

THE  
*micheaux*®  
FILM FESTIVAL

2024

OCT 21ST – OCT 27TH | CULVER THEATER

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PROGRAMMING  
BOOKLET

# ARE YOU READY FOR MFF 2024

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**CHECK FESTIVAL  
SCHEDULE**

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# History of Oscar Micheaux



Oscar Micheaux (October 2, 1884 – 1951) was a pioneering African American author and filmmaker, and without a doubt the most famous producer of race films.

Micheaux, was born near Metropolis, Illinois and grew up in Great Bend, Kansas, one of eleven children of former slaves. As a young boy he shined shoes and worked as a porter on the railway. As a young man, he very successfully homesteaded a farm in an all-white area of South Dakota where he began writing stories. Given the attitudes and restrictions on black people at the time, Micheaux overcame them by forming his own publishing company to buy his books door-to-house.

The advent of the motion picture industry intrigued him as a vehicle to tell his stories. He formed his own movie production company and in 1919 became the first African-American to make a film. He wrote, directed and produced the silent motion picture *The Homesteader*, starring the pioneering African American actress Evelyn Preer and based

on his novel of the same name. He again used autobiographical elements in *The Exile*, his first feature film with sound, in which the central character leaves Chicago to buy and operate a ranch in South Dakota. In 1924, he introduced the moviegoing world to Paul Robeson in his film, *Body and Soul*.

Given the times, his accomplishments in publishing and film are extraordinary, including being the first African-American to produce a film to be shown in "white" movie theaters. In his motion pictures, he moved away from the "Negro" stereotypes being portrayed in film at the time. Additionally, in his film *Within Our Gates*, Micheaux attacked the racism depicted in D.W. Griffith's film, *The Birth of a Nation*.

The Producers Guild of America called him, "The most prolific Black – if not most prolific independent – filmmaker in American cinema." Over his illustrious career, Cledisson Micheaux wrote, produced and directed forty-four feature-length films between 1919 and 1948, and wrote seven novels, one of which was a national bestseller.

Micheaux died in Charlotte, North Carolina while on a business trip. His body was returned to Great Bend, Kansas, where he was interred in the Great Bend cemetery with other members of his family.

Oscar Micheaux's legacy lives on through this festival, and his accomplishments have most recently been honored by the solo exhibit in the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures.

# PANELS PARTIES & MIXERS

# Monday, October 21st



## MICHEAUX FILM FEST WELCOME MIXER (PRE RECEPTION)

- **Date & Time:** Monday, October 21st, 2024 | 6:00PM - 7:30PM
- **Location:** The Gathering Spot | 5211 W Adams Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90016
- **Description:** Kick off the festivities at our Welcome Mixer! Mingle with creators and cinema fans alike, making connections that inspire and entertain. Join us to toast to the beginning of a championship kick-off!



## "DESDE LA RAIZ" + Q&A PRESENTED BY ROKU

- **Date & Time:** Monday, October 21st, 2024 | 7:40PM - 8:55PM
- **Location:** The Gathering Spot | 5211 W Adams Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90016
- **Description:** In this four part docu-series, actor Jaime Camil (Jane the Virgin) will explore origins and meaning of Mexican products like coffee, chile, corn, and mezcal. Camil describes the series as "a love letter to México and some of the country's richest heritage and legendary commodities."
- **(Dir./Prod):** Paulina Gamiz, Gus Sánchez; EPs: Ray Jimenez, Jaime Camil
- **Notable Talent:** Jaime Camil (Jane the Virgin)

# Tuesday, October 22nd



## Entertainment Law 101: Protecting Your Intellectual Property (Virtual panel)

- Date & Time: Tuesday, October 22nd @ 1p
- Entertainment attorneys come together in this virtual panel to discuss safeguarding your creative work. Whether you're in the early stages of development or deep into the distribution process, these experts will provide essential strategies to protect your ideas across the industry. This session is crucial for anyone looking to navigate the legal complexities of the entertainment business
- Confirmed panelists:

Katherine Imp - Partner (DLA Piper)

Staci Trager - Partner (DLA Piper)

Moderated by: Jalene Mack, Entertainment Attorney / Producer



## Opening Night (Pre-Reception)

- Date & Time: Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- Location: The Culver Theater, 9500 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Join us for the opening pre-reception as we celebrate the short films and feature films of the 2024 festival.



## Opening Night Party

- Date & Time: Friday, October 25th, 2024 | 9:30 PM
- Location: Blind Barber | 10797 Washington Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Raise a glass at Pour it Up! Join us for a spirited happy hour where filmmakers and guests alike can relax, network, and enjoy a drink or two.

# Wednesday, October 23rd

## Actor's Toolkit (Virtual workshop)



Date & Time: 3PM

This virtual workshop covers the fundamentals of acting, offering essential techniques and advice tailored to actors at all stages of their careers. Whether you're just starting out or looking to refine your craft, this session provides valuable insights into both the art and business of acting, ensuring you're equipped to succeed in a competitive industry.

Confirmed instructor:  
Chris Greene, *The Life of an Actor*

## Career Spotlight: Prentice Penny



- Date and time: Wednesday, October 23rd | 7:00 PM
- Location: The Culver Theater, 9500 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Join Prentice Penny as he reflects on his award-winning career, sharing the pivotal moments and challenges that shaped his journey. This retrospective offers an intimate look at how he navigated the industry and the ways he's working to uplift the next generation of storytellers. A valuable session for anyone interested in the pathways to success in entertainment.
- Moderated by: Tre Wesley, IMDb





# Tech & Talent: Shaping the Future of Filmmaking

## Powered by Dr Self Tape & Chase Visions

- Date and time: Wednesday, October 23rd | 8:30 PM

Join industry leaders Joseph Harold, Joel Harold, Lamar Chase and Aisha Corpas Wynn as they explore the rapidly evolving entertainment landscape. From the impact of AI on programming to the next big innovations in content creation, this panel will dive deep into the future of filmmaking. The speakers will share their journeys in the industry, with Lamar offering a glimpse into his rise to becoming a studio executive. Expect practical advice for filmmakers, actionable steps for navigating the modern entertainment world, and a lively discussion on how to future-proof your creative career. Dr. Self Tape and Chase Visions power this session.

Confirmed panelists:

Aisha Corpas Wynn

Emmy Nominated Exec Producer, Host of AI Chicks

Lamar Chase

Senior Vice President, Current Programming at Sony pictures

Joseph Harold

Filmmaker & Founder, Upocaster

Joel Harold

Filmmaker & Founder, Dr. Self Tape



# Filmmaker Meetup Mixer (Cine-Cheese)

- Date & Time: Wednesday, October 23rd, 2024 | 10:00 PM - Midnight
- Location: Carasau Cafe - 3912/3918 Van Buren Pl, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Unwind and connect at Cine-Cheese! Whether it's discussing your next project or simply making new friends, join us for a late night filled with engaging conversation and PIZZA.

# Thursday, October 24th



## Running the Show Panel - 6pm

Showrunners from critically acclaimed series share their journeys, offering insights into the challenges of overseeing a show from inception to broadcast. This panel provides invaluable advice for aspiring showrunners and anyone interested in the intricate process of television production.

Confirmed panelists:

Amy Aniobi (Survival of the Thickest, 2 Dope Queens, Insecure)  
Sanjay Shah (Everybody Still Hates Chris, Central Park)  
Raamla Mohamed (Reasonable Doubt, Little Fires Everywhere)  
Moderated by: Zon D'Amour



## Maximizing Film Festivals and Markets Panel - 7:30PM

- The Film Festival Doctor and festival programmers provide advice on crafting a film festival strategy that aligns with your distribution goals. This panel will help filmmakers navigate the festival circuit, ensuring they make the most of each opportunity to showcase their work and connect with industry executives.

- Confirmed panelists:

Rebekah Louisa Smith, The Film Festival Doctor  
Ana Souza - Sundance Film Festival  
Derek Horne - USC, Annapolis Film Festival  
Moderated by: Sandrine Cassidy



## Filmmaker & VIP Mixer (The Scene Stealers)

- Date & Time: Thursday, October 24th, 2024 | 8:30PM - 11:30PM
- Location: Jameson's Pub - 9546 Washington Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Rub shoulders with The Scene Stealers! This exclusive event is exclusively for VIPs, alumni and the current class of filmmakers in a vibrant pub setting.

# Friday, October 25th



## Quick Cup Meet-Up (A Java Jolt)

Date & Time: Friday, October 25th, 2024 | 9AM - 11AM

Location: Carasau Cafe - 3912/3918 Van Buren Pl, Culver City, CA 90232

Description: Start your morning with a Java Jolt! This quick meet-up is the perfect opportunity to fuel up on coffee while networking, with fellow festival-goers in a cozy café environment. Set meetings, relax before screenings or connect with new future collaborators.



## Narratives with A Purpose - 1:00 PM

Date & Time: Friday, October 25th, 2024 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

This panel focuses on the power of accurate and authentic storytelling, with an emphasis on organ, eye and tissue donation and transplantation. Advocates, Artists, and producers will discuss the role of film, television and music in driving social change, providing inspiration and offer practical advice for creators committed to making a difference.

Confirmed speakers currently include,

Carol Barbee (Showrunner, Raising Dion, Jericho, Three Rivers),

Jason Ganzel (Executive Producer-Writer, Greys Anatomy, Queen of the South, Graceland),

Tristan Thai (Producer-Writer, The Good Doctor),

Kameishia Wooten, (Writer-Director, Choices),

Philadelphia Freeway (Hip Hop Artist, Kidney Recipient and Donor Dad)

moderated by Sarah E. Fahey (Producer-Writer, Hit The Floor, Chair of OneLegacy Inspires Hollywood)



## The Playlist: Music Sync + Supervision Panel - 4:30PM

• Unlock the power of music in your films with guidance from top music supervisors. This panel will cover everything from planning your music budget to creative solutions for when funds are tight.

• Confirmed panelists:

Mandisa Henry - Raedio

Eric Medina - Raedio

Shannon Palazzolo - Think Music, Inc

Jasmin Benward - Madden Flow Entertainment

Moderated by Yha Mourhia Wright



## Fireside Chat w/Kaia Alexander - 6PM

- Kaia Alexander, founder of the Entertainment Business School, leads a fireside chat on the current state of the industry and emerging trends. This conversation will provide valuable foresight for industry professionals looking to stay ahead of the curve (and afloat) as we move into 2025 and beyond.
- Confirmed speaker:  
Kaia Alexander, The Entertainment Business School  
Moderated by Donna-Marie Reid



## Sony Pictures Clips & Conversation

Buddy Comedy Starring Keke Palmer & SZA Produced by Issa Rae From TriStar Pictures

Date & Time: Friday, October 25th, 2024 | 7:45PM - 9:30PM

Location: The Culver Theater - 9500 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232

Description: Join us for a special "Clips and Conversation" event featuring the untitled buddy comedy from TriStar Pictures, starring Keke Palmer and SZA. Get an exclusive look at selected scenes and discuss the creative process with the team behind the film, including director Lawrence Lamont, producer Issa Rae, and screenwriter Syreeta Singleton..

# Saturday, October 26th



## Impact & Storytelling Panel - 12pm

- This panel focuses on the power of socially impactful storytelling, with an emphasis on addressing homelessness. Non-profits and producers will discuss the role of film in driving social change, providing inspiration and practical advice for filmmakers committed to making a difference.
- Confirmed panelists:  
John Berry - St. Vincent de Paul  
Pierre Johnson - Peggy Beatrice Foundation  
Anthony Conley - Covenant House  
Jared Milrad - MoviKarma  
Moderated by Kellianne Rae Jordan



## Opportunities w/ Fast Channels Panel - 2pm

Representatives from leading fast channel platforms discuss the growing opportunities for independent filmmakers in the fast channel space. This panel will explore how to leverage these platforms to reach new audiences and distribute your content more effectively.

Confirmed panelists:  
 Ani Akpan - Tubi  
 James DuBose - In the Black Network  
 Tani Sylvester - Ramah Productions  
 Moderated by Lauryn McCollum



## Figuring Out Film Financing Panel - 3:30p

Learn the art of securing film financing with expert insights from Giant Leap Media and the CA Film Commission. Discover practical strategies and tax credit opportunities to fund your film, no matter the budget.

Confirmed panelists:  
 DJ Jiang - Giant Leap Media  
 Fanshen Cox - CA Film Commission



## Happy Hour (Final Act)

- Date & Time: Saturday, October 26th, 2024 | 6:00PM - 7:00PM
- Location: Blind Barber | 10797 Washington Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Celebrate the festival's grand finale at the Closing Act Party! It's your last chance to make those festival connections count in an unforgettable night of music, dance, and film celebration.

# Sunday, October 27th



## Awards Ceremony

- Date & Time: Sunday, October 27th, 2024 | 2:00PM - 6:30PM
- Location: The Culver Theater - 9500 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Join us for the pinnacle of our festival, the Awards Ceremony, where we honor the outstanding achievements of this year's filmmakers. Witness the crowning of cinematic excellence in a grand celebration.

Attire: Black attire required—embrace the elegance of simplicity and sophistication.



## Awards Afterparty (The Black and Gold Affair)

- Date & Time: Sunday, October 27th, 2024 | 6:30PM - 11:00PM
- Location: One Culver | 10000 Washington Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232
- Description: Cap off an incredible festival with The Black & Gold Afterparty. Dress in your finest black attire and join us for an evening of reflection, celebration, and looking forward to next year's adventures.

Attire: Formal Attire Required —embrace the elegance of simplicity and sophistication.

\*\*Black or Gold Attire Preferred\*\*

# SCREENINGS

# Tuesday, October 22nd

## Opening Night Short: *The Distinguished* - 6:30 PM Q&A immediately following screening



### **The Distinguished**

**(Dir.: Rickey Castleberry, Writer: Rickey Castleberry, Rodney Wilkins, Producer: Zach Fuqua, Rickey Castleberry, Khalid Jordan)**

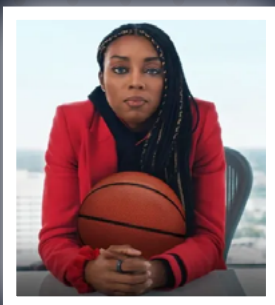
Notable Talent: Harold Perrineau, Tracie Thoms, Jabbar Lewis, Luke Youngblood, Tosin Morohunfola, Jonathan Burke, Shawn Carter Peterson

Logline: A young boy's reality transforms as he deciphers cryptic messages from a supernatural force in his dreams, uncovering his family's legacy.

Short Film | Runtime: 16:24

Premiere Status: World Premiere

## Opening Night Feature Film: *A Radical Act: Renee Montgomery*



### **A Radical Act: Renee Montgomery**

Date & Time: Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024 | 7:30PM - 10:00PM

Location: The Culver Theater - 9500 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232

Premiere Status: World Premiere

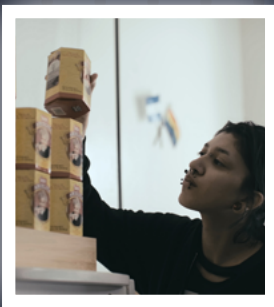


# Wednesday, October 23rd

## AUD #3

### Roots and Routes - 5:00 PM

*This block of films delves into the immigrant experience, highlighting the challenges, hopes, and triumphs of those who navigate new worlds while holding onto their roots.*



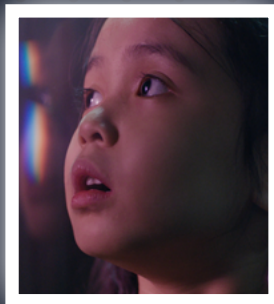
#### Pretend I'm Not Here

(Dir/Writer: Noah Amir Arjomand, Producer: Velene Amado)

**Logline:** A nonbinary Spanish-English phone interpreter hears a familiar voice on the other end of a call with a migrant detention facility.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:49

Premiere Status: World Premiere



#### Playground

(Dir/Writer: Yaxing Lin, Producers: Mengqiao Chen, Ruonan Jiang, Yaxing Lin)

**Logline:** A Six Year Old Girl's Adventure At An Adult Night Club.

Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:22

Premiere Status: No Premiere



#### Expanding Sanctuary

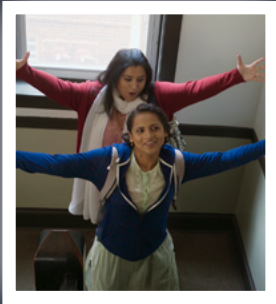
Dir/Writer: Kristal Sotomayor

**Notable Talent:** Music by Las Cafeteras

**Logline:** An immigrant mother emerges as a community leader during the historic campaign to end the sharing of the Philadelphia police database with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Expanding Sanctuary tells a rarely told story about a Latinx immigrant community's successful journey to change legislation and protect families.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## FOBia Pilot

(Dir.:Reshmi Hazra Rustebakke, Writers: Priya Mohanty, Producers: Karla Huffman, Peter Dolan)

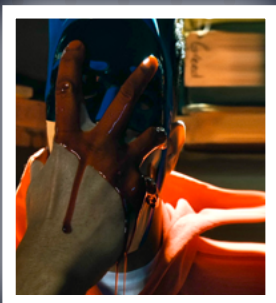
**Logline:** An Indian FOB (Fresh Off the Boat) Kay, arrives in America to go to business school only to be informed by her neighbor Bina (that her roommate ran off to be a Hollywood star. Fate conspires to bring Kay and Ashanti (also abandoned at the 11th hour by her roommate) together as roomies - two humans from different worlds. FOBia follows the three women as they make their way through cultural misunderstandings and mayhem.

Web Series | Runtime: 0:26:55

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Let's Unpack That vol. 1 - 6:30 PM

*These stories delve into personal healing, exploring the emotional journeys of individuals as they unpack their deepest traumas.*



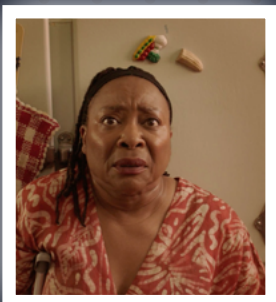
## Baggage Claim

(Dir./Writer: Eric Dyson)

**Logline:** Jimmy discovers sometimes the end is just the beginning.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Saving All My Love

(Dir.: Kristina Thomas, Writer: Tyler Young, Producer: KD Chalk)

**Notable Talent:** Venus DiMilo Thomas, Yolanda Snowball

**Logline:** A down-on-her-luck former pageant queen's anxiety spirals out of control when she finally confronts her mother's hoarding.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:36



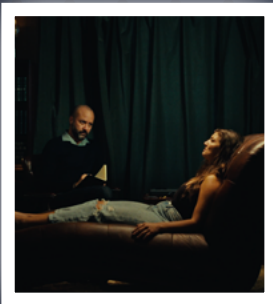
## Moments

(Dirs.: Malachi Rivers, Aaron Lewis, Writer: Malachi Rivers, Producers: Malachi Rivers, Rob Byrd, Carlton Jordan, Aaron Lewis, Jeff Gardere)

**Notable Talent:** Rutina Wesley (OWN's *Queen Sugar*, HBO's *True Blood*, *The Last of Us*) · Malachi Rivers (Netflix's *Mank*), Jeff Gardere, Sufe Bradshaw (HBO's *Veep*, *Lovecraft Country*) · Devere Rogers (Amazon Prime's *Honk for Jesus. Save Your Soul*), Thomas Hobson (Nickelodeon's *That Girl Lay Lay*), Desean Terry (Apple TV's *The Morning Show*), Tiffany Snow (BET's *Just As I Am*, *Family Portrait*)

**Logline:** A weekly therapy group unravels tales of abuse, deferred dreams, lost love, and more, guided by a mind-reading therapist and a time-traveling healer who help them confront the moments that led them to therapy.

*Web Series | Runtime: 0:23:10*



## Phoenix

(Dir/Writer: Sid Dalvi, Producers: Jacqueline Urteaga, Nandini Dalvi, Sid Dalvi)

**Logline:** When a psychiatrist hypnotizes one of his most traumatized patients, he discovers something that changes both of their lives forever.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:07*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

# Feature: Under the Influencer - 8:00 PM



## Under the Influencer

(Dir.: Bryn Woznicki, Writer: Skye Emerson, Producers: Jill Bennett, Katie Hall)

**Notable Talent:** Joy Sunday (*Wednesday*, *Dear White People*, *MacGyver*); Erin Matthews (*Hannah Montana*, *Chasing Life*, *Final Fantasy XV*); Pam Trotter (*Dreamgirls*, *Abbott Elementary*, *Life in Pieces*); Tami Lane (Oscar-winning makeup artist)

**Logline:** Digital artist Lex Carre documents her struggle with anxiety through work that she posts pseudonymously online. Her pieces capture the attention of cunning curator Andrea Caulfield, who offers mentorship in exchange for control of Lex's career. When Lex's mental health starts to spiral from the pressure, Andrea assumes ownership of her work—prompting Lex to plot a psychological showdown against the exploitative mentor who stole her art and nearly destroyed her mind.

*Feature Film | Runtime: 1:42:51*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

# Dreams & Nightmares - 10:00 PM

Films that transport viewers from the heights of their wildest dreams to the depths of their darkest nightmares, and all that can go wrong in between.



## MANIFESTO [for Concrete Poetry]

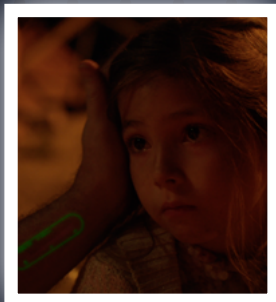
(Dir/Writer/Producer: Richard Hamasaki, Jody Stillwater, Sebastian Galasso)

**Notable Talent:** Jody Stillwater (2024 Emmy nominated for sound); Daniel Croix (Apple TV Manhunt actor and Oval actor for Tyler Perry); Sebastian Galasso (actor)

**Logline:** MANIFESTO [for Concrete Poetry] features a timeless, irreverent and satirical poem by the late Wayne Kaumualii Westlake (1947-1984) originally published in 1979.

Short Film | Runtime: 6:24

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



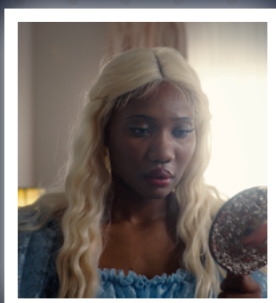
## CARLY

(Dir.: Emily Lerer, Writer: Shelly Ro, Producers: Shelly Ro, Humberto "Tito" Castillo)

**Logline:** In a dystopian world, a TV show unfolds its dark tale. Carly, the charismatic host of "The Cupcake Factory" presides over a society where "likeability" is the only currency. Winning guarantees a promising future at a haunting cost. What would you do to ensure the wellbeing of those you love?

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:41

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Black Girls & Fairytales

(Dir: Kiara Barnes, Writer: Celeste Banks, Producers: Kiara Barnes, Celeste Banks)

**Logline:** A princess for hire gets the chance of a lifetime to be an actual princess, but her ingrained colorism and insecurities hold her back from her crown.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:14

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

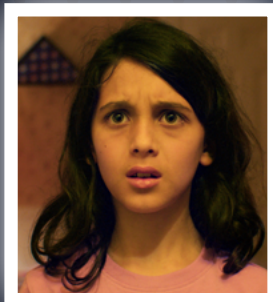


## Deep Reverence

(Dir.: Jenise Whitehead, Writers: Jenise Whitehead, Reuben Bernardo Tietz, Producers: Jenise Whitehead, Peri Michael)

**Logline:** At the same depth that provokes fear can also gently birth new beginnings by cleansing past traumas. Haunted by the fear of drowning in deep water, from the memory of accidentally falling into a pool, Rhea reclaims her space in deep water by learning to swim.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:02:00*



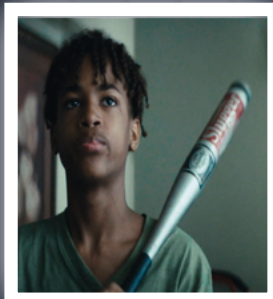
## Babyteeth

(Dir/Writer: Paul X Sanchez IV, Producer: Jason A. White)

**Logline:** Toni is an 11-year-old LatinX, transboy, who is afraid of the monster under their bed...which is very real...but it may not be the only monster in his house.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:47*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



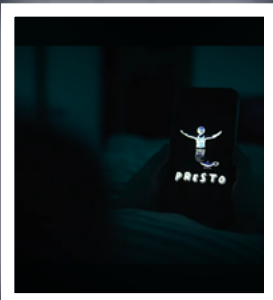
## Among the Wounded

(Dir/Writer: Adonis Williams, Producer: Adonis Williams, Pamela Diaz)

**Logline:** As a violent epidemic of a new drug wreaks havoc on a New York housing project complex right after a heavy snowstorm, a single mother and her youngest son frantically search for her oldest who may have been exposed at a party he attended against her wishes.

*Short Film | Runtime: 9:02*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*



## Presto

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Emerson Niemchick)

**Logline:** A desperate man seeks help from a mysterious app simply known as "Presto". What he gets is more than he bargained for.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:23:23*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

## AUD #6

### Feature: A Little Hope for Chicago - 5:30 PM



#### A Little Hope for Chicago

(Dir: Leon Lozano, Writers: Leon Lozano, Kevin Nichols, Producers: Garrett E.B. Thompson, Leon Lozano, Kevin Nichols)

**Logline:** Part narrative performance film, part documentary, A LITTLE HOPE FOR CHICAGO is a walk through the life of a Chicago hustler, narrowly avoiding the devastating consequences of death and incarceration, as he reflects on the systemic root causes of the violence and trauma that consume youth in urban centers like Chicago.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:14:00

### In My Head - 7:00 PM

*These films explore the intricate layers of the human psyche, shedding light on the struggles, resilience, and realities of living with mental health challenges.*

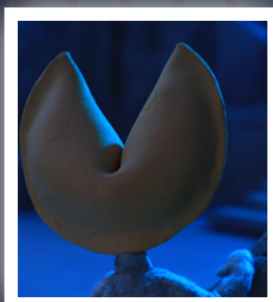


#### Don't Make Sense

(Dir.: Ali Sharif-Ivey, Writer: C. Mayes, Producer: David Velo Stewart)

**Logline:** The story of a young man battling with the addiction of self inflicting pain.

Music Video | Runtime: 0:04:38



#### Fortune Cookie

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Fu Yang)

**Logline:** A fortune-cookie-head crumbles himself, piece by piece in order to keep devouring creatures out of his way...

