

An abstract painting serves as the background. On the left, a woman's face is depicted with pale skin, dark eyes, and red lips, wearing a red garment. To the right, a hand with long, sharp claws is visible against a bright orange vertical band. Further right, a solid blue vertical band contains a small, textured red circle.

**SIXTH ANNUAL**

**mammoth  
film lakes  
festival**

**SEPT 16-20, 2020**



# Festival Schedule

wednesday, sept. 16	6:00pm	7:00pm
	<b>FILMMAKER WELCOME HAPPY HOUR</b>	<b>RESIDUE</b>

thurs. sept. 17	11:00am	12:00pm	2:30pm	5:00pm	8:00pm
	<b>INT'L FILMMAKER WELCOME HAPPY HOUR</b>	<b>SHORTS BLOCK 1</b>	<b>MOJAVE TO MAMMOTH</b>	<b>THE REASON I JUMP</b>	<b>MARLENE</b>

fri. sept. 18	10:30am	12:30pm	2:00pm	5:00pm	5:00pm	8:00pm	10:00pm
	<b>THE WIND</b>	<b>PANEL</b>	<b>SHORTS BLOCK 2</b>	<b>SHORTS BLOCK 3</b>	<b>WINE TASTING STELLAREESE</b>	<b>FEATHER AND PINE</b>	<b>DESIRE PATH</b>

sat sept. 19	10:30am	12:00pm	2:30pm	5:00pm	5:00pm	7:30pm	10:00pm
	<b>PANEL</b>	<b>SHORTS BLOCK 4</b>	<b>SHORTS BLOCK 5</b>	<b>ACASA</b>	<b>WINE TASTING MASTRO SCHEIDT</b>	<b>REVOLUTION LAUNDERETTE</b>	<b>ZOOM DISCO PARTY</b>

sun. sept. 20	10:00am	12:00pm	3:00pm	6:00pm	8:30pm
	<b>DEMOCRACY ON THE ROAD OF SAVEN</b>	<b>SHORTS BLOCK 6</b>	<b>TAPEWORM</b>	<b>PIER KIDS</b>	<b>AWARDS &amp; PARTY</b>



# MLFF in the Time of Cholera

**SHIRA:** What's this thing called again? Corona... corona something?

**PAUL:** Are you kidding me? It's the reason we have to wear masks and do festivals on the internet.

**SHIRA:** Oh right, I forgot. I've been so busy trying to figure out how to do a festival on the internet.

**PAUL:** It's kinda fun, right?

**SHIRA:** OK Paul, you need to turn off the sassy gay thing for a second. I have like 73 items on my to do list. It's all these things that I don't even know what they mean. Actually can I give you some of this work?

**PAUL:** Um.. um...



**SHIRA:** It's OK Paul, you do so much as it is. I honestly don't know what I'd do without you. It's almost like you're writing my dialogue yourself.

**PAUL:** I have to agree with you. Hey are you thinking what I'm thinking?

**SHIRA:** You mean that we're lucky to be organizing an online festival from the safety of our homes when there's so much suffering going on in the world?

**PAUL:** Yeah, pretty much. Stay safe everyone.

**SHIRA:** Yes, and please enjoy this digital cornucopia of great films, live Q&As, zoom parties and panels, and come to Mammoth next May for our 7th edition!

**SHIRA DUBROVNER**

Festival Director

**PAUL SBRIZZI**

Director of Programming



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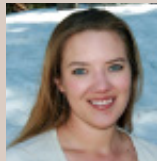
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# STAFF & CREDITS

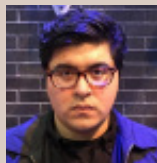
Festival Director  
Shira Dubrovner

Director of  
Programming  
Paul Sbrizzi



Festival Manager  
Lesley-Anne Hoxie

Publicity  
Ron Hoffman  
Ashley Patterson  
Scenario PR



Technical Director  
Brian Morataya

Technical Assistant  
Miles Marsico

Eventive Box Office  
Manager  
Dawn Borchardt

---

Orson the Bear Awards  
by Josh Slater,  
Bear in Mind Carvings

Associate  
Programmers  
Anna Germanidi  
Randall Good  
Raphaella Jonah  
Delila Vallot

Screenplay Readers  
Sharri Hefner  
Mike Kuciak  
Kathleen Cromie  
Heidi Hornbacher  
Delila Vallot

Video Content Manager  
Trevor Van Winkle

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Program Booklet  
Design  
by Paul Sbrizzi

