

The background of the poster is a colorful, textured painting of a mountain landscape. It features a prominent waterfall cascading down a rocky cliff, surrounded by lush green trees and a valley below. The sky is filled with soft, blended colors of blue, green, and yellow, suggesting a bright, sunny day. The overall style is expressive and artistic, with visible brushstrokes and a rich palette of colors.

**mammoth
film lakes
festival
'18**

May 23-27, 2018

Festival Schedule

wednesday, may 23		7:00pm	9:00pm
Minaret Cinemas		Damsel	
Sierra Event Center			Opening Night Party

thurs, may 24		11:30am	2:00pm	5:00pm	7:15pm	9:30pm
Edison	Mojave to Mammoth & Mammoths Shorts	Shorts Block 1		Fort Maria		
US Forest Service			On Her Shoulders	My Name Is Myeisha	Minding the Gap	
Sierra Nevada Lodge			Happy Hour 5-7			
Minaret Cinemas			4:00 Pick of the Litter			
Bishop Twin			5:30 Dyna Does Dressage			

fri. may 25		10:30am	12:30pm	3:00pm	5:30pm	8:00pm
Edison			Shorts Block 2	Shorts Block 3	Birds without Feathers	7:30 My Life as a Zucchini
US Forest Service				Home + Away	Vianey	The Queen of Hollywood Blvd.
Sierra Event Center	Press Panel Brunch					

sat. may 26		9:30am	12:30pm	3:00pm	5:30pm	8:00pm
Edison			A Woman Captured	Buddha.mov	Barren and Empty the Sea	
US Forest Service	Saturday Morning Indie Cartoons		Shorts Block 4	White Tide	Vidar the Vampire	Melissa Leo Sierra Spirit Award
Sierra Event Center	10:30am Producers Panel Brunch				Rafters	10:00pm Filmmaker Bash

sun. may 27		10:00am	12:30pm	2:30pm	5:00pm	7:30pm
Edison			Tourists	Melodrama/Random/Melbourne!	Tower. A Bright Day.	
US Forest Service	Shorts Encore Screening		Documentary Shorts	Rock Steady Row	Crime + Punishment	Love, Gilda
Sierra Event Center						9:00pm Awards Ceremony & Party



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map & locations



1. Edison Theater / Festival HQ

100 College Parkway

2. US Forest Service Theater

2510 Main Street

3. Minaret Cinemas

439 Old Mammoth Rd.

4. South Gateway Student Apts.

121 College Parkway

5. Sierra Event Center

452 Old Mammoth Rd

6. Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa

164 Old Mammoth Rd.

7. Rafters

202 Old Mammoth Rd.

Bishop Twin Theater

237 N Main St, Bishop (not on map)

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Welcome From Shira

As we present the fourth year of the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival I am so proud of the organic path we have taken. We have created a festival that brings artists together in an inspirational environment to celebrate the art form of storytelling in cinema. Our commitment to the filmmakers and finding the unsung heroes of the indie film world is a task to which we are wholeheartedly committed. I am truly humbled by the accolades we have received both from the filmmakers and the press. We especially appreciate the acknowledgment from MovieMaker Magazine where we have been included as one of the prestigious "Top 50 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee" for the last three years.

fighting for justice for her people's treatment by the most horrific terrorist group in the world to a group of young men from dysfunctional, abusive families in the Rust Belt finding a universality and connection.



Many of this year's films share the common thread of overcoming adversity and fighting for justice and bettering the human condition. We hope these thoughtful, engaging, challenging, moving films will inspire and provoke introspection and hopefully encourage positive changes within us and the world. Thank you.

SHIRA DUBROVNER
Festival Director

We have carefully chosen films from filmmakers who tackle human issues. Issues that we cannot look away from if we are to live in a better world. So many of the films this season have a universal thread and commonality, sharing and exploring human stories. From a film about a young girl

Congratulations to all the filmmakers at Mammoth Lakes Film Festival 2018!

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Building a Festival

Building a festival from the ground up has been an amazing experience. In terms of programming, an important challenge has been to establish a point of view; to seek out and attract the kind of films that take a stand and unfurl with sensitivity and style, humanity and that all-important dose of humor.

The current climate of businessocracy (as well as the cacophony of the sheer number of films being made) has contributed to a situation in which culture is served up according to an economic model. Filmmakers establish themselves as brands, most often vetted by the various big-name labs, and name recognition drives a lot of programming.

Great films do come up through that process, and we will be showcasing some brilliant major-league films during the coming week. But art can't be captured and quantified like a product.

Some of the best independent films are made by filmmakers far from or on the periphery of the beaten paths. The only way to address the cacophony is to dive in head first and watch a ton of films—submissions, films that played at other festivals, anything that trusted colleagues might have come across—and evaluate them entirely on their own merits.

Another goal for programming the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival has been to close the divide between what's considered popular entertainment and the rarified art film. It's a large and complex topic to unravel, but we believe it's possible to present adventurous films that speak to audiences with great respect for their hearts and minds—films that wouldn't dream of pandering—but that also don't necessarily require a background in semiotics and structuralism to appreciate.



For five days we will all live under the loving rule of artocracy. Films, and art in general, serve the function of providing uncensored social commentary as well as exploring the depths of the imagination and the subconscious. Art can certainly be for art's sake, but it can also be a powerful means of creating evolution in our consciousness. In other words, yes—films can change the world—and you and I are about to be part of that change at this wonderful annual event.

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Director of Programming

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OPENING NIGHT SCREENING

damsel

USA, 113 min

Director/Writers: David Zellner, Nathan Zellner

Cast: Robert Pattinson, Mia Wasikowska, David Zellner, Nathan Zellner, Robert Forster

It's a classic tale of the Old West: Samuel Alabaster is a man searching for his true love. Parson Henry is another, much drunker man, searching for a new start. Penelope is a woman who has found her own path. And Rufus Cornell is just a mean bastard with a taste for buckskin. There's rotgut, rawhide, rootin' tootin', and hootin'. Plus a little tiny horse. Starring Robert Pattinson and Mia Wasikowska.

Director Bio: Brothers David and Nathan Zellner have written, produced, directed, and appeared in numerous award-winning shorts and feature films. Their feature work includes *Goliath* (Sundance 2008), *Kid-Thing* (Sundance 2012), and *Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter* starring Rinko Kikuchi (Sundance 2014) which was nominated for best actress and best director at the Film Independent Spirit Awards. *Damsel* is their first western.

Wednesday May 23, 7:00pm Minaret Cinemas



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CLOSING NIGHT SCREENING

love, gilda

USA, 88 min,
West Coast Premiere

Director: Lisa D'Apolito

Featuring: Gilda Radner, Bill Hader, Lorne Michaels,
Laraine Newman, Amy Poehler, Maya Rudolph,
Martin Short

In her own words, comedienne Gilda Radner reflects on her life and career. Weaving together her recently discovered audiotapes, interviews with friends (Chevy Chase, Lorne Michaels, Laraine Newman, Paul Shaffer and Martin Short), rare home movies and diaries read by modern-day comedians inspired by Gilda (Bill Hader, Melissa McCarthy, Amy Poehler, Maya Rudolph and Cecily Strong), *Love, Gilda* opens up a unique window into the honest and whimsical world of a beloved performer whose greatest role was sharing her story.

Director Bio: Lisa D'Apolito is documentary and commercial director. Lisa started out as an actress in film, theater and television and went on to producing and directing, making her way to SVP/EP of Production for an advertising agency. Her short *The Gynotician* starring Amber Tamblyn & David Cross won several festival awards. *Love, Gilda* was selected for the Deal Maker Program at Hotdocs, IFP Spotlight on Documentaries, IFP Speed Pitch and won an A&E Cine Pitch.

