00am	12:30pm	3:00p	m 5:	00pm	7:30pm*
Edison		Beloved	Anbessa	Mi	idnight Family	
US Forest Service	Shorts Encore Screening	Shorts Block 5	No Exit	Ja	wline	
Minaret Cinemas	*7:30pm XY Chelsea		Polo Ever	nt Center	9:30pm Awards	Ceremony & Party

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Map & Locations

Edison Theater / Festival HQ
 College Parkway

2. US Forest Service Theater 2510 Main St.

3. Minaret Cinemas439 Old Mammoth Rd.

4. Public House 3399 Main St.

5. Polo Event Center 3343 Main St.

6. Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa 164 Old Mammoth Rd.

7. Rafters202 Old Mammoth Rd.



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Steal This Festival

Paul: Shira, what should we say here? You're the one that's good at talking, you said so yourself.

Shira: Yeah but you're the one that's good at writing, you keep

reminding me.

Paul: Fair enough. I don't know,

should we say that we program the most soulful, stylish and imaginative independent films out there, year after year? That we have an eye for new talent, tuning out the hype and finding...

Shira: Oh my God I can't take it. Please stop bragging.

Paul: Touché! OK then genius lady, what would vou sav?

Shira: Maybe we talk about the natural

beauty of the Eastern Sierra, and how well we handle all the fundamentals: great staff, great projection and sound, amazing hospitality, travel and accommodations, making sure screenings run on time and are well attended...

Paul: Um. sorry, what? I kinda dozed off during that last part. Seriously, we are in the entertainment business and we're losing the room. Also please don't jinx it.

> Shira: It's fine, nobody reads these things anyway. They flip through the book to find their own film and never open it again.

Paul: I'm gonna kill myself.

Shira: I know, me too but let's please wait until after May 26th!





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OPENING NIGHT SCREENING

Wednesday May 22, 7:00pm Minaret Cinemas

In Fabric

USA, 118 min

Director/Writer: Peter Strickland
Cast: Marianne Jean-Baptiste, Hayley
Squires, Leo Bill, Julian Barratt, Steve Oram,
Gwendoline Christie, Barry Adamson

In Fabric is a haunting ghost story set against the backdrop of a busy winter sales period in a department store and follows the life of a cursed dress as it passes from person to person, with devastating consequences.

Director Bio: Strickland was born in 1973 in Reading, England to a Greek mother and British father. He was a member of Progress Theatre, directing his own adaptation of *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka. His first feature, the low-budget rural revenge drama *Katalin Varga*, was financed by an inheritance from an uncle and filmed in Romania over a period of 17 days in 2006. He has gone on to direct numerous projects, including *Berberian Sound Studio* (2012) and *The Duke of Burgundy* (2014).

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CLOSING NIGHT SCREENING

Sunday May 26, 7:30pm Minaret Cinemas

XY Chelsea

Director: Tim Travers Hawkins Writer: Mark Monroe

USA, 92 min, **West Coast Premiere**

Featuring: Chelsea Manning,

Nancy Hollander, Vince Ward, Chase Strangio

XY Chelsea tells the historic story of whistle-blower Chelsea Manning, whose 35-year sentence in a maximum security prison was commuted by President Obama in 2017. Shot over two years and featuring exclusive interviews and behind-the-scenes verité with Manning, the film begins on the momentous day in May of that year when she leaves prison and follows her through her journey of discovery, while also examining her place in the conversation on national security and the fight of the transgender community for rights and visibility.

Director Bio: Tim Travers Hawkins is an award-winning independent director, cinematographer and multimedia artist. He co-founded the award-winning Colombian experimental film collective 'Cinemachete'. whose work included El Otro Lado de La Cienaga (2007). Ourv Jalloh (2008), and *Posh* (2010). Further credits include the acclaimed animated film 1000 Voices (2008), Surpriseville (2012) and the multimedia interactive project Invisible Picture Show (2014) which was installed at The United Nations in New York and the UNHCR in Geneva.

Photo Courtesy of SHOWTIME





CENTERPIECE SIERRA SPIRIT AWARD PRESENTATION

Saturday May 25, 7:30pm US Forest Service

An Evening with The Groundlings

Sierra Spirit Award Ceremony and Conversation

MLFF will be honoring the legendary comedy organization The Groundlings Theatre and School with the Sierra Spirit Award for their remarkable contributions to the world of television and film. With an influence spanning decades, The Groundlings Theatre and School was founded as a non-profit organization in 1974 and has been the foremost comedy training ground in Hollywood and the springboard for countless careers including comic geniuses such as Jennifer Coolidge, Will Ferrell, Ana Gasteyer, Kathy Griffin, Phil Hartman, Cheryl Hines, Chris Kattan, Taran Killam, Lisa Kudrow, Jon Lovitz, Melissa McCarthy,

Cheri Oteri, Paul Reubens, Mava Rudolph, Mindv

Sterling, Julia Sweeney and Kristen Wiig, among others. You can see Groundlings and recent alumni on shows such as SNL (Heidi Gardner and Mikey Day), Vice Principals (Edi Patterson), Community (Jim Rash), Man with a Plan (Matt Cook), AP Bio (Lyric Lewis), The Last O.G. (Ryan Gaul) and in just about every funny commercial running today. On hand to accept the award will be current and alumni Groundlings who will take part in a moderated panel and conversation about their careers both in and outside the theater. We can't announce our surprise guests yet at press time, but some of the great film and TV actors will be appearing live and in person!



SPOTLIGHT Friday May 24, 4:30pm

BUGGY Netherlands, 86 min,

Minaret Cinemas

Sponsored by



Director: Heddy Honigmann

West Coast Premiere

In this poignant and carefully composed portrait of six service dogs and their owners, Heddy Honigmann explores the close bond between animal and human, questioning the owners in her characteristic way — respectfully and with genuine concern rooted in a deep trust — about what the animals mean to them. Buddy is an ode to the fighting spirit of the main characters and a loving portrait of the deep bond between man and dog.