Short Film | Runtime: 0:03:50

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Memoirs of a Bruised Mind

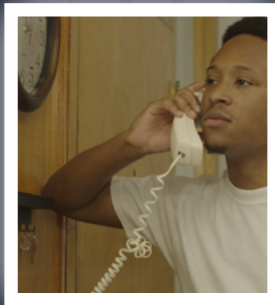
(Dir/Writer: Shania Banton, Producer: Kiara Butler)

**Notable Talent:** Grace Duah - HBO Max Gossip Girl

**Logline:** After years of suppressing the pain caused by her mother, a young writer must summon the courage to face her trauma and turn it into art. As she puts pen to paper, she embarks on an anxiety-filled journey of self-discovery and healing, striving to turn her wounds into words and find redemption through her craft.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:48

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



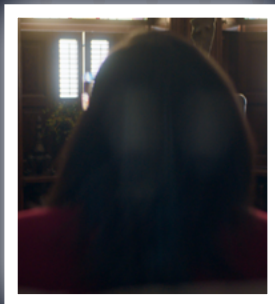
## Compulsive Kickback

(Dir/Writer: Kamaya Walker, Producer: Kendall Ivy)

**Logline:** Parties are supposed to be fun, but for Oscar, it's a moment to confront his anxieties.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:08

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## 2 Truths & A Lie

(Dir/Writer: Brandon Haynes, Producer: Yael Bermudez)

**Logline:** A counselor's program challenges truth-challenged individuals to play "two truths and a lie," but a dark turn forces them to confront their vulnerabilities.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## The Puppet Show

(Dir/Writer: Sam Pay, Producer: Bayden McTaylor-Biggs)

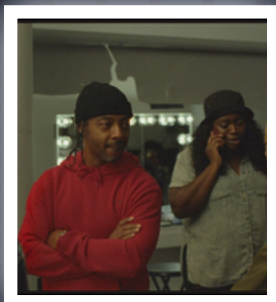
**Logline:** The Puppet Show is a dark comedy short film about coming to grips with the nature of existing. Barry, a down-on-his-luck primary school teacher, is putting on a puppet show for his school. This show is going to be his magnum opus, a masterpiece to prove to everyone he really is somebody. However, things fall apart when his star puppet, Larry, becomes self-aware and questions everything. From hilarity to insanity, the tension between man and puppet builds to a breaking point.

Student Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:45

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Something About Love - 8:15 PM

Romantic films that explore the inexplicable and often irrational nature of love through diverse stories and characters.



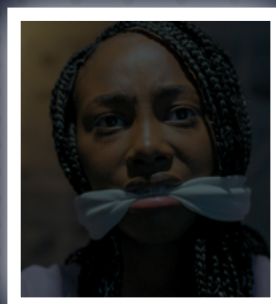
## Melanin Monroe

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Keith Terrell)

**Logline:** When a film director casts a retired dancer in his film celebrating black love, they embark on a journey of self-discovery and deep connection that blurs the line between art and reality.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Word of Oda

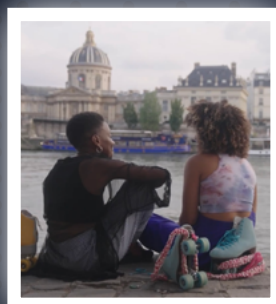
(Dir/Writer: Nesha Jackson, Producer: Nesha Jackson, NEEN.)

**Notable Talent:** NEEN - Executive Producer

**Logline:** A member of Club Oda - an underground cult of One Piece extremists - kidnaps and rehabilitates his girlfriend after date night, doesn't go as planned.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:38

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



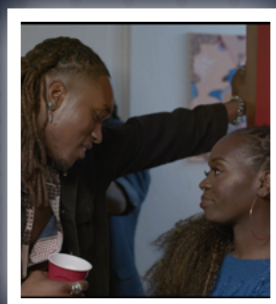
## Chasing Josephine

(Dir: Dianne Bartlow, Writer: Yazmin Monet Watkins, David Vieux)

**Logline:** After finding out her grandmother was once Josephine Baker's lover, a queer Black woman travels from Los Angeles to Paris to retrace her steps and find herself.

Short Film | Runtime: 17:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Dating Positive (+)

(Dir: Indeya Dynice, Tammy Trinh, Writer/Producer: Indeya Fletcher)

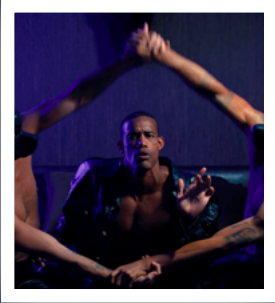
**Logline:** After experiencing a traumatic event, Sigourney figures out how to navigate life's twists and turns through love, laughter, and friendship. What would your dating life look like if you had an incurable STD?

Web Series | Runtime: 0:25:00



# Sex \$ells - 9:40 PM

*A provocative look at how sexuality can become commercialized, and its impact on society and self-image.*



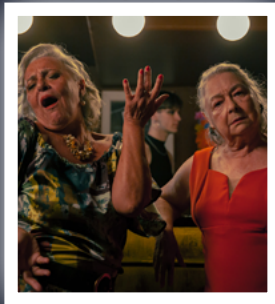
## Don't Mess With My High

(Dir: Jeremy Matthew Feight, Producers: Jeremy Matthew Feight, Kaylon Hunt, Zac Crim, Zach Graves)

**Logline:** A music video from the track, "Don't Mess With My High" by the queer pop artist, Festivyl. In "DMWMH", Festivyl searches for a crew that can match his vibe in all the wrong places - until he realizes they were searching for him all along.

*Music Video | Runtime: 0:03:04*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*



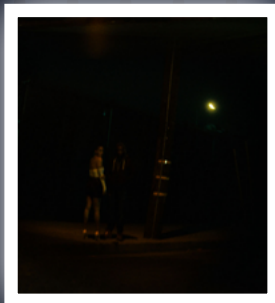
## THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE

(Dir/Writer/Producer:Vanessa Sandre)

**Logline:** When 76-year-old Amélia realizes she has never had an orgasm in her life, she becomes determined to have one at any cost.

*Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:43*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

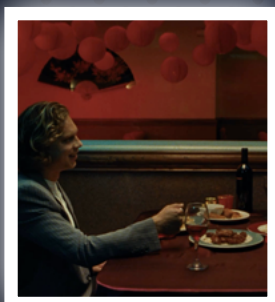


## Sugar

(Dir/Writer: Alyssa Brayboy, Producers: Alyssa Brayboy, Elisa Vazquez, Jillian Stewart)

**Logline:** In a world where money and sex are the keys to survival, three unconventional sex workers are forced into friendship after the disappearance of one of their own. In this first scene of our Pilot Episode, we follow Banner on his search for a sex worker. He stumbles across Alora, who is usually up for anything, but she quickly learns Banner isn't a typical client.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:05:53*

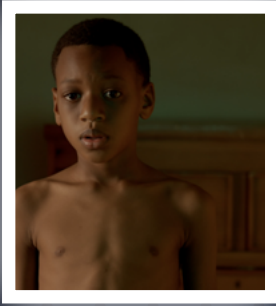


## Object of Desire

(Dir: Naomi Christie, Writers: Naomi Christie, Deanna Esposito, Producers: Sebastian Steinberger, Shunchao Xu)

**Logline:** When an Asian American woman takes a karaoke hostessing job for some quick cash, she finds herself unable to escape men with a relentless asian fetish.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:55*



## Pretty Boy

(Dir: Kevin Coleman-Cohen, Writer: Kevin Coleman-Cohen, Renee McClellan, Producer: Kevin Coleman-Cohen, Jonathan D. Boyce)

**Logline:** After years of abuse, a homeless Black teenage boy navigates the dangerous world of survival sex on the streets of St. Louis.

# Thursday, October 24th

## AUD #3

### Reclamation - 11:00 AM

*These films highlight the fight for equality, dignity, and the power of resistance in the face of systemic challenges.*



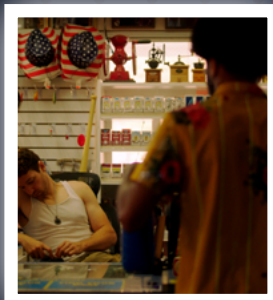
#### Bang Bang

(Dir: Hisonni Mustafa)

**Logline:** A police officer's body cam captures the raw terror of a school shooting.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:00:30

Premiere Status: World Premiere



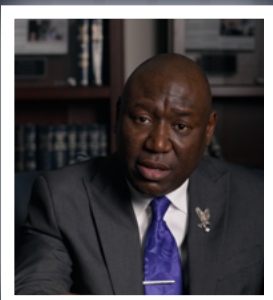
#### Sundown

(Dir/Writer: Jordan Freeman, Producers: Wellesley Mobasser)

**Logline:** When their car breaks down on the way to an HBCU Homecoming, two best friends discover something sinister in the town they've stopped in.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere



#### How to Sue the Klan

(Dir/Writer: John Beder, Producers: Ben Crump, Cameron S. Mitchell, Raji Ramanathan)

**Notable Talent:** Ben Crump

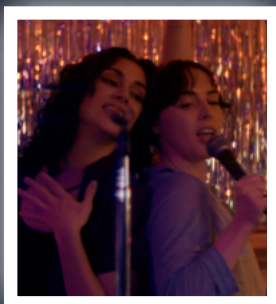
**Logline:** How to Sue the Klan is the story of how five Black women from Chattanooga used legal ingenuity to take on the Ku Klux Klan in a historic 1982 civil case, fighting to hold them accountable for their crimes and bring justice to their community. Their victory set a legal precedent that continues to inspire the ongoing fight against organized hate.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere

# Notes of Nostalgia - 11:50 AM

*These films capture the powerful connection between melodies and memories, revealing how music influences our identities and experiences across time.*



## Chorus Notes

(Dir/Writer: Casey de Fremery, Producers: Melody Carey, Regina Pigley)

**Notable Talent:** Leah Voysey (*Terrifier 2*)

**Logline:** After a chance encounter at a record store, two women form a connection through the power of music.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:00*

*Premiere Status: No Premiere*



## N.ot W.ithout A.lonzo: The Origins of West Coast Hip Hop

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Timothy Lee Conley)

**Notable Talent:** Grandmaster Lonzo: Godfather of West Coast Hip Hop - World Class Wreckin' Cru, The D.O.C.: Hip-Hop Pioneer, DJ Yella: Rock N Roll Hall of Fame - NWA/World Class Wreckin' Cru, Kurtis Blow: Hip Hop Pioneer, MC JB: Hip Hop Pioneer - JJ Fad, Arabian Prince: Rock N Roll Hall of Fame - NWA/Uncle Jamm's Army, DJ Cli-N-Tel: Hip Hop Pioneer World Class Wreckin' Cru, DJ Battlecat: Hip Hop Pioneer, The Poetess: Hip Hop Pioneer - Los Angeles Radio Host (92.3 The Beat FM 1990s)

**Logline:** N.ot Without A.lonzo: Every success has an origin story. Grandmaster Lonzo, The Godfather of West Coast Hip-Hop narrates and details the origin story of West Coast Hip Hop from 1974-1987.

*Feature Film | Runtime: 1:12:06*

# The Hustle - 1:25 PM

Gritty stories of ambition, where characters push the limits to confront challenges head-on



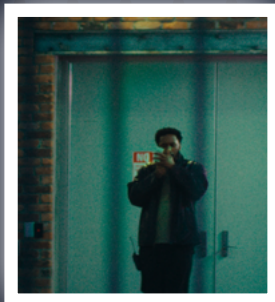
## Bang Bang

(Dir: Hisonni Mustafa)

**Logline:** A police officer's body cam captures the raw terror of a school shooting.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:00:30

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## MEAL TICKET

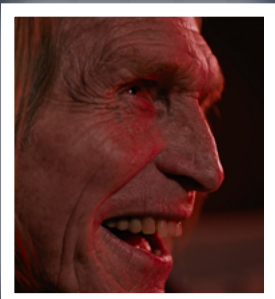
(Dir.: Wes Andre Goodrich, Writers: Wes Andre Goodrich, Patrick Nichols, Producers: Hillman Grad, 271, Patrick Nichols)

**Notable Talent:** Siddiq Saunderson, Wu-Tang: An American Saga // Coy Stewart, Are We There Yet? // Grace Duah, Gossip Girl

**Logline:** An anxiety thriller about a manager: Saint, who is forced to decide what to do with life-changing news he receives about his client: a young hip hop star, twelve minutes before goes onstage for his debut tour.

Short Film | Runtime: 12:43

Premiere Status: No Premiere



## Sam From North Vegas

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Brad Rundblade)

**Notable Talent:** Patrick Walker

**Logline:** A young man buries bodies for the mob in the desert of North Vegas until one day he receives the bodies of his older brother and younger sister.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:00

LA Status: World Premiere



## Down the River

(Dir/Writer: Daniel H. Jacobson, Producer: Daniel H. Jacobson, Isgav Kutok, Eli Eltonyo)

**Logline:** Neta Tezazo is an Ethiopian-Israeli Mossad officer with a mysterious past, sent on a mission to Darfur to intercede on behalf of Gen. Musa Issa Musa; a local warlord with political ambitions. If all goes according to plan, she will not survive the mission. Can Neta catch onto the game before she's the one that gets played?

Short Film | Runtime: 0:30:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Girl Talk - 2:40 PM

*These stories confront the complexities of womanhood and the often-taboo conversations that have the power to reshape lives and society.*



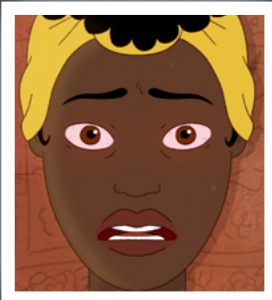
## Into The Void

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Giovannie Espiritu)

**Logline:** A spoken word poem that confronts the silence and complicity surrounding sexual assault.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:02:01

Premiere Status: World Premiere



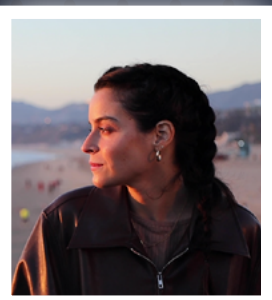
## Super High: A Period Piece

(Dir/Writer: Bianca Lambert, Producers: Kiah Clingman)

**Logline:** In the semi-autobiographical short film "Super High: A Period Piece," Amanda battles excruciating period pain caused by fibroids. Desperate for relief, she experiments with a celebrity cannabis brand's edibles. A dosage mishap catapults her into a surreal, anxiety-filled journey until she awakens.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:59

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## ALMA

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Erika Bagnarello)

**Logline:** A struggling actress navigates the hardships of the film industry and struggles with the day-to-day difficulties of being away from her family.

Short Film | Runtime: 14:01

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Unbraided

(Dir/Writer: Caroline Renard, Producers: Sidney Butler, Suhashini Krishnan, Tiffany Thomas)

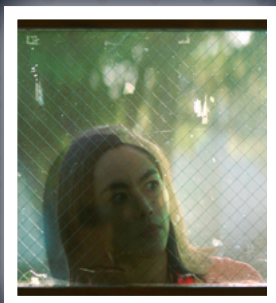
**Notable Talent:** Monique Coleman, Godfrey, Sasha Compere, DaMya Gurley

**Logline:** Desperate to get her hair done before a big trip, Frankie navigates the streets of LA, facing rejection and obstacles at every turn to find someone, anyone to braid her hair.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:27

# Passion Fatigue - 3:45 PM

*Stories of burnout and disillusionment in the pursuit of passion, showcasing the lengths some characters are willing to go to in their relentless drive.*

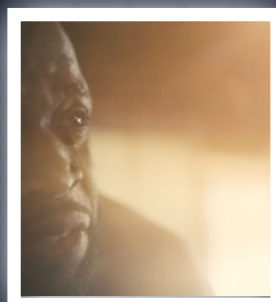


## A Beginner's Guide to Giving Up

(Dir/Writer: Jeremy Pion-Berlin, Producers: Jeremy Pion-Berlin, Terry Hahin, Roland Castro)

**Logline:** A struggling painter, decides to give up on her dreams for graduate school. Awaiting the acceptance or rejection letter, spirited debates with her peers unfold, delving into the eternal conflict of following one's artistic dreams versus choosing a more logical path. But amidst it all an enigmatic magic glides through the air, whispering secrets only the cosmos comprehend.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00



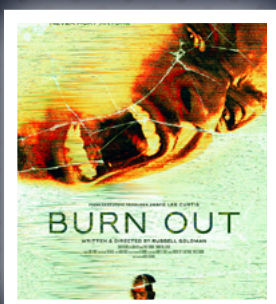
## Demo-Lition

(Dir.: Alesia 'Z' Glidewell, Writer: Omar El Alami, Producers: Nina Burnett, Lidiya Korotko, Alesia Glidewell, Robb Hanson)

**Notable Talent:** Rell Battle - Peacock's Killing It, Carl McDowell - Ballers, Geri-Nikole Love - Star Trek Picard

**Logline:** The fate of an aspiring rapper with unbreakable resolve and his supportive wife for over a decade, hang in the balance of an all-too-important phone call from a record label.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:06



## Burn Out

(Dir/Writer: Russell Goldman, Producers: Jamie Lee Curtis, Michael Fry, Wendy Wang, Everett Osborne)

**Notable Talent:** Everett Osborne and Tommie Earl Jenkins (Actors), Jamie Lee Curtis (Producer)

**Logline:** An assistant will do anything to get a presentation in front of his boss... even set himself on fire.

Short Film | Runtime: 12:32



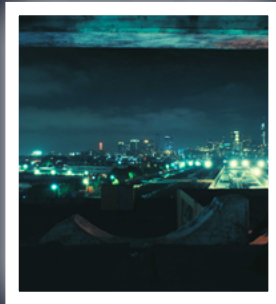
## SHÉ (SNAKE)

(Dir/Writer: Renee Zhan, Producer: Jesse Romain)

**Logline:** Fei, a 16 year old British-Chinese girl, is the top violinist in an elite youth orchestra. When Mei, another Chinese violinist arrives to challenge her place in the orchestra, Fei's anxieties and internalized racism grow to take monstrous physical form. They whisper to her, urging her to be the best, no matter the cost.

*Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:30*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

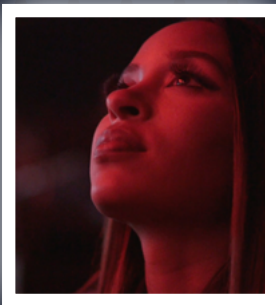


## Vivir

(Dir/Writer: Gerardo Maravilla, Producer, Evelyn Angelica Martinez, Ann Valdéz)

**Logline:** In her darkest moment, a despairing Latina artist crosses paths with a mysterious immortal.

*Short Film | Runtime: 08:52*



## The Pursuit of A Dream

(Dir/Producer: Brian Grigsby)

**Logline:** The Pursuit of a Dream follows Detroit singer, dancer, actor Jessica Lamarre as she embarks on a once in a lifetime opportunity as she prepares for the biggest performance of her career. We get a peek behind the curtain of what it really means to be an independent artist as she tackles creative and financial challenges as a music artist without the support of a major label. With the odds stacked against her, can she push through and revel in the excitement of the moment or will the pressure prove to be too heavy of a burden to carry on this next step in the pursuit of her dream.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:43*



# Learnings & Yearnings - 5:20 PM

*These stories explore the complexities between knowledge and desire, delving into the transformative journeys of characters seeking understanding and fulfillment.*



## War & Light

(Dir/Writer: Jefferson Donald, Producers: Howard Green, Gordon C. Greene)

**Logline:** When a teenager unexpectedly inherits a powerful amulet, he must navigate a treacherous battle against a malevolent warlord and his cunning witch ally, as he embraces his destiny as the guardian sworn to protect his family's legacy and battle the forces of darkness.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:21

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## KOREAN AMERICAN WITCHES SOCIETY

(Dir: Michael K.Y. Yip, Writer: Jennifer Kim, Producer: Jennifer Kim, Medha Jaishankar)

**Logline:** A lonely, anxious girl wishes to save her cancer-stricken father and befriends the granddaughter of a Korean shaman. Together, they create a secret witchcraft ritual, which leads to unexpected consequences.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:59

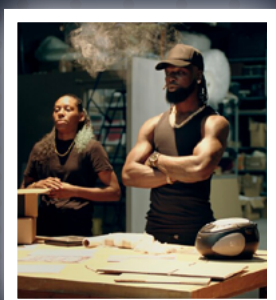


## Chef at the White House

(Dir/Writer: Arnav Shah, Producers: Arnav Shah, Yash Arora, Yashvi Mulchandani, Rishab Chandra)

**Logline:** A chef begins the pursuit of an American dream of becoming the first Indian chef at the White House while simultaneously battling to save his family from injustice in 1950s America.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:57



## Curtain Call

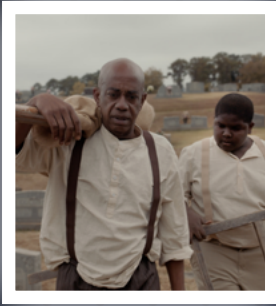
(Dir/Writer/Producer: Wilderley Mauricette)

**Notable Talent:** Jared Wofford (*StartUP*, *Swagger*, *David Makes Man*), Tony J. Scott (*Manhunt*, *The Equalizer*)

**Logline:** A young drug dealer with a hidden passion for theatre finds his double life unraveling as his commitment to the stage clashes with his criminal responsibilities, drawing the dangerous attention of his powerful mentor. Faced with an impossible choice between his love for the arts and his loyalty to the streets, he risks everything to pursue his dreams, igniting a life-altering confrontation.

Short Film | Runtime: 17:52

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Mosiah

(Dir: Jirard, Writer: Samuel Lee Fudge, Jirard, Producer: Alima Albari)

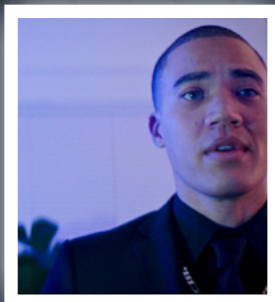
**Logline:** Marcus Mosiah Garvey, a Jamaican-born political activist and founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA), is on trial in New York in 1923. The government accuses him of mail fraud for selling stocks for the Black Star Line, a shipping line designed to forge a link between North America and Africa. Garvey sees the trial as an attempt to destroy his movement through character assassination. Dissatisfied with his lawyer, he decides to represent himself. As the trial proceeds, flashbacks show glimpses of Garvey's life and marriage to Amy Jacques Garvey. This is the first-ever narrative film about his life.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:40:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## Choices, Choices - 7:05 PM

*These films explore the intense and often suspenseful moments where choices carry profound impacts, revealing the psychological depths and dramatic stakes involved.*



## FLUX

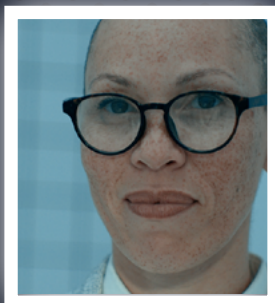
(Dir/Writer: Aaron LaMarr Burleson, Producers: Aaron LaMarr Burleson, Elizabeth Franco)

**Notable Talent:** Russell Curry - D'Angelo, Aaron LaMarr Burleson - Albie, Writer, Producer, Director, Elizabeth Franco - Executive Producer, Richard Stevenson Jr. - Producer, Composer - Space Monk, Maisha Azadi - Mysterious Women

**Logline:** Trapped in an eerie, timeless void within his own home, a man confronts his past and future, ultimately discovering the key to breaking free from his purgatorial existence.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:22

Premiere Status: LA/ World Premiere



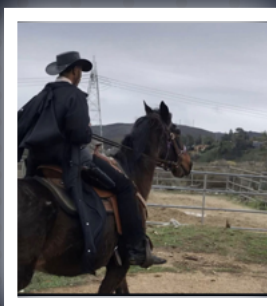
## Chomp

(Dir: Carter Bowden, Writer: Nick Johnson, Producers: Rianne Faye Senining, Carter Bowden)

**Logline:** A young man is challenged both psychically and psychologically when he takes part in an experiment led by a mysterious scientist.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:14

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Lufalo Rising

(Dir/Writer: Gordon Christopher Greene, Producers: Howard Green, Gordon Greene)

**Notable Talent:** Gordon Greene (*The Famous Jett Jackson, Mafia 3, Shameless*), Jimmy Jean-Louis (*Tears of the Sun, The Goat Life, Heroes*), Robert Wu (*Ted, Survivor's Remorse*), Jeffrey Anderson-Gunter (*Mark for Death, Naked Gun 33 1/3, Don't be a Menace to South Central While Drinking Your Juice in the Hood*)

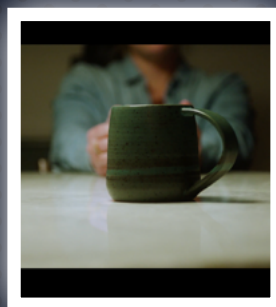
**Logline:** After a deadly struggle to try and save his mother from the hands of a brutal Warlord, Lufalo Banza becomes a wanted fugitive.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:27

Premiere Status: LA/World Premiere

# All in the Family vol. 1 - 8:10 PM

*Delving into the exploration of family dynamics, these films uncover the challenges and joys that define our closest ties.*



## The Possible Life

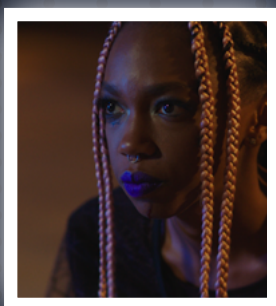
(Dir.: Burke Doeren, Writer: Jacob Seidman, Producer: Tyson Cal)

**Notable Talent:** Michael Vlamis - Rowsell, New Mexico

**Logline:** After welcoming their first baby, Pete and Emma struggle with all the classic new parent challenges. But is something deeper going on? Follow Emma as she replays the events that led them to their current state - if she tries hard enough, maybe she can change the outcome.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:42

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Welcome Home

(Dir/Writer: Jo Rochelle, Producers: Joshua Dean, Regina Hoyles)

**Logline:** A rebellious teenage girl with pastor parents orchestrates a surprise for her brother on Halloween.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:40

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## August & Ebony

(Dir.: Sunyin Zhang, Writer: A. Cooper, Producer: Pinar Binay)

**Notable Talent:** John Clarence Stewart (*Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist*, *P-Valley*, *Luke Cage*, *A Killer Romance*) & Ayesha Harris (*Daisy Jones & The Six*, *Glamorous*, *The L Word: Generation Q*, *This Is Us*)

**Logline:** Ebony, who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant after a U-Haul marriage, has to referee between her new wife, August and best friend-turned-child's father, Justin, while finding her footing as a mother-to-be.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:51*



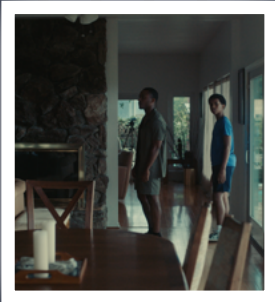
## CHICKEN

(Dirs.: Lucy McNulty, Emma Pollard, Writer: Lucy McNulty, Producers: Isabelle Deluce, Zack Hamm, Lucy McNulty)

**Logline:** A down-on-her-luck, recently single 30-something is forced to move back into her childhood home. As she reconnects with her brother who has Down syndrome, will their differences drive them apart? Or will they see they're more similar than either of them thought?

*Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:00*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## My Brother & Me

(Dir/Writer: Ryan DeForest, Producers: Ryan DeForest, Shandrea Evans, Lexx Truss)

**Notable Talent:** Alexander Bello: *Theater Camp* (Searchlight), *And Just Like That* (HBO), *John Mulaney & the Sack Lunch Bunch* (Netflix) --- Rodney Hobbs: *Shirley* (Netflix), *Young Dylan* (Nickelodeon),

**Logline:** A coming-of-age story about two brothers who attempt to rob their distant father of their overdue child support money.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:17*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## HARLEM FRAGMENTS

(Dir.: Cameron Tyler Carr, Writers: Cameron Tyler Carr, Wes Andre Goodrich, Danielle Therese Dougé, Producers: Flor Tejada, Collin Meath, Ben Thompson, Salma Qarnain)

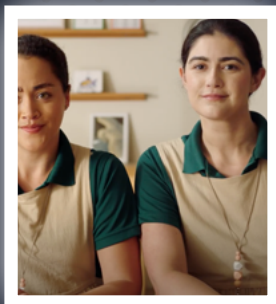
**Notable Talent:** Roderick Lawrence - *Silent Partner*, *Tina The Musical*, *Lion King*

**Logline:** Harlem Fragments is an Afro-futurist scrapbook storytelling of a Harlem Black family's beautiful destruction during the 2008 recession.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:00*

# Growing Up Is Hard To Do vol. 1 - 9:45 PM

These films explore the full spectrum of life, capturing the transitions and defining moments from the blossoming of youth to the reflections of later years.



## Start Them Young

(Dir/Writer: Jenna Rossman, Producers: J. Mehr Kaur, Adrienne Picciotto, Karolina Esqueda-Rocha)

**Logline:** When two parents take their three year-old daughter to interview at the prestigious Future Generations Preschool, they are forced to reckon with what success really means for their daughter and themselves.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:08

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



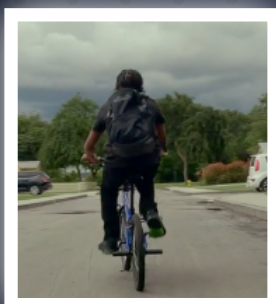
## TEA

(Dir/Writer: Blake Winston Rice, Producer: Gabriella Piazza)

**Notable Talent:** Michael Gandolfini (Lead), Olivia Nikkanen (Lead), Blake Winston Rice (Director), Gabriella Piazza (Producer)

**Logline:** While rehearsing asking out the girl of his dreams, a lonely and highly allergic Circuit-Shack employee gets stung in the throat by a hornet.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:25



## Shoebox

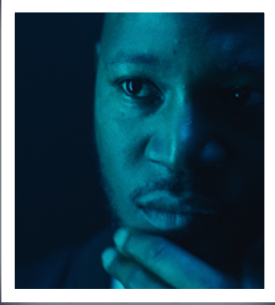
(Dir/Writer: D'Angelo "D'Lo" Louis, Producers: Jamari Perry, David Hunter Jr.)

**Notable Talent:** LaRoyce Hawkins- Chicago P.D, Chicago Fire, Chicago Med

**Logline:** Overcome by abuse, a teenage black boy is forced to choose between pulling the trigger or not in an effort to protect himself. In turn, we are split between two realities of fate - the dream or a dream deferred.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:25

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## BRAND NEW

(Dir/Writers: Quincy Ledbetter, Denzel Whitaker, Producers: Yuki Maekawa-Ledbetter, Ramfis Myrthil)

**Notable Talent:** Denzel Whitaker, Kris D. Lofton, Maestro Harrell, Chad L. Coleman

**Logline:** When a newly famous music producer visits his hometown, he battles the guilt of abandoning his past and the bitterness of an old friend.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:21:56*

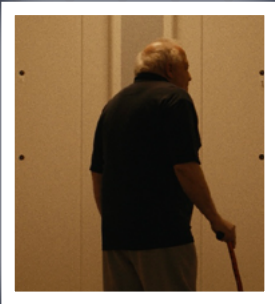


## Really Good Driver

(Dir/Writer: Alex Song-Xia, Producers: Niki Ang, Jen Arwatchanakarn)

**Notable Talent:** IAn Asian American mom teaches her grown-up child how to drive, forcing both to confront parts of the car, and themselves, they never have before.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:00*



## The Composer

(Dir/Writer: Gigi Grigorian, Producers: Gigi Grigorian, Haley Johnson)

**Logline:** An elderly man with Alzheimer's thinks he's a composer and is determined to prove it.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:59*

## AUD #6

### Feature: *The Other Side of Fair* - 11:15 AM

*When workplace jealousy and competition brings two colleagues head to head, a face off between ambition and entitlement forces them both into rude awakenings.*



#### **The Other Side of Fair**

(Dir/Writer: Dani Coleman, Producer: Dani Coleman, Taron Germany, Bathsheba Bauduy)

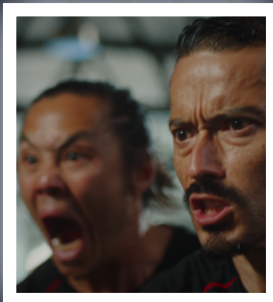
**Logline:** When workplace jealousy and competition brings two colleagues head to head, a face off between ambition and entitlement forces them both into rude awakenings.

Feature Film | Runtime: 0:52:03

Premiere Status: World Premiere

### *The Pursuit of Health* - 12:15 PM

*Through these stories, the complexities of achieving true well-being are explored, confronting the challenges of toxic diet culture, embracing health differences, and broken systems.*



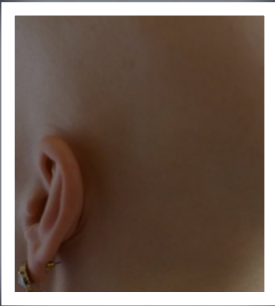
#### **All Meat Diet**

(Dir/Write: Hae Ji Cho, Kevin Alcántar, Producers: Kevin Alcántar, Hae Ji Cho, Brook Lee Karner, Candy Yi, Sam Gruenhagen)

**Logline:** ALL MEAT DIET follows the increasingly harrowing yet intoxicating journey of a young man who turns to a collective of zealous fitness enthusiasts in pursuit of his "best self." As the protagonist entrenches himself in a community that mirrors his ambitions, he also finds the shame he harbors reflected back at him through the voices of his most fervent peers.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:05:16

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



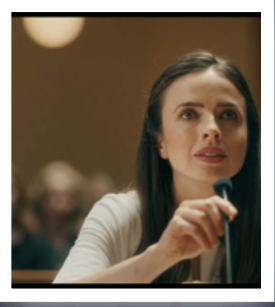
## I Like Your Hair

(Dir: Trisha Pickelhaupt, Producer: Natalie Marinides)

**Logline:** Four New York City based alopecians share their experiences existing as bald women in public spaces.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:04:08

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



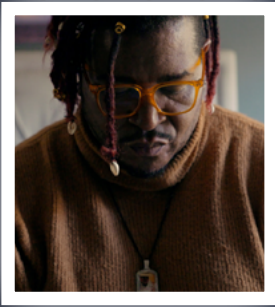
## BACKLOG

(Dir/Writer: Jacqueline Elyse Rosenthal, Producers: Robin Wang, Marian Cook, Josh Powell)

**Notable Talent:** Jill Renner (Lead)

**Logline:** The true-life story of an assault survivor who becomes the voice of millions in her crusade to fight a failing American justice system.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:06



## And We Rest on Giants

(Dir: Kevin Anderson, Producer: The T.R.U.T.H. Project, Inc.)

**Logline:** And We Rest on Giants is a love story and exploration into the lives of people of color aging and survivors of HIV. As stigma continues to ravish communities of color, this short explores the daily walk of those unapologetically thriving and provides a first-hand account of the HIV journey. Layered with spoken words, these stories ignite the importance of honest discussion.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Feature: Respect My Crown - 1:10 PM



## RESPECT MY CROWN: THE RISE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN IN CALIFORNIA POLITICS

(Dir.: Pamela Bright-Moon, Writers: Jocelyn Y. Stewart, Alisa Bass Covington, Pamela Bright-Moon, Producers: Alisa Bass-Covington, Pamela Bright-Moon)

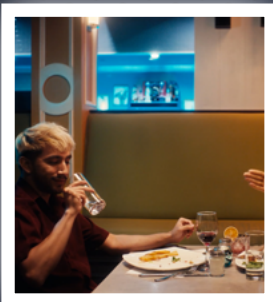
**Logline:** In the state of California, Black women have battled race and gender barriers in pursuit of equality and political power, for the past 170 years. Respect My Crown: The Rise of African American Women in California Politics, reveals the sacrifices and contributions these women made to become leading voices in politics, community activism, organized labor and the judicial system.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:26:00



# Dating Sucks - 2:50 PM

Comedic and tragic takes on the modern dating scene, illustrating the awkward, surprising, and sometimes enlightening encounters of romance.

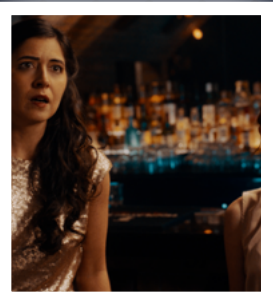


## At Capacity.

(Dir/Writer: Spencer Jamison, Producers: Ron Forbes, Macy West)

**Logline:** An attempted relationship intervention leads to a serendipitous evening between two strangers.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:25

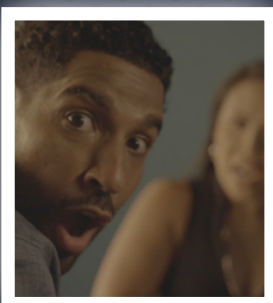


## [subtext]

(Dir: Erin Brown Thomas, Writer/Producer: Olivia Haller)

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

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:30



## Love on Speed

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Evan Cleaver)

**Notable Talent:** Aaron Branch. He's a series regular on Netflix's UNSTABLE and is on a nationwide tour as a standup comedian

**Logline:** Aidan and Jayden feel an instant connection when they latch eyes at a speed dating event, but do they have enough courage to endure some odd characters in order to meet each other?

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:47



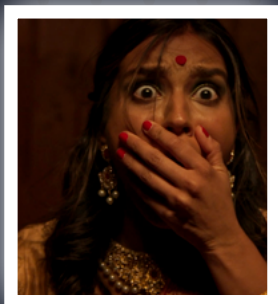
## The Will & Clark Show

(Dir/Writer: Chase Gutzmore, Producers: Chase Gutzmore, Alex D Lugo, James Cole Jr)

**Logline:** Unlike any talk show you've ever seen

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:58

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## My Scary Indian Wedding

(Dir: Writer/Producer: Ramone Menon)

**Logline:** A cursed bridesmaid is forced to track down and marry her soulmate to escape the wrath of a malicious demon called The Manglik

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:21

## Feature: Anxious - 4:15 PM



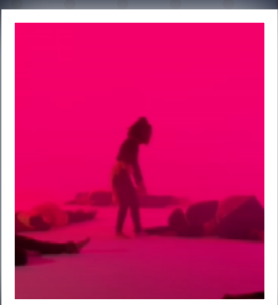
## ANXIOUS.

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Nida Chowdhry)

**Logline:** ANXIOUS. is a surreal dark comedy feature film about a woman named Ruby who has an anxiety attack and trips down the rabbit hole of her mind, where she meets versions of herself who take over her life.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:37:00

## Feature: Ray of Hope - 6:10 PM



## Ray of Hope

(Dir/Writers: Ryan Singh, Nikila Cole, Producers: Ryan Singh, Patricia Scarlett, Nikila Cole)

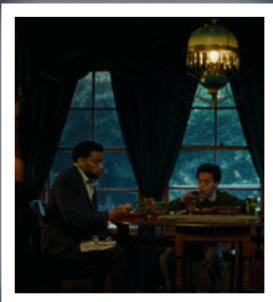
**Notable Talent:** Rathika Sitsabaiesan, Former Canadian Member of Parliament

**Logline:** Ray of Hope is a personal journey of an Eelam Tamil Canadian woman who survived the Sri Lankan armed conflict, advocating for others with interspersed stories of healing and triumphs.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:30:00

# Like Father, Like Son? - 7:55 PM

Through stories of conflict, reconciliation, and the weight of inherited burdens, these films explore the profound impact of paternal influence on identity and destiny.



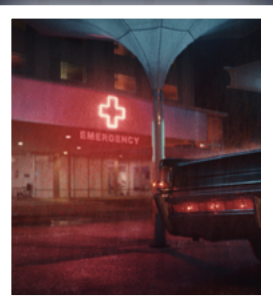
## It Takes A Village

(Dir.: Joshua Kissi, Writers: Joshua Kissi, Keyla McNeely, Producers: Kegan Sant, David Richards, Kamila Prokop, Patrick Milling-Smith, Leah Natasha Thomas)

**Notable Talent:** Michael Ealy

**Logline:** In 1960s Georgia, Mr. Cooke prepares Isaiah for his ascension to manhood through the hunting of a deer; a rite of passage every Cooke man has gone through before him. two strangers.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:36



## Thomasville

(Dir/Writer: Alex Woodruff, Producers: Alex Woodruff, Abijeet Achar)

**Notable Talent:** Kiah Clingman, Jay Jones

**Logline:** A heart-wrenching psychodrama exploring the complex nature of Black legacy in Atlanta. Trapped in a rainswept car, a young man and his ailing father confront their fractured history before it's too late.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:07

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## BACKWASH

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Dalton Ibarra)

**Logline:** Calvin is expecting a child within a week but fears to face the fact he does not want to be a father. He discusses with his close friend LaSalle whether or not he'll stick around and the consequences of either decision.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:00



## The Devil Ain't Pius

(Dir.: Keena Ferguson, Writer: Miatta Vincent Ronca, Producers: Miatta Vincent Ronca, Delece James)

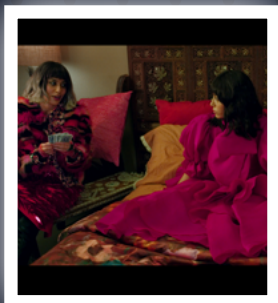
**Notable Talent:** Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs: *Coolie High*, *Welcome Back Kotter*. Rolando Boyce: *The Chi*.

**Logline:** A lifetime ago, a struggling Pius Montgomery sold the soul of one of his future grandchildren to the Devil in exchange for a life of wealth and success. Fifty years later, Pius, the head of the billion dollar Uncle Pius' Devilishly Hot Hot Sauce empire, has gathered his four children and seven grandchildren around him to break the bad news. One of kids will have to surrender their child to the Devil to pay off their father's debt. But already anticipating what a difficult decision it will be, Pius has set up a series of games of skill. And the loser will leave the weekend with one less child.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:27:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# The Seductress from Hell - 9:10 PM



## The Seductress from Hell

(Dir/Writer: Andrew de Burgh, Producers: Oleksii Strykun, Andrew de Burgh, Roberta Sparta)

**Notable Talent:** Jason Faunt ("*Power Rangers*") James Hyde (Netflix's "*Monarca*") Andy Lauer ("*Born on the Fourth of July*") Rocio Scotto ("*AfrAid*") Raj Jawa ("*Free Guy*") Sound Designer Steve Campagna ("*Stranger Things*") Art Director Anna Giudice ("*Interstellar*") Special Effects Makeup Artist Brit-tany Jamison-Lackey ("*Ant Man and the Wasp: Quantumania*")

**Logline:** A Hollywood actress undergoes a horrific transformation after being pushed to the edge by her psychopathic husband.

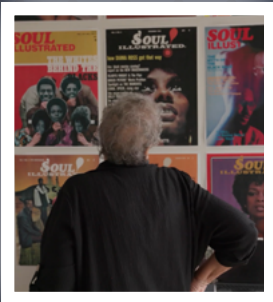
Feature Film | Runtime: 1:42:05

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Friday, October 25th

**AUD #3**

## **Feature: Who in the Hell is Regina Jones? - 11:05 AM**



### **Who in the Hell is Regina Jones?**

(Dir.: Soraya Selene, Writer: Billy Miossi, Producers: Alissa Shapiro, Sam Pollard)

**Notable Talent: Sam Pollard**

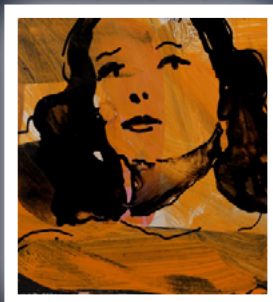
**Logline:** The extraordinary life of Regina Jones is one not only shaped by history, but also one that made history. From pregnant and married at 15, through the middle of the Watts Rebellion of 1965, to emerging as a groundbreaking newspaper publisher, Regina is a testament to the American experience.

*Feature Film | Runtime: 1:42:00*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

## **Looking for Love - 1:00 PM**

*A mix of romantic comedies about the quest for love in all its humorous and heart-wrenching forms.*



### **The Debutante**

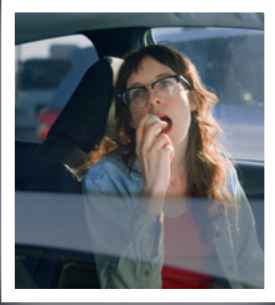
(Dir.: Elizabeth Hobbs, Producer: Abigail Addison)

**Notable Talent: Alexa Davies. Credits: Mama Mia: Here We Go Again!, White House Farm, Dead Pixels, Detectorists**

**Logline:** A spirited young woman persuades a hyena from London Zoo to take her place at a dinner dance being held in her honour.

*Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 8:10*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Dare Greatly

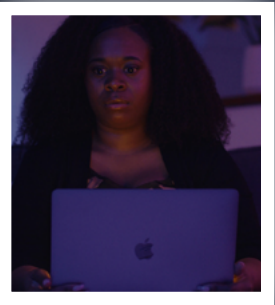
(Dir/Writer/Producer: Kerri Lendo)

**Notable Talent:** Selena Leoni - BAFTA Connect, Berlinale Talents, Gold House Futures, and Film Independent's Project, MK Paulsen - Inside Joke on Amazon Prime

**Logline:** Love and loss in the grocery store parking lot

Short Film | Runtime: 3:45

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## HONEST/ FLUFF

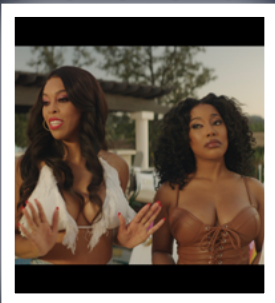
(Dir/Writer: Sherean Jones, Producer, Jamari Perry)

**Notable Talent:** Amy Aniobi (writer and EP Insecure)

**Logline:** A perpetual people-pleaser must come to terms with the fine line between tactless bosses, freeloading fuck buddies and the honest truth of taking action and getting the life you deserve.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Groupies

(Dir.: Corey Grant, Writer: Daphnique Springs, Producers: Daphnique Springs, Phaedra Harris)

**Notable Talent:** Eric Roberts

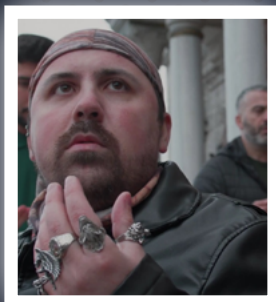
**Logline:** A group of determined, marginally educated millennial groupies on a mission to change their destiny by bagging a baller... or at least his Bentley!?!

Web Series | Runtime: 0:30:23

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Coping Mechanisms - 2:15 PM

From conventional coping mechanisms to the more unconventional and quirky, these stories reveal the diverse and deeply personal paths people take to navigate the pain of losing loved ones.



## Life Goes On

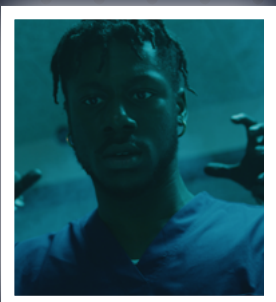
(Dir/Producer: Hümam Özkara, Writer: Suat Köçer)

### Notable Talent: Osman Doğan

**Logline:** Suat goes to a cafe in an area he doesn't know about before and sits down to wait for his friend. He is unaware that this cafe is actually located under the mosque and was set up in the area where the funeral ceremony is being held. At that moment, a funeral comes to the cafe and interesting images emerge. Suat and the other customers cannot hide their surprise at this situation and it is revealed once again how ordinary death is in life.

Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:30

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## United in Grief

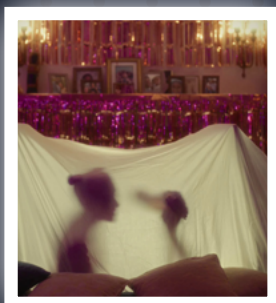
(Dir/Writer: Desmond Levi Jackson, Producers: Desmond Levi Jackson, Khaila Amazan)

### Notable Talent: Khaila Amazan, *The Spider Within: A Spider-Verse Story*, *K-POPS!*, *The Horrors of Dolores Roach*

**Logline:** Suffering debilitating grief from the passing of his best friend who introduced him to the world of dance, Derrick must confront a monster that seeks to separate him from everything he loves.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:51

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Survived By

(Dir/ Writer: K.D. Chalk, Producers: K.D. Chalk, Nicole Crespo, Pinar Binay)

### Notable Talent: Chris Chalk (*HBO's Perry Mason*, *James Baldwin on Ryan Murphy's Fued*, *Ava Duvernay's When They See Us*, *Fox's Gotham*, *HBO's Welcome to Derry* etc)

**Logline:** A newly orphaned kid dodging the foster care system spends a magical evening with a sock puppet hoping to unpack her complicated relationship with her father days after his death.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:26



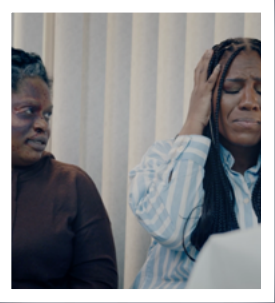
## Grieving

(Dir/Writer: Chris Chi, Producer: Megan Duffey)

**Logline:** An aspiring actress is pushed to her limits when she lands an unconventional role helping grieving clients mourn their departed.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:58

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



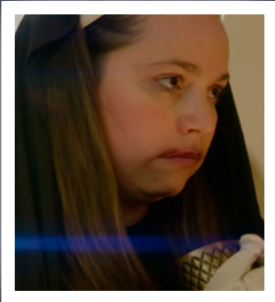
## Dying Laughing

(Dir/Writer: Tyler Young, Producer: Monique Hazeur)

**Notable Talent:** Khaila Amazan, *The Spider Within: A Spider-Verse Story*, *K-POPS!*, *The Horrors of Dolores Roach*

**Logline:** A raunchy comedian charged with tax fraud takes a job at her dad's mortuary to pay off her debt and develops a supernatural gift.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:43



## The Dark Ages - The Funeral

(Dir: Brian Larios, Writer/Producer: Ivan Lee Gartner)

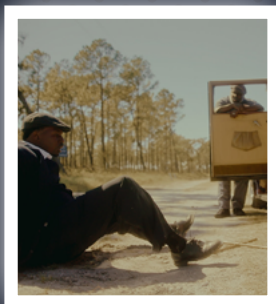
**Logline:** After a billionaire's unexpected passing, his horrible "adult" children and "employees" fail miserably to organize his funeral.

Web Series | Runtime: 0:09:01



# Culture Clash - 3:45 PM

*These stories capture the richness of cultural exchange, revealing both the conflicts and the harmonies that arise when different traditions, values, and identities intersect.*



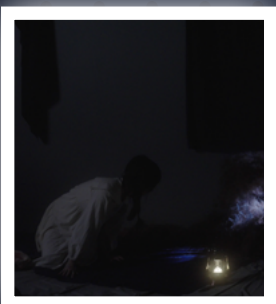
## Spare Me

(Dir/Writer: Wilderley Mauricette, Producer: Tony Gallucci)

**Notable Talent:** Osman Doğan

**Logline:** "In 1930s Florida, a young man races against the setting sun to fix a flat tire on the outskirts of a dangerous sundown town. As he works, haunting flashbacks threaten to paralyze him, jeopardizing his chance to escape before nightfall."

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:15*



## Dandelion

(Dir/Writer: Miao Chen, Producer: Xuanying Lai)

**Logline:** During the 1937 Nanking Massacre in World War II China, when confronted with Japanese soldiers, Shuhua and three other Chinese girls have to decide which one of them is going to stay as the comfort woman so that the others can escape.

*Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:14*

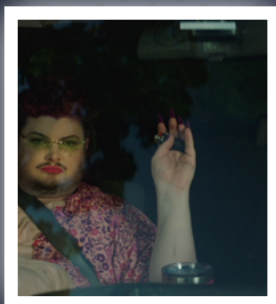


## LEAD

(Dir.: Leon Pierce Jr, Writers: Georgina Navarro, Leon Pierce Jr., Producers: Leon Pierce Jr., Sandra Varona)

**Logline:** An Afro-Latina actress finds it hard to land a leading role as a result of her ethnically ambiguous appearance.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:00*



## T-Minus

(Dir.: Emily Lerer, Writer: Sam Meier, Producer: Toni Cunningham)

**Logline:** It's a trans-abortion-road-trip-romcom! After a one night stand, a trans auto mechanic named Andrew and a drag queen named Lex must road-trip from Ohio to Detroit to obtain an abortion.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:26*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Unconquered

(Dir./Writer/Producer: Hari Williams)

**Logline:** Set in the swamps of pre-Civil War Florida, *Unconquered* tells the story of John Horse, the son of a Seminole and a free slave who must overcome his past demons to lead his people in a revolt against plantation owners and the armies of President Andrew Jackson.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:02

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Wabi-Sabi

(Dir.: Josephine Green Zhang, Writers: Josephine Green Zhang, Rachel Michiko Whitney, Producers: Josephine Green Zhang, Rachel Michiko Whitney, Jeff Mizushima, Michael Fry)

**Notable Talent:** Josh Caras -- *Good Boys, The Glass Castle*; Hymnson Chan -- *Curb Your Enthusiasm*; Dana Donnelly -- *Hacks, The Sex Lives of College Girls*; Teruko Nakajima -- *Lady Dynamite*

**Logline:** When an insecure woman goes on a date at a traditional Japanese tea house, her best friend's advice about white guys with Asian fetishes threatens to ruin her love life and her sanity.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:47

# Office Space - 5:10 PM

*From office politics to personal triumphs and mishaps, these stories capture the everyday absurdities and challenges of work life.*



## Living From Work

(Dir./Writer: Zak Mroueh, Producers: Colleen Allen, Amy Groll)

**Logline:** To lure her staff back, visionary CEO Karen Sly pioneers a revolutionary return-to-office policy that takes hybrid work to an extreme.

Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:53

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Marque Dos

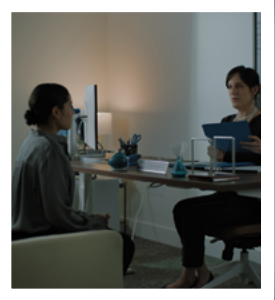
(Dir/Writer:Asha Chai-Chang)

**Notable Talent:** Isaac Gonzalez Rossi - Lead in Netflix's Global Top Ten film "That's Amor"; Netflix/ starring Jennifer Lopez "The Mother"; Just booked Paramount+ "Dexter: Original Sin"; seen in HBO's "Westworld," "NCIS", Amazon's "As We See It," and NBC's "I Feel Bad." | Roxy Rivera - "The Idea of You" (Prime/ stars Anne Hathaway) ; Hit Man, Dynasty, HBO's "The Righteous Gemstones", and national commercials. Adargiza De Los Santos - "Grey's Anatomy", "The Horror of Dolores Roach" , "Abbott Elementary", "This is Us" , and "Criminal Minds"

**Logline:** An aspiring tour manager moves up the ranks in the marketing industry where discovering herself and her place in the world faces off with the demands of her dream job

Web Series | Runtime:0:11:10

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



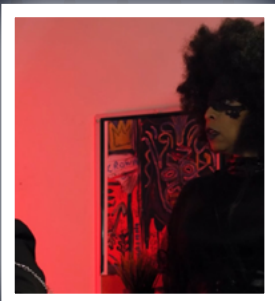
## Development

(Dir/Writer: Chloe Caudillo, Producers: Via Bia, Haskiri Velazquez, Sal Lopez, Alan Luna)

**Notable Talent:** Haskiri Velazquez (Saved By The Bell, The Forty-Year-Old Version); Raquel McPeck Rodriguez (NCIS: Los Angeles); Jeff Lorch (Our Flag Means Death), Leticia Castillo (Jessica Jones, When They See Us) and Sal Lopez (Full Metal Jacket, American Me)

**Logline:** Struggling to climb the corporate ladder, an office worker finally lands a leadership training seminar, only to realize that to be successful, trainees must become clones of the "nepo baby" boss.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:13



## Write This!

(Dir.: Christopher Ortega, Writers/Producers:Ken Gregory, Holly Logan)

**Logline:** In a hilarious twist of fate, a washed-up talent manager turned wannabe writer faces the ultimate plot twist: he must charm and cajole his brilliant but skeptical client into letting him manage her career by crafting side-splitting stories, turning his own life into a comedy of errors in the process.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:33

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Stan Behavior

(Dir/Writer: Tyler C. Peterson, Producer: Eric Michael Kochmer, Marc Smolowitz)

**Notable Talent:** Ginger Minj (Cast), Yvonne Zima (Cast), Heidi N Closet (Cast)

**Logline:** A drag queen embarks on a quest for better workplace rights, but finds herself in a dicey situation when her new lawyer, a tone-deaf straight woman, is revealed to be a drag super fan.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:01

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## Family Feud - 6:10 PM

*Dramas and comedies about the explosive confrontations and longstanding rivalries that only family can bring out.*



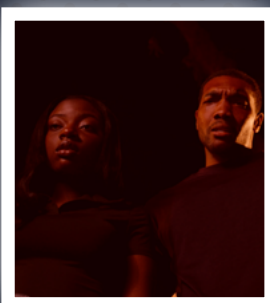
## Getcho

(Dir: Ashley Tyler, Writer: Maame Addae, Producers: Candice Abioye, Free Spirit Media)

**Logline:** A tightly wound but promising Ivy League graduate has moved back in with her disappointed mother in their section 8 apartment and is forced to babysit a peculiar and precocious child and consequently help him manage his bullies and her own.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:28

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



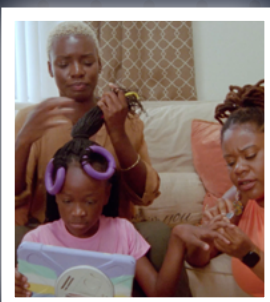
## Below the Veil

(Dir/Writer: Jami'L Carter, Producers: Jami'L Carter, Amber Johnson)

**Logline:** Two cousins return to their family home and dig into their grandfather's history but receive resistance from their uncles. As their prying leads to emotional wounds, the cousins uncover familial secrets that were never meant to be unveiled.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:21:55

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## You & I Don't Say Goodbye

(Dir/Writer: Armie Hicks Jr, Producers: Obiamaka Onwuta, Janae David)

**Notable Talent:** Armie Hicks - Atlanta, Insecure, The Morning Show. Alexis Louder - Copshop, Violent Night, The Changeling

**Logline:** Armie, a struggling actor who hasn't been home in over a year, returns to North Carolina to reconnect with his daughter and attend her pageant. He faces the challenge of balancing his career ambitions with his desire to be a present father.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:32

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Cottage Grove

(Dir/Writer: George Ellzey Jr. Producers: Cara Winter, Jordan Rivers, Kat Blade-Owens, TJ Harris, Keiph Oliver)

**Logline:** A young man struggles to communicate with his stroke-afflicted father, and at the same time, stay true to himself.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:24

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

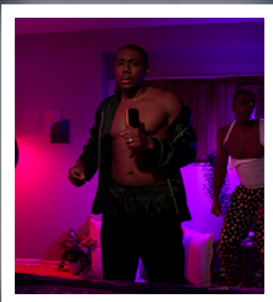


## Get Your Story Straight

(Dirs.: Myra Aquino, Ariel Felix, Writers: Ariel Felix, Myra Aquino, Eric Hwang, Producer: Paul Martinez)

**Logline:** A murder charge assembles four estranged siblings for an unexpected reunion where they find themselves navigating secrets, dysfunction and the law. A short film with an all Filipino American cast and crew.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:47



## Clones

(Dir: Letia Solomon, Writer: Nate Walker, Producers: Nate Walker, Letia Solomon, Carly Rogers)

**Logline:** An offkey couple finds out they're in over their heads after participating in a new couples cloning experiment.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:10

# Sony Pictures Clips & Conversation - 7:45 PM



## Sony Pictures Clips & Conversation

Buddy Comedy Starring Keke Palmer & SZA Produced by Issa Rae From TriStar Pictures

Date & Time: Friday, October 25th, 2024 | 7:45PM - 9:30PM

Location: The Culver Theater - 9500 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232

Description: Join us for a special "Clips and Conversation" event featuring the untitled buddy comedy from TriStar Pictures, starring Keke Palmer and SZA. Get an exclusive look at selected scenes and discuss the creative process with the team behind the film, including director Lawrence Lamont, producer Issa Rae, and screenwriter Syreeta Singleton..

## Feature: Mauler - 9:00 PM



### Mauler

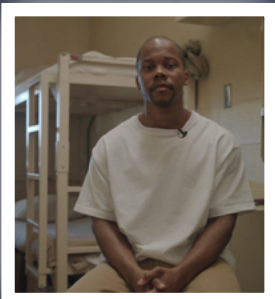
(Dir./Writer: Terence Bernie Hines, Producer: Terence Bernie Hines, Sonia Machado Hines, Christy Didier)

**Logline:** Desperate for cash, five young friends enter a creepy murder house for a \$25K dark web contest, only to end up in a brutal fight for their lives against a 7-foot-tall religious maniac with a sledgehammer who's out to kill all sinners.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:20:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere

## Feature: Since I Been Down - 10:30 PM



### Since I Been Down

(Dir: GILDA SHEPPARD, Writer: Saman Maydani, Producers: June Nho Ivers, Saman Maydani, Gilda Sheppard)

**Logline:** Since I Been Down tells the dramatic story of the triumph of the human spirit and how punitive policies, drugs, gangs and power attempted to arrest the development of one American community; targeting the poorest, Black and Brown youth for a false sense of safety, security and prosperity, an entire generation disappeared. Nearly forty years later, the true path to freedom is led from inside prison walls. The film, told by the people who have lived these conditions, unravels intimate stories from interviews brought to life through archival footage, cinema verité discussions, masquerade, and dance, to reveal the systematic reasons why children commit violent crime and how these children – now adults – are breaking free from their fate by creating a model of justice that is transforming their lives, our humanity and a quality of life for all our children..

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:45:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere

## AUD #6

# Fighting Demons - 11:15 AM

*Dramas and thrillers that journey into the depths of the human soul, exploring the struggle with inner demons and the elusive quest for redemption and peace.*



## Virgencita

(Dir/Writer: Ana Isabel Dow, Producer: Eda Carikci)

**Logline:** A little girl encounters a ravenous deity at her ailing abuela's house - can she satisfy the being's hunger and be granted a wish in return?

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:32*



## TOSSOU

(Dirs.: Melisande Brie McLaughlin, Sika Afi Stanton, Writer: Melisande McLaughlin, Producer: Uloaku Anyiam-Osigwe)

**Logline:** A little girl encounters a ravenous deity at her ailing abuela's house - can she satisfy the being's hunger and be granted a wish in return?

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:03:00*



## The Voice Of Dogs

(Dir/Producer: Mohammad Reza Nazi, Writer: Ayat Asadirahbar )

**Logline:** A female dog ran away from her owner to save her puppies, but her owner decided to kill her puppies...

*Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:51*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Miracle Wood

(Dir/Writer: Johnny Rey Diaz, Producers: Johnny Rey Diaz, Ash T)

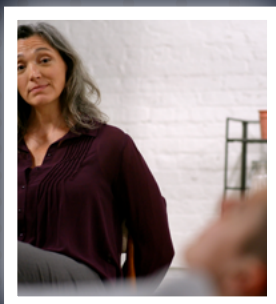
**Notable Talent:** Matt McCoy - *Seinfeld*, *Police Academy*, *Silicon Valley*, *Jack Ryan*

**Logline:** A lonely, depressed old man finds hope in a holy piece of wood.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:10*

# Let's Unpack That vol. 2 - 12:15 PM

These stories delve into personal healing, exploring the emotional journeys of individuals as they unpack their deepest traumas, or help others to do so.



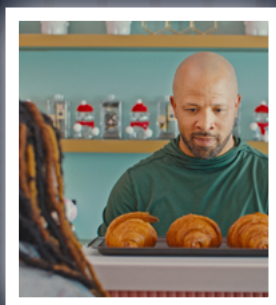
## I'm Pretty Sure My Therapist Thinks I'm a Bad Actor

(Dir/Writer: Spenser Davis, Producers: E.M. Davis, Spenser Davis)

**Notable Talent:** Elizabeth Laidlaw (actor, "The Red Line," CBS), E.M. Davis (actor, "4400," The CW)

**Logline:** A microbudget dark comedy about anxiety, vulnerability, and the folks we turn to (and kidnap) for validation.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:20



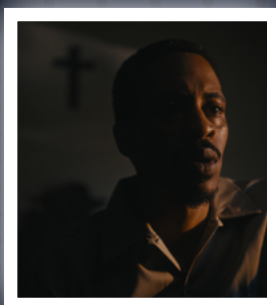
## Lyz

(Dir/Writer: Darnell Brown, Producers: Randy Becker, Darnell Brown, Angela Lewis)

**Notable Talent:** Angela Lewis (Aunt Louie from SNOWFALL), Patricia "Ms. Pat" Williams (Ms. Pat from THE MS. PAT SHOW), J. Mallory McCree (Homeland, Good Trouble, Quantico)

**Logline:** A fresh, off-beat dramedy that follows a passionate mental health worker as she struggles to balance her uniquely challenging job with keeping a promise to her daughter. Inspired by the writer/director's experience as a former mental health professional.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:22



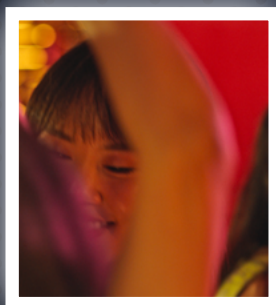
## Haven

(Dir/Writer: Corey Emanuel Jr., Producers: Corey Emanuel Jr., Lili Des-salegn Tegegn)

**Logline:** A man questions his notion of a safe place, then confronts disturbing beings that appear in his home.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Something Blue

(Dir/Writer: Jinsui Song, Producer: Wei Shen)

**Logline:** Emily returns home to attend her cousin's wedding. In this jovial setting, she struggles to confront the source of her past trauma.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:06

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



# All in the Family vol. 2 - 1:15 PM

Delving into the exploration of family dynamics, these films uncover the challenges and joys that define our closest ties, and the roots of our deepest traumas.



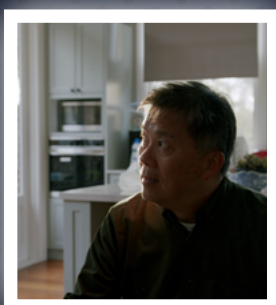
## TIGHT

(Dir/Writer: Ty Williams, Producers: Ty Williams, Chris Buck, Joshua H.B. Dennard, Nia Hill, Anny Jules, Mikenzie Lewis, Brandi Richard Thompson, Elizabeth Thompson, Kerwin Thompson, Heni Zoutomou)

**Logline:** When a young mother's child goes missing, she gets help from her sister and a family friend to help look for the child. Yet, when dirty secrets from the sister's past are revealed, they must face and reconcile their feelings, so that they can come together for the sake of finding the missing boy.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:02

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



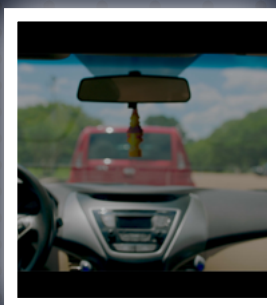
## Will You Mirror Me?

(Dir/Writer: Corey Emanuel Jr., Producers: Corey Emanuel Jr., Lili Desalegn Tegegn)

**Logline:** A young man privately imitates the different people that catch his attention on the train ride home. After his dad walks in on him cooing in a high-pitched voice and donning dark red lipstick, he is confronted about the kind of person he wants to play moving forward.

Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:53

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

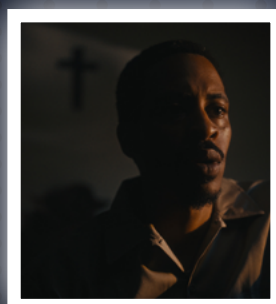


## Rear

(Dir/Writer: Edward Worthy, Producers: Edward Worthy, Telon Weathington, Danielle Worthy)

**Logline:** When a teacher leaves bruises on a child, an objecting mother unintentionally starts a debate on the use of school corporal punishment in her southern black community.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:00



## DO YOU SEE IT

(Dir/Writer: Alexis C. Jenkins, Producers: Alexis C. Jenkins, Miya Scagggs)

**Logline:** ANXIOUS. is a surreal dark comedy feature film about a woman named Ruby who has an anxiety attack and trips down the rabbit hole of her mind, where she meets versions of herself who take over her life.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:47



## Tillie

(Dir: Noelle P. Wilson, D Andrew Hartfield, Writers: D Andrew Hartfield, Tillie Hartfield, Producer: D Andrew Hartfield)

**Logline:** An 8 year old girl adopted from China leads her father to a deeper understanding of what she faces in a new culture and what she longs for from her home country.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:47

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Growing Up Is Hard To Do vol. 2 - 2:45 PM

*These films explore the full spectrum of life, focusing on the pivotal decisions made from youth through later years and their lasting impact.*



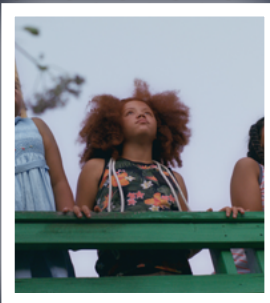
## Superman Doesn't Steal

(Dir/Writer: Tamika Lamison, Producers: Tamika Lamison, Chris Beal, Dominique DeLeon, Carol Shine, Ben Ephraim)

**Notable Talent:** Mustafa Shakir- *Cowboy Bebop, Luke Cage, Deuces*; Jordyn McIntosh- *Unprisoned*

**Logline:** Based on a true story & set in the 70's during the Atlanta Child Murders, a young brother and sister with a love of comics, face a series of impactful events which cause them to question the meaning of heroes, villains, superman- and themselves..

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:00



## Brownies

(Dir/Writer: Aisha Ford, Producers: Preston Lee, Carole Murphy)

**Logline:** Set in 1983 at camp, Snot (12) and her all-black girl scout brownie troop seek revenge on an all white privileged troop for calling them a racial slur. However, things take a left turn which leads to a shocking truth.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:00



## The Concert

(Dir/Writer: Elizabeth Bourgeois, Producers: Hays Hitzing, Nancy Nagrant)

**Notable Talent:** Nancy Nagrant - Co-Producer (Marvelous Ms. Maisel, Law and Order, Other TV)

**Logline:** Three teens riff on music, future, and freedom as they prep for their first rock concert. The girls tap into sisterhood, strength, and resolve when their dream night takes a brutally realistic turn.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:34

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Cancellation Celebration

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Ryan Cole)

**Logline:** The Whippersnappers, "old souls in young bodies," embark on a vintage shopping spree at the GOOD WHEEL thrift store. Led by OG and his magical smartphone, they unknowingly choose outfits now considered offensive. Their tabooed attire sparks outrage, leading to harassment and their abrupt "cancellation" by a merciless mob. As their phone dies, revealing their true elderly selves, they must navigate the chaos and find a way to clear their names in a politically correct world.

Web Series | Runtime:0:06:00



## NOVEMBER FIRST

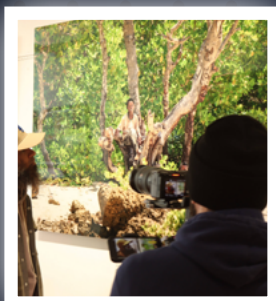
(Dir/Writer: Eliana Mullins, Producers: Eliana Mullins, Sarah Harper, Meghan Weinstein)

**Logline:** After waking up violently hungover at a halloween party, aging millennial Lanie remembers she has a job interview to go to.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:54

Premiere Status: World Premiere

## Pardon Me - 3:55 PM



### Pardon Me

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Shuja Moore)

**Logline:** Pardon Me is a documentary short film that presents a case for how pardons can help uplift lower income communities and increase money to states in America and Pennsylvania in particular by allowing people with criminal records the opportunity to live as full citizens and work at their skill level. The film features the story of three people impacted by their records and interviews with key leaders knowledgeable of the issue.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:30:50

## Life As We Know It - 5:15 PM

*These films delve into the small moments and ordinary details that influence our personal stories, revealing how the seemingly mundane can have profound significance in our existence.*



### Bang Bang

(Dir: Hisonni Mustafa)

**Logline:** A police officer's body cam captures the raw terror of a school shooting.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:00:30

Premiere Status: World Premiere



### Submerge

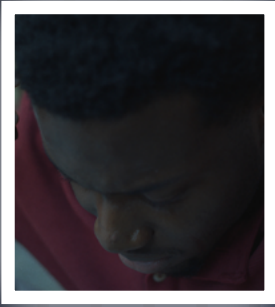
(Dir.: J. Michael Hayes, Writers: J. Michael Hayes, Clarence Young, Producers: J. Michael Hayes, Emerson Mahoney, Nekeshia Hayes)

**Notable Talent:** Mela Lee as "The Voice of Naima", credits include: *Miraculous Ladybug, The Owl House, Atlanta, Apex Legends*

**Logline:** On a remote island, Naima comes of age among an ancient mystical people. As a "chosen one" she must confront fear, expectations, and doubt to embrace her power as she transitions from childhood to something even more mysterious and powerful: herself.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:28

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Barakah

(Dir/Writer: Biniyam Abreha, Producers: Bemnet Yemsgen, Biniyam Abreha)

**Logline:** Faced with a dire request from a mysterious woman, a distraught young man embarks on a transformative journey that unearths mystical forces that reach into a long forgotten past.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:47

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## MONOCHROMATIC

(Dir/Writer: Karen Bryson, Producers: Shakyra Dowling, Lorraine Bhat-tachary)

**Notable Talent:** David Harewood - Executive Producer (*Blood Diamond, Homeland, Supergirl*)

**Logline:** The film is seen through the eyes of Grace, age 6. The world as she sees it, innocent and carefree. Grace is Black. 1977, London. The political climate is volatile with the rise of the National Front calling for the repatriation of immigrants and appealing to racial hatred.

Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:51



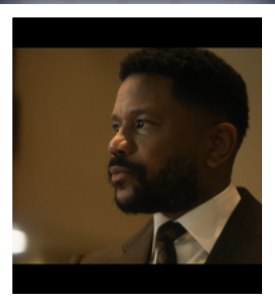
## Two Breaths

(Dir.: Kateryna Kurganska, Writers: Kateryna Kateryna, Myka Arakawa, Timur Guseynov, Producers: Kateryna Kateryna, Don John, C Craig Paterson, Timur Guseynov, Valerie Delahaye, Nick Brooks)

**Notable Talent:** Romeo Garcia "Moana" (Live Action)

**Logline:** After a man-made disaster decimates an evergreen island, a stranded 11-year-old girl must find the tenacity to leave behind her home with the help of an unlikely friend.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:11



## Will I See You Again?

(Dir.: Michael Perez-Lindsey, Writers: Rhett Lindsey, Michael Perez-Lindsey, Producers: Michael Perez-Lindsey, Alex Coffey, Valeria Lopez)

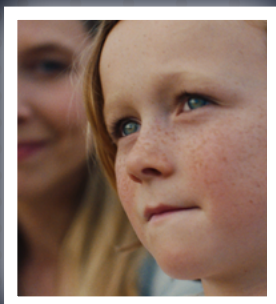
**Notable Talent:** Hosea Chanchez (*The Game*), Nick Wechsler (*Revenge*), Richard Lawson (*Tyler Perry's Divorce In The Black*), Anna Maria Horsford (*Friday*), Rosanny Zayas (*L Word: Generation Q*)

**Logline:** After 20 years of estrangement, two former college teammates find themselves summoned to their late friend's estate hearing. To claim their inheritance, they must first confront their past relationship while undergoing a polygraph test.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:24:13

# In A Parallel Universe vol. 1 - 6:45 PM

These sci-fi films venture into imaginative realms where conventional boundaries are challenged, revealing the fascinating possibilities of future worlds and alternate realities.



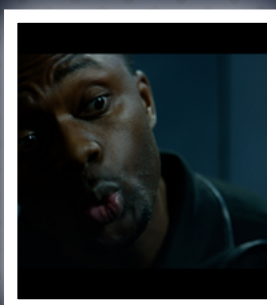
## As Easy As Closing Your Eyes

(Dir: Parker Croft, Writer: Parker Croft, Aaron Golden, Producer: Max Loeb, Parker Croft, Aaron Golden, Chris Blim, Laura Coover)

**Notable Talent:** EP Abigail Breslin, EP Jon Michael Hill, Associate Producer Nolan Gould

**Logline:** A grieving mother battles her addiction to a black-market drug that gives her life-like dreams about the son she lost.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:21:43

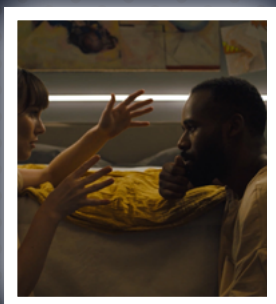


## The Order

(Dir: Jonathon Jacobs, Najah Elessie, Writer: Kwame Wiafe, Najah Elessie, Producers: Najah Elessie, Scott Hebert)

**Logline:** The lives of two orphans turned ninja assassins intertwined with a secret society takes them on a twisted journey of violence and vengeance.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:21

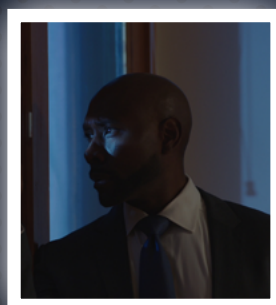


## Universe 25

(Dir: David Tappan, Writers: Kelly Tappan, David Tappan, Producers: Andrew Reinfeld, Juan Herrera, David Tappan, Victor Lord)

**Logline:** A determined woman, trapped by a mysterious entity, is forced to confront a life where she will never know anyone longer than 30 days.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:24



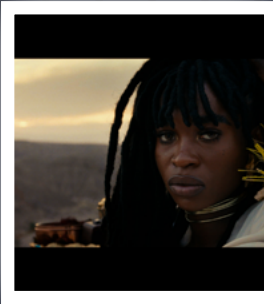
## The Origin

(Dir./Writer: Jorge Sanchez, Producer: Morris Chestnut)

**Notable Talent:** Morris Chestnut

**Logline:** As the fate of the earth hangs perilously in the balance, Bandi a sagacious elder embarks on a crucial mission to locate Tep one of the few legitimate descendants of an ancient extraterrestrial power, tracing back to a small tribe in Africa.