Sunday May 27, 7:30pm US Forest Service



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SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Saturday May 26, 8:00pm US Forest Service

frozen river

Director/Writer: Courtney Hunt

**Cast: Melissa Leo, Misty Upham,
Charlie McDermott, Michael O'Keefe,
Mark Boone Junior**

USA / 2008 / 97 Min

After her husband takes off in their family vehicle for an unknown destination, Ray Eddy attempts to survive alone, raising two sons, Richard and James, and works part-time at Yankee Dollar, near the Saint Lawrence River between Quebec and New York State. One day she witnesses a Mohawk woman driving their family vehicle; she follows and confronts her. She finds out that the woman's name is Lila Littlewolf and she's actively engaged in smuggling immigrants into the United States over the treacherous frozen river. The lure of money attracts Eddy and she decides to join forces with Lila.



CENTERPIECE SIERRA SPIRIT AWARD PRESENTATION

An Evening with Melissa Leo

Sierra Spirit Award Ceremony and Conversation with Melissa Leo following the screening of Frozen River

It is our great honor to host an evening with the celebrated actor Melissa Leo and a screening of her Academy Award® nominated performance in *Frozen River*.

Melissa Leo received an Academy Award®, a Golden Globe Award, a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award® and a Broadcast Film Critics Association Award for her tour de force performance in *The Fighter*. She also received Oscar® and SAG Award® nominations for her starring role in *Frozen River*, for which she won an Independent Spirit Award for Best Female Lead and a Spotlight Award from the National Board of Review, among countless other accolades. Leo also shared a Best Ensemble acting award from the Phoenix Film Critics Society for her outstanding work in *21 Grams*, opposite Benicio del Toro and Sean Penn.

Most recently, she starred as Reverend Mother in Sony Picture Classics' *Novitiate* and portrayed the outspoken activist Madalyn Murray O'Hair in Netflix's *The Most Hated*

Woman in America. Leo was featured in Adam McKay's *The Big Short*, for which she was nominated for Best Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture by the Screen Actors Guild. On the small screen, Leo stars as Goldie in the Showtime series *I'm Dying up Here*, executive-produced by Jim Carrey.

Leo studied drama at Mount View Theatre School in London, England, and later at the SUNY Purchase Acting Program.

The screening of *Frozen River* will be followed by a ceremony for the Sierra Spirit Award, honoring Melissa Leo's bold and fiercely independent acting career and the consistently outstanding quality of her work.



Melissa Leo

SPOTLIGHT

Friday May 25, 3:00pm US Forest Service

home + away

USA, 83 min, West Coast Premiere

Director: Matt Ogens

Writers: Joshua Roth, Charlie Short, Scott Burn

A story about the search for the American dream on the extreme edge of the nation. For the kids of El Paso's Bowie high, it's a dream inspired by family, fueled by sports, and deeply complicated by the US/Mexican border—the faultline between two worlds.

Director Bio: Matt Ogens got his start directing long form docu-series for networks including MTV, VH1, CBS, and CNN, and earned three Emmy nominations for his work for ESPN. His feature documentary *Confessions of a Superhero* premiered at SXSW to critical acclaim. Ogens segued into commercials and branded content, working with top agencies and brands. He continues to work across both commercials and long form entertainment.



SPOTLIGHT

Thursday May 24, 5:00pm US Forest Service

on her shoulders

USA, 96 min

Director: Alexandria Bombach

Featuring: Murad Basee Taha, Murad Ismael, Simone Monasebian, Michelle Rempel, Borys Wrzesnewskyj, Ahmed Khudida Burjus, Amal Clooney, Luis Moreno Ocampo

After surviving the 2014 genocide of the Yazidis in Northern Iraq and escaping sexual slavery at the hands of ISIS, 23-year-old Nadia Murad gave a testimony before the U.N. Security Council that was heard around the world. Nadia suddenly became the face of the Yazidis—a historically persecuted and voiceless religious minority. Despite longing for a normal life away from the spotlight, Nadia takes on the role of an activist in hopes of halting the ongoing genocide and bringing ISIS commanders to justice.

Director Bio: Alexandria Bombach is an award-winning cinematographer, editor and director from Santa Fe, New Mexico. Her first feature documentary, *Frame By Frame*, had its world premiere at SXSW 2015 and won more than 25 film festival awards. In 2016 she directed the Pulitzer Center-supported New York Times Op-Doc *Afghanistan by Choice*. Alexandria's production company RED REEL has been producing award-winning, character-driven stories since 2009.



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SPOTLIGHT

pick of the litter

USA, 80 min

Directors: Dana Nachman, Don Hardy Jr.

Writer: Dana Nachman

Cast: Patriot, Phil, Potomac

Pick of the Litter follows a litter of puppies from the moment they're born and begin their quest to become Guide Dogs for the Blind, the ultimate canine career. Along the way, the dogs meet a community of dedicated individuals who train them to do amazing, life-changing things in the service of their human. The stakes are high and not every dog can make the cut. Only the best of the best. The pick of the litter.

Director Bio: Dana is an award-winning filmmaker of both fiction and documentary films. Her 2015 film *Batkid Begins* was distributed by Warner Bros./New Line Cinema. Don's film *Theory of Obscurity* premiered at SXSW 2015 and was released theatrically by Film Movement. He has won numerous awards for his films, photography, and editing. Their previous films include *Witch Hunt* (TIFF 2008) *Love Hate Love* (Tribeca 2011) and *The Human Experiment* (Mill Valley and IDFA).

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Thursday May 24, 4:00pm Minaret Cinemas



washed away

Director: Dana Nachman
/ USA / 16 min

On the days he's able to get out of bed, Brandon Anderson creates sand mosaic masterpieces only to see them erased by the tides hours later.



SPOTLIGHT

a woman captured

Hungary, 89 min, West Coast Premiere

Director: Bernadett Tuza-Ritter

Writers: Nadas Bálint, Zoltan Moll, Bernadett Tuza-Ritter

A 52-year-old Hungarian woman has been serving a family for a decade, working 20 hours a day—without getting paid. Treated like an animal, she only gets leftovers to eat and no bed to sleep in. The presence of the camera helps her realize she isn't completely alone. She begins to show signs of trust, gathers her courage and reveals her plan: "I am going to escape."

Director Bio: Bernadett Tuza-Ritter is a Hungarian independent film director and editor. She studied directing and editing at the University of Theatre and Film Arts Budapest. In 2013 she worked as a director on the project *Cinetrain—Russian Winter*, which won the audience award at Visions du Reel. *A Woman Captured*, her first feature length documentary, premiered at IDFA 2017.

Saturday May 26, 12:30pm Edison Theater



all the things i can remember

Director: Ya-Chi Yang / USA, Taiwan / 5 min / World Premiere

An animated documentary examining the mental state of a person who has Alzheimer's. The film shows how the disease affects the patient through the eyes of the family.





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BISHOP SPOTLIGHT SCREENING

Thursday May 24, 5:30pm Bishop Twin

dyna does dressage

Director: Sarah Crowe

Featuring: Laura Hermanson, Casie Fairbanks, Maggie Moore, Pat Bartlett, Renee Johnson

A mule, often mistaken for a donkey, is defined as the offspring of a male donkey and a female horse. Historically, mules have most commonly been known as "working animals" with an attitude problem. *Dyna Does Dressage* is a documentary about the first mule ever to compete at the national level in the competitive equestrian sport of dressage. Defined by the International Equestrian Federation as "the highest expression of horse training," the idea of mules competing at this level has never been considered. This underdog story follows Dyna and her owner/rider, Laura, as they defy odds to find their place among this elite world of horse riding.

Director Bio: Sarah Crowe has been producing documentaries, narratives, commercials and corporate videos for 10 years. Her doc *Hit 'Em in the Mouth* premiered at the 2012 Bicycle Film Festival in New York and has played internationally. Her Emmy-nominated documentary *Welcome to Doe Bay* was a 2012 Seattle International Film Festival Official Selection and received the honor of playing in the "Best of SIFF '12" event. *Dyna Does Dressage* is Sarah's directorial debut.



