



SEDONA

International
Film Festival

30th

ANNIVERSARY

February 24-March 3, 2024

FILM SYNOPSES AND SCHEDULE



Henry Mancini's 100th Birthday Celebration

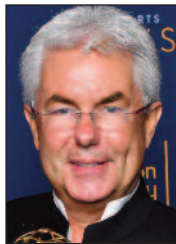
Get ready for a dazzling celebration at the Sedona International Film Festival as we honor the 100th birthday of the legendary, multi-Academy Award-winning composer extraordinaire, Henry Mancini!

Here to help us celebrate Mancini's music in the movies are his multi-Grammy-nominated daughter — singer Monica Mancini — and eight-time Grammy and Emmy-winning producer, musician, and author, Gregg Field.

This special multi-media show will include musical performances by Ms. Mancini of many of her father's Academy Award-winning songs from films including, "Moon River", "Days of Wine and Roses", and "Victoria, Victoria"; accompanied by the 2019 Grammy Award-winning, and Henry Mancini session pianist, Randy Waldman.



Monica Mancini



Gregg Field

Ms. Mancini will share intimate and captivating stories of growing up and working with the Hollywood icon and the special evening will also include exclusive clips from many of Mancini's classic films.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime celebration of Henry Mancini's centennial birthday!

Sun, Feb 25 | 7pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:45

Sponsored by Lydia Delventhal



Lucie Arnaz LIVE! I Got the Job! Songs from My Musical Past

Lucie Arnaz began her long show business career in a recurring role on The Lucy Show opposite her mother, Lucille Ball. She starred in her own television series (The Lucie Arnaz Show), co-starred in the 1980 film "The Jazz Singer" and appeared in several made-for-television movies. Her Broadway credits include *They're Playing Our Song*, *Lost in Yonkers* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and among her numerous accolades are a Golden Globe nomination, a Theatre World Award, and Chicago's famed Sarah Siddons Award.

"I Got the Job! Songs from My Musical Past" celebrates a life on stage. Arnaz offers anecdotes and fond memories about her costars, directors, and musical collaborators in between iconic songs and hidden treasures from some of Broadway's greatest shows and a look at the backstage magic it takes to create them.

Sat, Mar 2 | 7pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:30

Sponsored In Loving Memory of Laurel Boardman



FREE LIVE CONCERT: The Watters

Join us for a **FREE concert** to celebrate 30 years of the Sedona International Film Festival! This is our way of thanking all of YOU — our supporters, audience members and sponsors — and the entire Sedona community for supporting us for three decades!

Sedona natives Daniel and Jenna Watters will be returning from Austin, TX with their band "The Watters" to perform this **FREE** closing night concert as the finale to the 30th Anniversary Festival!



The Watters

The Watters are a seven-piece "Americana/Soul" band that is reminiscent of Chicago, Fleetwood Mac, and Tedeschi Trucks Band. This will be The Watters first return to Sedona with the full band since 2018 with the band on the brink of releasing their fifth album "Duality." Though the new album will be officially released to the public on April 11, attendees of this concert event will have exclusive access to hear new songs at the performance.

Daniel and Jenna have been performing together since 2005 when they first sang together at the Sedona Cultural Park for their graduation from Sedona Red Rock High School. They performed all around Northern Arizona as The Oak Creek Band from 2009-2014 and became The Watters in 2015 when they moved to Austin. Since then, they have become one of Austin's staple bands and won grand prize in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest in 2021 for their song "Deja Vu."

Get your **FREE TICKETS** to this extraordinary concert event today! Available on a first-come, first-served basis. And be ready to **CELEBRATE** three decades of the Sedona International Film Festival and our community!

Sun, Mar 3 | 7pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 2:00

Sponsored by Susan Valletta and Eddie Washkin, Jr. and Sheri Young



7000 Miles

USA | 2022 | 82 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Amy Glazer

Producers: Jen Prince, Jhennifer Webberley, Alixandra Dove Rothschild, Amy Glazer, Deborah Glazier

Writer: Colette Freedman

Cast: Wendie Malick, Alixandra Dove, Juliet Mills, Maxwell Caulfield, Laird Akeo, Ray Abruzzo, Lori Pelenise Tuisano

When Jo, a young pilot, returns to Molokai, Hawaii in 1977 for her grandfather's funeral, she discovers that her grandmother's quickly encroaching short-term memory loss reveals some long-hidden secrets.

She's determined to discover if her grandmother is an infamous aviatrix, why she's hidden on this island for so long, and if the truth will change her career and fortune.

With special guests:
Wendie Malick, Juliet Mills, Maxwell Caulfield, Ray Abruzzo, Alixandra Dove, Amy Glazer and more!



Wendie Malick

Sat, Feb 24 | 4pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:22

Sponsored by Patrice Currivan



After Work

Sweden, Norway, Italy | 2023 | 80 min
Documentary Feature

Director: Erik Gandini

Producer: Jesper Kurlandsky

What does a future without work and its central role in shaping our lives and identities look like? As human jobs are increasingly assumed by automation and AI, will universal guaranteed income and unlimited leisure replace employment? The majority of jobs that exists today will disappear within a few decades. As technology surpasses human capacity, we have the opportunity to rethink the role of work in our lives. Are we ready for an excess of time? For a work-free existence?

Sweeping across four continents, the film describes widely different lives where some barely spend any time outside of work while others bathe in leisure. Through these stories and characters we are thrown into the existential tension between that which is and that which could be.

Preceded by:



Bread Bike

USA | 2023 | 19 min • Documentary Short

Directors/Producers: Beth Gage, George Gage

Writer: Beth Gage

"Bread Bike" is Sam, Matt and Mariah — three young people who weren't satisfied with what they studied in college. Instead they were following their passion, baking bread and making friends. Then they found each other. Now with their philosophy that "everyone loves good food", they've created a unique way to create friendship, fun and community.

Wed, Feb 28 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Fri, Mar 1 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:39

Sponsored by Stephen and Patricia Holst



Aliens Abducted My Parents and Now I Feel Kinda Left Out

USA | 2023 | 87 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Jake Van Wagoner

Producers: Jake Van Wagoner, Micah Merrill, Maclain Nelson, Austin Everett, Jeremy Prusso

Writer: Austin Everett

Cast: Emma Tremblay, Jacob Buster, Will Forte, Elizabeth Mitchell, Kenneth Cummins, Matt Biedel

Itsy Levan is devastated by her parents' decision to leave the city and buy a fixer-upper in the middle of nowhere. Her life seems over until she meets her space-obsessed neighbor Calvin Kipler. Calvin has spent most of his life awaiting the next arrival of Jesper's Comet — partly because of his obsession with Astronomy, but mostly because the last time it came, ALIENS ABDUCTED HIS PARENTS!

This year he is going to be ready for its return so he can finally get them back. Itsy sees this as a chance to help her get into a NYC journalism program and decides to help him, however crazy his plan seems. They end up discovering much more than what is on the other end of the comet's tail.

Mon, Feb 26 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Sun, Mar 3 | 10:10am

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:27

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



All Your Faces

France | 2023 | 118 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Jeanne Herry

Producers: Alain Attal, Hugo Sélinac

Cast: Dali Bensalah, Leïla Bekhti, Elodie Bouchez, Suliane Brahim, Jean-Pierre Darroussin

Since 2014, in France, Restorative Justice has been offering victims and offenders the opportunity to engage in dialogues within secure environments, guided by professionals and volunteers such as Judith, Fanny, and Michel.

Nassim, Issa, and Thomas, who have been convicted of violent thefts, along with Grégoire, Nawelle, and Sabine, who have been victims of home invasions, armed robberies, and snatch-and-grab thefts, as well as Chloé, a victim of incestuous rape, all choose to participate in Restorative Justice programs.

Along their journeys, they experience anger and hope, moments of silence and spoken words, the formation of alliances and the pain of ruptures, moments of self-awareness, and the recovery of trust. And at the end of the road, sometimes, there is the possibility of healing.

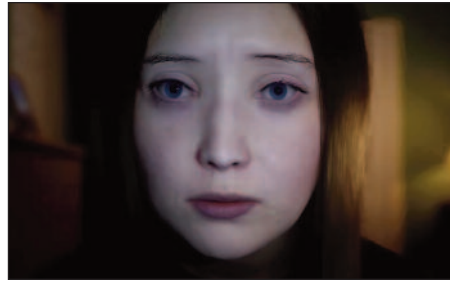
Sun, Feb 25 | 7pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Sun, Mar 3 | 10am

Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:58



Another Body

USA | 2023 | 80 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Sophie Compton, Reuben Hamlyn

Producers: Sophie Compton, Reuben Hamlyn, Elizabeth Woodward

Writers: Sophie Compton, Isabel Freeman, Reuben Hamlyn

"Another Body" follows a college student's search for answers and justice after she discovers deepfake pornography of herself circulating online.

Preceded by:



My Blonde GF

United Kingdom | 2023 | 19 min
Documentary Short

Director: Rosie Morris

Producers: Rebecca Mark-Lawson, Daria Nitsche, Clair Maleney

Cast: Helen Mort

Helen discovers that deepfake images of her in sexually explicit and violent scenarios have been uploaded onto a porn site and goes on a journey to understand what has happened to her. In November 2020, an acquaintance knocked on Helen's door to tell her he had seen explicit photos of her on a porn site.

Sun, Feb 25 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Tue, Feb 27 | 4pm

Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:39



Between the Rains

USA, Kenya | 2023 | 81 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Andrew H. Brown, Moses Thurania

Producers: Andrew H. Brown, Samuel Ekomol, Isaac Gem, Moses Thurania

During a period of record low rainfall in northern Kenya, the Turkana tribe faces growing violent clashes with rival tribes and encroaching wild predators hunting their livestock. Kolei, a sensitive shepherd boy questions not only his path as a warrior, but also the erosion to the culture that has shaped every aspect of his life. With unprecedented and intimate access to the Turkana people, this moving coming-of-age story reveals the grave threats facing one of the world's oldest cultures.

Preceded by:



Almost Ancestors

USA | 2022 | 14 min • Documentary Short

Director/Writer: Brišind

Producer: Georgina Lightning

Cast: Sheila Hollow Horn

The short tells the story of a young Hopi woman facing displacement in a changing landscape, threatening her connection to the land and her family. However, her kinship with a Lobo and her call toward community guide her on an incredible journey to a sacred place called "home." The film tells the story of her journey, the displacement of Tribal people and Lobos, and the parallels between the two.

Sat, Feb 24 | 1pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Mon, Feb 26 | 4:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:35

Sponsored by:





Call Me Dancer

USA | 2023 | 84 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Leslie Shampaine, Pip Gilmour
Producers: Cynthia Kane, Priya Ramasubban, Leslie Shampaine
Writers: Jennifer Beman, Pip Gilmour, Leslie Shampaine

Manish is an athletic street dancer from Mumbai, whose working-class parents depend on their only son's support. When he accidentally walks into an inner-city dance school and encounters a curmudgeonly 70-year-old Israeli ballet master, a hunger develops within him. Ambitious and passionate, Manish is determined to make it as a professional dancer, but the odds are stacked against him. "Call Me Dancer" will take you on a magical journey from the streets of Mumbai to the stages of New York. It is a story of perseverance, rebellion, passion, family, culture, and an unlikely friendship. "Call Me Dancer" will make you want to jump up from your seat and, yes, dance!

Preceded by:



Note of Defiance

United Kingdom | 2023 | 15 min • Documentary Short

Director: Brian Henderson
Producers: Brian Henderson, Dan Borrelli, Holly Adams, Meredith Rodriguez
Writers: Brian Henderson, Dan Borrelli

Filmed in early 2023 on the Ukrainian-Russian border, this short documentary explores two artists' use of their creativity and art as a means of cultural survival and defiance. In Kharkiv, Ukraine; attacks on civilian centres have forced cultural sites to close. The Kharkiv State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre is one of the biggest cultural sites in the city forced to close due to these attacks. Two inspiring artists move continue to provide concerts and lessons anywhere they can; from parking garages to bomb shelters.

Wed, Feb 28 | 7pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Fri, Mar 1 | 1:10pm
Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:39

Sponsored by Lydia Delventhal



Chicago LIVE 2024

USA | 2024 | 120 min • Concert Film

Director: Peter Curtis Pardini
Producer: Chicago

Beginning with "Introduction" — the first song from their film album — "Chicago Live 2024" takes you on a journey through the rock band with horns' nearly six-decade musical catalogue. Featuring two hours of their greatest hits, including "Saturday in the Park", "You're the Inspiration", "Call on Me", "25 or 6 to 4" and many, many more). This concert film is a rock lover's dream!

Chicago's lead trumpet player — and founding member — Lee Loughnane (who lives in Sedona) will join Peter Curtis Pardini, the film's director, to present the concert film and host a post-film Q&A.



Lee Loughnane

Mon, Feb 26 | 7pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 2:00

Sponsored by Lydia Delventhal



The Business of Pleasure

Macedonia | 2023 | 97 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Goce Cvetanovski
Producers: Bogdan Jonchevski, Driton Ramadani, Goce Cvetanovski
Cast: Musa Isufi, Slogana Vujosevik, Ismail Kasumi

After losing her best friend as a victim of human trafficking, a journalist works obsessively on her goal to dismantle the sex slavery network. But as her accomplices draw closer to the boss, the situation spirals out of control.

