

14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EDITION

**DOC  
NYC**

**AMERICA'S LARGEST  
DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL**

**NOV 8-26, 2023**  
IN THEATERS AND ONLINE

IFC CENTER, VILLAGE EAST, SVA THEATRE

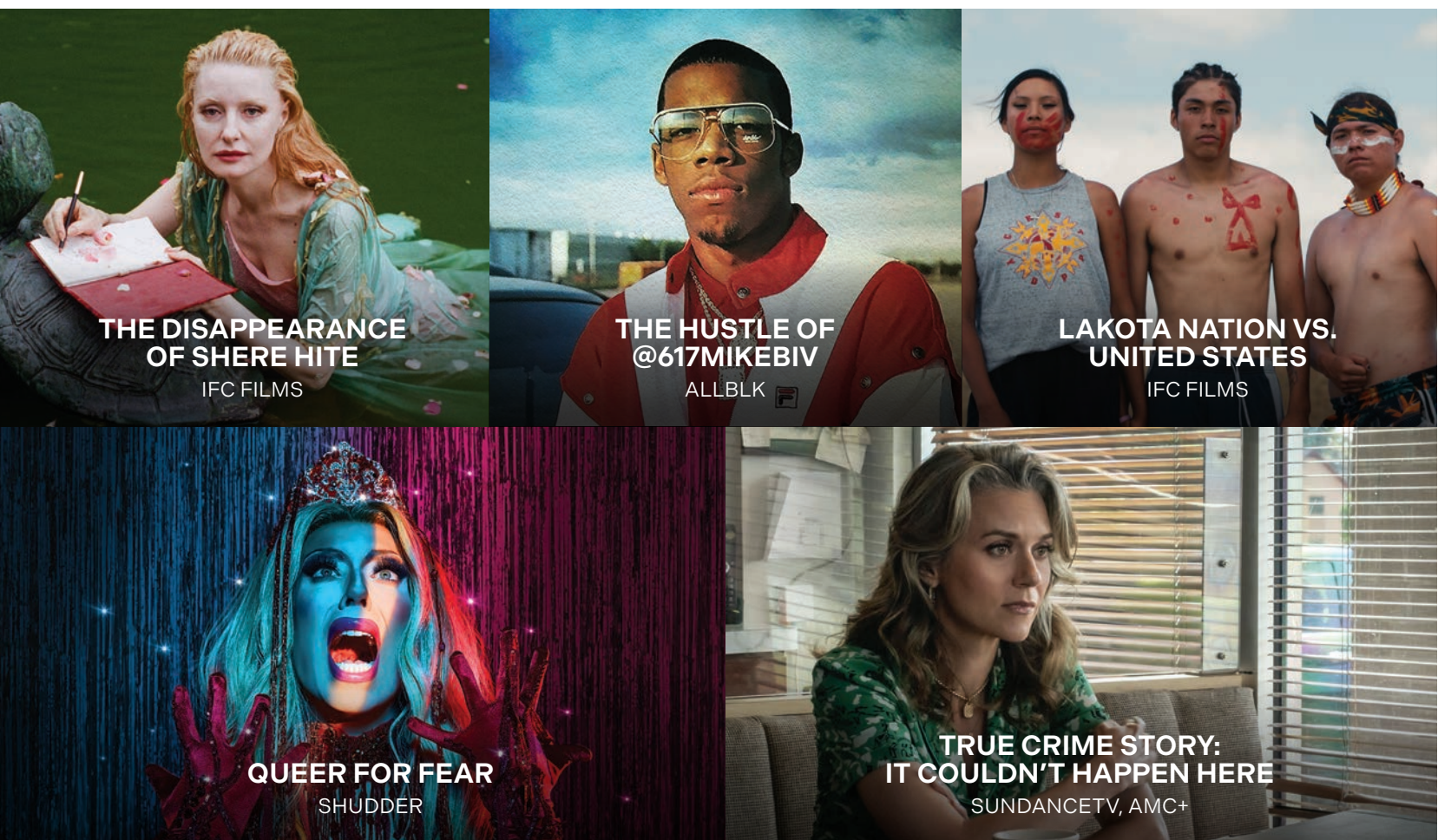
ONLINE NATIONWIDE

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# STORYTELLING IS OUR PASSION



We're proud to support **DOC NYC** and documentary storytellers everywhere.



AMERICA'S LARGEST DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

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# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTARY FILMS



PROUDLY SUPPORTS  
DOC NYC



Welcome to the 14th edition of DOC NYC. We are thrilled to be moving our festival headquarters into a new neighborhood and a new venue this year! The Village East by Angelika will host our annual PRO conference and the bulk of our official selection this year, with IFC Center and SVA Theater continuing in their long-term capacities as hosts of many screenings.

DOC NYC is proud to celebrate the international documentary community's incredible work. The films and filmmakers we are highlighting reveal new insights into our interior lives and the world around us in complex, engaging, and often prescient ways.

In our signature **U.S. and International Competition** sections, 20 feature films make their U.S. (or greater) premieres, as part of the 33 world premieres and 29 U.S. premieres playing in this year's edition. Our **Kaleidoscope Competition**, focusing on formally daring, poetic, and essayistic work from around the world, continues into its third year, while our perennially popular **Metropolis Competition** showcases New York stories and personalities.

We organize our non-competition sections by themes to stimulate conversations in areas of specific interest, including **Sonic Cinema** on music, **Fight the Power** on activism, **Game Face Cinema** on athletic pursuits, and many more. DOC NYC also has a history of predicting Oscar nominees and winners in our **Short List: Features**, **Short List: Shorts**, and **Winner's Circle** sections.

Amazing short films—129 of them—complement our features, and the winning film in DOC NYC's **Shorts Competition** will qualify for consideration at the Academy Awards. NYC's finest college film programs send us the best of their students' work, which we are elated to showcase in **DOC NYC U**, now recreated in a new competition-style format.

In addition to our juried competitions and the Audience Award, DOC NYC films are also eligible for other prizes at the festival. A new partner this year is Subject Matter, who will award a \$15,000 grant to support one social-issue documentary's marketing and impact campaigns, alongside a \$15,000 grant to a nonprofit working on the issue featured in the film. And we're proud to welcome back our partners at Odyssey Impact® who will present the #MyJustice Film Award to one festival short with a social justice theme and a strong call to action, which comes with a \$10,000 cash prize and an Odyssey Impact-led national Social Impact Campaign.

