

R A T E D

SRTM

1ST ANNUAL

**SOCIALLY
RELEVANT
FILM
FESTIVAL**

NEW YORK

March 14-20
2014
QUAD
CINEMA
34 W. 13TH STREET

www.ratedsrfilms.org



The City Of New York Mayor's Office Of Media And Entertainment

March 2014

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the Rated SR Film Festival in New York City. Now is the perfect time to explore everything NYC has to offer innovative storytellers and content creators. The City is home to a thriving community of creative professionals with an industry that contributes \$7.1 billion each year to the local economy and is made up of 130,000 New Yorkers who work behind the scenes in production.

At the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, we're dedicated to supporting and promoting all forms of media throughout the City, working with the hundreds of films, television shows and online series that film throughout the five boroughs. We provide premier customer service – including free exterior locations, police assistance and parking privileges, and you can even apply for your permits from any computer with internet access with our online permit system. We also offer the “Made in NY” Marketing Credit, which provides free advertising in subways, bus shelters and on Taxi TV for films and television shows that shoot here, and the “Made in NY” Discount Card Program with discounts for productions at more than a thousand local businesses.

Over the years, our office has also developed various programs and initiatives that encourage the exploration of career opportunities in media and entertainment. The “Made in NY” Production Assistant Training Program, for example, connects unemployed and low income New Yorkers with jobs in the local film and television industry. The program was developed in partnership between the Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment and Brooklyn Workforce Innovations, and “Made in NY” PAs have worked on more than 2,000 productions.

Our website – www.nyc.gov/film – contains a wealth of information about our initiatives. We encourage you to contact our office at 311 or 212-NEW-YORK to find out just how easy it is to film in New York.

Best wishes,

New York City Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment

1 Centre Street
New York, NY 10007
nyc.gov



Rated SR Socially Relevant Film Festival New York is Fiscally Sponsored by Fractured Atlas.



Fractured Atlas is a 501(c)(3) public charity that has officially granted Fiscal Sponsorship to Rated SR Socially Relevant Film Festival New York. Contributions for the purposes of Rated SR - Socially Relevant Film Festival New York are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Rated SR is essentially a self-funded festival in its inaugural year. Donations are graciously accepted.

WELCOME



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Rated SR Socially Relevant Film Festival New York 2014. I am delighted to announce that our first edition will screen 55 films from 18 countries.

The idea of Rated SR initially came about as a reaction to the proliferation of gratuitous violence, crime, and violent forms of filmmaking. The world around us is full of human-interest stories and social issues that need to be addressed. Done right, socially relevant films can be hugely successful, artistically appealing, entertaining and even commercially viable.

Rated SR aspires to become a platform for socially engaged filmmakers by creating an opportunity for them to find their audience. I am happy to announce that many of the filmmakers in our inaugural selection will be in attendance, some having traveled from places as varied as Armenia, Canada, Cuba, France, Germany, Israel, Norway, Serbia, South Korea, Switzerland and The Netherlands. I salute these men and women who chose to tell socially relevant stories. They are trendsetters, and they will inspire many other filmmakers to follow their lead.

I would like to especially thank the **QUAD Cinema** and Elliott Kantar for believing in the importance of this festival and for donating the prize that will go to the winning feature under the QUADflix Select program.

Special thanks are due to Beth Portello of **Cinema Libre Studio** for offering the documentary film distribution prize. She was one of the first to come onboard and is the sort of partner every festival wishes to have. We are also proud to have the **MFA Social Documentary** program of the School of Visual Arts as our academic partner.

Special thanks to Amy Goodman of *Democracy Now!* for accepting our invitation to deliver the inaugural keynote address and rightfully presenting the Rated SR Social Justice Award. It means so much to have her join Rated SR.

I would specifically like to thank the members of the Rated SR team who volunteered their time and worked hard to make the festival a reality. We couldn't have done it without the help and support of many well-wishers and friends of the festival, our sponsors, our Indiegogo supporters, the media and community outreach.

