



**DOC NYC ANNOUNCES 2021 SHORT LISTS FOR FEATURES AND SHORTS
WITH IN-PERSON FESTIVAL SCREENINGS NOV 10-18
PLUS ONLINE PANEL DISCUSSIONS NOV 22-23**

**FINAL SECTIONS OF FESTIVAL'S 12TH EDITION LINEUP REVEAL 15 FEATURES
AND 15 SHORTS THAT ARE YEAR'S LEADING AWARDS CONTENDERS**

NEW YORK, October, 26, 2021 - DOC NYC, America's largest documentary festival, announced the full lineup for two of its most prestigious sections—Short List: Features and Short List: Shorts—and named jurors for those sections. All the films will have theatrical screenings at the festival, often with the directors in person. Many of the films are available on the festival's online platform. Additionally, the festival will hold two days of free online panels on Facebook Live with Short List: Shorts filmmakers on Monday, November 22 and the Short List: Features filmmakers on Tuesday, November 23 at 11:30 AM-5:00 PM ET each day. Audiences can tune in and contribute questions or comments at facebook.com/docnycfest. Short List: Shorts conversations are co-presented by MTV Documentary Films.

“We're delighted to welcome filmmakers back into New York theaters to have conversations with audiences after a year in which many of those opportunities were lost,” said DOC NYC Artistic Director Thom Powers. “We're also excited to bring these filmmakers to audiences worldwide through our Facebook Live conversations.”

With these new announcements, DOC NYC will present 127 features and 125 short films in its 12th edition, running in-person November 10-18 at IFC Center, SVA Theatre and Cinépolis Chelsea and continuing online until November 28 with films available to viewers across the US.

The Short List sections showcase a selection of nonfiction features and shorts that the festival's programming team considers to be among the year's strongest contenders for Oscars and other awards. See below for the complete slates for each section.

SHORT LIST: FEATURES

The DOC NYC Short List for documentary features has a history of being a predictor of other awards—from critics’ prizes and top ten lists to the Oscars. The selection officially started in 2012 with 10 titles and grew to 15 titles in 2014. Notable statistics:

- For eight of the last nine years, DOC NYC has screened the documentary feature that went on to win the Academy Award.
- The festival has also screened 39 of the last 45 Oscar-nominated documentary features.
- In 2020, DOC NYC screened 12 of 15 titles that were named to the subsequent Academy Award Documentary Feature Shortlist.

DOC NYC’s Short List: Features selections are overseen by Artistic Director Thom Powers in consultation with the festival’s programming team. For the third year, the Short List: Features will vie for juried awards in four categories: Directing, Producing, Cinematography, and Editing. Last year’s winners were *Time* (Directing), *Welcome to Chechnya* (Producing), *Boys State* (Editing), and *76 Days* (Cinematography).

The three-person jury for this year’s Short List: Features are distinguished filmmakers Nadia Hallgren (director, *Becoming*); Kimberly Reed (director, *Dark Money*); and Hao Wu (director, *76 Days*).

This year’s selections for **Short List: Features** are:

ASCENSION

Dir/Prod: Jessica Kingdon

Prod: Kira Simon-Kennedy, Nathan Truesdell

Winner of the Best Documentary Feature Award at the Tribeca Film Festival, *Ascension* is an impressionistic portrait of China’s industrial supply chain that depicts a thriving capitalism in a communist state. (Courtesy of MTV Documentary Films)

ATTICA

Dir/Prod: Stanley Nelson, Traci A. Curry

Filmmakers Stanley Nelson, a 2016 DOC NYC Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, and Traci A. Curry team up to revisit the 1971 New York prison uprising that was the largest in U.S. history. (Courtesy of SHOWTIME® Documentary Films)

BECOMING COUSTEAU

Dir/Prod: Liz Garbus

Prod: Dan Cogan, Mridu Chandra, Evan Hayes

Oscar-nominated filmmaker Liz Garbus takes a nuanced look at Jacques Cousteau's passions, achievements, blind spots, and tragedies. (Courtesy of National Geographic Documentary Films)

BRING YOUR OWN BRIGADE

Dir/Prod: Lucy Walker

Prod: Holly Becker, Julian Cautherley, Lyn Davis Lear, Martha Mitchell

Oscar-nominated director Lucy Walker focuses on one day in California's 2018 megafire season to discover why these infernos are growing more common. (Courtesy of CBS/Paramount)