Short Film | Runtime: 20:00



## To End All Spells

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Nana Kwabena, Zak Cedarholm)

**Notable Talent:** Idara Victor (*Mad Men, Shameless, Minx, Rizzoli & Isles*), Jidenna (*Insecure, Luke Cage*)

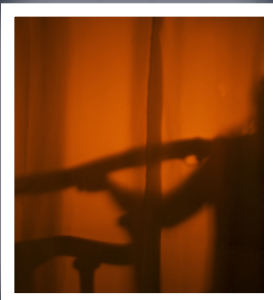
**Logline:** Amidst her village, Sumsun, nearing the brink of extinction, an unforgiving desert warrior fights to protect the legacy of Palve, a sacred psychedelic fruit that connects its indigenous to the spiritual realm. The only way to experience the effects of this scarce and forbidden hallucinogenic is through the remaining villagers' greatest form of protection; their hair.

*Short Film | Runtime: 16:05*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

# In A Parallel Universe vol. 2 - 8:10 PM

*Sci-fi tales exploring alternate existences and enigmatic what-ifs that captivate the imagination.*



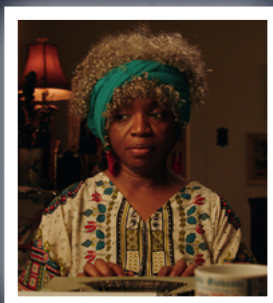
## The Recipe

(Dir: Tawan Bazemore, Writer/Producer: Crystal Porter-Bazemore, Tawan Bazemore)

**Logline:** In a reimagined America where slavery and Jim Crow never existed, Olufemi Adisa (Crystal Porter-Bazemore) sets out to fulfill her dying mother's last wish: deliver a cherished family recipe to Carol Anne Cole (Jennifer Althen Beaucham). This recipe, tied to a promise her father never completed, offers a chance at healing. However, the path to reconciliation is haunted by a violent shared past, including a murder from 22 years ago.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:21:01*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## The Candy Lady

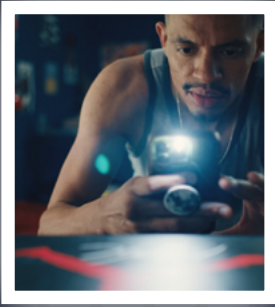
(Dir/Writer: Monique Morton Drouelle, Producers: Chris Jones, Monique Morton Drouelle)

**Notable Talent:** Morris Chestnut

**Logline:** The Candy Lady is a comedic Afro-fantasy short film that follows Debra, a neighborhood candy lady whose quiet day goes awry when she, unbeknownst to her, awakens a magical typewriter bringing all of her short stories to life.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:28*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## X: The Interview

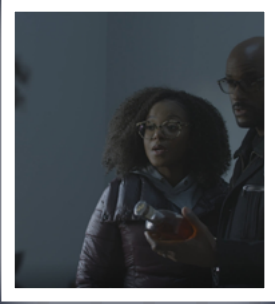
(Dir.: RJ Barnes, Anthony Rose, Writer: RJ Barnes, Producers: RJ Barnes, Anthony Baldino)

**Notable Talent: Brandon Broady**

**Logline:** A canceled superhero facing eviction turns to his side hustle for survival, but as he embarks on his journey, he discovers dark powers are conspiring against him...

Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:35

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



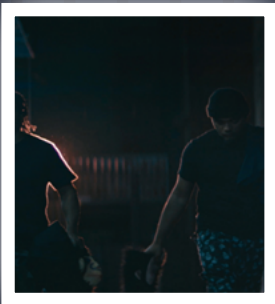
## Welcome to AfroTree

(Dir./Writer: Chase Parker, Producers: Chase Parker, Greg Rhem)

**Logline:** Steven and Janet are fed up with gentrification, whitewashing, and code switching in the big city. They move to Afrotree, an experimental, gated community populated by only African-American residents. Their dream of living in a cultural oasis suddenly becomes a nightmare when they discover they may not be "Black" enough.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:44

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Vigilante

(Dir.: Wesley Armstrong, Writer: Philip Dover II, Producers: Jamee Ranta, Diamond Batiste)

**Notable Talent: Khleo Thomas (Zero in Holes)**

**Logline:** In a world where superheroes overlook the vulnerable, four friends with powers step up to protect their neglected neighborhood.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:22:08

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Blindspot

(Dir./Writer: Luke O'Sullivan, Producers: Luke O'Sullivan, Mallory Jansen, Thomas Simon)

**Notable Talent: Mallory Jansen, actress in AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D, THE BIG LEAP, GALAVANT, THIS IS US, YOUNG & HUNGRY**

**Logline:** BLINDSPOT takes place over the course of one night, as a woman deals with the aftermath of a fatal car accident that blurs the lines between right and wrong. The film follows June as she is taken to the police station for questioning, while the police struggle to distinguish between victim and perpetrator.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:30



# No One Can Hear Your Screams - 10:10 PM

Thrilling horror and suspense films that dive into the adrenaline-charged realm of unseen and unheard threats.



## The Staycation

(Dir: Rosanna Sanchez, Writer/Producer: Aryka Paulette Randall)

**Logline:** A weekend among a vapid group of friends takes a shocking turn after hidden cameras in a sketchy vacation rental are overlooked.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:01



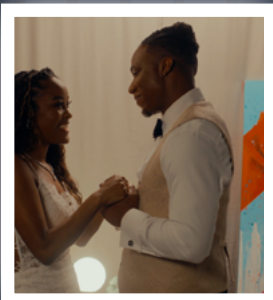
## Toska

(Dir/Writer: Alessia Devecchi, Producers: Alessia Devecchi, James Perkins)

**Logline:** A hunter's obsession with the creature that has eluded her leads her down a dangerous and lonely path.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:22

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## The Newlyweds: Blood at The Altar

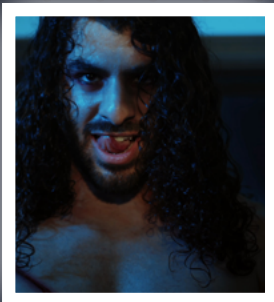
(Dir/Writer: Lucien Christian Adderley, Richard "Byrd" Wilson, Producers: Moon Lee Ferguson, Kiara Diana, Tanisha Cidel, LaToya Tonodeo, Arlen Escarpeta, Analisa Velez)

**Notable Talent:** Latoya Tonodeo ( *Power Book II: Ghost* (STARZ), *The Fosters*, *The Oath*, *The Perfect Match*), Arlen Escarpeta (*Found* (NBC), *Whitney*, *David Makes Man*, *Final Destination 5*, *Friday the 13th*, *S.W.A.T*, *NCIS*), Alex Hibbert (*Moonlight*, *The Chi*, *Black Panther*), Analisa Velez (*The Game*, *Quantum Leap*, *Almost Love*), Bertrand E Boyd II (*Queen & Slim*, *P-Valley*, *Cherish The Day*)

**Logline:** On the day of their wedding, a newlywed couple must battle everyone they love in order for their marriage to survive.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:42

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## The Flacalta Effect

(Dir/Writer: Lucien Christian Adderley, Richard "Byrd" Wilson, Producers: Moon Lee Ferguson, Kiara Diana, Tanisha Cidel, LaToya Tonodeo, Arlen Escarpeta, Analisa Velez)

**Notable Talent:** Latoya Tonodeo ( *Power Book II: Ghost (STARZ), The Fosters, The Oath, The Perfect Match*), Arlen Escarpeta ( *Found (NBC), Whitney, David Makes Man, Final Destination 5, Friday the 13th, S.W.A.T, NCIS*), Alex Hibbert ( *Moonlight, The Chi, Black Panther*), Analisa Velez ( *The Game, Quantum Leap, Almost Love*), Bertrand E Boyd II ( *Queen & Slim, P-Valley, Cherish The Day*)

**Logline:** On the day of their wedding, a newlywed couple must battle everyone they love in order for their marriage to survive.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:42*

*Premiere Status: LA/World Premiere*



## Halloween '63

(Dir/Writer: Lorenzo P. Adams, Producers: Lorenzo P. Adams, Fortuna Gbresellassie)

**Logline:** The year is 1963, little Michael Myers and his older sister Judith have just arrived home from trick or treating. As they get settled for the night, the phone rings.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:30*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## The Garden of Edette

(Dir: Guinevere Fey Thomas, Writer: Guinevere Fey Thomas, Chiara Campelli, Melisande McLaughlin, Producer: Lauren Rausaw)

**Logline:** An old creole woman's soul is bound to her flesh-eating garden. When she befriends a young girl in her neighborhood, the woman must decide whether to sacrifice her or die alongside the beloved garden.

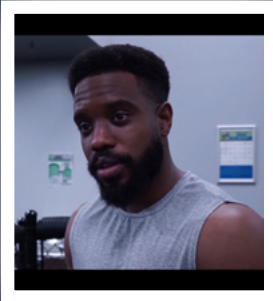
*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:46*

# Saturday, October 26th

## AUD #3

### Against the Odds - 11:10 AM

*Tales of perseverance and determination, where characters defy expectations and overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges.*



#### Hands

(Dir/Writer:Aarin Kennedy)

**Logline:** A Software Engineer enlists the help of a retired Professional Boxer to ensure success in the Upcoming State Fighting Tournament.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:35

Premiere Status: World Premiere



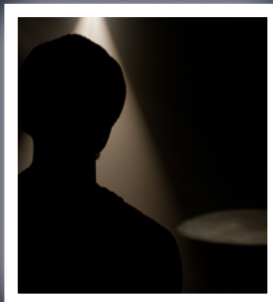
#### Interception: Jayne Kennedy • American Sportscaster

(Dir/Writer:Safiya Songhai, Producers:Safiya Songhai, Jayne Kennedy Over-ton, Latena Hazard, Esq, Garland McLaurin, Michael L. Brown Philip Dover II,)

**Notable Talen:**Jayne Kennedy, Muhammed Ali, Jim Brown, Irv Cross, Brent Musberger, Phyllis George

**Logline:** When a bronze-skin bombshell rocks the world of Sunday Morning Football, millions tune in... but few know the tumultuous story of Jayne Kennedy, the first Black woman to boldly tackle the racism of 20th century American broadcast television.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:00



#### MORROW

(Dirs.: Rich Monteiro, Lexx Truss, Producers: Gregory Warfield, Victoria Griggs)

**Notable Talent:** Rich Morrow (John Henry, Young Rock, Mindhunter, Hacks, Swoon)

**Logline:** From the spotlight on the court as a D-1 basketball player to the spotlight on set as a rising thespian, we follow Rich Morrow's journey from one exhilarating road to the next.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:22:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere

# Friend Forever, Mom Always vol. 1 & 2 - 12:05 PM

Stories of mothers doing whatever it takes and the maternal bonds that help navigate the complexities of growing up.



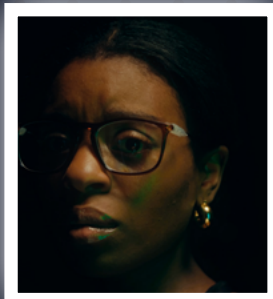
## Desync

(Dirs: Minerva Marie Navasca, Writers: Chen Sing Yap, Minerva Marie Navasca, Producer: Asa Kazerani)

**Logline:** A young Filipina filmmaker attempts to overwrite a painful memory of her mother with a perfect narrative.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Skettel

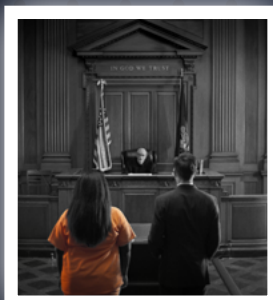
(Dir/Writer: Moon Lee Ferguson, Producers: Kiara Diana, Shania Banton)

**Notable Talent:** Alicia Pilgrim (A Thousand and One, HBO's Random Act of Flyness)

**Logline:** A young mother struggles to keep her head above water as she navigates motherhood, her neurodivergent toddler, and the gritty Atlanta nightclub where she works. All on a quarter tank of gas.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:05

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Never Can Say Goodbye

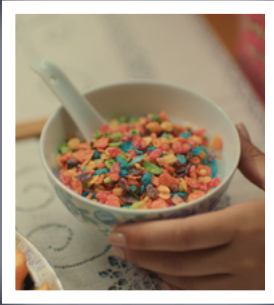
(Dir/Writer: Christopher Grant, Producers: Hash Sesay, Crystal Lucas-Perry, Christopher Grant)

**Notable Talent:** Lead Actress, Crystal Lucas Perry Crystal Lucas-Perry is an American actress. She is known for her performances on Broadway acting in the musical revival of 1776, and the Jordan E. Cooper sketch-play Ain't No Mo', the latter of which earned her a 2023 Tony Award nomination for Best Featured Actress in a Play.

**Logline:** Inspired by, created for, and starring parents who are dealing with child parent separation... A mother, convicted and on the verge of prison, asks for one last chance to see her kids. But when her children refuse to say goodbye, she's forced to make other plans.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:20

Premiere Status: LA/World Premiere



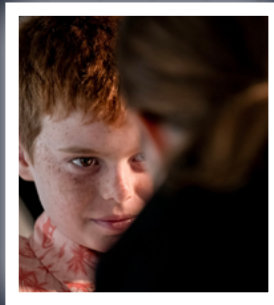
## Golden Garden Takeout

(Dir/Writer: Maggie Wong, Producers: Ellen Xing, Stephanie Gong)

**Logline:** A nosy mother walks in on her teenage daughter's devastating breakup.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:06*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Sole Suspect

(Dir.: Maggie Castle, Writers: Maggie Castle, Matt Watts, Producers: Maggie Castle, Jamin Kerner, Joe McDougall)

**Notable Talent:** Maggie Castle (*Tumbledown, Todd and The Book of Pure Evil, Starstruck*) , Jeananne Goossen (*Handmaid's Tale, Beacon 23, Slasher, So Help Me Todd*) , Oscar Best (*Arthur The King, The Last Face*)

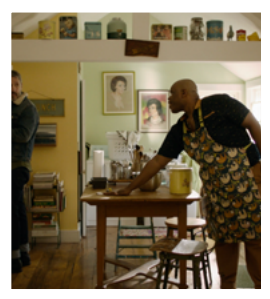
**Logline:** Just when a retired detective thought she was finally out, her son's missing shoes pull her back in.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:00*

*Premiere Status: No Premiere*

# Family Matters - 1:40 PM

Funny stories that center the nuances of being a family.



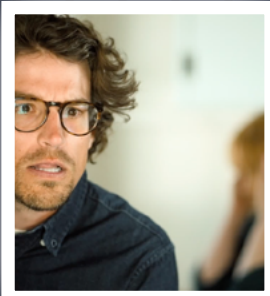
## The Yellow Sponge is the Dish Sponge

(Dir.: Michele Noble, Writer: Bixby Elliot, Producers: Bixby Elliot, Michele Noble)

**Logline:** Do we really need to wash sheets every week? Why would you ever have to clean a shower head? What is the difference between the blue sponge and the yellow sponge? These are the questions that haunt Jason. He doesn't understand the world's obsession (and his husband Erik's obsession) with cleanliness. So, on the day of their big party Jason launches his campaign to open Erik's eyes to this problem. What starts as disagreements about Lysol Wipes and Febreze scented trash bags turns into something bigger as The Yellow Sponge is the Dish Sponge looks at a couples conflict as old as time...fighting about household chores.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:39

Premiere Status: World Premiere



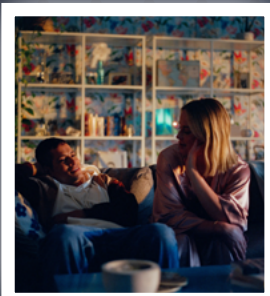
## Julian

(Dir.: Vivian Kerr, Writer: Cory Stonebrook, Producers: Stephanie Drake, Vivian Kerr)

**Notable Talent:** Stephanie Drake (MAD MEN)

**Logline:** A reconciliation brunch between estranged sisters goes awry when one of them brings an unexpected guest.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:53



## What to Expect When You're Not Expecting

(Dir/Writer: Jackson Tropp, Producers: Jackson Tropp, James C Velasquez, Ryan Tropp)

**Logline:** In this queer comedy short, Spencer and his husband Elliot run into one road-block after another in their journey toward becoming Daddy's, while Spencer's best friend, London, deals with her own parenthood problems. Spencer eventually learns that all good things take time, even for such an anal retentive couple.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:17



## Hey Kiddo

(Dir/Writer: Melissa Kong, Producer: Aimy Tien)

**Logline:** When a teenage girl stumbles upon a video that her dying mother left behind for her, she discovers something truly unexpected.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:51

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# Schemes & Scams - 2:45 PM

Gritty stories of ambition, where characters push the limits to achieve their dreams despite all odds.



## Bang Bang

(Dir: Hisonni Mustafa)

**Logline:** A police officer's body cam captures the raw terror of a school shooting.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:00:30

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## S.P.I.C.

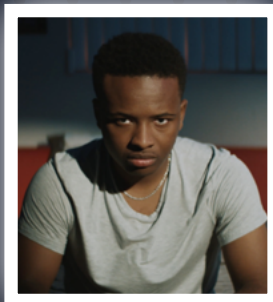
(Dir.: Heidi Miami Marshall, Writer: Johnny Sanchez, Producers: Mathia Vargas, Carlos Ibarra, Johnny Sánchez, JLove Calderón, Jennifer Sklias-Gahan, Luz Corona, Frank Oz, Michelle Hurd, Heidi Miami Marshall, Andrew McClain, Art Chudabala)

**Notable Talent:** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER FRANK OZ / CO-PRODUCER MICHELLE HURD / ACTOR ALEXIS CRUZ

**Logline:** A young boy's desire to get his mother back, and a father's wish to make things right collide.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:48

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

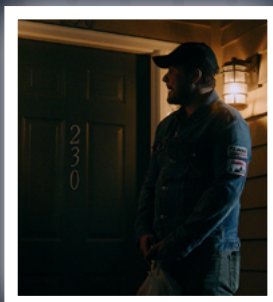


## ALL IN

(Dir/Writer: Dusan Brown, Producers: Kexian Li (James Lee), Joyce Kelly-Brown)

**Logline:** When an enterprising teen is left with seemingly insurmountable debt by his unscrupulous, late father, he must play poker to either make the money back and save what's left of his family... or die trying.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:51



## Scam

(Dir/ Writer: Julie Sharbutt, Producer: Whitney Wolanin)

**Notable Talent:** Julie Sharbutt (*I'm Dying Up Here*, *The Good Wife*, *3 Days, Moved*, *The Weekend*)

**Logline:** When a phone scammer makes one last late night call, the woman on the other end gives her much more than she bargained for.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:30



## Last Hoorah at G-Baby's

(Dir/Writer: DeeDee Casimir, Producers: Jordan Shanks, Kim Coleman, DeeDee Casimir, Tyrone D. Dixon, Adia Z May, Christina Ingraldi)

**Notable Talent:** Kim Coleman - EP + Casting Director Chaine "CJ Fly" Downer

**Logline:** After her grandmother dies, an aimless and apathetic art school grad must come up with five months of back rent or she risks eviction from her inherited rent-controlled apartment in a gentrifying Brooklyn.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 14:55

Premiere Status: No Premiere



## Richie Rich Hustla

(Dir: Naomi Christie, Jamar Harding, Writer: Naomi Christie)

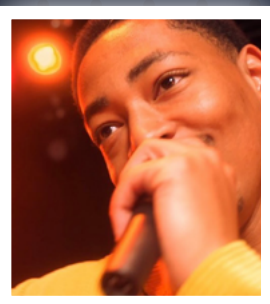
**Logline:** ANXIOUS. is a surreal dark comedy feature film about a woman named Ruby who has an anxiety attack and trips down the rabbit hole of her mind, where she meets versions of herself who take over her life.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:15

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## A Love to Remember - 4:15 PM

*Heartfelt tales of unforgettable romances that transcend time and circumstance, capturing the essence of love that defies the ages.*

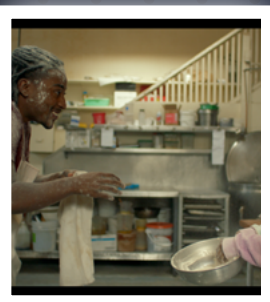


## A Sound to Remember

(Dir/Writer: Tyler Holmes, Producer: Madison Hatchett)

**Logline:** After losing his singing partner and lover during a jazz club mass shooting, Worthy Love struggles through PTSD and grief to sing again.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:00



## Chocolate with Sprinkles

(Dir/Writer: Huriyyah Muhammad, Producers: Okema T. Moore, Cole Sanchez, Yha Mourhia Wright)

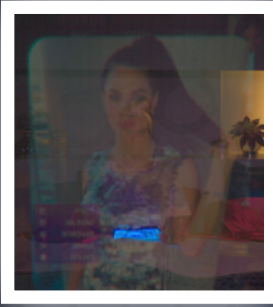
**Notable Talent:** Reno Wilson (CREDITS: Dexter: Original Sin, Fatal Attraction, Bel-Air)

**Logline:** On their 25th wedding anniversary, a bickering couple is given one day to do something they haven't done in 25 years - work on their marriage.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:05

Premiere Status: LA Premiere





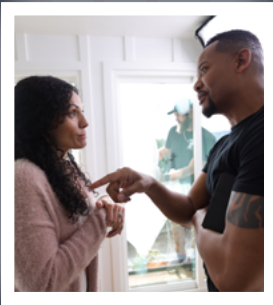
## Chimera

(Dir/Writer: Kryzz Gautier, Producers: Corsica Wilson, Kryzz Gautier, Brett Marshall)

**Logline:** Haunted by the past, a brilliant tech-addicted developer faces an impossible dilemma: recreate her ex-girlfriend in virtual reality or hold onto the crumbling relationship with her current one.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:15

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Roberta's Rules

(Dir/Writer: Derrex Brady, Producers: Derrex Brady, Michael Dalton, Mayon Denton)

**Notable Talent:** Derrex Brady, Carmen Serano, Page Kennedy, Aida Rodriguez, Sean Holland, Michael D. Walton

**Logline:** A deceased mother of three leaves behind iCloud videos to help her career-obsessed husband parent and heal his family.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:25:21

Premiere Status: World Premiere

# Feature: Phels High - 5:40 PM



## Phels High

(Dir/Writer: Kevin Nelson, Producer: Janelle Colman, Michael Arcell)

**Notable Talent:** Omari Hardwick, Elise Neal, Allen Maldonado, TJ Atoms, Marc John Jefferies, Michael Hyatt

**Logline:** " With danger lurking and trust fraying, survival becomes the ultimate challenge, In the aftermath of a high school shooting, where four friends find themselves barricaded in the school basement. Their loyalty is tested as they place their lives in the hands of the police officers negotiating with the shooter. "

Feature Film | Runtime: 01:25:06

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

# When Worlds Collide vol 1 & 2 - 7:20 PM

*These stories capture the richness of cultural exchange, revealing both the conflicts and the harmonies that arise when different traditions, values, and identities intersect.*



## Avant Garde - Unlimited Credit

(Dir: Felipe Combo, Writer: Vitor Garcia, Producer: Alma Batista)

**Logline:** "Avant Garde" dives into the complex emotions of a love that thrives more in fantasy than in reality. Vega explains, "This song was created about a girl in which I preferred the fantasy of our perfect situation rather than her getting too close and exposing the cracks of what an actual romantic relationship could bring. It's my escape from reality."

Music Video | Runtime: 0:03:48

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Dual Citizens

(Dir/Writer: George W. Campbell, Producer: Tana Marshall)

**Logline:** Three Nicaraguan-American artists from the Washington D.C. Metro area discuss growing up in two cultures and how it influences their art.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

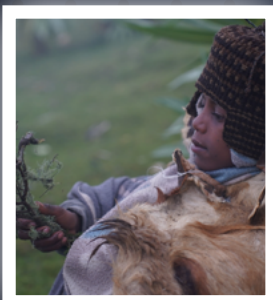


## Ojue

(Dir/Writer: Fernando Alberto Broce, Producers: Mariel Garcia Spooner, Darlene Darma)

**Logline:** A panamanian fashion designer living in the US, who is embarrassed about her culture, is forced to bring her dad with dementia (who is convinced that he is still in Panama) to her most important exhibition.

Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:08



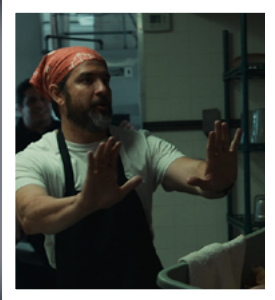
## Shepherd's Calling

(Dir/Writer: Wubetu Shimelash, Producers: Wubetu Shimelash, Majiye Uchibeke, Celai Ahmadzai)

**Logline:** From the rugged caves of Ethiopia to the dazzling lights of Hollywood, 'SHEPHERD'S CALLING' follows the remarkable journey of an Ethiopian shepherd turned filmmaker in America. This captivating documentary explores the struggles of leaving home, reconciling cultural identities, and the universal quest for belonging.

