TAKE A SEAT AND BE MOVED

at these venues

ELINOR BUNIN MUNROE FILM CENTER
at Lincoln Center

CINEMA VILLAGE

HUNTER COLLEGE

THE LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

THE BAHÁ'Í CENTER

THE CENTER FOR REMEMBERING AND SHARING

www.ratedsrfilms.org

MARCH 16-22
OPENING NIGHT FILM
MARCH 16 AT 7:30PM

AN INTELLIGENT,
MOVING REWORKING OF
SOPHOCLES’ TRAGEDY,
eLECTRIFIED BY A BREAKOUT
TURN FROM STAR
NAHÉMA RICCI.”

TELL MY STORY

NY PREMIERE
MARCH 29 AT 5:30PM
Q&A TO FOLLOW
WITH JASON REID

"Forces us to open our eyes to the growing devastation that is teen suicide."
— Tara Finley, LA Weekly
Dear SRFF Friends,

SR Socially Relevant Film Festival New York welcomes you to its seventh annual edition opening at the Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center.

This year we focus on climate change, violence against women and girls, gun violence, medicine and healthcare, mental health, bullying and teenage suicide, immigration, refugees and indigenous peoples’ rights to ancestral lands, LGBTQ and trans rights, social entrepreneurship and peace in the world, drawing attention to the plight of the most vulnerable groups who pay the highest price in human and natural disasters.

We open the festival with the highly publicized film Antigone, a brilliant adaptation of Sophocles’ classic set in present-day Canada, directed by Sophie Deraspe. The film was Canada’s submission to the 2020 Oscars.

Special thanks to the talented SRFF filmmakers, past and present, for resisting commercial dictates and telling socially relevant stories. Our International Jury members view the films, deliberate, and pick the winner. We thank our jury members for their dedication and diligence.

Like previous years, we offer workshops and script readings in addition to networking opportunities and happy hours. Words of appreciation and gratitude are due to our distinguished panelists who generously donate their time, and share their hard-earned knowledge to inspire a new generation of filmmakers.

The SRFF team is grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of our past six editions. This festival is a collective effort and without everyone’s help, it is not possible to bring it to fruition. I am deeply indebted to our board members, to our festival team, and to our interns from France, Korea, Morocco, China, Ethiopia, the UK and the USA, who work tirelessly on making SRFF a successful event. A word of thanks is due also, to our 2020 volunteers, helping us during the festival week.

We are proud to enjoy the support of foundations, granting bodies and businesses such as the The City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs, LMCC, Cinema Libre Studio, Square Mango Films, and the support of our sponsors who share our vision. We could not chart this journey without their support.

A film festival offers us all an opportunity to share ideas and concerns with like-minded people, and establish dialogue with others. Dear film lovers, socially responsible citizens, audience members and now friends, this is your festival.

Take a seat and be moved!

Nora Armani
Founding Artistic Director
SR Socially Relevant Film Festival New York
March 16 - 22, 2020

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered at New York City’s renowned Lincoln Center for the opening of the seventh annual edition of SR Socially Relevant Film Festival New York.

The Empire State is the crossroads of the cultural world, and a focal point for those with the passion for making great films and cinematic art. Since the earliest days of motion pictures, Manhattan has drawn a diverse community of filmmakers who provide a broad perspective on contemporary social issues by exploring both unique and universal themes that reflect various aspects of the human experience.

Today, visionary filmmakers continue to bring to the big screen compelling films that reflect every subject and genre, presented as full-length productions, documentaries, and short features. With tonight’s opening held at the iconic setting of Lincoln Center – one of the world’s leading venues for music, dance, performing and visual arts, and other artistic presentations – this year’s festival is certain to be another enriching cinematic experience that captivates and inspires audiences. Such insightful expressions of human thoughts and emotions are important and I applaud those who build bridges among cultures and countries through the powerful medium of film.

Warmest regards and best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE
PERFORMANCE + INTEGRITY + PRIDE

printed on recycled paper
The Vanya Exerjian Award
Empowering Women and Girls

The Vanya Exerjian Award is presented to a film or a person in recognition of their work in raising awareness towards violence against women and girls. It is named in commemoration of Founding Artistic Director Nora Armani’s late cousin and uncle, victims of a violent hate crime.

