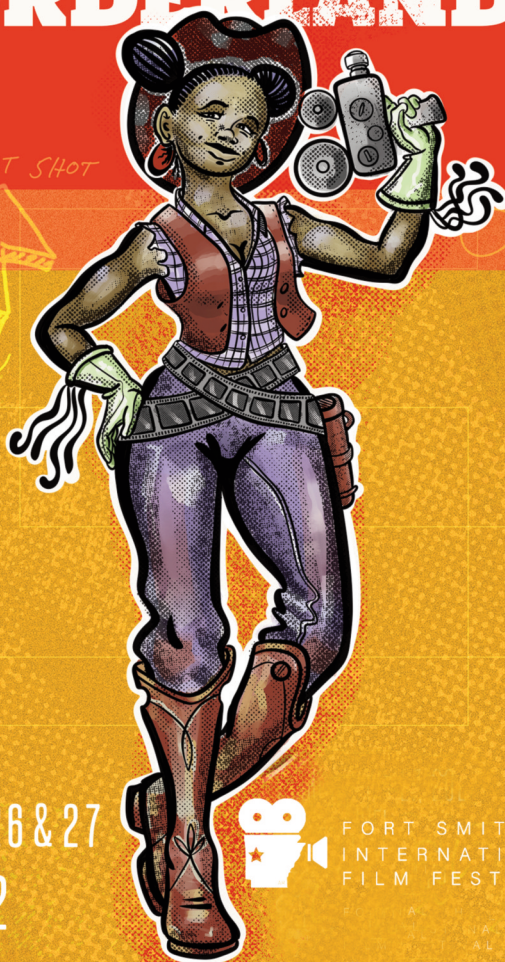


FORT SMITH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL BORDERLANDS



AUG. 26 & 27
2022



FORT SMITH
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

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FORT SMITH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL BORDERLANDS

2022 FILM SERIES

Located in an original wild west border town, the 2022 Fort Smith International Film Festival celebrates “Borderlands,” where the stories of our lives exist. Our shared humanity is experienced at the borders between countries, nations, states, cities, neighborhoods, languages, races, genders, cultures, social economic classes, and ages.

Borderlands are where innovation happens, realities are challenged, novel concepts and fresh identities are born and questioned. These societal edges represent a coming together of physical and emotional boundaries, the forming of territories, the space where conflicts are both heightened and resolved. Film acts as a threshold between actuality and fantasy capturing the moment a border is established, defended or overcome.

For filmmakers, art is our manifest destiny, and the Fort Smith International Film Festival, is the theatrical gateway to creativity’s wild west, where all perspectives and points of view are welcomed.



Fort Smith International Film Festival is presented by
the River Valley Film Society Inc.

We are a 501c3 non-profit with the goal to build a vibrant film culture in the River Valley through transformative cinematic experiences and educational film opportunities.

fortsmithfilm.com

Friday August 26

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION & FILMS

MAIN STAGE

- 5 pm Doors open
 5 pm Conference Room: NWA Screenwriters Collective Meeting
 6 pm Main Room: Welcome

FORT SMITH: DEVELOPING CREATIVE ECONOMIES

College Student Documentary Short Dillon Hudson US
 Fort Smith, Arkansas is a city on the rise. Initiatives led by a group of disruptive leaders are making Fort Smith and the River Valley a better place to live. Based around research by Dr. Kristin Tardif in her book, "Developing Creative Economies Through Disruptive Leadership."

A CHAT WITH TONY C

High School Student Short Gabe A. Hobbs US
 The director's interview of a friend.

6:45 pm Cherokee National Film Office

SVIA Signature: The Cherokee Speakers Roll

Documentary Short Jennifer Loren Cherokee Nation
 The Cherokee language is sacred to its people and unfortunately it's endangered. How will the next generation ensure the language survives? A book. The Cherokee Speakers Roll is at the heart of language preservation efforts. Learn how it has brought Cherokee language warriors together.

7:30 pm Arkansas Cinema Society

Local/Regional Filmmakers Showcase with Q&A

UNGATHERED

Short Crystal Woodham US
 A woman who is trapped in an abusive relationship breaks away to walk on an old trail she used to walk with her mother. When she arrives at an old, covered bridge she is met by a mysterious old man. He very soon shows her that there is more to life, and love than abuse.

DOUBLE TROUBLE

College Short Levi Matthew Smith, Blake Dean Allen US
 Two teenagers stay overnight in an arcade and happen upon a spooky, haunted arcade machine. 15:19

HAUNTING ON HIGHWAY 35

Animation Short David Andrew Schedler US
 Driver takes a trip down the most haunted highway in Arkansas.

LIMITS: THE STORY OF ARKANSTOL

Doc Short Zak Heald, Nicholas Wiench US
 ArkanSTOL is a challenging aerial competition of 'short takeoff and landing' that only the most skilled pilots are qualified to participate in. Follow two 18-year-old young pilots in this exciting competition.

