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20th Year Anniversary



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ALEXANDRA AXENFELD

COULTURE Illusions

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6:30 PM

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ABOUT US

Our mission is to provide you with a one of a kind experience by giving you full access to our creative team. We find you the right talent to bring your story to life while securing the perfect locations to execute your vision. Our Headquarters will always be in Upstate, NY however we turn our goals into reality for the entire world to see.

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SYRACUSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

WELCOME TO SYRFILMFEST,

Here we are again - year 20 of the Syracuse International Film Festival. We're happy to bring you another year of high-quality international films that are exciting and diverse and to share them with you at this unique event that brings guests from around the world and shows films throughout Syracuse. You don't need to go to Sundance, South by Southwest, or Cannes to see great films and meet filmmakers, directors, and stars - you can do that right here in your own town at the Syracuse International Film Festival.

We hope you'll enjoy the festival and become part of the film family who attend the many events we produce throughout the year. We sincerely thank all our friends and supporters who are joining us again and extend a warm welcome to all those who are with us for the first time. And we especially thank our board, staff, interns and volunteers for their dedication to this annual production. Please introduce yourself and share with us your thoughts on what you see. We'll be right there with you, taking it all in!

Idea: SIFF recognizes that our mission to engage, entertain, inform and inspire the CNY community through film and media programs is inseparable from our commitment to cultivate spaces that champion diversity, equity, and intersectional belonging. We believe that promoting intersectional representation and curating content that highlights a vibrant array of identities, cultures, and lived experiences is mission critical. We furthermore recognize that it is imperative to use our platform to increase accessibility within film, uplift historically excluded voices, and spread awareness of social issues that actively impact our local and international landscapes.

Cover Design by James Hutchinson
Inside Cover Design by Laurence Gartel

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Michelle DiBernardo



Dear Creatives & Supporters,

Thank you so much for attending this year's event and for supporting the Syracuse International Film Festival. SIFF is a world-class platform for local and international art, fashion, music, and, of course, cinema. Over the past twenty years, we have screened thousands of powerful films from around the world. With our bright future involving the community and developing the youth, we have many opportunities ahead of us. With being a Syracuse native my goal is to build the infrastructure, involve the community and develop the youth. Being creative is so important in expressing ourselves while improving our mood.

Historically, the Festival has had the privilege of honoring filmmakers and talent like Jerry Stiller, Rob Reiner, Ron Perlman, Bobcat Goldthwait, Grace Jones, Giancarlo Esposito, Oren Lyons, Nick Cassavetes, Karen Black, and Daniel Baldwin with our Sophia Award for outstanding creative achievement in independent

cinema. This year we are blessed to honor Alec Baldwin with this prestigious award.

Would you like to become more involved in the Syracuse International Film Festival? Please ask us how. We have many opportunities and can always use a helping hand. Send a note to michelle@syrfilm.com. Also, stay tuned for more SIFF events throughout the year by visiting our website at syracusefilmfestival.com.

Thank you again for joining us as we celebrate our twentieth year anniversary. Enjoy!

Warm regards,

Michelle DiBernardo

Executive Director & President

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MAYOR BEN WALSH

September 28, 2023

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Syracuse, welcome to the 20th annual Syracuse International Film Festival.

For two decades, the festival has been a jewel in our community and a cultural landmark for those passionate about films and filmmaking. It annually brings together artists, filmmakers, educators, and professionals from every walk of cinema life to celebrate and reward excellence in the art of filmmaking, both foreign and domestic. For two weeks, there is a friendly but intense competition and vibrant discussion, as well as a striving for excellence among film professionals.

The theme is a celebration of the art of cinema, to which everyone is invited, and a special focus on films and filmmakers too often marginalized, with a focus on the promotion of social justice.

Congratulations to the Syracuse International Film Festival for this event, the special focus here, and the work it takes to make everything come together. Welcome to all of the attendees. We hope you have a great experience.

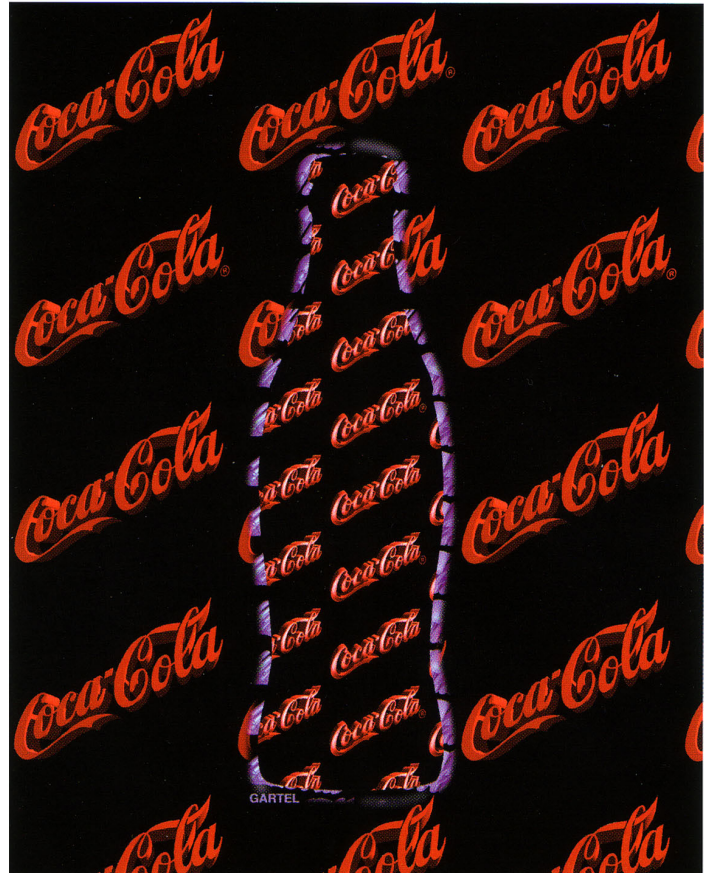
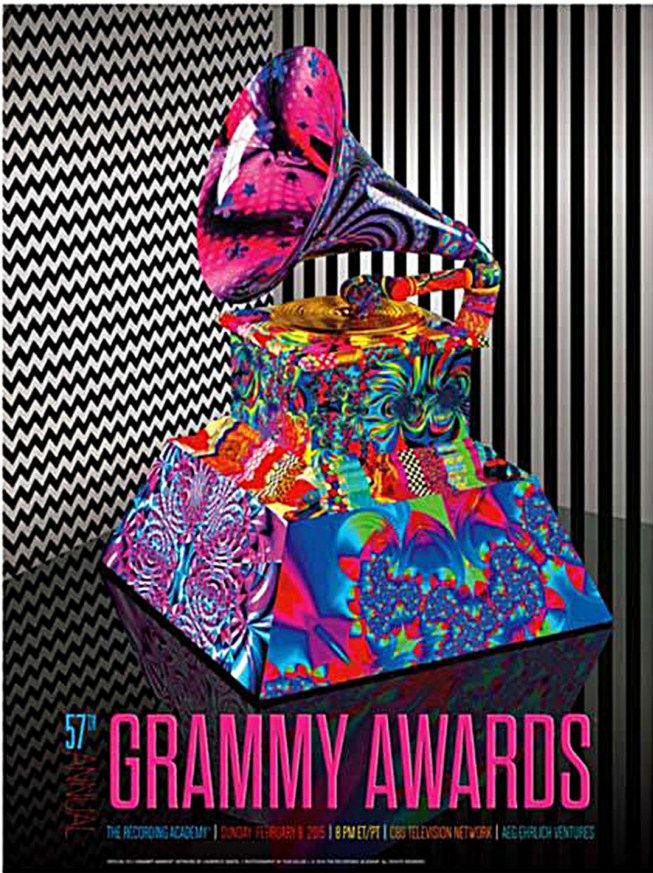
Sincerely,

Ben Walsh
Mayor

Office of the Mayor
233 E. Washington St.
201 City Hall
Syracuse, N.Y. 13202

Office 315 448 8005
Fax 315 448 8067

www.syr.gov.net



"Official Artist for the 57th Annual Grammy Awards, 2015" "Coca Cola for the Atlanta Olympics," 1996



"Serenity Of Flight" Forbes Magazine Cover, 1989



"Think different" commissioned by Steve Jobs for Apple, 1997



SYRACUSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

September 28, 29, 30th

October 4, 5, 6, 7th, 2023

www.SyracuseFilmFestival.com

Syracuse International Film Festival Poster, 2023



Laurence Gartel

LAURENCE GARTEL, is known to the world as the “FATHER” of Digital Art for over 40-years. His career started working side by side with video guru Nam June Paik at Media Study/Buffalo in upstate New York. He taught Andy Warhol how to use the Amiga Computer in order to produce the album cover for Debbie Harry (Blondie). Growing up in New York City during the Punk Rock era he was friends with Stiv Bators, Sid Vicious, Joey Ramone, Wendy O. Williams, and exhibited his work with Robert Mapplethorpe. Creating Digital Art before the birth of the personal computer his work has been exhibited with the Museum of Modern Art, Long Beach Museum of Art, Princeton Art Museum, Guild Hall, Selby Gallery at Ringling School of Art, Norton Museum of Art, Coral Springs Museum of Art as well as included in the permanent collections of the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum of American History, Bibliothque Nationale Paris and Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum, London. Gartel has traveled the world exhibiting and projecting his work in Australia, Spain, Germany, Italy, as well as going to India, creating a Bollywood Music/Video for Universal Entertainment. He has been commissioned to produce artwork on Britney Spears, Justin Timberlake, Red Hot Chili Peppers, as well as for corporations such as Coca Cola, Philip Morris, Walt Disney, Polaroid, Canon USA, Minolta, Olympus, Kodak, National Basketball Association, Gibson Guitars, Bang & Olufsen, Mobil Oil, Commerzbank, SWATCH, Bristol Myers Squibb, Sprint, Budweiser, Roche Pharmaceuticals, and known for the first Digital Advertisement: ABSOLUT GARTEL for Absolut Vodka. A part of his concentration was focused on Art Cars. The first commission being the TESLA Electric Art Roadster during Art Basel Miami Beach in 2010. He was the “FEATURE” of the 113th New York International Auto Show with his own 30,000 square foot Pavilion in 2013. Mercedes Benz commissioned Gartel to create a very special Art Car to celebrate their “13th Million Friend on Facebook. Gartel unveiled a \$250,000 Renntech Mercedes SL65 V-12 Art Car at Fisher Island Club during Art Basel Miami, December 2014, an Award Winner “Best of Class” at Amelia Island 2015. Gartel was the Official Artist of the 57th Annual Grammy Awards, Los Angeles. He “wrapped” the large-scale, one of a kind Grammy Statue with his Digital Art printed to vinyl. He was the Artist of the NASA MMS Mission, at Kennedy Space Center, as well as being the Artist of the Newport Jazz Festival wrapping a one of a kind Trumpet to honor the career of Miles Davis. Gartel unveiled the First National State Art Car at the Capital building in Concord with Governor Maggie Hassan, reading letters of Commendation from the House of Representatives, Senate, and Congress. He is currently working on the definitive Encyclopedia of his work: “GARTEL: 50 Years of Digital Art. Volumes 1, II and III, scheduled to be released late 2024.

artist's statement

Growing up in New York City, my Digital Art career was birthed in Buffalo New York while attending Buffalo State College. I was first introduced to analog system computers at Media Study/Buffalo, which was funded by the New York State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts. A few short years later, I received grants for Artist in Residency Programs at the Experimental Television Center in Binghamton which shortly moved to the town of Owego.