Director Bio: Heddy Honigmann has been honored with retrospectives of her prolific, eclectic body of work at New York City's Museum of Modern Art and the Centre Pompidou in Paris, among others. Her previous films include *Metal And Melancholy* (1994), *O Amor Natural* (1996), *The Underground Orchestra* (1998), *Foreyer* (2006) and *Oblivion* (2008).

Dani

Director: Elizabeth Hogenson / USA / 9 min

Using stop-motion animation, Dani shows us how a simple phone call can be a study of human courage, faith, and love.



SPOTLIGHT

Thursday May 23, 5:30pm Minaret Cinemas

COLD COSE

Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, 128 min

Hommorskjold

Figure Mala Britana

Director/Writer: Mads Brügger
Featuring: Mads Brügger, Göran Björkdahl,
Alexander Jones, Jan Beuckels, René Goor,
Tinie Groenewald, De Wet Potgieter

Danish director Mads Brügger and Swedish private investigator Göran Björkdahl are trying to solve the mysterious death of Dag Hammarskjöld. As their investigation closes in, they discover a crime far worse than killing the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Director Bio: Mads Brügger is a Danish journalist, television host, author and filmmaker. He has written several books, worked for magazines and newspapers, produced awardwinning radio programs, and hosted the critically acclaimed late-night television show The 11th Hour, as well as the daily news program Deadline. Brügger also created the satirical docuseries Danes for Bush and the feature documentaries The Red Chapel (World Cinema Documentary Jury Prize, 2010 Sundance Film Festival) and The Ambassador (2012 Sundance Film Festival).



Monos

Director: Alejandro Landes Writers: Alejandro Landes, Alexis Dos Santos Cast: Julianne Nicholson, Moisés Arias, Sofia Buenaventura, Julián Giraldo, Karen Quintero

On a remote mountaintop somewhere in Latin America, a rebel group of teenage commandos bearing *noms de guerre* like Rambo, Smurf, Bigfoot, Wolf and Boom-Boom perform military training exercises while watching over a prisoner and a conscripted milk cow for a shadowy force known as "The Organization." After an ambush drives the squadron into the jungle, fracturing their intricate bond, the mission begins to collapse.

Director Bio: Alejandro Landes was born in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and raised in Ecuador and Colombia. Landes's first fiction feature, *Porfirio*, premiered in the 2011 Cannes Film Festival Directors' Fortnight and won top prizes at many international film festivals. His first documentary, *Cocalero*, opened in the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and was theatrically released in over 20 countries.

Thursday May 23, 8:00pm Edison Theater





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N. AMERICAN NARRATIVES

Director/Writer: Mike Maryniuk
Cast: Rob Crooks, Bea Solsberg,
Washboard Hank

A mute young man attempts to regain to his voice and to escape his oppressive surroundings with the help of an inventive, but behind the times Travel Agent. He must traverse a gauntlet of miscommunication, small town bravado and his Snowbird weirdos. He meets a woman known as the Escape Artist in the hospital and they hatch a loose plot to migrate to Arizona, where the Goose can receive new age voice therapy and the Escape Artist can escape winter's clutches.

Director Bio: Mike Maryniuk was born in Winnipeg, but raised in the rural backcountry of Manitoba. A self-taught film virtuoso, Maryniuk's film world is an inventive hybrid of Jim Henson, Norman McLaren and Les Blank. His films have screened at Sundance, SXSW, NY Views from the Avant Garde, TIFF and around the globe.

Valerio's Day Out

Director: Micheal Arcos / USA / 8 min

A young jaguar (Valerio) goes on a killing spree when he escapes from his enclosure at a zoo. After he's caught, sedated, and relocated, he makes a video diary for his significant other.

Thursday May 23, 5:30pm Edison Theater

Canada, 72 min, US Premiere

N. AMERICAN NARRATIVES

Director: Saad Qureshi
Cast: Spencer Bang, Steven
Maier, Max Wilde

Saturday May 25, 2:30pm Edison Theater

Max journeys through the town wheat pasting fliers of their recently deceased grandmother, longing to keep her memory alive. They then meet Howie, a giddy yet capricious young man who's going through issues of his own. Meanwhile, Gene is stuck in a miserable cycle of mindless tasks as he pretends to go to work everyday, to a job that he quit just months before. As the crucial day of a rocket launch approaches, its significance changes inside Max, Howie, and Gene as they struggle to find the little daily things that make life survivable.

Director Bio: Saad is a Pakistani-American director, writer and producer born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and raised in North Carolina. He received his BFA from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts film school. He currently works in the New York television industry and continues his independent filmmaking. His feature debut *A Great Lamp* premiered at Slamdance 2019, and his television credits include *Good Behavior* (TNT) and *The Blacklist* (NBC).



orip

Director: Sean Ye / USA / 4 min / West Coast Premiere

A lone astronaut on a moon research base does all that he can to archive and preserve his fading world, while

USA, 76 min, West Coast Premiere

21

N. AMERICAN NARRATIVES

USA, 111 min, West Coast Premiere

Director/Writer: Jennifer Reeder Cast: Marika Engelhardt, Audrey Francis, Tim Hopper, Kate Arrington, James Vincent Meredith, Ireon Roach

The investigation of a young girl's disappearance, led by an inexperienced local sheriff, unfolds in a stylized version of a rural Midwest town that hovers just above reality. Unusual coping techniques develop among the traumatized small-town residents with each new secret revealed. The ripple of fear and suspicion destroys some relationships and strengthens others. The backdrop of trauma colors quintessential rituals—classrooms, dances, courtship, football games—in which the teenagers experience an accelerated loss of innocence while their parents are forced to confront adulthood failures.