The Narrative Grand Prize
Cinema Libre Studio offers exclusive, one-on-one consultation.

The Documentary Grand Prize
Cinema Libre Studio offers exclusive, one-on-one 60-min. consultation.

Short Docs and Narratives
IndiePix Unlimited offers 5-6 curated films digital distribution through IndiePix Unlimited listed under the SR Socially Relevant Film Festival collection.

The IndiePix Vision Award
IndiePix offers a special award to a film they choose from the Official Selection.

The Slated Award:
This new award is offered by Slated.com to two winning Feature films and it entails a consultation package and financial analysis for each film.

Three Script Writing Awards

InkTip: free listing to winning scripts on InkTip.com
ISA: The International Screenwriters’ Association offers three 12-month ISAConnect Memberships, for collaboration with Industry Pros.

WFCC - Women Film Critics Circle - Award
WFCC jury give this award to a film of their choice.

City Winery
A special wine - labelled SRFF 2020 - is offered to the winners as a testimony of good times courtesy of City Winery.

«I am proud to support the mission of the SR Socially Relevant Film Festival New York. Movies have a unique ability to bring social issues to life and films like these can truly change lives, I should know.»
—Erin Brockovich

«Congratulations SR! I can’t think of a more important project to engage with... over 50 films on people’s lives...»
—Amy Goodman - Democracy! Now

www.ratedsrfilms.org
OPENING FILMS

A CALL FOR PEACE 6:30 PM
DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FILM
Juan C Bornero - Melodie Carli | USA (Columbia, Ireland, UK) | 2018 | 54 mins
After 50 years of war, the Colombian peace process is the latest world success in peace agreements due to a very diverse and experienced group of experts, along with the support of the international community, coming together to support this initiative. A Call for Peace is our journey around the world to reveal the work of notable peace-builders transforming conflicts around the world.

Director in attendance

OPENING CEREMONY 7:30

ANTIGONE 7:30 PM
NARRATIVE FEATURE FILM
Sophie Deraspe | Canada | 2019 | 90 mins
Writer-director Sophie Deraspe’s incisive liberal adaptation of the Greek tragedy by Sophocles is the daring story of one young woman’s commitment to her family, even if it means sacrificing herself. As Antigone’s predicament intensifies and the consequences of her actions spiral out of control, the film deftly incorporates urgent and explosive contemporary questions of immigration and belonging, social media and identity, and the power of idealism.

Canada’s official entry for Best International Film Oscar at the Academy Awards 2020.
DAY 2
MARCH 17

HUNTER COLLEGE LANG AUDITORIUM
Short film block 2
GUN CULTURE USA—5:30

GUN SHOW
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Richard Chisholm  |  USA  |  2018  |  30 mins
After assembling mock assault rifles out of everyday found objects, sculptor David Hess goes on the road to explore America’s obsession with guns.

GETTING SHOT...THE REAL DEAL!
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Carl Clay  |  USA  |  2019  |  1 1:00 mins
A trauma room nurse explains the difference between the TV version of being shot and the real life trauma of gun wounds.

UNSAFE
NARRATIVE SHORT FILM
Adria Dawn, David Tarleton  |  USA  |  2019  |  8:51 mins
A young filmmaker searches for answers in the aftermath of a school shooting in an attempt to foster social awareness and change.

ACTIVE VOICES: GUN REFORM ACTIVISM IN ROCHESTER, NY
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Jeremy Sarachan  |  USA  |  2019  |  14:44 mins
Individuals driven to political activism, focus on calls for gun reform that arose after the High School shooting in Parkland, Florida in 2018.

Q&A Following the screening

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION—7:00
MICROPLASTIC MADNESS | NY Premiere
Atsuko Quirk, Debby Lee Cohen  |  USA  |  2019  |  76 mins
An alarming, yet charming narrative, conveys an urgent message in user-friendly terms with a take action message to spark youth-led plastic free action in schools everywhere.