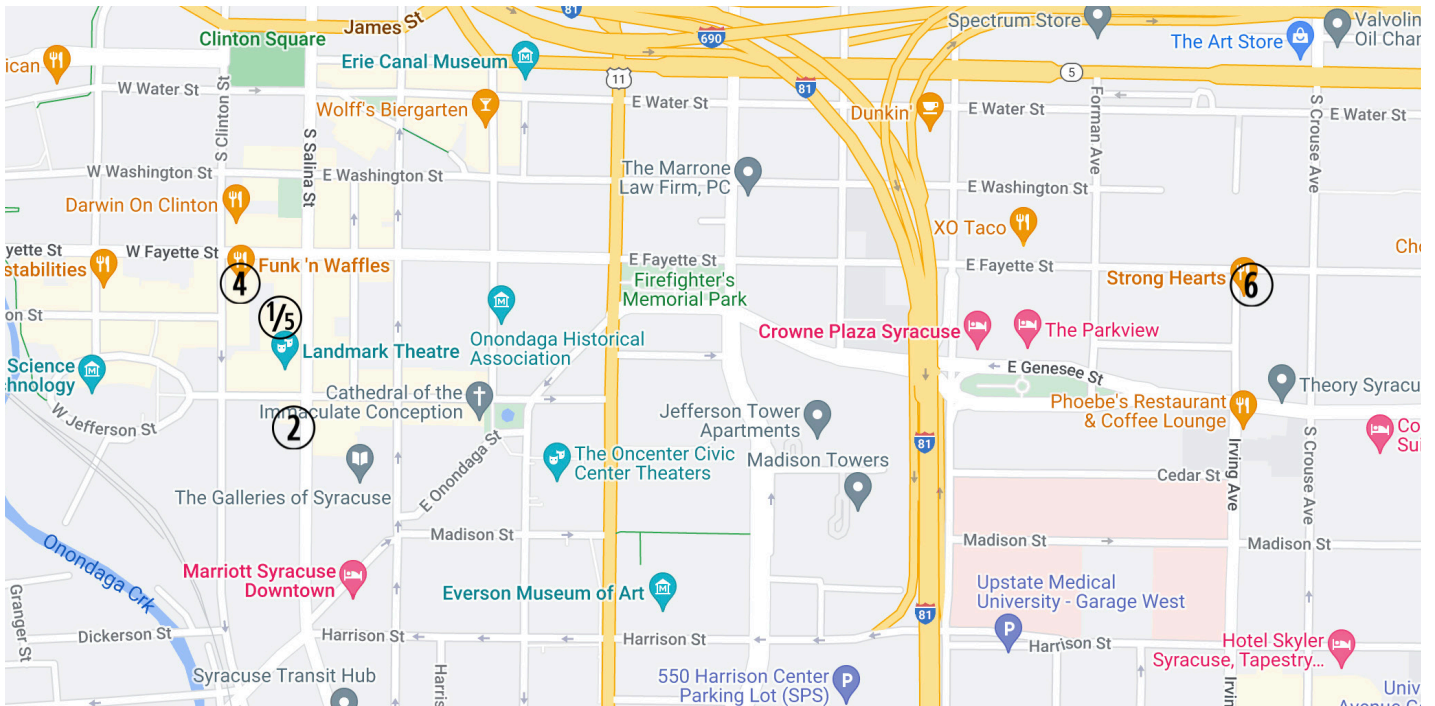
Upstate New York has always been known as a cultural Mecca with so many enriching museums such as the Albright Knox, Everson Museum of Art, George Eastman House, Corning Museum, Fenimore Art Museum, the Herbert Johnson Museum of Art– the list is plentiful. Moreover, the bountifulness of the region leads in intellectualism through the numerous universities and colleges like Syracuse University, Cornell University, Skidmore College, Rochester Institute of Technology, SUNY Oswego, College of Visual and Performing Arts, SUNY Empire State College, Ithaca College and many others.

The Syracuse International Film Festival galvanizes the region in terms of professional filmmaking and quality production. Art and culture thrives in areas where higher education is every present. Students learn how to align their skills with their imagination.

My creation of the Syracuse International Film Festival Poster is a totality of impressions made through a lifetime of travel and observation. Meeting people all over the world with different sensibilities gives the Artist a full palette of choice and exploration. Working with Michelle DiBernardo who is championing the Festival has inspired me to create an image that defines the goals and aspirations but also the future direction of where the compass of filmmaking is heading. It will be an enrichment to head back to upstate New York where electronic imagery all started.

Laurence Gartel
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
August 20, 2023

FESTIVAL LOCATIONS



1/5

The Tasting Room
330 S Salina St,
Syracuse, NY
13202

2

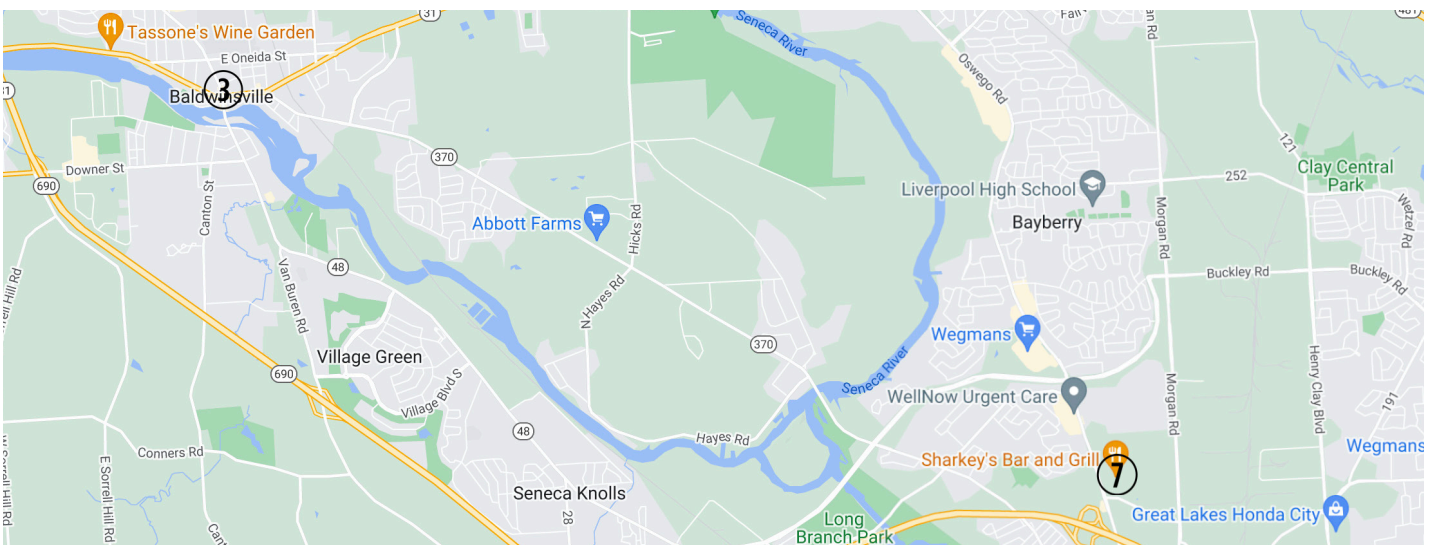
Redhouse Arts Center
400 S Salina St,
Syracuse, NY
13202

4

Funk 'n Waffles
307-13 S Clinton St,
Syracuse,
NY 13202

6

Buried Acorn Taproom & Eats
900 E Fayette St,
Syracuse, NY
13210

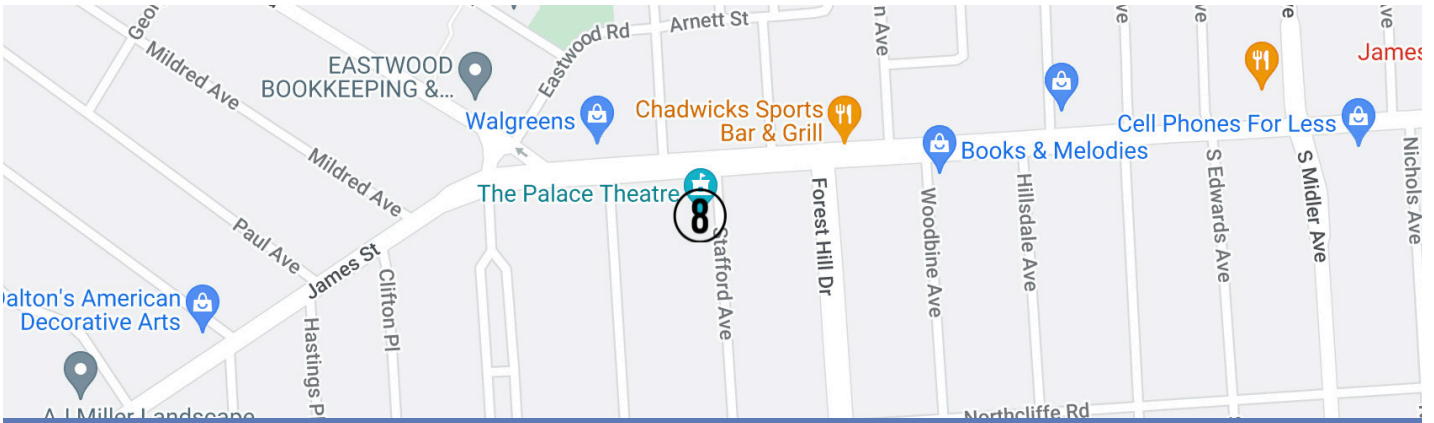


3

Mohegan Manor
58 Oswego St,
Baldwinsville, NY
13027

7

Sharkey's Banquets & Events
7240 Oswego Rd,
Liverpool,
NY 13090



The Palace Theater
 2384 James St,
 Syracuse, NY
 13206



TICKET INFORMATION

TICKETS

All tickets are available online. Ticket prices may vary. All direct links are attached below via QR code.

Contact our Festival President at (315) 876-2126, or via email at michelle@syrfilm.com.



20th Anniversary
SYRACUSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Please note: All programs may be subject to change. Check our website for updates and latest listing information.