Director Bio: Jennifer Reeder constructs personal fiction films about relationships, trauma and coping. Her awardwinning narratives are innovative and borrow from a range of forms including after-school specials, amateur music videos and magical realism. Her films have shown at Sundance, Berlin, Rotterdam, SXSW, Venice and The Whitney Biennial, amongst many others.

Thursday May 23, 8:00pm US Forest Service

N. AMERICAN NARRATIVES

Gus Kenworthy, Morgan Schild

Director: Jeremy Teicher
Writers: Alexi Pappas,
Nick Kroll, Jeremy Teicher USA, 85 min, West Coast Premiere

Penelope, a young cross-country skier, befriends Ezra, a volunteer dentist, after a disappointing finish in her Olympics competition, and they share a special but limited time together. This is the first scripted film shot in an Athlete Village during the Olympic Games, and features real Winter Olympic athletes including Gus Kenworthy and Alexi Pappas.

Director Bio: Jeremy's short documentary *This is Us* was nominated for a Student Academy Award. His award-winning debut feature *Tall as the Baobab Tree* screened at over 50 festivals around the world. His feature *Tracktown* premiered at the L.A. Film Festival and is being released by Samuel Goldwyn Films and Orion Pictures. He was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Film.



Director: Nick Paonessa / Writer: Ryan Gaul / USA / 8 min

A blue collar man deals with his emotions

Friday May 24, 8:30pm US Forest Service

INTERNATIONAL NARRATIVES

India, 94 min

Director: Ronny Sen

Writers: Ronny Sen, Soumyak Kanti

DeBiswas

Cast: Tanmay Dhanania, Sumeet Thakur, Joyraj Bhattacharjee, Rahul Dutta, Saurabh Saraswat, Sreejita Mitra

On a rainy night in Calcutta a group of desperate addicts chase brown sugar, but the permanent intoxication they seek proves elusive. Cat Sticks weaves their stories into a chiaroscuro, traverses with them through states high and low, spaces real and unreal. A relentless downpour plays backdrop to lives balanced on a precarious high. Some of them seek a release, while others do not seem to want the night to end.

Director Bio: Ronny Sen (b. 1986) is a film director, writer and photographer based in Calcutta. He started his career as a photographer and has made two artist books, *Khmer Din* (2013) and *End of Time* (2016). He received the Getty Images Instagram Grant in 2016 for his work in Jharia coal mines which were shown in *Fire Continuum*, his 2018 debut solo exhibition at gallery Tarq in Mumbai. His works are included in the permanent collection of the Alkazi Collection of Photography. *Cat Sticks* is his debut feature film; it won the jury honourable mention at Slamdance 2019.



Saturday May 25, 2:30pm US Forest Service



INTERNATIONAL NARRATIVES

Poland, 108 min, N. American Premiere

Director/Writer: Jagoda Szelc Cast: Zuzanna Pawlak, Anna Biernacik, Paulina Lasota, Karolina Bruchnicka, Anna Bolewska, Weronika Asinska, Anna Biezynska

A group of hotel interns wake up in an ice-cold van. They don't know each other yet, and have just arrived to do their internships. The strict manager of the hotel numbers the students: real names are not relevant, and there is no place for individuality here. As the group moves through green-lit corridors and empty rooms while performing the tasks allocated to them, time becomes increasingly diffuse and the atmosphere increasingly eerie. What exactly is going on here?

Director Bio: Polish filmmaker Jagoda Szelc (1984) studied Graphic Arts and Media Art at the The Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław. She later became a student in Thessaloniki (Greece) and Lodz. Her films have been screened internationally at festivals such as IDFA and the Brooklyn Film Festival. Her short film Such a Landscape (2013) won the Golden Tadpole Award at Camerimage. She won the Jury Prize for Best International Feature at Mammoth Lakes 2018 for her feature debut Tower. A Bright Day.



INTERNATIONAL NARRATIVES

Kazakhstan, 75 min, World Premiere

Director/Writer: Sarah L. Wilson
Featuring: Bexultan Sydykov,
Victoria Myssik, Aigul Sydykova, Sanatbek
Sydykov, Tanatbek Sydykov, Kadyrzhan
Frlan

In this eerie suspense-horror, Daniyar returns to his hometown—having left after the untimely death of his father—only to discover that everyone in town is acting a little odd. The locals are strangely drawn to his mother and her special brand of milk... Plus people keep disappearing—but not forever.

Director Bio: Sarah Louise Wilson is an artist who writes, directs, produces, paints and acts. In 2010, she wrote and starred in *Jelly*, starring Natasha Lyonne (*Orange is the New Black*) and Hollywood icon Ed McMahon. After screening in competition at several renowned film festivals, the film went on to win four Accolade awards and is represented by Cinetic Media. Sarah shot *No Exit* entirely on location in Kazakhstan.

Hot Dog

Director: T.J. Yoshizaki / USA / 7 min

In the crime capital of the world, LAPD officer Morgan was having just another "regular" bad day in the line of duty. Or not,



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N. AMERICAN DOC FEATURES

USA, 96 min, West Coast Premiere

Director: Davy Rothbart
Writers: Jennifer Tiexiera
Featuring: Cheryl Sanford, Emmanuel
Sanford-Durant, Jr., Denice Sanford-Durant,

Akil "Smurf" Sanford, Carmen Payne

In 1999, nine-year-old Emmanuel Sanford-Durant and his family began filming their daily lives in America's most dangerous neighborhood — just 17 blocks behind the U.S. Capitol. They've been filming ever since. Made in a unique collaboration with filmmaker and journalist Davy Rothbart, and spanning two decades, 17 BLOCKS illuminates a nation's ongoing crisis through one family's raw, stirring, and deeply personal saga.

Director Bio: Davy Rothbart is an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker, bestselling author and journalist, frequent contributor to public radio's This American Life, and the creator of Found Magazine. Rothbart's film MEDORA premiered at the 2013 SXSW Film Festival and won an Emmy Award. Rothbart's books FOUND and My Heart Is An Idiot have debuted on The New York Times Bestseller List.