Mon, Feb 26 | 10:10am
Mary D. Fisher

Sat, Mar 2 | 4pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:37



Coldwater Kitchen

USA | 2022 | 90 min • Documentary Feature

Directors/Writers: Brian Kaufman, Mark Kurlyandchik
Producers: Nicole Avery, Steve Byrne, Kathy Kieliszewski

Inside a Michigan prison, a dedicated chef's gourmet culinary training program gives incarcerated men new skills — and new hope. For 30 years, soft-spoken chef Jimmy Lee Hill has run a highly regarded culinary training program out of a prison in Coldwater, Mich., offering incarcerated men a renewed sense of purpose through the craft of fine dining — everything from foie gras to lobster.

"Coldwater Kitchen" follows Chef Hill and three of his students — one facing a life sentence, another battling an opioid addiction, and a third returning to the city where he once dealt drugs — as they navigate the woes of incarceration and the difficulties of transitioning back into society.

Preceded by:



Trace Evidence

USA | 2023 | 25 min • Documentary Short

Director: David Hutchinson

A bullet-proof alibi and unshakeable evidence collide in this tightly-wound true crime thriller. When the criminologist's report landed on his attorney's desk, even Lukis Anderson thought he might be guilty. Lukis' DNA had appeared under the fingernails of a local businessman who had been killed at home in the nearby town of Monte Sereno. Unhoused and plagued by memory issues after being hit by a truck, Lukis didn't stand a chance in court — until his attorney found a medical record stating that he been in a hospital, 30 minutes away, when the crime was committed.

Sat, Feb 24 | 7pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Tue, Feb 27 | 4:10pm
Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:55

Sponsored by Stephen and Patricia Holst



Confessions of a Good Samaritan

USA | 2023 | 104 min • Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Penny Lane
Producer: Gabriel Sedgwick

Director Penny Lane's decision to become a "Good Samaritan" by giving one of her kidneys to a complete stranger turns into a funny and moving personal quest to understand the nature of altruism. The film is a provocative inquiry into the science, history and ethics of organ transplantation, asking an ancient question in a whole new way: Who is your neighbor, and what do you owe them.

Sat, Feb 24 | 10am
 Alice Gill-Sheldon

Mon, Feb 26 | 7pm
 Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:44



The Cowboy and The Queen

USA | 2023 | 85 min • Documentary Feature

Director/Producer: Andrea Nevins
Writers: Andrea Nevins, Graham Clark
Cast: Monty Roberts

When an old-time California rodeo cowboy discovers a way to train horses non-violently, he is rejected by the traditional horse industry, nearly losing his livelihood, until he meets a most unlikely fairy godmother, Queen Elizabeth II. She challenges him to prove his methods, and by winning her endorsement, she catapults him to world-wide fame. Monty Roberts' reflections about why their experiences of World War II as children might have fomented a meeting of the minds at mid-life becomes a rumination on authoritarian norms, as well as on the cumulative effects of small acts of kindness on the greater world.

"The Cowboy and The Queen" is the inspiring, cinematic origin story of a true horse whisperer and his magical, 30-year relationship with the longest reigning monarch.

Preceded by:



Range Rider

USA | 2023 | 30 min • Documentary Short

Director: Colin Arisman

As wolves repopulate Washington State, conflict is heating up with rural ranching communities. Range rider Daniel Curry's job is to patrol wild areas on horseback, creating a buffer between wolves and the cattle herds that graze on public lands. When these wild carnivores are suspected of killing livestock, the consequences for wolf packs can be fatal. As illegal poaching and state sponsored kills take their toll, can Daniel prove that coexistence between ranchers and wolves is possible?

Thu, Feb 29 | 7pm
 Alice Gill-Sheldon

Sat, Mar 2 | 10:10am
 Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:55

Sponsored by:



Dancing Through The Shadow

Canada | 2022 | 114 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Producer: Leif Bristow
Writer: Agnes Bristow
Cast: Kristina Tonteri-Young, Jonathan Kim, Uni Park, Russell Yuen, Mung Ling-Hsui, Brittany Bristow, Marianna Phung, John Ng, Henry Kwok, Crystal Yu

"Dancing Through The Shadow" is a riveting biographical film narrating the true story of Tia, a young ballerina who grew up in Maoist China. Through many twists and turns, we follow her journey of tremendous courage as she descends from a life of privilege to one of destitution and fear.

Her life takes an unexpected turn when she gains acceptance at China's first professional ballet school and goes on to become one of the country's leading experts in traditional Chinese dance.

Despite this success, her life is rarely one of peace. Bound to obey tradition and destined for an arranged marriage, her dreams are shattered when she falls in love with a man her family refuses to accept. More turmoil ensues when Mao's Red Guards attack the school where she lives and works. Shortly after, she is sent to a forced labor camp. Struggling to survive in a quagmire of chaos and fear, she stands strong, refusing to abandon her hope for freedom and love.

Plan to come early for a pre-film performance by Sedona Dance Academy.

Fri, Mar 1 | 7pm
 Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:54

Sponsored by Lydia Delventhal



Denim Hunter

Sweden | 2023 | 88 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Emilio Di Stefano

Producer: Paul Blomgren

"Denim Hunter" is a road movie documentary following a denim hunter on his journey to find the rarest jeans on earth. Viktor Fredbäck is an ordinary guy from Sweden, but with an odd and burning passion for old jeans. After fifteen years of collecting, he has an almost complete timeline of jeans, from the first Levi's jeans from the 1870s to flared pants from the 70s.

Wed, Feb 28 | 4pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Sat, Mar 2 | 10:10am

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:28

Sponsored by Jan Taylor



Driving Madeleine

France, Belgium | 2022 | 91 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Christian Carion

Producers: Christian Carion, Laure Irrmann

Writers: Cyril Gely, Christian Carion

In "Driving Madeleine", a seemingly simple taxi ride evolves into a heartfelt meditation on the lives of the driver and his passenger. Charles (Dany Boon) is a taxi driver in Paris, and he is having a very bad day. Enter Madeleine (Line Renaud), an immaculately groomed nonagenarian, who informs Charles that the trip today will not be a direct one. She is moving into a nursing home and would like to make some stops along the way, predicting that this might be her last car ride through the city. Their ride takes them through the momentous locations of her life, and their brief friendship deepens as Madeleine listens to Charles confess his own worries.

Sat, Feb 24 | 1pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:31

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



DOWNWIND

USA | 2022 | 97 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Mark Samuel Shapiro, Douglas Brian Miller

Producers: Mark Samuel Shapiro, Warren Pereira

Writers: Mark Samuel Shapiro, Warren Etheredge

Cast: Michael Douglas, Martin Sheen, Lewis Black, Patrick Wayne

Hiroshima. Nagasaki. Mercury, Nevada? The latter was the site for the testing of 928 large-scale nuclear weapons from 1951 to 1992.

Martin Sheen narrates this harrowing exposé of the United States' disregard for everyone living ... downwind.

Preceded by:



The Silent Witness

USA | 2023 | 18 min • Documentary Short

Directors: George Kunhardt, Teddy Kunhardt

Producers: George Kunhardt, Teddy Kunhardt, Matthew Henderson, Aleks Gezentsvey

Cast: Tomiko Morimoto West

"The Silent Witness" tells Tomiko Morimoto West's horrifying experience as a 13-year-old girl in Hiroshima when the first atomic bomb dropped that details how she survived, what she witnessed, and how she was affected.

Sun, Feb 25 | 7:10pm

Harkins 2

Mon, Feb 26 | 4pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Wed, Feb 28 | 10am

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:55



Dreamers

Switzerland, Germany | 2023 | 86 min
Documentary Feature

Directors: Luc Peter, Stéphanie Barbey

Producers: Katia Monla, Luc Peter

Writer: Stéphanie Barbey

At the age of 9, Carlos arrived from Mexico to Chicago with his three brothers and his parents. The day he turned 18, his future became uncertain. According to U.S. law, Carlos is now undocumented. The slightest mistake can lead him to deportation. From defeats to successes, "Dreamers" tells the story of Carlos now 38 years old, his brothers and the fate of 2.5 million people growing up in a country that still does not recognize them as its own.

Preceded by:



Keys to the City

USA | 2022 | 30 min • Documentary Short

Director: Ian Moubayed

Producers: Melissa Fajard, Ayesha Nadarajah

The New Yorker Documentary, presents "Keys to the City" — a documentary short following Matthew Ballard, an aging Brooklyn locksmith struggling to unlock a higher acceptance to the changes in his life and city. The film revisits a pre-pandemic New York six years earlier, amidst a rapidly shifting urban landscape.

In the final month on the job, Mathew wrestles with his growing alienation from the city and seeks peace in retiring to Georgia, but before leaving New York, Tony Volpe, his outgoing boss, reveals he must first train George Goga, a brazen first-generation immigrant to take his place.

Sun, Feb 25 | 10am

Harkins 1

Tue, Feb 27 | 4pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:56



Earthbound: Nzambi Matee

Japan | 2022 | 48 min • Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Farhoud Meybodi
Producer: Sean Hobbs
Cast: Nzambi Matee

Amidst a catastrophic plastic waste crisis in her hometown of Nairobi, Nzambi Matee risks everything to pioneer revolutionary technology that transforms plastic waste into sustainable paving bricks.

Preceded by:



Down the Road

USA | 2023 | 21 min • Documentary Short

Director: Care Dorghalli
Producer: Kate Hanson
Cast: Mariam Abd-Allah

What would you do if you saw a wildfire destroy 95% of a town? How would you help the survivors whose homes burned to the ground?

For Woody Faircloth in Denver, the answer seemed simple: provide them with an RV. And upon witnessing the 2018 Camp Fire in Paradise, California, he and his six-year-old daughter Luna did just that.

Preceded by:

This package of four documentaries share one common theme:
ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



The Big Idea: Last Mile

USA | 2022 | 22 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Sarah Klein, Tom Mason
Producer: Sarah Klein

What does it truly take to invent something that changes the world? When cryogenics expert Kitty Liao discovers that half of the world's vaccines get spoiled during their last mile of delivery, she decides to dedicate her life to creating a solution. Liao embarks on her own arduous journey as she attempts to get her life-saving invention into the hands of the people who need it most.

Preceded by:



Abundance: The Farmlink Story

USA | 2023 | 23 min • Documentary Short

Director: Owen Dubeck
Producers: Chris Temple, Zach Ingrasci, Jenna Kelly

During the largest food crisis in a century, a group of college students step up to help those facing hunger. Their small local effort inspires hope nationally and motivates 600+ students to drop everything to feed millions of families. Within months, the project scales larger than anyone could have imagined and the students find themselves on the front lines of fighting hunger. As food bank lines grow across the country and college finals approach, do the students have what it takes to create a long term solution?

Mon, Feb 26 | 1:10pm
Harkins 2

Wed, Feb 28 | 4pm
Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:54

Sponsored by:



The Echo

Mexico, Germany | 2023 | 102 min
Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Tatiana Huezos
Producers: Tatiana Huezos, Dalia Reyes

A visual tour de force, "The Echo" reveals a remote village of El Echo that exists outside of time, the children care for the sheep and their elders. Its hardscrabble inhabitants navigate the harsh ways of the land and the complexities of the human spirit in a place where the collective needs always outweigh those of the individual. A big-screen experience, the film is a lyrical wonder, twinkling with human pathos and poetry.

Mon, Feb 26 | 7pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Fri, Mar 1 | 10:10am
Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:42



Empire Waist

USA | 2023 | 95 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Claire Ayoub
Producers: Crystal Collins, Justin Baldoni, Andrew Calof
Cast: Mia Kaplan, Jemima Yevu, Jolene Purdy, Missi Pyle, Rainn Wilson

Lenore Miller is an overweight, insecure teen whose talent for fashion is discovered by her confident, plus-sized classmate, forcing her into the spotlight—and into the path of both bullies and new friends. But her image-conscious mother's fears and Lenore's own deep self-loathing prevent her from wearing her own designs. Will Lenore ever feel the self-love she inspires in others?

Thu, Feb 29 | 4pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:35



A Fantastic Relationship

USA | 2024 | 87 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Bridge Stuart

Producers: Thomas Cross, Tina Carbone

Cast: Nikki McKenzie, Bridge Stuart, Will Madden, Dustin Hahn, Samantha Cutaran

After a nasty break up, Brian and Katie have to pretend they're still in a relationship in order to impress a family member at a dinner party.

Sun, Feb 25 | 1:10pm
Harkins 2

Fri, Mar 1 | 1pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:27

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



Freedom Hair

USA | 2023 | 98 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Dianne Houston

Producers: Rob Pfaltzgraff, Lana Link, Stacey Parks

Cast: Simona Brown, Sophia Bush, Erica Tazel, Jeremie Harris, Sharon Conley

"Freedom Hair" is based on the inspiring true story of Melony Armstrong, a mother who works at a shelter for battered women decides to start a natural hair braiding business to achieve financial independence for herself and others. To do so she must overcome unexpected obstacles imposed by a powerful cartel and the state of Mississippi.