Q&A Following the screening

My very best wishes for a successful event.
—Elizabeth Akian
THE NEW YORK BAHÁ’Í CENTER

MARCH 18

SHORT FILM BLOCK 3

MEDICINE AND HEALTHCARE — 6:00

MOTHER, DAUGHTER, SISTER
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Jeanne Marie Hallacy | USA, Bangladesh, Myanmar | 2018 | 28 mins
Amae, Thamee, Ama (Mother, Daughter, Sister) gives voice to Kachin and Rohingya women calling for an end to sexual violence in conflict.

NURSE HELEN FAIRCHILD
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Eliciana Nascimento | USA, Belgium, France | 2019 | 11:00 mins
Bravery, compassion and the will to save lives motivated the young Nurse Helen Fairchild to leave Pennsylvania and embark on a journey to Europe, as a surgical nurse in WW I.

VERY RARE
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Megan Hattie Stahl | USA | 2019 | 10:17 mins
Very Rare is a documentary short about what happens when the side effects of medications meant to cure us instead take over our lives.

GIFTS OF LIFE: PROFILES IN COURAGE
FROM THE TRANSPLANT COMMUNITY
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Michael David Drucker | USA | 2019 | 12:59’ mins
Three young organ transplant recipients who each received the gift of life recount their courageous struggles and the incredible gratitude they have for their donors.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION — 7:30

BIRTH WARS | NY Premiere
Janet Jarman | Mexico | 2019 | 73 mins
Told through deeply personal stories in the trenches of the healthcare sector, “Birth Wars” chronicles a power struggle between doctors and midwives in Mexico about whose vision of childbirth should prevail. Taking viewers on a journey into the two worlds riven by prejudices and antagonism, the journeys of Rafaela, a newly graduated professional midwife in Guerrero, and Guadalupe, a traditional midwife in Chiapas, are juxtaposed to explore how building bridges between these worlds could help save lives.

Q&A Following the screening

www.ratedsrfilms.org
LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Short film block 4

PALESTINE REVISITED — 6:00

IBRAHIM’S TREE
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Jen Marlowe | USA, State of Palestine | 2019 | 9:41 mins
"Ibrahim’s Tree" follows the Awajah family from one destroyed home to the next, with Ibrahim’s tree a symbol of resilience, regeneration and the "sumoud" (steadfastness)

JUST BEFORE DAWN
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Jen Marlowe | USA, State of Palestine | 2019 | 5:14 mins
During the 51-day Israeli assault on Gaza in 2014, 18,000 Palestinians homes were destroyed. Including Azza Qassem’s, a Palestinian national and women’s liberation activist.

BREWED IN PALESTINE
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Emma Schwartz | USA, State of Palestine | 2019 | 17:17 mins
An intimate portrait of the Taybeh Brewery in Palestine, the first craft brewery on the West Bank, reveals the daily realities of one resourceful Palestinian family living and working under Israeli occupation.

FLY HIGH — NARRATIVE SHORT FILM
Fatma Racha Shehadeh | Lebanon | 2019 | 6:29 mins
Marital Rape exists - Yes consensual sex does exists between a husband and a wife. Marriage won’t normalize or humanize rape. Be a woman who looks up to the sky.

LEAVING TO LIVE — NARRATIVE SHORT FILM
David Rodrigues | France | 2019 | 7:48 mins
On December 24 in the middle of the afternoon, Alexandra, 35, makes an important decision that will change her life: leaving her marital home with her 7-year-old daughter Léa.

Q&A Following the screening

NARRATIVE FEATURE PRESENTATION — 6:45

GOOD MORNING | US Premiere
Bahij Hojeij | Lebanon | 2019 | 88 mins
Two elderly gentlemen, an 80-year old former Interior Security Forces General, and an 84-year old former Army doctor, go every day to the same coffee shop to sip their espressos and quietly solve crossword puzzles in the daily newspapers. This activity becomes their new “job” which is supposed to protect them against loss of memory.

www.ratedsrfilms.org
MARCH 20

CINÉMA VILLAGE

Short film block 5

REFUGEES ARE HUMAN FIRST — 2:30

FROM A DISTANCE
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Akram Shibly | USA, Lebanon | 2019 | 22 mins
Syrian-American siblings reflect on the impact of the refugee crisis during a visit to Lebanon, uncovering the personal price the catastrophe has on their family from a distance.