Social Media  
Managers  
Juliana Olinka-Jones  
Shulamit Abraham

Zoom Party Host  
Flula Borg

Festival Trailer  
& Cover Art  
Beau Bardos

Zoom DJ  
DJ Rough Cut

---

Original Ram  
Artwork  
by Lori Michelon

## Special Thanks:

Allison Amon  
Kimia Behpoornia  
Marnie Carr  
Sharon Clark  
Ari Costa  
Nick DeMartino  
Sandra Lipski  
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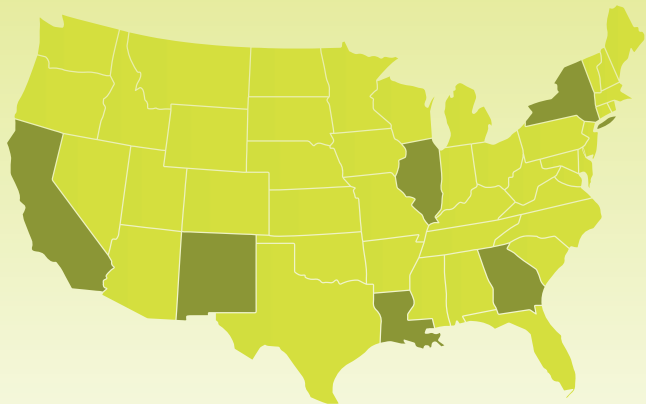
Juliana Olinka-Jones - President  
Nick Kitinski - Vice President  
Jo Bacon - Secretary



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**SPOTLIGHT FEATURE SATURDAY SEPT. 19, 5:00PM**

# **ACASA - MY HOME**

**ROMANIA, GERMANY, FINLAND, 85 MIN**

**DIRECTOR:** Radu Ciorniciuc

**FEATURING:** The Enache Family

For two decades, the Enache family—nine kids and their parents—lived in a shack in the wilderness of Bucharest Delta: an abandoned water reservoir, one of the biggest urban natural reservations in the world, with lakes and hundreds of species of animals and rare plants. When the authorities decide to claim back this rare urban ecosystem, the Enache family is evicted and told to resettle in the city—a reality they know nothing about.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Radu Ciorniciuc co-founded the first independent media organization in Romania, Casa Jurnalistului. He works as a long-form writer and undercover investigative reporter, focusing on human rights, animal welfare, and environmental issues across the globe. His work has been published on Channel 4 News, *The Guardian*, and *Al Jazeera* and has received numerous international awards, including from Amnesty International, the Royal Television Society, and the Wincott Foundation.





SPOTLIGHT FEATURE THURSDAY SEPT. 17, 5:00PM

# THE REASON I JUMP

UK, 82 MIN

**DIRECTOR:** Jerry Rothwell

**FEATURING:** Emma Budway, Joss Dear, Amrit Khurana, Benjamin McGann, Jestina Penn-Timothy, Jim Fujiwara

The Reason I Jump is based on a book written by Naoki Higashida when he was just 13. Fusing Higashida's revelatory insights with intimate portraits of five remarkable young people, the film opens a door to a magnificent constellation of divergent ways of experiencing reality. Impactful moments in the lives of the characters are woven together with passages from Higashida's writing, creating a sensually rich tapestry.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Jerry Rothwell's work includes the award-winning feature documentaries *How to Change the World*, *Sour Grapes*, *Town of Runners*, *The School in the Cloud*, *Donor Unknown*, *Heavy Load*, and *Deep Water*. His films have won numerous accolades, including two Grierson Awards, a Sundance Film Festival Special Jury Award, an RTS Award, an IDA Pare Lorentz Documentary Fund grant, and a BAFTA nomination.







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NARRATIVE FEATURE WEDNESDAY SEPT. 16, 7:00PM

# RESIDUE

USA, 90 MIN, WEST COAST PREMIERE

**DIRECTOR/WRITER:** Merawi Gerima

**CAST:** Obinna Nwachukwu, Dennis Lindsey, Taline Stewart, Jacari Dye, Julian Selman, Melody Tally, Ramon Thompson, Derron Scott

A young filmmaker returns home after many years away to write a script about his childhood, only to find his neighborhood unrecognizable and his childhood friends scattered to the wind.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Merawi Gerima is a filmmaker from Washington DC. This origin informs his work and his community-centered orientation. *Residue*, his first feature, was a total communal endeavor, made possible mostly by the effort of the people it portrays.



## LOVER

Director : Mohammad Soraya /

Writers: Mohammad Soraya , Rana Javadi

Iran / 12 min / World Premiere

Can a forest ranger kill a wolf? Yes, if he is a lover.





**NARRATIVE FEATURE**

**FRIDAY SEPT. 18, 10:00PM**

# DESIRE PATH

**USA, 85 MIN, WORLD PREMIERE**

**DIRECTOR/WRITER:** Marjorie Conrad

**CAST:** Amy Deanna, Otto von Schirach, Andrew Banewicz

A young woman walks down a desire path next to her house and invites a demonic figure into her life in this vampire film with an elliptical plot, minimal dialogue, and characters that are defenseless against their drives.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Marjorie Conrad is a French-American filmmaker. She studied cinema production at San Francisco State University. In 2016, she wrote, directed, produced, edited, and acted in the feature film *Chemical Cut*, which premiered at the Slamdance Film Festival. *Desire Path* (2020) is her second feature. Conrad lives in Seattle.