Sept. 28-30, Oct. 5-6



Oct. 4



Oct. 7



Oct. 7

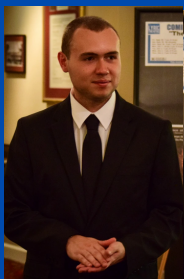
Meet the Team



MICHELLE DIBERNARDO

Executive Director and Festival President; Board Chair

Michelle DiBernardo is an Unit Production Manager/Line Producer in the industry. DiBernardo is the Executive Director of Syracuse International Film Festival. Her recent work includes: EXscaped (Executive Producer/Actress); The Blue Apple (UPM/Line Producer/Actress); Red, Pink & Black (UPM), "Brainhunter New Breed 1987 starring John Fiore (UPM/Line Producer)"; "Shelter in Solitude" starring "Siobhan Fallon Hogan and Robert Patrick (Line Producer)"; "Birthday Boy (UPM)"; and a feature starring "Kane Hodder and Robert Lasardo". DiBernardo has 2 Awards and 1 Nominee as a Producer for "The Handler" a SAG short shot in the DC area. For more info on Michelle go to www.DiBernardoProductions.Media.



W. TRENT WELSTEAD

Senior Vice President of Strategic Advancement; Board Vice

As SVP of Strategic Advancement, Trent manages seasonal interns and volunteers across development, marketing, programming, and production endeavors. Before his move to upstate New York, Trent worked at the Moss Arts Center in Blacksburg, Virginia for four years, and served as Festival Director for the 2018 Progeny Short Film Festival. When he's not immersed in his own projects, Trent spends his remaining time listening to music and watching classic films. He intends to pursue a career in entertainment law to the aim of trendspotting how evolving technologies will continue to influence the creator economy and distribution landscape.



LINDA OSBORNE

Artist Services and Hospitality Manager

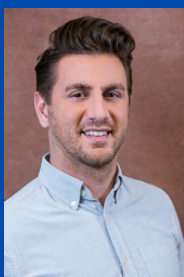
Linda Osborne is a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She recently retired from a family owned business of forty years and served on the boards of Ophelia's Place and The Haven at Skanda. Osborne owns a historic estate in Cazenovia where she holds charity events to fundraise and raise awareness for local causes. Her estate also hosts photo shoots, music videos, live theatre, and more. Her goal is to bring her energy into SIFF to inspire others to channel their inner creativity, even if that means stepping out of their comfort zones. It's time to shine!



RICK NUZZO

Senior Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations

Rick Nuzzo is the head of Marketing at SIFF. He works to coordinate our media partners; secure relationships with media sponsors; and place traditional and digital advertising. Rick has spent almost 19 years in the advertising and marketing world in Central New York at News Channel 9, 93Q and 95x, and Galaxy Media. He now owns his own agency, NU Business Marketing. When not working, Rick enjoys spending time with his wife, three kids, and two mini sheepadoodles. He also enjoys bowling, horror movies, and a good glass of red wine.



ERIC VINAL

Community Relations Manager - Ex Officio

Eric Vinal is a Community Relations Manager for the Syracuse International Film Festival. As the Vice President of Film, Television, and Entertainment at Visit Syracuse, Eric has vital and plentiful experience in community relations. He graduated from SUNY Binghamton with a B.A. in Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services. In addition to Visit Syracuse, Eric has worked at Onondaga County's Office of Economic Development within the Film Commission and has been on the Board of Trustees for the Landmark Theatre and the Syracuse Soundstage. Aside from SIFF, Eric is an accomplished golfer and has toured as a professional caddy.



CODY SLADE

Community Relations Manager - Ex Officio

Cody Slade is a Community Relations Manager for the Syracuse International Film Festival. Cody started his career in videography, graphic design, and communications by working for multiple studios in the Syracuse area in 2014. During the early stages of his career, he primarily worked with musicians of various genres and backgrounds to create music videos and album covers. Since 2017, Cody has been heading the Video Production & Graphic Design at SubCat Studios, a world-class post-production studio in Syracuse.



JEFF MEYER

Associate Director of New Media Management

Jeff Meyer graduated from SUNY Brockport and Bryant and Stratton College specializing in event planning, TV production and program development. He has worked at Union IATSE Local #9 (1999-); as Theater Director at The Discovery Center of Science and Technology (2000-); Freelance for ESPN, HBO, SHOWTIME; Camera Operator for Colgate Athletics (2017-); and various other commercial and film productions. He is also the Creator/ Director for Shaun Luu Horror Fest, Salt City Horror Fest and Reckless Cinema. He has been at SIFF for 15 years as the tech coordinator, content judge, program developer and Board Member.



NICHOLAS ANDREWS

Festival Legal

Nicholas Andrews is a board member of the Syracuse International Film Festival. He is an associate attorney with Mattice Legal, LLC practicing business and entertainment law, and an adjunct instructor with Liberty University School of Law teaching paralegal studies. Nicholas lives in Buffalo, New York with his wife and corgi. He is fascinated with intellectual property law and enjoys coffee, reading, and writing.



KATIE PEARCY

Secretary, Contributing Writer & Graphic Designer, Co-Creator of SIFF Scholarship Program

Katie Percy is a Sophomore at Syracuse University's School of Visual and Performing Art, where she is pursuing a B.F.A. in Film. Aside from her major, Katie is interested in World History, Art History, and Creative Writing, all of which she incorporates into her filmmaking. She has created two award-winning short films and her artwork has been shown at Moore College of Art and Design. At SIFF, she works as a secretary, in graphic design, festival reviewing, and magazine organization. In her free time, she enjoys reading, traveling, and agonizing over the daily Wordle.



SHOKOOFEH JABBARI

SIFF Magazine Co-Publisher, Simurgh Festival Director

Shokoofeh Jabbari is a first-year graduate student at Syracuse University from Shiraz, Iran. She has a background in graphic design, directing (B.Sc.), dramatic literature (M.Sc.) at the University of Tarbiat Modares. In 2011, she was one of the ten young Iranian poets honored by the Jaleh Esfahani Foundation. She has made four short films (*The Dialed Number Is Restricted*, *Bell*, *The Food Is Ready*, & *The Blue Apple*). She has also published two poetry anthologies (*I Am Not An Angel* & *Infinite Dream*) and one novel (*Living Without Borders*). Her poems have been published in various magazines in the US, including *Straylight*, *Literati Quarterly*, *A Narrow Fellow*, and *Artifact Nouveau*, *Ghost*. Her current area of focus is on the intersection of rape, history, and the female body.



JAMES HUTCHINSON

SIFF Magazine Creative Director, Cover Designer, Contributing Graphic Designer

James Hutchinson is a fourth year student at Syracuse University majoring in film and minoring in photography and marketing, with plans to pursue a masters degree in advertising. He aims to become a creative director and he currently holds internships with Syracuse University and American High, in addition to the Syracuse International Film Festival. At SIFF, he works as a film critic and magazine designer.



HEZEKIAH SIMS

Archivist, Co-Creator of SIFF Scholarship Program

Hezekiah Sims is a Sophomore from Amherst, Massachusetts. He studies film at Syracuse University College of Visual and Performing Arts, where he has worked on his own and other students' films. He is a filmmaker, dancer, actor, pianist, and composer. He believes art should think outside boxes, examining everything we take for granted to see the way forward clearly. As of summer 2023, Hezekiah is a photographer, social media manager, and substitute ballet teacher for Amherst Ballet Theatre Co., having worked there previously as stage manager and video editor. He enjoys reading, fashion, food, nature, and Star Trek.



HAYDEN CELENTANO

Contributing Graphic Designer

Hayden Celentano was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, often passing the long train rides on the R by reading various works of fiction. He is pursuing a B.F.A in Film at Syracuse University with a minor in Creative Writing. Hayden's work prioritizes storytelling and, occasionally, utilizes various forms of media. His projects often center around themes of queerness, transness, horror, science fiction, the unknown, the other, and the exploration of human connection and responsibility. During his internship with SIFF, Hayden has mainly been creating informational flyers, posters, and videos. He has also been assisting with reviewing festival submissions.



SOPHIA DI LEO

Contributing Writer and Editor

Sophia Di Leo is a Senior at Syracuse University majoring in Economics and double minoring in Creative Writing and Finance. She strives to become an English teacher at the secondary or collegiate level. She enjoys writing, analyzing films, reading, and traveling. She works as a writer and editor for SIFF's Magazine. She rates submissions for the considered contestants for the Film Festival as well.



ELIZABETH HENDRIGAN

Social Media Manager, Contributing Graphic Designer

Elizabeth Hendrigan is a Sophomore in the School of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University, with a major in Film. She is from Boston, Massachusetts, and is happy to be living in Syracuse after a successful first year at SU. She comes from a heavy background in acting and music, leading her to want to pursue Film as a way to explore a new artistic platform. She plans to learn the ins and outs of film and the entertainment industry at SU, and eventually work towards her M.F.A. and have a career in film business and production.



JONAH KAMINSKY

Social Media Manager

Jonah Kaminsky is a B.A. candidate at Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications. He is majoring in Television, Radio and Film and is pursuing a minor in Communication and Rhetorical Studies. Jonah loves all things film, especially writing and directing. He loves to learn about the more technical aspects of the film industry through hands-on experience on sets.



ALEX MORGAN

Contributing Writer

Alex Morgan is a second year film graduate student at Syracuse University. She graduated with a B.A. in Television and Film with a minor in French from Howard University. She is on track to becoming a writer, director, and producer who seeks to tell stories from the black female perspective and to create stories where Black women are not portrayed as a monolith, but as nuanced and well-rounded. As a SIFF intern, she serves as a contributing writer for the magazine. Her outside interests include theatre, journaling, and writing.



SOFI SHULIAK

Social Media Manager

Sofi Shuliak is a Sophomore from Moscow, Russia pursuing a B.A. Film at SU VPA. While her filmmaking is driven by topics of empathy and sustainability, Sofi's other visual arts experiences include surrealistic drawing, customizing clothes, photography, interior design, and fashion. She has worked as a costume design intern for the biggest insurance company in Russia advertisement. Sofi graduated with honors from a fine arts school that let her participate in over 10 art exhibitions and competitions. She is currently. Beyond film, Sofi follows a vegan lifestyle, has a passion for animal welfare, nutrition, culture studies, sociology, electronic music, and traveling.



ANNIKA SWIENTEK

General Contributor

Annika Swientek is a senior pursuing a Television, Radio, and Film major at Syracuse University. Throughout college, she has worked on a number of narrative and documentary film productions, both other students' and her own. She primarily works in the camera or lighting departments, but loves trying out other areas of film production. Professionally, she has held various film-related positions, working as a Production Assistant, Video Editing Intern, and PR Intern. In her free time, she enjoys drawing and painting, playing tennis, or just going on a relaxing walk.