If you are holding this beautiful program in your hands, it is only thanks to John Bennett and the Alouette Communications team who took upon themselves the huge task of communication and creation.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my wonderfully supportive husband, Ared Spendjian, who was there for me at all times, advising, helping, supporting and creating wonderful artwork to become the image of Rated SR.

And to conclude, my deepest gratitude goes to you, dear audience members, because all of the above would be meaningless without your presence. This is your festival. Enjoy the films, enjoy the meetings and please come back for more.

Nora Armani
Founding Artistic Director
Rated SR



OPENING NIGHT FILM

OPENING NIGHT FILM



Mamarosh / Mamaroš

Momčilo Mrdaković, Serbia, Hungary, Germany, 105 min. 2013

Dreamy, middle-age guy Pera is a film projectionist and still lives with his mother Mara in Belgrade. NATO's 1999 bombing of Serbia starts and two of them become refugees. After a quite surreal journey, they end up in New York, of all places. That is where Pera realizes that he cannot do his old job anymore. Some discarded projectors give Pera an idea. His new mission in life will be to travel around and show people the magic of the real cinema. It is the one that can only be created by filmstrips and flickering light. The one the whole world enjoyed for over 100 years and now is being replaced by digital projection. MAMAROSH (mama's boy) had a world premiere at the 2013 Moscow International Film Festival in competition. This is the New York premiere.

Screens on Friday, March 14

*Following the 6:30 pm opening presentation
Director will be present for post-screening Q&A*

Good luck and we are proud of all your work.



**Armenian International Women Association
(AIWA) NJ Affiliate**

KEYNOTE

KEYNOTE ADDRESS



Amy Goodman of Democracy Now! Delivers the festival's inaugural keynote address, "The impact of socially relevant films," and awards, the Rated SR Social Justice Award, to one of the five films considered for this award. Amy Goodman is an American broadcast journalist, syndicated columnist, investigative reporter, author, and host since 1966 of *Democracy Now!*, the internationally acclaimed independent global news program broadcast daily on radio, television and the Internet. She will be presenting a keynote on the role that socially relevant films play in fostering change. Goodman's investigative journalism career includes coverage of the East Timor independence movement and the Chevron Corporation's role in Nigeria. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Thomas Merton Award in 2004, a Right Livelihood Award in 2008 and an Izzy Award in 2009 for "special achievement in independent media."

Tuesday, March 18, 7:15 pm



PARIAN SPIRIT®

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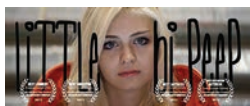
Cleans

Conditions

Disinfects

SPOTLIGHT

SPOTLIGHT ON LGBTQ



Little Bi Peep

Jon Russell Cring
& Anna Shields
(Co-director), USA,
78 min, 2013

Emma is going nowhere fast, but she knows it. She's very honest with herself, but no one else. The women and men she has been sleeping with think she's a waitress, an artist or a kindergarten teacher ... she actually works in an adult bookstore. At a bar one night, she meets Mason, who has it all, including secrets. Will Emma settle down and live happily ever after in a little white house, or will she be alone, sitting outside the Jack Shack selling double-ended dildos forever? *Little Bi Peep* ... it's hard to find someone to love ewe.

Screens Wednesday, March 19, 3:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A

SPOTLIGHT ON IMMIGRATION



The Defector

Ann Shin, USA, 74 min, 2013
Curated by Lucie Tripon

Dragon is a human smuggler who leads North Korean defectors across borders for a living.

His latest undercover trip, with escapees Sook-Ja and Yong-hee, takes an unexpected turn when they are left stranded in China, putting their dramatic escape plan into question. Their perilous journey reflects the reality of tens of thousands of North Koreans currently in hiding in China. Korean-Canadian filmmaker Ann Shin shoots undercover, getting intimate access to these three individuals and exploring universal questions about human rights, smuggling and the pursuit of freedom.