NARRATIVE FEATURE THURSDAY SEPT. 17, 8:00PM

# MARLENE

GERMANY, 105 MIN, N. AMERICAN PREMIERE

**DIRECTOR/WRITER:** Andreas Resch

**CAST:** Cordula Zielonka, Thomas Clemens, Anne Weinknecht, Valentin Schreyer, Matthias Schott

This nightmarish film tells the story of a woman, Marlene, who moves to Berlin in order to begin a new life and soon meets her upstairs-neighbor Flo, seemingly a nice guy. After starting a job as a restorer, Marlene quickly forgets about Flo. She finds new friends while simultaneously being drawn back into her past. It's almost too late when Marlene finally realizes how dangerous Flo really is; she gets wrapped up inside a game of life and death.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Andreas Resch is a director, screenwriter, essayist and film critic from Berlin, Germany, who primarily writes genre pieces with a strong dramatic touch. He teaches screenwriting at Freie Universität Berlin. *Marlene* is his feature debut as a director.



## WASH

Director : Kiggs Carlsson / Sweden / 7 min

Being a mother is supposed to be joyful.  
Being a child is supposed to be fun. But nothing  
in this home is the way it's supposed to be.





**NARRATIVE FEATURE SATURDAY SEPT. 19, 7:30PM**

# REVOLUTION LAUNDERETTE

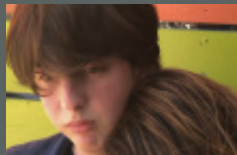
**JAPAN, 71 MIN, N. AMERICAN PREMIERE**

**DIRECTOR/WRITERS:** Mark Chua, Lam Li Shuen

**CAST:** Keisuke Baba, Kiko Yorozu, Kazuya Murakami, Satoshi Ikeda, Wutami Matsuoka, Giovanbattista Tusa

In Tokyo, Tomo plots to undermine the next punchline of his existence and is drawn deeper into another side of the city, together with a young woman who obsesses over a stranger's old scrapbook. In a maze of subcultures and surreal lingerings in the air, he finds his answers at the bottom of something entirely bizarre.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Mark Chua and Lam Li Shuen are Singaporean independent filmmakers and musicians whose work explores the possibilities of resistance in the presentation and production of narrativity. Their films have screened at international film festivals in the US, Australia, the Philippines and Singapore.



## AVA'S DATING A SENIOR!

Director : Frederick Da /  
USA / 15 min / West Coast Premiere

Silas is a freshman in high school. He's in love with Ava, a girl in his grade, but rumor has it she's dating a senior.





NARRATIVE FEATURE SUNDAY SEPT. 20, 3:00PM

# TAPEWORM

CANADA, 78 MIN, WEST COAST PREMIERE

**DIRECTOR/WRITERS:** Milos Mitrovic, Fabian Velasco

**CAST:** Alex Ateah, Sam Singer, Adam Brooks, Steph Berrington, Milos Mitrovic, Jennifer Mauws, Julie Simpson

A dry comedy about a tenuously linked group of nobodies trudging through their woeful existence in dreary Winnipeg. A sickly middle-aged man in a failing marriage, a stand-up comedian whose sets are met by utter indifference, a stoner couple who share only trivial exchanges, and a young loner unsympathetic to his caring mother are each living lives lost in translation.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Milos Mitrovic and Fabian Velasco are a filmmaking team based in Winnipeg. They previously collaborated on the successful short films *The Champ* (2015) and *Imitations* (2016). *Tapeworm* is their first feature film.



## DING-DONG

Director : Suki-Rose / USA / 6.5 min / West Coast Premiere

A hollow chat between friends is suddenly interrupted in this uncanny mobius short.





DOCUMENTARY FEATURE SUNDAY SEPT. 20, 10:00AM

# DEMOCRACY ON THE ROAD OF SAVEH

IRAN, 43 MIN, N. AMERICAN PREMIERE

**DIRECTOR:** Turaj Kalantari

**FEATURING:** Parisa Elanlou, Mohamad Hosein Badarlou, Valiollah Hasanlou

An up-close, humorous look at grotesque political maneuvering in the campaigns of three local candidates in the run-up to council elections in Robat Karim, a city in Tehran province.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Turaj Kalantari was born in 1986 in Zahedan, Iran and began his career as a documentary filmmaker in 2012. His documentaries have screened at national festivals including the Cinema Verité International Film Festival in Tehran.



## HUNTSVILLE STATION

Director : Chris Filippone, Jamie Meltzer /  
USA / 14 min

Inmates released from Huntsville State  
Penitentiary take in their first moments of freedom.





DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FRIDAY SEPT. 18, 8:00PM

# FEATHER AND PINE

USA, 81 MIN, WEST COAST PREMIERE

**DIRECTORS:** Star Rosencrans, Michael James Beck

A poetic, visually stunning portrait of a northern California logging community and a young couple being pulled apart by conflicting ambitions in the wake of the Great Recession.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Michael James Beck is a writer and filmmaker. Star Rosencrans is a filmmaker and editor. As an editor, Star's work has been featured on networks such as CNN/HLN, Hulu, A&E, MTV, and The Discovery Channel; he has worked as both cameraman and editor on projects including 2014's *The Last Season* and 2018's *Through The Darkness*. *Feather and Pine* is Beck and Rosencrans's first feature documentary.