DOC NYC continues to embrace a hybrid format, making the festival selections more broadly accessible. Films in the festival also screen on our online platform, available to viewers across the country, through November 26.

Just like making a film, producing a festival is a truly collaborative team effort. We are indebted not only to our talented film, industry and education programmers, but also to the incredible staff who create DOC NYC magic with vital contributions to the Visionaries Tribute program, industry relations, operations, ticketing, sponsorship, design, communications, publicity, prescreening, filmmaker and program management, projection, and many more.

Thank you to our many generous sponsors and community partners, whose contributions are essential to DOC NYC's ability to deliver on its mission. Above all, we thank all the directors, producers, cinematographers, editors, and other film crew members for their dedication and fearlessness in creating the documentary visions that we are honored to present at the 2023 edition of DOC NYC.

**Raphaella Neihausen**  
Executive Director

**Jaie Laplante**  
Artistic Director



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT

November 8, 2023

Dear DOC NYC Attendees,

On behalf of the New York City Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, I am honored to welcome you to DOC NYC 2023, America's largest documentary film festival.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as I am the newly appointed Commissioner of this Office, where I will continue to support our city's creative economy, including its world-renowned documentary filmmaking community.

Since its inception in 2010, DOC NYC has helped establish New York City as an epicenter for the documentary genre. Today, as the entire Film/TV industry continues to feel the impact of the WGA and SAG/AFTRA strikes, we will look to the content featured at this film festival to do what it always does, which is provide much-needed sources of entertainment, joy and connection.

The Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME) is proud to support DOC NYC as part of our efforts to drive NYC's film and television industry and make it accessible to all. Our office is here as a resource to the entire community and its workers, providing panel discussions on how to enter the industry, webinars on how to access services during this difficult time, and funding to bring film projects to fruition.

To learn more about MOME's programs and services for New York City's creative community, please visit [nyc.gov/MOME](http://nyc.gov/MOME) and follow us on Twitter and Facebook at [@madeinny](https://twitter.com/madeinny) and on Instagram [@madein\\_ny](https://www.instagram.com/madein_ny).

Congratulations to Executive Director Raphaela Neihausen and Artistic Director Jaie Laplante, and their teams, on this year's festival.

Enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Pat Swinney Kaufman  
Commissioner  
NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment

NYC.GOV/MOME



## 8 TIPS TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR FESTIVAL

### 1 Go Deep into Docs with an All Film Pass

Binge on all the festival films screening in person and online with an All Film Pass. (See page 94)

### 2 Watch a World Premiere

Share the excitement at one of the 33 films making their world premieres with directors in person.

### 3 Save \$ with a Ticket Package

Watch more and save more with a discounted ticket package, available for in-person or online screenings. (See page 94)

### 4 Explore the Short Lists

Each year, we pick 15 of the year's best feature and short documentaries, many of which make it to the Academy Awards. (See pages 56-69)

### 5 Experience DOC NYC PRO

Learn the ins and outs of documentary filmmaking at our 8-day conference for filmmakers and industry professionals at all stages of their careers. (See page 85)

### 6 Discover Shorts

Laugh, cry and make discoveries at our thought-provoking Shorts Programs (See pages 71-80). For true shorts lovers, an Online Shorts Pass is available for only \$49.

### 7 Try the Rush Line

Even when advance seats are sold out, there are almost always last-minute tickets released to the Rush Line. (See page 95)

### 8 Catch Up Online

Can't make an in-person screening? We've got you covered: nearly all DOC NYC films screen online for a limited window after their festival debut. Streaming dates are listed with the film descriptions in the catalog and on [docnyc.net](http://docnyc.net)!

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# DISCOVER *THEATER* ON ALL★ARTS



ALL ARTS Docs: Manhattan Theatre Club,  
a Home for Artists | COMING SOON  
Image courtesy of MTC

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WATCH TRAILER

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Artistic Director  
**Jaie Laplante**

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Wheelhouse Creative**

## SPECIAL THANKS

Scott Shooman, Brandon Harmer, Jess De Leo, Paul Grippo, Thomas Arias, Danielle Freiberg, Leonel Rosales & the rest of the IFC Films team. All the staff at IFC Center; IFC Center's members; DOC NYC Festival Crew; Bez, Daevi, Eli, Percival & Vespertine!

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



**The Contestant**

Director: Clair Titley  
 Producers: Andee Ryder, Megumi Inman, Ian Bonhôte

WED NOV 8, 6:45PM | SVA

**New York Premiere** In 1998, Tomoaki Hamatsu, an aspiring Japanese comedian who became known as Nasubi, participates in a reality TV program. His Sisyphean challenge: to live alone in an apartment and subsist entirely off what he can win in magazine sweepstakes until he reaches 1 million yen in prizes. As days turn to weeks and months, the program, which, unbeknownst to Nasubi, is broadcast to millions, becomes a phenomenon. But the conditions take their toll on our hero. A cautionary tale from the dawn of the internet age, this striking film forewarns the ethical concerns of reality entertainment in the 21st century. – *Brandon Harrison* (UK, 90 MIN)

HBO DOCUMENTARY FILMS®

PROUDLY SUPPORTS



AND CELEBRATES

DAVID HOLMES: THE BOY WHO LIVED

GOING TO MARS: THE NIKKI GIOVANNI PROJECT

HOW WE GET FREE

SOUTH TO BLACK POWER

TIME BOMB Y2K

CLOSING NIGHT

SPECIAL EVENTS



## South to Black Power

**Directors:** Sam Pollard, Llewellyn Smith  
**Producers:** Sam Pollard, Kelly Thomson, Elise Pearlstein

**THU NOV 16, 7:00 PM | SVA  
ONLINE | NOV 17-18**

**World Premiere** In his provocative 2021 book, *The Devil You Know: A Black Power Manifesto*, *New York Times* opinion columnist Charles M. Blow calls for a "reverse Great Migration" to upend today's power structures, which trace back to the historic movement of Black Americans to the North, fleeing the Jim Crow South. *South to Black Power* does more than illustrate Blow's stimulating modern ideas—we journey through Blow's personal story, from his childhood in Louisiana, to his role as father to young adult children in New York City, showing us the lived experience behind Blow's beautiful vision for Black America. – *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 89 MIN)