Screens Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 pm

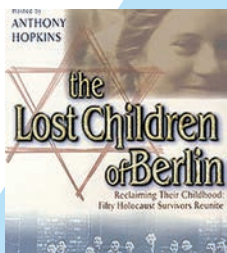
Director will be present for post-screening Q&A

Preceded by:

Ağrı ve Dağ (Mount Ararat), by Hasan Serin, Turkey, 10 min, 2013

The daily chores of a little girl in a mountain village

SPOTLIGHT ON HUMAN LOSS



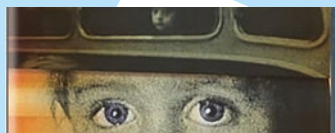
The Lost Children of Berlin

Elizabeth McIntyre,
57 min
Curated by Laurence Hoffmann

Narrated by
Anthony Hopkins,
USC Shoah
Foundation,

Reclaiming their childhood: Fifty Holocaust survivors reunite

Screens Sunday, March 16, 3:00 pm



Remember, (Pamiętam)

Academy Award® nominee Andrzej Wajda,
Poland
USC Shoah Foundation
Curated by Laurence Hoffmann

Four survivors who were either helped or betrayed by their Polish neighbors speak.

Screens Monday, March 17, 9:15 pm



SPOTLIGHT

SPOTLIGHT ON MEDITATION



Meditation, Creativity, Peace

David Lynch Foundation, USA, 71 min, 2012
Curated by Aude Lambert

The David Lynch Foundation for Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace presents *Meditation, Creativity, Peace*, a documentary on David Lynch's 16-country tour, which aims to transform lives by overcoming stress and raising performance through Transcendental Meditation® (TM).

With equal parts wit and passion, *Meditation, Creativity, Peace* shows the director's commitment to TM as way of changing the world, starting from within. The film also offers rare insight into Lynch's creative process, through interviews and revealing moments from the tour.

Screens Thursday, March 20, 3:00 pm

Peter Trivelas, Director of Programs and Teacher at the David Lynch Foundation, will be present for post-screening Q&A

Preceded by:

Out of step, by Lynn Estomin, USA, 6 min, 2011
Female veterans in action

SPOTLIGHT ON PTSD

Comedy Warriors: Healing through Humor

John Wager, USA, 74 min,
2013
Curated by Laurence
Hoffmann



Comedy Warriors: Healing Through Humor is a poignant, yet funny documentary in which severely injured Iraq/Afghanistan veterans find laughter and healing by learning to do stand-up comedy. A-list comedians Lewis Black, Zach Galifianakis, B.J. Novak and others, help them write and perform their own personal stand-up comedy routines, giving them new comedic perspectives from which to view their injuries and their lives. www.comedywarriors.com.

Screens Thursday, March 20, 5:00 pm

John Wager—Director/Producer
Bernadette Luckett—Co-Producer
Joe Kashnow—Comedy Warrior
All will be present for post-screening Q&A

**Congratulations Nora and the Rated SR Socially
Relevant Film Festival New York Team!**

Elizabeth M. Akian



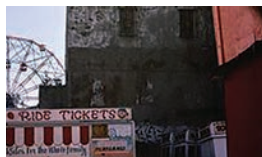
FEATURE COMPETITION

Coney Island: Dreams for Sale (New York Premiere)

Alessandra Giordano, USA, 81 min, 2013

The documentary chronicles the passionate fight of a community to protect the future of legendary Coney Island amusement park.

Screens Saturday, March 15, 5:00 pm



Dovid Meyer (New York Premiere)

Moshe Mones, USA/Israel, 101 min, 2013

A proper British family advertises for a Mary Poppins–type of au pair for their children, but a 14-year-old Hasidic Israeli boy, an orphan from Jerusalem, shows up, to rattle the household's lives in many miraculous ways.