9 pm Special Guests & Keynote Speaker

Saturday August 27

SCHEDULE

Main Stage

10 am
 11:30 am
 1:20 pm
 3:05 pm
 5:00 pm
 7 pm
 8:10 pm
 9:15 pm
 Midnight

Short Films

High School
 Drama
 Experimental / Comedy
 Animation
 People of Color
 Indigenous
 Short Docs
 Action / Sci-Fi
 Awards Ceremony

Conference Room

11 am -10 pm

Filmmaker Panels

Commandry Room

11 am
 11:55 am
 1:45 pm
 3:20 pm
 4:25 pm
 6:20 pm
 7:35 pm
 9:10 pm

Shorts & Features

Western Short Block
 Heart of the Gun
 First River
 Regional LGBTQ+ Shorts
 All that Remains
 Bring Her Home
 Blurring the Color Line
 Music Video Block

Lodge Room

11 am
 11:50 am
 2:00 pm
 3:55 pm
 5:25 pm
 7:35 pm
 9:30 pm

Alums, Locals & Thrillers

Local Short Block
 If This Walk Could Talk
 Black Smoke
 Journey of Tial Hilary's Ohoyo
 American Music
 Alum Short Block
 Thriller Short Block

Grotto Room

11:00 am
 12:10 pm
 1:50 pm
 3:25 pm
 5:20 pm
 7:20 pm
 9:05 pm

Foreign Features

Ordinary Corner
 Opal
 Parisa
 The Road Less Cycled
 Guthlee Ladoo
 Bunny
 Hideout

Content Warning

These films are unrated and may contain nudity, sexual situations, strong language or violence.

GROTTO ROOM

11 AM FOREIGN FEATURES

11 am

ORDINARY CORNER*Documentary Feature* *Hu Xiao* *China*

The day-to-day community life of the people of Pujiao Village, Jinping County, on the Sino-Vietnamese border in Yunnan Province.

12:10 am

OPAL*Animation Feature* *Alan Bidard* *Martinique*

In a magic kingdom where summer lasted forever and where the animals and the inhabitants were immortal, the source of all magic was a young princess called Opal. Legend said that her joy would bring wonders and prosperity to the kingdom. But her sadness would bring chaos and darkness.

1:50 pm

PARISA*Narrative Feature* *Mohammadreza Rahmani* *Iran*

Parisa is a young and beautiful cosmetic model. When a stranger sprays acid on her face, she is disfigured. Police suspect several people and finally find him. But Parisa who has lost her beauty and has no hope in life, thinks of suicide.

3:25 pm

THE ROAD LESS CYCLED*People of Color* *Nathan Rice* *South Africa*

In a one street South African town, Philani Jaca, a hard-headed young aspiring cyclist, works a dead-end construction job. He lives under the huge shadow of his brother, a professional soccer player. He begins a 300km journey to what could be a career-making bicycle race, encountering many hurdles that will test his mettle.

5:20 pm

GUTHLEE LADOO*Narrative Feature* *Ishrat R Khan* *India*

Guthlee, son of a poor sweeper, has a dream - to go to school. But the obstacle is his caste. A headmaster is sympathetic to him but powerless against caste discrimination. When they develop an unspoken bond, Guthlee's dream sees hope. The film charts the journey of Guthlee and the evolution of the headmaster towards finally opening the gates of education for Guthlee, Guthlee is a film that speaks volumes about the state of education and the caste system in rural India in today's day and age.

7:20 pm

BUNNY*Narrative Feature* *Nilesh Upadhye* *India*

A middle-aged man, Vivek, runs an in-house call center. Vivek is obsessed with the safety of a girl, Bunny (aged 10) and protects her from outside world in his own way. He cuts her off from the world and takes her freedom away, keeping an eye on her 24 X 7 with CCTV camera. Vivek is connected with the world only through sound and voice. And Bunny only with his voice. Vivek leads Bunny to a point of no return.

9:05 pm

HIDEOUT*Narrative Feature* *Yen Kuang Chen* *Taiwan*

Drug dealer Guo-hao hopes to make enough money so that he and his girlfriend can leave their life of crime. He makes a desperate deal to sell cocaine, borrowing the money from a local crime boss. When he arrives to make the deal, his own partner is dead and the coke is gone. Now both the dealer and loan shark are pursuing him. He receives a phone call from a mysterious man claiming to be in possession of the lost cocaine, telling Guo-hao he has a new deal for him.

LODGE ROOM

11 AM LOCAL SHORT

BETTER SEPARATE

College Student Short *Johnny Luna* *US*
 An estranged couple have an awkward dinner after a young woman discovers she is pregnant.