N. AMERICAN DOC FEATURES

USA, 99 min

Director: Liza Mandelup Featuring: Austyn Tester

In rural Tennessee, Austyn Tester, a 16-year-old newcomer to the live-broadcast ecosystem, attempts to ride a wave of optimism to become the next big internet crush. Teen girls all over the world tune into online "boy broadcasts".

but Austyn's earnestness sets him apart, peering wide-eyed into his laptop camera and professing unconditional love and support to his female

fans for hours on end. What's he selling? Male validation. In return, he asks for fame and a better life for his family.

Director Bio: Liza Mandelup has published two photo books and shown her work in numerous exhibitions. She has been a longtime collaborator for many online platforms such as Vogue, Nowness, i-D, and Dazed. Liza was featured on Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces of Independent Film 2017" and recently won the Sundance Film Festival's "U.S. Documentary Special Jury Award for Emerging Filmmaker". She is currently in production on her second feature film.

Sunday May 26, 5:00pm
US Forest Service

N. AMERICAN DOC FEATURES

USA, 72 min, West Coast Premiere

Director: Joe LaMattina

Featuring: Sleepy John Estes, Nathan Beauregard, The Bar-Kays, Rufus Thomas, **Johnny Winter, Moloch, others**

Over three days in June of 1969, a year after Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated, the fourth Memphis Country Blues Festival took place at the city's famed

Overton Park Band Shell. Fueled by the rediscovery of blues artists like Furry Lewis and Mississippi Fred McDowell the fest had been launched

in 1966 by a group of Bluff City blues fans and counterculturalists. The '69 edition—which doubled as a celebration of Memphis' sesquicentennial—promised the event's biggest and most ambitious lineup. The luminous, previously unseen color footage that was unearthed after almost 50 years is the foundation of this new film.

Director Bio: Joe and Lisa LaMattina have produced music content with Green Day, Rihanna, Jay-Z, Linda Perry, Snoop Dog and Florence + The Machine through their company No Sudden Movements. They have contributed to documentaries with Gale Anne Hurd, Davis Guggenheim, and Pras Michel from the Fugees.

Saturday May 25, 5:00pm **Edison Theater**

N. AMERICAN DOC FEATURES

Director/Writer:
Luke Lorentzen
Featuring: Juan Ochoa,
Fer Ochoa, Josué Ochoa,
Manuel Hernández

Sunday May 26, 5:00pm Edison Theater

In Mexico City's wealthiest neighborhoods, the Ochoa family runs a private ambulance, competing with other for-profit EMTs for patients in need of urgent help. As they try to make a living in this cutthroat industry, the Ochoas struggle to keep their

Director Bio: Born in 1993. Luke Lorentzen graduated from Stanford University in Art History and Film Studies. His short doc Santa Cruz del Islote (2014) won awards at film festivals including San Francisco International, Full Frame Documentary, Camden, International, and Chicago International. His first feature documentary, New York Cuts (2015), had its world premiere at IDFA. Luke is a director/producer on the Netflix documentary series Last Chance U.

Manuel Hernández

MAMMOTH HOSPITAL

financial needs from compromising the people in their care.

Dios Nunca Muere

Director: Barbara Cigarroa / USA / 15 min When a new mobile home arrives on the cramped lot they live on, a Mexican farmworker allows herself and her children to imagine the home is theirs.

INTERNATIONAL DOC FEATURES

Featuring: Asalif Tewold, **Alem Sebisibe**

Ten-year-old Asalif and his mother have been displaced by a huge condominium on the outskirts of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. To fight back against those casting him out, Asalif creates a fantasy where he becomes the strongest hero he knows — the lion (anbessa). His newfound power takes him to places he never imagined and allows him to face his greatest fears, but Asalif realizes he must find the strength that resides in him as a boy to deal with the quiet violence threatening his country, his family, and his future.

Director Bio: Mo Scarpelli is an Italian-American director and cinematographer. Her documentary short work includes directing *El Hara* (NYJFF 2018) and Surviving Kensington (Vimeo Staff Pick 2017). Her feature documentary Frame By Frame (codirected with Alexandria Bombach) screened at SXSW, Hot Docs, BFI and others, winning multiple awards. Anbessa, premiered at the Berlinale 2019. Her next film, shot in Venezuela, is in early post production.

Sunday May 26, 3:00pm Edison Theater Etniopia, USA, 86 min,
West Coast Premiere
Director/Writer: Mo Scarpelli

INTERNATIONAL DOC FEATURES

Iran, 63 min, **West Coast Premiere**

Director: Yaser Talebi Featuring: Firouzeh Khorshidi

A documentary about the life of an eighty-year-old woman who lives alone out in nature, the only place she wants to be. It's the story of a kind and loving mother who's brave and strong enough to tackle the hardships of her chosen life year in and year out, never abandoning mother nature or her beloved! In spite of her tough, masculine existence, she tries to make her life poetic.

Director Bio: Yaser Talebi is a film director, producer. screenwriter and editor born in Sari, in the north of Iran, in 1982. He's an established creative director and aesthetic expert. He travels around his home town meeting its people and exploring the environment, as well as regional history and culture. He's an active member of the Iranian Documentary

The Mountain Man



Director: Michelle Nguyen / USA / 10 min / World Premiere

An innocent holiday outing on President's Day in 1990 ended in the loss of seven lives. Clayton Cutter, a US Forest Service Ranger.

Sunday May 26, 12:30pm Edison Theater

Beloved

Director/Writer: Michael Dominic Featuring: Blanca Isabel Hernandez Perez, **Javier Francisco Quintero López**

Shot over the course of seven years in Nicaragua. *Clean Hands* is a fly-on-the-wall documentary following the Lopez family surviving against the backdrop of Central America's largest garbage dump, La Chureca, and beyond.