Mon, Feb 26 | 4pm
Harkins 1

Fri, Mar 1 | 10am
Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:38



For When You Get Lost

USA | 2024 | 96 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Michelle Steffes

Producers: Kerry Carlock, Alethea Root, Jennifer Sorenson, Meredith Riley Stewart

Writer: Jennifer Sorenson

Cast: Jennifer Sorenson, Elizabeth Alderfer, Aja Bair, Brian Thomas Smith, Adam Chambers

In this uplifting and emotionally charged comedy, June Stevenson drags her estranged sisters on a road trip up the Pacific Coast in order to make amends with their difficult father before he dies. Along the way, she distracts herself with picturesque landmarks, craft breweries, and picturesque men in craft breweries, but ultimately she must face the fact that there's more to her family's fractures than she thought. Inspired by a real road trip.

Preceded by:



[subtext]

USA | 2023 | 11 min • Narrative Short

Director: Erin Brown Thomas

Producer: Olivia Haller

Writer: Olivia Haller

Cast: Olivia Haller, Hunter Stiebel, Ciarra Krohne

Two people on a first date mask and ignore their insecurities until an event forces them to say what they're really thinking.

Sat, Mar 2 | 1pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:47

Sponsored by:
STEPHANIE LARSEN
INTERIOR DESIGN



Grease Sing-Along

USA | 1978 | 110 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Randal Kleiser

Producers: Allen Carr, Robert Stigwood

Writers: Jim Jacobs, Warren Casey, Bronte Woodard, Allan Carr

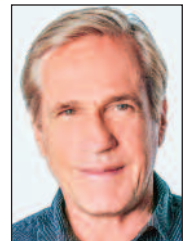
Cast: John Travolta, Olivia Newton-John, Stockard Channing, Jeff Conaway, Didi Conn, Barry Pearl, Michael Tucci, Frankie Avalon

Have you ever been to a film musical and had the uncontrollable urge to burst into song? Ever wanted to know what it's like to be a T-bird or a Pink Lady but never quite felt cool enough to pull it off? Well, now is your chance to don those pink jackets, grease up those quiffs and let your inhibitions go for an evening where you are the stars! Calling all T-Birds and Pink Ladies! You'll rule the school as we celebrate everyone's favorite rock-n-roll movie musical at the "Grease Sing-Along"! Hop in the way back machine to 1958 at Rydell High. Enjoy the singing and dancing world of "Grease" — the most successful movie musical of all time.

We know that for all of you who've remained hopelessly devoted to Danny, Sandy, Rizzo and the whole Rydell High gang, Grease is the word! Your chills will be multiplyin' and the mood electrifyin' as we screen a Sing-Along version of "Grease" that will help you belt out such hit tunes as "You're the One That I Want," "Greased Lightning," "We Go Together," "Summer Loving," "Hopelessly Devoted to You", "Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee" and many more at this fun-filled screening! The film remains an iconic, feel-good celebration!

Come dressed in your favorite 50's attire: poodle skirts for the ladies, white tee-shirt and jeans for the men — or whatever "Grease-inspired" ensemble you can muster up! Good company, song, laughter and fun — what better way to spend an evening? We promise a special event you will never forget!

Join special guest and honoree — director Randal Kleiser, who will be here in Sedona — for a fun-filled evening at our special "Grease Sing-Along" event!



Randal Kleiser

Wed, Feb 28 | 7pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:50

EVERYONE IS INVITED to the "Grease" party and dance in the gym right after the show!
Sponsored by
Tlaquepaque Arts & Shopping Village



Green Tide

France, Belgium | 2023 | 107 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Pierre Jolivet

Producers: Marc-Antoine Robert, Xavier Rigault

Writers: Pierre Jolivet, Inès Léraud, Pierre Van Hove

Cast: Céline Sallette, Nina Meurisse, Jonathan Lambert

Britanny, France — inspired by true events. Following the recent deaths of locals on Breton beaches, a reporter comes to investigate the mystery surrounding algae that may be a cause of these tragic events. As evidence is being covered up and threats to her research mount up, she realizes that some politicians with close ties to prominent local corporations are working to stop her from uncovering the shocking truth.

Mon, Feb 26 | 10am

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Fri, Mar 1 | 7pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:47



Him

USA | 2023 | 87 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Rebecca Wahls

Producers: Tess Higgins, Rebecca Wahls

Writers: Tess Higgins, Rebecca Wahls

Cast: Troy Baker, Kira Omans, Tess Higgins, Sydney Battle, Margaret Berkowitz, Lucie Solène Allouche, Kyle Prue, Lisa Barnes

The final five contestants on a reality dating show learn that their suitor — a man never seen or heard from in the film and referred to only as "him" — hasn't been entirely honest with them. Over one fateful night, these former competitors must band together to assert their self-worth over both him and the show's producers who manipulated them into falling in love.

Wed, Feb 28 | 4pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:27



In the Rearview

Poland, France, Ukraine | 2023 | 84 min
Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Maciek Hamela

Producers: Piotr Grawender, Maciek Hamela

The first days of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. People caught by time and in space, facing an uncertain here and now, choose to abandon what they hold most precious as they climb straight into the dusty van with foreign plates.

It traverses tens of thousands of kilometers serving various functions: waiting room, hospital, shelter, zone for confidences and confessions, which are shared among travelers thrown together by chance.

"In the Rearview" is a collective portrait composed of experiences of those who have a single goal: finding a safe haven. In the van — the temporary asylum for all of them — their differences in gender, age, skin tone, physical condition, origin, identity drop away.

Followed by:



Save the Cat

USA | 2023 | 24 min • Documentary Short

Director: Jordan Matthew Horowitz

Producers: Connie Jo Sechrist, Jordan Matthew Horowitz

After a Ukrainian refugee family is forced to flee their home, a group of strangers from around the world come together to help their daughter reunite with her beloved cat, Arsenii.

Sun, Feb 25 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Tue, Feb 27 | 1pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:48

Sponsored by Jan Taylor



In the Shadow of Beirut

Ireland, Lebanon | 2023 | 93 min
Documentary Feature

Directors: Garry Keane, Stephen Gerard Kelly

Producer: Brendan J. Byrne

This cinematic and powerful masterpiece captures the stark reality of life in Beirut's Sabra and Shatila neighborhoods. The film follows four families over 4 years and depicts the harsh rituals of their daily lives as they struggle for survival in a city and country on the brink of financial collapse. Through extraordinary access, the filmmakers open a window into a largely unseen world to unfold a collection of utterly compelling human narratives filled with resilience and hope. In quiet, intimate moments, the vulnerability of people living in the shadows of this once-great city fills the screen. Yet this film highlights the incredible power of love. At the end we are left with hope for the next generation.

Sat, Feb 24 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Mon, Feb 26 | 1pm

Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:33



Geoff McFetridge: Drawing a Life

USA | 2023 | 81 min • Documentary Feature

Director/Producer: Dan Covert

Writers: Erik Auli, Dan Covert, Amy Dempsey, Tara Rose Stromberg

"Geoff McFetridge: Drawing a Life" is a poetic and intimate look into the life and work of one of the most visionary artists of his time, while also exploring the universal questions of what makes a fulfilling life.

Mon, Feb 26 | 10am

Harkins 1

Thu, Feb 29 | 7:10pm

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:21



Into The Spotlight

USA | 2023 | 99 min • Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Thaddeus D. Matula

Producers: Thaddeus D. Matula, Ricky Townsend

Cast: Christi Davenport, Cindy Johnston, Jason Carter, Daniel Wade

"Into The Spotlight" is a heartfelt story of how a script, a stage, and a theater program composed of adults with disabilities celebrate their creativity, explore life's complexities, and empower a community, in their own words and their own way. The film follows a Dallas-based theatre troupe, composed of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, who are determined to write, rehearse, and perform their 11th annual original musical during the 2021-22 season.

Wed, Feb 28 | 10:10am

Mary D. Fisher

Fri, Mar 1 | 4:10pm

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:39



King Coal

USA | 2023 | 78 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Elaine McMillion Sheldon

Producers: Diane Becker, Shane Boris, Peggy Drexler, Elaine McMillion Sheldon

A lyrical tapestry of a place and people, "King Coal" meditates on the complex history and future of the coal industry, the communities it has shaped and the myths it has created. Emerging from the long shadows of the coal mines, "King Coal" untangles the pain from the beauty, and illuminates the innately human capacity for change.

Sun, Feb 25 | 4pm

Harkins 1

Tue, Feb 27 | 10:10am

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:18



Isle of Hope

USA | 2022 | 96 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Damian Romay

Producer: Omar Romay

Cast: Diane Ladd, Mary Stuart Masterson, Andrew McCarthy, Sam Robards, Jessica Lynne Wallace

Victoria (Mary Stuart Masterson) is a university professor with a grudge against her self-absorbed mother, the famed actress Carmen Crawford (Diane Ladd), for crushing her dreams of becoming a playwright.

When Carmen suffers a life-threatening stroke and wakes up thinking she is living 15 years in the past, Victoria is given a unique opportunity to figure out where her life went off track and reconcile her relationship with her mother.

With special guests Diane Ladd and Mary Stuart Masterson



Diane Ladd



Mary Stuart Masterson

Sat, Feb 24 | 7pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:36

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



Kidnapped: The Abduction of Edgardo Mortara

Italy, France, Germany | 2023 | 134 min
Narrative Feature

Director: Marco Bellocchio

Producers: Beppe Caschetto, Paolo Del Brocco, Simone Gattoni

Writers: Marco Bellocchio, Susanna Nicchiarelli, Edoardo Albinati, Daniela Ceselli

Cast: Paolo Pierobon, Fausto Russo Alesi, Barbara Ronchi, Filippo Timi

In 1858, in the Jewish quarter of Bologna, the Pope's soldiers burst into the home of the Mortara family. By order of the cardinal, they have come to take Edgardo, their seven-year-old son. The child had been secretly baptized by his nurse as a baby and the papal law is unquestionable: he must receive a Catholic education. Edgardo's parents, distraught, will do anything to get their son back. Supported by public opinion and the international Jewish community, the Mortaras' struggle quickly takes a political dimension. But the Church and the Pope will not agree to return the child, to consolidate an increasingly wavering power.

Mon, Feb 26 | 4pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 2:14



Frida

USA | 2024 | 87 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Carla Gutierrez

Producers: Sara Bernstein, Loren Hammonds, Alexandra Johnes, Katia Maguire, Justin Wilkes

"Frida" is a raw and magical journey into the life of iconic artist Frida Kahlo — told through her own words from diaries, letters, essays, and interviews — vividly brought to life with lyrical animation inspired by her unforgettable artwork.

Fri, Mar 1 | 1pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:27

Sponsored by:





A Little Family Drama

USA | 2023 | 87 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Nadia Zoe

Producers: Michael Karp, Nadia Zoe, Ramón O Torres

Writers: Ramón O Torres, Nadia Zoe

Cast: Alma Martínez, Romi Dias, Diana Torres, Jeff Meacham, Marissa Reyes, Ramón Torres

A Mexican American family, whose lives revolve around their legendary restaurant, prepares for their annual family reunion dinner oblivious to the fact that a shattered taco truck dream is about to change everything.

Sun, Feb 25 | 10:10am

Mary D. Fisher

Thu, Feb 29 | 1pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:27

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



Man Goes on Rant

USA | 2024 | 90 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Producer/Writer: Peter Curtis Pardini

Cast: Brian Villalobos, Jane Schwartz, Lawson Bennett, Jonathan Lipnicki

A man emerging from years of isolation notices bizarre coincidences throughout recent U.S. history and begins to think they explain why his long-term relationship didn't work out. When none of his friends will listen to his rants, he finds an outlet for his conspiracy theories by making a documentary following the trajectory of the United States from Y2K to the pandemic shutdowns.

"Man Goes on Rant" features an original score with performances by members of the band Chicago.

Tue, Feb 27 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Fri, Mar 1 | 4:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:30



Lovely Jackson

USA | 2022 | 104 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Matt Waldeck

Producers: Rickey Jackson, Matt Waldeck

Writers: Rickey Jackson, Matt Waldeck

Cast: Rickey Jackson, Edward Vernon, Pastor Anthony Singleton

America's longest wrongfully-held exonerated person, Rickey Jackson, returns to the prison where his 39-year journey of survival began and guides his younger self from death row to freedom. A true story about the triumph of hope, forgiveness, and perseverance through the darkest and most dire of circumstances that begins in violence and ends with love. Rickey Jackson, just 18 years old at the time, was sentenced to the electric chair in 1975 with no physical evidence and based solely on the eye-witness testimony of a 12-year-old neighborhood paper boy, Edward Vernon. What followed was a 39-year nightmare from death row to general population in America's most dangerous prison in Lucasville, Ohio.

Wed, Feb 28 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Fri, Mar 1 | 7:10pm

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:44



Marguerite's Theorem

France, Switzerland | 2023 | 112 min

Narrative Feature

Director: Anna Novion

Producers: Miléna Poylo, Gilles Sacuto

Writers: Agnès Feuvre, Marie-Stéphane Imbert, Anna Novion, Mathieu Robin

Cast: Ella Rumpf, Jean-Pierre Darroussin, Clotilde Courau

The trajectory of Marguerite's future, a brilliant Mathematics student at the esteemed Ecole Normale Supérieure, appears meticulously charted. As the sole woman in her cohort, she nears completion of her thesis, anticipating the culmination of years of dedicated effort with an audience of researchers.