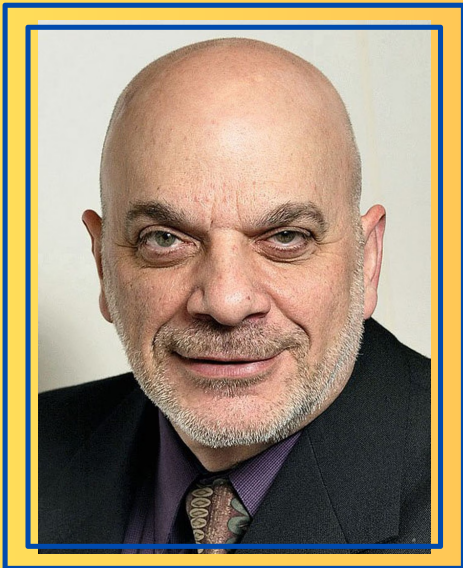


Syracuse International Film Festival

20th Anniversary

EMERITUS BOARD

OWEN SHAPIRO



Owen has been Director of the Film Program at Syracuse University, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Syracuse, New York, since 1973 when he was hired to found the program. In 2006 he was named the Shaffer Professor of Film in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Since 1969 he has made over 32 films and a dozen videos on a wide range of subjects, all exploring the boundaries between documentary and fiction. He has received many honors and awards including the first ever Mario Dall'Argine award from the San Gio Verona Video Festival (2011), Italy. In 1976 Owen was honored by the legendary Henri Langlois with a retrospective, *Homage - Owen Shapiro*, at the Cinematheque Francaise in Paris. His films have been in festivals in Edinburgh, Athens, Hong Kong, Israel, England, Germany, France, Argentina, Australia, China, Italy, and throughout the USA. In 1987 he was honored with a Fulbright Fellowship to be a guest professor at Tel-Aviv University, Israel. He is co-writer of the feature, *Session* directed by Haim Bouzaglo and a Producer and Creative Advisor for Dani Menkin's film, *Is That You* (2014). Owen is also co-founder and Artistic Director of the Syracuse International Film Festival. In 2013, Along with the reknown Italian filmmaker Gian Vittorio Baldi, Owen created the International Filmmaking Academy in Bologna, Italy of which he is now President. In 2017 he helped establish the 250 member non-profit CNY Film Professionals whose mission is to develop a filmmaking economy in Central New York. He adapted the script from Hebrew to English with Haim Bouzaglo for Bouzaglo's feature, *Sessions*, starring Steven Bauer and Bar Rafaeli, and was a co-producer of the film. He was creative consultant and co-producer for the award-winning film, *Is That You*, by Dani Menkin. In 2015 he completed the award winning experimental narrative *One Block at a Time* with Pedro Cuperman, and in 2017 completed the documentary *Mothers*.

CHRISTINE SHAPIRO

Christine, a native of Central New York, studied at Kent State University in Ohio before completing her education here in Syracuse. As an Occupational Therapy clinician, Christine spent sixteen years as a therapist/consultant in local school systems and rehabilitation facilities. At the same time, Christine was a professional musician, leading Music Ministry at Fayetteville's Immaculate Conception Church as a soloist, cantor/teacher and choir member, while singing/performing with Syracuse Opera Company and Syracuse Chorale. Christine was co-founder of The Syracuse International Film Festival with her husband, Owen, and led the organization as its Executive Director for ten years. She now serves as a consultant to the SIFF. Christine participated in the founding of The International Filmmaking Academy in Bologna, Italy with her filmmaker/film professor husband and famed Italian film producer Gian Vittorio Baldi. For the last five years she has served on the Board of the IFA as its secretary. Currently, Christine is a member of CNY Film Professionals, the Fayetteville Home Garden Club, and a member of "Bandana", a musical trio performing locally. She is also on the Board of Director's for Meals on Wheels of Syracuse. She enjoys travel, writing, photography, gardening, herbs, cooking, films, antiquing, and reading, especially historical fiction. Currently Christine is working on a book about the German emigrant's influence in the early years of Syracuse



IN MEMORY OF

ROBERT HERZ

ENTREPRENEUR, MENTOR, AND FRIEND

JUNE 16, 1948 - MAY 28, 2023

Early in the growth years of the Syracuse International Film Festival, Owen and I, the festival creators, were given some advice: "You need to meet Bob Herz. He's the man you need." That became the best and wisest advice we could have received. Bob was the most knowledgeable of men with a wisdom to match. Born in Syracuse, Bob was educated in Syracuse schools, then at Hobart & William Smith College and Syracuse University, graduating with a degree in Poetry & Fine Arts. In his many careers, Bob began in publishing and then went to work as a legislative aide to state Sen. Tarky Lombardi Jr. for 17 years developing legislation, policy and programs. Together with his wife Sally Berry, they lobbied for the passing of the state Domestic Violence Act in 1987. When Bob left state government in 2002, he began his career as a business owner, consultant, and published poet. He joined his colleagues Steve Kuusisto and Andrea Scarpino in publishing the Nine Mile Books and Literary Magazine. From 2010 to 2012, Bob ran the South Side Innovation Center, a business incubator that was named the National Business Incubator of the Year in 2012. Serving as director of the NYS State Senate Select Committee on Science, Technology, Incubation & Entrepreneurship, he developed business incubator, life sciences and digital game legislation and policy in New York State and played key roles in developing elder and arts and cultural affairs laws in the state. It was as the developer and owner of his own business incubator, Insourcing, in 2012 that he began his long mentorship and involvement with the Syracuse International Film Festival. Bob brought all his many skills to the Syracuse International Film Festival (SIFF). As its chief advisor, Board Member and then Executive Director, Bob guided the SIFF through growth, difficult times, and inevitable changes. Bob became our chief grant writer and brought in generous amounts of funding. Bob was a cheerleader, always congratulating a job well done. He enthusiastically worked with us to find new ways to grow, new partners, new community collaborations, and new locations for outreach for SIFF mission of presenting the community with enriching, educational, and entertaining opportunities through international cinema. Bob loved film, music, poetry, his wife Sally, his beautiful home, and his dogs, and shared his love and admiration of them through his photography and his writing. Always the poet, he saw SIFF with new eyes and imagined new ways to express our mission and goals. The SIFF and the Syracuse community have lost a true friend.



Christine and Owen Shapiro, Co-Creators of SIFF

SIFF PRESENTS

Lisa Lampanelli

The Syracuse International Film Festival is excited to announce the addition of Lisa Lampanelli to the lineup for its upcoming 20th Year Anniversary Celebration. Lampanelli, who studied journalism at Syracuse University, is well known for her stand-up comedy, television specials, and film appearances. She was a fixture on the stand-up circuit, celebrity roasts, and television specials with her hilarious insult comedy. She is also known for her appearances on hits including Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector, Delta Farce, Drillbit Taylor, The Celebrity Apprentice 5, The Simpsons, and 2 Broke Girls. In addition, she is a two-time Grammy nominee in the category of Comedy Album of the Year. Now retired from comedy, Lampanelli brings with her a vast knowledge and a great deal of experience from the entertainment industry during this one-night exclusive panel.



LISA LAMPANELLI WILL BE APPEARING
AT 9 PM ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH
AT RED HOUSE ARTS CENTER
AT 400 S SALINA STREET IN SYRACUSE.

Tickets Live Now
on Eventbrite:



2023 SOPHIA AWARD RECIPIENT

ALEC BALDWIN

On September 30th, Emmy-winning actor Alec Baldwin is returning to Central New York this fall for a film screening, VIP Cocktail Reception, and Q&A at the Syracuse International Film Festival. At the end of the night, Baldwin will receive the Syracuse International Film Festival's Sophia Award, which recognizes outstanding creative achievement in independent cinema. Baldwin has appeared in more than 140 movies and TV shows, including Emmy Award-winning roles on "30 Rock" and "Saturday Night Live" and an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor in 2003's "The Cooler."



Mohegan Manor
58 Oswego St, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

TICKETS LIVE NOW
ON EVENTBRITE

FORMER SOPHIA AWARD WINNERS INCLUDE:

GIANCARLO
ESPOSITO
ACTOR



KAREN BLACK
ACTRESS



JERRY STILLER
COMEDIAN



GRACE JONES
MODEL



ROB REINER
FILMMAKER





**CHRISTIE
CASCIANO**

**JEFF
KULIKOWSKY**

NEWS CHANNEL 9 abc
 WSYR-TV • SYRACUSE

WEEKNIGHTS
 5:00 - 5:30 - 6:00 - 11:00

Meet the Jury



Florence Barrau-Adams

Florence Barrau-Adams is an award winning audio/video producer, editor, sound designer, and educator who boasts decades of professional experience. She has sound designed for film and stage, with productions debuting at Aaron Davis Hall, the Smithsonian Institution, Fringe Festival NYC, NJPAC, and the Kennedy Center. Currently Florence is the Senior Producer of Citations Needed a 2020 Webby Honoree with over 20,000,000 downloads. Past podcasts include Justice in America a 2020 Webby Nominee, and Culturati: Conversations With Kierna Mayo, produced in partnership with PRX, a 2022 Signal Awards Bronze winner: Most Innovative Audio Experience, 2022 winner BPA: Best Black Culture Podcast 2022, and a 2022 winner IWPA. Florence is an Assistant Arts Professor and Sound Department Area Head, NYU Kanbar Institute of Film & Television, sharing her deep love of media and all things post production with her students.

Andre Holzmeister

Andre Holzmeister is an award-winning animation director, founding partner, and Creative Director at Rise New York creative boutique. A true pioneer in the CGI industry, he worked creating iconic opening titles for TV Networks, founded two production powerhouses in São Paulo, the biggest animation/advertising market of Latin America, then moved to New York to help set up Huge Inc. 3D/CGI in-house capabilities, he helped create the foundations of Invisible Universe Inc., a startup animation studio considered by the press as “The Pixar” of the Social Media. He also won a Grand Prix for Good at Cannes Lions as well as 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze Lions, 2 Gold and 1 Silver at LIA, 2 Bronze Clios and several other awards for his direction of Malak and the Boat Short film.



Muhammad Fawad Noori

Saudi born with a passion to create beautiful art though an eye for creative thinking with sustainability, Muhammad Fawad Noori is a fashion icon of global fashion world. Hailing from an aviation family (pilots and aeronautical engineers), his choice of fashion was a complete tangent to the family tradition. Dazzled by the art and the artist within him, Fawad Noori nonetheless decided to pursue his passion. A Taurus by birth, his creativity and career oriented nature led to him being accepted in the prestigious Pakistan Institute of Fashion Design, completing his degree in Fashion Design in 2004 with a further LTI Qualification from Textile Institute Manchester, UK. In a few short years, he has proved his mettle and is an internationally acclaimed professional with a vast portfolio as a fashion designer, fashion choreographer, stylist, fashion educationist and a highly sought after fashion consultant. Keeping himself updated, he is a leading figure in Pakistan when it comes to sustainable fashion, thanks to courses done from London College of Fashion (UK) in collaboration with Center of Sustainable Fashion and KERING Group. He is currently running his own sustainable couture fashion house under brand name “FADNOORI COUTURE He is also performing his duties as an Assistant Professor in School of Art & Design at Superior University, the Creative Design Head of Global Sustainable Fashion Week, and IEBM of National Fashion League Hungary. He is also a Sustainability Director at WFC Association with International Fashion Week.