Director Bio: Michael Dominic is a multi-award winning documentary filmmaker and photographer from New York City. In the last decade he dedicated his life to making work that has a social conscience Previously he made several other films, most notably the Sponsored acclaimed feature length documentary Sunshine Hotel, which won three festival awards and had a two-vear run on the Sundance Channel.

The Night Shift



Director: Ian Burris, Max Mollring / USA / 5 min

A homeless man works full time in San Francisco's underground recycling economy, struggling to lift himself out of extreme poverty..



INTERNATIONAL DOC FEATURES

Venezuela, 69 min, World Premiere

Director: Adrián Geyer

Writers: Adrián Geyer, Leandro Arvelo Featuring: Juan Félix Sánchez

Adrián leaves the city, entering a world full of magic and nature to recover his memories about Juan, a hermit artist who changed his parents' lives, and thus his own. He travels through the memories of those who knew Juan personally and through the traces still present in the places he inhabited. Adrián discovers that Juan belongs to his life more than he thought, leading us to reflect on the struggles of leaving an imprint on a society that is so quick to forget.

Director Bio: Adrián Geyer is a director/producer based in Miami. He's made numerous award-winning short films, documentaries and advertising spots in Venezuela; he's currently post-producing Hernan Jabe's latest film Jezabel, after their 2012 collaboration Rock, Paper, Scissors, Venezuela's 2012 Academy Awards® submission.



Autumn Waltz

Director: Ognjen Petkovic / Serbia. USA / 18 min

A couple flees a besieged town; when they run unfriendly soldiers they have to think fast

Friday May 24, 6:30pm **US Forest Service**

INTERNATIONAL DOC FEATURES

India, 76 min, West Coast Premiere

Director: Jesse Alk

Writers: Jesse Alk, Koustav Sinha

Featuring: Subrata Das, Malika "Milly" Sarkar,

Kajal Halder, Pinaki "Pinku" Dasgupta

A lyrical, kaleidoscopic picture of the city of Kolkata. seen through the prism of four outsiders and the nealected street dogs they love. The film gains intimate access to the lives of its subjects as they both care for the stray animals around them and struggle to find their own place in this crowded megacity.

Director Bio: Jesse Alk was born in Ottawa. Canada. He graduated with honors from UC Santa Cruz, studied briefly at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts film department, and then attended the UCLA MFA Directing Program. He's the son of the late documentary filmmaker Howard Alk. Pariah Dog is his first feature.

The Clinic



Director: Elivia Shaw /

USA / 16 min In a dingy old school bus in Fresno. Dr. Marc Lasher and a group of volunteers provide free medical care and clean needles to IV drug users.





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Full schedule at MonoArts.org (a) (1)









Mammoth Celebrates the Arts for 4th of July Festival, July 4-7 **50th Annual Labor Day Festival of The Arts**, Aug. 31 - Sept. 2 5th Annual June Lake Jam Fest, Sept. 6-8

> Float Camp, July 1-3 Photography Camp, July 8-10 Music Camp, July 22-26 **Theater Camp**, July 29 - Aug. 2





Pastels with Randall Smith, June 18 **Mosaic Mirrors,** July 16, 17, & 18 **Pottery with Deanna Bone-Rundle**, Aug. 10 Snapshots to Remarkable Photographs, Sept. 28-29 Polymer Cuff Bracelets, Oct. 29



shorts Memoch

Remission

By director John Charter and artist Paul Kaiser / USA / 7.5 min



Three creatures are manifestations of an unknown soldier's war trauma and his vast, lonely pilgrimage toward emerging from a purgatory loop.

Follow

Director: Byron Stankus / Writer: Gregor Patsch / USA / 12 min



While taking a much needed retreat into the wilderness, a budding young actress finds out it isn't easy to disconnect from one of her followers.

Sound of Silence

Director: Philippe Woodtli / Switzerland / 11 5 min



A young man born severely deaf faced exclusion from society from a young age, but found his way thanks to skiing.

Thursday May 23, 11:30am Edison Theater



Miracle Desert

Director: Mark Hosack / USA / 13 min / N. American Premiere



Two would-be criminals buried up to their necks in the desert must outwit a dangerous lawman before the real killer arrives. Shot on location in the Mojave desert.

Climb-It Change

Director: AJ Winslow / USA / 15 min



Researchers Trevor Bloom and Matt Kneipp traverse and rock climb the entire Rocky Mountain chain, investigating the impact of climate change and increased wildfires on high-elevation environments.

Red and White

Director: Mohammad Farzinnia / Iran / 24 min



An effort to rescue mountaineers buried under an avalanche ends in tragedy. One of the mountaineers, Saeed Taheri, recorded footage of the actual incident with a camera attached to his helmet.

Tunnel Ball

Director: Davis Jensen / Australia / 11 min / West Coast Premiere Bret goes to a new school where everyone else is identical. After an impressive game of Tunnel Ball, he accidentally reveals his enormous penis and is banished on the spot.



Director: Jess Kellner / USA / 14 min A chronically sick husband forces a woman to auestion her fidelity. Even in following her heart, vengeance knows no mercy.



get up, pierrot Directors: Gurleen Rai, F. Anthony Shepherd / USA, Canada / 7 min /

West Coast Premiere The archetypal, sad clown, pining for true happiness, but finding only failure and rejection in place of success.

Thursday May 23, 2:00pm Edison Theater

shorts Block 1

sponsored by

O One O

Director: Mohammad Hossein Jafari Moghaddam Fard / Iran / 11 min /

N. American Premiere Three young Iranian boys are involved in terrible, deadly and triangular dreams which were so real to one of them. A complex narrative, based on a structure that ultimately refers to the phallus.

Nobody Likes You As Liberty MUCH AS I DO

Director: Jerzy Rose / USA, France / 15 min

Thorny relationship issues come to the surface as an American couple worries about the safety of a Parisian girl.