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2018 Summer Arts Schedule

Visit our website for a complete schedule of events: monoarts.org

41st Annual

Mammoth Celebrates the Arts
July 1, 2, 3 & 4, 2018
Footloose Parking Lot

48th Annual

Labor Day Festival of the Arts
September 1, 2, & 3, 2018
The Woods Site

4th Annual June Lake Jam Fest: September 8 & 9, 2018, Gull Lake Park
Kids Summer Art Camps in Mammoth Lakes & Lee Vining
July & August

Art & Wine Classes @ the Art Center & Gallery

Mono Arts Council Gallery exhibits in the Minaret Mall



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NARRATIVE FEATURES

birds without feathers

Director/Writer: Wendy McColm

Cast: Wendy McColm, Cooper Oznowicz, Alexander Stasko, Sara Estefanos, William Gabriel Grier, Lenae Day

Six characters yearn to be seen and heard. Janet, the wannabe Instagram star; her boyfriend Sam, unable to face his fears and perform as a stand-up comedian; Tom, a Russian cowboy obsessed with Jeff Goldblum; Daniel, a self-help tape maker unable to help himself; Marty, a victimizing caretaker; and Jo, who steals the identities of others to avoid her inability to be vulnerable.

Director Bio: Wendy McColm is a Los Angeles-based writer/director and all around expressionist, living and creating in the light of authenticity. Wendy's work ranges from reinventing brands like H&M and Saks 5th Avenue to making shorts that have screened at numerous festivals, including Tribeca. *Birds Without Feathers* is her first narrative feature.

Friday May 25, 5:30pm Edison Theater

USA, 85 min,
West Coast Premiere



Recharge

Director: Christopher Meyer
/ USA / 11 min

Employees at a battery-testing facility are being regularly attacked while commuting across a hostile wasteland. When his car breaks down, Employee Number 235-4 is forced to confront his attackers face to face.



NARRATIVE FEATURES

fort maria

USA, 88 min

Director/Writers: S. Cagney Gentry, Thomas Southerland

Cast/Writers: Katerina Stoykova-Klemer, Joan Brannon, Meredith Crutcher, Jamie Hickman

When her daughter's aging dog dies, Maria's house arrest puts her into equally painful and funny situations that soon entangle her neighbors. As she copes with the issues that have led her—a world traveler—into a self-inflicted prison, her daughter Meredith discovers her own identity through a search for her biological family.

Director Bio: S. Cagney Gentry is from Winston-Salem, North Carolina. His debut feature *Harvest* (2015) played numerous festivals and won a prize at Athens International. Thomas Southerland's first narrative feature *Proud Citizen* won the Jury Prize at New Orleans (2014) and eight other Jury and Audience awards; it's available on Fandor. He teaches filmmaking at Wake Forest University.

Thursday May 24, 7:15pm Edison Theater



weekend

Director: Vahid Bemani
/ Iran / 12.5 min /
N. American Premiere

A little boy passes his weekends with his father. The weekends are not very satisfactory.



NARRATIVE FEATURES

my name is myeisha

USA, 84 min

Director: Gus Krieger

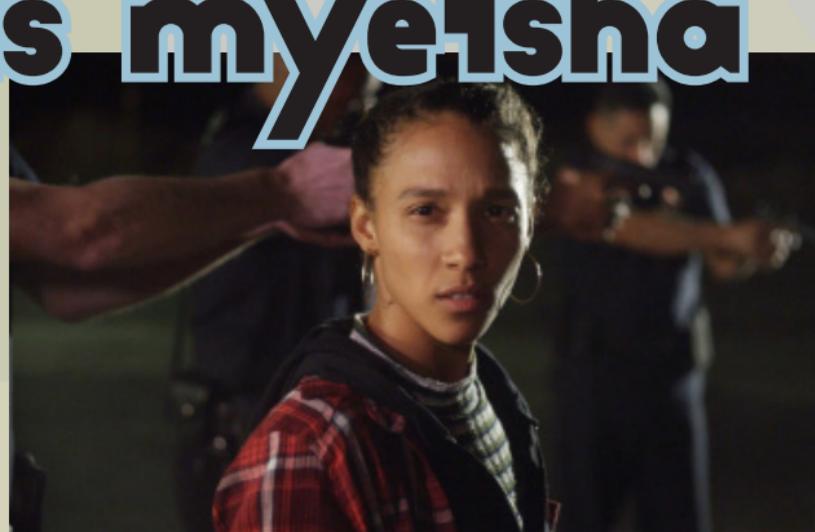
Writers: Rickerby Hinds, Gus Krieger

Cast: Rhaechyl Walker, John Merchant, Dominique Toney, Dee Dee Stephens, Gregg Daniel, Yvette Cason

A teenager crosses over into a hip-hop-musical dreamscape at the moment of her tragic death and contemplates her life: what it was and what it could have been. Spoken word, beatboxing, and hip-hop dance combine to tell the tragic story of nineteen-year-old Myeisha Jackson, and the fateful night she crossed paths with the police.

Director Bio: Gus Krieger is a Los Angeles-based director/producer/writer of stage and screen. Credits include *The Binding* (writer-director, 2016), *Fender Bender* (producer, 2016), *Would You Rather* (associate producer, 2012), and *The Killing Room* (writer, Sundance Midnight, 2009). On Twitter @MrGusK.

Thursday May 24, 7:15pm US Forest Service



coyote

Director: Lorenz Wunderle
/ Switzerland / 10 min /
US Premiere

A coyote loses his wife and children in a wolf attack. Anguished with human emotions, he tries to process the experience. Besides grief and delusion, evil takes up more and more space.



NARRATIVE FEATURES

the queen of hollywood blvd.

Friday May 25, 8:00pm US Forest Service

USA, 94 min,
West Coast Premiere

Director/Writer: Orson Oblowitz

Cast: Rosemary Hochschild, Ana Mulvoy Ten, Roger Guenveur Smith, Michael Parks, Ella Thomas, Jon Lindstrom

On her 60th birthday, the proud owner of a Los Angeles strip club finds herself in hot water over a 25 year old debt to the mob, leading her on a downward spiral of violence and revenge through the underbelly of Los Angeles.

Director Bio: Orson Oblowitz graduated from Emerson College. His photography has been shown in New York, Los Angeles, Washington DC, Boston and Dubai. He has over a decade of experience working in film as a director, cinematographer, editor, and producer. His credits as a DP include the award winning documentaries *Sea of Darkness* and *Heavy Water: The Life and Times of Nathan Fletcher*, and the music video for Kill Frenzy's "All Night Long." *The Queen Of Hollywood Blvd.* is his debut feature film.



NARRATIVE FEATURES

rock steady row

Sunday May 27, 2:30pm US Forest Service

USA, 87 min

Director: Trevor Stevens

Writer: Bomani J. Story

Cast: Heston Horwin, Diamond White, Allie Marie Evans

When a lone freshman arrives at Rock Steady University he discovers that the campus is controlled by two warring factions: Kappa Brutus Omega and The High Society. His bike is stolen and shuffled into the fraternities' most valuable source of income, the bicycle market. Turning the University into more of a war zone than a place of education, the freshman plays the rival fraternities against one another to reclaim his stolen bicycle.

Director Bio: Trevor Stevens began working in films as an actor at age 12, quickly becoming infatuated with the magic behind the camera. He's inspired by Leone's *Fistful of Dollars* and Kurosawa's *Yojimbo*—two filmmakers from different sides of the world who twisted a tired genre with a brand new sense of purpose and style. Whether behind camera or in front of it, Trevor tells stories of average people pushed into extraordinary circumstances.



nowhere yet

Director: Gabriel Bagnaschi / Scotland / 9.5 min / N. American Premiere

A teenage boy living in a tough Edinburgh neighbourhood has to figure out how far he's willing to go to save his break-dancing crew when his best friend starts pushing for a street gang.

INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURES

Saturday May 26, 5:30pm Edison Theater

barren and empty the sea

Spain, 94 min,
International Premiere

Director/Writers:

Lucas Parnes Pereira, Jesus Serna

Cast: Rodrigo Garcia Olza, Amparo Ferrer-Baguena, Estefania Domenech, Carmen Lorenzo

Esteban wakes up one morning and no one believes he is Esteban. They say he's been missing for days. He tries to convince his friends and family, but they're sure he's an impostor. Then suddenly there's an accident.

Director Bio: Supposedly born in Rio de Janeiro in 1983, Lucas Parnes studied production in TAI Film School and Boston University and co-directed *Madrid Belongs to Us* (2007). He studied production at and worked in customer disservice for an airline. Jesus Serna is not interested in his own biography. He recalls that his grandfather was illiterate and that his mother could not attend university. He boasts about his bad handwriting and his even worse conscience. What he feels is real, but he keeps that to himself and his cats. After writing *Sunflowers in Venice*, he is now finishing a second book. Lucas and Jesús co-directed two shorts: *The Guests* and *The Seated Ones*.



icebergs

Director: Eirini Vianelli /
USA, Greece / 7 min

Based on the book *Scenes* by screenwriter Efthymis Filippou (*Dogtooth, The Lobster, The Killing of a Sacred Deer*), *Icebergs*

is an existential, dark comedy consisting of 14 short vignettes, ranging from the mundane to the absurd.



INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURES

Sunday May 27, 2:30pm Edison Theater

melodrama/random/ melbourne!

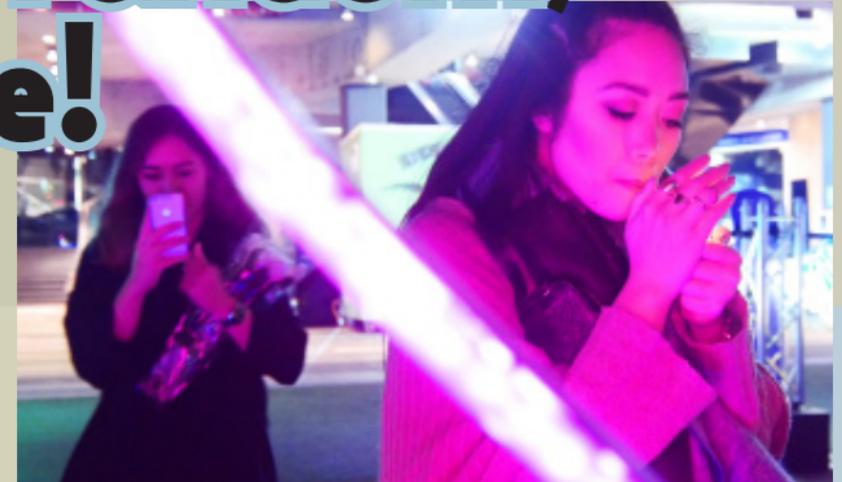
Australia, 81 min, N. American Premiere

Director/Writer: Matthew Victor Pastor

Cast: Celina Yuen, Bridget O'Brien, Rachel E. Zuasola

Presented in Glorious Cinema-O-ke! Aries Santos is a Fil-Aus feminist documentarian who is struggling to complete her new film. Her subjects are the male members of "TMD - Tru Male Dynamics," a company formed to teach men how to seduce women. Meanwhile a sex worker named Melody slays into the night. The line between reality and fiction blurs, and blood is shed on the neon lit streets of Melbourne.

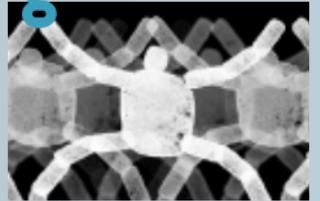
Director Bio: Matthew Victor Pastor (MVP) is a filmmaker of Filipino heritage from Melbourne. A Victorian College of the Arts alum, his Master's film *I am JUPITER I am the BIGGEST PLANET* was awarded Best Director and the New Voice Award. His narratives focus on young Asian Australians trying to make sense of their hearts, homes, and homelands.



satellite strangers

Director: James Bascara
/ USA / 6 min / West
Coast Premiere

A microscopic view of a cosmic dance, deep in the woods.



INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURES

Sunday May 27, 5:00pm Edison Theater

tower. a bright day.

Poland, 106 min, N. American Premiere

Director/Writer: Jagoda Szalc

Cast: Anna Krotoska, Małgorzata Szczerbowska, Rafał Cieluch, Rafał Kwietniewski, Dorota Łukasiewicz-Kwietniewska

Mula lives with her family in the country. Just before her daughter's First Holy Communion, Mula's long lost sister pays them a visit, harboring a secret. The family believes in reconciliation, but Mula has her reasons to feel afraid of Kaja.

Director Bio: Born in Wrocław, Poland in 1984, Jagoda studied at the Faculty of Graphic Arts and Media Art of the Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław. From 2009 to 2015, she studied in the Directing Department at the Film School in Łódź. *Tower. A Bright Day.* is her first feature film.



INT'L NARRATIVE FEATURES

Saturday May 26, 5:30pm US Forest Service

vidar the vampire

Norway, 83 min

Director/Writers: Thomas Aske Berg, Fredrik Waldeland

Cast: Thomas Aske Berg, Brigt Skrettingland, Kim Sønderholm

Vidar is a farmer. He tends to his duties, is a good Christian and suffers endless insults from his mother. His life is in a rut; he craves excitement. However, a chance encounter with a vampire who claims to be Jesus will mean an entirely new existence for Vidar. At first he embraces the madcap freshness of the experience, but it's not long before he begins to question whether his humdrum existence was a much better life.

Director Bio: Thomas Aske Berg is a trained actor and self-taught filmmaker from Stavanger, Norway. He has starred in films both in Norway and the US. He has made several short films and music videos with partner John Iver Berg, most notably *BELIEVetheDANCE*, a fantasy-horror-dance-comedy-short which screened at festivals all over the world, winning four Best Short Film awards. Fredrik Waldeland is a director and editor from Stavanger, Norway. His award-winning short films include *Skattens Pris* and experimental short *Forever Alone*.



clean blood

Director: Jordan Michael Blake / USA / 11 min / West Coast Premiere

A Christmas movie about family, the Apocalypse and an immaculately pregnant man.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

buddha.mov

India, 83 min, West Coast Premiere

Director: Kabir Mehta

Featuring: Buddhadev Mangaldas

Lured by the chance of being the protagonist of a documentary film, Buddha Dev, a 27 year old flamboyant cricketer from Goa, starts authorising unrestricted access into the most private parts of his life.

Director Bio: Kabir Mehta's docu-fiction short *Sadhu In Bombay* premiered at the 29th European Media Art Festival where it won the EMAF Award for best film. It had its North American premiere at Slamdance Film Festival and subsequently won the award for Best Narrative Film at the 55th Ann Arbor Film Festival. Kabir's first feature length project *BUDDHA.mov* won a grant at NFDC Film Bazaar 2016 and had its premiere at Tallinn Black Nights. He is also selected to develop his fiction feature film project *Showdots* at Le Groupe Oust's LIM platform—the European development programme for limited budget feature films.

Saturday May 26, 3:00pm Edison Theater



down escalation

Director: Shunsaku Hayashi
/ Japan / 7 min

Falling down, it feels ecdysone is filling up its body. Delving into the deeper layers of itself, the flesh is melted down in the shell until the form is no longer.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

crime + punishment

USA, 83 min

Director: Stephen Maing

Featuring: Sergeant Edwin Raymond, Officer Felicia Whitely, Officer Sandy Gonzales, Investigator Manuel Gomez, Pedro Hernandez

Stephen Maing's documentary about the NYPD's illegal policing quotas and other discriminatory practices gets the blood boiling. This unnerving documentary about the New York City Police Department's harmful, money-grubbing methods spans the years 2014 through late 2017, though the corruption it tackles head-on has long been a staple of an organization that purports to exercise Courtesy, Professionalism and Respect.