FAYA DAYI

Dir/Prod: Jessica Beshir

Winner of multiple festival prizes, *Faya Dayi* takes us on an ethereal journey through Harar, Ethiopia, the hometown of director Jessica Beshir, as she follows the harvesting of the euphoria-inducing khat plant. (Courtesy of Janus Films)

FLEE

Dir: Jonas Poher Rasmussen

Prod: Monica Hellström, Signe Byrge Sørensen, Charlotte De La Gournerie

Denmark's official Academy Awards submission for Best International Film, *Flee* uses animation to tell the story of Amin Nawabi (a pseudonym), who fled Afghanistan as a boy, relying on human smugglers to reach Denmark. (Courtesy of NEON)

HOMEROOM

Dir/Prod: Peter Nicks

Prod: Sean Havey

Director Peter Nicks, the recipient of DOC NYC's 2021 Robert and Anne Drew Award, follows the senior class of Oakland High School through the tumultuous year of 2019-2020. (Courtesy of Hulu)

IN THE SAME BREATH

Dir/Prod: Nanfu Wang

Prod: Jialing Zhang, Julie Goldman, Christopher Clements, Carolyn Hepburn

In this penetrating film essay, filmmaker Nanfu Wang seeks to understand how governments shaped information at the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic both in China and the United States. (Courtesy of HBO Documentary Films)

INTRODUCING, SELMA BLAIR

Dir: Rachel Fleit

Prod: Mickey Liddell, Pet Shilaimon, Troy Nankin

Filmmaker Rachel Fleit documents actress Selma Blair as she adapts to living with multiple sclerosis with humor and unflinching candor. (Courtesy of discovery+)

JULIA

Dir/Prod: Betsy West, Julie Cohen

Prod: Justin Wilkes, Sara Bernstein, Holly Siegel

The Oscar-nominated directors of *RBG* deliver a touching portrait of the iconic television chef Julia Child who became a celebrity in her fifties, defying expectations for women of her generation. (Courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics)

PROCESSION

Dir: Robert Greene

Prod: Susan Bedusa, Bennett Elliott, Douglas Tirola

Six midwestern men — all survivors of childhood sexual assault at the hands of Catholic priests and clergy — come together to direct a drama therapy-inspired experiment designed to collectively work through their trauma. (Courtesy of Netflix)

THE RESCUE

Dir/Prod: E. Chai Vasarhelyi, Jimmy Chin

Prod: P.J. van Sandwijk, John Battsek

The Oscar-winning directors of *Free Solo* take us inside the dramatic rescue of 12 young soccer players and their coach trapped by monsoon floods inside a cave in Thailand. (Courtesy of National Geographic Documentary Films)

ROADRUNNER: A FILM ABOUT ANTHONY BOURDAIN

Dir/Prod: Morgan Neville

Prod: Caitrin Rogers

Oscar-winning director Morgan Neville creates a multifaceted portrait of Anthony Bourdain, drawing upon extensive unseen footage from his travels and emotional memories from his friends. (Courtesy of Focus Features)

SUMMER OF SOUL (...OR, WHEN THE REVOLUTION COULD NOT BE TELEVISED)

Dir: Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson

Prod: Joseph Patel, David Dinerstein, Robert Fyvolent

Acclaimed musician Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson makes his directorial debut shaping a treasure trove of footage from the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival. (Courtesy of Searchlight Pictures / Onyx Collective / Hulu)

THE VELVET UNDERGROUND

Dir/Prod: Todd Haynes

Prod: Christine Vachon, Julie Goldman, Christopher Clements, Carolyn Hepburn, David Blackman

Filmmaker Todd Haynes explores the history of The Velvet Underground and the 1960s New York scene of experimental art, music, and film. (Courtesy of Apple Original Films)

SHORT LIST: SHORTS

The Short List: Shorts showcase of 15 titles is now in its fourth year at DOC NYC. The selection is overseen by Shorts Programmer Samah Ali in consultation with the festival's programming team. Last year the selection included 5 of the 10 films that went on to be named to the Oscars Shortlist for Documentary Shorts and 3 of DOC NYC's picks went on to be Oscar nominees. For the third year, a DOC NYC jury will select one of the Shorts for a Directing Award. Last year's winner was *A Love Song for Latasha* that was later nominated for an Oscar.

The three-person jury for this year's Short List: Shorts are distinguished filmmakers Mirra Bank (director, *The Last Dance*); Kristine Barfod (producer, *The Cave*) Alison Klayman (director, *Jagged*).