DETAINED
NARRATIVE SHORT FILM
Khushnuda Shukurova | USA, State of Palestine | 2019 | 9:18 mins
Two Syrian refugee siblings receive official legal documents to permanently join their father in the US. However, when the plane lands in JFK, they are taken into custody for interrogation by Custom and Border Police.

FROM BEACON TO THE BORDER
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Andrea Garbarini | USA | 2019 | 29 mins
A national movement started by a group mostly made up of Grandmothers journeys to Mcallen Texas in protest of Trump’s policy of separating migrant children from their parents.

Short film block 6

ANCESTRAL LANDS — 4:00

CHASING GLACIERS
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Mark Gregory | Peru | 2019 | 19:50 mins
Climate Change is currently manifesting itself in the beautiful country of Peru. Within their borders are 70% of the world’s tropical glaciers and over the last 40 years, they have lost almost half their surface areas.

VOICES ON THE ROAD
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Bethan John, Eilidh Munro | USA, Peru | 2019 | 23:34 mins
Deep in the remote Peruvian Amazon a road is quietly destroying a protected rainforest, cutting through a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Many indigenous communities are struggling to live in this ‘paradise.

OUR ALBERTINIA
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Chantel Clark | South Africa | 2019 | 19:41 mins
South Africa, 1990. When the crumbling Apartheid regime affords Marie Abrahams an opportunity to sell the family farm, her daughter Inge fights to keep their ancestral land.

LIKE NO OTHER — DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM | Aziz Ahmed | USA, Pakistan
2019 | 11 mins
Caused by a combination of global warming and climate change, the 2010 Pakistan floods were the worst natural disaster in Pakistan’s history. The film addresses the increasing impact of climate change on displacement.
DAY 5 continued

CINÉMA VILLAGE

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION — 5:30

TELL MY STORY | NY Premiere
David Freid | USA | 2020 | 90 mins
A grieving father seeks answers after his 14-year-old son dies by suicide. He uncovers painful truths about the lives of teens, the impact of unfettered access to internet and social media, and the shocking rise of depression among America’s youth. The journey brings him together with young suicide survivors, prevention experts, and parents trying to understand the 70% increase in adolescent suicide.

Q&A Following these screening

NARRATIVE FEATURE PRESENTATION — 7:15

BUTTER | North American Premiere
Paul A. Kaufman | USA | 2019 | 110 mins
A lonely obese teenager everyone calls “Butter” is about to make history. He is going to eat himself to death live on the Internet and everyone is invited to watch. When he first makes the announcement online to his classmates Butter expects pity, insults, and possibly sheer indifference. What he gets are cheerleaders rallying around his deadly plan. Yet as their dark encouragement grows, it begins to feel a lot like popularity. But can Butter live with the fallout if he doesn’t go through with his plans?

Q&A Following these screening

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION — 9:30

POT LUCK: THE ALTERED STATE OF COLORADO | World Premiere
Jane Wells | USA | 2019 | 77 mins
The war on drugs has failed, but is legalization of cannabis the answer? Five years after full legalization of cannabis, filmmakers Jane Wells and Barbara Bossuet looks beyond the headlines and hysteria to take an intimate journey into the lives, homes and thoughts (sometimes drug-fueled) of Coloradans either invested in cannabusinesses or committed to teaching the world what legalization has wrought.

Q&A Following these screening

Congratulations Nora and the SR Socially Relevant Film Festival Team

AIWA NJ Affiliate
MARCH 21

CINÉMA VILLAGE

Short film block 7

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS AND WOMEN — 12:45

IGNITING IMPACT
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Akira Chan  |  USA  |  2019  |  31 mins
Inspirational stories of eight entrepreneurs working around the globe take us on a journey from the origins of corporate social responsibility to the transformation of capitalism using the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

A CHANCE
NARRATIVE SHORT FILM
Jillie Simon, Ange Arabatzis  |  USA  |  2019  |  15 mins
When Mia and Caroline reunite in a city park, they soon find out that the past is not always quite past. Conflicts are resurrected, sparks fly - and then things get complicated. Q&A Following the screening

TWO WOMEN CAN TANGO
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Maria Abdel Karim  |  USA  |  2019  |  18:30 mins
Reem, a Palestinian young woman living in London on a sponsored visa, has only a couple of months before her visa expires when she meets Alma, a Jewish-British Tango instructor who sweeps her off her feet.