TBD

Short *Jonathan Nichols, Lauren Nichols* *US*
 A wannabe filmmaker struggles to come to terms with what is keeping him from reaching his dream.

11:50 AM ALUM FEATURES

11:50 am

IF THIS WALK COULD TALK

Documentary Feature *Larry D. Foley* *US*
 Personal reflections on 150 years of history at the University of Arkansas, connected by the school's most hallowed tradition.

2 pm

BLACK SMOKE, SWEET COFFEE: THE STORY OF A NAZI GIRL

Documentary Feature *Kate Siegenthaler* *US*
 Born in 1933 Berlin. Dorle's parents worked directly for Hitler. Indoctrinated with Hitler's 'hopes and dreams', she is now 84 years old.

3:55 pm

THE JOURNEY OF TIAL HILARY'S OHOYO

Indigenous *Mark Williams* *Choctaw Nation*
 A female stickball team from a small Choctaw community in Mississippi strives to win a championship in the World Series of Stickball.

5:25 pm

AMERICAN MUSIC: OFF THE RECORD

Documentary Feature *Benjamin Giroam Meade* *US*
 Award winning documentary about the music industry in the U.S. Featuring 52 musical acts, narration by Jackson Browne, Noam Chomsky and others.

7:35 PM ALUM SHORT BLOCK

ENABLING EMOTIONAL CONNECTIONS

POC/College Student Short *Radheya Jegatheva* *Australia*
 It can be hard to communicate emotional nuances through screens and pixels. But we may be able to connect meaningfully through music.

MAD IN SPAIN

Animation Short *Jorge Miguel Rioboo* *Spain*
 In a post-apocalyptic Spain, different tribes survive, struggling to gain control of the only livelihood that exists, a very low-quality red wine.

AND THE WINNER IS

People of Color, Short *Michael Day* *US*
 Sydney finally wins the most prestigious award for best film director. While he believes he has created more opportunities for Black filmmakers, his wife thinks he may have compromised his morals and beliefs to secure the award.

ONE

Short *Roman Sinitsyn* *Russian Federation*
 A reflection on loneliness and loss. Elderly man in an empty train. Where is he going and why?

LODGE ROOM

THE SAINT

People of Color, Short Jay Jay Jegathesan Australia
 Where is the line between heroism and a plunge into the abyss? On an ordinary night, in a regular park, Mark will find himself confronting it.

ADD A ZERO -TVH OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO

Music Video Alli Chastain, Kevin Dewayne Davis US
 The music and lyrics of "Add A Zero" are brought to life in this quirky, imaginative and fun music video.

THE 1 OZ JIG: GRATIS

Music Video Benjamin Giroam Meade US
 Fayetteville band performs their song Gratis at Cosmic Cowboy Studios

WAIT, SON - RECOGNIZER

Music Video Mike Mullins US
 A town has been attacked and predators seek the survivors.

NIGHT SHIFT

Short Tanner McChristian US
 Night shift church housekeeper is stalked by a mysterious, murderous entity.

THE LUCID CURE

College Student Short Brett Douglas Helms US
 A man causes his wife's death through dream therapy. If you die in your dream, you really die. He must come to terms or meet the same fate.

ALONE

Short Borna Zidarić Croatia
 22-year-old Lana lives alone in an apartment in Zagreb. One day, an allegedly unknown man broke in. After a police insight, Lana remains living in an apartment with a broken front door and in anticipation of her father's arrival.

HUNGER

Short Carlos Meléndez Mexico
 A child is tormented by a voracious well demanding food. But as he proves unable to satisfy its hunger, he must to find another way of feeding it.

IN DARKNESS

Short Reza Saied Iran
 A little girl wakes up to her father's aggressive voice and feels that her father is arguing with her mother.

NOAPTE

People of Color, College Student Short COCUS Gabriel France
 Charlie, a young student, arrives in a castle somewhere in England to visit his girlfriend's adopted family. The weekend will not go as planned.

PATIENT JUSTICE

Short Lesa Wolfe Cromwell US
 Buried by medical debt, a terminal breast cancer patient becomes an assassin to provide for her sons and to provide justice to those forgotten by the courts.

MASQUERADE

Short Jason Pitts US
 International superstar Sylvia Darnell invites a blind date to her home for dinner. It is quickly apparent that neither Sylvia or her date are who they presented themselves to be.

7:35 PM ALUM SHORT BLOCK

9:30 PM THRILLER SHORT BLOCK

COMMANDRY ROOM

11 AM WESTERN BLOCK

BLOODLINES

Short *Charlie Brady* *US*
Two former friends reunite after 20 years apart to uncover secrets of the past that forced them apart.

WARREN'S GOLD

Short *Nick Swezey* *US*
After his family gold is stolen, young cowboy Warren must decide how far to take his revenge.