Screens Monday, March 17, 7:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A



Flore (North American Premiere)

Jean-Albert Lièvre, France, 85 min, 2014

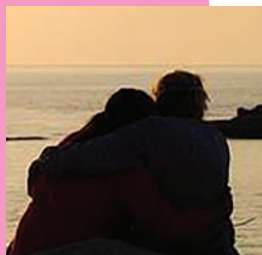
For the past three years I have been working on a personal film about my mother who has Alzheimer's disease. No one would ever have imagined that Flore, my mother, could watch the sun on the sea again.

Screens Wednesday, March 19, 5:15 pm

Preceded by:

The Barber, by Nicola Morris, UK, 12 min, 2014

A son discovers his father who has Alzheimer's



Forward 13: Waking up the American Dream (New York Premiere) (*)

Patrick Lovell, USA, 120 min, 2013

Caught in the wake of the 2008 global financial crisis, Patrick Lovell, one of 10 million people who lost their homes, examines why he and so many Americans were blindsided by the economy's implosion.

Screens Tuesday, March 18, 5:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A



If Only Everyone... (New York Premiere)

Natalia Belyauskene, Armenia, 94 min, 2012

The story of friendship between an Armenian veteran of the Nagorno-Karabakh war and the daughter of one of his fallen comrades. An uplifting journey towards redemption and real human values in times of war and in peace.

Screens Sunday, March 16, 8:30 pm



FEATURE COMPETITION

Indian Summer (North American Premiere)

Simon Brook, France, 84 min, 2013

With Marinella Banfi and Professor Thomas Tursz

The unusual and wonderful story of a top French oncologist who travels to India with one of his former patients to try to understand how traditional Indian medicine (Ayurveda) cured her cancer.

Screens Saturday, March 15, 7:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A



Lucky Express (New York Premiere)

Anna Fischer, USA, 98 min, 2013

The story of the destitute children who have made the vast Indian Railways network their home as they share their astonishing life histories, hopes and dreams with fellow former “platform child”—turned-filmmaker, Lucky.

Screens Saturday, March 15, 9:15 pm

Producer will be present for post-screening Q&A



Offside Trap (North American Premiere)

Stefan Hering, Germany, 98 min, 2012

Loosely based on the story of carmaker Opel in Germany, this film explores what profit maximization does to all people involved—from the workers, their wives, the human resources department and up to the management.

Screens Tuesday, March 18, 9:30 pm

Preceded by:

Tuesday, by Oscar Lalo, USA/Switzerland, 5 min, 2013

A man struggles to keep his life together



Orphans of the Genocide (New York Premiere)

Bared Maronian, USA, 91 min, 2013

Orphans of the Genocide is a documentary created by the Armenoid Team, bringing to life secret documents pertaining to the systematic Turkification campaigns of hundreds of thousands of Armenian orphans by the Ottoman Empire.

Screens Sunday, March 16, 5:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A



Small Small Thing (New York Premiere)

Jessica Vale, USA, 85 min, 2013

Award-winning documentary about the high-profile case of 7-year-old Liberian rape victim Olivia Zinnah, who died in 2012 from her injuries, despite five years of medical treatments and the intervention of the Liberian government.

Screens Friday, March 14, 9:15 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A



(*) Contender for the Rated SR Social Justice Award presented by Amy Goodman



SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 14

2:00 pm	RED CARPET Motion & Disability
4:00 pm	CONTROL Preceded by: Peace Kites
5:30 pm	RED CARPET
6:30 pm	MAMAROSH
9:15 pm	SMALL SMALL THING

SATURDAY 15

1:00 pm	STABLE LIFE Preceded by: 1. Sweatshop 2. Out of the Shadows
3:00 pm	DESTINY'S BRIDGE Preceded by: Later Than Usual
5:00 pm	CONEY ISLAND: DREAMS FOR SALE
7:00 pm	INDIAN SUMMER
9:15 pm	LUCKY EXPRESS