David Tarleton



David Tarleton is the chair of the Department of Film and Media Arts and a Professor of Film at Syracuse University. An award-winning producer, director and editor, David has created programs for Sony Pictures, Apple TV+, Walt Disney Pictures, Fox, Comedy Central, Disney Channel, Mattel, Universal, Warner Brothers, and more. Some of David's credits include: the award-winning feature film *Hunter* (Director, Producer); the science fiction anthology *Dark Secrets* (Director, Producer); the award-winning improve comedy series *Dorkumentary* (Director, Executive Producer, Editor); and the Webby Award-winning *Muppets* series *Statler and Waldorf From The Balcony* (Editor). His breakthrough film as producer, director and editor, the gothic fairy-tale "Dinner," premiered at Slamdance, played on Syfy, and was distributed worldwide. David co-founded the award-winning production company Tarleton/Dawn Productions in 2004 with his wife, Adria Dawn. The company has produced over twenty films, numerous plays, a streaming series, and has an education division. David has served as a juror for numerous film festivals and awards, and was a programmer for the Slamdance Film Festival for nearly a half decade. His writing has been published in *CineMontage* and *Screen Magazine*. He organized the CILECT Global Postproduction Symposium, an international conference connecting academics and professional filmmakers from around the world. Before coming to Syracuse University, he was a professor and director of graduate programs in Cinema and Television Arts at Columbia College Chicago. He primarily teaches film directing and editing. He is a member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the Motion Picture Editor's Guild and the University Film and Video Association, where he is Co-Chair of the Entertainment Industry Caucus. He can be found on the web at davidtarleton.com.

Adria Dawn

Adria Dawn is an award winning multi hyphenate who grew up in the Midwest, and broke into Hollywood working as a Levi's model. She is primarily a filmmaker, actor and educator. As a filmmaker, Adria is most known for her films for social change. She co-creates the series, *Kids Matter*, which deals with contemporary issues our youth face today. The eighth episode of the series, *Identity*, deals with gender and pronouns and won a silver Telly award for diversity and inclusion in 2023. *Karen*, her Black Lives Matter film, and *Gray Area*, about mental health expert Kelley Kitley and alcohol addiction, both won Telly awards in 2022. She operates Tarleton/Dawn Productions with her husband and partner, David Tarleton. TDP is a boutique production company whose award winning projects include series, plays, music videos and films. As an actor, Adria has appeared on numerous television shows for FOX, CBS, NBC, Nickelodeon, the WB, etc. as well as appeared in many films. You may have seen her on *Chicago Med*, *NCIS*, *Nip/Tuck*, or *Popular* (as April Tuna) to name a few. Adria's decades-long career includes a roster of acting credits that steadily expands, always adding memorable roles to her resume. As an educator, Adria privately coaches actors, and has taught at and toured colleges teaching on camera acting and auditioning, and self management. She has taught at Acting Studio Chicago, Tarleton/Dawn Productions, The Performer's School and Columbia College Chicago, as well on-camera acting workshops across the United States and Europe. Currently she is teaching directing at Syracuse University.





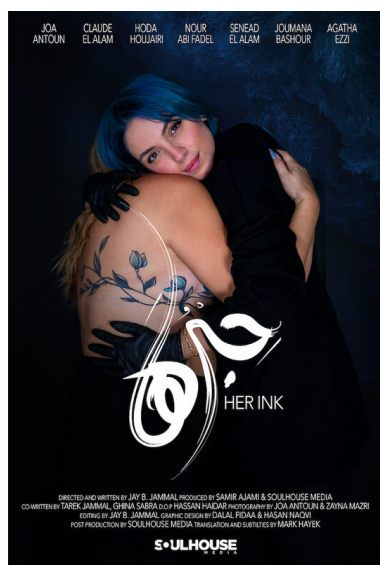
AURORA'S SUNRISE INNA SAHAKYAN

DOCUMENTARY

1.36 MINUTES

September 29th

At only 14 years old, Aurora lost everything during the horror of the Armenian genocide. Two years later, through luck and extraordinary courage, she escaped to New York, where her story became a media sensation. Starring as herself in Auction of Souls, an early Hollywood blockbuster, Aurora became the face of one of the largest charity campaigns in American history. With a blend of vivid animation, interviews with Aurora herself, and 18 minutes of surviving footage from her lost silent epic, Aurora's Sunrise revives a forgotten story of survival.



HER INK JAY B. JAMMAL

DOCUMENTARY

51.20 MINUTES

October 6th

As Lebanon faces a devastating economic crisis, its citizens lose access to electricity, transportation, water, and healthcare. In response, Joa Antoun begins offering free tattoos to breast cancer survivors who have undergone a mastectomy, treating her clients' breasts as a canvas for incredible pieces of art. Although tattoos are still considered a taboo in much of the Middle East, Joa and the women who come to her for help allow these tattoos to become a tool for healing and transformation.



GREBE IN LOVE Amir Agha Abdollahi

DOCUMENTARY

37 MINUTES

September 29th

'Kashim in Love' is the life story of a bird named Kashim (Grebe) who dreams and her dreams are interpreted. We hear the details of her life from her own words ...



INSIDE THE IRANIAN UPRISING

DOCUMENTARY

September 28th

The story Iran has tried to hide from the world - the brutal reality of the recent street protests, told through videos of ordinary citizens.



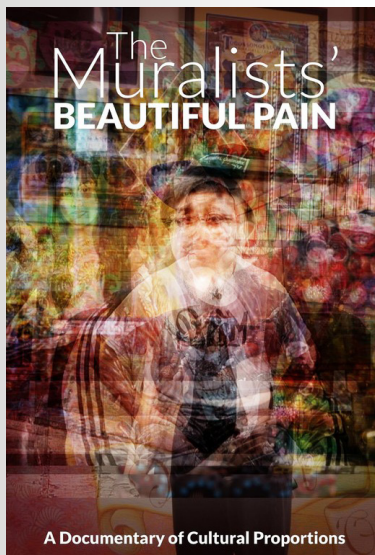
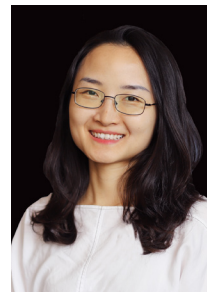
MILES TO GO BEFORE SHE SLEEPS MIJIE LI

DOCUMENTARY

100 MINUTES

September 29th

A retired middle school teacher turned firebrand activist, lays her life on the line to expose a nationwide dog theft ring that sends thousands of stolen pets to slaughterhouses year-round.



THE MURALIST'S BEAUTIFUL PAIN VIC AQUINO

DOCUMENTARY

57.15 MINUTES

September 29th

An artistic, yet gritty & poignant, yet poetic documentary of seven Chicanx mural artists from the San Francisco Bay Area who face personal & cultural challenges as artists of color.

In striving for their own personal & artistic freedoms as lifelong, dedicated working artists, they boldly communicate the history & future of their cultural struggles and successes through the larger-than-life canvases in their communities.



SPACE HEALTH: SURVIVING IN THE FINAL FRONTIER DAVID HOCK, JOHN MADER

DOCUMENTARY

24.54 MINUTES

September 29th

Space Health: Surviving in the Final Frontier provides a well-informed and thought-provoking perspective about the research, innovations and problem-solving that is being accomplished behind the scenes in our ongoing quest to not only survive in space but to thrive as an interplanetary species.





JACIR WAHEED AIQAWASMI

FEATURE

105 MINUTES

September 29th



A young Syrian refugee faces hard truths chasing the American dream on the streets of Memphis, Tennessee, while living in poverty, dealing with social injustice and witnessing his neighbor's opioid addiction.



K9 VAHID VAKILIFAR

FEATURE

100 MINUTES

October 6th



In a hyper-realistic land cursed by a seemingly never-ending eclipse, the only safe haven for dogs and illegal immigrants is a breeding kennel called Iran K9.

From the dwarf who runs IranK9, through Mitra, the only child-bearing female in the compound, to the fanatics outside seeking blood in the hope of removing the curse by slaughtering its supposed harbingers: everyone struggles to find their way in the darkness.



The Allnighter

UNDERGROUND FILMS PRESENTS THE ALLNIGHTER
 OWEN BECKMAN GREYCHEN LOUGE SYLVA KELEGRIAN DAVID KOECHNER with TINY LISTER and JAMES RUSSO
 MUSIC BY MAX LOH EDITED BY AIMEE GRAHAM and ZACHARY WEINTRAUB CINEMATOGRAPHY BY MARGIN BANASIAK
 PRODUCED BY AIMEE GRAHAM KEN MORRIS W. CHRIS BROWN WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY AIMEE GRAHAM



THE ALLNIGHTER AIMEE GRAHAM

FEATURE

79 MINUTES

September 29th



When an astrophysics student working towards his PhD loses priceless research to an auto theft, he makes a bargain with a woman at a local pawn shop in order to get it back. Seeking to resolve issues from the past with her family, Belle drags Terence to the desert where the two unwittingly play integral roles in healing old wounds — inspiring deliverance. A late night encounter entwines the lives of two complex and resilient individuals as they navigate the challenges that threaten to dismantle them.

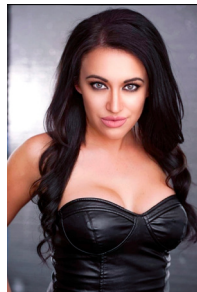


THE BLACK MASS DEVANNY PINN

FEATURE

82 MINUTES

October 4th



Inspired by real events, The Black Mass is set over a 24-hour period in Florida during the winter of 1978 when college girls were being stalked by a serial killer.



The Nana Project



THE NANA PROJECT ROBIN GIVENS

FEATURE

83 MINUTES

October 6th



Set in the competitive world of chess, we follow Nana's (Academy Award Winner Mercedes Ruehl) journey in a heartwarming feel-good comedy about reuniting her grandsons (Will Peltz and Nolan Gould) and supporting her retirement community.