BIG IRON

College Student Short *Arik Hess* *US*
This short film is inspired by the classic Marty Robbins song, "Big Iron."

HEART OF THE GUN

Narrative Feature *Travis Mills* *US*
Travers, a doctor who deserted his military post, searches the frontier for the wife who left him. He saves Sarah, a woman left for dead after a wagon raid. With the cavalry, the law and deranged outlaws on their trail, Sarah and Travers set off together to find this missing woman.

1:45 PM DOC

FIRST RIVER: HOW ARKANSAS SAVED A NATIONAL TREASURE

Documentary Feature *Michelle West* *US*
In the early 1960's, Arkansas' pristine natural attraction, the Buffalo River was to be dammed. Homegrown conservationists not only saved the river from damming, but also helped it gain permanent protection as America's first National River.

3:20 PM REGIONAL LBGQTQ+

O FAMILY

College Student Short *CJ Mirch* *US*
Jill comes home for Christmas planning to come out as an Aromatic Asexual.

KIND EYES

College Student Short *Casey L Floyd* *US*
Seeking romance on a dating app date and believing he's finally found it, Cody looks up to see his promising date turn into something else entirely.

JUST BENJAMIN

College Student Documentary Short *Paige Murphy* *US*
Since coming out as transgender in his 20s, Benjamin Davis has found acceptance in unexpected places, both in the military and with his traditional, small-town Arkansan father. He plans a move to a place where he hopes he can be safe and free, where he can be "just Benjamin."

ALL THAT REMAINS

Narrative Feature *Dylan Treadwell* *US*
In a world ravaged by inhuman predators, an isolated teenage girl struggles to cope with the grief of losing her family by befriending a storytelling radio operator.

6:20 pm

4:25 PM FEATURES

BRING HER HOME

Indigenous/Documentary *Leya Hale* *Dakota/Diné*
Three Indigenous women – an artist, an activist and a politician – fight to vindicate and honor their missing and murdered relatives.

7:35 pm

BLURRING THE COLOR LINE

POC/Documentary *Crystal Lee Kwok* *US*
Digging into her grandmother's experience of growing up Chinese in Augusta, Georgia's Black neighborhood during Jim Crow, Kwok exposes uncomfortable truths behind today's Afro-Asian tensions.

COMMANDRY ROOM

A FEAST THAT NEVER COMES

Music Video Maria Juranic US
 A story emerges—told through the marriage of music and dance.

BEAUTIFUL

Music Video Tex Parsley, Tony Ward US
 A song that describes God's love for us and how He sees us versus how we see ourselves at times.

JAMES WORLD - DONE

Music Video Michael Buckius US
 An experimental music video for the song "Done" by James World. It is comprised of approximately 800 digital black and white photos.

FREEWORLD - D-UP (HERE'S TO DIVERSITY)

Music Video Richard Cushing US
 Richard Cushing, leader of the Memphis-based musical ensemble, FreeWorld re-records their song, "D-Up (Here's to Diversity)".

I AM THE CANDIDATE

Music Video George Ohan, Joseph Eual Messer US
 Political Satire

I'M A GHOST

Music Video Lyndon Ives United Kingdom
 A young woman goes on the rampage against noisy delinquents, until the full force of the law hampers her mission.

JOHN CHANTEUSE - NO PAIN

Music Video Michael Buckius US
 "No Pain" by John Chanteuse. It is about monotony, depression, and the power of friendship.

LAY WASTE CHILD

Music Video Aaron Guadamuz US
 The disruption of nature in search of trophies, mistreatment and disregard for the living, and the sacred entity of nature and those who protect it being trampled by towering industry, told through the music of Helms Alee.

NOT QUITE QUARANTINE

POC/College Student Short Julian Lee US
 While the rest of the world moves on in 2021, Julian is scared of emerging, mid-pandemic. Stuck in at home for too long, he starts spitting bars.

OUR LAST NIGHT

Music Video Brenna Sawney US
 The last night she spent on a love doomed from the start.

OUTTA HERE: ESCAPE THE SIMULATION

Music Video Danielle Ellesse Smith Avitiuh
 A young woman realizes she may be stuck in a simulation. She's not quite sure how to get out but is determined to find a way.

GIVIN' A DAMN (DON'T GO WITH MY OUTFIT)

Music Video Sharpe Dunaway Videography US
 Music video for country artist Pamela Hopkins.

POR LA CARRETERA

Music Video Los Glosters, Henry Dasca Bravo Spain
 Henry Dasca tastefully mixes the animated video made by 'Digital Gordon' on Mexican soil, with the direct recording by 'La Produktiva Films' of the song "Por La Carretera" by Los Glosters.