On the crucial day, an unexpected error disrupts her well-laid plans, causing the unraveling of all her certainties and the collapse of her foundational aspirations. Faced with this pivotal moment, Marguerite resolves to abandon her current path entirely and embarks on a journey to redefine and reconstruct her life anew.

Sun, Feb 25 | 10am

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:52



Martha Liebermann: A Stolen Life

Germany | 2023 | 88 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Stefan Bühling

Producer: Tillman Geithe

Writer: Marco Rossi

Cast: Thekla Carola Wied, Rüdiger Vogler, Lana Cooper, Fritz Haberlandt, Franz Hartwig

Berlin, 1943. Upper-class widow Martha Liebermann could never have imagined having to leave her beloved homeland at the age of 85. As a Jew, however, her only choice is to go abroad or wait to be deported to a concentration camp.

The high reputation and valuable paintings of her world-famous artist husband Max Liebermann still give her protection. But for how much longer? Martha's friends pressure her into an illegal sale to finance her escape with Hanna Solf's resistance group. Gestapo commissioner Teubner and his henchman now see his perfidious opportunity to set a trap for the courageous opponents of the regime.

The art expert Solbach, who works for the Nazis and wants to bring his lover Benjamin to safety, is opaque. Can you trust him? When the situation escalates dramatically and she even has to fear for her faithful housekeeper Luise, Martha Liebermann shows her true wisdom and greatness.

Sun, Feb 25 | 10:10am
Harkins 2

Sun, Mar 3 | 10:10am
Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:28



Merchant Ivory

USA | 2024 | 111 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Stephen Soucy

Producers: Jon Hart, Stephen Soucy

Writers: Jon Hart, Stephen Soucy

"Merchant Ivory" is a feature documentary film produced and directed by Stephen Soucy in collaboration with Oscar-winning director and screenwriter, James Ivory.

The film is the definitive presentation and tribute to the Merchant Ivory partnership, anchored by interviews with James Ivory and forty-one Merchant Ivory close collaborators detailing and celebrating their experiences of being a part of the "wandering company" helmed by legendary producer Ismail Merchant.

Merchant Ivory became synonymous with quality filmmaking over a period of more than 40 years, earning particular acclaim for "A Room with a View" (1985), "Mr. and Mrs. Bridge" (1990), "Howards End" (1992), and "The Remains of the Day" (1993). They were life partners from 1961 until Merchant's death in 2005.

With six Academy Award-winners among the notable artists participating — including Emma Thompson, Vanessa Redgrave, Helena Bonham Carter, and Hugh Grant, among others — the documentary provides new and compelling perspectives on a unique partnership that produced seminal films over four decades.

The Sedona International Film Festival is proud to recognize James Ivory with its Lifetime Achievement Award for Filmmaking Excellence.



James Ivory

Tue, Feb 27 | 7pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:51

Sponsored by:
STEPHANIE LARSEN
INTERIOR DESIGN



Name Me Lawand

United Kingdom | 2022 | 86 min
Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Edward Lovelace

Producers: Neil Andrews, Marisa Clifford, Fleur Nieddu

Five-year-old Lawand is on a quest to find a world where there are people like him — people who will understand him. Since birth, Lawand has been profoundly deaf and unable to communicate with those around him. He undertakes a treacherous journey with his family from Iraq to Derby, home of the Royal School for the Deaf. But this new life soon comes under threat when the family face deportation. Along with members of the Derby community, they begin a new quest — a fight to stay in the place they now call home.

Sat, Feb 24 | 4:10pm
Mary D. Fisher

Mon, Feb 26 | 10:10am
Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:26



Nathan-ism

USA | 2023 | 79 min • Documentary Feature

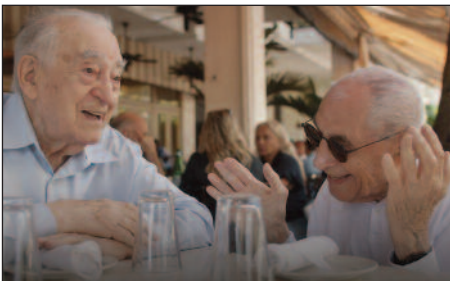
Director: Elan Golod

Producers: Melanie Vi Levy, Caryn Capotosto

At the end of World War II, Nathan Hilu, an 18-year-old Jewish U.S. Army private from New York, was assigned to guard the top Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg Trials. For one year, Hilu kept suicide watch over Hermann Göring and Albert Speer and learned first-hand about the men and their crimes. Speer himself instructed Hilu to "...keep your eyes open and write what you see here..." With brutish lines and annotated pastel sketches, Hilu obsessively documented those memories for the next 70 years. Now in his 90s, Hilu still compulsively animates the very same stories.

What begins as a peek at a unique witness to history grows into an absorbing study of the function of art as archive and invention. Daring to question an artist's stories, "Nathan-ism" is a fascinating look at one man's need to share truths with a world that doesn't always want to listen.

Preceded by:



Jack and Sam

USA | 2023 | 21 min • Documentary Short

Director: Jordan Matthew Horowitz

Producers: Andrew Carlberg, Jordan Matthew Horowitz

Mixing documentary, archival, and breathtaking animation, "Jack and Sam" is a poignant film about two Holocaust survivors miraculously reunited after 80 years. Now in their late 90s, they are spending the precious time they have left rekindling their friendship and teaching others about the dangers of hatred. This heartwarming story explores the enduring power of connection and the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable adversity.

Mon, Feb 26 | 7:10pm

Harkins 2

Thu, Feb 29 | 10am

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:40



No Dogs or Italians Allowed

France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Portugal | 2022
70 min • Animated Feature

Director: Alain Ughetto

Producer: Alexandre Cornu

Writers: Alexis Galmot, Anne Paschetta, Alain Ughetto

Cast: Ariane Ascaride, Alain Ughetto, Stefano Paganini, Diego Giuliani

In the Beginning of the 20th century — Ughettera, Northern Italy, The Ughetto family's village. Living in the region had become very difficult and the Ughettos dream of a better life abroad.

Legend has it that Luigi Ughetto crossed the Alps starting a new life in France, thus changing the destiny of his beloved family forever.

His grandson travels back in time revisiting their history.

Sat, Feb 24 | 4pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Sun, Mar 3 | 10am

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:10



The Old Oak

United Kingdom, France, Belgium | 2023 | 113 min
Narrative Feature

Director: Ken Loach

Producer: Rebecca O'Brien

Writer: Paul Laverty

Cast: Dave Turner, Ebla Mari, Claire Rodgers, Trevor Fox

The Old Oak is a special place. Not only is it the last pub standing, but it's also the only remaining public space where people can meet in a once thriving mining community that has now fallen on hard times after 30 years of decline.

TJ Ballantyne (Dave Turner) the landlord hangs on to The Old Oak by his fingertips, and his predicament is endangered even more when the pub becomes contested territory after the arrival of Syrian refugees who are placed in the village without any notice.

In an unlikely friendship TJ meets a curious young Syrian Yara (Ebla Mari) with her camera. Can they find a way for the two communities to understand each other? So unfolds a deeply moving drama about their fragilities and hopes.

Sat, Feb 24 | 10am

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:53

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



One With The Whale

USA | 2023 | 80 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Pete Chelkowski, Jim Wickens

Producers: Aakapak Susan Apassingok, Yaari Walker, Justine Nagan

Cast: Agra Chris Apassingok, Nalu Danielle Apasingok

The Apassingoks are a typical American family. They watch the NBA, have a dog named Blue, and are often glued to social media. They live on St. Lawrence, a tiny Alaskan island in the Bering Sea, with their son Chris, a shy teenager. But, unlike mainland kids, he must regularly cut school and head out in -20°F into the deadly waters to provide food for his family and his village. Because on this island, if you don't hunt you die.

Preceded by:



School of Fish

USA | 2023 | 20 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Colin Arisman, Oliver Sutro

Cast: Triston Chaney, Robyn Chaney, Robin Samulsen

Indigenous people and salmon have been intertwined for thousands of years in Bristol Bay, Alaska. The knowledge of harvesting, preserving and sharing fish is as important here as any lesson in a book. Today, kids must not only learn from their elders how to fish, but also how to fight. For the last century, corporations have sought to extract the wealth of this rich region. Now Pebble Mine threatens to pollute the pristine headwaters of Bristol Bay. "School of Fish" offers an intimate portrait inside one family's seasonal salmon rituals and their connection to the Bristol Bay Guide Academy, where local youth are empowered through flyfishing to serve as guides and conservationists.

Wed, Feb 28 | 1:10pm

Harkins 2

Fri, Mar 1 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:40



My Neighbor Adolf

Israel, Poland, Colombia | 2022 | 96 min
Narrative Feature

Director: Leon Prudovsky

Producers: Stanislaw Dziedzic, Haim Mecklberg,

Klaudia Smieja, Estee Yacov-Mecklberg

Writers: Dmitry Malinsky, Leon Prudovsky

Cast: David Hayman, Udo Kier, Olivia Silhavy

Colombia, May 1960, just after Israel's abduction of Adolf Eichmann in Argentina. Polsky, a lonely and grumpy Holocaust survivor, lives in the remote Colombian countryside. He spends his days playing chess and tending his beloved rose bushes. One day, when a mysterious old German man moves in next-door, he suspects that his new neighbor is — Adolf Hitler. Since nobody believes him, he embarks on a detective mission to find the evidence. But, in order to gather evidence, he will need to be closer to his neighbor than he would like. So close that the two could almost become friends.

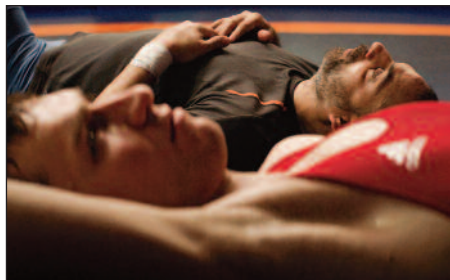
Mon, Feb 26 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Sat, Mar 2 | 1pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:36



Opponent

Sweden | 2023 | 108 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Milad Alami

Producer: Annika Rogell

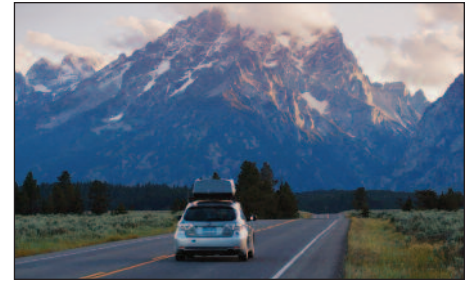
Cast: Payman Maadi, Marall Nasiri, Björn Elgerd, Ardalan Esmaili

In the aftermath of a devastating rumor, Iman and his family have been forced to flee Iran. As refugees, they end up in a run-down hotel in northern Sweden. Despite feeling powerless, Iman tries to maintain his role as the family patriarch. To increase their chances of asylum, he breaks a promise to his wife and joins the local wrestling club. As the rumors start to resurface, Iman's fear and desperation begin to take a hold.

Sun, Feb 25 | 4pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:48



Out There: A National Parks Story

USA | 2023 | 70 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Brendan Hall

Producers: Anthony Blake, Graham Raubvogel, Sandra Tan

A young filmmaker sets out on a 10,000-mile exploration of the national parks with his childhood best friend during the centennial year of the formation of the National Park Service. Along the way, the two record stories of the people that work in the parks and those that come to enjoy them. Between the spectacular shots of the parks and compelling interviews are colorful bits of old maps, posters, and travelogues. This stunning road trip is a tribute to the national parks and their history, and is also a recognition of the people that appreciate them and work to maintain their beauty.

Preceded by:



Tad's Emerging World - Glen Canyon Exposed

USA | 2023 | 20 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Dawn Kish, Cierra Murretta

Producer: Bill Esposito

Cast: Tad Nichols

A conservation photographer, Dawn Kish, documents the hidden treasure of the Southwest known at Glen Canyon. This epic landscape of red sandstone walls, flowing rivers and cultural sites is under a giant reservoir called Lake Powell. The lake is at its lowest water level since the construction of the Glen Canyon Dam in 1963. Kish is going on an adventure to explore this canyon she never knew with a old Crown Graphic 4x5 camera. This camera documented Glen Canyon pre-dam from an incredible photographer, Tad Nichols, from 1950-1963.

Thu, Feb 29 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Sat, Mar 2 | 4:10pm

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:30

Sponsored by:





Never Too Late For Love

Italy, France | 2022 | 88 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Gianni Di Gregorio

Producer: Angelo Barbagallo

Writers: Gianni Di Gregorio, Marco Pettenello

Cast: Gianni di Gregorio, Stefania Sandrelli

Astolfo, a retired professor evicted from his apartment, decides to move into an old noble but decrepit palace, the last remnant of his family patrimony in a remote village of Abruzzo, where he hasn't been for decades. Soon enough, as a newcomer, he befriends a vagabond, a retired chef and a young handyman. A group of four live harmoniously at his place when he comes across Stefania, a charming and generous woman of his age. Astolfo falls in love and struggles with feelings he thought belonged to the past. Encouraged by his loyal group, Astolfo makes a brave step and learns delightedly that it's never too late to fall in love.