Int'l Short Film | Runtime: 0:21:54

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



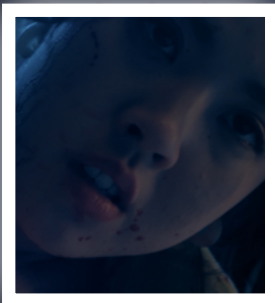
## The Heart of Texas

(Dir.:Gregory JM Kasunich, Writers: Gregory JM Kasunich, Lauren Noll, Producers: Jordan Ochel, Soledad Bautista, Becca English, Gregory JM Kasunich, Lauren Noll)

**Notable Talent:** Carlos Moreno Cravioto - *The Beauty and the Beasts*, Aaron Konzelman - *The Voice*

**Logline:** An aspiring country singer on her way to a life changing audition collides with an undocumented worker who refuses medical care. The two engage in a struggle, each in pursuit of their own American dreams.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:45*



## Foreign Planetary

(Dir/Writer: Tiffany Lin)

**Notable Talent:** Chelsea Sik (*Alan's Universe*, *Apex Legends*)

**Logline:** On the brink of her last day on Earth before being forced to return to her planet of origin, a young woman must find a way to stay in her new home.in Panama) to her most important exhibition.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:20*



## Reunion

(Dir/Writer: Timothy S Naylor, Zainab Jah, Producers: Djaka Souaré, Timothy S Naylor, Zainab Jah)

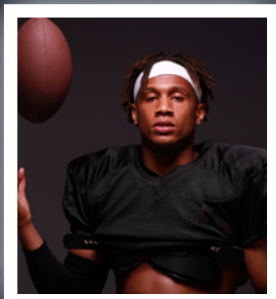
**Notable Talent:** Executive Producer: Danai Gurira. Associate Producer: Lupita Nyong'o

**Logline:** REUNION - a West African immigrant living the Bronx, discovers the child soldier who destroyed her family, years later, is now a best selling author living in New York City. Combining live action with graphic novel techniques and with Danai Gurira as Executive Producer, this award winning short has qualified for the 2025 Oscars.□

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:30*

# Closing Shorts: We are the Champions - 9:05 PM

These films celebrate the triumphs of those who surmount incredible obstacles, revealing the grit, determination, and resilience required to achieve greatness against all challenges.



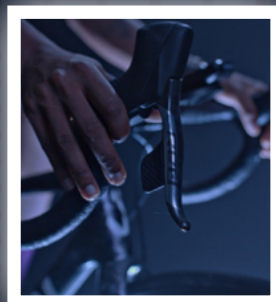
## Name Image Likeness

(Dir/Writer/Producer: Justin Rowe Tolliver)

### Notable Talent: Kyle Schmid - NCIS Origins

**Logline:** "A Los Angeles High School football phenom seems to be on top of the world, that is until his newfound fame and money start to present more problems than he can handle.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:59



## A RACE IN THE SUN

(Dir/Writer/Producer: K. Nicole Mills)

**Logline:** An exploration of cycling culture through the eyes of Ayesha McGowan who rose through the ranks of the New York City underground cycling world to break barriers as the world's first African American woman to become a professional cyclist.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Sweet Santa Barbara Brown

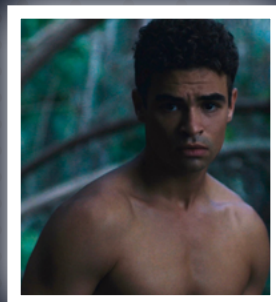
(Dir.: Eric Dyson, Writer: Solomom Hughes, Producers: Matthew Barnes, Oliver Mack Calhoun, Eric Dyson, Tony Gapastione, Solomon Hughes)

### Notable Talent: Solomon Hughes, Spencer Garret, Max Williams

**Logline:** Due to a case of mistaken identity, four members of the Globetrotters find themselves at the violent mercy of the Santa Barbara Police Department

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Huli

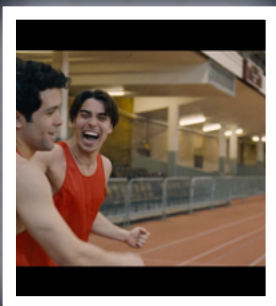
(Dir/Writer: Daniel Croix, Producers: Max Mooney, Phil Schlieder, William Rouse, Richard Hamasaki, Mele Hamasaki)

### Notable Talent: Daniel Croix (Manhunt on Apple TV+, The Oval on BET, Love Victor on Hulu)

**Logline:** After a boxer flees from New York to Hawai'i, a friendship with his coach expands his awareness of identity, purpose, and power.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## CHAMPIONS

(Dir: The Brothers, (Asher and Aaron Goldenberg), Writers: Aaron Goldenberg, Asher Goldenberg, Producers: Collin Meath, Benjamin Thompson, Lianne Becker)

**Logline:** Brothers, Adrian and Sebastian, have qualified to race in The National Track Competition, whose stakes are not just gold medals. They stand to win the contract for the National Training Facility - an investment that would mark a legendary win for the boys and provide unprecedented economic opportunity for their poverty-stricken island. However, when the terms of winning suddenly change, the boys' unbreakable bond falls into a moral brawl for the greater good. No matter what side they choose, a good and evil emerge.

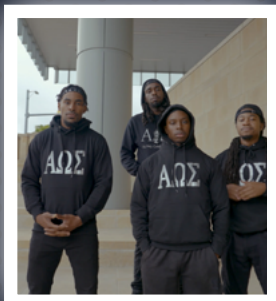
Short Film | Runtime: 0:22:39

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## AUD #6

# Freshman 15 - 11:15 AM

*A light-hearted look at the trials, tribulations, and transformations faced during the pivotal college years.*

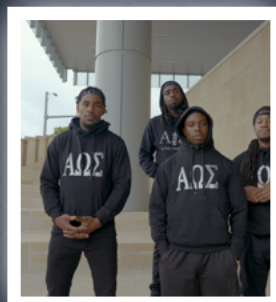


## Paper Line: The Music Video

(Dir/Writer: Ryan Watson)

**Logline:** The brothers of Alpha Omega Sigma martial arts fraternity travel to Coppin State University in Baltimore.

Music Video | Runtime: 0:06:57



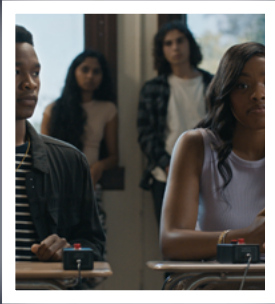
## Paper Line: Bragging Rights

(Dir/Writer: Ryan Watson, Producers: Ryan Watson, Marissa Allen)

**Logline:** Two years after the events of the first film, Spring 2022 pledges Rodney and Eddie challenge Big Brother Desmond and charter member Raheem to a 2 on 2 match to determine the top martial artists of Alpha Omega Sigma fraternity.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Behold A Lady

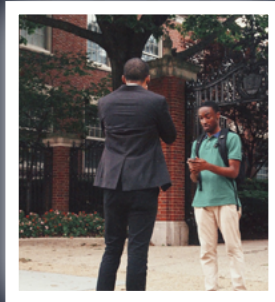
(Dir/Writer: Britt Williams, Producers: Austin Chen, Chris Crema)

**Notable Talent:** Alana Kay Bright, AMARR

**Logline:** When a studious tomboy's boyfriend dumps her on the eve of her Latin Quiz Bowl tryouts, she struggles to balance her heartbreak and studies as she transforms her appearance to win him back.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:58

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## TASTE OF THE MECCA

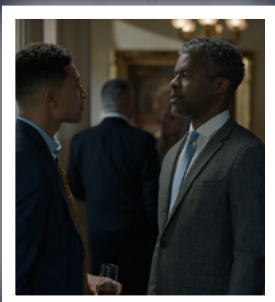
(Dir/Writer: Tevin Scott, Producers: Tevin Scott, Vondell Burns, Brandon Palm)

**Notable Talent:** Issa Rae, EP

**Logline:** An awkward black boy fresh out of a predominately white high school begins to find love while struggling to fit in at his prestigious HBCU.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:19

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Lyrical

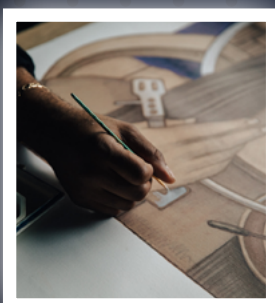
(Dir/Writer: Carter M. Stewart, Producers: Tristan Daley, Carter M. Stewart)

**Logline:** A Black, privileged law student must decide between solidarity and scission with a group of adjudicated youth when they are violently confronted by the police.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:35

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## Feature: Art, Beats + Lyrics - 12:35 PM



## Art, Beats + Lyrics

(Dir.: Bill Horace, Producers: Jabari Graham, Dwayne Wright)

**Notable Talent:** Killer Mike

**Logline:** Art, Beats + Lyrics celebrates the legacy of the groundbreaking visual art and hip hop roadshow that began in Atlanta in 2004 and has since become a national phenomenon. The documentary chronicles the lead up to AB+L's twentieth anniversary tour.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:30:06

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## Feature: Lavender Men - 2:20 PM



### Lavender Men

(Dir.: Lovell Holder, Writers: Roger Q. Mason, Lovell Holder, Producers: Mia Chang, Mia Ellis, Lovell Holder, Roger Q. Mason)

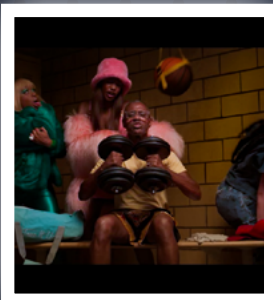
**Notable Talent:** Pete Ploszek (star of Michael Bay's Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles franchise; the upcoming season of Netflix's You)

**Logline:** After a particularly disastrous performance, the stage manager of a small theater daydreams about Abraham Lincoln's gay love affair in order to cope with their own loneliness.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:38:19

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## Feature: Tricked & Treated - 4:15 PM



### Tricked and Treated

(Dir.: Victoria Monai Richards, Writers: Victoria Monai Richards, Sherrie Richards, Michael Anthony Snowden, Producers: Sherrie Richards, King Hoey, Joel Harold, Joseph Harold, Grant Gilmore, Victoria Monai Richards, Tichina Arnold)

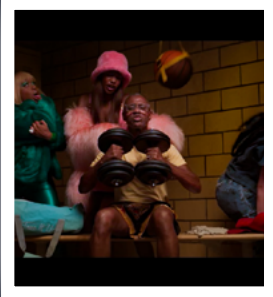
**Notable Talent:** Tichina Arnold, Tommy Davidson, Juhahn Jones, Landon Moss, Christopher "CP Powell, Norm Nixon Jr., Victoria Monai Richards, Nijah Brenea

**Logline:** After a college student and her two best friends frantically rush him to care for her mysteriously demented PawPaw, he disappears. Will her street reformed Auntie, homeless informants, and a host of other misfits help them find PawPaw in time for Christmas, or will they be taken too?

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:42:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## Closing Feature: SWOON - 7:30 PM



### Swoon

(Dir/Writer: Byron Manuel, Producers: Byron Manuel, Ryan Rojas, Kasandra Diaz, Franco Tavera, Cash Oliver, JP Ouellette)

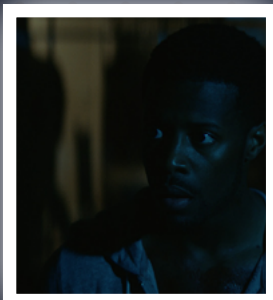
**Notable Talent:** Tichina Arnold, Tommy Davidson, Juhahn Jones, Landon Moss, Christopher "CP Powell, Norm Nixon Jr., Victoria Monai Richards, Nijah Benea

**Logline:** A woman wakes tied to a bed, and her captor tries to manipulate her into believing they are a couple.

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:23:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

## Late Night Selection: Peripheral - 10:00 PM



### Peripheral

(Dir.: Sulayman Tahir, Writer: Sulayman Tahir, Jordan Tortorello, Producers: Jordan Tortorello, Dallas Hart)

**Notable Talent:** Patrick Walker (Lessons In Chemistry, The Last Days of Ptolemy Grey)

**Logline:** A woman's husband goes missing soon after moving into their new home. But strange paranormal events start to occur upon his return

Feature Film | Runtime: 1:27:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



# VIRTUAL PROJECTS



## The Capitalist

(Dir.: Gian F. Smith, Writer: Gian F. Smith, Producer: Gian F. Smith)

**Logline:** A canceled superhero facing eviction turns to his side hustle for survival, but as he embarks on his journey, he discovers dark powers are conspiring against him...

Short Film | Runtime: 00:16:19

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## The Prophecy

(Dir.: Rehanna Ngom, Writer: Rehanna Ngom, Producer: Rehanna Ngom)

**Logline:** A sleepless woman, victim of rape, embarks on a journey to find treatment for her recurrent nightmares. She will find it in a mystical place, which will open up a path to her inner power, self-acceptance and vengeance.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 00:20:31

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Huey

(Dir.: Ken Gregory, Dave Mack II Writer: Ken Gregory, Producer: Ken Gregory, Dave Mack II)

**Logline:** Dr. Huey P. Newton was the co-founder of the radical group The Black Panther Party. From the party's inception, Dr. Newton was the target of Federal, State and Local Governments for his efforts in liberating the African American community in Oakland and beyond from the blatant discrimination thrust upon the race as a whole.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:29:39

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Color of Autumn

(Dir.: Aimiende Negbenebor Sela, Writer: Constance Nicole Frierson, Alexandra Olivia Engelson, Rebecca A. Bloom, Producer: Yhá Mourhia Wright, Alexandra Olivia Engelson, Rebecca A. Bloom, Pamela Weiss, Constance Nicole Frierson, Margaret French Issac, Philip W Hinds)

**Logline:** Inspired by a true story, in 1966 Chicago a sheltered Black eight-year-old is blindsided by cruel and casual racism while playgrounding with white children.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:59



## GOLD DOGMA

(Dir.: Asar Saint Lamont, Writer: Asar Saint Lamont, LaQuan Ford, Madison Hatchett Producer: Devin O'Guinn, Lamont Lamar, Hailee Chu)

**Logline:** The President of a Black fraternity faces the antiquated views of LGBTQ representation when his brother is outed on social media.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:55*



## Two Bad Twitches

(Dir.: Dominique Boyd, Writer: Ronesha Strickland, Producer: Ronesha Strickland, Patrick Tennerson)

**Logline:** A buttoned-up introvert and her ride or die bestie seek help from a questionable witch to cast a spell on a cheating ex.

*Short Film | Runtime: 00:16:43*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Some Kind of Heavenly Fire

(Dir.: Eric Vincent Riley, Writer: Eric Vincent Riley, Jasmin Joseph, Producer: Jasmin Joseph, Eric Vincent Riley, Tendo Nagenda, Gabriel Freeman, Emuni Sanderson)

**Logline:** In the summer of 2003 a grandfather tries to hide his daughter's incarceration from his young grandson in the midst of a city wide blackout and alien invasion.

*Short Film | Runtime: 00:20:39*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## DREAMERS

(Dir.: Frank Zanella, Writer: Frank Zanella, Producer: Frank Zanella)

**Logline:** Juan and other three immigrants cross the United States in the back of a truck. The four, illuminated by a dangling light, share dreams and ambitions for the future.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 00:08:53*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*



## Fast Food

(Dir.: Felicia Manning, Writer: Felicia Manning, Samantha Wilson, Producer: Felicia Manning, Samantha Wilson) Daniel Brooks)

**Logline:** When a teenager in love expects a fun night with her boyfriend, she winds up on an emotional roller coaster that only friendship can save.

*Short Film | Runtime: 00:09:30*

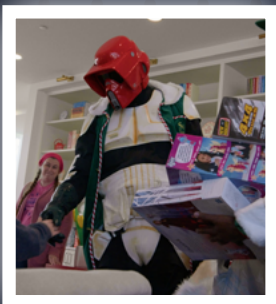


## Don't Cry For Me All You Drag Queens

(Dir.: Kristal Sotomayor, Writer: N/A, Producer: Kristal Sotomayor, Nic Cory, Daniel Brooks)

**Logline:** "Don't Cry For Me All You Drag Queens" pays homage to the legendary Mother Cavallucci by weaving together the present and past to provide a striking portrait of belonging and memory. Joseph "Josie" Cavallucci (aka Mother Cavallucci) is a legendary New Hope drag queen that would host annual wedding celebrations in the 70s and 80s that served as fundraisers and a community party. Poetically merging archival photographs and present day footage from a community drag show, the film sparks conversation about the modern day issues Mother Cavallucci revolutionized.

*Short Film | Runtime: 00:09:00*



## Hope For The Holidays

(Dir.: Yuri Williams, Nathan Cribari, Writer: Yuri Williams, Rodney Smith Jr., Producer: Yuri Omar Shariff Williams, Rodney Smith Jr.)

**Logline:** Santa's Helpers bring Christmas cheer to the homes of families in need as two men visit all 50 states in America bringing toys, gifts and support to families during the holiday season.

*Short Film | Runtime: 01:34:34*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



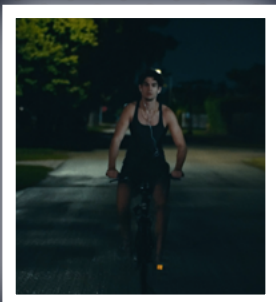
## Cicadas

(Dir.: Alexandria Collins, Jared Culp, Writer: Jared Culp, Alexandria Collins, Producer: Jared Culp, Alexandria Collins, Dawnie Jefferson)

**Logline:** Ray and Melanie Fox are the family's self-appointed "leaders" after the death of Granddaddy Fox. They've taken meticulous detail in planning the first official family reunion in 12 years. Family members have traveled from across the country for this occasion including their son Rory and his longtime girlfriend, Alice. What happens when egos clash and tempers flare as a family tries to reassemble for the first time 12 years after the death of their beloved patriarch? Truths they've been hiding from themselves and each other make their way to the surface.

*Short Film | Runtime: 00:15:33*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*



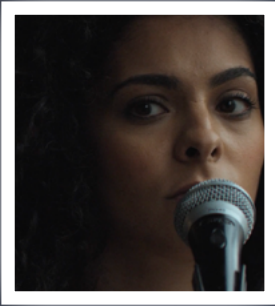
## Biking

(Dir.: Antonio Alejandro, Writer: Antonio Alejandro, Producer: Keyazhia Hoyle)

**Logline:** A freshman in college struggles to adapt to life after high school.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 00:09:46*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*



## Les Câlines Cheaps (Cheap Hugs)

(Dir.: Sarah Baskin, Writer: Sarah Baskin, Valéry Lessard, Bryan Fitzgerald, Producer: Bryan Fitzgerald, Valéry Lessard, Sarah Baskin, David Siegel, Sow the Seeds Productions)

**Logline:** Based on the play by renowned French-Canadian playwright Annick Lefebvre, *Les Câlines Cheaps* follows two women, both reeling from the loss of their mutual friend, who find themselves in an unexpected moment of connection on the streets of Montreal.

*Short Film | Runtime: 00:15:00*



## Hero

(Dir.: Jacob Randall, Writer: Michael Rosario, Producer: Michael Rosario)

**Logline:** A single father overwhelmed by caring for his neurodivergent son, who believes he must protect his father from the dangers of smoking, faces a life-changing moment in a liquor store leading to a profound realization of love and sacrifice.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:08:45*



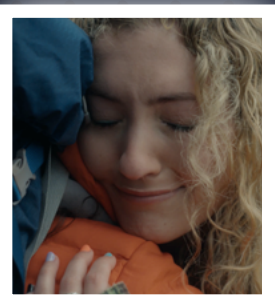
## Red Flags

(Dir.: Kierra Payne, Tiara West, Writer: Kierra Payne, Producer: Kierra Payne, Tiara West, Torrence Reed)

**Logline:** Beneath the facade of a charmed life, a successful woman faces an internal reckoning as she grapples with the painful realization of a toxic relationship she entered despite the glaring warning signs, prompting a journey of self-reflection and empowerment, to reclaim her strength and find true happiness.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:05:08*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Never Getting Rid of Me, Bitch

(Dir.: Dream Thanika Jenjesda, Writer: Isabella Cohen, Olivia Cohen, Producer: Lily Darragh Harty)

**Logline:** *Never Getting Rid of Me, Bitch* is a heartwarming and humorous short film that explores the bonds of sisterhood in the face of loss. As they prepare to leave for college, identical twins embark on an epic hike, but a heartbreaking revelation forces them to confront the complexities of their relationship and the challenges of standing on their own.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:00*



## Outcast Forest

(Dir.: Frank Raudsepp, Writer: Caleb Wells, Producer: Piyush Thakur, Frank Raudsepp)

**Logline:** A lost Viking discovers a Saxon girl on the run from thugs and must intervene to find his way home.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

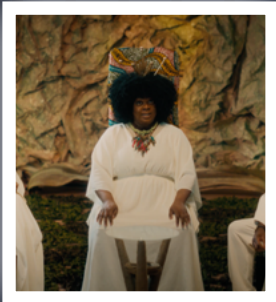


## Pills Anecdotes: Royally Infamous

(Dir.: Kevin Onyeaka, Writer: Kevin Onyeaka, Producer: Kevin Onyeaka, Joel Jerry Duran)

**Logline:** A woman that's recovering from a recent breakup turns to social media for self improvement and validation. With a box of pills in hand that can give you whatever you want, and a talk with a friend, she's left with a decision to fight through her pain or risk it all for comfort.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:52*



## The Burden

(Dir.: Tish Arana, Writer: Tish Arana, Producer: Brandi Nicole)

**Logline:** When culture vultures apply for citizenship on a new planet colonized by Black people, three judges must decide how to deal with folks who want everything but the burden.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:51*



## I Am Not Ok

(Dir.: Laurent Chevalier, Writer: Laurent Chevalier, Producer: N/A)

**Logline:** A lonely man navigates working from home and his own mental struggles, while strange inconveniences push him deeper into uncertainty.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:28*



## rine - i wish u could love me too

(Dir.: Alex Chen, Writer: N/A, Producer: Alan Dang)

**Logline:** At a high-stakes talent show, a girl performs a heartfelt song directed to her unrequited love, who watches quietly in the audience with his new girlfriend.

*Music Video | Runtime: 0:04:52*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



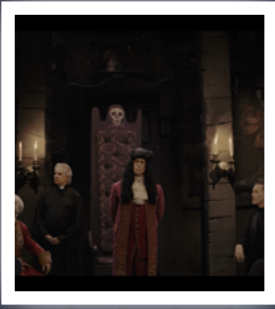
## Floor

(Dir.: Caitlin Boston, Writer: Caitlin Boston, Producer: Caitlin Boston, Clara Peterson)

**Logline:** After her father passes suddenly, a young woman says goodbye and contends with how she'll move forward.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:26*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Casual Vignettes of Gilded Vulgarities

(Dir.: Paul Kaiser, Writer: Paul Kaiser, Producer: Joanna Fang, John Charter)

**Logline:** Casual Vignettes of Gilded Vulgarities is an allegorical account told through a series of vignettes that connect the origin of American systemic and structural racism to its contemporary manifestations.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:50



## Oh My Sweetheart

(Dir.: Aristides De Jesús Mantilla Artigas, Writer: Aristides De Jesús Mantilla Artigas, Producer: Aristides De Jesús Mantilla Artigas)

**Logline:** Joaquin, a lonely homeless kid finds a life friend in a little puppy, just to later find out the dog is lost and has an owner. After Joaquin's older brother refuses to keep the puppy with them, Joaquin must find the owner to bring the puppy back home and finally find a true friendship.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:49



## No, Not Really

(Dir.: Chandonae Baskin, Writer: Chandonae Baskin, Producer: Christopher James Smith, Chandonae Baskin)

**Logline:** A young man with a bruised ego seeks closure from his ex-girlfriend in hopes of moving on with his life.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Love, Malachi

(Dir.: Britt Banks, Writer: Kaena Hood, Producer: Armani Greer, Kaena Hood)

**Logline:** A young cancer patient and his girlfriend's plans are unexpectedly derailed when his discharged date gets postponed. The two must suddenly figure out how to make the most of their day against all odds.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Price

(Dir.: Byron Lee Mason II, Writer: Christian Yosef, Producer: Christen Vanderbilt-Ellis, Bita Arefnia)

**Logline:** With his career on the line, an ambitious actor loses his grip on reality as he delves into a breakout role.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:55

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Party Favor

(Dir.: Yasmine Gomez, Writer: Yasmine Gomez, Producer: Yasmine Gomez, Marisa Marquez)

**Logline:** A Filipino-American woman grapples with going behind her strict Catholic sister's back to buy condoms for her 14-year-old niece.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:59

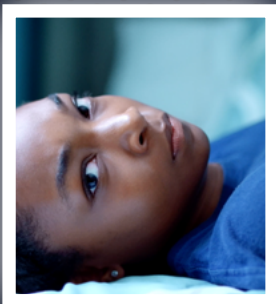


## Agua de tu Madre

(Dir.: Naiyah Ambros, Writer: Naiyah Ambros, Producer: Joe Metcalf, Tynae Miller, Grant Samayoa)

**Logline:** Fifty years after an AfroCuban woman receives aid from the sea goddess Yemayá to help her son flee revolutionary Cuba, her pregnant granddaughter Zamira faces a similar hurdle that affects the future of her unborn child in this tale of diaspora, generational inheritance, and resilience.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:00



## The Son That Didn't Shine

(Dir.: Alana I Smith, Clarke Phillips)

**Logline:** A woman recalls a series of events from her early 20s that led to a forced abortion. Now in her old age, she reminisces over the son she never had.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:18

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

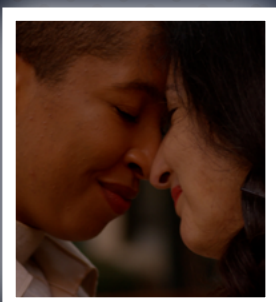


## Vida

(Dir.: María Valdez, Writer: Maria Valdez, Producer: Maria Valdez, Savana Vagueiro da Fonseca, Keenan Kunst)

**Logline:** In a post-civil war, women of color face forced sterilization. Vida and her rebel group must choose: escape or save the others and risk capture.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:59



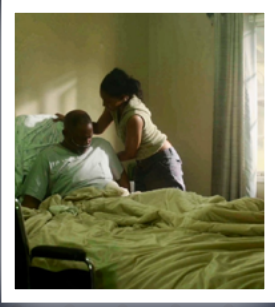
## (Jeudi) Thursday

(Dir.: Alex Dauphin, Writer: Alex Dauphin, Julia Malinbaum, Producer: Alex Dauphin)

**Logline:** When an impetuous American journalist misses an important date night, she must fight for future with her French fiancée – in both of their languages.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:05:55





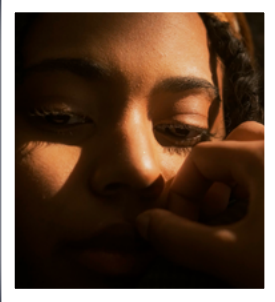
## Little Lady

(Dir.: Doveloy Danelle King, Writer: Doveloy Danelle King, Producer: Billy Tsiolis)

**Logline:** Teenage girl must choose between continuing to single-handedly care-take for her bed-ridden father or pursue her dreams of attending her dream school.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:00*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## One For My Baby

(Dir.: Shiloh Tumo Washington, Writer: Shiloh Tumo Washington, Producer: Shiloh Tumo Washington, Duncan Analco)

**Logline:** A romance is told in reverse through a series of memories brought on by a piece of improvisational music.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:23*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Brother, Where Are You?