NARRATIVE FEATURE PRESENTATION — 3:30

TRANSFERENCE | World Premiere
Raffaello Degruttola  |  UK  |  2019 |  103 mins
Transference: A Bipolar Love Story is a twisted psychological drama about obsessive love, the film, set in London, follows Katarina, a Norwegian nurse, and Nik, a fellow immigrant nurse from Italy, as they embark on a passionate affair that threatens to implode from the pressure of unresolved mental health issues concealed in the lovers’ secret pasts. Q&A Following the screening

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION — 5:30

UNDERMINED: TALES FORM THE KIMBERLEY
Nicholas Wrathall  |  Australia  |  2018 |  92 mins
Australia’s vast and unspoiled Kimberley region is under threat, with mining, pastoralism and irrigated agriculture driving an unprecedented land grab. The film investigates the politics of an area now branded “the future economic powerhouse of Australia,” and what this means for our First People and their unique cultural landscapes. As pressure from industry exposes the limits of Indigenous land rights, what will remain of over 200 remote Aboriginal communities? Q&A Following the screening
Day 6 continued

CINÉMA VILLAGE

NARRATIVE FEATURE PRESENTATION — 7:30

FOSTER BOY | New York City Premiere
Youssef Delara | USA | 2018 | 109 mins
A lawyer, at the center of a trial in which a for-profit foster care agency puts a known sex offender into the same foster home as his young client with catastrophic results, wants nothing to do with the case, until a Judge forces him to accept it. Initially he sees the young client as a kid off the streets looking to grab a piece of corporate profits. But, when the young man refuses to settle the case for any amount of money, the lawyer begins his representation in earnest.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION — 9:30

STONEWALL WITH A ‘T’ | NY Premiere
Samy Nemir Olivares | USA | 2019 | 80 mins
The film examines the New York City transgender activism movement - spanning from Stonewall era to the present - in a decades-long struggle to acquire civil rights, recognition under the law and society and fighting against discrimination. It’s an untold chapter of the LGBT history revisited 50 years after Stonewall. Interviews with the most active transgender activists of recent times never-seen-before footage of LGBT pioneer icons Sylvia River and Marsha P Johnson.

Q&A Following these screenings

BAJA CALIFORNIA STYLE MEXICAN
28 E 12th St, New York, NY 10003
Right next to the Cinema
www.doradotacos.com/

www.ratedsrfilms.org
MARCH 22

CINÉMA VILLAGE

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION — 1:30

INSIDE/OUTSIDE | NY Premiere
Nandini Sikand | USA | 2019 | 95 mins
Inside/Outside is a feature length documentary film about women and mass incarceration in the United States as they struggle with the challenges of sexual assault, substance abuse, and often motherhood. Seen through the lens of a predominantly white county jail in a rapidly gentrifying town in the Lehigh Valley in Pennsylvania, this film explores challenges the women face inside and outside jail. Inside/Outside addresses the hard and cold facts of the prison industrial complex.

Q&A Following the screening

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE PRESENTATION — 3:30

CAN’T STOP THE SUN FROM SHINING | NY Premiere
Teresa Mular | USA | 2019 | 48 mins
A documentary about four centenarian women between 94 and 105 years old living in New York who unravel their courage, strength and zest for life in unique and inspiring ways. Conveying a message against ageism, “Can’t Stop the Sun from Shining” is an homage to older individuals who, in spite of adversities and life challenges, age without regrets and arrive with dignity and charm to the autumn of their lives.

Q&A Following the screening

Short film block 8

2 SHORT FILMS — 5:00

SONG OF THE SEASHELL
NARRATIVE SHORT FILM
Anna Bayatyan | Armenia | 2019 | 15 mins
A poetic short film about a lonely seashell washed ashore. The heart is full of longing, the days are vain, but a bird lives in the heart that breaks free and in the silence the melody of freedom is heard.