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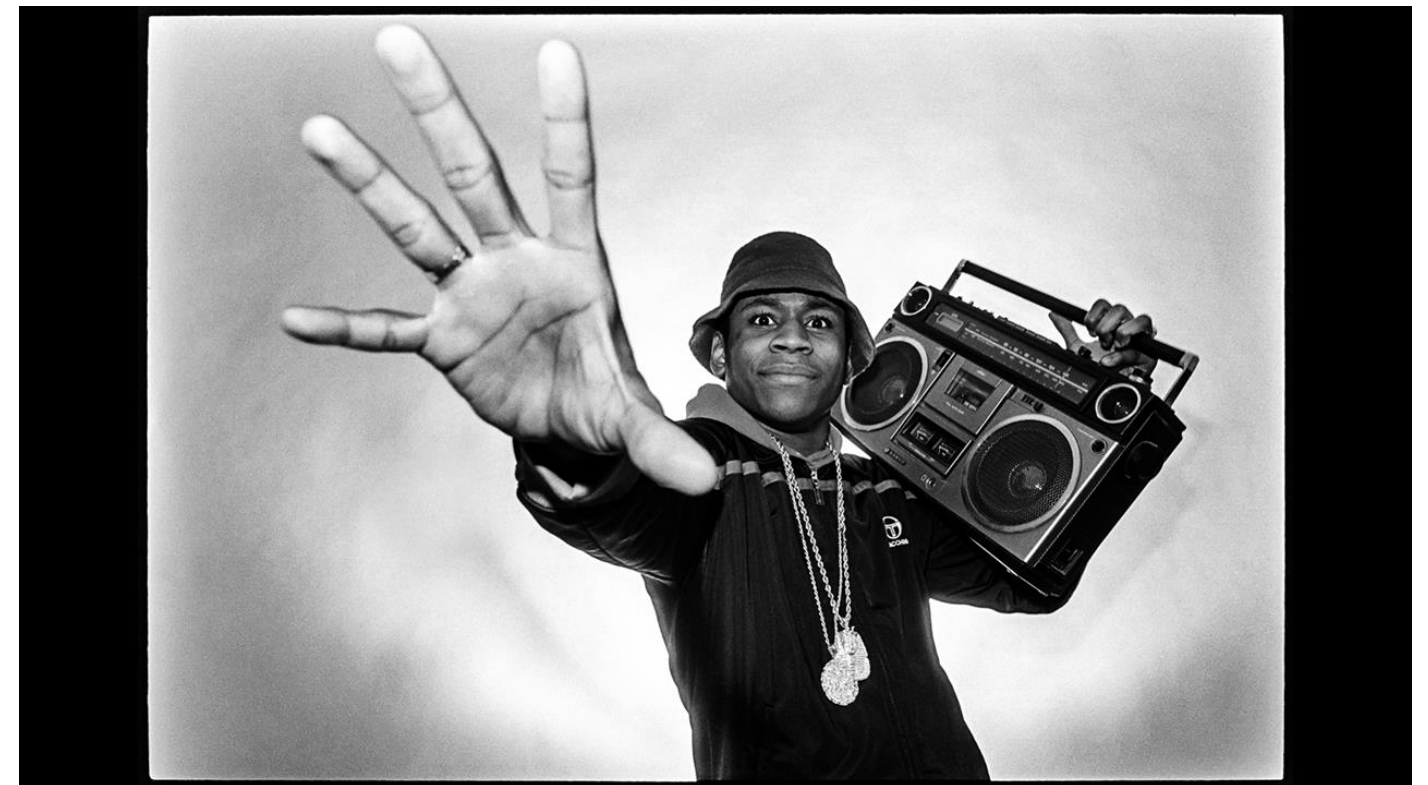
Impact Partners  
congratulates the entire  
DOC NYC team on  
another great year!

Thank you for celebrating the art of  
documentary storytelling and  
creating a home for  
documentaries in New York City.

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CENTERPIECE

SPECIAL EVENTS



### Uncropped

Director: D.W. Young  
Producers: Judith Mizrachy, D.W. Young

SAT NOV 11, 6:30PM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 12-26

**World Premiere** This portrait of photographer James Hamilton, one of the great chroniclers of the cultural history of America, goes well beyond his creative and technical process. Through the stories behind his work at *Harper's Bazaar*, *The New York Observer*, and *The Village Voice*, about his iconic portraits and assignments—from Patti Smith, Liza Minnelli, Lou Reed, Hitchcock, George Romero, to Noah Baumbach and Wes Anderson—the film becomes a brilliant depiction of New York's cultural zeitgeist over the last 50 years. – *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 111 MIN)



## Anselm

Director: Wim Wenders  
 Producer: Karsten Brünig

WED NOV 8, 6:30PM | IFC  
 THU NOV 9, 1:00PM | IFC

**NYC Premiere** In his 2011 Oscar-nominated *Pina*, the legendary Wim Wenders employed stunning 3D camerawork to cinematically approximate the creativity of the great German choreographer Pina Bausch. Twelve years later, Wenders gives us an even more breathtaking 3D look into the world of visual artist Anselm Kiefer, focusing not only on his expansive canvases and sculptures, but the periods of his life that shaped his philosophies and techniques. - *Jaie Laplante* (GERMANY, 93 MIN)



## Defiant

Director: Karim Amer  
 Producers: Mike Lerner, Odessa Rae, Leen Karadsheh, Oleksiy Makukhin, Jake Swantko

WED NOV 15, 6:00PM | IFC  
 THU NOV 16, 4:30PM | IFC

**NYC Premiere** *Defiant* is a defining overview of the Ukrainian experience during the first 18 months of the 2022 Russian full-scale invasion. With Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba as a central figure, *Defiant* tracks the Ukrainian fighting spirit in both diplomatic circles and on the front lines as ordinary civilian life is turned upside down by Russian aggression. The acclaimed filmmakers behind Oscar-winner *Navalny* and Oscar-nominated *The Square* and *Hell and Back Again* have a powerful affinity to the indomitable spirit of strength found in heroes on the right side of history. - *Jaie Laplante* (UK/USA, 99 MIN)



## David Holmes: The Boy Who Lived

Director: Dan Hartley  
 Producers: Simon Chinn, Jonathan Chinn, Vanessa Davies, Amy Stares