## MASON

Director : Oliver Shahery / USA / 9.5 min /  
West Coast Premiere

A five-year-old boy receives both harsh and playful treatment from his grandparents. Their love is expressed in complicated ways.





DOCUMENTARY FEATURE SUNDAY SEPT. 20, 6:00PM

# PIER KIDS

USA, 84 MIN

**DIRECTOR:** Elegance Bratton

**FEATURING:** Krystal 'LaBeija' Dixon, Jusheem Thomas, DeSean Irby

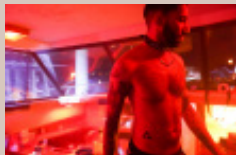
Krystal LaBeija, a transgender woman, returns to her Missouri home seeking the acceptance of her mother, who doesn't fully embrace Krystal's identity. Casper and Desean go from being homeless to housed while carving out their place in the world. Along the piers at the end of Christopher Street, transgender youth navigate the precarities of a complicated and vibrant lifestyle.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Elegance Bratton began making films as a US Marine after a decade spent homeless. He earned a BS from Columbia University and an MFA from NYU Tisch Graduate Film. He is the executive producer/creator of Viceland's award-winning series *My House*. He is one of IndieWire's 25 LBGT faces to watch (2019).

## BUCK

Directors : Elegance Bratton, Jovan James / USA / 14 min

Young, depressed Lynn resorts to debauchery to find joy — only to discover that happiness is a much more complicated proposition.





DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FRIDAY SEPT. 18, 10:30AM

# THE WIND

A DOCUMENTARY THRILLER

POLAND/SLOVAKIA, 75 MIN

**DIRECTOR:** Michał Bielawski

Poland's Halny wind comes in cycles, every spring and autumn, sometimes turning into a destructive gale that creates a setting for a wild performance of human struggle against the destructive forces of nature.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Michał worked for many years as a TV journalist and won the Polish Film Institute Award for the TV program "*One Scene*." He has directed the documentaries *Mundial*, *The Highest Stakes*, *1989*, *The Team*, and several documentary series in collaboration with Canal+Discovery and Discovery channels. He's currently developing the scenario for his first narrative feature.



## HORS-CHAMP

Director : Julie Marboeuf / France / 6 min.

Every day a strange rodeo takes place between trucks, migrants and police, as summer tourists treat themselves to ice cream.





MOJAVE TO MAMMOTH THURSDAY SEPT. 17, 2:30PM

# ACCIDENTAL CLIMBER

USA, 67 MIN

**DIRECTOR:** Steven Oritt

**FEATURING:** Jim Geiger

Jim Geiger, a retired forest ranger and amateur mountaineer, attempts to become the oldest American and first great grandfather to climb Mt. Everest, but things don't go as planned.

**DIRECTOR BIO:** Steven began directing music videos and commercials, and moved into documentaries with his feature-length debut *American Native*, earning 3 best director/documentary awards on the international film festival circuit. He then launched James Lucy productions, which is currently developing an episodic series for AMC Networks as well as recently completing Steven's follow-up documentary *Accidental Climber*, in addition to Steven's feature film debut, *My Name is Sara*.





# FILMS FROM, FOR, AND ABOUT THE EASTERN SIERRAS

## MOJAVE TO MAMMOTH

### RAVAGE

Director: Marcus Nobreus / USA / 6 min

A broken man with a dark past enters a church in search of vengeance and redemption.



### PASSING THROUGH

Directors: Jonathan Hwang, Erik Harty / USA / 12 min

Tim Musso shares his ideas on living an intentional life as a printmaking artist and an advocate of natural beauty.







## CABIN STORIES

Directors: Craig Tovey /  
Writers: Dylan Booth, David  
Brown, Anais Fairweather,  
Yesel Manrique, Mark  
Schroeder / USA / 2 min /  
US Premiere

The gang is overcome with  
admiration of their rented  
mountain cabin.



## FOLLOW ME

Director: Elinor Nechemya  
/ Israel / 18 min /  
International Premiere

A young volunteer at a  
youth hotline finds out  
tonight may be his last  
chance with the girl he  
fancies, so he decides to take  
the call center with him.



## A WOMAN

Director: Tahmina Rafaella / Azerbaijan / 13 min

A woman navigates the trappings of both conventional and modern  
female roles over the course of one day in Baku, Azerbaijan



# SHORTS BLOCK 1

THURSDAY SEPT 17, 12:00 NOON

## KIKO'S SAINTS

Director: Manuel Marmier / France / 25 min  
A Japanese illustrator on assignment in France gets a strange inspiration while spying on a gay couple on the beach.



## TRYPHON & PHARAÏLDE

Directors: Casimir & Edgar Verstraete / France / 18 min / US Premiere  
Troubles surface between Tryphon and Pharaïlde, as they wander in a forest looking for a stag..



## CABIN STORIES

Directors: Craig Tovey /  
Writers: Dylan Booth, David  
Brown, Anais Fairweather,  
Yesel Manrique, Mark  
Schroeder / USA / 2 min /  
US Premiere  
Excitable friends can't wait for  
their Free Solo Weekend.