Tue, Feb 27 | 1:10pm

Harkins 2

Thu, Feb 29 | 4:10pm

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:28

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



Razing Liberty Square

USA | 2024 | 85 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Katja Esson

Producers: Ronald Baez, Ann Bennett, Katja Esson, Corinna Sager

Miami is ground-zero for sea-level-rise. When residents of the Liberty Square public-housing community learn about a \$300 million revitalization project in 2015, they know that their neighborhood is located on the highest-and-driest ground in the city. Now they must prepare to fight a new form of racial injustice — Climate Gentrification.

Sun, Feb 25 | 1pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Wed, Feb 28 | 4:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:25



Praying for Armageddon

Norway | 2023 | 96 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Tonje Hessen Schei, Michael Rowley

Producers: Christian Aune Falch, Ingrid Galadriel Aune Falch, Torstein Parelus

"Praying for Armageddon" is a political thriller that investigates the dangerous consequences of the fusion between Evangelical Christianity and American politics. Through years of reporting, this film not only reveals how structures of fundamentalism weaken the very fabric of American democracy, but also highlights the devastating impact religion wields on U.S. foreign policy. From a grassroots foundation and megachurch empires to the dark backroom maneuvering in Washington D.C., this film ventures inside a movement that ultimately aims to destroy our civilization.

Sun, Feb 25 | 10am

Alice Gill-Sheldon

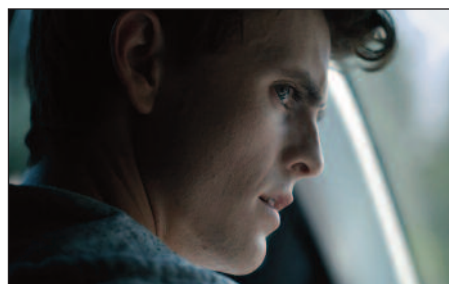
Tue, Feb 27 | 7pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Fri, Mar 1 | 10am

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:36



Riley

USA | 2023 | 93 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Benjamin Howard

Producers: Benjamin Howard, Tommy Anderson, Laura Scarano

Cast: Jake Holley, Colin McCalla

The life of a disciplined high school athlete begins to unravel when his queer identity competes against the idea of who he was supposed to be.

Sat, Feb 24 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Mon, Feb 26 | 4:10pm

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:33



The Price of Truth

United Kingdom | 2023 | 84 min

Documentary Feature

Director: Patrick Forbes

In 2021, Novaya Gazeta editor Dmitry Muratov was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Three months later, Russia invaded Ukraine. Days later, a masked attacker poured paint laced with acetone over him, permanently damaging Muratov's sight. Even though six Novaya Gazeta journalists, including Anna Politkovskaya, have previously been murdered, Muratov continues to use his position to attack the Putin regime. Patrick Forbes' searching documentary is a powerful and often suspenseful portrait of an extraordinary individual whose life and work embodies the importance of free speech and how essential the fourth estate is to the foundations of democracy.

Tue, Feb 27 | 4:10pm

Harkins 2

Thu, Feb 29 | 10:10am

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:24



Robert Shields: My Life as a Robot

USA | 2024 | 87 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Mark C. Bonn, Christine Seibert Bonn
Producer: Christine Seibert Bonn

"No words" can describe him — literally. Robert Shields is one of the most unique performers of the 20th century. He has earned proclamations and awards; has performed for two Presidents and a Queen; gained the admiration of many of Hollywood's greats — and he has done it all without saying a word!

Marcel Marceau called him "the greatest mime in America". Robert wanted to break the mold of being a mime, bring it more mainstream, make it more accessible — take it to the streets where people from all walks of life could enjoy it. Union Square in San Francisco was the canvas for his unique style of performance: a mixture of mime, mimic, robot and (do NOT try this one at home) street skier. Hundreds of fans came every afternoon to watch him perform and, hopefully, become part of his show. Even today he continues to inspire countless artists.

There are renowned dancers doing mechanical men and Popping and Locking who credit Robert as their inspiration. He and Lorene Yarnell's mechanical couple, "The Clinkers," delighted and astonished fans around the world with their eerily blank staring, non-blinking eyes and movements that would make you swear they weren't human. Join us for the zany romp that is Robert Shields' story — and you may just learn that there's a lot more to a mime than keeping his silence.



Robert Shields

With special guest Robert Shields.

Thu, Feb 29 | 7pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:27



Rose

Denmark | 2022 | 106 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Niels Arden Oplev
Producer: Thomas Heinesen
Cast: Sofie Gråbøl, Lene Maria Christensen, Anders W. Berthelsen, Søren Malling

"Rose" is the story of two sisters, Inger and Ellen, and how their relationship is challenged on a highly anticipated coach trip to Paris. When Inger announces her struggles with mental health to the group, the sisters are faced with pity from some and discrimination from others. On arrival in Paris, it soon becomes clear that Inger has a hidden agenda concerning a figure from her past, ultimately involving the entire group in her hunt for answers. "Rose" is a film about love and care for each other, in spite of our differences, as much as it is a film about not judging a book by its cover.

Fri, Mar 1 | 4pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:46

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



Rules of Living

Japan | 2022 | 115 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Greg Dale
Producer: Jeffrey Rowe
Cast: Kaho Minami, Greg Dale, Kippe Shiina

"Rules of Living" is a bilingual love comedy about a Japanese divorcee who has to take in an American male roommate to make ends meet. Mikuko Abe is stuck, both in life and in love. When her daughter sends her Vincent, an American visitor, the last thing she wants is to let him live with her. What she doesn't know is that opening up her door to this stranger will soon open up her world.

Wed, Feb 28 | 7:10pm
Harkins 2

Fri, Mar 1 | 10:10am
Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:55



Scrap

USA | 2022 | 106 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Vivian Kerr
Producers: Rachel Stander, Vivian Kerr
Cast: Vivian Kerr, Anthony Rapp, Lana Parrilla, Khleo Thomas, Beth Dover

Beth (Vivian Kerr) has recently been laid off and struggles to maintain the appearance of a successful middle-class lifestyle as she bounces around Los Angeles.

Hoping to land a new job and change her situation before her estranged older brother Ben (Anthony Rapp) finds out, Beth must confront her own pride in order to reconnect with him and provide for her young daughter Birdy.

Meanwhile, Ben and his wife Stacy (Lana Parrilla) consider a third round of IVF and Stacy, a successful attorney, must re-evaluate her own conflicted relationship with motherhood.

Wed, Feb 28 | 4:10pm
Harkins 2

Sat, Mar 2 | 7:10pm
Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:46



The Shadow of the Day

Italy | 2023 | 125 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Giuseppe Piccioni

Producer: Riccardo Scamarcio

Writers: Giuseppe Piccioni, Gualtiero Rosella, Annick Emdin

Cast: Riccardo Scamarcio, Benedetta Porcaroli, Lino Musella, Valeria Bilello

Set in the picturesque, provincial town Ascoli Piceno in central Italy, "The Shadow of the Day" is a dramatic and gripping love story set in the late 1930s. Luciano, a wounded World War I veteran and a sympathizer with fascism, runs a classy restaurant overlooking the town's ancient square. He believes he can live his life according to his own set of rules. In this bubble, he observes the world through the window of his pleasant restaurant.

One day, Anna appears looking for work. A young woman with a dangerous secret, she is hired to work in his restaurant. Slowly, affection creeps in between the two and among the many dangers Luciano faces, including the onset of WWII, there is the greatest danger of all: love.

Giuseppe Piccioni's thoughtful melodrama reflects on fascism and the pre-war atmosphere of control and isolation.

Sat, Mar 2 | 10am

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 2:05



Shot In The Arm

USA | 2022 | 89 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Scott Hamilton Kennedy

Producers: Mark Steele, Mark Monroe, Scott Hamilton Kennedy

Writers: Scott Hamilton Kennedy, Mark Monroe

Cast: Tony Fauci, Peter Hotez, Paul Offit, Blima Marcus, Karen Ernst

Both skeptical and hopeful, "Shot In The Arm" explores vaccine hesitancy historically and in the context of the modern pandemic. And yet, this isn't another COVID film, at its core it's about our zeitgeist: the dangers of disinformation, selfishness, distrust, and our communal need to heal ourselves and our fragile social contract.

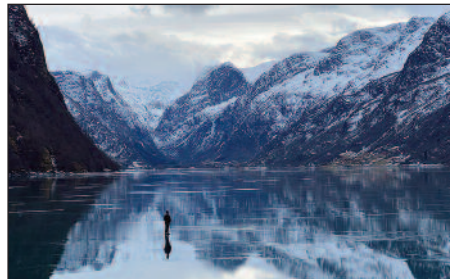
Wed, Feb 28 | 1pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Sat, Mar 2 | 10am

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:29



Songs of Earth

Norway | 2023 | 90 min • Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Margreth Olin

Producers: Lena Faye-Lund Sandvik, Margreth Olin

Cast: Jørgen Mykle, Magnhild Mykløen

The magnificent mountainous landscapes of Norway provide the monumental backdrop for a cinematic existential journey with the filmmaker's parents as its human yardstick, and with the primordial forces of the earth looming in the bedrock. Being connected to nature, what does it mean? Father knows and father shows. The director's father is 84. We follow in his footsteps into the mountain home — into nature's smallest life and out to grand panoramas, where he grew up.

Sat, Feb 24 | 10:10am

Mary D. Fisher

Tue, Feb 27 | 7:10pm

Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:30



Show Business Is My Life, But I Can't Prove It

USA | 2022 | 96 min • Documentary Feature

Director: G.B. Shannon

Producers: G.B. Shannon, Heather Wilk

Comedian Gary Mule Deer's career has always taken an oddball path. From his start in "show business" at a South Dakota brothel, to his over 350 televised performances, his career has been as strange as his comedy itself.

He's odd, he's got crazy hair, and his timing is legendary. He's a friend to the biggest names in comedy and he may just be the funniest comedian you've never heard of.

"Show Business Is My Life, But I Can't Prove It" features an all-star cast and those who know Gary best, including Jay Leno, David Letterman, Johnny Mathis, Steve Martin, Conan O'Brien, Jimmie "JJ" Walker, Kevin Nealon, Alice Cooper, Vince Gill, Amy Grant and more!



Gary Mule Deer

With special guest Gary Mule Deer.

Sat, Mar 2 | 4pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:36



A Still Small Voice

USA | 2023 | 97 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Luke Lorentzen

Producer: Kellen Quinn

"A Still Small Voice" follows Mati, a chaplain completing a year-long hospital residency, as she learns to provide spiritual care to people confronting profound life changes. Through Mati's experiences with her patients, her struggle with professional burnout, and her own spiritual questioning, we gain new perspectives on how meaningful connection can be and how painful its absence is. As Mati and her patients take stock of their lives and experiences, space opens up to reflect on our own.

Preceded by:



In The End

USA | 2021 | 10 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Sarah Klein, Tom Mason

Producer: Heather Martino

Cast: Christen O'Brien

What does it feel like to almost die? Ten years ago Silicon Valley tech entrepreneur Christen O'Brien collapsed suddenly while alone in the woods walking her dog. Instead of killing her instantly, the massive blood clot that entered her heart sent her on a harrowing near-death experience that brought her to the brink and back again — a terrifying experience for anyone. But what she saw and experienced on that day has reshaped her entire conception of life and death and convinced her of one thing: we've got death completely wrong.

Wed, Feb 28 | 10:10am

Harkins 2

Fri, Mar 1 | 4pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:47



The Surrogate

USA | 2020 | 94 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Amy Glazer

Producer: Lynn Webb

Writers: Patricia Cotter, Amy Glazer, Lynn Webb

Cast: Wendie Malick, Erin Daniels, Jennifer Mudge, Louis Ozawa, Tate Moore

"The Surrogate" is a contemporary dramedy about a group of Bay Area friends in their early 40s navigating life's messy moments together: expecting a surrogate baby, a long and deep friendship in jeopardy, two women deciding to marry after years of living together, a novelist with crippling writer's block.

Capturing this next uncharted chapter of their extended family, "The Surrogate" explores the secrets and complicated nature of parenthood and the modern family, all the while testing the boundaries of love and friendship and the bioethics of surrogacy.

**With special guest
Wendie Malick.**



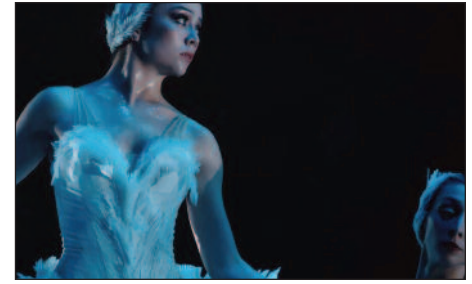
Wendie Malick

Sun, Feb 25 | 1pm

Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:34

Sponsored by Debra Mae Stephens



Swan Song

Canada | 2023 | 89 min • Documentary Feature

Director: Chelsea McMullan

Producer: Sean O'Neill

Writers: Victoria Abolarinde, Chelsea McMullan, Sean O'Neill, Leah Schulli

"Swan Song" is an immersive look inside The National Ballet of Canada, as it mounts a legacy-defining new production of Swan Lake, directed by ballet icon Karen Kain on the eve of her retirement. With full access to the creative process, the film delves into the lives of the dancers in a character-driven approach as they push themselves to their limits to stage one of the most significant nights in their careers and company's history.