MON NOV 13, 6:15PM | IFC  
 TUE NOV 14, 1:15PM | IFC

**World Premiere** As Daniel Radcliffe's stunt double in the Harry Potter films, David Holmes' work has been seen worldwide by millions of people. Tragically, an on-set accident ends what David calls "the best job in the world," leaving him paralyzed and confined to a wheelchair. Like the on-screen character he helped bring to life, David is determined to continue seeking adventure and living life to the fullest despite mounting obstacles. With the support of his family, Radcliffe and close friendships from the Harry Potter movie universe, David's personal outlook proves to be a heartrending story of bravery and resiliency. - *Jaie Laplante* (UK, 83 MIN)



## Flipside

Director: Chris Wilcha  
 Producers: Joe Beshenkovsky, Michelle Currinder, Alex Fisch, Adam Samuel Goldman, James A. Smith, Chris Wilcha

SUN NOV 12, 2:15PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 13-26

**U.S. Premiere** The existential Gen-X movie we didn't know we wanted. Chris Wilcha digs into his lived experience—career stops and starts, documentary films begun and abandoned, cross-country relocations, and his relationship with a certain New Jersey secondhand record store—to weave an emotional reckoning with his state of being. While shooting a high-end commercial in NYC, Wilcha revisits his career highs and lows and finds humor in life's biggest questions. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 96 MIN)



June

Director: Kristen Vaurio  
 Producer: Sarah Olson

SUN NOV 12, 8:15PM | IFC  
 MON NOV 13, 11:15AM | IFC

**World Premiere** Until Reese Witherspoon's Oscar-winning portrayal of her in the Johnny Cash biopic *Walk the Line*, most contemporary audiences were unfamiliar with June Carter Cash. Kristen Vaurio's comprehensive documentary *June* offers a much fuller understanding of the multitalented artist, singer, songwriter, comedian, and actress. Delightful, never-before-seen archival material reveals June's firecracker wit and charisma as a performer, and some of country music's greatest speak to her talent and character, including Dolly Parton, Willie Nelson, Kacey Musgraves, and Emmylou Harris. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 98 MIN)



36 Seconds:  
 Portrait of a  
 Hate Crime

Director: Tarek Albaba  
 Producer: Ahlam Muhtaseb

SAT NOV 11, 8PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

**World Premiere** In 2015, three young Muslims were murdered in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. *36 Seconds* documents the heartbreaking aftermath in that community, and reflects on what it means to be Muslim in the American South, where the country's gun laws and Islamophobia intersect. Through the devastation and heartbreak of the film emerges a portrait of a resilient community in pursuit of the truth and, ultimately, justice. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (USA, 100 MIN)



Patria y Vida:  
 The Power of Music

Director: Beatriz Luengo  
 Producers: Michael Fux, Gloria Rubin

SAT NOV 11, 9:00PM | VE

**New York Premiere** The artist group San Isidro, whose members have been jailed and tortured by the Cuban government, represents one of the few significant resistance movements in the history of oppression in Cuba. Inspired by their courage, Cuban hip-hop musicians living in exile record a protest song, "Patria y vida" ("Homeland and Life") a direct affront to the official patriotic slogan *patria o muerte* (homeland or death). Beatriz Luengo, a multi-Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter, documents the events surrounding the creation of the song and the unprecedented impact it had as it became a worldwide anthem. - *Jaie Laplante* (SPAIN/USA, 84 MIN)



The Cowboy and  
 the Queen

Director / Producer: Andrea Nevins

THU NOV 16, 6:45PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 17-26

**World Premiere** Monty Roberts, a California horse trainer nearing 90 and showing no signs of slowing down, recounts his life with horses, starting from his earliest days working in Hollywood westerns of the 1940s. Repelled by the accepted style of "breaking a horse's spirit," Roberts developed his own gentle approach to human interaction with horses in the hopes of someday transforming horse training standards worldwide. When his technique comes to the attention of Queen Elizabeth II, a friendship is sparked between the cowboy and the Queen that lasts until the end of her life, a camaraderie that inspires horse trainers around the world. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 84 MIN)



## Happy Campers

Director / Producer: Amy Nicholson

TUE NOV 14, 6:15PM | IFC  
WED NOV 15, 4:45PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26

**World Premiere** Finding your tribe is one of life's greatest pleasures—and losing it is one of the greatest sorrows. In Amy Nicholson's beautifully observed film, working-class Americans gather every summer at a seaside trailer park in Chincoteague, Virginia, to enjoy the simple pleasures of a scrappy, no-frills vacationland, and each other's company. When a developer buys the land and reimagines the property, the inhabitants of this shabby Shangri-La wistfully eke out the joys of one last summer together as a melancholic twilight hangs in the air. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 80 MIN)



## Mediha

Director / Producer: Hasan Oswald

SUN NOV 12, 5:30PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26

**World Premiere** A teenager from northern Iraq, Mediha is a member of the Yazidi ethnic and religious minority. She's also the survivor of an ISIS-orchestrated genocide in 2014. Through video diaries, Mediha provides an intimate account of her grief and trauma. The portrait that emerges leaves us in awe of the budding activist, who has already lived many lives and is nowhere near done. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (USA, 90 MIN)



## How to Come Alive with Norman Mailer

Director / Producer: Jeff Zimbalist

FRI NOV 10, 6:30PM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26

**World Premiere** Norman Mailer, a towering figure in American literature, had a life that was certainly stranger than fiction. From his formative years in Brooklyn through his career as a preeminent cultural voice, we follow Mailer's life through six marriages, nine children, eleven bestselling books and two Pulitzer Prizes as he solidifies his place in the literary pantheon. With access to Mailer's family and never-before-seen footage, this biography details the life and times of an American icon. - *Brandon Harrison* (USA, 101 MIN)



## Obsessed With Light

Directors / Producers:  
Sabine Krayenbühl, Zeva Oelbaum

SAT NOV 11, 3:15PM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

**North American Premiere** Loïe Fuller was a master dancer of the early 20th century whose use of fabric and light created stunning visuals that influenced many in art and fashion. Directors Sabine Krayenbühl and Zeva Oelbaum create a visual poem that pays homage to Fuller's specific artistic achievement. Mixing a kaleidoscope of entrancing images with the wise words of fashion designer Iris van Herpen and artist William Kentridge, among others, this documentary unfolds like her dancing: There's always something breathtaking to marvel at. - *Murtada Elfadl* (USA / GERMANY/ FRANCE, 90 MIN)