FRIDAY SEPT 18, 2:00PM

## ROSELINE LIKE IN THE MOVIES

Director: Sara Bourdeau  
/ Canada / 14.5 min  
Fiction and reality  
interlace to shine a light  
on an actress's deep dark  
secret.



**THEY WON'T LAST** Director: Portlynn Tagavi /  
Writers: Portlynn Tagavi, Brandon Gale / USA / 16 min  
After attending a wedding, hopeless romantic Alex proposes to  
commitment-phobic Christine.





# SHORTS

# BLOCK 2

## ALL THAT YOU LOVE WILL BE CARRIED AWAY

Director: Thad Lee / USA / 29 min

A salesman's love of bathroom graffiti may save his life on a cold, Nebraska night. Based on a short story by Stephen King.

## CAGE MATCH

Director: Bryan Lee / USA / 9 min

A businessman enters the elevator for another day at work...

## ON TASK

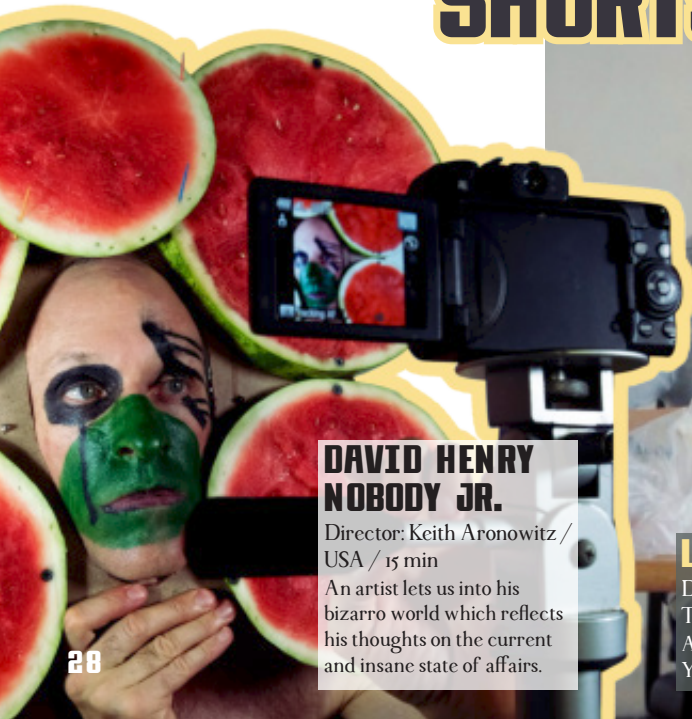
Director: Alex H. Rafi / USA / 7 min

A young high school teacher models joy and patience as he pushes himself and his students to work for their success.



FRIDAY SEPT 18, 5:00PM

# SHORTS BLOCK 3



## DAVID HENRY NOBODY JR.

Director: Keith Aronowitz /  
USA / 15 min

An artist lets us into his  
bizarro world which reflects  
his thoughts on the current  
and insane state of affairs.



## LAST DAY

Director: Szu-Wei Chen / Writers: Szu-Wei Chen, Constance  
Tsang, Alexander Yarber / USA / 11 min / West Coast Premiere  
As work continues on the border wall, a Chinese sex worker in New  
York gets unexpected news from her lover.





## COOL FOR FIVE SECONDS

Director: Dani Wieder /  
Writer: Calamity West /  
USA / 12 min

Estranged sisters meet up  
and confront long-standing  
bitterness and resentments.



773-9



## ASALTO CHIDO

Director: Ricardo Garcia-Nateras /  
Mexico / 9.5 min / US Premiere

Two best friends try to get the money to  
make their film. The way they go about it  
is probably not the best choice.

CONT. > 29



# SHORTS BLOCK 3



## MELANCHOLY HUNTERS 2

Director: Ethan Mermelstein / USA /  
15 min / World Premiere

A man enlists his 10-year-old cousin to  
attempt to hunt and kill his melancholy.

## URGES

Director: Angela  
Stempel / USA / 2 min /  
N. American Premiere  
Unleash your urges! Let  
them take care of you.



30



## THE RAIN PONCHO

Director: Andrea Rosen / USA  
/ 13 min / West Coast Premiere  
Kitty and Rita worry that their  
daughter has a secret boyfriend.  
They wrestle with the anxiety,  
hormones, and hip hop of it all.



# MASTRO SCHEIDT

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A man with a shaved head is shown in profile, wearing a clear plastic protective suit. He is holding a green plant in his right hand. The background is dark.

## NERO

Director: Jan-David Bolt  
/ Switzerland / 9 min /  
N. American Premiere  
Sometimes saving the world  
can be a sweatful job.

An abstract, textured background with vibrant colors including blue, purple, orange, and green, resembling a microscopic view or a natural formation.

**SATURDAY SEPT 19, 12:00 NOON**

## THE FOURFOLD

Director: Alisi Telengut / Canada / 7 min  
Indigenous worldview and wisdom, based in  
the animistic beliefs and shamanic rituals in  
Mongolia and Siberia.