TRAUMA THERAPY PSYCHOSIS



TRAUMA THERAPY: PSYCHOSIS GARY BARTH

FEATURE

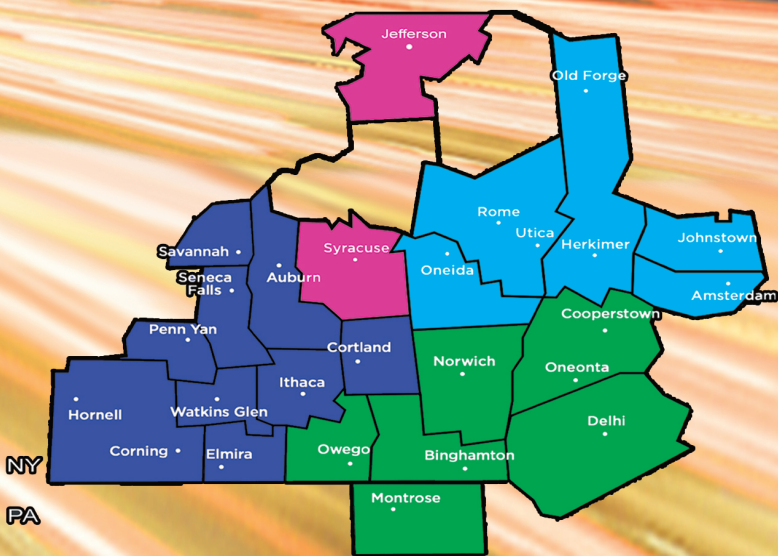
82 MINUTES

September 29th

Tobin Vance, a notorious self-help guru who has been exiled overseas as the feds move in on his US operation, is building a new base in the remote outskirts of Kirkcaldy, Scotland. There, his stoic assistant Elizabeth, along with former student John, recruit a hopeful new group of lost souls for an intensive retreat to solve their deep-seated problems.



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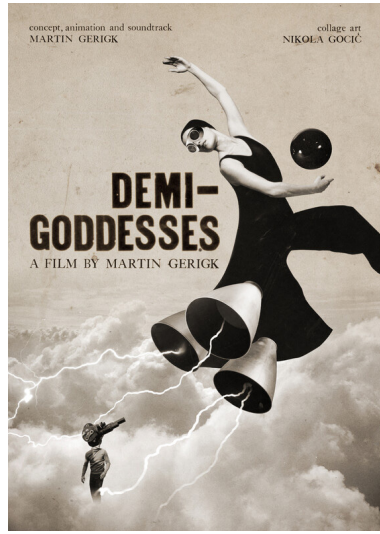
AVA STELLA BRAJTERMAN

SHORT FILM

15.13 MINUTES

September 29th

By moving into the apartment that was one of her refugee ancestors, Ava seeks to connect with her blind grandfather whom she never came to know, and to reveal the world in which she now lives.



DEMI-GODDESSES MARTIN GERIGK

ANIMATION

7.25 MINUTES

September 29th

'Demi-Goddesses' is the second essay about still dominant dark aspects of our modern society. It is conceived as a surreal anti-patriarchal thought experiment and raises important questions about gender, power, and social change, prompting us to reflect on how historical patterns of discrimination and oppression might be either repeated or overcome in a reversed gendered world. It challenges the viewer to confront their own assumptions and biases, and to consider the possibilities of a more equitable society. The intention of the film is that it will spark conversations and inspire the viewer to imagine a world where gender is not a limiting factor. At best, the audience will leave the theater with a greater awareness of the issues and a sense of possibility for a just future.



GIFT YUICHIRO NAKADA

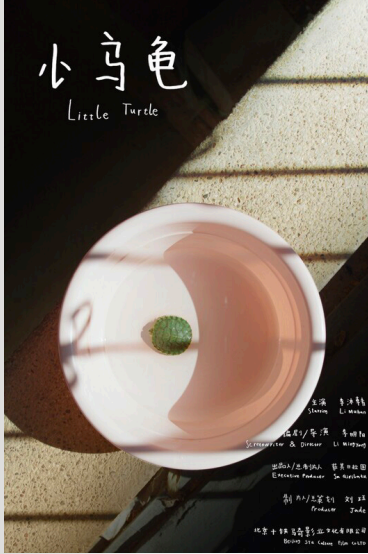
INTERNATIONAL

25 MINUTES

September 29th

The ex-Syrian refugee and a food deliverer, Yasser meets Eita, a solitary Japanese boy in the city park, and they grow a family-like bond as they play soccer and cook together after Yasser's bike gets stolen..





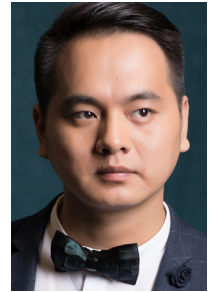
LITTLE TURTLE
MINGYANG LI

INTERNATIONAL

13.46 MINUTES

September 29th

A little girl's pet turtle was dying, and she begged her father to buy medicine to save it. The medicine cost \$7 per bottle, while a new turtle cost only \$1.5. The father wanted to buy her a new turtle, but the little girl decided to take action to save the turtle herself..



MATRYOSHKA
JOSEPH ROS

SOCIAL JUSTICE

5 MINUTES

September 29th

A woman, in a dystopian context, re-experiences a painful event over and over again, trying to resolve it.



TILL THE MUSIC STOPS
EMILIE DE MONSABERT

INTERNATIONAL

10.24 MINUTES

September 29th

Witness at her best friend's wedding, Pauline hopes to enjoy this extraordinary day and to get closer to the handsome Raphael. But it will be hard for her to take her eyes off her disabled daughter Emma, whom she could not bring herself to let go..



SYRACUSEFILMFEST.COM



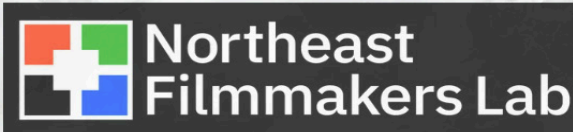
THE PENCIL STELLA BRAJTERMAN

HORROR

10.24 MINUTES

September 29th

Sara, a struggling artist who discovers a unique pencil that can solve all her problems. But her dreams turn into a nightmare when a malevolent demonic creature from Kazakh legends gets unleashed.



Celebrating 10 Years

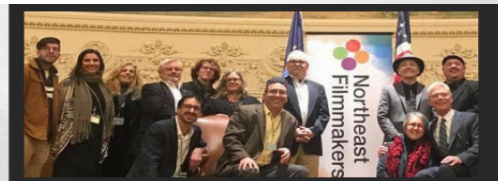
November 3-5, 2023

Still Producing Dreams

Join in celebrating a decade of serving indie filmmakers in the Capital Region.

*Industry Mixer & Film Talk
tkts on sale soon!*

www.cinemaexchange.org



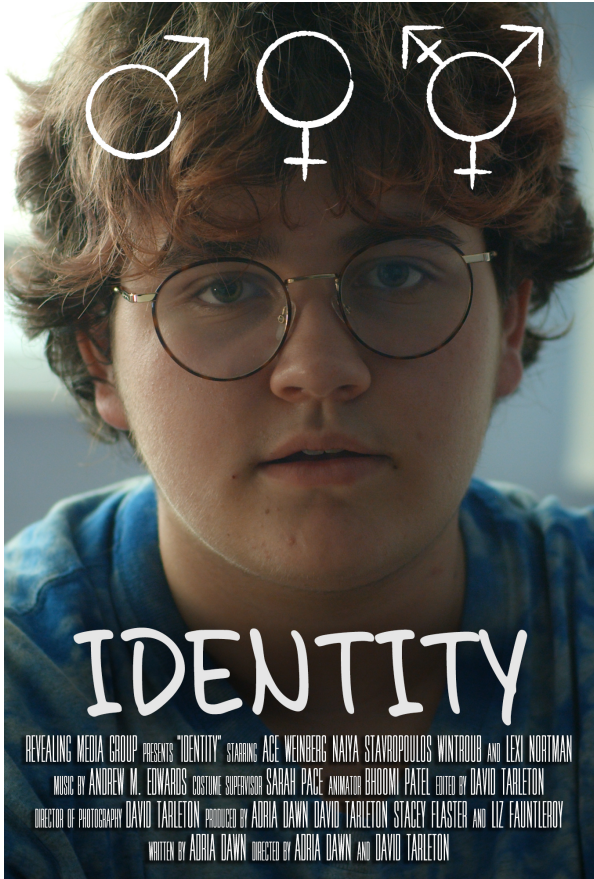


**Shout it from
the ~~rooftops!~~
*Galaxy***

Get the word out!
Attracting attention is
our thing. Let us increase
your sales with profitable
and proven marketing!



- DIGITAL
- RADIO • EVENTS
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IDENTITY

ADRIA DAWN, DAVID TARLETON



8 MINUTES

October 5th



A group of kids question who they are. The film follows a transgender boy who deals with cyber bullying, as straight, gay, non-binary and trans kids explore their gender and pronouns, discovering the true value of friendship and support.



THIS IS NOT ME

SAEED GHOLIPOUR



71 MINUTES

October 5th



Two trans people learn to navigate the Iranian courts in order to begin their transition..

scriptwriter: Reza Mouri / Editor: Farid Daghighaleh / Composer: Sina Faradipour / Supervising sound editor & mix: Hassan Mahdavi / Sound: Imran Moradi / Color Grading: Borna Jamshidi / Subtitle: Marzi Parvaz / Borna Akhoshtamanchi & Kamranche Aho: Majid Masrati / Hairdresser: Alireza Sohrabji / Music: Mastering: Milad Reza / Sound Recorder: Alireza Behrooz / Editor: Alireza Farzi / Assistant Sound Mixer: Mahdesh Leymori, Somayeh Bakhshi / Assistant Director: Sara Gholipour, Behnaz Pirhadi / Still photographer: mehdi javani / poster: pedram farokhtia / tessar: kameh asgharzadeh / TITRATION: M.R GHOLIPOUR / production manager: SHARSH RAFFE



20th Anniversary

SYRACUSE INTERNATIONAL FILMFESTIVAL

SIMURGH: HONORING IRANIAN FILMMAKERS

The Tasting Room, 330 S Salina St, Syracuse, NY 13202

NOVEMBER 4 2023

11:00 AM - 7:00 PM



SYRACUSEFILMFEST.COM



CHANGING WITH THE SEASONS

ASHLEY SEYBOLT

MADE IN NY INVITE

25.35 MINUTES

September 29th

“Changing with the Seasons” is a dramatic short film that traverses a family’s mundane and repetitive road to recovery after the mother suffers a stroke. Following several months in the hospital, life has become exhausting and the aftermath impacts everyone on a physical, mental, emotional and financial level. With just a year to relearn as much as she can, will the mother be able to find her way back to a normal life? Or will she be dealing with the struggles the diagnosis has dealt the family for years to come?



HALMONI'S POT

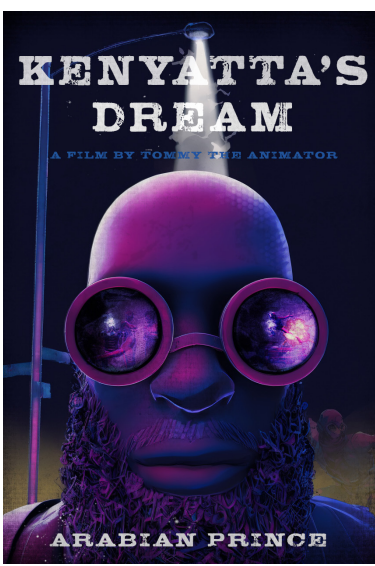
LAUREN LEE

MADE IN NY INVITE

10.12 MINUTES

September 29th

A dutiful, loving halmoni reluctantly agrees to buy pot for her grandson. But pay full price? Never!.