## The Riot Report

**Director:** Michelle Ferrari  
**Producers:** Connie Honeycutt, Michelle Ferrari, Jelani Cobb

**FRI NOV 10, 5:30PM | VE**  
**SUN NOV 12, 11:45AM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26**

**World Premiere** In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed the Kerner Commission to investigate why Black neighborhoods all over the country were “rioting” in protest. He was blindsided by the findings, which blamed the government for race-exclusive policies that fomented poverty, housing crises, unemployment, and discrimination. The film commemorates the landmark report and hints at lessons for a world where racism continues to be a divisive, damaging force. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (USA, 111 MIN)



## Taking Venice

**Director:** Amei Wallach  
**Producers:** Andrea Miller, Tal Mandil, Vanessa Bergonzoli

**FRI NOV 10, 6:15PM | IFC**  
**ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26**

**North American Premiere** This fun caper movie explores the true story behind the rumors that, at the height of the Cold War, the U.S. government rigged the world's most influential art exhibition, the Venice Biennale. With an extraordinary cast of experts and insiders from the art world and extensive archival footage, the film reveals the plans of ambitious curator Alan Solomon and pioneering art dealer Leo Castelli to win the 1964 Grand Prize for American artist Robert Rauschenberg and fight Communism with culture. - *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 98 MIN)

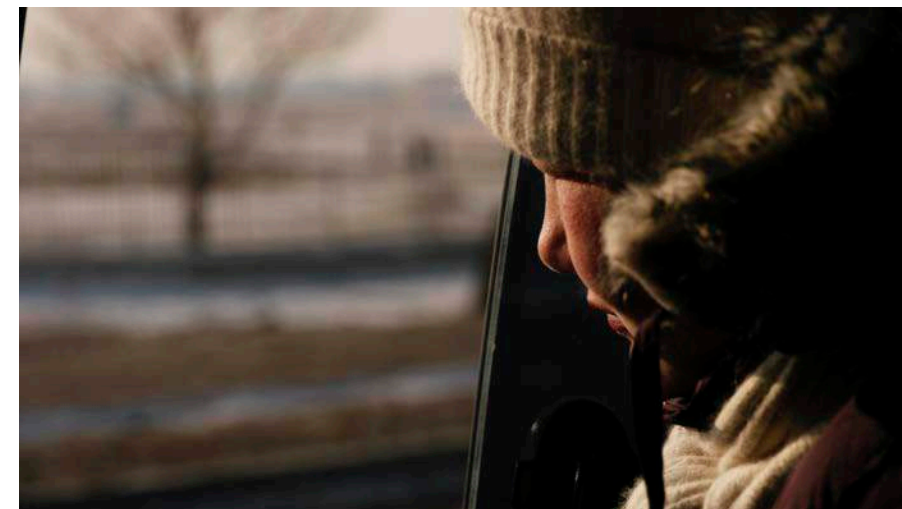


## Shaken

**Director:** Asher Levinthal  
**Producers:** Asher Levinthal, Kellen Quinn

**THU NOV 9, 9:15PM | VE**  
**FRI NOV 10, 12:00PM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26**

**World Premiere** Nigel and Dayna are a happy couple with a young family when they encounter a nightmare scenario: their baby, Emily, experiences a frightening seizure. But what comes next is truly Kafkaesque. After Emily is rushed to the hospital and stabilized, a doctor claims that her episode could only be the result of severe abuse, and prosecutors accuse Nigel. With their world collapsing, Nigel and Dayna fight the justice system and the medical establishment to right an egregious wrong. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 82 MIN)



## Tomorrow, Tomorrow, Tomorrow

**Director:** Martina Radwan  
**Producers:** Martina Radwan, Ruchi Mital, Alice Henty

**FRI NOV 10, 6:30PM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26**

**World Premiere** While on assignment filming orphaned street kids in Mongolia, NYC-based cinematographer Martina Radwan feels drawn to help three of the kids escape their dead-end situations. Is it a Westerner's savior complex? Or something deeper? Martina helps Baaskaa, Baani, and Nassa toward achieving their own dreams, and despite mistakes, misunderstandings and confusion over many years, neither Martina nor the kids give up on each other as the latter grow into adulthood, and Martina grapples with her own past family trauma. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 106 MIN)



## Al Djanat - The Original Paradise

**Director:** Chloé Aïcha Boro  
**Producers:** Chloé Aïcha Boro,  
Faissol Gnonlonfin, Frédéric Féraud

**SAT NOV 11, 3:00PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**

**U.S. Premiere** Filmmaker Chloé Aïcha Boro returns to her homeland, Burkina Faso, after the death of her uncle, killed while on a pilgrimage to Mecca. Boro documents the aftermath in her family's compound as a rift about the estate develops among family members who embrace traditional Islamic law and those who would follow Burkina Faso's official colonialist laws. What starts as a small family matter becomes, in Boro's distinctively observant eye, a story about the role culture, heritage, and religious beliefs play in the daily life of a community.

- *Murtada Elfadl* (FRANCE/BENIN/GERMANY, 83 MIN)



## Dalton's Dream

**Directors:** Kim Longinotto,  
Franky Murray Brown  
**Producer:** Lorine Plagnol

**FRI NOV 10, 6:30PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26**

**North American Premiere** Singer Dalton Harris, winner of *The X-Factor* in 2018, shares an emotional journey of self-acceptance against the backdrop of a fickle music industry. The film follows Harris over three years as he moves from Jamaica to London to capitalize on his newfound fame, while hiding his sexual identity and battling anxiety and depression. Dalton's story is a poignant reflection on the violence of homophobia and the possibility of personal growth. - *Karen McMullen* (UK, 90 MIN)



## The Caravan

**Directors:** Núria Clavero, Aitor Palacios  
**Producers:** Aitor Palacios, Núria Clavero,  
Laura Collado

**SAT NOV 11, 1:30PM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**

**North American Premiere** Directors Núria Clavero and Aitor Palacios humanize the political debate around border control through the story of one family's quest for a better life. The camera follows pregnant Yuri, her partner, Mike, and young son, Santi, as they flee Honduras, capturing the nuances of why they undertook this perilous trek. Though it documents just a few days in their journey, *The Caravan* is a complex portrait that sheds light on why so many others share their dream. - *Murtada Elfadl* (SPAIN, 76 MIN)