SUNDAY 16

1:00 pm	FROM THE BLACK YOU MAKE COLOR Preceded by: Café Templado
3:00 pm	USC Shoah Foundation: THE LOST CHILDREN OF BERLIN
5:00 pm	ORPHANS OF THE GENOCIDE
7:00 pm	HAMSHEN COMMUNITY AT THE CROSSROADS OF PAST AND PRESENT
8:30 pm	IF ONLY EVERYONE
10:15 pm	ABOUT WOMEN

MONDAY 17

	PANEL AT SVA
3:00 pm	ENVIRONMENT
5:00 pm	NOT WHO WE ARE Preceded by: Bavakan
7:00 pm	DOVID MEYER
9:15 pm	USC Shoah Foundation: I REMEMBER



SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 18

1:00 pm	ACTIVISM
3:00 pm	THE THROWAWAYS Preceded by: A Confused War
5:00 pm	FORWARD 13: WAKING UP THE AMERICAN DREAM
7:30 pm	Keynote speech AMY GOODMAN DEMOCRACY NOW!
9:30 pm	COAL RUSH

WEDNESDAY 19

1:00 pm	CHILD PROTECTION
3:00 pm	LITTLE BI PEEP Preceded by: Am I not Your Girl?
5:15 pm	FLORE Preceded by: The Barber
7:30 pm	THE DEFECTOR Preceded by: Ağrı ve dağ
9:30 pm	OFFSIDE TRAP Preceded by: Tuesday

THURSDAY 20

1:00 pm	WAR AND PTSD
3:00 pm	MEDITATION, CREATIVITY, PEACE Preceded by: Out of Step
5:00 pm	COMEDY WARRIORS
7:30 pm	AWARD CEREMONY @ Tenri Center (Separate ticket)
8:30 pm	CLOSING FILM Winning documentary
10:00 pm	WINNING FEATURE

The Quad Cinema

34 West 13th Street
(Between 5th and 6th Aves)
New York, NY 10011
Box Office: (212) 255-2243

Tenri Center

43A West 13th Street
New York, NY 10011

DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

Coal Rush (New York Premiere) (*)

Lorena Luciano & Filippo Piscopo, USA, 85 min, 2013

When a rural Appalachian community comes to believe that the illnesses that almost killed them may not be an act of God but of environmental wrongdoing, locals take on major coal company Massey Energy over contaminated water that they charge is the cause of widespread sickness.

Screens Tuesday, March 18, 9:30 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A



Control (New York Premiere) (*)

Chris Bravo & Lindsey Schneider, USA, 50 min, 2013

A 16-year-old named "Mouse" is arrested and charged with assault. This is an unremarkable event in the Bronx, New York, or anywhere else. What follows, however, is a harrowing story of anxiety, confusion, isolation, and doubt. A child is thrown into a bureaucratic labyrinth—is escape even possible?

Screens Friday, March 14, 4:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A

Preceded by Peace Kites, USA, 15 min, 2013, NY Premiere

Directed by Rafael Salazar Moreno & Ava Wiland



Destiny's Bridge (*)

Jack Ballo, USA, 80 min, 2013, New York Premiere

A homeless minister stands up to a New Jersey town that is evicting him, along with 80 other people living in the woods. Police raids and arrests are met by charges of harassment in this explosive documentary that questions the human rights of the poor, while exploring new ideas for housing the homeless.

Screens Saturday, March 15, 3:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A

Preceded by Later Than Usual, by David Hovan, Canada, 7 min, 2012, NY Premiere

A day in the life of an elderly couple



From the Black You Make Color

Richie Sherman & Judy Maltz, USA/Israel, 75 min, 2013

On the periphery of Israeli society, eight women discover a safe haven from the pressures of the outside world during the course of a school year at Tel Aviv's oldest beauty academy: an unlikely meeting ground of Jews and Arabs, religious and secular, new immigrants and foreign refugees.