2022 FSIFF

BEST FILM OVERALL

OVERALL HIGH SCHOOL FILMS

1st Place
2nd Place
Runner Up

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL FILMS

1st Place
2nd Place
Runner up

BEST INTERNATIONAL FILM

BEST SHORT FILM

BEST PEOPLE OF COLOR FILM

BEST INDIGENOUS FILM

BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE

BEST ANIMATION

BEST MUSIC VIDEO

BEST ALUM FILM

Trophies for the Fort Smith International Film Festival were created locally by 3-D printer Fab Lab Fort Smith. The original, "reel" award below, and the 2022 "Gwen," at right, from poster art by Bryan Alexis. The Champ Williams Award is a unique Arkansas snapping turtle also created by Fab Lab.



AWARDS

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

The Champ Williams Award

SHORT FILMS

BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

BEST COLLEGE LOCAL FILM

Sponsored by Clay and Susan Pruitt

BEST REGIONAL FILM

5 Star Studio Time

BEST LOCAL FILM

Arklahoma Grown

BEST COMEDY FILM

BEST ACTION FILM

BEST EXPERIMENTAL FILM

BEST DRAMA FILM

BEST THRILLER FILM

BEST LGBTQ+ FILM

BEST WESTERN FILM

BEST SCI-FI FILM



MUSIC VIDEO BLOCK

COMMANDRY ROOM

POWER PALADIN - CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

Music Video Lauren Ambry, Ella McShortall, Olivia Tang *Australia*
 Official music video for Icelandic power-metal band, Power Paladin.

P&H MADNESS

Short Robert Rowan *US*
 Director gives thanks for Brandon McAninch for letting him film his hilariously maniacal intro rant, P & H for always letting him shoot there and to all the beautiful people who frequent the best bar in Memphis.

RISING IN A SPIRAL

College Student Short Débora Mendes, Elmano Diogo *Portugal*
 A journey that makes us question what is happening to our planet and what we can still do for it.

SKOOL YAH

Music Video J. Gino Cyrus *US*
 A short film about exploitation in the music industry shot in Atlanta, GA

THE BIG BALLOON TO THE MOON

Music Video Anders Jan Sundstedt *United Kingdom*
 Official animated music video created by Anders Sundstedt, an award-winning independent animated music video director, animator and illustrator. It appears on the upcoming Karl Baudoin album.

THE DREAMS WE HAD INDIGENOUS

Music Video Christina Giacona, Patrick Conlon *US*
 The fifth movement from the 41-minute post-classical visual album *Cube of Light* by Christina Giacona and Patrick Conlon. Choreographer and Principal Dancer Maggie Boyett is exploring her personal ideas around the concept of home. Filmed on location in Norman, Okla.

TIED UP IN SONG

Music Video Jose Antonio Fernandez *Canada*
 Son Roberts fights off his personal demons as he visits his long abandoned family home.

WALK WITH US

Hannah Westbrook, Kym Franklin, Willa Moore, Darren Crisp *US*
 Music video combines contemporary dance; music--Americana/ Folk protest tradition plus Gospel chorus traditional call and response; and performance poetry. The Song: ""Walk With Us"" is a protest prayer, cry of grief, and call to action written after the terrible murder of George Floyd and after seeing videos of protestors in Lexington, KY.

DIGNITY & PRIDE

Experimental Byron Burkes, Halo *US*
 Dignity & Pride explores the gestural languages that were born in African American communities during the 1960s and 1970s.

FILMMAKER PANELS

CONFERENCE ROOM

- 1 pm Local
- 2 pm Western
- 3 pm Experimental / Comedy
- 4 pm Short Documentary & Others
- 5 pm LGBTQ+ / Animation

MAIN STAGE

TAKING REVENGE

High School Student Short *Gordon Lou* *US*
 A girl mistreats her furniture, so the furniture plans a revenge.

HARMONY WITH UPSTAIRS

High School Student Short *Sunmin Yang* *Korea*
 Hye-won, who lives in a dormitory, feels tired of living with her friends from morning to night without personal time. A child's singing upstairs brings her unexpected comfort.

THE INTERROGATION

High School Student Short *Carter Stoudt, Bryce Solly* *US*
 An homage to film noir.

CHANGE FOR THE FUTURE

High School Documentary *Ti-Yin Wang* *Taiwan*
 Personal story of a 16-year-old Taiwanese foreign exchange student who moves to Oregon to start an adventure and challenging journey.

LAKESIDE LOVES LIAM

Doc, Short *Adrian Oseguera, Chase Campbell, Liam Phillips* *US*
 A biographical documentary of Llam Phillips, a young man in an Arkansas high school who exemplifies kindness.

SEESAW

High School Student Short *Ananya Mangesh Dupare* *India*
 A fictional account of a child working relentlessly to support his family with lost hope, who represents millions of others like him, and how one activist liberated thousands of these children and brought them into the light.

THEY CALL ME AUNTIE

High School Documentary Short *Madeline Slaton* *US*
 Documentary about a long-time caregiver to the children of teachers.