KENYATTA'S DREAM

TOMMY THE ANIMATOR

MADE IN NY INVITE

TBD

September 29th

Kenyatta’s reality manufacturers dreams that become everyone’s reality..





LAURINA
SYLVIA CAMINER

MADE IN NY
INVITE

29.52 MINUTES

September 29th

Sometimes the quietest voice shatters the silence..



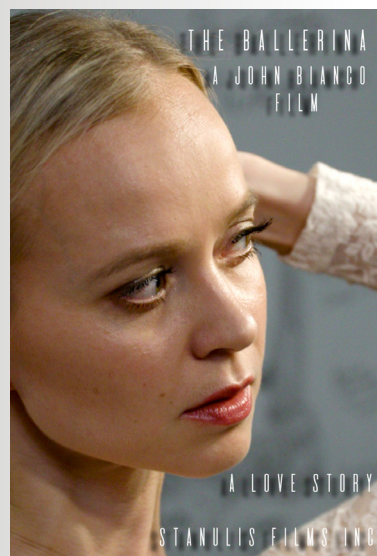
LIFEQUEST
RICHARD LOUNELLA

MADE IN NY
INVITE

27.37 MINUTES

September 29th

A young physicist lives out his life in search of his greatest scientific discovery and finds one extraordinary truth.



THE BALLERINA
JOHN BIANCO

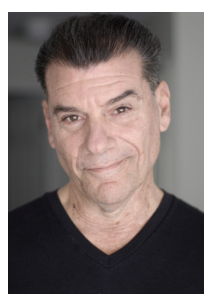
MADE IN NY
INVITE

8.56 MINUTES

September 29th

Can their love story survive the odds''

Rob and Julie are the lest likely to become a couple. A ballerina and an ex-cop are worlds apart. It's a love story by chance. Is it ironic they share the same initials as the most famous couple in the history of love stories, or can their love story survive the odds?



SYRACUSEFILMFEST.COM



THE COOKBOOK

PEDRO CHAVES

MADE IN NY
INVITE

22 MINUTES

September 29th

Sarikh Kalil returns home to Central New York to reunite with his estranged father after he suffers a debilitating stroke. But when he discovers his father can no longer run the family Lebanese restaurant and a buyer is in hot pursuit, Sarikh must choose between taking over the restaurant himself or selling out to chase his own dream. The Cookbook is a heartfelt story about preserving culture, the family traditions that connect us and the complexities of father-son relationships..



THE FLEDGLING

Director

MADE IN NY
INVITE

10 MINUTES

September 29th

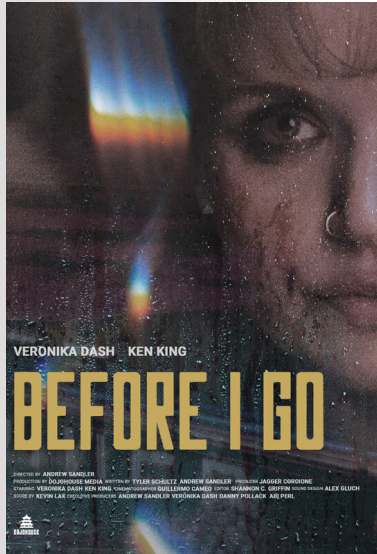
This is a ten minute proof of concept for an eight part mini series, that tells the coming of age story of thirteen-year-old Charlie (played by Anastasia Veronica Lee) who has recently been turned into a fledgling by Bianca, a 300-year-old vampire secretly longing to be a mother (played by Juliet Landau, Drusilla on Buffy the Vampire Slayer)..



WRVO 89.9

PUBLIC MEDIA





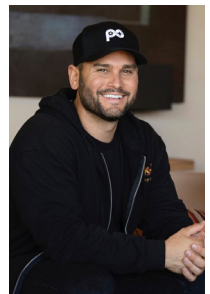
BEFORE I GO
ANDREW SANDLER

MADE IN NY

15.10 MINUTES

September 29th

BEFORE I GO is a psychological drama that follows Emily, a once vibrant and beautiful woman, as she confronts her ex-boyfriend for the first time since he sold her into sex-trafficking years prior. As their conversation unfolds, we peel back the layers of their characters as they wrestle with their fragmented past and the emotional pain Emily has endured. is dangerous and dramatic encounter blurs the line between reality and imagination as Emily grapples with how Tristan has stripped her of her youth, her innocence and her identity. Will Emily get the revenge and closure that she has longed for?



BEYOND SKIN DEEP
STACEY LARKINS

MADE IN NY

13.23 MINUTES

September 29th

A visit to Gina's intolerant mother-in-law triggers an argument between her and her husband, Todd, regarding her involvement with their biracial child..



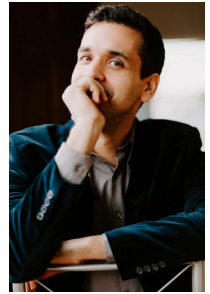
GOOD GRIEF
NATE HAPKE

MADE IN NY

16.18 MINUTES

September 29th

A grieving mother and an ambitious young woman reach an unlikely peace while coming to terms with the death of the boy they both loved..



SYRACUSEFILMFEST.COM

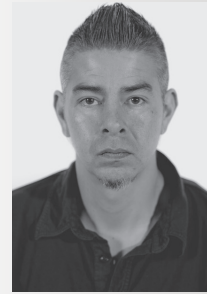


OUR LONGHOUSE MAURICE JOHN JR.

MADE IN NY

5.23 MINUTES

September 29th



A grassroots community effort to construct a traditional Iroquois longhouse. The "Living Longhouse" project is currently housed in Salamanca, NY at the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum / Onöhsagwë:de' Cultural Center.



RALPH ROTELLA: THE SOLE OF SYRACUSE FRANCIS DICLEMENTE, SHANE JOHNSON

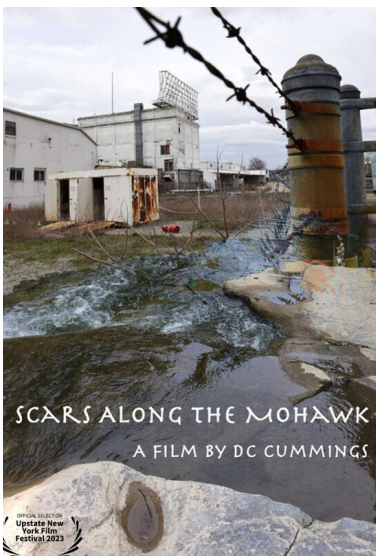
MADE IN NY

13.54 MINUTES

September 29th



Ralph Rotella plies the ancient craft of shoe repair while offering kindness and a sense of community to his customers and the residents of Syracuse, New York. Since emigrating to the U.S. from Italy in the 1970s, Rotella has owned Discount Shoe Repair in downtown Syracuse. Each day he opens the store, fixes shoes, works with his hands using antiquated equipment, and converses with customers. In his daily interactions with people, Rotella reveals himself to be a witty, beatific, George Bailey-type figure who draws people to himself, building a sense of community with his shoe repair shop as a hive of activity. The film examines the value of work and what constitutes happiness, while also honoring an unsung hero in the Central New York community.



SCARS ALONG THE MOHAWK DC CUMMINGS

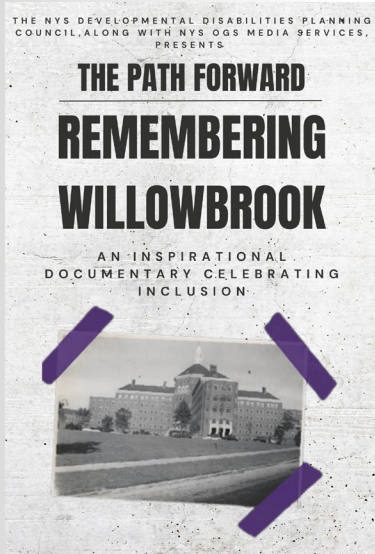
MADE IN NY

17.52 MINUTES

September 29th



The town of Canajoharie, New York was the home of the Mohawk tribe of the Iroquois Nation. The identity of the town was built on folklore. (Canajoharie is mentioned in Drums Along the Mohawk). The remnants of the tribe are almost gone. At the start of the 20th Century, Beech-Nut built a plant in Canajoharie, and soon the town was known for the factory that made baby food and gum. The factory closed in 2011 after 118 years. The town has lost its identity once again and many scars remain.



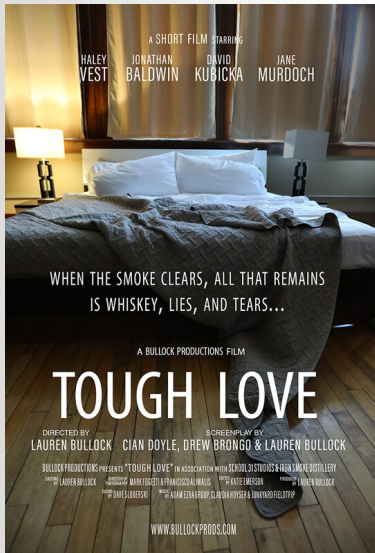
**THE PATH FORWARD:
REMEMBERING WILLOWBROOK**
VICKY HIFFA, DREW WEBSTER, REGINA
DALPIAZ-BULMAN, JOSEPH WALSH

MADE IN NY

26.28 MINUTES

September 29th

The Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, in partnership with the New York State Digital and Media Services Center, has produced a documentary highlighting the importance of lessons learned and the positive change that resulted from the legacy of Willowbrook. The Path Forward: Remembering Willowbrook is a celebration of inclusion in all aspects of community life.



TOUGH LOVE
LAUREN A. BULLOCK

MADE IN NY

15.58 MINUTES

September 29th

Tough Love is a thoughtful drama that depicts the boundaries and consequences of tough love, as a young woman struggles to find connection, understanding, and answers.



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EXscaped

SUMMER 2024

"Made in New York" Short Film Selections



HOPE EN ROUTE DES MATELSKE

SHORT FILM

15.58 MINUTES

October 6th

A truck driver's day to day job is turned into a mission after facing the realities of the 2020 pandemic.



THE BRIDGE LIESA COLE

POETRY

2.14 MINUTES

October 6th

A poetry short film adaptation of The Bridge by Gabrielle Bates..



YELLOW DOVE AFTERMATH RONY A ABOVITZ

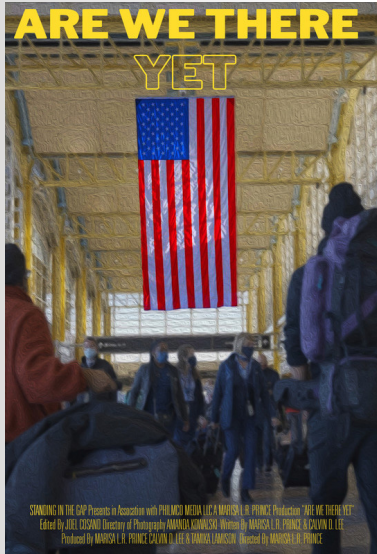
ANIMATION

15 MINUTES

October 6th

The surreal experiences of Yellow Dove in his bunker within the world of Hour Blue.