A man with a beard and glasses, wearing a white tank top, is shown from the chest up. He is looking slightly to the right.

**32**

A man with a beard and glasses, wearing a white tank top, is shown from the chest up. He is looking slightly to the right.

## SINFUL PLEASURES

Director: Mehdi Fard Ghaderi /  
Iran / 15 min / Int'l Premiere  
A mysterious woman changes the  
dynamic between a worker and his  
boss at a shitty dairy farm, leading  
to dangerous decisions.







# SHORTS BLOCK 4

## LE COUP DES LARMES

Director: Clément Bancel /  
France / 25 min

Florence gets an unexpected  
chance to prepare for an  
acting role.

## TOUCH

Director: Nir Berger / Israel / 25 min /  
N. American Premiere

Adele, a 17-year-old internet troll, flirts with a like-  
minded boy. Then he asks to see what she looks like.





**SATURDAY SEPT 19, 2:30PM**

**NOW 2**

Director: Kevin Eskew  
/ USA / 9.5 min

A lingering observation  
of glossy, painfully  
manicured suburbia.

**BETWEEN**

Director: April Simmons / USA /  
15 min / World Premiere

Middle schoolers tell their stories,  
enclosed in a suburban landscape.



# SHORTS BLOCK 5

## LOVE AT 48

Director: Thomas  
Southernland / USA / 13 min /  
World Premiere

A second date turns personal  
for a middle-aged couple  
during a hike in the woods.

## IN THE STILL NIGHT

Director: Jean-Baptiste Braud /  
Japan / 16 min

A heartbroken American art  
curator has a surreal encounter in  
his hotel in Tokyo.

## THE STARR SISTERS

Directors: Beth Einhorn, Bridey Elliott / USA / 15 min

After overcoming a dark past, two sisters are committed  
to living out the childhood they never had.

CONT. > 35



# SHORTS BLOCK 5



## A LIVING SCULPTURE

Director: Diana Chire / UK  
/ 8.5 min

A horn player and composer  
contemplates the pros  
and cons of continuing a  
relationship with an artist  
who only sees her as a muse.

## MARRIAGE COUNSELING FOR FRIENDS

Director: Tamera L. Fields Writers:  
Kimia Behpoornia, Nick Luciano /  
USA / 4 min

Kimia and Nick go to marriage counseling  
to deepen their platonic friendship.



*Sellareese Wines*

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# SHORTS BLOCK 6

## TAKE IT AND END IT

Director: Kirineos  
Papadimatos / Greece /  
20 min / US Premiere

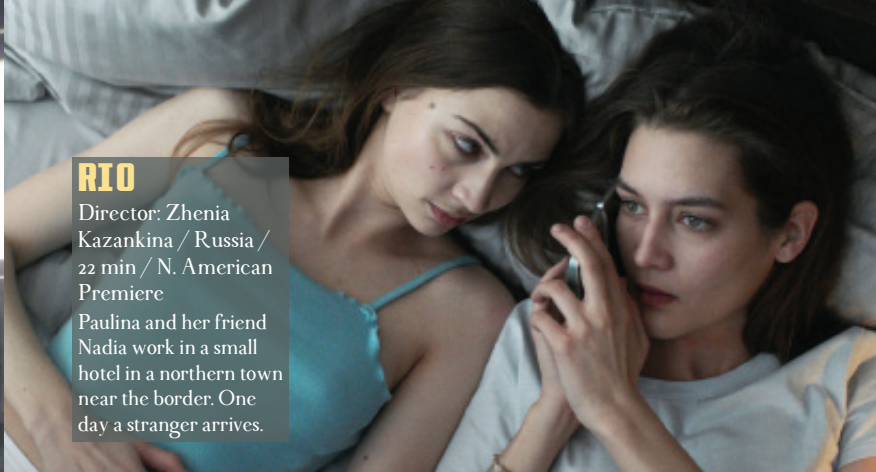
A veal has to be slaughtered  
by a butcher. But this veal is  
different than the others. It's  
his "child."

## AND I NEED A HAIRCUT

Director: Staci Roberts-Steele /  
Writer: Andrea Rosen / USA / 5 min

The true feelings and secret thoughts  
of a messy, stressed out woman.





## RIO

Director: Zhenia Kazankina / Russia / 22 min / N. American Premiere

Paulina and her friend Nadia work in a small hotel in a northern town near the border. One day a stranger arrives.

## KOKOKIDS OF PARIS

Director: Alexia Colette / France / 14 min

Two young girls run off in a dreamy adventure until they face the harsh reality surrounding more and more kids in Paris.



SUNDAY SEPT 20, 12:00 NOON



## WILD GAME

Director: David Payne / Czech Republic / 22 min / Int'l Premiere  
Jane's boyfriend doesn't show up for their weekend at a mountain home; three hunters turn up and they're not going away...



# Awards & Prizes

Winners will be announced at the online Awards Ceremony, starting at 8:30pm on Sunday the 20th.