Director Bio: Stephen is a Brooklyn-based filmmaker and visual journalist. His feature documentary *High Tech, Low Life*, about two of China's first dissident citizen-journalists, was broadcast on PBS's award-winning series *POV*. His short *The Surrender* received a 2016 World Press Photo Award for best documentary and an Emmy nomination for outstanding short documentary. Maing is a fellow of Sundance Institute's Documentary Film Program.

Sunday May 27, 5:00pm US Forest Service



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

Thursday May 24, 9:30pm US Forest Service

minding the gap

USA, 93 min

Director: **Bing Liu**

Featuring: **Bing, Zack, Keire**

A coming-of-age saga of three skateboarding friends in a Rust Belt town hit hard by decades of recession. In his quest to understand why he and his friends all ran away from home when they were younger, director Bing Liu follows 23-year-old Zack as he becomes a father and 17-year-old Keire as he gets his first job. He's thrust into the middle of Zack's tumultuous relationship with his girlfriend and Keire's inner struggles with racial identity and memories of his deceased father. He explores the precarious chasm between childhood and adulthood.

Director Bio: Bing Liu moved from China to Alabama to California to Rockford, Illinois with his mother before he was eight years old. He made DIY skateboarding films as a teenager. In 2014 he began collaborating with Kartemquin Films on his first feature *Minding the Gap*, a co-production of POV and ITVS. Bing is also a Story Director and DP for the upcoming Steve James mini-series *America to Me*. Bing is a 2017 Film Independent Fellow and Garrett Scott Development Grant recipient.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

Sunday May 27, 12:30pm Edison Theater

tourists

Poland, 72 min, N. American Premiere

Directors: **Mateusz Romaszkan, Marta Wójtowicz-Wcislo**

A documentary film assembled from amateur video materials recorded by participants of sightseeing tours. Through the lens of the amateur camera, we watch the collective rituals of contemporary tourists. The filmed world takes on masks, graces the camera, stands on its head and demands payment. Traveling through exotic countries, we discover a reflection of our civilization. A contemporary conquest—the constant march of tourists acquiring the world with a digital camera.

Director Bios: Mateusz Romaszkan is an award-winning film editor for numerous documentaries and narrative features, including the Oscar-nominated, multiple award-winning *Rabbit a la Berlin* (2009); *15 Corners of the World* (2014); and *Performer* (Berlinale Forum 2015). *Tourists* is his directorial debut. Marta Wójtowicz-Wcislo was born in 1980 and holds degrees in Spanish philology and cultural studies and a doctorate in political studies. She has worked as a guide in Africa and Latin America. In 2010 she carried out research in El Colegio de México; in 2012-2013 she was assistant lecturer at the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora at the Jagiellonian University. She's a translator and author of numerous articles on Latin America.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

vianey

Finland, USA,
55 min,
West Coast
Premiere

Director: Marko Vuorinen
Featuring: Vianey Otero

An intensely personal documentary portrait of the life and hardships of the New Jersey- and Bronx-based underground hip hop artist Vianey Otero, also known by the stage name So Icey Trap. The raw and at the same time lyrical coming-of-age story reveals the reality behind growing up on the streets, the lure of escorting, everyday life in jail, and being a female artist in the music industry.

Director Bio: Marko Vuorinen (1974) is a Finnish, Helsinki-based and internationally awarded documentarian, fine arts photographer and writer. Vuorinen's work concentrates on social issues, gender equality, and sexuality. Marko Vuorinen is primarily interested in the women's perspective. He believes in the unifying power of sharing our stories with one another. He works in the borderland between film and visual arts, approaching filmmaking as a form of contemporary art.

Friday May 25, 5:30pm US Forest Service



bonne nuit du fond des bois

Director: Camille Demers-Lambert / Canada / 22 min / US Premiere

Among black spruces and electric pylons, Sylvain and his wolfdogs are getting ready for the winter. *Bonne nuit du fond des bois* is an immersion in a boreal solitude.



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

white tide

USA, 83 min,
West Coast Premiere

Director: Theo Love
Featuring: Rodney Hyden, Danny Pardo, Bob Willey, Jamie Hyden, Emily Hyden, Bo Butterworth

When the great recession wipes out Rodney's construction business in Central Florida, his family faces a nightmare of debt. One evening around a campfire, Rodney hears a story from an old, barefooted hippy that just might solve his family's problems. There's an island. There's a map. And there's buried treasure...\$2 million dollars just waiting for someone to dig it up. But there's just one slight problem: he doesn't have a shovel. Oh, and the \$2 million dollars just happens to be in cocaine form.

Director Bio: With a name like Theo Love (yes, that's his given name), some would say he was destined for stardom, but Hollywood was a long way from his home in South East Asia. So he did what any other dreamer would do—he bought a camera and a plane ticket. He eventually became a commercial director, an Emmy-winning editor, and a screenwriter. His critically acclaimed directorial debut *Little Hope was Arson* was curated by PBS' Independent Lens and played theatrically across the country, launching Love's directing career.

Saturday May 26, 3:00pm US Forest Service



shorts

mojave to mammoth & mammoths



nevada

Director: Emily Ann Hoffman / USA / 13 min



A young couple's romantic weekend is interrupted by a birth control mishap.

fay away

Director: Rainer Lipski / USA / 12 min / World Premiere



After 20 years, Fay is driving out to the desert to visit her estranged father in order to deliver an important message.

Thursday May 24, 11:30am Edison Theater

sponsored by



mountain castle mountain flower plastic

Director: Annapurna Kumar / USA / 3 min



Small pieces of information can be stored separately within a shared container. The most efficient containers can house multiple pieces of information in the same location, intersecting from different angles.

zula the infinite

Director: Jillian Dudley / USA / 16 min / World Premiere



A small town girl discovers a letter from her father's post office that lures her into a friendship with a troublesome passer-through.

mammoth

Director: Grant Slater / USA / 26 min



In the remote Russian Arctic, an aging scientist and his son are trying to recreate the Ice Age. They call their experiment Pleistocene Park—a perfect home for woolly mammoths, resurrected by modern genetics. But the mammoths are only a means to a bigger end: defusing a carbon timebomb frozen in the permafrost to slow the effects of global warming.

Thursday May 24, 2:00pm **Edison Theater**

travelogue tel aviv

Director: Samuel Patthey
/ Switzerland / 6 min /
West Coast Premiere



A young art student from Switzerland arrives in Tel Aviv for a six-month stay. Through drawing he will learn to analyze, understand and open himself to this contradictory environment.

berliners

Directors: Paula Galimberti,
Pedro Deltell, Gonzalo Piñán
/ Germany, Spain / 14.5 min
/ N. American Premiere



A comedy about two crises: the Spanish migration crisis and the love crisis in the Tinder era. To laugh and cry at the same time.

how to reach god through proper exercising

Director: Gabriel Herrera
Torres / Poland / 19 min /
US Premiere



In a local sports center, a man with a great need to talk but little to say recounts a recent dream to a nearby colleague. This seemingly harmless event will bring deeply unsettling consequences.

sponsored by



birthday

Director: Luise Nes
/ Norway / 8 min /
World Premiere



Oline has gathered her sisters to celebrate their father's birthday, but pride, miscommunication and a slightly odd choice of venue get in the way of the festivities.

shorts block 1

careful how you go

Director: Emerald
Ferrell / UK / 13 min



A darkly comic, three-part film about malevolent women.

shadow animals

Director: Jerry Carlson
/ Sweden / 21 min



A dance-based drama of discoveries about human behaviour.

shorts block 2

sponsored by



Friday May 25, 12:30pm Edison Theater

the golden people

Director: Victoria Garza
/ Mexico / 12 min /
World Premiere



BJ Annie is the founder of the Golden People, a movement which claims that you can live without eating and reach a higher level of consciousness.

flatbush misdemeanors

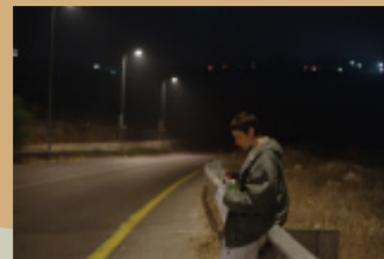
Directors: Dan Perlman,
Kevin Iso / USA / 11 min /
West Coast Premiere



Longtime friends Dan and Kevin adjust to their evolving surroundings in the unforgiving environment of Flatbush, Brooklyn. A raw comedy of city life.

babies

Director: Yuval Shapira
/ USA / 19 min /
N. American Premiere



A young single mother leaves her crying infant at home in the middle of the night to go and buy baby formula.

this, my favorite mural

Director: Michael Arcos /
USA / 11 min / West Coast
Premiere



An amateur German filmmaker becomes infatuated with a tire shop mural. She embarks on a search for the artist and in the process makes her first documentary film.

in a month

Director: Jonas Kærup
Hjort / Denmark /
30 min / US Premiere



In a factory in the middle of nowhere, a group of workers keep waiting indefinitely. Every full moon a telephone rings. Always with the same message: "Be patient. We are on our way."