(Dir.: Shiloh Tumo Washington, Writer: Shiloh Tumo Washington, Producer: Shiloh Tumo Washington)

**Logline:** Two brothers, separated by time and prison bars, reconnect.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:58*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Ráoshù

(Dir.: Mae Breazeale, Writer: Mae Breazeale, Producer: Pokey Spears, Micah Schultz, Eddie Espinoza)

**Logline:** A young woman visits the grave of her mother. As she fights through tough memories from her childhood, she faces the past and learns to cope with her grief, finding forgiveness along the way.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:10*



## Takeout

(Dir.: Marcus Ellison Jr., Writer: Madeline Rooks, Marcus Ellison Jr., Producer: Madeline Rooks)

**Logline:** Tensions rise for a young couple when a delayed takeout order disrupts their night in.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:36*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*



## Melabration

(Dir.: Kezita, Writer: Kezita, Producer: Nadjah Dabney)

**Logline:** After returning home from prison, Callie faces a mysterious threat in her small town where under the sun's glare your survival depends on the amount of melanin in your skin.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:16

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Brief Exchanges

(Dir.: Ashley Versher, Writer: Ashley Versher, Producer: Caitlin Kilgore, Ashley Versher)

**Logline:** An escape from a drunken stranger lands Tanya, a young Black woman in NYC, on the same corner as Troy. Their meet-cute becomes a day of flirtatious banter punctuated by poignant moments that reflect the microaggressions she must navigate daily.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:38



## Between These Walls

(Dir.: Nadir Baaset, Writer: Brian Lucear, Nadir Baaset, Producer: Brian Lucear)

**Logline:** A young child's Christmas wish to Santa Claus forces his parents to hold a mirror up to the cracks in their marriage.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:31

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



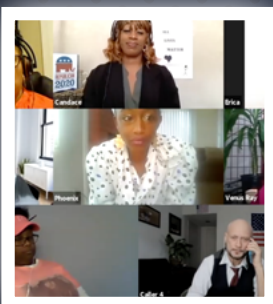
## Expected Unexpected

(Dir.: Tamiyka White, Writer: Libreht Baker, Erin Wood, Producer: Tamiyka White, Valaira Sa-Ra, Sonja Inge, Erin Wood, Libreht Baker)

**Logline:** When she receives surprising news while making a morning coffee run, a steadfast and practical office worker's life jolts as determines whether she will follow her own instincts or the advice from her two friends.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:29

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Complaints Anonymous

(Dir.: Claudia Alick, Writer: Erin Wood, Tamiyka White, Aleksandra Bowie, Libreht Baker, Producer: Tamiyka White, Valaira Sa-Ra)

**Logline:** A startup company that employs call agents to take calls dealing with complaints, struggles to balance the complaints received from customers and employees disputes within the organization. When The CEO makes a disparaging comment to one of her employees, a tweet about the incident goes viral sending the company into a tail spend they struggle to get out of.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:52



## Crowe

(Dir.: Alessia Devecchi, Writer: Alessia Devecchi, Producer: Alessia Devecchi, Jacob Dearing, Riley Glenn)

**Logline:** In the twilight years of the untamed, wild west, things are changing... not only in the world, but in the otherwise tight-knit community of the Raynor Gang. After sudden infighting and the death of one of their own, siblings Irving (Bryson Chalk) and Leta Crowe (Nyla Henderson) must come to a decision: stay and live in fear, or abandon everything they know.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:55*



## Maison

(Dir.: Christopher Easterly, Writer: Christopher Easterly, Producer: Christopher Easterly)

**Logline:** An African man stranded at a rural U.S. gas station seeks to get to the airport before his flight home departs.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:00*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Artificial

(Dir.: Chanelle Tyson, Writer: Chanelle Tyson, Producer: Will Baker, San-San Onglatco, Katerina Hoyo-Frederickson, Charles Hopkins)

**Logline:** Alexa and Siri discover love as their humans fumble with it.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00*



## The Price of Freedom

(Dir.: Lori Webster Fore, Writer: Lori Webster Fore, Producer: Chao Thao, Jamari Perry)

**Logline:** A mother, convicted of a crime she did not commit, makes a last resort attempt at freedom. But that decision comes at a cost.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:15*



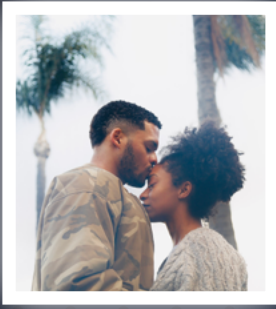
## Summer's Twilight

(Dir.: Megan K Maher, Writer: Megan K Maher, Producer: Mary Dent-Maher, Kelly Maher Harris, Ken Rudnick, Naomie Session)

**Logline:** A cerebral and fantastical film about a glamorous woman, Wendy on the cusp of receiving a coveted lifetime achievement award, until a mischievous and ill-natured sprite incites her down a destructive journey, revealing a shocking truth about her reality and her sister.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:30*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



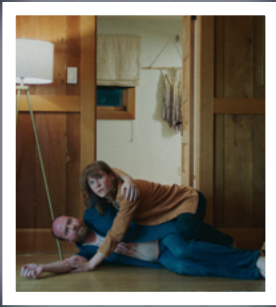
## Hours

(Dir.: Tiger AJ Ray, Writer: Tiger AJ Ray, Producer: Aaron Kelly, Tiffany Campbell, Tiger AJ Ray)

**Logline:** "Hours." is a 24-hour romance between two emotionally unavailable co-workers who decide to throw caution to the wind after seeing one another outside of work.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:28

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

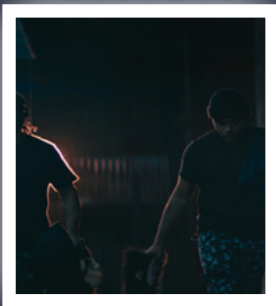


## Donor

(Dir.: Erin Doyle Cooper, Writer: Thea Lux Lux, Producer: Thea Lux)

**Logline:** When faced with the financial strain of IVF, how far will a desperate sister go to get her wife pregnant when she needs her brother's sperm to get the job done?

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:34



## Think Like A Sponge W / Abstract The Entertainer

(Dir.: Anthony Elijah Montgomery, Writer: N/A, Producer: Ant Montgomery)

**Logline:**

Short Film | Runtime: 0:52:35



## Tracing the Divide

(Dir.: Jack Zakrajsek, Writer: Jack Zakrajsek, Michael Schilf, Keefe Kaupanger-Swacker, Producer: Michael Schilf)

**Logline:** Two lifelong friends test their limits and find new purpose as they cycle the rigorous Great Divide Mountain Bike Route from Canada to Mexico.

Short Film | Runtime: 1:23:43

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



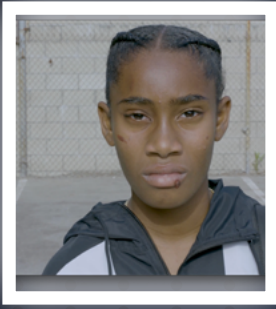
## As Above, So Below: The Woman With the Trapped Soul

(Dir: Colbie Inez, Marcenae Lynette, Writer: Marcenae Lynette, Producer: Britt Banks)

**Logline:** After enduring numerous disappointments in her quest for love, Marlow embarks on a profound journey of self-discovery. In a serendipitous moment, she awakens to find her spiritual ancestor beside her, offering a unique insight into life through the practice of sex magic.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:00a

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Hard

(Dir.: Eboni Price, Writer: Eboni Price, Producer: Lauren E. Banks, Kristofer Cross, Dot McDonald, Musau Onwubiko)

**Logline:** Twelve-year-old Javonte Freeman juggles puberty, a bully and grief while learning the rules of survival in her tough neighborhood.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:21:45

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## The Last Today

(Dir.: Robert Pierre, Writer: Robert Pierre, Producer: J.R. Poli)

**Logline:** A depressed Private Detective tries a psychedelic for the first time as a new coping mechanism which leads him to an outrageous night of hallucinations and murder.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:21:55

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

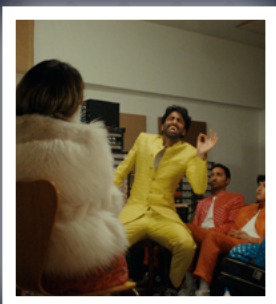


## The HoodTrophy Bino Story: Breaking the Generational Curse

(Dir.: Sam "Gebar" Gebremiche, Writer: N/A, Producer: Star Soltan, Tadashi Sayres)

**Logline:** Dive into the captivating narrative of HoodTrophy Bino - a California hip-hop artist from the projects of South Central and Palmdale, discovered by Soulja Boy in jail, and destined to overcome the generational curse of poverty and incarceration plaguing all of the males in his immediate and extended family. Bino opens up about the trials and triumphs that shaped his life - offering insights into the challenges of growing up in a tough environment. From overcoming adversity to pursuing his dreams, Bino shares poignant stories that resonate with authenticity and resilience. Join us as we explore the powerful narrative of self-discovery, perseverance, and breaking free from the chains of the past. Don't miss out on this inspiring tale of transformation into a Trophy!

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:14

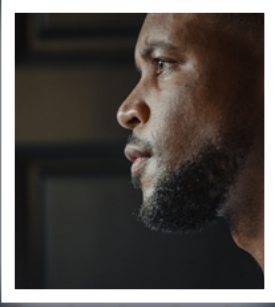


## Chakras For Sale

(Dir.: Punya Chatterjee, Writer: Punya Chatterjee, Producer: Toni Adeyemi)

**Logline:** After failing to make it big as a rock band, four Indian Americans in 1960s San Francisco attempt one last rebrand to ride the hippie wave and finally get their big break.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:36



## Brown Babies

(Dir.: Zaire Davis, Writer: Zaire Davis, Producer: Brian Reddy, Amina Galiyeva)

**Logline:** An African American man struggles to raise his newborn twins and seek justice for his fiancée after she dies while giving birth due to a mistake that her doctors could have prevented.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:13

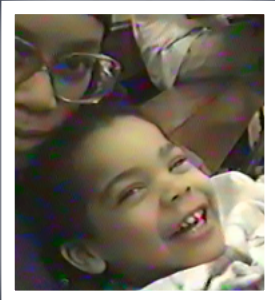


## Lost Time

(Dir.: Zaire Davis, Writer: Zaire Davis, Producer: Hailee Williams, Brian Reddy, Suraj Savkoor)

**Logline:** An African American woman struggles to reconnect with the modern world and her loved ones after spending fifteen years in prison.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:13



## Things Long Left Unsaid

(Dir.: Antonia Thornton, Producer: Antonia Thornton)

**Logline:** Akin to a visual journal entry, *Things Long Left Unsaid* is a short personal documentary about the sudden loss of the filmmaker's father and her coming to terms with all of the things the two never talked about, including the difficulty of existing as a Black family in her predominantly white suburban hometown. By juxtaposing her family's archival home videos with present day black and white footage, Antonia Thornton takes audiences through an authentic journey of grief and acceptance.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00

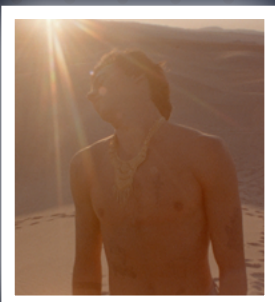


## Bros Propose

(Dir.: Harold Williams, Writer: Harold Williams, Producer: Harold Williams)

**Logline:** Best friends scramble to pull off a last minute wedding proposal.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:35



## Passage

(Dir.: Jigme Tenzin Salto, Writer: Jigme Tenzin Salto, Producer: Jigme Tenzin Salto)

**Logline:** A broken heart, the perilous voyage of a migrant, the grief of a loved one, a mental health crisis...PASSAGE explores a universal journey through movement.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:00



## BIBLE CAMP

(Dir.: Philip DeRise, Writer: Hyon Jung Lee, Producer: Sibyl Reymundo-Santiago, Taja Perkins)

**Logline:** Young Korean immigrants assimilate to baseball, burnt hot dogs and hostility at a discount daycare. Rocking out to vinyl records at Bible Camp has unintended consequences. A traumatic memory, based on a true immigrant story.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:21*

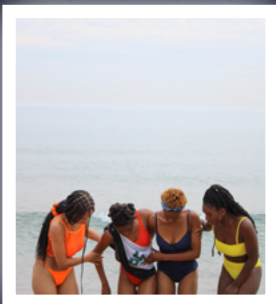


## Kinnected

(Dir.: Katz Carter, Writer: Deanna Pak, Producer: Deanna Pak, Marlo Su, David Short)

**Logline:** After closing their eyes with thoughts of attempting suicide, Yin and Yang, estranged twins with polar opposite personalities, find themselves tied up together in a basement.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:39*



## A Yellow Circus

(Dir.: Jasmine Cheri Rush, Writer: Ashli Rene Funches, Producer: Ashli Rene Funches, Jordan David Wallace, Jazzy Cheri Rush)

**Logline:** For black girls who refuse to drown.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:40:00*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

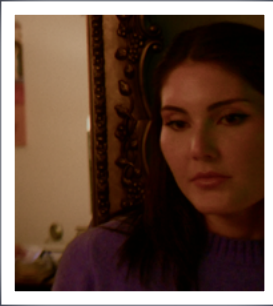


## I AM HOPE

(Dir.: ShakaJamal, Producer: ShakaJamal, Wendy Martinez-Marroquin)

**Logline:** Through fly-on-the-wall footage and insightful interviews, director ShakaJamal chronicles the effort to create a first-of-its-kind yoga and mindfulness program for Oakland Unified School District middle schools. Aimed at expanding students' awareness and refining their goals, the initiative has been a unique success, and I Am Hope offers a poignant portrait of the day-to-day struggles of diverse young people united in their desire to pursue big dreams. As both director and interview subject, ShakaJamal's presence is felt in front of and behind the camera, not only in terms of where he chooses to focus his lens but also in his discussions of the project's origins and hopes for its future. "I'm passionate about your goals because you're going to be the ones leading," says the filmmaker to one of his students, and that zeal is plain to see in this heartfelt profile of a special program. —Zaki Hasan

*Short Film | Runtime: 1:04:28*

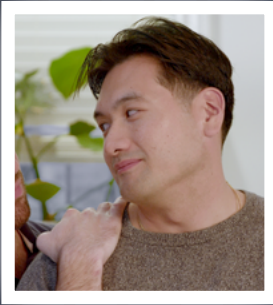


## Hemingway

(Dir.: Echo Nguyen, Writer: Echo Nguyen, Producer: Echo Nguyen)

**Logline:** When a new lesbian relationship has their first fight, will they end their connection before facing the uglier truths of each other?

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:30



## Whitewash

(Dir.: Jerry Hsu, Writer: Jerry Hsu, Producer: Jerry Hsu)

**Logline:** After being accepted into the 'Ivory Estates', an Asian man moves in with his new fiancé and discovers that he's the only person of color in the neighborhood—among the estates' other secrets.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:31



## Body

(Dir.: Lavender Ruth Birch, Writer: Lavender Ruth Birch, Producer: Christian Washington)

**Logline:** A hard-working girl struggles with the necessity of a physical body.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:04:50

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Blurred Ties

(Dir.: Latia "Lovely" Jones, Sallie Hines, Writer: Shanna Johnson, Producer: Shanna Johnson, Sallie Hines, Latia "Lovely" Jones)

**Logline:** Two former college friends struggle to move past the pain caused by one intimate night, that never ended.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:17:50

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Inadequate

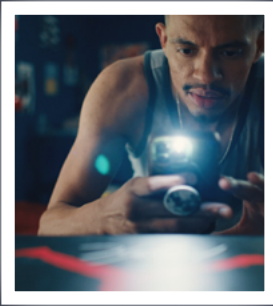
(Dir.: Elya Randrianaivo, Writer: N/A, Producer: N/A)

**Logline:** A White Savior must rethink her role and biases after learning truths and details about her foster child's situation and mother.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:59

Premiere Status: LA Premiere





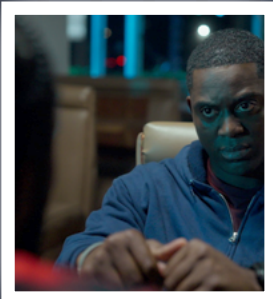
## Film School

(Dir.: Victoria Greer, Writer: Victoria Greer, Producer: Robert Hudson, Jasmine Smith)

**Logline:** Agricultural, Technical, and Mechanical City State University is an HBCU, and it's Macy Smith's (Smithy) first day. Smithy has a lingering tuition bill looming over her head when her professor presents a scholarship opportunity to the class. They all have to make a video highlighting their summer, but all Smithy did was help out at her parent's restaurant. Plus, with her nemesis Adrienne having the right connections and equipment, it seems as if getting this scholarship might be impossible. Despite this, Smithy finds a way to make her project unique and wins the scholarship through her perseverance.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:42*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



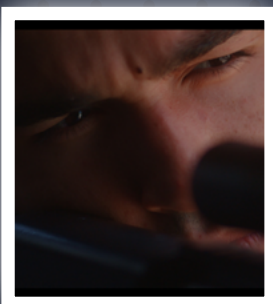
## Traffick in the City

(Dir.: Frantzy Moreau, Writer: Julius Mendez, Greg Brown, Producer: Samantha Cuhna, Nathan Codner)

**Logline:** Alex; a wholesome young man desperate for what seems to be financial opportunity-- finds himself caught up in the middle of a notorious local sex trafficking ring— But it might be exactly where he needs to be..

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:00*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

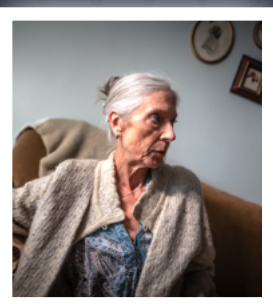


## Man vs Man

(Dir.: Jon Benson, Writer: Bryan Murallon, Producer: Michael Melendez, Anthony Green)

**Logline:** In the fog of an international spy war the paths of two men, bound by their profession, collide.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:43*

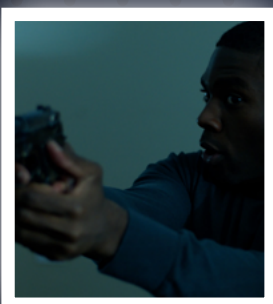


## The Forgotten

(Dir.: Annette Galloway, Writer: Annette Galloway, Producer: Annette Galloway)

**Logline:** An elderly widow, grapples with the profound loneliness that consumes her following the recent loss of her beloved husband. In a desperate bid to escape her pain, she unknowingly consumes one too many sleeping pills, oblivious to her own demise, trapped in a limbo between the living and the dead.

*Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:23*



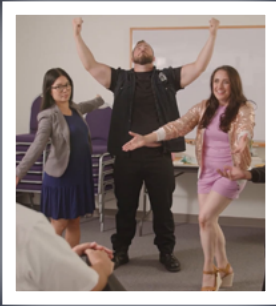
## Chaos

(Dir.: Himie Freeman, Emmanuel Nkolo, Writer: Himie Freeman, Producer: Himie Freeman)

**Logline:** A dispirited Marine veteran reconnects with a love interest upon returning home, only to find himself at the heart of a city-shifting murder investigation.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:35:14*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Social Gems

(Dir.: Jordan Prescott, Writer: Anne Arreguin, Producer: Anne Arreguin, Ivan Lee Gartner)

**Logline:** A little white lie forces a quirky, unemployed social skills coach to maintain her facade as a therapist at a run-down community center at all costs.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:27:04

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Broken Silhouettes: A Minute Through Life

(Dir.: Daihoro Peguero, Writer: Daihoro Peguero, Producer: Daihoro Peguero, Alejandro Melendez, Alexander Santos, Jorge Santos)

**Logline:** A reflection on the harsh reality of gender-based violence in Puerto Rico, encouraging people to raise their voices and take action against the persistent epidemic of femicide. This short film seeks to inspire a movement of awareness and change that pays tribute to the lives lost and promotes a future of equality and safety.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:13



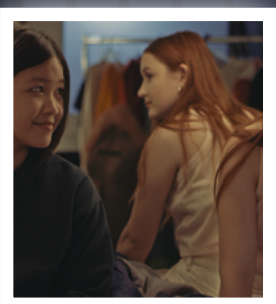
## Pull Over So I Can Hit You

(Dir.: Catelin Shane Dunn, Writer: Calvin Michaels, Catelin Shane Dunn, Producer: Calvin Michaels, Catelin Shane Dunn)

**Logline:** The driving desires of a teen get railroaded by a chaotic family drive.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

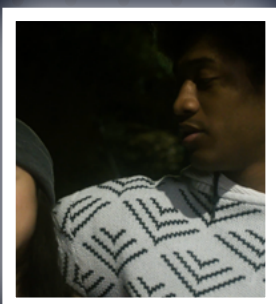


## Stage Kids

(Dir.: Lynn Chen, Writer: Lynn Chen, Producer: Jenny Mackenzie, Alysha Aldred, Gabi Cuascut, Kelty HepplerGrace Lu)

**Logline:** An hour before showtime, two teenage actresses must decide if this is the life they want for themselves, or if they're going to take their professional stress and family drama into their own hands.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:34



## Ey You

(Dir.: Nicola Fan, Writer: Nicola Fan, Producer: Pius Kung)

**Logline:** Based on my personal experience, Ey You! follows an interracial couple's encounter with a drunk harasser.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Alchemy of Solitude

(Dir.: Viktoria I.V. King, Writer: Viktoria I.V. King, Producer: Viktoria I.V. King)

**Logline:** "Alchemy of Solitude" is a film about Activists turned Assassins who try to end a race war but are forced to choose between honoring their ancestors and losing themselves. It is a thought experiment that delves into the autopsy of an activist, the soul of war and its emotional traumas and truths that must be constantly navigated.

Short Film | Runtime: 1:52:52

Premiere Status: World Premiere



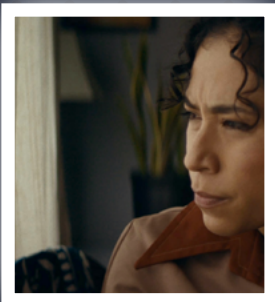
## 4 to 6 Seconds

(Dir.: Zj Jackson, Writer: Zj Jackson, Producer: Ar'Darius Stewert, Alena Drake, Zjara Wilson)

**Logline:** Three women face life-altering decisions in a single day - to escape abuse, choose career over motherhood, or cling to life after tragedy. As their paths intersect, they discover it takes 4 to 6 seconds to make a decision that will change your life forever.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:33

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Above the Desert with No Name

(Dir.: Sonia Sebastián, Writer: Heather Older, Producer: Heather Older, Sonia Sebastián, Maarten Cornelis)

**Logline:** After arriving illegally in the United States, a young Mexican girl's troubled life gets inspired by spying on an incandescent neighbor.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:20



## Merman

(Dir.: Sterling Hampton IV, Writer: Sterling Hampton IV, Producer: Sterling Hampton IV, Monica Lawless)

**Logline:**

Short Film | Runtime: 0:11:18



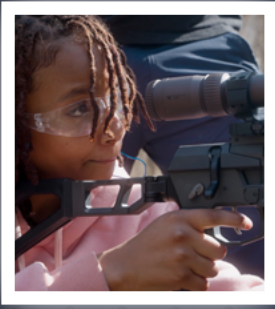
## If Trumpets Had Eyes

(Dir.: Trevor McGhie, Writer: Trevor McGhie, Producer: Samantha Salvemini)

**Logline:** IF TRUMPETS HAD EYES is a dramatic short film following a young homeless man who randomly connects with an up-and-coming executive after receiving the recycled phone number of her deceased brother.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:40

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Crossfire Love

(Dir.: Patrick Phillips, Writer: Patrick Phillisp, Producer: Patrick Phillips, Kandice Phillips, Jamison Phillips)

**Logline:** Crossfire Love" is a compelling documentary that delves into the nuanced world of black gun ownership, aiming to provide a comprehensive view on the subject. Highlighting the historical impact of groups like the Black Panthers and legislation such as the Mulford Act, the documentary sheds light on the evolving landscape of black gun ownership in contemporary society.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:22:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



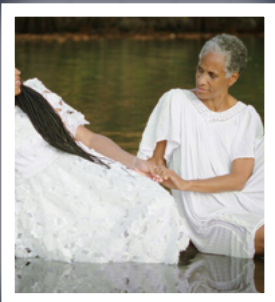
## NO RELIGION

(Dir.: Roman Muellegger, Writer: Roman Muellegger, Sebastian Hirsch, Producer: Roman Muellegger)

**Logline:** The catchy tune of the year has an important message, which is the sound of unification for all religions of the world.

Music Video | Runtime: 0:03:06

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## La Sirèn

(Dir.: Owokere "Benji" Unanaowo, Writer: Owokere "Benji" Unanawo, Karl-Mary Akre, Producer: Mary Elizabeth Esquibel)

**Logline:** Submerged memories of Haitian folklore come flooding back when a pious Catholic mother turns to her Vodou-practicing daughter for swim lessons.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:30

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## The Moon is in Aquarius

(Dir.: Jesse Kuba, Writer: Jesse Kuba, Producer: Jesse Kuba, Kemi Ayoko)

**Logline:** Devante and Liz run into each other at a house party on a starry night in San Francisco. There is an instant attraction! They ditch the party to explore San Francisco. As the night goes on, they begin to fall in love with each other and the city.