ARE WE THERE YET?
MARISSA L.R. PRINCE

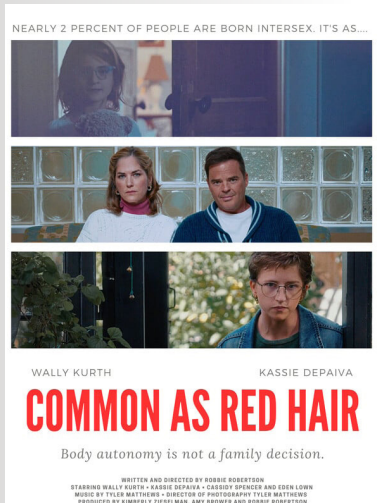
SOCIAL JUSTICE

36.25 MINUTES

October 6th



Calvin Lee and Marisa Prince are Believers of Color - and frustrated Evangelical outsiders - seeking more for the American Christian Church. "Are We There YET" follows their cross country Road Trip to better understand the Doctrine of Discovery, its connection to contemporary Christian Nationalism, and if it's possible to chart a new course for the American Christian Church..



COMMON AS RED HAIR
ROBBIE ROBERTSON

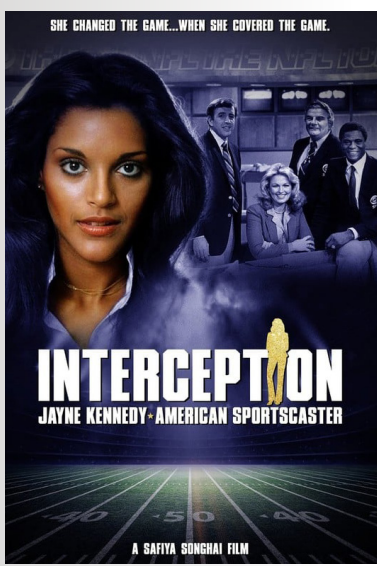
SOCIAL JUSTICE

15 MINUTES

September 29th



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



INTERCEPTION: JAYNE KENNEDY*
AMERICAN SPORTSCASTER
SAFIYA SONGHAI

SOCIAL JUSTICE

15 MINUTES

September 29th



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 run interception on the racial lines of American sportscasting.

SYRACUSEFILMFEST.COM

Join Us For A Night Of Horror With V.I.P. Special Guests

MICHELLE ROMANO & DEVANNY PINN

(Horror Scream Queen) Devanny Pinn's directorial debut, **THE BLACK MASS**. The film stars Jeremy London (Mallrats, Party of Five), Lew Temple (The Devil's Rejects, The Walking Dead), Eileen Dietz (The Exorcist), Kathleen Kinmont (Renegade, Halloween 4), Jennifer Lynn Warren (American Horror Story: Coven), Lisa Wilcox (A Nightmare on Elm Street 4), Susan Lanier (The Hills Have Eyes), and other genre icon favorites!



October 4th, 2023

6PM - 8PM
Cocktail Reception

8PM
Q&A with Romano and Pinn

8:30PM - 10PM
The Black Mass Screening



funk in waffles

Funk N Waffles
307-13 S Clinton St
Syracuse, NY 13202

HORROR

RON BONK



V.I.P. SPECIAL GUEST- OCTOBER 4



SCREENING- SEPTEMBER 29



Special sneak peak motion picture.

16 minutes



Les is just trying to privately enjoy his favorite fall flavor, but a serial killer has a different plan for him in this homage to "Halloween".

10 minutes

PREDATORS

Director

Nimród Antal

Runtime

1h 47m

A group of elite warriors parachute into an unfamiliar jungle and are hunted by members of a merciless alien race.



SYRACUSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL | 20TH ANNIVERSARY

I AM LEGEND

Director

Francis Lawrence

Runtime

1h 41m

Years after a plague kills most of humanity and transforms the rest into monsters, the sole survivor in New York City struggles valiantly to find a cure.



TWILIGHT

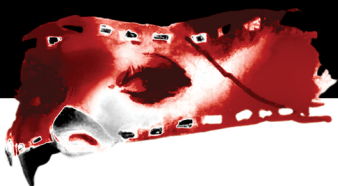
Director

Catherine Hardwicke

Runtime

2h 02m

When Bella Swan moves to a small town in the Pacific Northwest, she falls in love with Edward Cullen, a mysterious classmate who reveals himself to be a 108-year-old vampire.



THE FACULTY

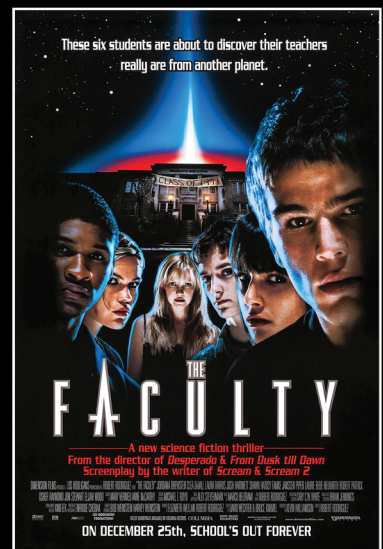
Director

Robert Rodriguez

Runtime

1h 44m

When Casey Connor, Herrington High School's newspaper photographer, witnesses the murder of a nurse and sees her alive again, he decides to investigate the bizarre happenings.



FRIDAY THE 13TH

Director

Marcus Nispel

Runtime

1h 37m

A group of young adults visit a boarded up campsite named Crystal Lake where they soon encounter the mysterious Jason Voorhees and his deadly intentions.



ONE DARK NIGHT

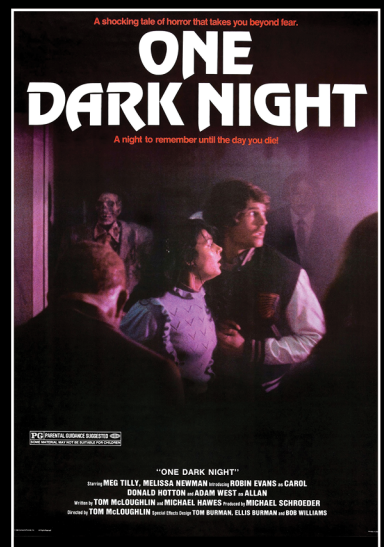
Director

Tom McLoughlin

Runtime

1h 29m

As part of an initiation into a club called the Sisters, a young girl must spend the night in a mausoleum.





SYRACUSE INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

NEW FILMMAKERS SHOWCASE

Celebrating 20 years!

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS



FORMER SYRACUSE
UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL PLAYER
LAWRENCE MOTEN



OWNER AND FOUNDER OF
AND CASTING
ANNIE DELANO



HOST OF TK99'S "GOMEZ
AND COMPANY"
GOMEZ ADAMS

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MICHELLE DIBERNARDO AT [MICHELLE@SYRFILM.COM](mailto:michelle@syrfilm.com)
OR VISIT WWW.SYRACUSEFILMFESTIVAL.COM

GUESTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE





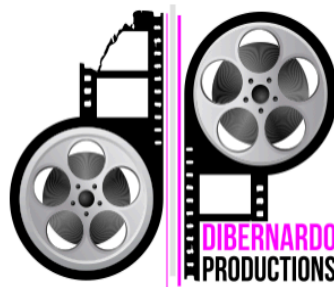
HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION

SIFF's High School Film Competition features short films from young filmmakers across the globe. Submissions were FREE for our High School Segment for select counties around CNY for our 20th Anniversary Celebration, which is being held from the last weekend of September through the first weekend of October. Our High School Competition will be October 7, 2023 at Sharkey's Event Center from 11 am to 7 pm. Winners will be announced at the Syracuse International Film Festival main program. Prizes will be given to the Award Winners of the High School Competition.

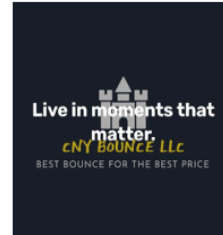
SELECTED FILMS

Bad Trip (<i>Poland</i>)	Hubert Suchecki
Burnout (<i>Australia</i>)	Jonathon Charlie Copson-Pacal
Dysphoria (<i>Portugal</i>)	Alexandre Silva
Extinction (<i>Spain</i>)	Students of the Audiovisual Media Degree of the Technocampus
Heartbreak (<i>USA</i>)	John Sullivan
Hunger to Win (<i>USA</i>)	Catalina Constantin Strother
Laughing Matter (<i>USA</i>)	Todor Pophristic
Magnum Opus (<i>Canada</i>)	Kellan Russell
My Friend David (<i>USA</i>)	Alexandra Bree Carson
Outsider House (<i>China</i>)	Yang Liu
Sien Rebelo- Money Man (<i>Australia</i>)	Liam Vaclav Cervenka, Juno Shean
Speculum (<i>India</i>)	Yoga Adithya
The Adventures of a Snail (<i>Croatia</i>)	Patrik Šimunovi
The Blues Therapy (<i>Egypt</i>)	Ahmed Mohamed Messiry
The Brothers Guitar (<i>USA</i>)	The Brothers Guitar (<i>USA</i>)
The Guardian (<i>Morocco</i>)	Aziz Bakour, Said Bakour
The Hedonist	Ismael Valdeavellano
The Man who thought about Machines (<i>Poland</i>)	Hubert Suchecki
The Power of Water (<i>Ukraine</i>)	Marusya Shuvalova
The Price of Silence (<i>Uzbekistan</i>)	Gulnara Ivanova
Time (<i>USA</i>)	John R. Stillwaggon
Tomorrow (<i>USA</i>)	Ke Xu
TVC-15: The Returning of Major Tom (<i>USA</i>)	Alexsys Giraud, Matthew Wilson
Zadig/Clover (<i>Slovakia</i>)	Andrea Pátková, Adam Čurko, Viktoria Voržáčková

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20th Anniversary
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FILM



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GLASSHOUSE DISTRIBUTION**



**RON BONK
SRS CINEMA**



**ROB SCHWARTZ
WHOMAG DISTRIBUTION**

SEPT 29 | 2023

**7:45 PM
TO
8:45 PM**





HONORING OUTSTANDING BLACK FILMMAKERS

PRESENTED BY

SYRACUSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



FEBRUARY 3, 2024
10 AM - 10 PM

CO-HOST: DEVON PATTERSON

INTERNATIONAL ART, FASHION, FILM & MUSIC

SYRACUSEFILMFEST.COM



Submission Deadline:

**1ST
DEC**



GOE GLOBEL

For more information contact
Executive Director/President at
Michelle@SyrFilm.com or visit
www.SyracuseFilmFestival.com



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