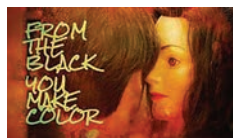
Screens Sunday, March 16, 1:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A

Preceded by Café Templado by Raúl Capote Braña, Cuba/Norway, 8 min, 2013

World Premiere

Two lost women meet in Havana...



DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

Hamshen Community at the Crossroads of Past and Present

Lucine Sahakyan, Armenia/Turkey, 60 min, 2012, New York Premiere

Dedicated to the current state of the descendants of the Armenians of Hamshen (Hamshentsis), the film explores a people who were Islamicized by the Ottoman Empire in the 18th century. Today, they live primarily in the provinces of Rizeh and Artvin, as well as in Istanbul and other cities of Turkey. Armin T. Wegner Humanitarian Award.

Screens Sunday, March 16, 7:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A



Not Who We Are

Carol Mansour, Lebanon, 72 min, 2013, New York Premiere

By December 2013, there were a million Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Avoiding clichés, the documentary portrays five women, on five journeys, with the same fate of being a refugee in Lebanon.

Screens Monday, March 17, 5:00 pm

Preceded by:

Bavakan (Enough), by Adrineh Gregorian, Armenia, 17 min, 2013

Sex-selective abortions in Armenia



Stable Life

Sara Macpherson, USA, 52 min, 2013, New York Premiere

Dionicia M. lives in the stables at a California racetrack and works long hours caring for racehorses, while her teenage son José Luis is turning heads as a hotshot apprentice jockey. Dionicia and José Luis have gambled their futures on the hardscrabble sport of horse racing. Will they succeed or will their lack of immigration papers prevent them from achieving the stable life of their dreams?

Screens Saturday, March 15, 1:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A

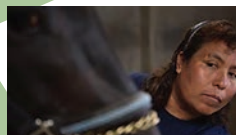
Preceded by:

Sweatshop by Chin Tangsakulsathaporn, USA, 10 min, 2012

Children are trapped in the sweatshop

Out of the Shadows by Juliana Brown, USA, 24 min, 2013, NY Premiere

Undocumented, unafraid and unapologetic



The Throwaways (*)

Bhawin Suchak & Ira McKinley, USA, 62 min, 2013, World Premiere

The Throwaways tells the story of African-American activist filmmaker and ex-felon, Ira McKinley, documenting his struggle to bring positive changes to his community in inner-city Albany, New York. As he strives to get his voice heard, McKinley shines a light on police violence and mass incarceration in America.

Screens Tuesday, March 18, 3:00 pm

Director will be present for post-screening Q&A

Preceded by:

A Confused War, by Mariel Waloff & Rachel Waldholz, USA, 26 min, 2013

A radical approach to ending gun violence



(*) Contenders for the Rated SR Social Justice Award presented by Amy Goodman

SHORT FILM PROGRAMS

Motion and Disability

**Screens Friday,
March 14, 2 pm**

1. Alegria: A Humanitarian Experience

Christoph von Toggenburg, Switzerland, 28 min, 2014 North American Premiere A humanitarian Himalayan expedition

2. Wheelchair Diaries: One Step Up, Reid Davenport, USA, 28 min, 2013, New York Premiere

European attitudes towards disability when an exchange student decides to go against all odds