## Jury Award for Best Narrative Feature

\$1,000 Cash award

\$10,000 Panavision Camera Rental Grant

\$13,500 Light Iron Post Production Package

Orson Trophy

## Jury Special Mention for Narrative Feature

\$500 Cash award

Orson Trophy

## Jury Award for Best Documentary Feature

\$1,000 Cash award

Orson Trophy

## Jury Special Mention for Documentary Feature

\$500 Cash award

Orson Trophy

## Jury Award for Best Screenplay

\$1,000 Cash award

An opportunity to pitch the script at AGBO Films

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



# SCREENPLAY COMPETITION FINALISTS

The winning screenwriter will be announced on Sept. 20 at the online Awards Gala, and will receive \$1,000 cash, an opportunity to pitch their script at AGBO Films and an Orson trophy.

## 90 Minute Movie by Paul Loeschke & Walter Bauer

A brilliant Mafia don plots technological revenge against his betrayers by isolating them on a tropical island and driving them mad.

## The Blitz by Sven Anarki

An East End family finds conflicting ways to cope with 80 straight days and nights of terror bombing from the Luftwaffe.

## Caroline Buxton's Lipstick Posse by Kelly Jean Karam

A heartfelt dramedy, inspired by true events, about charming cosmetic saleswomen who help an off-beat housewife escape a dead-end marriage and the secrets of her past to embrace a future filled with love.

## Fish Story by Matthew Dixon

A one-legged taxidermist gets her last chance at happiness when her father fishes a dangerous boy out of the sea.

## Hurricane Hennley by Nicole Groton

A mysterious plant magically provides a science teacher with assistance after a series of hurricanes, but her neighbors' greed threatens to destroy the very thing that could save them.

## Ledge by Gus Krieger

Trapped outside a skyscraper, fifty stories up, career criminal Andrew Harris is forced to confront the life that led him there.

## Legacy One: Luana by Danielle Erlich

After her parents are murdered, the last dragon whisperer — a 16 year old grieving teenager named Luana — goes on an epic quest to avenge their deaths and rescue her village from blood-thirsty banshees.

## Miguel by Lorenzo Colonna

After a skyscraper collapses, a guilt-ridden undocumented Mexican immigrant risks his life to look for survivors, but the deeper he crawls the more his past comes back to haunt him, forcing him to relive a fateful choice that changed his life.

## Thank You, Sir. May I Have Another? by Adam Kritzer

A young journalist breaks with his privileged family to investigate the truth behind a pandemic that seems to be killing only poor people.

## Winter Bird by Stephen Delos Treacy

A librarian becomes intrigued by an amber-eyed blonde who is hell-bent on obtaining a rare set of herb books to heal her foundling infant—a mythical shape-shifter, who still haunts the desolate woods near Anchorage.



# Parties & Events



## OPENING NIGHT FILMMAKER WELCOME HAPPY HOUR HOSTED BY FLULA BORG

Wednesday Sept 16, 6:00pm PST

Everyone's invited to kick-off Mammoth Lakes' sixth annual independent film festival — corona-style! Get on Zoom with your host Flula Borg and meet the festival organizers and the

charming, talented filmmakers of MLFF '20, logging in from around the world!

## INTERNATIONAL FILMMAKER WELCOME HAPPY HOUR

Thursday Sept 17, 11:00am PST

Another opportunity to meet your MLFF colleagues, at a more civilized time for filmmakers based in Europe and the Middle East. Everyone is invited. Click on and take a trip around the world :)

## PANEL DISCUSSION

Friday Sept 18, 12:30pm

Industry professionals will offer you inside insight into navigating the new world of COVID-safe production, and advise you about how to get your film made, receive media attention, and get distributed in an industry that has been completely transformed.

*Moderated by Jacques Thelemaque  
of Filmmakers Alliance*





## ZOOM DISCO PARTY

**Saturday Sept. 19, 10:00pm, Everywhere**

Around the world, around the wo-orld... Get down, get global, get funky in your groovy rectangle in an unforgettable grid of filmmakers from millions of miles away! Pin a new buddy! Get stoopid in the chat! BYOB and send in your disco requests to digital party monster DJ Rough Cut.

## VIRTUAL WINE TASTINGS

**Stella Reese Friday Sept 18 at 5pm**

**Mastro Scheidt Saturday Sept 19 at 5pm**

This year MLFF is organizing two virtual wine tastings over zoom, with acclaimed wine makers Mastro Scheidt and Stellareese. Five bottles of wine are sent to the participants' home (only one pass per household needed) and they will join the wine maker on zoom for a fun and interactive tasting, with inside information, background stories and pointers on how to appreciate their lovingly crafted wines.



Mastro Scheidt



Stellareese

## CLOSING NIGHT AWARDS GALA

**Sunday Sept. 20, 8:30pm**

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 BYOB bar, and dance about it into the wee hours of the night.



Simpler times



# Jury



## ALLISON AMON

Allison Amon spent 18 years developing Chelsea Pictures into a world class Production Company, winning awards at Sundance for *The Queen of Versailles*, an Emmy for *Like a Girl* and many Cannes Lions amongst others. She has served as EVP of Development and Sales at Bullitt as well as Superconductor, both companies owned by The Russo Brothers and Justin Lin. Currently Allison is developing several branded projects in partnership with

Superconductor. She loves to get outside and ski, run, ride her bike and hike in the beautiful Mountains of the Sierra.