Friday May 25, 3:00pm Edison Theater

lilly and the baby

Directors: The Bum
Family / Canada / 12 min



Lilly, a 10-foot-tall orange monster, babysits a human baby. The mom leaves a long list of what not to do. What could go wrong?

coda

Director: Zoe Jarman
/ USA / 15 min /
World Premiere



During a bachelorette weekend at a cabin in the woods, Wendy is forced to confront the one-sided relationship with her best friend Kristin.

onikuma

Director: Alessia Cecchet
/ Italy, USA / 12 min /
West Coast Premiere



Onikuma is a Japanese yokai, a demon bear known for chasing horses. Surrounded by a foreign landscape, two women will understand that demons can come in different forms.

sponsored by



shorts block 3

cocoon cocoon

Directors: Ori Goldberg,
Ilai Margulies / Israel
/ 7 min / West Coast
Premiere



A fat, smug caterpillar doesn't want to become a butterfly. In song and rhyme, the horrors of metamorphosis are revealed.

hallway

Director: Robin
Summons / Australia /
12 min



A curious janitor helps his anxious co-worker overcome his fear of love.

awesomefuntv

Directors: Alex Kavutskiy,
Ariel Gardner / USA /
34 min / World Premiere



A young filmmaker goes from making no-budget internet videos with his friends to getting paid for making sketch comedy for a soulless YouTube content aggregator.

towards the experimental control of dreaming

Director: Ryan Betschart / USA / 2 min / West Coast Premiere



A visual prose poem on a missed encounter during a brief period of altered states of consciousness.

shorts block 4

the man who forgot to breathe

Director: Saman Hosseinpour / Iran / 15 min / West Coast Premiere



At odds with his wife and seeking autonomy, a man makes a life-changing decision.

audition

Director: Richard Van / USA / 14 min



Unable to find a sitter, an aspiring actress has no choice but to drag her three-year-old son to her audition.

little wonder

Director: JoJo Carlman / USA / 3 min



Username: Stray_Cat trolls internet dating sites for a true lover to fulfill his special request, but will he ever find that wonderful someone.

Saturday May 26, 12:30pm US Forest Service

sponsored by



hollywood

Director: Jérémie Roy / Canada / 7 min / West Coast Premiere



Liliana is training for a dancing audition and Antoine is having his first major role in a stage play. Their mutual distaste for each other's work soon becomes apparent and it quickly becomes personal.

black dog

Director: Joshua Dean Tuthill / USA / 15 min / West Coast Premiere



A dark family drama set during the space race of the 1960s elucidates a time of heated social and political tension.

holy pink: fragrant

Directors: Clementine Leger, Benjamin Whatley / USA / 2.5 min



A meditative, psych-soaked journey.

men don't whisper

Director: Jordan Firstman / Writers: Jordan Firstman, Charles Rogers / USA / 22 min



After being emasculated at a sales conference, gay couple Reese and Peyton decide the only way to regain their confidence and prove their masculinity is to sleep with some women.

Sunday May 27, 12:30pm **US Forest Service**

do not pass go

Director: Cullen Hoback / USA / 23 min



A shocking and highly informative David versus Goliath tale of a small community that battles monopolistic telcos for their town's right to build a locally owned, high-speed fiber network.

big paradise

Directors: JP Olsen, Kristen Nutile / USA / 10 min



Robert Kidney has been a musical force since the 1970s. Despite decades of praise by peers, the band remains obscure. The powerful and complex person behind this band, living and working in the shadow of Midwestern decay.

david and the kingdom

Directors: Woodrow Travers, Brian Paccione / USA / 23 min / World Premiere



After rehabilitating two abandoned baby moose, David Lawrence vows to never harm another living thing. When tragedy strikes, David is forced to confront a violent past.

sponsored by



the shift

Directors: Elivia Genny Shaw, Paloma Martinez / USA / 8.5 min



For San Francisco's 911 dispatchers, the city is hard to escape.

shorts block 5 documentaries

a gift for a centenarian

Director: Yamil Rodriguez / Hungary / 23 min / World Premiere



A train ride in Hungary becomes an inner journey as the filmmaker's grandmother, Gloria Almanza, celebrates her 100th birthday in tropical Nicaragua, thousands of miles away.

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Photo: Ted Prescott

SATURDAY MORNING INDIE CARTOONS

cartoons from east germany with flula borg



Flula Borg

The DEFA Studio for Animation Film was founded in Dresden, East Germany, in 1955. Over the next two decades, the state-owned studio became one of the most modern animation centers in Europe. By the time it closed its doors in 1992, it had produced almost 2000 animation films for cinemas and television. They spanned all classic animation techniques, including cartoons, silhouette and puppet films, shadow plays, claymation and stop-motion animation. Representing a high level of craftsmanship and creativity, DEFA's animation films fascinated national and international cinema and television audiences and were shown at film festivals all over the world.

For the last 25 years, the German Institute for Animated Film (DIAF) in Dresden and the DEFA Film Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst have been fostering awareness and distribution of this unique collection of animated films.

In celebration of this silver anniversary, the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival is presenting a retrospective devoted to the

legacy of East German animation, with live English dubbing by renowned German actor/comedian/musician Flula Borg. Seven selected shorts, produced by the first generation of directors at the DEFA Studio for Animation Film, give a taste of the fantastic, magical world of animated films from a vanished country.

We would like to thank the DEFA Film Library at UMass Amherst (umass.edu/defa) and the DEFA Foundation in Berlin for making this program possible.

All screenings are North American Premieres.



Saturday May 26, 9:30am US Forest Service

der angsthase the timid bunny

1964, dir. Lothar Barke,
5 min., color, Animation



The little bunny has heard so many stories about ghosts and robbers that he's scared. But one day, when a fox tries to catch the timid bunny's friend, he overcomes his fear. Based on the children's classic by Elizabeth Shaw.

paukenschlag drum beat

1974, dir. Otto Sacher, 4 min.,
color, Animation



Many drummers come together from different places. Sometimes it isn't easy to transport the drum. They all gather in a square... All that effort for playing two beats.

der wettlauf the race

1962, dir. Günter Rätz,
6 min., color, Puppet
Animation



Filopat and Patafil want to race against each other. But neither of them likes to lose, so they come up with tricks to outsmart each other.

viel zu klein the little duck

1983, dir. Monika Krause-
Anderson, 13 min., color,
Silhouette Animation



One little duckling is smaller than all the rest; it wonders how it can get bigger and stronger. The duckling asks the mole, the frog, the stork... but each of them gives a different answer. One day, the duckling finds the solution...

