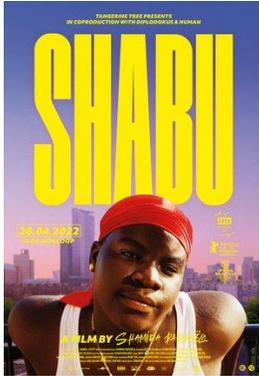




SR Socially Relevant Film Festival NY - SRFF 2023 DOCUMENTARY FEATURES in Competition



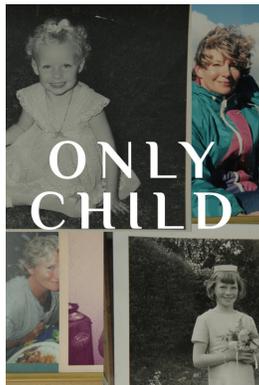
OPENING NIGHT Feature - First Film - **RED CARPET 5:30 PM**

March 16, 6:00 PM Walter Reade Theater - Lincoln Center

- **Shabu | US Premiere**

Shamira Raphaëla | The Netherlands | 2021 | 75 mins

Fourteen-year-old Shabu is a good-natured, creative, and street-smart boy from the south of Rotterdam. When he wrecks his grandmother's car on a joyride, his whole family is angry with him. He has a summer to make amends before his grandmother returns from a vacation in Suriname. He then spends a summer trying to make money for the car while pursuing his passion: making music. [TRAILER](#)



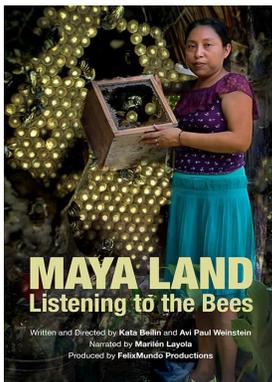
Fri. March 17, 2023 - 5:00 PM - Cinema Village

- **Only Child | New York Premiere**

Andy Ames | Canada | 2021 | 70 mins

With only her birth mother's name and her town of birth in hand, a 60-year-old adoptee from Dublin navigates the misogynistic landscape of Ireland's past in a relentless search to find her. The film chronicles her 20-year journey navigating the hypocrisy of a society that prohibited access to birth control while condemning unwed mothers and their children, leading her to reframe her identity in light of what and who she finds. [TRAILER](#)

Voices of Canada series

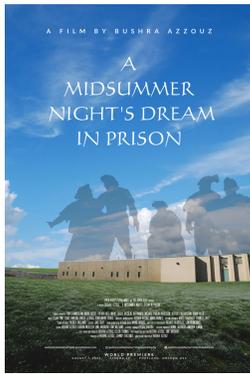


Fri. March 17, 2023 - 9:15 PM - Cinema Village

- **Maya Land: Listening to the Bees | US Premiere**

Kata Beilin, Avi Weinstein | Mexico | 2022 | 75 mins

Maya Land: Listening to the Bees tells the story of the conflict that erupted between Maya beekeepers and the Mexican government in 2011, fomented by the planting of genetically modified soy in the Yucatan peninsula. The film focuses on the role that Mayas' pre-colonial and ongoing relationship with the bees and the bees themselves had in this conflict and how in the end the struggle has transformed thinking about development in the region. [TRAILER](#)



Sat. March 18, 3:00 PM - Cinema Village

- **A Midsummer Night's Dream In Prison | New York Premiere**

Bushra Azzouz | United States | 2022 | 100 mins

"It's almost like for three hours we weren't in prison," says Zeb, one of the prison inmates in rural Eastern Oregon who arrives at the transformative possibility of re-imagining his life story, past and future, while putting on Shakespeare's comedic tale, A Midsummer Night's Dream in Prison, under lock-down. As the journey unfolds, themes of gender identity and the challenges faced by BIPOC prisoners are deftly explored, and the power of the arts to challenge and heal, even under the most difficult circumstances, is affirmed and celebrated. [TRAILER](#)



Sat. March 18, 4:15 PM - Cinema Village

- **We Will Not Be Silent | New York Premiere**

Brian Sefferlein, David Koehn | United States | 2021 | 53 mins

This documentary film follows 8 students as they work toward perfecting a message for the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Youth Rally and March. 5th grade students and their families confront the racist history of the United States and find their voices to share with the world. [TRAILER](#)
Q&A with the director.

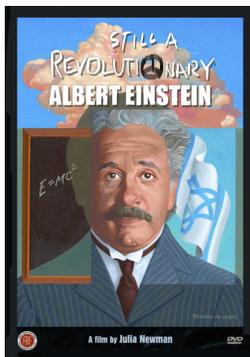


Sat. March 18, 5:30 PM - Cinema Village

- **Incorrigible - A film about Velma Demerson | New York Premiere**

Karin Louise Lee | Canada | 2021 | 45 mins

In 1939 Velma Demerson was jailed for falling in love with a Chinese man. Pregnant and without legal counsel, Velma was sentenced to one year in a Toronto prison where she was tortured by a eugenicist doctor who attempted to abort her child. 60 years later she sued the Canadian government for wrongful incarceration, and until her death at age 98 in May 2019, continued to fight for the rights of the thousands of women imprisoned on the grounds of "incorrigibility" until 1964. Gemini Award-winning director Karin Lee has made a documentary film about her life. [TRAILER](#) **Q&A with the director. Voices of Canada series**



Sun. March 19, 3:30 PM - Cinema Village

- **Still a revolutionary - Albert Einstein | World Premiere**

Julia Newman | United States | 2019 | 79 mins

He was not the remote genius of present day myth. Still A Revolutionary - Albert Einstein, tells the real story of his life long firebrand activism. [TRAILER](#)

Q&A with the director - moderated by NYWIFT.