### *Documentary Features*



## KIMBERLEY BROWNING

Kimberley Browning is a filmmaker and film festival professional based in Los Angeles. She is the founder and festival director of Hollywood Shorts, a short film screening series and emerging filmmakers program, currently in it's 22nd year. Kimberley serves as an Associate Short Film Programmer at the Tribeca Film

Festival, and formerly was a short film Programmer for the Los Angeles Film Festival and Guadalajara International Film Festival's Los Angeles event. She is the Executive Producer of HBO ACCESS Directors Fellowship, the network's program developing and launching underrepresented voices into episodic television.

### *Shorts*



## KATE ERBLAND

Kate Erbland is the New York-based Deputy Editor, Film of *IndieWire*, where she writes and edits daily for the site, with a special emphasis on female filmmakers, in-depth interviews, and awards season coverage (including five turns backstage at the Oscars). She has worked at *IndieWire* since 2015. Some of her previous work can be found at *Vanity Fair*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Dissolve*, *Vulture*, *New York Daily*

*News*, *MSN Movies*, and *Boxoffice Magazine*. She has served on juries and nominating committees for DOC NYC, the Sarasota Film Festival, the Hamptons International Film Festival, the Cinema Eye Honors, the Gothams, and the Critics' Choice Awards, among others. She holds a bachelor's degree in English and Art History from Loyola Marymount University. She is a member of the NYFCC and the BFCA.

### *Narrative Features*





## CALEB HAMMOND

Caleb Hammond is the Managing Editor of *MovieMaker Magazine* where he's covered film festivals such as Sundance, Toronto International Film Festival, AFI Fest, True/False Fest, and Telluride Film Festival. He has interviewed such diverse names as Claire Denis, Paul Schrader, Ari Aster, Bruno Dumont, Abel Ferrara, Kevin Hart, and Peter Bogdanovich. Most recently he wrote the cover story for *MovieMaker's* Summer issue on John David Washington. Outside of *MovieMaker*, he works with the

Sundance Documentary Fund and AFI Fest.

*Narrative 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 six short films under the UCE Productions banner include *Island Song* (winner 2013 Audience Award at the Pan African Film Festival). He has produced several international documentaries

including *Dare to Struggle, Dare to Win*, a documentary on the Women's Movement in Ghana, narrated by Danny Glover. Massey's latest projects are *When Justice Isn't Just*, a short documentary distributed by First Run Features (available on iTunes); *Not All Lost*,

a reality-based, celebrity-driven PBS program that aired in February 2020; and *Passage*, a narrative short film in pre-production. Massey is the recipient of several prestigious 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*



## PAT SAPERSTEIN

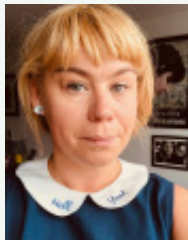
Pat Saperstein is Deputy Editor of *Variety*, covering film, documentaries, books and restaurants. She started her career as U.S. editor of *Le Film Francais* and has an extensive background in international and independent film. A frequent film festival juror and moderator for panels and Q&As, she has contributed to books including

*Cannes: Fifty Years of Sun Sex and Celluloid*, *Boffo* and *EAT: Los Angeles*.

*Narrative Features*



# Jury

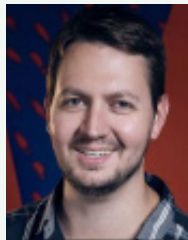


## ANIA TRZEBIATOWSKA

Ania Trzebiatowska is a programmer for the Sundance Film Festival, focusing on US and World documentary features. Most recently, she was the Sales & Acquisitions Executive for doc sales agency, Autlook Filmsales. Prior to that she was with the NYC-based agency, Visit Films, where she served as Senior Director of Acquisitions since 2015. Aside from her work at Sundance, Ania is also the artistic director of Off Camera IFF (Krakow,

Poland), which she has been programming since 2008. She trained in production and post-production at the BBC and the British Museum, and holds a Master's degree in film studies as well as an M.A in Digital Culture and Technology.

*Shorts*



## BRIAN WELK

Brian Welk is a film and entertainment journalist based in Los Angeles. He has worked at the Hollywood trade publication *TheWrap* since 2016 and has been in his current role as a film reporter since 2018. Brian primarily covers the film industry, writing everything from breaking news updates, box office reports, awards coverage, interview features to analysis on industry trends for both the web and as an on-camera

personality. He has attended and reported on the Oscars, Golden Globes, Emmys and the Sundance Film Festival in his capacity with *TheWrap*. Prior to joining *TheWrap*, Brian received his Masters in Specialized Journalism - The Arts from USC and worked as a freelance reporter and film critic. His bylines have appeared in *The Village Voice*, *LA Weekly*, *Consequence of Sound*, *The Argonaut* and more. Brian graduated with a degree in journalism from Indiana University and is a Chicagoland native.


*Documentary Features*



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