This year's selections for **Short List: Shorts** are:

Audible

Dir: Matt Ogens

Prod: Geoff McLean

After breaking their winning streak, Maryland School for the Deaf's championship high school football team shares their triumphs, trials, and how they will bounce back. (Courtesy of Netflix)

The Bree Wayy: Promise Witness Remembrance

Dir: Dawn Porter

Prod: Niema Jordan, Kimberly Reynolds, Cubie King

Dawn Porter's uplifting short takes us behind the scenes of Amy Sberald's Breonna Taylor portrait, bringing grace and dignity to the tragic loss of her life. (Courtesy of MTV Documentary Films)

A Broken House

Dir/Prod: Jimmy Goldblum

Prod: Dick Gephardt, Matt Weaver, Harrison Nalevansky

Artist Mohamad Hafez rebuilds monuments, neighborhoods, and cities of his beloved Syria, working through his longing for home. (Courtesy of POV Shorts / The New Yorker)

Camp Confidential: America's Secret Nazis

Dir/Prod: Daniel Sivan, Mor Loushy

Prod: Benji Bergmann, Jono Bergmann

Camp Confidential reveals the secret government-sanctioned camp that smuggled Nazis into the United States after World War II, as camp workers come forward for the first time in history. (Courtesy of Netflix)

Coded: The Hidden Love of J.C. Leyendecker

Dir: Ryan White

Prod: Christopher Leggett, Marc Gilbar, Jessica Hargrave, Conor Fetting-Smith, Rafael Marmor

Exploring the work of one of the grandfathers of modern marketing, *Coded* unpacks illustrator J.C. Leyendecker's advertisements that animated his male partner and became an easter egg of queer coding in art. (Courtesy of MTV Documentary Films)

Don't Go Tellin' Your Momma

Dir: Topaz Jones, rubberband

Prod. Luigi Rossi

Accompanying Topaz Jones's album, *Don't Go Tellin' Your Momma* is a visual marvel documenting the Black ABCs and growing up in New Jersey. (Courtesy of The New York Times Op-Docs)

Eagles (Águilas)

Dir/Prod: Kristy Guevara-Flanagan, Maite Zubiaurre

A raw portrait of the team of people called Aguilas del Desierto, who search for missing migrants along the southern border of Arizona. (Courtesy of POV Shorts / The New Yorker)

Joe Buffalo

Dir/Prod: Amar Chebib

Prod: Hayley Morin, Mack Stannard

Skateboard legend Joe Buffalo faces himself in this raw portrait of trauma, addiction, and finding freedom in skating. (Courtesy of The New Yorker)

Lynching Postcards: Token of a Great Day

Dir: Christine Turner

Prod: Lily Plotkin

This chilling reflection examines the horrific history of lynchings as cultural events and celebrations that included souvenirs and postcards. (Courtesy of MTV Documentary Films)

Nothing to Declare

Dir/Prod: Garret Daly

Prod: Martina McGlynn

Two men laugh about their days of mischief and wonder as they remember their most iconic adventure: hopping on a one-way plane to New York.

The Queen of Basketball

Dir: Ben Proudfoot

Prod: Elizabeth Brooke, Abby Lynn Kang Davis, Gabriel Berk Godoi, Brandon Somerhalder, Sarah Stewart

Lusia Harris, the first and only woman ever officially drafted to the NBA, takes a seat and shares her story as a woman before her time and a legend in the women's basketball community. (Courtesy of The New York Times Op-Docs)

A Ship from Guantánamo

Dir: Dara Kell, Veena Rao

Prod: Beth Jacob, Mansoor Adayfi

Unjustly stuck behind bars for more than 20 years, Moath al Alwi builds elaborately detailed ships out of scrap materials from Guantánamo Bay. (Courtesy of The New York Times Op-Docs)

Snowy

Dir: Kaitlyn Schwalje, Alex Wolf Lewis

Prod: Rebecca Stern, Justin Levy

Stuck in the trenches of the family basement, the beloved family pet Snowy is about to get a new lease on life. (Courtesy of TIME Studios)

What You'll Remember

Dir: Erika Cohn

Prod: Marcia Jarmel

This emotional video diary profiles a family struggling with housing insecurity and what the parents hope remains in their children's memories. (Courtesy of The New York Times Op-Docs)

They Won't Call It Murder

Dir: Melissa Gira Grant, Ingrid Raphaël

Prod: Ruun Nuur, Chase Whiteside

A sobering chronicle of police killings in Columbus, Ohio, this documentary captures some of the countless stories of police brutality that have never been classified as murders by law enforcement. (Courtesy of Field of Vision)

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

All festival attendees and staff will be required to comply with our Health & Safety protocols while attending DOC NYC events, including providing proof of Covid-19 vaccination upon entry at and wearing masks in all festival venues. For the latest information, please review our policies [here](#).