RUBY

High School Student Short *Gwendoline Laurent* *France*
 Ruby wakes up in a place unknown to her. She hums a rhyme but doesn't remember where she learned it. This rhyme is also hummed by a stranger, whom Ruby's instinct tells her is the key to understanding where she is.

S.K.R.

High School Student Doc *Carter Stoudt* *US*
 15-year-old director Carter Stoudt and writers/actors Leila Rhodes and Bryce Solly bring their new filmmaking vision to 'Scare. Kill. Revenge' an homage to 80's horror/slasher flicks.

A CHAT WITH TONY C

High School Student Doc *Gabe A. Hobbs* *US*
 The director's interview of a friend.

- 6 pm Music Video
- 7 pm People of Color
- 8 pm Thriller
- 9 pm Indigenous
- 10 pm Alum

MAIN STAGE

11:30 AM DRAMA

IL VESPISTA

Short *Francesco Crivaro* *Estonia*
An undisciplined Italian writer living in Bali has his life changed when he receives a very unusual gift.

JOIN ME

College Student Short *Anais Nativel (Beziers IT)* *France*
During a Napoleonic war, a young recruit discovers that his comrade is planning to desert to join his beloved.

PROM NIGHT

College Student Short *Carolyn Harvey* *US*
A high school girl gets ready for prom, but discovers something is off about her friend and mother.

THE CATCHER

Short *Karyn Langhorne Folan* *US*
A cinematic youth to youth mirror showing how young people view homelessness and their peers. Daphne learns a hard lesson about judging a book by it's cover while Zoey and Sabrina realize they are both 'catching.'

VLADA GOES TO LONDON

College Student Short *Arti Savchenko* *Israel*
Vlada is a pizza delivery girl who lives in Haifa and dreams of becoming a famous DJ. Within a five-hour shift, we get a glimpse into her world full of pressure where she's willing to do whatever it takes to find the money for a flight to perform at a festival in London.

RESILIENCE

Short *Jerod Wood* *US*
James finds it impossible to trust anyone after two different families choose themselves over him, leaving him abandoned to the system.

THE BLIND DATE

Short *Mihir Dhirajjal Upadhyay* *India*
The Blind Date is a story of how blindness sometimes bares the soul. Raghav and Najma, lovers of diametrically opposite faith, have a relationship that speaks volumes of their love and connection with each other. A heartwarming story of love and sacrifice, through the eyes of blindness.

1:20 PM EXPERIMENTAL

FLOOR 14 REPRIEVE

Short *Chuck Price* *US*
Documenting the fight of a cancer patient who for a brief time found relief in an unlikely caregiver.

PAINTING OF GOD

Short *Adel Khodakarami* *Iran*
The sweeper sweeps a street covered with autumn leaves. A boy on a bicycle approaches him with a wise question.

TRIANGLE

College Student Short *Péter Engelmann* *UK*
A sci-fi pseudo-docu drama explores the dark realms of the human mind. Three strangers – based on a 1997 psychological experiment on the bonds of friendship – are about to become friends for life.

COMEDY

FRIENDLY FACES

Short *Robert Rowan* *US*
The bestest friends that ever were spend a day together.

MAIN STAGE

MR ZJEMCIEPIES

College Student Short *Hubert Górski* *Poland*
Life carries on peacefully and almost serenely, until a certain evening when on the door of a young couple named Brez knocks Mr Zjemciepies.

VALERA

Short *Olga Artushevska* *Ukraine*
One morning Valera wakes up as a people's hero, but the problem is that he can't remember anything.

WICKED PLANS

Short *Lee Chambers* *Canada*
Style Dayne, the Pizza Guy from Deadpool, stars as a foreign extremist who accidentally chooses Halloween to enact a moment of terror. To his surprise, he discovers that North American life and culture is truly sweet.

YESTERYEAR

Short *Joshua M Thomas* *US*
Danger? Fun! When a pair of geriatric siblings open a new amusement park, parents are scared to death and kids love it.

AMBULANCE

Short *Lylah D'Souza* *Australia*
A woman recalls the ordinary events of a day forever bookmarked in time by the premature death of her brother. The day turns to tragedy when the ambulance he calls for is stuck in traffic.

BABY ON BOARD

Short *Kristy Cornell* *Australia*
A goofy, well-intentioned husband is with his pregnant wife when suddenly, the baby is coming! The pair go on a speedy car race, flying and screeching around the streets until a traffic jam has them skidding to a halt.

BODIES THAT FIGHT

Short *Catalina Ibañez* *Chile*
The meeting of the ideal with reality, embodied in the woman's body.

BROTHERS

Animation Short *Louis Roba* *Belgium*
Two monkeys engage in a playful struggle across the heart of the jungle, until an unexpected event shows the strength of their brotherly bond.