Director: Faren Humes / USA / 16 mi Alex and Milagros deal with great upheaval as they prepare to dance at their community's redevelopment groundbreaking ceremony.

Friday May 24, 1:30pm Edison Theater

Deadpan

Director: Edward Hicks / UK / 9 min Ollie loves Agnes, Agnes loves Ollie Agnes can't laugh or she'll die. Ollie is a cornedian... Deadpan is a dramedy about love, sex and egotism

Ready for Love

Directors: Lauren McCune, Dylan Pasture / USA / 15 min / West

Coast Premiere

Amber Lee Weatherbee knows that the right man is out there. Maybe he's on The Bachelor?

Hastings Director: Ella Bishop / UK / 11 min

/ World Premiere sabel flies home to celebrate her mother's birthday but her mother abandons the family lunch for a roadtrip to adopt a puppy.

ets Block 2

sponsored by



Hierophany

Director: Kevin Contento / USA /

Lured with the promise of money Aaron steals a backpack full of rabbits. An encounter with the sacred beckons him to repent and return to his divine origin.

Difference

Director: Ali Asadollahi / Iran / 14 min Three young men express themselves in a vay in which each thinks he is the one who s right and the others are wrong, insofar as each one does not see the other one and denies his existence

Rewind

Director: Ying Liu Hatch / China /

A girl receives a gift, an Al robot version of the boyfriend she just broke up with, who comes with a remote control that allows her to correct his every move.

43



Shorts Block 3

Crude Oil

Director: Christopher Good / USA / 15 min

Jenny breaks free from a toxic friendship and learns to harness her magical, useless superpower.

Technology Lake: Meditations on Death and Sex

Director: Brandon Daley / USA / 8 min A dog and her owner navigate the perils of modern technology.

Mundanza Contemporanea

Director: Teo Guillem / Spain / 20 min Armchairs, mattresses, feet, blankets, arms, memories, mops, tubes and plastic dance, twist, fall, fly and break as a man tries to defeat a ghost from his past.



Saturday May 25, 12:00pm US Forest Service

GONE Director: Emma Sullivan / Writer: Suhayla El Bushra / UK / 15 min As four men sit in a

support group wondering why all the women have gone, we watch as a young mother makes the hardest decision of

11010

Directors: Rodrigo Amim, Gabriela Monnerat / Brazil / 8 min / West

Ada and Evon live in a town being abandoned, where love's between the physical world and binary codes

Eyes at the specter glass

Director: Matthew Wade / USA / 10 min / West Coast Premiere A consciousness reflects upon the collected memories of the sentient cosmic explorers it has harvested experiences from.

res Elock 4 Lemons

9 min / West Coast Premiere

find hardest to overcome.

Diva and Astro follow parallel paths in

real time, hurtling irrevocably toward

the consequences of the habits they

Director: Simon Werdmuller von Elgg / USA / 13 min / West Coast Premiere A lone missionary is invited into the stately

home of a mysterious older woman. Polite conversation over sweet tea gradually unravels as the two grasp to understand one another.

DIVO & ASLTO Molly's Single Director: Angel Barroeta / USA /

Director: Ariel Gardner / USA / 24 min / World Premiere

After a devastating break-up, a guiltridden amateur singer seeks solace through a series of encounters with prospective partners.

Sunday May 26, 12:30pm US Forest Service Who's o Good Boy? Director: Alex Phillips / USA / 10.5 min / West Coast Premiere A creepy park urinator is kidnapped by his victims and becomes their pet dog.

Pastel Noir

World Premiere

Director: Beau Bardos / USA / 3 min

Our heroine is drugged and kidnapped,

but after a struggle she stabs her wouldbe attacker and catches a taxi home

Shorts Block 5

sponsored by

squirrel

Director: Alex Kavutskiy / USA / 16 min

A meager apology tests a woman's fortitude to forgive.

License and Registration

Director: Jackson Ezinga / USA / 10 min / World Premiere Elliott Nelson, a cop impersonator with good intentions, makes his first traffic stop.

cont. > 49

Sunday May 26, 12:30pm US Forest Service

Collection OF Attempts in Astral Travel

Directors: Ryan Betschart, Rachel Nakawatase / USA /7 min

A fleeting glimpse into a world of vibrant colors and luscious curves.

50



Saturday Morning

Saturday May 25, 10:00am US Forest Service Kies shorts with Flula Borg



Bite Me

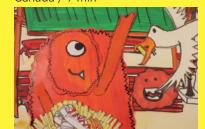
Directors: Susan Dalian & Marcus Nobreus / USA / 10 min / World Premiere



Sometimes a little girl needs to teach a big man a lesson.

Lilly Goes Fishing

Directors: The Bum Family / Canada / 7 min



Lilly, a giant orange monster, goes on an adventure at a fishing camp with her friend Fluffle. What mysterious secret will she discover in the depths of the lake?

Troll Bridge

Director: Daniel Knight / Writers: Terry Pratchett, Daniel Knight / Australia / 15 min / N. American Premiere



An old barbarian and his talking horse embark on a suicidal guest to battle a bridge troll.

cont. > 51

Saturday May 25, 10:00am US Forest Service

Kids Shorts



Bibo

Directors: Moritz Engi, Tom Hänni / Switzerland / 1 min A cute baby fox learns how to blow out birthday candles.



es 5 Saisons

Director: Gianclaudio Meyer / Switzerland / 3 min The seasons change for the friendly sun and a stick-figure



Pesche & Aschi

Directors: Eisprung / Switzerland / 1 min / World Premiere

> Pesche & Aschi know that winning and losing are two sides of the same coin. A short pacifist story about Swiss wrestling.



Getting Started

Director: William Crook / Switzerland / 2 min Wake up, get ready, and wait for the moment you finally feel you

can get started with your work.



he Toon

Director: Jochen Ehmann, Gerd Gockell / Switzerland / 2 min / US premiere In memoriam of Tex Avery, a race of two mice against a cat.