Short Film | Runtime: 1:27:13

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## COACH SMITH A 1000 WINS

(Dir.: Victor Moji, Writer: Robert "Bob" Thompkins, Producer: Victor Moji)

**Logline:**

Short Film | Runtime: 0:25:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## A Million Miles Away

(Dir.: Majid Mirhashemi, Writer: Majid Mirhashemi, Producer: Jamal Salek)

**Logline:** Maryam works in a company where the Sultan "Afghan man" is the janitor and guard of this company. The company is located in a city of Iran where it is illegal for Afghans to enter and they will be deported if arrested.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:29:48

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## The Broken Space

(Dir.: Gabriel Alemán, Eduardo Eimil, Writer: Gabriel Alemán, Eduardo Eimil, Producer: Leila Montero, Gabriel Alemán, Eduardo Eimil)

**Logline:** An ex-cosmonaut steals a historic voice recording. Attempting to sell it, he discovers that his decision may affect the fate of his family.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:29:59

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Wild Hogs and Saffron

(Dir.: Andy Sarjahani, Writer: N/A, Producer: Andy Sarjahani)

**Logline:**

Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:37

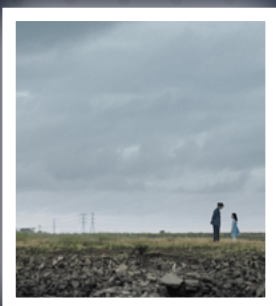


## The Smallest Power

(Dir.: Andy Sarjahani, Writer: N/A, Producer: Daniel Lombroso, Andy Sarjahani)

**Logline:**

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:13



## Land Birds

(Dir.: Sarah Lee, Writer: Sarah Lee, Producer: Evelyn Kuo)

**Logline:** After running away from home, a young Korean woman attempts to re-connect with the kid sister she left behind through a day of birdwatching.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:06

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## Shpilkes

(Dir.: Hannah Berkowitz, Writer: Hannah Berkowitz, Producer: Viviana Piñerua-Bonomie, Clare Jackson, Hanna El-Mohandess, Mirit Ackermann)

### Logline:

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:45*



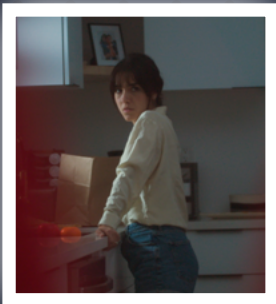
## Last Option

(Dir.: Don-Dimitri Joseph, Writer: AJ Fitzgerald, Producer: Don-Dimitri Joseph, AJ Fitzgerald, Melanie Miranda, Haleigh Burckley, Devin Ellery)

**Logline:** The story follows Daniel, a gifted psychic with the ability to see into the future, but yet out-of-luck millennial—all the while coming into contact with the eccentric, homeless Josie—as they embark on a journey of committing burglaries.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:58*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*



## Habla Con Ella

(Dir.: Jennifer Espinoza, Writer: Jennifer Espinoza, Producer: N/A)

**Logline:** *Habla Con Ella* delves into Mel's tumultuous journey from a once enchanting romance to the stifling confines of a toxic partnership. Struggling to find solace amidst her anxious home life, this young Latina woman embarks on a harrowing quest for happiness, battling against the controlling forces that threaten to consume her spirit.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:25*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*

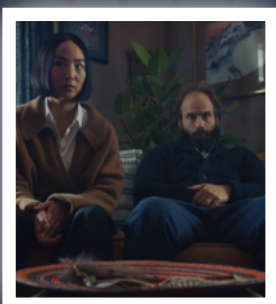


## Alt Black

(Dir.: Conroe Brooks, Brian Hammers, Writer: Conroe Brooks, Producer: Conroe Brooks, Brian Hammers)

**Logline:** In the land of Hollywood, sometimes everything can seem so black and white. How do you survive when you're both?

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:58*



## The Breakthrough

(Dir.: Daniel Sinclair, Writer: Daniel Sinclair, Producer: Kate Chamuris, Valerie Steinberg, Bridget Moloney)

**Logline:** Jane and Teddy are on the brink of divorce. But when their marital problems come to a sticking point, they have an unexpected breakthrough.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:14:00*



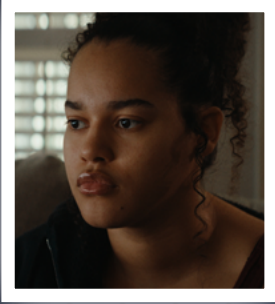
## Tingum

(Dir.: Lavado Stubbs, Writer: Lavado Stubbs, Producer: N/A)

**Logline:** "Tingum, a young Bahamian female mixed-race vampire on the sun-drenched island of Eleuthera, Bahamas, desperately tries to save her vampire parents' crumbling marriage.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:51

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Sobriety

(Dir.: Kina Johnson, Writer: Kina Johnson, Producer: Philip Page)

**Logline:** Isley (Daniella Ochman) and Dr. Rein (Ashley-Lauren Elrod) are on a mission to achieve atonement for Isley, but she is having a hard time doing so due to her alcoholism, mental illness, and traumatic experiences.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:08

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Damaged

(Dir.: Dana Kippel, Writer: Dana Kippel, Producer: Allisyn Snyder, Dylan Snyder)

**Logline:** A slice-of-life anecdote about the irrational process of addiction and relapse.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:24:00



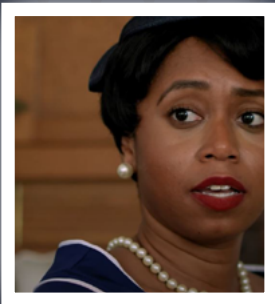
## Blues for the Blues

(Dir.: Craig Laurence Rice, Writer: Craig Laurence Rice, Producer: Craig Laurence Rice, Sami Caravella)

**Logline:** The story of two brothers facing their decline in the Blues music performance business due to a younger generation's fickle taste and the abandonment of a certain section of the traditional black audience.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:28:49

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Pictures Only

(Dir.: Charles A. Honeywood, Writer: Charles A. Honeywood, Rachel Soland, Khierra M. Peggs, Producer: Jennifer Goodman (Karum), Ryan Atkins, Charles A. Honeywood)

**Logline:** To stay independent during the start of an economic downturn during the late 1950's, 25-year old Arts teacher and socialite is given the opportunity to elevate her lifestyle and secure her family's future.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:20:53



## I'm Usually Pretty Good At Naming Things

(Dir.: Mac Premo, Writer: Mac Premo, Producer: Mac Premo)

**Logline:** An artist creates a series of one hundred collages using communication with his kids as his north star.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:04:50

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



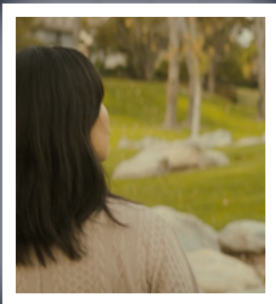
## San Francisco Bae

(Dir.: Cephra Stuart, Writer: Cephra Stuart, Producer: Cephra Stuart, Duke Sayer, Anup Kulkarni, Nisha Anand)

**Logline:** A black female founder, struggling to find investors, and an Asian med-school dropout concoct a risky plan to pursue their true passions & achieve the American dream.

Short Film | Runtime: 1:49:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere



## HOME

(Dir.: Al Chang, Writer: Al Chang, Producer: Al chang, Ruby Chang)

**Logline:** Seo-won navigates a fragmented reality filled with emotional encounters and haunting memories, seeking solace and clarity in her search for home.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:00



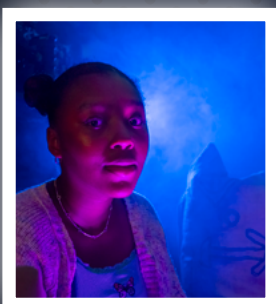
## 3 EASY STEPS

(Dir.: Paige Henderson, Writer: Paige Henderson, Nicole Murray, Producer: Leah Meyerhoff, Paige Henderson, Nicole Murray)

**Logline:** A woman with debilitating ADHD embarks on a self-help journey to the woods where things take a dark turn when she manifests another version of herself.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:16:39

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Village Treasures

(Dir.: Keita Don Azu, David Geathers, Devan Renea, Writer: Devan Renea, Producer: Max Viltz, Keita Azu Don, David Geathers)

**Logline:** When a screen-absorbed teen stumbles upon a magical Kalimba in a vibrant African art store, she's transported into a world of joyous dancers and rich culture, transforming an ordinary day into an extraordinary journey of discovery. confines of her digital universe.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:20

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



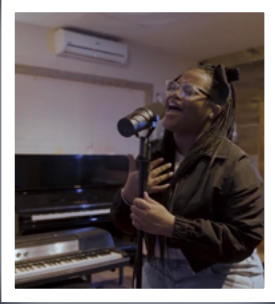


## Three's A Crowd

(Dir.: Chanessa Richa'rd, Writer: Chanessa Richa'rd, Jonathan Berenstein, Producer: Chanessa Richa'rd)

**Logline:** A teenage overachiever attempts to reconcile the relationship between her dad and newfound brother while dealing with sexual abuse in her mother's home

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:06



## Self-Belief Symphony

(Dir.: Azuri Vallatine, Writer: Azuri Vallatine, Producer: Black Girls Film Camp)

**Logline:** Stuck between two worlds, a young teen girl struggles with the choice to please her mother and yield to cultural expectations or follow her own passions.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:52

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## The Pad Hustle

(Dir.: Kyla Holmes, Writer: Kyla Holmes, Producer: N/A)

**Logline:** "Every girl should have access to menstrual products!" Bringing awareness to #PeriodPoverty

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:28

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



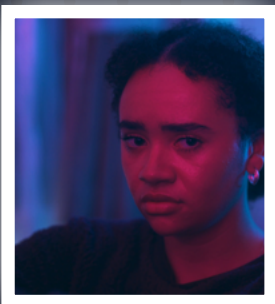
## As You Are

(Dir./Writer: Daria Strachan)

**Logline:** A young queer Black girl is forced to learn the true meaning of self acceptance and love after an unfortunate event at her church.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Sole Sista

(Dir.: Emerie Elise Boone, Writer: Emerie Elise Boone, Producer: Black Girls Film Camp, Yha Mouria Wright)

**Logline:** Chelsea navigates the feeling of being different as the only black girl in school and sits in limbo between feeling included but not embraced, after experiencing micro-aggression after micro-aggression. Chelsea decides life would be easier if she looked just like them.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:22

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



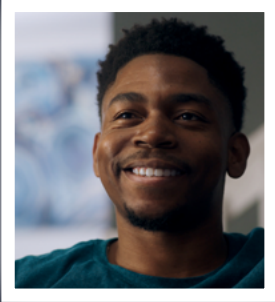
## Stank Face

(Dir./Writer: Marley N Jones, Producer: Jimmeka Anderson, Sierra Davis, Zuri Johnson)

**Logline:** Tasha is suffering from internal conflicts because of the stereotypes that society places on her, making her want to change the way she looks. Through several flashbacks Tasha is reminded of moments where her facial expressions were made fun of. To fix this Tasha decides to seek facial reconstruction surgery to alter her appearance to society's standards: A Constantly Happy Black Girl.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:05:53

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



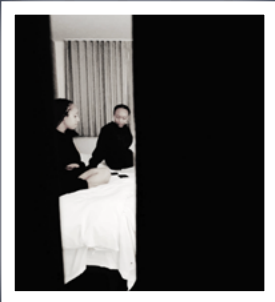
## Who Raised You?

(Dir.: Frantzy Moreau, Writer: Frantzy Moreau, Producer: Frantzy Moreau)

**Logline:** Mo discovers a surprise at his doorstep and gets an intense introduction to fatherhood.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:00

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## The Guest

(Dir.: Amsara Sekhita Mai Holly, Maasatimbala Sanefer Miling Holly, Writer: Amsara Sekhita Mai Holly, Maasatimbala Sanefer Miling Holly Producer: Amsara Sekhita Mai Holly, Maasatimbala Sanefer Miling Holly)

**Logline:** A young woman searches for belonging.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:10:00



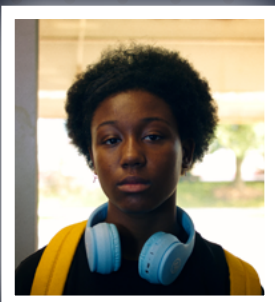
## Young Mom

(Dir.: Cecilia Delgado, Writer: Cecilia Delgado, Producer: Michelle Beck)

**Logline:** A young woman kidnaps the child she nannies to try to satisfy her girlfriend's desire to start a family.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:15:20

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



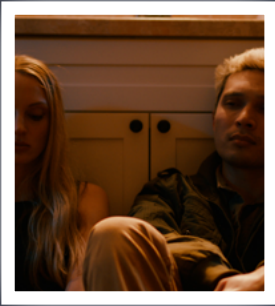
## JEN

(Dir.: Honesty Tashé Gant, Writer: Honesty Tashé Gant, Producer: Honesty Tashé Gant)

**Logline:** Thrust from everything familiar, a thirteen-year-old girl must learn to adapt to the confines of suburbia while questioning her identity and maneuvering through incomparable grief.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:19:04

Premiere Status: LA Premiere



## Broken Toys

(Dir.: Christopher Sheffield, Writer: Christopher Sheffield, Producer: David Gomez)

**Logline:** Young married couple Charlyze and Angel are not okay, and when a supposed vacation turns into an emotional intervention, everyone's broken pieces are laid bare.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:13:22



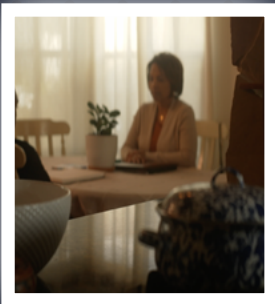
## Latchkey

(Dir./Writer: Uzo Chijioke, Producer: Uzo Chijioke, Danell "Diamond" Chijioke)

**Logline:** Amid a thunderstorm, a little girl is left at home alone while her parents go to work with one key instruction: don't answer the door for anyone.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:00

Premiere Status: World Premiere



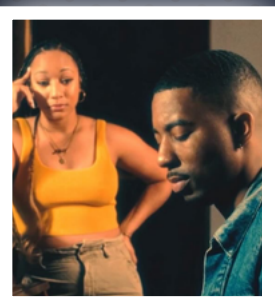
## Losing Daphne

(Dir.: Elijah Moss, Writer: Elijah Moss, Producer: Lidong Wang, Otis Moss III)

**Logline:** Through recollections of his youth, a young man grapples with life's changes as his older sister spirals out of control due to paranoid schizophrenia.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:07:15

Premiere Status: LA Premiere

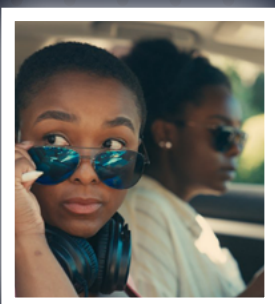


## Rhythm & Blues

(Dir./Writer: Ramon Lyons, Producer: Thomas Kristensen)

**Logline:** In the heart of a recording studio, "Rhythm & Blues" follows the passionate but strained collaboration between Melody and Tracy, two musicians whose unresolved personal history threatens their musical partnership. As they confront their shared past and creative differences, their journey towards reconciliation leads to a soul-stirring performance that harmonizes their music and their hearts.

Student Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:00



## Spy Her Man

(Dir.: Anderlyn Elyse Smith, Writer: Anderlyn Elyse Smith, Tiera Hollanquest, Anwar Ali, Producer: Anderlyn Smith)

**Logline:** We all want the best for our friends. However, to what extent should we go to ensure their happiness? Join Ivy, Scarlet, and Blake as they take their friend's relationship drama into their own hands.

Short Film | Runtime: 0:06:20



## Lay Me by the Shore

(Dir.: David Findlay, Writer: David Findlay, Producer: Joaquin Cardoner)

### Logline:

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:18:30*

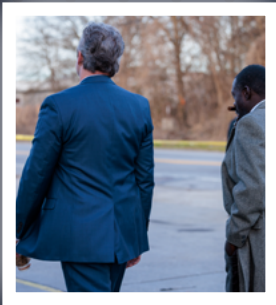


## Impossible Town

(Dir.: Scott Faris, Meg Griffiths, Producer: Brandon Hill, Alia Mansoori)

**Logline:** When her father dies unexpectedly, Dr. Ayne Amjad is thrust to the helm of a decades-long struggle to aid a southern West Virginia town beset by cancer-causing chemicals. Haunted by her late father's mandate to "help others" at all costs, Ayne is caught between her dream of raising a family and an audacious but all-consuming plan to relocate the town and bring closure to her father's work.

*Feature Film | Runtime: 1:30:00*



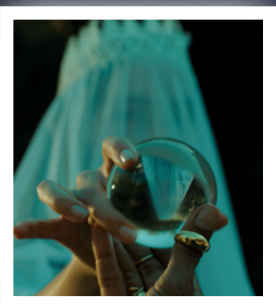
## Flick

(Dir.: Justin Bones, Writer: Jonathan Newland, Producer: Tiffany Cherie)

**Logline:** A lighter is purchased, then takes a trip around the block, adding the spark needed for those to make a change. The flame it brings pulls some together, but pushes others apart. No matter where you are, life can change with one FLICK.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:34*

*Premiere Status: LA Premiere*

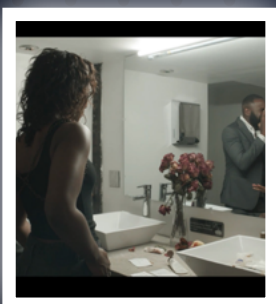


## Gynarchy

(Dir.: Kelly Sarri, Writer: Kelly Sarri, Producer: Kelly Sarri, Rachel Soland)

**Logline:** A post-apocalyptic manless experimental tale of a three-generation family of women that navigate life in an all-female colony that is interrupted when they find an opposing group of knights that keeps men alive but captive.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:12:44*



## The Dream is the Truth

(Dir: Teniece Divya Johnson, Writer: Lauren Marissa Smith, Producer: Renee Harrison, Akilah A. Walker)

**Logline:** Two people traverse time, space, and bodies, choosing each other again and again.

*Short Film | Runtime: 0:09:51*

*Premiere Status: World Premiere*

# Nominations

**OUTSTANDING MUSIC VIDEO**

DON'T MESS WITH MY HIGH  
DON'T MAKE SENSE  
AVANT GARDE - UNLIMITED CREDIT  
PAPER LINE: THE MUSIC VIDEO

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING HORROR**

MY SCARY INDIAN WEDDING  
HALLOWEEN '63  
PRESTO  
THE NEWLYWEDS: BLOOD ON THE ALTAR

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING STUDENT PROJECT**

THE GARDEN OF EDETTE  
ALL IN  
DESYNC  
TOSSOU  
SUNDOWN  
FOREIGN PLANETARY

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING THRILLER**

PHOENIX  
VIVIR  
#TALITHAKOUM  
SHE (SNAKE)  
CHOMP

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING ACTION OR SUSPENSE**

VIGILANTE  
MAN VS MAN  
MEAL TICKET  
THE ORDER  
UNCONQUERED  
S.P.I.C.

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING SCI-FI/FANTASY**

THE DISTINGUISHED  
AS EASY AS CLOSING YOUR EYES  
TO END ALL SPELLS  
UNIVERSE 25  
VIVIR  
THE ORIGIN

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING SHORT DOCUMENTARY / SPECIAL PROGRAM**

DUAL CITIZENS  
HOW TO SUE THE KLAN  
FULL-TIME RACING FAMILY  
THE PURSUIT OF A DREAM  
I LIKE YOUR HAIR  
AND WE REST ON GIANTS  
THE EBONY CANAL

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING FEATURE DOCUMENTARY**

A LITTLE HOPE FOR CHICAGO  
SINCE I BEEN DOWN  
WHO IN THE HELL IS REGINA JONES?  
ARTS, BEATS + LYRICS  
IMPOSSIBLE TOWN  
RAY OF HOPE

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING EDITING**

SHOEBOX  
BAGGAGE CLAIM  
UNBRAIDED  
WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?  
TOSKA  
THE HEART OF TEXAS  
MIRACLE WOOD

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING MUSIC / SOUND DESIGN**

BRAND NEW  
REUNION  
MY BROTHER & ME  
SHE (SNAKE)  
SHOEBOX  
DOWN THE RIVER

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING VFX**

BAGGAGE CLAIM  
BURN OUT  
THE DISTINGUISHED  
VIGILANTE  
SHE (SNAKE)  
CLONES

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING CINEMATOGRAPHY**

BRAND NEW  
TO END ALL SPELLS  
RICHIE RICH HUSTLA  
TWO BREATHS  
THE PLAYGROUND  
MULI

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL SHORT**

MONOCHROMATIC  
LIVING FROM WORK  
SHE (SNAKE)  
OJUE  
LIFE GOES ON  
SHEPHERD'S CALLING

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING ANIMATED SHORT**

WISDOM & LIGHT  
THE DEBUTANTE  
CANCELLATION CELEBRATION  
SUPER HIGH: A PERIOD PIECE  
FORTUNE COOKIE

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING DRAMATIC ACTRESS (SHORT FORM)**

MAYAA BOATENG - AS ISATA IN REUNION  
HELLI AMRESH SANKA - AS NETA TEZAZO IN DOWN THE RIVER  
CRYSTAL PORTER-BAZEMORE - AS OJUFEMI IN THE RECIPE  
LAUREN NOLL - AS JANIE MAY IN THE HEART OF TEXAS  
KIARRA G. BEASLEY - AS GRACE IN SURVIVED BY  
RACHEL COOPES - AS RENATA ALI IN PHOENIX

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING DRAMATIC ACTOR (SHORT FORM)**

DERREX BRADY - AS MICHAEL YOUNG IN ROBERTA'S RULES  
JABBAR LEWIS - AS SEVYN IN THE DISTINGUISHED  
HAMEIS EL-SHEIKH - AS MUSA ISSA MUSA IN DOWN THE RIVER  
HOSEA CHANCHEZ - AS MAX PALMER IN WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?  
MICHAEL GANDOLFINI - AS NICHOLAS STEEP IN TEA  
JOHNNY SANCHEZ - AS EMILIO IN S.P.I.C.  
SIDDIQ SAUNDERSON - AS SAINT IN MEAL TICKET

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING COMEDIC ACTRESS (SHORT FORM)**

BRIA HENDERSON - AS VELLA SHAW IN HONEST/FLUFF  
 GINGER MINJ - AS GOLDIE HON IN STAN BEHAVIOR  
 KEIKO AGENA - AS MOM IN REALLY GOOD DRIVER  
 DAMYA GURLEY - AS JO IN UNBRAIDED  
 ALEX SONG-XIA - AS ASH IN REALLY GOOD DRIVER  
 CHERRELL MACK - AS LISA IN CLONES

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**OUTSTANDING COMEDIC ACTOR (SHORT FORM)**

JOHN CLARENCE STEWART - AS JUSTIN IN AUGUST & EBONY  
 GODFREY - AS NARRATOR IN UNBRAIDED  
 NATE WALKER - AS CALVIN IN CLONES  
 TEVIN SCOTT - AS TERRANCE IN TASTE OF THE MECCA  
 BRANDON BROADY - AS X IN X: THE INTERVIEW

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**OUTSTANDING ACTOR (FEATURE)**

DERON CASH - AS JACKSON IN SWOON  
 PATRICK WALKER - AS RAMON IN PERIPHERAL  
 ROGER Q. MASON (THEY/THEM) - AS TAEFFETA IN LAVENDER MEN

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**OUTSTANDING ACTRESS (FEATURE)**

NIDA CHOWDHRY - AS RUBY / RUBINA & RYE IN ANXIOUS  
 LAUREN NEAL - AS LEX CARRE / NEDDY IN UNDER THE INFLUENCER  
 KASSANDRA DIAZ - AS EMMA IN SWOON  
 ANDRIA B LANGSTON - AS SASHA IN PERIPHERAL

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING DRAMATIC WRITING**

ROBERTA'S RULES  
 CHOCOLATE WITH SPRINKLES  
 THE HEART OF TEXAS  
 THE DEVIL AINT PIUS  
 TEA  
 REUNION  
 SURVIVED BY  
 THE POSSIBLE LIFE

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING COMEDIC WRITING**

REALLY GOOD DRIVER  
 HONEST/FLUFF  
 STAN BEHAVIOR  
 CLONES  
 I'M PRETTY SURE MY THERAPIST THINKS I'M A BAD ACTOR  
 LIVING FROM WORK  
 (SUBTEXT)  
 UNBRAIDED

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING WRITING (FEATURE)**

SWOON  
 UNDER THE INFLUENCER  
 ANXIOUS  
 THE OTHER SIDE OF FAIR  
 LAVENDER MEN

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR COMEDIC SHORT FORM**

UNBRAIDED  
 HONEST/FLUFF  
 STAN BEHAVIOR  
 AUGUST & EBONY  
 (SUBTEXT)  
 CLONES

**Champions**

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**OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR DRAMATIC SHORT FORM**

BAGGAGE CLAIM  
MEAL TICKET  
DOWN THE RIVER  
SHOEBOX  
MY BROTHER & ME  
SURVIVED BY  
TWO BREATHS  
SOMETHING BLUE

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING DIRECTING (FEATURE)**

ANXIOUS.  
PERIPHERAL  
SWDON  
THE OTHER SIDE OF FAIR  
SEDUCTRESS FROM HELL

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING DIGITAL SERIES**

GROUPIES  
DATING POSITIVE (+)  
FOBIA (PILOT)  
THE DARK AGES - THE FUNERAL

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING DRAMATIC SHORT**

SHOEBOX  
DOWN THE RIVER  
PHOENIX  
ROBERTA'S RULES  
TWO BREATHS  
THE DEVIL AINT PIUS  
TEA  
REUNION  
MY BROTHER & ME

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING COMEDIC SHORT**

AUGUST & EBONY  
HONEST/FLUFF  
REALLY GOOD DRIVER  
STAN BEHAVIOR  
UNBRAIDED  
CLONES  
LIVING FROM WORK

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE PIECE**

UNITED IN GRIEF  
INTO THE VOID

*Champions*

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**OUTSTANDING COMMERCIAL: SPEC**

BANG BANG

*Champions*

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