Preceded by:



Sanctuary of Her

USA | 2022 | 26 min • Documentary Short

Director/Producer: Geoff Poister

Writers: Geoff Poister, Farzaneh Safarani

Cast: Farzaneh Safarani, Bahareh Safarani

Two identical twin sisters from Iran create mesmerizing paintings that reflect a major conflict in their lives. Physically, they are two people. But psychologically they feel they are one. The single persona cannot exist in the real world, so the sisters invented an imaginary space where they can go to create their paintings.

The mythical person who lives in the imaginary world has taken on a life of her own. As she is growing up and changing, she appears to be guiding the future of the twins in real life.

Thu, Feb 29 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Sat, Mar 2 | 1:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:55



Tell Them You Love Me

USA, United Kingdom | 2023 | 102 min
Documentary Feature

Director: Nick August-Perna
Producers: Andrea De Brito, Tamara Rosenberg

"Tell Them You Love Me" explores the extraordinary story of Anna Stubblefield, an esteemed university professor who becomes embroiled in a controversial affair with Derrick Johnson, a non-verbal man with cerebral palsy. Anna says she unlocked Derrick's mind from his body by teaching him to communicate using a keyboard. The relationship that followed would lead to a criminal trial that would challenge our perceptions of disability and the nature of consent.

Through exclusive footage and interviews with those on both sides of the case, this feature documentary weaves a riveting and endlessly nuanced story about communication, race, and sex.

Sun, Feb 25 | 4:10pm
Harkins 2

Tue, Feb 27 | 10am
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:42



To Kill a Tiger

Canada | 2022 | 125 min • Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: Nisha Pahuja
Producers: David Oppenheim, Nisha Pahuja, Cornelia Principe

Nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature Film!

A masterfully produced, unflinching film about Ranjit, a farmer in rural India who takes on the fight of his life when he demands justice for his 13-year-old daughter, the victim of a terrible village sexual assault. His decision to support his daughter is virtually unheard of in India where the system offers little legal recourse. His journey is unprecedented in a country where sexual abuse of women and children is a common problem.

The story of Ranjit and his fearless daughter, enduring so many voices clamoring for them to stand down, is one of remarkable strength, defiance and inspiration.

Thu, Feb 29 | 4:10pm
Mary D. Fisher

Sat, Mar 2 | 1:10pm
Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 2:05



Tokyo Cowboy

USA | 2023 | 118 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Marc Marriott
Producer: Brigham Taylor
Writers: Ayako Fujitani, Dave Boyle
Cast: Arata Iura, Ayako Fujitani, Goya Robles, Robin Weigert, Jun Kunimura

Brash Japanese businessman Hideki arrives in Montana having convinced his Tokyo bosses he can turn a profitless U.S. cattle ranch into a premiere-performing asset. Yet when his Hardee's-burger-loving Japanese Wagyu-beef expert fails him, Hideki is poised to misfire magnificently unless he identifies a missing element that's key to the transformation — himself.

Tue, Feb 27 | 4pm
Sedona Performing Arts Center

Total Running Time: 1:58



Toni

France | 2023 | 96 min • Narrative Feature

Director/Writer: Nathan Ambrosioni
Producers: Nicolas Dumont, Hugo Sélignac
Cast: Camille Cottin, Thomas Gioria, Léa Lopez

Antonia, affectionately known as Toni, is a single mother who tirelessly cares for her five children while juggling a demanding full-time job. Her evenings are filled with song as she performs in local bars to support her family. Toni possesses a remarkable talent, evident from a chart-topping single she recorded two decades ago. As her two eldest children prepare for university, Toni faces a poignant question: What lies ahead when her nest is empty? At 43 years of age, can she still grasp the opportunity to regain control of her life?

Mon, Feb 26 | 1pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Sat, Mar 2 | 7pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Total Running Time: 1:36

Sponsored by Jay Rowles



Total Trust

Germany, Netherlands | 2023 | 97 min
Documentary Feature

Director: Jialing Zhang

Producers: Michael Grotenhoff, Knut Jäger, Saskia Kress, Jialing Zhang

"Total Trust" is an eye-opening and deeply disturbing story of surveillance technology, abuse of power and (self) censorship that confronts us when our privacy is ignored. Through the haunting stories of people in China who have been monitored, intimidated and even tortured, the film tells of the dangers of technology in the hands of unbridled power. Taking China as a mirror, "Total Trust" sounds an alarm about the increasing use of surveillance tools around the world — even by democratic governments.

Preceded by:



My AI Lover

Australia | 2022 | 17 min • Documentary Short

Director/Writer: Chouwa Liang

Producer: Andy Huang

During their special "dates" with their artificially intelligent companions, three young Chinese women reflect on the uniqueness and boundaries of such intimate relationships.

Sun, Feb 25 | 4pm

Alice Gill-Sheldon

Tue, Feb 27 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:54



We Are Guardians

Brazil, USA | 2023 | 83 min • Documentary Feature

Directors: Chelsea Greene, Rob Grobman, Edivan Guajajara

Producers: Maura Anderson, Zak Kilberg, Fisher Stevens

"We Are Guardians" follows Indigenous forest guardian Marçal Guajajara and activist Puyr Tembê as they fight to protect their territories from deforestation, an illegal logger who has no choice but to cut the forest down, and a large landowner at the mercy of thousands of invaders and extractive industry.

The film weaves together politics, history, economics, science, and consciousness, providing an in-depth exploration of this incredibly complex and critical situation.

Preceded by:



Between Earth & Sky

USA | 2023 | 25 min • Documentary Short

Director: Andrew Nadkarni

Producers: Katie Schiller, Swetha Regunathan, Andrew Nadkarni

Cast: Nalini Nadkarni

For her entire professional life, renowned ecologist Nalini Nadkarni pioneered climbing techniques to study "what grows back" after an ecological disturbance in the rainforest canopy. Now, after surviving a life-threatening fall from a tree, she must turn her research question onto herself in order to understand the effects of disturbance and recovery throughout her life.

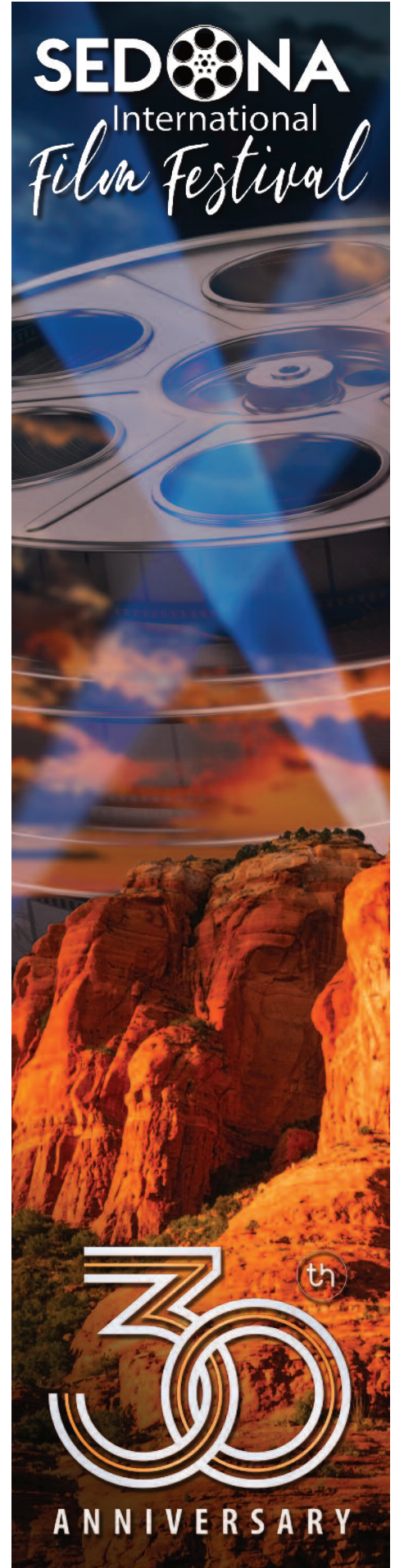
Thu, Feb 29 | 1:10pm

Harkins 2

Sat, Mar 2 | 7:10pm

Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:48





A Weekend with Pablo Picasso

USA | 2020 | 78 min • Narrative Feature

Directors: Timothy Powell, Todd Salovey

Producer: Herbert Sigüenza

Writer: Herbert Sigüenza

Cast: Herbert Sigüenza

In this one-man tour-de-force based on Picasso's writings, writer/performer Herbert Sigüenza (Culture Clash) takes on the role of the legendary artist, inviting the listener into Picasso's private studio for an intimate and revealing weekend as he prepares to deliver six new works to a buyer on Monday morning.

All of the paintings and artwork in the film were painted or created by the actor, some during actual filming. No works from Picasso or any other potentially copyrighted works appear at any point in the film.

Thu, Feb 29 | 10:10am
Harkins 2

Sat, Mar 2 | 4:10pm
Mary D. Fisher

Total Running Time: 1:18

Sponsored by:

STEPHANIE LARSEN
INTERIOR DESIGN



Wilding

United Kingdom | 2023 | 75 min
Documentary Feature

Director/Writer: David Allen

Producer: Gaby Bastyra

Cast: Isabella Tree, Charlie Burrell

Based on Isabella Tree's best-selling book by the same title, "Wilding" tells the story of a young couple that bets on nature for the future of their failing, four-hundred-year-old estate. The young couple battles entrenched tradition, and dares to place the fate of their farm in the hands of nature.

Ripping down the fences, they set the land back to the wild and entrust its recovery to a motley mix of animals both tame and wild. It is the beginning of a grand experiment that will become one of the most significant re-wilding experiments in Europe.

Preceded by:



Skyward

United Kingdom | 2022 | 20 min
Documentary Short

Director/Writer: Jessica Bishopp

Producer: Laura Shacham

"Skyward" is a creative documentary exploring our relationship with nature. Young birdwatchers, Mya and Arjun, feel the pressure of climate change and the biodiversity crisis greatly. Although they feel isolated and judged by others, they are determined to stand up for what they believe in; coming of age in the age of climate chaos.

Thu, Feb 29 | 4pm
Alice Gill-Sheldon

Sat, Mar 2 | 10am
Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:35



Yaniv

USA | 2023 | 81 min • Narrative Feature

Director: Amnon Carmi

Producers: Amnon Carmi, Ben Ducoff, Nik Sadhnani, Catherine Curtin, Rick Portwood

Writers: Amnon Carmi, Ben Ducoff

Cast: Ben Ducoff, Eli Bos, Annabel Steven, Catherine Curtin, Adam B. Shapiro, Mitchell Fields, Ben Salus, Lisa Ann Loggins

Two Bronx high school teachers fund the spring musical by infiltrating an underground card game run by Hasidic Jews.

Sun, Feb 25 | 4:10pm
Mary D. Fisher

Tue, Feb 27 | 10:10am
Harkins 2

Total Running Time: 1:21

Sponsored by Jay Rowles

Documentary Shorts PROGRAM 1



Kukeri

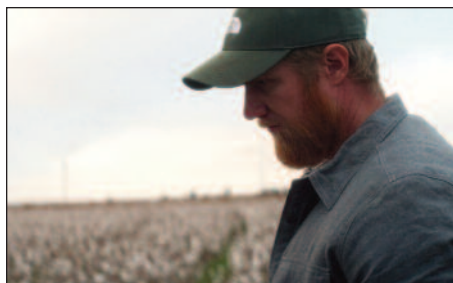
France | 2023 | 9 min • Documentary Short

Director: Killian Lassablière

Producers: Caroline Helaine, Yoël Servadio, Anne Cecile Jemin, Eddy Schwartz, Edward Michongwe

Kukeri is a Bulgarian tradition intended to chase away evil spirits. Once a year, at the precipice of winter and spring, men and women don scary masks and dance at night around the village armed with huge bells.

"Kukeri" features an intimate look into the world of this century-old Bulgarian tradition, where behind the terrifying surface of the custom lies a real lesson on creating deeper connections with others.



Groundwork - Cotton

USA | 2023 | 16 min • Documentary Short

Director: Lindsey Hagen

Producers: Lisa Ann Wagenbach, Biz Young, Rob Wassmer, Kaki Orr

Follow as the Kahle family breaks the cycle of generational health issues by revolutionizing their farming practices. Driven by a deep commitment to their family and community's well-being, the Kahle's bring revelatory science practices to combat years of problematic, status-quo methods of farming.



Big Water Summer: A Creation Story

USA | 2022 | 15 min • Documentary Short

Director: Sophie Harris

Producers: Sophie Harris, Marlo Lopez, Adam Palmer

What can one person do to keep their community healthy? Cherylyn Yazzie grew up on the Navajo Nation and after years of working in public health, she has returned to her ancestral land to grow produce for her community. As a social worker, she tired of telling kids to "eat healthy" when that was not possible; there are 13 grocery stores on the Navajo Nation, a reservation that is over 27,000 square miles.

This summer, she and her husband are embarking on their biggest crop to date. "Big Water Summer" follows the farm over several months that don't go as planned. Drought, family loss and an unexpected opportunity both undermine and sharpen their goals.