Sun. March 19, 7:15 PM - Cinema Villa

- **Beno's Son | US Premiere**

Ilán Lieberman | Mexico | 2022 | 102 mins

Ilán, a fifty-two-year-old visual artist, takes his family on a musical road trip, trying to reconstruct the chaotic, creative life and tragic death of his father, Beno Lieberman, a pioneer of folklore research in Mexico. Revisiting remote mountain and jungle villages, they listen to local musicians – some of whom Beno recorded in the 1960s and '70s – who continue to play the very same music today. As Ilán confronts the mystery and pain of his father's suicide, his son and two daughters pose difficult questions that address the reasons for the silence that often surrounds the act of suicide. And, while exploring the richness, intensity and variety of authentic Mexican folk tradition, Ilán comes to terms with his feelings

about his father by sharing Beno's enduring musical legacy. [TRAILER](#)
Q&A with the director & producer.

Sun. March 19, 9:15 PM - Cinema Village



- **The Renegade Legacy of Bleecker and MacDougal | New York Premiere**

Karen Kramer | United States | 2022 | 72 mins

Scenes of ground-breaking subversive poetry, radical music and activism that started more than 50 years ago in small cafes in New York City and went on to help change the political and social nature of the US. are interwoven with current scenes of today's contemporary poets, protest singers, and activists who are using their work for social change. With iconic legends, this documentary celebrates creativity, protest, ways to

fight conformity. [TRAILER](#) **Q&A with the director.**



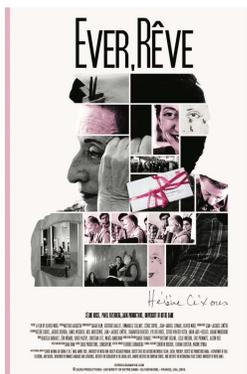
Tues. March 21, 7:00 PM - Columbia Maison Française

- **We Grew up together | North American Premiere**

Adnane Tragha | France | 2022 | 79 mins

The Gagarin housing project is an iconic symbol in Ivry Sur Seine in the inner suburbs of Paris, which was destroyed in 2020. The film brings it back to life through the words of its former residents and the lens of Adnane Tragha who grew up across from it and evokes memories of the housing project. Daniel, Loïc, Karima, Yvette, Foued, Samira, and Mehdy tell their stories and relive their feelings. Difficulties, as well as solidarity, stigmas as well as mutual aid, and good memories, as well as bad ones across time and experiences, are touched upon. "We grew up together" paints, in small personal touches, the history of a housing project like so many others, and becomes a hymn to working-class neighborhoods. **TRAILER - Q&A with the director.**

Wed. March 22, 7:00 PM - Columbia Maison Française



- **Ever, Rêve | New York Premiere**

Olivier Morel | France | 2018 | 116 mins

Ever, Rêve traces the steps to the creation of an African & French feminist legend, a 1968 activist, a famous playwright, and a poet who participated in all the "wars of liberation" of our time. It is the poetic journey of Héléne Cixous. The characters are depicted through a cinematic language that privileges a sequential progression whose goal is to unveil the mysteries of an intellectual artist's creative search, of her intimate inspirations, and of her anti-racist and anti-sexist political involvements.

The film flows like a work of fiction featuring the Algerian-born philosopher Jacques Derrida and artist Adel Abdessemed, Ariane Mnouchkine, and her cosmopolitan theatre company as Héléne Cixous's entourage. Cixous explores the wounds of our time and allows us to hear the cry of literature. The history of dozens of members of her German-Jewish family who were assassinated in the death camps, and the trauma of the recent wars of decolonization in Africa are part of the life of this major figure of

French literature born in Oran, Algeria shortly before the start of the Second World War. [TRAILER](#) [Q&A with the director.](#)



Closing Award Night Film

Thurs. March 23, 5:00 PM - JCC Harlem

- **Maka | North American Premiere**

Elia Moutamid | Italy | 2022 | 51 mins

Maka presents Geneviève Makaping's life in Italy and perilous migration journey. By sharing Makaping's experience as the first Black news editor in Italy, Maka speaks out against the media representation of immigrants and offers an evocative examination of the intersection between sexism and racism in Italy. From Moroccan-born Italian director Elia Moutamid, this riveting documentary offers a poignant exploration of displacement, identity, and belonging. [TRAILER](#)

Q&A with the producer.

NOTES:

- We have a total of 12 documentary features that screen in-person and are in the competition in this category.
- Still a Revolutionary is a World Premiere and the director if a member of NYWIFT (NY Women in Film and TV) - who will probably moderate the Q&A..
- Shabu is the Opening night first feature, a US Premiere, distributed by IndiePix, and sponsored by them and Dutch Culture USA - The Netherlands Consulate in New York.
- The others are mostly New York Premieres, with two North American Premieres.

Early Bird \$7 single tickets and \$100 all-access passes are now on sale for a limited time only, [here.](#)

For outreach information and partnerships contact:

outreach.srff@gmail.com

Trailers are al on the festival [YouTube Channel](#) and on the [website](#).