SPONSORS

The festival is made possible by:

Leading Media Partners: *New York Magazine*; The WNET Group

Major Sponsors: A&E; Apple Original Films; Netflix; WarnerMedia

Supporting Sponsors: discovery+, National Geographic Documentary Films; SHOWTIME Documentary Films

Signature Sponsors: Amazon Studios; Bloomberg Philanthropies; Cquence; Hulu; National Geographic; NBC News Studios; NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment; Participant; PostWorks; Sony; XTR

Signature Media Partners: IndieWire; *The New Republic*; WNYC

Event Sponsors: 30 for 30 / ESPN Films; Consulate General of Canada in New York; Cowan, DeBaets, Abrahams & Sheppard LLP; Fox Rothschild LLP; Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC; IF/Then; Impact Partners; JustFilms | Ford Foundation; MTV Documentary Films; Reavis Page Jump LLP; SVA's MFA Social Documentary Film; The Redford Center; TIME Studios; Wheelhouse Creative

Friends of the Festival: Agile Ticketing; Cinépolis; Cinesend; Essentia, Ptex; Shiftboard; Telefilm Canada

DOC NYC is produced and presented by IFC Center, a division of AMC Networks.

To inquire about sponsor or partnership opportunities for DOC NYC Executive Director Raphaela Neihausen at raphaela@docnyc.net.

TICKETS AND PASSES:

Festival tickets and passes may be purchased at docnyc.net/tickets-and-passes.

In-person Screenings:

Opening Night (*Listening to Kenny G*) and **Centerpiece screenings** (*Citizen Ashe* and *Dionne Warwick: Don't Make Me Over*): \$25 General Public/\$20 IFC Center Members

Other festival films: \$19 General Admission/\$17 Seniors & Children/\$16 IFC Center Members, unless otherwise noted.

All screenings in the Short List: Features, Short List: Shorts, Winner's Circle and DOC NYC U sections, as well as all Monday-Friday screenings starting before 5:00pm: \$12 General Admission/\$10 IFC Center members

Online screenings:

\$12 General Public/\$9 IFC Center Members

Passes and Ticket Packs:

All Film Pass \$995 (Early bird discount of \$699 through October 20)
Grants access to every film screening during the live, in-person festival November 10-18, plus films on the festival's virtual screening platform November 10-28.

Online Film Pass \$250

Grants access to all the films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 10-28. On sale November 1.

Online Shorts Pass \$49

Grants access to all short films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 10-18. On sale November 1.

Ten-Ticket Package for In-Person Screenings \$160

A package of 10 festival tickets for regular in-person screenings at a discounted price.

Five-Ticket Package for Online Screenings \$45

Ten-Ticket Package for Online Screenings \$80

A package of 5 or 10 online tickets at a special discount price.

DOC NYC PRO Day Pass \$125 (Early bird discount of \$99 through October 20)

Grants access to a single DOC NYC PRO day-long programming track, plus complimentary access to the Festival Lounge at Cinépolis Chelsea for that day, including daily Breakfasts and Happy Hours.

DOC NYC PRO Multi-Day Packs:

4-Day Pack \$450 (Early bird discount of \$350 through October 20)

8-Day Pack \$800 (Early bird discount of \$600 through October 20)

Grants access to a selection of any 4 or all 8 DOC NYC PRO programming tracks and events for (1) individual from November 11-18. Grants complimentary access to the Festival Lounge at Cinépolis Chelsea for days selected, including daily Breakfasts and Happy Hours.

Press is invited to apply for accreditation to DOC NYC 2021. Accreditation grants press access to screen select festival titles on a secure online portal, and to attend in-person pre-festival press screenings. Contact: publicity@norget.com

ONLINE PRESS OFFICE:

Downloadable images and press notes for individual films, as well as the festival poster, can be found [here](#).

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Susan Norget Film Promotion

Susan Norget / Jared Chambers

publicity@norget.com

917-833-3056