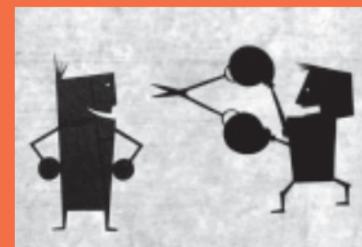
SATURDAY MORNING INDIE CARTOONS

cartoons from east germany with flula borg

gegner nach mass

custom-made
opponent

1963, dir. Bruno J. Böttge, 5
min., b/w, Silhouette animation



A pair of magical scissors cuts a little man with huge boxing gloves out of black paper. He comes to life and, confident of his powers, he grabs the scissors and cuts out a giant opponent. But he may have overestimated his strength...

punktchen little dots

1964, dir. Bruno J. Böttge,
7 min., color, Silhouette
animation



An enchanting and playful film, crafted out of little more than dots and moving lines.

tillebille

1985-86, dir. Heinz Steinbach,
18 min., color, Puppet
animation



Tillebille, a little mouse, works up all her courage and cleverness to outsmart a sly fox and defend the territory claimed by her and her friends.

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SPECIAL KIDS SCREENING

my life as a zucchini

Friday May 25, 7:30pm Edison Theater

Director: Claude Barras
Writer: Céline Sciamma

Cast: Gaspard Schlatte, Sixtine Murat, Paulin Jaccoud, Michel Vuillermoz, Raul Ribera

After his mother's disappearance, Courgette (Zucchini) is befriended by a police officer named Raymond, who accompanies him to his new foster home filled with other orphans his age. At first he struggles to find his place in this strange and at times hostile environment. But with Raymond's help and his new-found friends, Courgette eventually learns to trust and might find true love.

Director Bio: Born in 1973 in Sierre, Switzerland, Claude studied at École Emile Cohl in Lyon and got his degree in anthropology and digital images. He made a series of shorts before directing *My Life As A Zucchini*, which received an Oscar Nomination in the Animated Feature Film category as well as a César for Best Animated Feature and a César for Best Book Adaption.



looney foodz

Director: Paolo Gaudio / Italy / 2 min / West Coast Premiere

What would happen if the food and drink in your refrigerator could come alive, move and speak?



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760-934-9316

Liberty Sports Bar & Grill

3399 Main St.
760-965-0514

Rafters Restaurant

202 Old Mammoth Rd.
760-934-9431

Roberto's Mexican Café

271 Old Mammoth Rd.
760-934-3667

Samurai

452 Old Mammoth Rd.
760-965-0507

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Parties & Events

Opening Night Gala

**Wednesday May 23, 9:00pm,
Sierra Event Center**

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

Filmmakers Happy Hour

**Thursday May 24, 5:00-7:00pm,
Duke's Bar, Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa**

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

Meet the Press Brunch, Beer-Tasting and Panel Discussion

Friday May 25, 10:30am, Sierra Event Center

Overview of "the industry" (trends, news, players) from the perspective of top-tier media reporters and editors, with a discussion on what attracts their attention and coverage to your project. A frank discussion of working with the media to catapult your projects and careers to success. Sponsored by VER.

Moderated by Jacques Thelemaque of Filmmakers Alliance

Speakers: Lindsey Bahr—Associated Press
Shalini Dore—Variety
Alonso Duralde—The Wrap
Tim Rhys—Publisher of MovieMaker Magazine



From Production to Distribution Champagne Brunch and Panel Discussion

Saturday May 26, 10:30am, Sierra Event Center

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. Sponsored by VER.

Moderated by Jacques Thelemaque of Filmmakers Alliance

Speakers: Allison Amon—Emmy Award-Winning producer
Peter Baxter—Filmmaker; co-founder of Slamdance Film Festival
Devin DiGonno—Director of Acquisitions, Lakeshore Entertainment
Rachel Winter—Academy Award-Winning producer
David Zellner—Filmmaker

Filmmakers Bash by Non Plus Ultra

Saturday May 26, 10:00pm, Rafters

Come celebrate and honor our visiting filmmakers with an on-the-road experience of L.A.'s futuristic art-pop indie club Non Plus Ultra! Enjoy an open beer and wine bar and explore dimensions of ecstatic consciousness with DJ Paul McCaffrey and performances by HOTT MT and Vinyl Williams.



Hour Of The Time Majesty Twelve (HOTT MT) is an LA-based experimental pop group inspired by sci-fi fantasy scores and medieval arrangements. Together, duo Spooki Tavi and Ashi Dala create cartoon-like psychedelic worlds. Since their formation in 2012, the group has collaborated with The Flaming Lips, Ariel Pink, Erykah Badu, and Ke\$ha.



Vinyl Williams is a celestial rock group tangibly based in Los Angeles, CA, and intangibly inhabiting Xol, Alnilam - the center star of Orion. Their sound depicts a multi-religious realm of sonic architecture, spinning in lush harmonious ecstasy & deep hypnotic rhythms. Williams also creates his own immersive realms in the form of 360° videos, downloadable explorable worlds, and interactive web art.

Shorts Encore Screening

**Sunday May 27, 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 27, 9:00pm,
Sierra Event Center**

It may seem like the Mammoth Lakes Film Festival is coming to a close. But this is just the beginning, right? Jury Awards will be presented for Best Narrative Feature, Documentary Feature, Narrative Short, Animation Short and Documentary Short as well as the Bravery Award. Audience Awards will be presented for Narrative Feature and Documentary Feature.

After the awards presentations (and during), we will celebrate. Let's talk, enjoy the open beer and wine bar, and dance about it with another DJ into the wee hours of the night.



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Awards & Prizes

Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony and Party, starting at 9pm on Sunday the 27th at the Sierra Event Center.

Jury Award for Best Narrative Feature

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

Jury Award for Best International Feature

\$500 Cash award
Orson Trophy

Jury Award for Best Documentary Feature

\$1,000 cash
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



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.

Documentary Features

Lindsey Bahr

Lindsey Bahr is currently a film reporter and critic for The Associated Press. Formerly a writer at *Entertainment Weekly*, she has reported on all facets of the film business including the Academy Awards® and other major award shows, film festivals, breaking news, trend stories, talent profiles, and box office analysis. Prior to *Entertainment Weekly*, Bahr was a contributing writer for *The Atlantic*, where she produced feature articles on movies, television and music. She is based in Los Angeles.

Documentary Features



Peter Baxter

Peter Baxter is a filmmaker and President and Co-founder of the Slamdance Film Festival. Baxter has been responsible for developing Slamdance into an artist-led community that discovers and supports new filmmakers. Alumni whose first work showed at Slamdance have gone on to earn over \$13 billion at the Box Office. His latest documentary *Spirit Game* follows the Iroquois Nationals battle to win a world lacrosse championship and is described by Sports Illustrated as “a powerful story of identity, sovereignty and spirituality.” Baxter grew up in Gloucestershire, England and lives in Los Angeles with his family.

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

Alonso Duralde



Alonso Duralde is the Film Reviews Editor for *TheWrap* and Senior Programmer at Outfest. He also co-hosts the *Linoleum Knife* and *Who Shot Ya?* podcasts and regularly appears on *What the Flick?!* (TYT Network). Duralde is a consultant for the USA Film Festival/Dallas, where he spent five years

as artistic director. He is the author of two books: *Have Yourself a Movie Little Christmas* (Limelight Editions) and *101 Must-See Movies for Gay Men* (Advocate Books).

International Narrative Features

Timothy Rhys

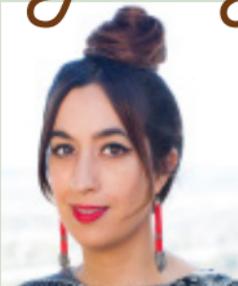
Timothy Rhys is a writer and director who edits and publishes *MovieMaker*, which enjoys the largest circulation of any independent film magazine. He is the president of MovieMaker Media, LLC., Inc., and develops independent motion pictures through his production companies, Vagabond Pictures and Cold Open Pictures. Tim recently produced the feature thriller *Indiscretion*, starring Academy Award®-winner Mira Sorvino, and is currently producing the drama *Sitiado* with legendary film icon Peter Fonda. Tim is artistic director of the MovieMaker Institute, which has brought educational film programs around the world since 1997, and heads up MovieMaker Production Services, which assists independent producers. He serves on the board of the historic Hollywood Theater in Portland, Oregon, and divides his time between Los Angeles, Oregon, and New England.