OLD AND NEW KOND
DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM
Emma Karapetyan | Armenia | 2019 | 8:41 mins
A short documentary about Kond, the oldest neighborhood of Yerevan, its transfiguration due to modernization and gentrification and the loving portraits of the people who have inhabited it for generations.

www.ratedsrfilms.org
Day 7 continued

CINÉMA VILLAGE

NARRATIVE FEATURE PRESENTATION
FOLLOWING THE 2 SHORT FILMS

LORIK | NY Premiere
Alexey Zlobin | Armenia | 2018 | 94 mins
A lonely theater actor inhabits a world populated by his past characters as he unexpectedly finds himself plunged into the realities of the people around him. Experiencing the pain and suffering of others, transforms him from a cynical narcissist into a compassionate and selfless person. When he inhabits the role of a rich oligarch, he exploits this new situation to reach an unexpected outcome.

Q&A Following the screenings

THE VENUES

Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center: 144 West 65th street, New York, NY 10023 (between Broadway and W 65th street)

Hunter College Lang Auditorium: North Building, 4th Floor HN 424 (Enter at 69th street bet. Lexington and Park)

Center for Remembering and Sharing: 123 4th Ave. #2, New York, NY 10003

Baha’i Center: 53 E 11th St, New York, NY 10003

Lebanese American University: 211 E 46th St, New York, NY 10017

Cinéma Village: 22 E 12th St, New York, NY 10003

THE SRFF TEAM RECOMMENDS

VAPIANO
113 University Place New York, NY 10003 | https://us.vapiano.com

LA CONTENTA OESTE
78 W 11th St New York, NY 10011 | www.lacontentanyc.com

MONTE’S TRATTORIA
97, MacDougal Street, New York, NY 10012 | http://www.montestattorianyc.com

LE MIDI
11 E 13th St, New York, NY 10003 | www.barsixny.com

RIBALTA - CUCINA NAPOLETANA
48 E 12th St, New York NY 10003 | www.ribaltapizzarestaurant.com
SUBMIT YOUR FILMS FOR THE 6TH ANNUAL

ARMENIANS IN FILM
6 SHORT FILMS

FEATURING WORKS BY ARMENIAN FILMMAKERS

Films must be under 20 minutes in duration •
Films that have been screened in previous years are ineligible •
Submission deadline: September 8, 2020 •

AT LINCOLN CENTER
19 NOVEMBER 2020 @ 7PM

For more information, email performingarts@agbu.org

Special thanks to:
Beth Portello, Richard Castro, Erica Peek, Jordan Mattos, Valerio Caruso, Bruno Chatelin, Edie Nugent and the WFCC, Cynthia Lopez, Katie Chambers, Cathleen De Kerchove, Houri Geudelekian, Ruchira Gupta, Adam Moore, Louis Proyect, Ara Araz, Christopher Pelham, John Bennett, Jillie Simon, Melissa Silverstein, Dirk Robertson, Gregory Mosher and The Hunter Theatre Department CUNY, Kelly Anderson, David Pavlosky, Peter Jackson and The Film and Media Department Hunter CUNY, Jeff Delauter and the management of Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center, Arthur Marblestone and the Management of Cinema Village, Nadim Shehadi and The Lebanese American University, Sepideh and The New York Baha’i Center, our jury members, panelists, actors, volunteers, interns, sponsors and partners, and all the wonderful friends and supporters who helped us. A HUGE THANK YOU!

www.ratedsrfilms.org
READING OF EXCERPTS FROM FIVE FINALIST SCREENPLAYS

DIRECTED BY: JILLIE SIMON

Kill Switch by Jaclyn Powell
North River by Joseph Montagna
Rose From Concrete by Selena A. Burks-Rentschler
The Messenger by Joanna Louise Johnson
Ziggy and Rachel by Michael Rispoli and Gregg Greenberg
Regular Men by Natasha Crosby

Actors: Laval Alsbrooks Jr., Joe Avellar, Heather Beeman, Toni Belafonte, Atticus Cain, Matt Cody, Cait Cortelyou, Virginia Dutton, Joe Feldman-Barros, WillieAnn Gissendanner, Damien Hughes, Harley Kaplan, Daren Kelly, Dominic Marcus, Nathaniel Moore, Emily Morden, Dominique Nieves, Brian Reilly, Sal Rendino,

WORKSHOP #1 Distribution Meetings: Wednesday March 18, 2:30 pm

Distribution one on ones

When: Wednesday 18, 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Where: Centre for Remembering and Sharing

New York-based film distributor Jordan Mattos will be available to take one on one meetings with select producers/ directors who have films at various stages of completion. With over 10 years of experience selling independent films, Jordan will advise on potential film festival strategy and/or answer any distribution questions filmmakers may have.