CRIME DOESN'T PAY

Short *David Malcolm Rose* *US*
Stop motion animation. The further adventures of Kung-Fu Cat. Done in the spirit of the Mack Sennett era and to be viewed the in the same.

DANDEDOG

Short *Elmano Diogo* *Portugal*
After his best friend's death, Solomon leaves on an introspective trip, searching for an answer to erase his sadness and fill the void in his chest.

JEFE

Short *Byron Miller* *Australia*
Jayden and friends meet an outlaw weed farmer in Humboldt County. They go to work on an illegal weed farm, buried deep in the redwood forest. Armed, Jayden is made overseer of the migrant workers, who call him 'Jefe' – Boss.

LET US SPRAY

Short *David Malcolm Rose* *US*
Stop motion cartoon in the spirit of the Mack Sennett era.

1:20 PM COMEDY

3:05 PM ANIMATION

MAIN STAGE

LONGHOUSE

Animation/Indigenous Erik Sanchez *Chinook*
The spirit is awakened as a Chinookan longhouse becomes the vehicle for spiritual healing.

LOTUS

Short Gwyneth Jones *Australia*
A girl at a party is taken advantage of by a demon after being handed a spiked drink. She must rise against the demon that haunts her, to regain her dignity.

MANJADIKAALAM

People of Color Padmasree Murali *India*
A journey of a girl back to her childhood memories, when she used to collect "Manjadi", the red seeds. She carried happy seeds of memory with her but kept unpleasant ones concealed in old glass jars.

ONE THOUSAND EYES

Short Nina Blasche *Australia*
In a psychological landscape created by the eager eyes of men, womankind stares back. Behind every corner, in every window and hidden in the moonlit suburban streets – the male gaze is ever present.

ONLY WITH YOU

Short Raz Merhav *Israel*
After failing to find his place in the company of children, Meiri chooses to lock himself in with Yossi, his beloved parrot, in his cage.

PUBERTY

Short Jiabao Peng *China*
A Chinese teenager confronts her friend in class, which leads to a self-discovery of her sexuality.

RED EARTH

Short Michael Kenny *Australia*
A monster born from the climate crisis rains down the fires of hell upon an innocent wallaby. This film was created before the Australian Bushfire Crisis.

RUN

Animation Short Thomas Hutchison *Australia*
When Max steals a miracle cure hidden from the world by a corrupt corporation, the CEO employs increasingly drastic and dangerous measures to hunt them down.

SHAKESPEARE FOR ALL AGES

Animation Short Hannes Rall *Germany*
Filmmaker and artist Hannes Rall succeeds in depicting the Bard's most famous plays in a coherent Shakespeare homage in about 3 minutes.

SILVER

College Student Short Haley Stemmons *US*
A short film exploring how it feels when you argue with someone you love.

STAR THIEF

Short Julia Stella *Australia*
A giant fish eats the stars and knocks the Moon out of the sky when it tries to eat her too. Before the stars are all gone, the Moon must do whatever she can to retrieve them.

TATT

Short Ekaterina Ulyanova *Russian Federation*
The story of a mysterious monster-thief who stole the forester's pants.

MAIN STAGE

THE AUTHOR

College Student Short Luiz Máximo *Brazil*

A middle-aged writer lives alone and can't settle down doing what he loves. With the rope around his neck, about to jump off a chair, he looks around his house and sees "magical" objects that remind him of his past and passions.

THE MEETUP

Short Donna W. Guthrie *US*

Typical boy meet girl story with the help of his best friend, his dog.

THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA

Short Eylül Yarkin *Turkey*

An old fisherman who has not caught a fish for 84 days takes his skiff far out into the Gulf Stream, where he hooks a giant marlin.

THE STATUE (PEYKAREH)

Short Mohsen Salehi Fard *Iran*

The sculptor struggles to create a new sculpture. The sculpture loses its freedom when it takes shape.

WONDERFULLY MADE

Short Joseph Hoh *Australia*

A lonely child is taken on a visionary tour of all creation where he is transported to the most beautiful places in all the universe.

FLAWLESS

College Student Short Anaïs Lonkeu *France*

When you're black, you have to work twice as hard as the others, or you will disappear. Laura watches her favorite tv host disappear. Will she vanish as well if she gets bad grades at school?

YOU DID GOOD

Short Lance Smith *US*

A local EMT finds himself in the back of an ambulance and realizes that even though he saved many, he was unable to save himself.

BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

Documentary Short Jax *US*

Friends from NYC's South Asian diaspora form Junoon Performing Arts, to build community by merging their love of Bollywood with their passion for contemporary dance.

CLOTHED MINDS

Documentary Short Carletta S. Hurt *US*

Focus on the effects that school dress code policies have on Black girls in Washington DC public and charter schools.