3. I Used To Dance, Femke Kramer, Netherlands, 30 min, 2013

North American Premiere

The new life of a young woman who discovers she has lupus disease

About Women

**Screens Sunday,
March 16, 10:15 pm**

1. Tala

Pier-Philippe Chevigny, Canada, 13 min, 2013

New York Premiere

A Filipino worker receives an unexpected call during work hours

2. J-1, Geoffrey Guerrero, USA, 15 min, 2012

New York Premiere

A J-1 Visa student arrives in the U.S. thinking she's being offered a proper job

3. The Brave Unseen, Duan Myburgh, South Africa, 31 min, 2013

North American Premiere

The struggle of South African lesbian women dealing with "corrective" rape

Environment

**Screens Monday,
March 17, 3 pm**

1. Ma Forêt

Sebastien Pins, Belgium, 7 min, 2013

New York Premiere

A forest seen through the eyes of a child

2. Amunegu (In Times To Come), Galen Brown, Canada, 22 min, 2013

NY Premiere

A mangrove forest in Belize faces an uncertain future

3. Fighting for the Futulefu, Stephanie Haig, USA, 16 min, 2013

NY Premiere

Saving the World's Best River

4. Guswentia (Two Row Wampum)

A 400-year-old treaty is renewed on the Hudson River, Gwendolen Cates, USA, 33 min, 2013

World Premiere

A 400-year-old treaty on the Hudson River

Activism

**Screens Tuesday,
March 18, 1 pm**

1. Walking the Walk: A March Against Drone Warfare

James Knight, USA, 30 min, 2013

New York Premiere

A pilgrimage across Iowa to fight drones

2. Armenian Activists Now, Robert Davidian, USA/ Armenia, 41 min, 2012

New York Premiere

Only with activism can there be change

Child Protection

**Screens Wednesday,
March 19, 1 pm**

1. The Lost Soul

Jacques-Yves Mistretta, UK, 5 min, 2013

World Premiere

Mother and son's difficult relationship

2. Pursuit of Truth, Valerie Gibson, USA, 24 min, 2013

Adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse

3. Safe, Steven Lesser, USA, 13 min, 2013

New York Premiere

Teens trapped in a high-security super school

War & PTSD

**Screens Thursday,
March 20, 1 pm**

1. Early Morning

Harlan Bosmajian, USA, 20 min, 2013

World Premiere

A military medic meets his son's attractive girlfriend

2. The Dr. of Bagram, Neil Paik, USA, 10 min, 2013

New York Premiere

A surgeon treats the wounded in Afghanistan

3. Park 51, Christopher Capelluto, USA, 21 min, 2013

World Premiere

A war veteran saves the life of a Muslim man

4. 528 New York, Jules Suo, USA, 15 min, 2012

New York Premiere

A young man is subject to a stop and frisk in New York



AWARD

GRAND PRIZE

One lucky filmmaker of a feature length documentary or narrative film will win a free one-week run at the QUAD CINEMA in New York courtesy of the QUADflix SELECT Program. See www.quadflixselect.com. This is an all-encompassing package that includes all the features necessary to successfully launch an indie film in New York. And the producer will walk away with 100% of the box office take. A huge Thank You to Elliott Kanbar and The Quad Cinema!



DOCUMENTARY PRIZE

Documentary films running from 50' to feature length.
A VOD - DVD distribution deal from Cinema Libre studio, a Los Angeles-based distribution company that specializes in social issue films with a catalog of over 180 international titles.



VANYA EXERJIAN AWARD



The festival presents the Vanya Exerjian Empowering Women and Girls Award to a film that raises awareness towards violence against women and girls, in commemoration of Founding Artistic Director Nora Armani's late cousin and uncle, victims of a violent hate crime.

The Empowering Women and Girls award designed and donated by Michael Aram, will be jointly presented by Her Excellency Ambassador Simona Miculescu, Permanent Representative of Romania to the UN, and Founding Artistic Director Nora Armani.



Vanya Exerjian 1960-2004

RATED SR SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD



Amy Goodman of Democracy Now! Delivers the festival's inaugural keynote address: «The impact of socially relevant films» and awards the: Rated SR Social Justice Award to one of the five films considered for this award.

WFCC AWARD

Presented by Prairie Miller of WBAL Pacifica Radio's Arts Express

SCRIPTWRITING AWARD

Best scriptwriting prize will be presented to the winning script amongst the ones submitted to the festival. Recognized by a Finaldraft.com certificate for downloading the latest edition of the scriptwriting software.