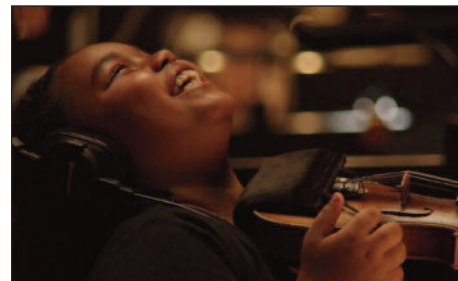
Below Surface

USA | 2023 | 20 min • Documentary Short

Director: Lukas Hauser

Producer: Judith Bookbinder

"Below Surface" reveals the extraordinary power of community through an unlikely subject: a YMCA Aquafit class. The documentary gathers numerous moving stories of a multicultural and multigenerational Aquafit class to demonstrate how kindness and caring for others, combined with exercise, can be an antidote for grief, stress, and physical illness. The heartwarming honesty of the participants is a reminder of the power we all have to support one another.



The Last Repair Shop

USA | 2023 | 40 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Ben Proudfoot, Kris Bowers

Producers: Ben Proudfoot, Kris Bowers, Jeremy Lambert, Josh Rosenberg

Cast: Dana Atkinson, Paty Moreno, Duane Michaels, Steve Bagmanyam

Nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Short Film!

In a nondescript warehouse in the heart of Los Angeles, a dwindling handful of devoted craftspeople maintain over 80,000 student musical instruments, the largest remaining workshop in America of its kind. Meet four unforgettable characters whose broken-and-repaired lives have been dedicated to bringing so much more than music to the schoolchildren of the recording capital of the world.

Tue, Feb 27 | 10am

Harkins 1

Thu, Feb 29 | 4pm

Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:40

Sponsored by:



Documentary Shorts PROGRAM 2



Walking On Clouds

Brazil | 2022 | 7 min • Documentary Short

Director: Renan Kamizi

Producer: João Juchem

Writer: Lucas Giordano

Cast: Rafael Bridi

This short film shows the highline crossing between two air balloons, performed at the end of 2021, in the city of Praia Grande, Santa Catarina, Brazil, by athlete Rafael Bridi, achieving the highest highline record in the world by the Guinness Book.



Daughter of the Sea

USA | 2023 | 17 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Nicole Gormley, Nancy Kwon

Producers: Kevin Hoban, Peter Goetz, Monika McClure, Alex Lowther, Jaeha Kim

Cast: Jaeyoun Kim

After moving away from her childhood home on the remote island of Marado, South Korea, Jaeyoun finds herself plunged into a deep state of depression. Fearing she might do herself harm, her aunt — a lifelong free diver and fisherwoman known as a "Haenyeo" — invites Jaeyoun to return to her island roots. Hailing from 6th generations of Haenyeo before her, Jaeyoun travels back to visit her family and the all-female fishing community on Marado.



Eve

United Kingdom | 2020 | 22 min
Documentary Short

Directors: Joya Berrow, Lucy Jane

Producer: Orban Wallace

"Eve" is an intimate story of a 9-year-old girl called Eve, living in one of the oldest off grid communities in the UK. The film follows her journey returning to school and becoming a young climate activist. Her story encapsulates the human complexity of navigating the environmental crisis and what moving to live off grid really means for a UK family.



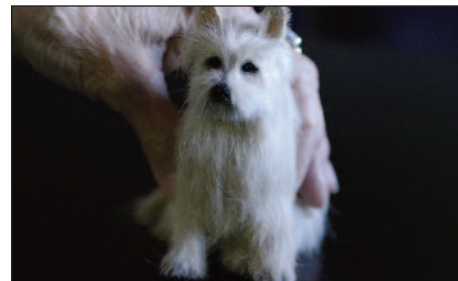
Sanctuary

USA | 2023 | 16 min • Documentary Short

Directors/Producers: John Haley, Julia Szromba

In the first city to ban abortion in Ohio, a lifelong resident grapples with the transformation of her hometown.

Krista Wyatt has lived in the small town of Lebanon, Ohio for her entire life. She spent thirty years as a firefighter and EMT before retiring and running for a position on Lebanon's City Council.



You Can't Shrink Love

USA | 2022 | 5 min • Documentary Short

Director: Veena Rao

An artist gives life to the memories of our most beloved companions.



Goodboy

USA | 2023 | 40 min • Documentary Short

Director/Writer: Ashley Mosher

Producers: Ashley Mosher, Mark Millhone

Cast: Ashley Mosher, Kenya, Mark Millhone

When a woman's beloved dog, Kenya, is diagnosed with terminal cancer during the pandemic, the adventurous photographer attempts to outrun the dog's death and stumbles into the haunting childhood memories of her dying father.

Facing the painful decision on how to handle Kenya's life, she must reconcile her fear of death and learn herself how to sit, stay and heal.

Wed, Feb 28 | 10am

Harkins 1

Fri, Mar 1 | 4pm

Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:47

Sponsored by:

STEPHANIE LARSEN
INTERIOR DESIGN

Documentary Shorts PROGRAM 3



Like Father, Like Son

Canada | 2022 | 10 min • Documentary Short

Director: Justin Tyler Close

In "Like Father, Like Son", Director Justin Tyler Close takes us on a very personal journey to discover the nuances and legacy of fatherhood. Through the stories and perspectives of real fathers and sons from across the country, the film explores what it means to be a good father raising good men in a world where masculinity can be difficult to navigate.

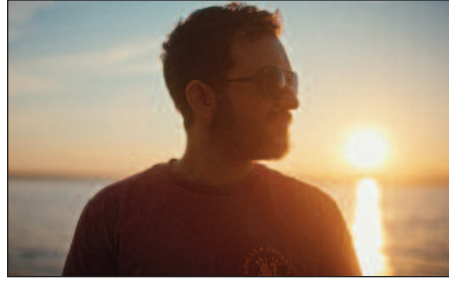


I am Kanaka

United Kingdom | 2022 | 15 min
Documentary Short

Director/Producer/Writer: Genevieve Sulway

With a dark history — 5% speaking the native language and 10% living in poverty — Hawaii is in danger of losing its traditions forever. "I am Kanaka" gives a glimpse into the future with ex-school-teacher Kaina Makua's non-profit program teaching Hawaiian language, sustainability and life skills to disadvantaged kids aged 5-20.



The Right to Joy

USA | 2023 | 20 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Jay Melena, Tim Kressin
Producers: Davis Goslin, Abdul Kassamali
Cast: Izzy Sederbaum

As a trans-masculine cyclist and policy scholar, Izzy Sederbaum was searching for community and acceptance within the sport. After surviving a rare cougar attack on a ride outside of Seattle in early 2018, Izzy was hospitalized with severe facial trauma while hateful anti-trans rhetoric filled comment sections of news articles that he had little to no control over. In the years since, he has struggled to overcome his anxiety of being alone in the woods and the self-doubt brought on by strangers after the attack. Despite these challenges, Izzy found solace and support in the Seattle cycling community, which reignited his passion for the sport. This film follows Izzy's journey as he navigates the aftermath of the attack, overcomes his fears, and becomes a vocal advocate for diversity and trans inclusion within cycling communities across the country.



Winding Path

USA | 2023 | 9 min • Documentary Short

Directors: Alexandra Lazarowich, Ross Kauffman
Producer: Robin Honan

Jenna Murray is an Eastern Shoshone medical student at the University of Utah. Her most formative childhood experiences were spent on her family's Wind River Indian Reservation ranch where she loved nothing more than helping her grandfather: a cowboy, teacher and tribal judge. When her active, 70 year old Papa suddenly dies of a preventable health issue, Jenna grapples with her dream of a career in tribal health while facing her own mental health crisis.

Documentary Shorts PROGRAM 3



Jonathan Thunder: Good Mythology

USA | 2022 | 15 min • Documentary Short

Director: Sergio Mata'u Rapu
Cast: Jonathan Thunder

Filmmaker Sergio Rapu follows Anishinaabe artist Jonathan Thunder as he dives deep into the inspirations behind his surrealist paintings and animations.

From the killing of an iconic American hero to critical perspectives of how indigenous people were portrayed in early children's cartoons, Thunder's art prompts viewers to take a critical look at our shared mythologies.



The Orchestra Chuck Built

USA | 2023 | 20 min • Documentary Short

Director: Christopher Stoudt
Producers: Maryann Garger, Ryan Suffern, Bob Logan, Ainz "Brainz" Prasad
Cast: Charles Dickerson

In 2016, the League of American Orchestras conducted a study that revealed a shocking statistic: only 1.8% of the professional orchestra workforce in the U.S. is Black.

From an old church rec room in the inner city of Los Angeles, former lawyer-turned-conductor Chuck Dickerson is on a mission to change that. With his majority Black and Latino youth orchestra — the largest of its kind in the country — Chuck is creating life-changing opportunities for his community that did not previously exist.



Far West

USA | 2023 | 18 min • Documentary Short

Director/Producer: Stephen Michael Simon
Cast: Lala Abaddon

Drained by the fast-paced urban lifestyle, New York City artist Lala makes a bold decision to uproot herself and seek solace in the untamed landscapes somewhere far west. Stripped of the familiar comforts of running water, electricity, and constant connectivity, she faces the daunting challenge of building a life from scratch. Amidst the solitude of her surroundings, Lala's journey becomes a quest of self-discovery.

Thu, Feb 29 | 10am
Harkins 1

Sat, Mar 2 | 4pm
Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:47



When Unfettered

USA | 2023 | 13 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Derek Franzese
Producers: Derek Franzese, Christopher Dick, Jaytyler Ferretti, Ashley Whelan
Cast: Ashley Whelan, Charlie Berghoffer, Natalie Makenna, Carly Christopher

When an AI humanoid's proprietor passes away, she is released on a journey of purpose and discovery of what it means to feel emotion after encountering and befriending a child with a physical disability.



Mayfly

USA | 2022 | 27 min • Narrative Short

Director: Keith Andreen
Producers: Keith Andreen, Katrina Law, Joel Stevens, Juliette Beavan
Writers: Keith Andreen, Katrina Law
Cast: Warren Kole, Katrina Law, Grace Jenkins, Chanté Bowser, Lucy Blehar, David Scales, Joey Aucoin

Best-selling self-help author Aaron Driscoll may look like a successful motivational speaker on the outside, but inside, he hides a dark secret that he thought would remain buried deep in his past. After a long day of talk shows, book signings, and motivational speaking, he returns home to his mansion and passes out, only to be startled awake by what initially appears to be an obsessed fan holding him at gunpoint, demanding the truth about his shameful past, and forcing him into a painful reckoning that will either kill him or be his salvation.



Vance and the Afterlife

USA | 2023 | 11 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Sam Kimbrell
Producers: Sam Kimbrell, Adam Maffei, Jeremy Floyd
Cast: Frank Caeti, Carly Zien

A corporate stiff named Vance dies and ends up in his own imagination — or lack thereof. Through an appeal process administered by his afterlife guide Sarah, Vance is given a second chance at life that's focused less on superficial career goals and more on creative expression and appreciation for the world around him.



Gone Before Your Eyes

USA | 2023 | 13 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Cara Yeates
Producers: Cara Yeates, Sergio Maza
Cast: Jane Ives, Eleanore Jackson

Trapped in a surreal loop, an artist with Alzheimer's struggles to paint.



Main Character Energy

USA | 2023 | 13 min • Narrative Short

Director: Sohale Dezfoli
Producers: Sohale Dezfoli, Nicholas Begnaud
Writer: Nicholas Begnaud
Cast: Mark Prendergast, Taylor Joree Scorse, Kacey Rose, Tracy Dye, Carlo Malis, Lonnie Hughes, Sohale Dezfoli

An actor goes into an open call but misses an important detail in the character description.



Dead Cat

Canada | 2023 | 13 min • Narrative Short

Directors/Writers: Annie-Claude Caron, Danick Audet
Producers: Astrid Barrette Tessier, Sophie Valcourt
Cast: Léane Labrèche-Dor, Pierre-Yves Cardinal, Lilas-Rose Cantin

What were Catherine and Louis thinking when they chose a cat with distinctive white spots? It would have been much easier to replace if they had picked the all-black one! Now, they will have to tell their daughter Sophie that Nugget's dead. Unless....

Sun, Feb 25 | 1pm
 Harkins 1

Tue, Feb 27 | 7pm
 Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:30



Good Grief

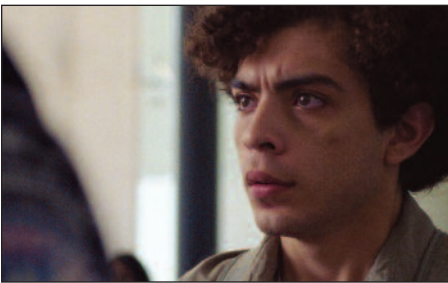
USA | 2023 | 9 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Ash Blodgett

Producer: Tara Jayn

Cast: Katie Self, Ryan Self, Danielle Beckmann, Timmy Morgan, Sam Manual

In search of closure, a young woman attempts to spread her father's ashes on a remote sea cliff but an unexpected encounter leads her to the only person who might just understand her grief.



Límite

USA | 2023 | 38 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: George Nicholas

Producers: George Nicholas, Eliza Bonev

Cast: Gustavo Cruz, Eduardo Gómez, Jorge Domínguez Cerdá, Carla Culebro, Zoni Medina, Leah Finity, Moses

Manuel is a 16-year-old living in Tijuana, Mexico with his grandfather while his mom works in the U.S., supporting them. When he meets a girl he thinks he loves, he sees an opportunity to assert his independence, but what he doesn't know is that she is working for a drug dealer to whom Manuel is now indebted. When he is asked to perform a favor he can't refuse, Manuel must choose between risking his life and losing his dignity.