Shleep

Director: Aline Höchli, Raphaël Haab / Switzerland / 1 min / N. American Premiere Do Sheeps help you sleep?



Uwaga

Director: Basil Vogt / Switzerland / 1 min Uwaga, the stone-age girl, runs plucks flowers and gets chased by something big! Suddenly her cell phone rings...



Autour de l'Escolier

Directors: Die Wimmelgruppe / Switzerland / 4.5 min / N. American Premiere In a fantastic town, many mysterious things happen at once.



Sweetie Pie

Director: Yves Gutjahr, Claudia Röthlin / Switzerland He's the first dog ever to compete for Olympic gold in the ski jump.



Director: Dustin Rees / Switzerland / 1 min / US Premiere Song lyrics are not the only things one should know at 53 a birthday party.





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Roberto's Mexican Café

271 Old Mammoth Rd 760-934-3667

Stellar Brew & Natural Cafe

3280 Main St. 760-924-3559

The Stove

644 Old Mammoth Rd 760-934-2821

The Warming Hut

343 Old Mammoth Rd 760-965-0549

Parties & Events

Filmmakers Champagne Brunch and Panel Discussion

Saturday May 25, 10:30am, Polo Event Center

inonsored by



Industry professionals will offer you inside insight into getting your film made and sold in the rapidly changing world of production and distribution dominated by streaming services such as Netflix and Amazon Prime.

Moderated by Jacques Thelemaque of Filmmakers

Opening Night Gala

Wednesday May 22, 9:00pm, Polo Event Center

Kick off Mammoth Lakes' fifth annual independent film festival in style! Dance the night away to some sweet digital tunes, enjoy an open beer and wine bar with spirit tastings by Devil's Creek Distillery, and meet our visiting filmmakers. Sponsored by Paul and Kathleen Rudder.

Filmmakers Late Night Happy Hour

Thursday May 23, 10:00pm, The Public House

Enjoy your sweetest happy hour yet - an open bar at The Public House. Mingle with fellow film-goers and our visiting filmmakers.



Filmmakers Bash

Saturday May 25, 10:00pm, Rafters

Come celebrate and honor our visiting filmmakers! Enjoy an open beer and wine bar and twerk from the heart with DJ Kally.

Shorts Encore Screening

Sunday May 26, 10:00am, US Forest Service

An additional screening of shorts by filmmakers who are in attendance. No intros, no Q&As; we put them in order of running time, shortest first, and screen as many as we can fit into two hours.



Closing Night Awards Gala

Sunday May 26, 9:30pm, Polo Event Center

It may seem like the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival is coming to a close. But this is just the beginning, right? Audience and Jury 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 with spirit tastings by Devil's Creek Distillery, and dance about it with another DJ into the wee hours of the night.

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Saturday, June 29 at 7:30 p.m.
Felix Mendelssohn: Die Schöne Melusine
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Violin Concerto #3
....featuring 2019 Horton Kohl Young Artist, Avery Tracy
Johannes Brahms: Symphony #4

All Performances are Free Admission and Open to the Public
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
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Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546



Awards & Prizes

Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony and Party, starting at 9:30pm on Sunday the 26th at the Polo Event Center

Jury Award for Best N. American Narrative Feature

\$1,000 Cash award \$10,000 Panavision Camera Rental Grant \$10,000 Light Iron Post Production Package Orson Trophy

Jury Award for Best International Narrative Feature

\$500 Cash award Orson Trophy

Jury Award for Best N. American Documentary Feature

\$1,000 Cash award Orson Trophy

Jury Award for Best International Documentary Feature

\$500 Cash award Orson Trophy

Jury Award for Best Narrative Short

\$500 Cash award \$5,000 VER Rental Grant Orson Trophy

Jury Award for Best Documentary Short \$500 Cash award Orson Trophy



Jury Award for Best Animation Short

\$500 Cash award Orson Trophy

Bravery Award

\$500 Cash award Orson Trophy

Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature

\$1,000 Cash award \$5,000 Panavision Camera Rental Grant Orson Trophy

Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature

\$1,000 Cash award Orson Trophy

Jury



Mia Galuppo

Mia Galuppo is a staff writer at *The Hollywood Reporter*, covering the film industry. She reports on Hollywood trends and profiles talent from the independent space, the studio system and everywhere in between. One time, she made Harrison Ford laugh.

N. American Narrative Features

Sean McDonnell

Sean McDonnell is the Director of Theatrical Sales for A24, the independent studio behind such recent films as *Eighth Grade*, *Hereditary*, *Lady Bird* and *Moonlight*.

N. American Narrative Features



Katie Walsh

Katie Walsh is a Los Angeles-based film critic, writing weekly reviews for the *Tribune News Service* and the *LA Times*. She has also written for *The Playlist, Nerdist, Playboy, Slate, The Hairpin, indieWIRE, Town & Country*, and more, and is a member of the Los Angeles Film Critics Association.

Katie and earned her B.A. in Film Studies from Wesleyan University, and her M.A. in Critical Studies from the USC School of Cinematic Arts. She is a Native Virgin Islander, born and raised on the island of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

N. American Narrative Features



Allison Amon

After getting an Anthropology degree from The University of Wisconsin Madison, Allison Amon travelled extensively, then found a job at Spots Films and fell in love with the

commercial storytelling process. After a spell of freelance producing, Allison moved west to Los Angeles where she became Head of Production at Palomar Pictures. Soon after she became partner. executive producer and co-owner of Chelsea Pictures and spent the next 18 years shaping and developing the company into a world-class production company, winning awards at Sundance for The Queen of Versailles, an Emmy for the branded content piece *Like a Girl* and many Cannes Lions, amongst others, Currently she is the EVP of development and sales at Bullitt. a company owned by The Russo Brothers and Justin Lin. She has served on the Mammoth Lakes. Film Festival Jury for four years and loves to get outside and ski, run, ride her bike and hike in the beautiful mountains of the Sierra

N. American Documentary Features



Andrew Borden

Born in Colorado, a graduate from UC Berkeley with a B.A. in Film & Digital Media and now living in Los Angeles, Andrew has worked various stints in the entertainment industry, including marketing, publicity, international sales, distribution and acquisitions. Most recently, he worked as a Manager in Acquisitions at 1091 Media (fka The Orchard), where he evaluated film projects at all stages of development. Apart from his full-time positions, he has also

dedicated his time to working with Outfest's Screenwriting Lab Committee, Roadmap Writers and the BlueCat Screenplay Competition.