## Dancing on the Edge of a Volcano

**Director:** Cyril Aris  
**Producers:** Myriam Sassine, Katharina Weser

**FRI NOV 10, 9:45PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26**

**North American Premiere** After an explosion in the port of Beirut destroys a large part of Lebanon's capital, a crew of filmmakers decides to continue to shoot their film in a life-affirming effort of resistance. Working against all odds, amidst the collapse of the city and the collapse of the economy during Covid, this chosen family of collaborators finds meaning and purpose in their work through the transformative power of cinema. A heartwarming and lucid documentary. - *Ruth Somalo* (LEBANON/GERMANY, 87 MIN)



### The Dmitriev Affair

Director: Jessica Gorter  
 Producer: Frank van den Engel

SUN NOV 12, 12:15PM | IFC  
 MON NOV 13, 12:15PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26

**U.S. Premiere** Through a thick layer of snow in the forests of Russia, historian Yuri Dmitriev searches for unmarked and lost graves. His singular efforts have uncovered mass burial sites of those who were killed under Stalin's "Great Terror" of 1937. With no help from official channels, he traces the dead and rescues their memory from the eternal doom of oblivion. Dmitriev's riveting story is the tale of one man's fight against the erasure of history by the state. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (NETHERLANDS, 96 MIN)



### Neirud

Director: Fernanda Roth Faya  
 Producers: Julia Alves,  
 Michael Wahrmann

SAT NOV 11, 8:30PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

**International Premiere** Growing up, filmmaker Fernanda Roth Faya knew Neirud as her "aunt," a family member close to her grandmother. What Faya uncovers after Neirud's death is a mysterious and colorful life, from her time as a wrestler and circus performer to her secret and complicated love triangle. *Neirud* is a fascinating story about race and identity, and queer life in last century's Brazil. - *Murtada Elfadl* (BRAZIL, 72 MIN)



### The Home Game

Directors: Smari Gunn, Logi Sigursveinsson  
 Producers: Stephanie Thorpe,  
 Heather Millard, Elfar Adalsteins,  
 Freyja Kristinsdottir

FRI NOV 10, 7:30PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26

**North American Premiere** Twenty-five years ago, Vidar Gylfason of the tiny fishing village of Hellissandur (population: 369) in West Iceland created a real-life field of dreams for his town by constructing a national FA Cup regulation soccer pitch, but no team ever set foot on the field. Now, Vidar's spirited scion Kari is determined to bring soccer glory to Hellissandur and fulfill his father's original dream. Putting a competitive team together won't be easy but with Icelandic pluck, humor, and the spirit of inclusion, anything may be possible! - *Jaie Laplante* (ICELAND, 79 MIN)



### Someone Lives Here

Director: Zachary Russell  
 Producers: Matt King, Andrew Ferguson,  
 Zack Russell

SAT NOV 11, 12:30PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

**International Premiere** It's not every day that one citizen cuts through big city bureaucracy the way carpenter Khaleel Seivwright did in the first winter of quarantine in Toronto. Moved by the plight of the growing numbers of the unhoused who could not find space in official shelters, Seivwright built small, life-saving, one-room homes and left them in public parks where they could be claimed by those in need. Initially celebrated by some city workers, the structures soon were targeted for removal by other officials. But not so fast, say the citizens of Toronto. - *Jaie Laplante* (CANADA, 75 MIN)



**Le Spectre de Boko Haram**

**Director:** Cyrielle Raingou  
**Producers:** Véronique Holley, Dieudonné Alaka

**SAT NOV 11, 4:45PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**

**U.S. Premiere** In the village of Kolofata on the Nigerian border, the Cameroonian military has been dispatched to guard villagers from attacks by the religious terrorist group Boko Haram. In this milieu, filmmaker Cyrielle Raingou follows three young children as they navigate lost innocence while growing up in constant fear. Having sparked international outrage in 2014 with the kidnapping of 276 schoolgirls, Boko Haram may have fallen out of mainstream headlines, but the threat they represent—especially to children—is as omnipresent as ever. - *Jaie Laplante*  
SPECIAL THANKS TO UNIFRANCE FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS SCREENING. (CAMEROON/FRANCE, 75 MIN)



**Grasshopper Republic**

**Director:** Daniel McCabe  
**Producers:** Daniel McCabe, Alyse Ardell Spiegel, Michele Sibiloni, Otto Bell

**WED NOV 15, 6:30PM | VE  
THU NOV 16, 4:00PM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 16 - 26**

**NYC Premiere** This observational chronicle is an immersive exploration of Uganda's grasshopper industry. Following the hardships of a group of trappers in pursuit of the nutritious delicacy, this atmospheric film grapples with capitalism and sustainability while meditating on the way humans engage with the natural world. The otherworldly nighttime cinematography, based on Michele Sibiloni's highly acclaimed photographic book, offers a glance into the future of our planet. - *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 93 MIN)



**Total Trust**

**Director:** Jialing Zhang  
**Producers:** Michael Grotenhoff, Saskia Kress, Jialing Zhang

**WED NOV 15, 6:00PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 16 - 26**

**U.S. Premiere** A disturbing look at surveillance technology—its prevalence, abuse, and the stifling effect on those whose lives are monitored by the Chinese government. The title nods to a claim made by Chinese officials in the early days of the pandemic that most of their population trust the government, even as the film spotlights the efforts of citizens who are fighting for the right to privacy. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury*  
(GERMANY / THE NETHERLANDS, 97 MIN)



**Megaheartz**

**Director:** Emily Norling  
**Producer:** Melissa Lindgren

**SUN NOV 12, 2:00PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26**

**North American Premiere** Four friends struggling with heartbreak, drugs, desire, creativity, and mental illness in Stockholm seem to pose a question to us: "Is there love without madness?" A raw, nonlinear, gracefully cryptic exploration of alienation, old wounds, and radical empathy, *Megaheartz* creates its own that creates its own cinematic language to reproduce the fragmented emotional state of its protagonists. - *Ruth Somalo* (SWEDEN/NORWAY, 80 MIN)