Narrative Features



cont. >

Jury



Scenery Samundra

Scenery Samundra is an LA-based music supervisor and music programmer. She spent her youth in the punk scene of the SF Bay Area and later worked as a DJ at KDVS while studying at UC Davis, showcasing underground artists and her cultural roots in Punjabi Bhangra music. She has worked as a programmer for the

Sundance Institute's Film Music Department, and as an assistant to veteran Music Supervisor Tracy McKnight. In 2016, she worked for the inaugural David Lynch Foundation's Festival of Disruption, with musical guests Robert Plant, Debbie Harry, St. Vincent, and Angelo Badalamenti. She currently works with UK Record label Tru Thoughts, produces for NTS Radio LA, and is a staff music writer for *Culture Collide*. Aside from working with highly acclaimed artists (Common, Lalah Hathaway, Robert Glasper, Thundercat, Flying Lotus) she's also worked on music videos for artists such as Superfruit, Adrian Younge, and Terrace Martin. Scenery remains true to her underground sensibilities—discovering and championing artists that push the envelope creatively.

Shorts

Ana Souza

Ana Souza was born in Brazil and was raised in Amsterdam. She holds a BA in Film Studies from the University of Warwick and an MA from the University of Southern California. She is an Associate Programmer of short films for AFI FEST and the LA Film Festival, where she also served as an Associate Programmer of features last year. Her work in festivals has ranged from programming to industry relations, hospitality, and event production, in festivals including Sundance, Outfest, AFI FEST, the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles, Ambulante Documentary Festival, NALIP's Latino Media Fest and the No Budget Film Festival. Souza partnered with arts collective Non Plus Ultra to launch Nonplussed Fest, an underground music and shorts festival going into its third year. She was a programming fellow for Film Independent's Project Involve initiative in 2016. She has also produced a number of short films that have traveled to festivals around the world. She is currently working at Sundance in the programming department.

Shorts



Vincent Spano

Born in NYC, at 18 Spano was cast in *The Black Stallion Returns*; he then starred in John Sayles' *Baby It's You*. Film roles include Amos Poe's *Alphabet City*; *Creator* with Peter O'Toole; *Alive*, directed by Frank Marshall; John Sayles' *City of Hope*; and a comedic turn in John Landis' *Oscar*. In television films, Spano won praise for his

performance in the Steven Schachter-directed *The Engagement Ring*. He headlined *Deathlands: Homeward Bound*; starred in the mini-series *Pandemic*; in *Lone Rider*, a period western, and in the romantic comedy *This Magic Moment*. Films awaiting release include *WonderWell* with Carrie Fisher, and Christopher Coppola's *Torch*. Spano directed *In The Groove*, an episode of HBO's *Tales from the Crypt*, and the short film *Bet Runner*. He also directed, edited and produced the short *Tony & Bobby* and co-directed *High Expectations*.

International Features



Nicole Sperling

Nicole Sperling is a Hollywood Correspondent for *Vanity Fair*. She has covered the business of Hollywood for close to two decades, most recently at *Entertainment Weekly* and *The Los Angeles Times*. Her coverage spans the awards circuit, film festivals, and breaking

news and runs the gamut from celebrity profiles to trend stories and behind-the-scenes features. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and three children but is often in Mammoth trying to make the most out of her season pass.

Narrative Features



Rachel Winter

Rachel Winter is the Academy Award®-nominated producer of the acclaimed film *Dallas Buyers Club*, which earned six Academy Award® nominations including best picture, winning three of them, including lead actor for Matthew McConaughey and supporting actor for Jared Leto. The film also received accolades from the Producers

Guild of America, the Golden Globe Awards and the Broadcast Film Critics Association. Up next for Winter is producing William H. Macy's directorial debut, the feature film *Krystal*. Most recently, Winter produced the indie drama *Stealing Cars*, which premiered at the LA Film Festival, winning the Zeitgeist Award. Projects in development include an untitled LeBron James biopic for Universal, which she will produce with LeBron James and Maverick Carter, and a feature based on the life of Evel Knievel at Paramount. Previous film credits include *Brooklyn Rules*, *Wayward Son*, *Bury Me in Kern County* and *The Lather Effect*. On the television side, Winter has an overall first-look deal with A&E Networks to develop and produce scripted drama projects.

Narrative Features

Staff & Credits

Festival Director
Shira Dubrovner

Director of Programming
Paul Sbrizzi

Festival Manager
Lesley-Anne Hoxie

Technical Director
Brian Morataya

Projectionist Tech
Sean Barnes

Production Manager

Ema Solarova

Website & Local Marketing

Aleksandra Mendel

Development
Juliana Jones

Publicity BWR-PR
Ron Hofmann
Ashley Patterson

Event Consultant
Shelby Sykes

Festival Support
Melissa Reeves

Music Promoter
Paul McCaffrey

Venue Manager, Videographer

Trevor Van Winkle

Venue Manager
Stephen Gill

Videographer
Ryan Harris

Catering
Dan Molnar

Festival Intern
Megan Pierce

Social Media Marketing

Drina Durazo

Production Assistants

Michelle Plascencia
Oates Wu

Festival Trailers Created By

Laura Harrison
Sverre Fredriksen & Serge Onnen

Bronwyn Maloney

Associate Programmers

Samy Burch
Mainak Dhar

Anna Germanidi
Randall Good

Alex Kavutskiy
Alex Mechanik

Ema Solarova

Photographers

Kendra Knight
Joseph Marrone

Aleksandra Mendel

Michael K. Phipps

Orson the Bear Awards

by Josh Slater, Bear in Mind Carvings

Special Thanks:

Bryan Anclerio

Kim Anclerio

Anthia Ashe

Jo Bacon

Brett Barker

Pam & Tim Bartley

Antonette Ciccarelli

Sharon Clark

Gigi de Jong

Jeff Frome

Cleland Hoff

Kevin Harman

Laila Hashemi

Andy Holzer

Lew Jones

Quart Keyes

Chef Raphael

Lunetta

Dan Lyster

Claire Olson

Stacey

Powells-Lyster

Mammoth Lakes Foundation Staff

Paul & Kathleen Rudder

Jesse Steele

Clay Tyson

Tanner Van Tassell

Harry Vaughn

Michael Villalobos

Mary Walker

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And a very special thanks to Beverly Langston for making the seats at the US Forest Service more comfortable.

Sierra Spirit Award

by Red Barn Creations

Program Booklet Design

by Paul Sbrizzi

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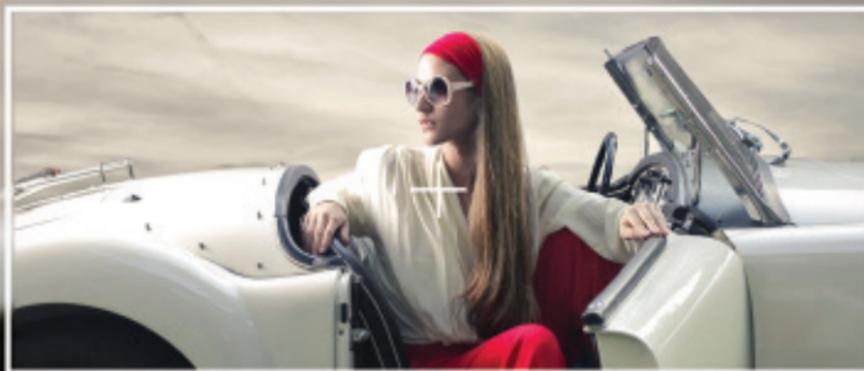
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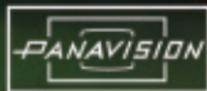


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We'll Focus On The Rest

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