Jordan Mattos scouts for the Venice film festival and serves as the head of acquisitions for Indiepix Films, a home video and streaming distributor of art house feature films. He hopes to curate more LGBTQ-friendly content. His sales company, Aspect Ratio, can be visited at www.aspectratiofilms.com.

WORKSHOP #2 Producing on a budget: Thursday March 19, 10:30 am

Low budget film production—SAG-AFTRA

When: Thursday March 19, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Where: SAG-AFTRA NY Local - 1900 Broadway, 5th Fl, New York, NY 10023

Meet the SAGIndie staff and the Theatrical Business team of SAG-AFTRA to learn the ins and outs of low budget Motion Picture & Television production. SAGIndie staff and SAG-AFTRA Theatrical Business Representatives walk you through the process of signing SAG-AFTRA Low Budget Agreements from start to finish. The SAGIndie workshop highlights the Student/Short Film and Low Budget Theatrical Agreements.
THE FESTIVAL TEAM

NORA ARMANI: Founding Artistic Director
LUCIE TRIPON: Panels/ Assistance
NATALIE GOLOGORSKY: Sponsorship/ Communication
JENNIFER FLETCHER: Film Submissions/ Filmmaker relations
JILLIE SIMON: Script Selection/ Director Script Readings
ARED SPENDJIAN: Art Direction/ Branding
MICHAEL CLAES: PR/ Marketing/ Sponsorship
ARAM SPENDJIAN: Sponsorship/ Marketing/ Social Media
LUCY FINE: Social Media/ Festival Trailer
MICHELLE PURDY: Volunteer Coordinator
SR WEB SERVICES: Website Updates and Media
JOHN BENNETT: Promotion Advise/ Host extraordinaire
DIRK ROBERTSON: Film Selection advice
THOMAS SIMON: Doc Film Selection advice
ARIANNA KAMINSKI: Short film Selection advice
CHING JUHL & GEORGE DAY: Video/ Photo Coverage
ARMEN SPENDJIAN: Press Assistance
LINDA SELMAN: Outreach
ELIAS GEB: General Assistance

JURY MEMBERS

NARRATIVE FEATURE:
Amy Herzog
Erica Peek
Leon Descluzeaux

NARRATIVE SHORT:
Jon Russell Cring
Rachana Suri
Robert Tutak

SCRIPTWRITING:
Robert Schenkkan
Rachel Carey
Brigitte Gauthier

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE:
Jordan Mattos
Prune Berge-Santelli
Joan Fiorello
Sam Lahoud

DOCUMENTARY SHORT:
Ching Juhl
Marta Houske
Matthias Leupold

WFCC - AWARD (Women Film Critics’ Circle)
Edie Nugent
Maria Christina Rodriguez
Hope Madden
Andrea Chase
Rosa Parra
Caitlin Kennedy
Mimi Torchin and Liron Cohen

16
Our 2020 Sponsors & Partners

Special thanks to our sponsors and partners: We couldn’t do this without you!

Grantors and Sponsors

Presenting Sponsors and Partners

Sponsoring Partners

Industry Sponsors and Partners

Media Sponsors and Partners

Hospitality Sponsors and Partners

Loyal Friends and Supporters
Located in historic Chelsea.
Walk to the Theatre District, the High Line, the Meat Packing District.
Or take a ride to Fifth Avenue, Greenwich Village, Soho and the historic Cast-Iron District.
Minutes from fabulous restaurants and shopping.

204 W 23RD STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10011
PHONE: (212) 929-9353
www.chelseasavoynyc.com

IT ALL HAPPENS
IN THE HEART OF CHELSEA.