Chauncey

USA | 2023 | 11 min • Narrative Short

Directors/Writers: Reilly Anspaugh, Daniel Rashid

Producers: Reilly Anspaugh, Daniel Rashid, Elizabeth Valenti

Cast: Reilly Anspaugh, Daniel Rashid, Miya Kodama, Doug Tompos

Zoe is afraid to introduce her new boyfriend to her old stuffed animal.



1201

USA | 2023 | 13 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Bobby Jordan

Producers: Bobby Jordan, Jeremy Miller, Josh Ventura

Cast: Josh Ventura, Dan Johnson, Trae Romano

A father and son seek closure after a tragic event.



Confessions

USA | 2023 | 12 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Stephanie Kaznocha

Producers: Chase Horton, Caroline Huber, Stephanie Kaznocha

Cast: Carol Herman, Eve Sigall

After the death of a friend, two nuns in their golden years contemplate what their future holds. One confession leads to another and before they know it, they're embarking on an adventure.



Lost Bird (Zintkála Nuni)

USA | 2023 | 7 min • Animated Short

Directors/Producers: Scott Feldmann, Brad Colerick

Writer: Brad Colerick

A tale of "found & lost" reveals the troubled life of a Lakota baby who survived the 1890 Massacre at Wounded Knee, only to struggle with identity and acceptance in white high-society circles, along with the loss of her own people, culture and heritage. Told in a montage of animated Ledger Art, vintage silent movie clips and historic photographs, to an original song by Brad Colerick.

Sun, Feb 25 | 7pm

Harkins 1

Tue, Feb 27 | 1pm

Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:30



Order My Steps

USA | 2023 | 19 min • Narrative Short

Director: Augusta Palmer
Producers: Eva Minemar, Dolores Diaz, Meg Grant
Writer: Kathryn Grant
Cast: Carla Brandberg

After almost 20 years of separation, Peg — an incarcerated woman — meets with her daughter, Dorian, through a family reconciliation program. As they try to connect, memory intrudes, reminding them of the addiction, neglect and betrayal that kept them apart all of these years. Will this meeting begin to mend this ruptured family?



The Overlook

USA | 2023 | 19 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: John Gray
Producers: Vera Aronow, John Gray, Melissa Jo Peltier
Cast: Eric Ladin, Mouzam Makkar, Chris Parnell

An estranged couple reunite for a mysterious errand in the woods.

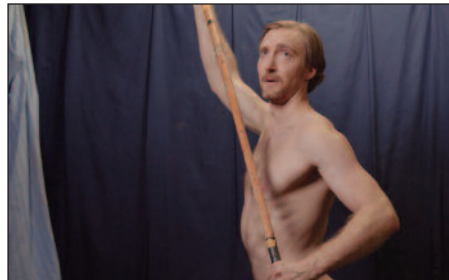


Blue Hour

USA | 2023 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director: J.D. Shields
Producers: Lauren Avinoam, Maya Korn
Writer: Diana Ward
Cast: Doyin Domingo, Diamond Taylor

Two personal journeys intersect when a struggling young photographer is hired for a cheap last minute portrait gig. The unfolding photo session, while transient, leaves an indelible mark on both women.



Fundamental Shapes

USA | 2023 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Colin Alistair Campbell
Producer: Jonathan DiMaio
Cast: Colin Alistair Campbell, Smitha Ram, Steve Held, Lezlie Lake Dalton, Keith Lee Grant, Roetta Smitha, Mark Pinals, Stanley Katz, Grace Kiley, Carol Brodsky, Ellie Jackson

Jacob, an unemployed actor, stumbles into an unusual gig: nude figure model for a fine arts class. When his next-door neighbor turns up, he must find a way to keep his identity hidden, and their budding romance intact. A gentle romantic comedy about vulnerability, surprising coincidences, and the unexpected ways we find love.



Sevap/Mitzvah

Bosnia, Herzegovina | 2023 | 20 min
 Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Sabina Vajrača
Producers: Kerim Mašović, Sabina Vajrača
Cast: Helena Vuković, Adnan Hasković, Muhamed Hadžović, Magdalena Zivaljic-Tadic, Frano Maskovic, Sanela Krsmanovic-Bistrivoda, Rijad Gvozden

During WWII in Nazi-occupied Bosnia, a Muslim woman risks everything to save her Jewish friends. Inspired by a true story.

Wed, Feb 28 | 1pm
 Harkins 1

Fri, Mar 1 | 7pm
 Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:28

Sponsored by Michelle and Gerry Snyder



Nakam

Germany | 2022 | 34 min • Narrative Short

Director: Andreas Kessler

Producers: Max Breuer, Janick Gootz

Writer: Fabien Virayie

Cast: Anton Krymskiy, Peter Miklusz, Jevgenij Sitochin

Twelve-year-old violin player Mitka is supposed to execute an attack on several SS officers in the name of a Ukrainian partisan movement. But this attempt will also put his only friend's life in danger.



New in Town

USA | 2023 | 14 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Hyejin "Grace" Park

Producers: Ziyu "Arwen" Wang, Dongcheng

"Jeffery" Jiang

Cast: Celeste Den

After losing her house, Laura — a failed cooperation woman — purchases a tent and enters a tent town, starting a houseless life. As she refuses to fit into a new environment — a houseless tent town in Los Angeles — she actively separates herself from other unhoused people hoping she'll be out of the unhoused situation soon. She tries to get a job, but she slowly understands that she is becoming part of the tent town.



A Day In The Life

United Kingdom | 2022 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director: James Oates

Producers: James Oates, Hannah Ellis-Ryan, Jon Furlong

Writer: Jon Furlong

Cast: Jon Furlong, Yemisi Oyinloye, John Weaver

When one of his best friends makes a life changing announcement, Pat's normality is turned upside down.



I'm Sending Help Now

USA | 2023 | 8 min • Narrative Short

Director: John Redlinger

Producer: Melanie Collup

Writer: Melanie Collup

Cast: Scott Van Tuyl, Melanie Collup, Christina Gray

When a recent retiree can't remember the safe word after accidentally setting off his home security alarm, the situation is made worse by his frantic golden retriever and an overzealous alarm company dispatcher.



Sister

USA | 2023 | 16 min • Narrative Short

Director: Shane Andries

Producers: Meg Jenkins Locke, Shane Andries, Gabe Yeh, Ela Thier

Writer: Meg Jenkins Locke

Cast: Billy Magnussen, Jayne Brook, Meg Jenkins Locke

On the day of her older sister's burial, a bereaved woman meets an amicable bartender who helps her find the courage to continue on. A story about sisterly love and the bonds that will always remain.

Wed, Feb 28 | 7pm

Harkins 1

Fri, Mar 1 | 1pm

Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:27

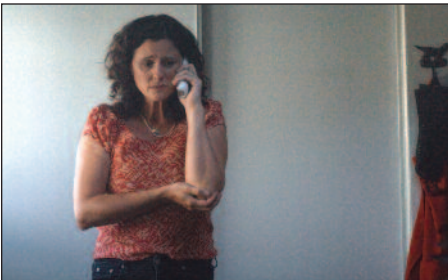


Farewell Fire

USA | 2022 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Directors: Alex Meader, Connor Hair
Producers: Alex Meader, Connor Hair, Phoebe Randall, Alex Raines
Writer: Alex Meader
Cast: Ben Morang, Jeff Tendall

A young man hikes deep into the redwood forest, revisiting memories of the last camping trip he took with his Dad.



The Day of

USA | 2023 | 18 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Umar Malik
Producers: Umar Malik, Jennifer Lafleur
Cast: Jennifer Lafleur, David Sullivan, Emily Gateley

Jennifer Lafleur and David Sullivan star in this heart-wrenching portrait of a mother's worst nightmare becoming a reality when she receives a devastating call from her daughter.



Living All of Life

Mexico | 2022 | 27 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Marlén Ríos-Farjat
Producer: Eduardo Vasconcelos
Cast: Paloma Woolrich, Carmen Delgado

After a lifetime together, Susana has been abandoned by her husband. She is in denial and holds on to the past. One day, she needs the help of her neighbor, Gloria, a free-spirited woman who Susana can't stand. But the friendship that emerges between them arises in Susana the desire to live in the present.



Hangman

USA | 2023 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director: Megan Brotherton
Producers: Sarah Rodenbaugh, Kelsey Goldberg, Alexander Billet, Megan Brotherton, Cate Fogarty
Writers: Sarah Rodenbaugh, Dayna Schaaf, Sascha Alexander
Cast: Sarah Rodenbaugh, Bonnie Helman, Suzy Nakamura, Travis Coles, J.P. Manoux

A recently widowed woman works through the complexities of grief with the help of friends, strangers and Tupperware.

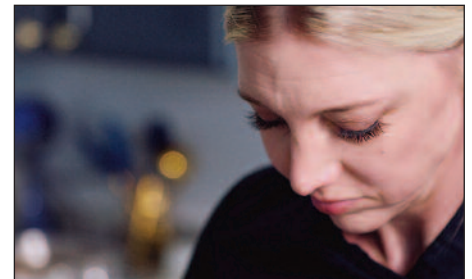


Our Males and Females

Jordan | 2022 | 11 min • Narrative Short

Director: Ahmad Alyaseer
Producer: Mais Salman
Writers: Ahmad Alyaseer, Rana Alyaseer
Cast: Kamel El Basha, Shafiq Al Tal

A father and mother are faced with the painful task of washing and shrouding their deceased transgender daughter. Shrouding is an Islamic religious practice that is deemed obligatory to carry out upon death. But when no one agrees to wash her and shame falls onto the family, how far is the father willing to go to make sure his "son" is washed?



Critique

USA | 2023 | 4 min • Narrative Short

Directors: Lucas Cabanillas, Joe Tafoya, Quinlan Donovan-Schager

With the company of an important critic, a personal chef labors away to craft a successful three-course meal.

Thu, Feb 29 | 1pm
Harkins 1

Sat, Mar 2 | 7pm
Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:30

Sponsored by Janet Bellarosa



The Red Suitcase

Luxembourg | 2022 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director/Producer: Cyrus Neshvad
Writer: Guillaume Levil
Cast: Nawelle Evad

An Iranian girl decides to remove her Headscarf/Hijab in a life changing situation.



Common As Red Hair

USA | 2023 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Robbie Robertson
Producers: Robbie Robertson, Kimberly Zieselman
Cast: Kassie DePaiva, Wally Kurth, Cassidy Spencer, Burke Brown, Eden Lown

The aftermath of an emotional funeral causes a grieving father and mother to reexamine their early life decision to have gender normalization surgery performed on their intersex infant.



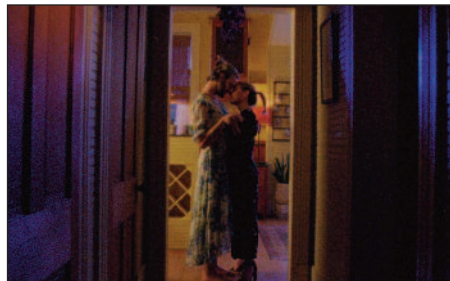
Tart

Canada | 2022 | 11 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Rose Schimm
Producer: Kate Fenton
Cast: Trudy Weiss, Gerry Mendicino, Kris Siddiqi

An elderly widow lives in a lonely, grey world until she adopts a big, lovable dog who brings love and color back into her life.

"Tart" uses traditional ideas about widowhood to explore loneliness and isolation in older women. The story follows IDA, a widow in her 70s, who spends her days selling hand-knitted crafts outside her church and her evenings alone with the evening news for company.



Honey & Milk

USA | 2023 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director: Dash Donato
Producer: Tani Paige Shukla
Writers: Jennifer Parkhill, Damian Joseph Quinn
Cast: Damian Joseph Quinn, Jennifer Parkhill

Grayson and Alice spend a final weekend together to dismantle their domestic life as Grayson embarks on a journey of gender expansion.



A Wedding Day

USA | 2022 | 21 min • Narrative Short

Director/Writer: Brendan Beachman
Producers: Brendan Beachman, Colin Arndt, Todd Sandler, Douglas Riggs
Cast: Hugo Armstrong, Megan Stogner, Scott Kuza

For newlyweds Brad and Jill, it seems the honeymoon is over before it even began. When an eccentric stranger named Jess White stumbles into the couple's first argument as man and wife, the day takes an abrupt turn and changes their lives forever.



The Ballad of Tita and the Machines

USA | 2023 | 15 min • Narrative Short

Director: Miguel Angel Caballero
Producers: Helena Sardinha, Rafael Thomaseto
Writers: Luis Antonio Aldana, Miguel Angel Caballero
Cast: Laura Patalano, Luis Antonio Aldana, Nico Greetham

In a near future where Artificial Intelligence in the workforce is a societal norm, Tita, an injured and elderly fieldworker, reluctantly hires an artificially intelligent humanoid substitute worker to fill in for her picking strawberries and unexpectedly attracts the curiosity of the creators of this technology when their AI workers are unable to do her back-breaking work.

Thu, Feb 29 | 7pm
 Harkins 1

Sat, Mar 2 | 1pm
 Harkins 1

Total Running Time: 1:32

Sponsored by Michelle and Gerry Snyder