## The Walk

**Director:** Tamara Kotevska  
**Producers:** Orlando von Einsiedel, Harri Grace, Tracey Seaward, Hassan Akkad

**THU NOV 9, 7:00PM | VE**  
**FRI NOV 10, 3:00PM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26**

**World Premiere** Asil is a young Syrian refugee awaiting documents in Turkey while processing the trauma of losing her home and family. Her story gives voice to a charming gigantic puppet named Amal, who represents millions of migrant and displaced children in a walk from the Syrian border in Turkey all the way across Europe. Escorted and animated by a group of puppeteers who are themselves refugees, Amal's epic journey is one of compassion and discovery. - *Ruth Somalo* (UK, 86 MIN)



## Zinzindurrunkarratz

**Director / Producer:** Oskar Alegria

**FRI NOV 10, 8:00PM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26**

**New York Premiere** In this gem of minimalist and poetic magnetism, filmmaker Oskar Alegria and adorable donkey Paolo embark on a journey to bring provisions to the last shepherd of the Andia Mountains. Retracing the steps of his grandfather during transhumance, Alegria collects a trove of memories from a disappearing world, embodied in sounds and degraded silent images captured with his father's Super-8 camera. Ancient songs, sounds, and encounters chart a way of life mostly forgotten. - *Ruth Somalo* (SPAIN, 89 MIN)



## A Wolfpack Called Ernesto

**Director:** Everardo González  
**Producers:** Roberto Garza, Inna Payán, Jean-Christophe Simon

**SAT NOV 11, 2:30PM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**

**U.S. Premiere** In Mexico City, a group of teenage gangsters collectively call themselves "Ernesto." The camera shadows them elegantly, preserving their anonymity as they go about daily life, both victims and perpetrators all at once. Immersive, engaging, and brilliantly unsettling, the narrative exposes the mechanisms and entanglements that allow these worlds of violence to thrive while denying us the full view we crave in order to understand. - *Ruth Somalo* (MEXICO/SWITZERLAND/FRANCE, 78 MIN)

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### Ashima

**Director:** Kenji Tsukamoto  
**Producers:** Kenji Tsukamoto, Minji Chang, Roy Choi, Dave Boyle

**SUN NOV 12, 5:00PM | VE**  
**MON NOV 13, 4:30PM | IFC**  
**ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26**

**World Premiere** One of the world's youngest elite rock climbers, Ashima Shirashi spent her formative years breaking numerous age-based climbing milestones, spurred on by her number one fan and coach, her father Poppo, a retired Butoh dancer and avant-garde performer with no formal climbing experience. When these New Yorkers travel to South Africa to conquer a V14 boulder problem, father and daughter must face their interpersonal struggles in tandem with the challenging ascent. - *Brandon Harrison* (USA, 85 MIN)



### Diversity Plaza

**Director:** Kesang Tseten  
**Producer:** Sienna R. Craig

**SUN NOV 12, 12:45PM | VE**  
**TUE NOV 14, 1:00PM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26**

**World Premiere** Drawing inspiration from Frederick Wiseman's classic aesthetic, Nepalese filmmaker Kesang Tseten spends a year observing the community and culture of Himalayan immigrants in and around the Jackson Heights neighborhood of Queens. During the buildup to the 2020 U.S. Census, the inhabitants reveal their motivation to have their presence recorded, encouraged by visits from their political representatives, including Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. In carefully captured verite footage, we see a rich portrait of people deeply connected to homeland traditions while adjusting to life in exile. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 69 MIN)



### Confessions of a Good Samaritan

**Director:** Penny Lane  
**Producer:** Gabriel Sedgwick

**THU NOV 16, 7:00PM | SVA**  
**ONLINE | NOV 17-26**

**NYC Premiere** What does pure human generosity look like? Good health is a privilege; can we help others less fortunate to get there? New York filmmaker Penny Lane dives into these altruistic waters when she makes a kidney donation to a stranger. As she navigates the social, medical, and personal complexities of that choice, she probes some of humanity's biggest mysteries in this expansive, whimsical, and revelatory film. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 105 MIN)



### Holding Back the Tide

**Director:** Emily Packer  
**Producers:** Emily Packer, Trey Tetreault, Ben Still, Josh Margolis, Liz Beeson

**SUN NOV 12, 8:30PM | VE**  
**MON NOV 13, 2:00PM | IFC**  
**ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26**

**World Premiere** Through interviews, recited poetry, and quirky interstitials, this engaging documentary charts the unlikely presence of oysters in NYC, the myriad waterways surrounding the city, the scourge of pollution, and triumphant revitalization efforts. Poetic filming of familiar city scenes combine with fascinating archival photos for a watery love letter to the city. Lovingly crafted and scored with flair, the film both embraces humor and nods to the gender-fluid nature of oysters. - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 77 MIN)



### Lucha: A Wrestling Tale

Director / Producer: Marco Ricci

SAT NOV 11, 3:45PM | VE  
SUN NOV 12, 11:30AM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

**World Premiere** A fresh spin on the story of high school sports as the path to transformation and redemption, *Lucha* takes us inside the Taft High School women's wrestling team on their journey to a championship. Personal challenges abound, from unsupportive families to homelessness, but these four young women from the Bronx—Shirley, Nyasia, Mariam, and Alba—find solace and hope in each other and on the mat. Their empowering story is a testament to the human spirit and true grit. - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 96 MIN)



### Psychedelicized: The Electric Circus Story

Director / Producer: Larry Confino

SAT NOV 11, 9:15PM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

**World Premiere** The Electric Circus nightclub was a drug-fueled, multicultural oasis of dance and creativity in 1960's NYC, frequented by icons like Jimi Hendrix, Timothy Leary, and Sly & the Family Stone. Against a hallucinogenic backdrop of hippies, Hell's Angels, and circus performers, club founders Stan Freeman and Jerry Brandt share memories of the club's rise and spectacular demise. Dynamic editing, a groovy soundtrack, and psychedelic vibes make this an entertaining trip through a slice of NYC history. - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 94 MIN)



### Nathan-ism

Director: Elan Golod  
Producers: Melanie Vi Levy, Elan Golod

TUE NOV 14, 6:00PM | VE  
THU NOV 16, 6:00PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26

**NYC Premiere** At the age of 19, Jewish soldier Nathan Hilu was assigned to guard Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg trials. He went on to channel his memories into compellingly manic, childlike art, aka "Nathan-isms," which this film brings to life through vivid animations. Now in his 90s and living in NYC, Hilu is a chutzpah-filled outsider artist whose story probes the nature of truth and the power of the desire to be heard. - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 79 MIN)