STUCK

Short Praheme *US*

A romantic comedy follows two strangers who become physically wedged in the act of a "one-night stand." Their only path to separation is to be vulnerable and share a secret with one another.

LOST IN THE SAUCE: THE KALVIN HENDERSON STORY

Documentary Short Bernard L. Oliver *US*

A true, unfiltered look into the struggles and triumphs of championship prize fighter, Calvin Henderson. Nothing is off limits; his coach, his team and all the things you never knew you didn't know about a boxer's journey.

MAIN STAGE

7 PM INDIGENOUS

CHRIS

Indigenous/Short Ryker Sixkiller Cherokee Nation
 After his family's abduction, Chris does whatever he can to get them back.

THE OLD MAN NEXT DOOR

Indigenous Aidan Otene Dickens New Zealand
 Matiu, a veteran who struggles with PTSD and agoraphobia, looks over his mentally fragile neighbor, student Yvonne. When she stops taking her medication. Matiu must find the strength to leave his house and save her.

RESERVATION DEBUTANTE

Indigenous Jay Benham Kiowa
 A short video of a painting of the same name, depicting a girl's preparation to be in a parade celebrating a Native American festival.

PEACE PIPELINE

Indigenous Gitz Crazyboy, Tito Ybarra Canada
 Comedian/activists pose as an indigenous energy company sharing plans to reroute a pipeline through the wealthy white suburbs of Duluth, MN, to more fairly share the risks oil pipelines bring to indigenous lands.

8:10 PM DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

FOREST FLAVORS

Documentary Short Rachel Priebe US
 A glimpse into the life of "wild food alchemist" Pascal Baudar and his mission to change the way we look at invasive plants.

GET OFF THE BUS

Documentary Short Robert Rowan US
 A view into the world of a Memphis Bus Rider Union organizer as she fights to save a dying bus route.

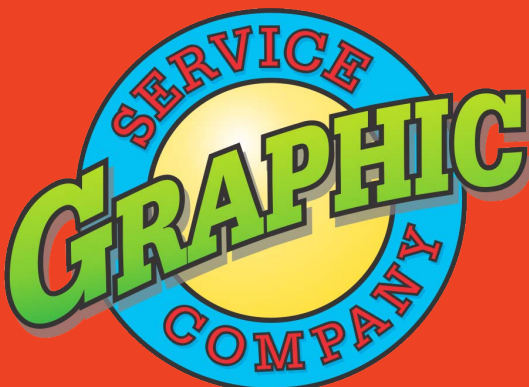
SAM WANG: CENTRIPETAL PERSISTENCE

Documentary Short John Rash US
 Follow pioneering Chinese-American photographer Sam Wang from his birthplace in Beijing, China to Clemson, South Carolina on a journey of shifting cultural identity and constant visual creation. His mastery has inspired four decades of photographers in the US and China.

THE CLAY

Documentary Short Seyithan Kartal Turkey
 Pottery master Osman Mentis preserves traditional Turkish pottery arts.

Thank you
 FRANCISCO BAUTISTA
 for sponsoring the pipe & drape
 and making us a red carpet event.



MAIN STAGE

DELVILLE WOOD

People of Color/College Student Short

Izette Blignaut, Connor Weidemann, Mitchell Weidemann South Africa

Following a brutal artillery barrage in 1916, the South African Army is forced into a tactical retreat. Through the chaos, a nurse, a soldier and an unarmed stretcher bearer have to work as a team in order to survive the night and reach the safety of the reserve trench line.

SAME NIGHT DIFFERENT BLUE

Short Nuri Cihan Ozdogan Turkey

In the present, an old antiquarian owns a stamp from a letter sent to Turkey during World War II. Kadir is after the stamp that is worth millions. During the same night when different stories intersect, this precious stamp will end up in the hands of the one who treats it with the dignity it deserves.

L.I.F.E., EPISODE 1: SONG SUNG BLUE

Short Dathan Smith US

Anthology series set in the near future where citizens receive a card stating their date of death. Singer/Songwriter Frank Gutherie is happy, until he receives a LIFE card. Now hiding his time stamp, can Frank tie up his loose ends without hurting everyone he knows and loves?

THE BALLERINA

Short Shan Li Georgia

A ballerina who loses herself discovers her love for dance while changing her dance memory.

YOUNG LIARS

Short Adam Christy US

Aspiring journalist Avery Stone is invited by his old flame Madison Jones to experience 'the story of a lifetime'. Madison reveals that she and co-worker Nevada have stolen a prototype of an experimental psychic machine dubbed "The Mind Bridge" from their workplace, so that all three of them can test it out for themselves.

Gwen West is the live model for our 2022 Fort Smith International Film Festival poster, who is also illustrated by artist Bryan Alexis and depicted on our award trophies.



9:15 PM ACTION/SCI FI

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