N. American Documentary Features



Shalini Dore

Shalini Dore has been an editor with *Variety* for a long time now. A former newspaperwoman, she transitioned to magazines with *Variety*, specializing in international entertainment. She has been to the Cannes Film Festival as well as Palm Springs, the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles and Napa Valley. Film festivals are places where we can discover little gems before they get adopted by the big distributors. Besides being the features news

editor at *Variety*, Dore is also the internship coordinator, a position that helps encourage the next generation of entertainment journalists.

International Narrative Features

60 cont. > 61

Max Weinstein

Max Weinstein is a writer and editor based in Los Angeles. He is the Editorial Director of *MovieMaker*, a 26-year-old magazine that covers the art and business of making movies. Since joining MovieMaker in 2016, he's toured the festival circuit and shared conversations with would-be criminals Werner Herzog and Errol Morris... and some

actual criminals, too, including one who went to jail for printing fake money to buy a RED camera. As former Editor-in-Chief of genre magazine *Diabolique*, he received the Rondo Classic Horror Award for Writer of the Year in 2015, and was nominated for Rondos for Best Interview (Aleiandro Jodorowsky, 2016) and Best Article (2015). The *Diabolique* editorial team also won a Rondo for Best Issue in 2015 under his stewardship. At MovieMaker, he has worked to build the publication's annual Guide to Making Horror Movies, now in its fifth year. Max's words have appeared online and in print in Cineaste, Fangoria, Playboy, Vice, The Week, and more.

International Narrative Features



Gus Krieger is a writer/director/producer of stage and screen. His first produced feature screenplay The Killing Room starred Timothy Hutton and Chloe Sevigny, and premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, Krieger produced Fender Bender for Mark Pavia and the Chiller Network in 2016. As writer-director-producer.

Krieger's feature films include the philosophical thriller *The* Binding, and the 2018 Slamdance Audience Award-winning hip-hop drama My Name Is Myeisha. Additionally, Krieger is the Associate Artistic Director of The Porters of Hellsgate, which will become the first Los Angeles theatre company to produce the complete works of William Shakespeare. He lives in Southern California with his wife and frequent Production Designer Drina Krieger. On Twitter @MrGusK.

International Documentary Features



JACQUES THELEMAQUE is an awardwinning 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. iuror 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.

International Documentary Features



Delila Vallot

Delila Vallot is a director, writer, actress and former professional dancer, born and raised in Hollywood, California, During her time in front of the lens. Delila created several. short experimental films. The 2013 suspense thriller *Tunnel Vision* starring Cristos. Ion Overman and Scott Haze, was her debut as a feature length film director. In December

2015. Delila released her first feature documentary titled Can You Dig This, EP'd by John Legend, which won a Jury Award at the Los Angeles Film Festival, 2017 marked the LAFF premiere of her second feature documentary. Mighty Ground, which won the Audience Award at the Calgary International Film Festival, Delila has performed on Saturday Night Live. The Academy Awards.

The Billboard Music Awards with Bevonce, and national Janes Addiction Tour, among many others. She was a member of the KaRon Brown-Lehman Modern Dance Company, a series regular on Italian TV and has performed on stage in Tokyo, Martinique. Moscow, Hannover, New York, Los Angeles and Monte Carlo.



Harry Vaughn is a programmer for the Sundance Film Festival, specializing in US and World documentary features. At the festival, he is also program lead on a Talent Forum initiative that introduces world documentary filmmakers to American film industry representatives. In 2018, he was a consulting programmer for Sundance

Institute's Catalyst Forum and he began his career at the institute in 2011 as an intern and reader for the Feature Film Program, International. Aside from his work at Sundance, Harry is on the board of Dirty Looks, a platform for gueer film, video and performance, and he is also a consulting programmer for Frameline: San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival. His previous work includes: senior programmer for Outfest Los Angeles, programmer and coordinator for NewFest in New York and Outfest Fusion. He holds a Master's degree in Arts Journalism from the University of Southern California and is a Los Angeles native.

Shorts

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Staff & Credits

Festival Director Shira Dubrovner

Director of Programming Paul Sbrizzi

Festival Manager Lesley-Anne Hoxie

Technical Director Brian Moratava

Projectionist Tech Sean Barnes

Production Manager **Ema Solarova**

Production Coordinator Michelle Plascencia

Production Coordinator Melissa Reeves

Festival **Photographer** Miles Weaver

Additional Photography Trevor Van Winkle Aleksandra Mendel **Joseph Marrone**

Festival Interns **Mandy Jacobs** Leah Roach

Orson the Bear

by Josh Slater, Bear

Marketing Jumpwire Media

Awards

Sierra Spirit

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Website and Local Marketing Aleksandra Mendel

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Bridget Johnson

Associate Programmers Anna Germanidi

> **Program Booklet** Design

bv Paul Sbrizzi

Programming Consultant Delila Vallot **Videographers**

Narr. Features

Nick Kitinski **David Auerbach**

Festival Trailers Alessia Cecchet & Josh Tuttle Bronwyn Maloney Erik

Deutschmann

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180°

We'll Focus On The Rest

5600 K