Short films will be recognized for their special merits, voted by the students of the Social Documentary Department of the School of Visual Arts.

FESTIVAL



LAURELS





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JURORS

Feature Competition Jury

Chiara Spagnoli Gabardi: freelance film critic for Italian, British and American press
Gerald Papasian: actor, director (Paris, France)
Golda Sellam: producer, production consultant (Paris, France)
John Kenny: novelist, director, screenwriter (New York)
Michael Preece: director (Malibu, CA)
Linda Selman: playwright, director, producer (New York)

Documentary Competition Jury

Richard Castro: VP Distribution & Acquisition, Cinema Libre Studio
Jessica Green: cinema director, Maysles Documentary Center (New York)
Manfred "Manny" Kirchheimer: filmmaker (New York)
Niki Bhattacharya: MFA Social Documentary Film Dept. at the School of Visual Arts (New York)
Tovah Feldshuh: actress, playwright (New York)

WFCC Festival Jury, Organized by Prairie Miller of WBAI Pacifica Radio's *Arts Express*

Karen Benardello: Shockya.com, Wegotthiscovered.com, Yahoo! Voices
Chloe Glickman: Arts Express Radio Syndicate
S. Jhoanna Robledo: Common Sense Media, *New York Magazine*
Chiara Spagnoli Gabardi: freelance film critic for Italian, British and American press
Debra Wallace: *Pop Culture Madness*, *New York Cool*, *Time Out Moscow*

Short Films Jury

Students of the MFA Social Documentary Film Dept. at the School of Visual Arts

Script Selection

Lucie Tripon: writer, actress (New York)
Conan Magee: puppeteer, explorer (New York)
Dalia Kasparian: master's student in management (Germany)
Ared Spendjian: madman, art director

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The Team

The Festival Team

Founding Artistic Director: Nora Armani
Production & Programming Assistant: Lucie Tripon
Festival Assistant: Dalia Kasparian
Marketing & Partnerships: Aude Lambert
Marketing & Partnerships: Conan Magee
Marketing: Valentina Bertozzi
Social Media Marketing: Aram Spendjian
Education and Community Outreach: Constance DuBois
Advertising Sales: Linda Selman
Festival Logo and Poster: Ared Spendjian
Graphic Design: Ared Spendjian & Patrick Durozoy
Videography: Bruce Bernstein
Festival Trailer: Bruce Bernstein & Lucie Tripon
Photography: Roody Khalil
Website: Lucie Tripon & Aude Lambert
Publicist: Sylvia Savadjian
Press Liaison: Taleen Babayan
Newsletter: Stephanie Dorcenat

Festival interns

Marion Avril: Submissions
Marine Marcenac: Press & Communications
Zhora Diaoune: Social Media

Special Thanks

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Our Indiegogo supporters

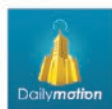
Square Mango Films, Edmond and Nora Azadian, Ared Spendjian, Varoujan Ekserjian, Vazken Exerjian, Ashod & Onelia Spendjian, Victoria Butler-Sloss, Ronald Pucherelli, Eileen Melniker, Heidi Elizabeth Philipsen Meissner, Houry Geudelekian, Jean Brenner, Linda Araz Berenson, Al Nazemian, Lucine Tegnazian, Jon Russell Cring, Karine Kocharyan, Juan Luis Lopez Fons, Patrick Yaghdjian, Daniel Lalor, Eileen Barker, Vincent Deluard, John Romeo, Paul Nakian, Aris Janigian, Bagrat Mehrabian, Lucig K, Scott Cooney, Srbouhi Ajamian and all the contributors of the "like" effect and the "latte" effect of our campaign.
And last but not least, all our friends and family who just clicked "Like" on our Facebook entries and re-tweeted our Tweets...



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