### Scooter LaForge: a life of art

Director / Producer: Ethan Minsker

WED NOV 8, 9:15PM | IFC  
THU NOV 9, 1:00PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 9 - 26

**World Premiere** Scooter LaForge, heir to the artistic legacies of Basquiat and Haring, believes an artist's duty is to have fun. Influenced by Pollack, surrealism, and Saturday morning cartoons, Scooter's queer, punk-rock aesthetic was embraced by downtown fashion designer Patricia Field, and his bespoke painted clothing has been worn by icons like Debbie Harry, Beyoncé, and Nicki Minaj. Laced with animations and NYC art mavens, this film, as vibrant as its puckish subject, charts the creative journey of a unique cross-medium artist. - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 80 MIN)



**Between Life & Death**

**Director:** Nick Capote  
**Producers:** Kimberley Ferdinando, Melissa Leardi  
**New York Premiere** When a 1990 brain injury left 26-year-old Florida resident Terri Schiavo in a persistent vegetative state for over a decade, her husband and family disagreed about her fate, creating a painful rift. As Schiavo ultimately became the center of a pivotal "right to die" debate that captured the world's attention, the filmmakers deftly connect the dots between this family tragedy and the rise of the religious right, and ultimately, a post-Roe America.  
 - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (USA, 90 MIN)

THU NOV 16, 6:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 17 - 26



**Caterpillar**

**Director:** Liza Mandelup  
**Producers:** Jay Van Hoy, Matthew Cherchio, Liza Mandelup  
**NYC Premiere** A 50-something queer man who always had issues with his looks, David becomes obsessed with changing his eye color. When he finds a company that can perform this surgery, he believes he has finally found solace. Vacillating between destructive vanity and admirable resilience, David is a fascinating subject in a film that examines societal notions of physical beauty and how they manifest in people's psychology, while uncovering the dark side of the international plastic surgery industry.  
 - *Murtada Elfadl* (USA, 111 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 9:00PM | VE FRI NOV 10, 9:00PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26



**One With the Whale**

**Directors:** Peter Chelkowski, Jim Wickens | **Producers:** Aakapak Apassingok, Nalu Apassingok, Peter Chelkowski, M. Watanabe Milmore, Yaarie Toolie-Walker, Jim Wickens  
**NYC Premiere** On Alaska's remote St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea, shy teenager Agra Chris Apassingok is the best hunter in his village, but warming seas have made the annual whale hunt, which supplies food and resources for his village for most of the year, that much tougher. When he proudly shares a hunting accomplishment on social media for his indigenous community, he becomes a target for online bullying that severely threatens his mental health. This is a stunning film of family, love, tradition, and self-determination, with a thrilling soundtrack by indigenous musicians.  
 - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 83 MIN)

WED NOV 15, 4:15PM | IFC THU NOV 16, 1:30 | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 16 - 26



**Time Bomb Y2K**

**Directors:** Marley McDonald, Brian Becker  
**Producer:** Brian Becker  
**NYC Premiere** As many remember, 1999 presented a strange existential crisis in which we didn't know what the next year and the new millennium would bring. Well-traveled on the festival circuit, this archival time capsule captures the unprecedented frenzy of Y2K just as the internet begins to transform the world.  
 - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (USA, 80 MIN)

WED NOV 15, 8:45PM | IFC THU NOV 16, 1:30PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 16 - 17



**A Disturbance in the Force**

**Directors:** Jeremy Coon, Steve Kozak  
**Producers:** Jeremy Coon, Steve Kozak, Kyle Newman  
**Tristate Premiere** The ubiquitous cultural cachet of *Star Wars* is under attack, not by an intergalactic warlord, but from 1978's absurdly campy "Star Wars Holiday Special." The program aired a single time on CBS, never to be shown again, and is considered one of the worst pieces of *Star Wars* media ever made. Despite being a thorn in the sides of the creatives behind the franchise, in the 45 years since, the special has become a cult classic within *Star Wars* fandom.  
 - *Brandon Harrison* (USA, 85 MIN)

TUE NOV 14, 8:45PM | IFC WED NOV 15, 3:45PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26



**Naked Ambition: Bonny Yeager**

**Directors:** Dennis Scholl, Kareem Tabsch  
**Producers:** Konstantia Kontaxis, Dennis Scholl, Kareem Tabsch  
**World Premiere** Bonny Yeager was a trailblazing model, designer, and photographer who popularized the bikini, invented the selfie, discovered Bettie Page, and introduced feminist agency in sexy pictures in the '50s. With the testimonies of cultural icons that include photographer Bruce Weber, Dita Von Teese, and Larry King, the film reinstates Bunny as an iconic artist as well as portraying the evolution of women's autonomy in postwar America through the use of her extraordinary archive.  
 - *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 73 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 3:00PM | IFC TUE NOV 14, 3:30PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26



**Unbroken**

**Director:** Beth Lane  
**Producers:** Doug Prochilo, Mai Amalie Bak  
**NYC Premiere** As each generation ages, the need to record family history before it is forever lost increases in urgency. Filmmaker Beth Lane's maternal family tree held a truly extraordinary story of an entire family of seven siblings who escaped Nazi Germany and managed to stay together until reaching safety in America. Told with wit, warmth, and a sense of unfolding discovery, this is a heartwarming achievement.  
 - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 96 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 5:45PM | VE MON NOV 13, 7:30PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26



**unseen**

**Director / Producer:** Set Hernandez  
**NYC Premiere** Pedro's dream is to earn a degree in social work and support his family and community, but as an undocumented immigrant who is legally blind he faces legal challenges and uncertainty. Set Hernandez crafts this compelling portrait of a remarkable individual pursuing a better life with deliberately blurry visuals and a heightened soundscape that immerse viewers in Pedro's version of the world and underscore his vulnerability and courage.  
 - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 88 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 9:30PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26



**At the Border**

**Directors:** Braulio Jatar, Anaïs Michel  
**Producers:** Braulio Jatar, Anaïs Michel, Julia Cheng  
**World Premiere** Set on the border between Colombia and Venezuela, the film navigates a complex and urgent narrative as deftly as its subjects navigate the perilous terrain around them. Español and Barrabas, two “coyotes,” or human smugglers, go about the business of surviving despite all the odds against them, as the directors’ quiet observational technique gets at why people make the life-threatening choice to migrate. Gritty, uncompromising, and thought provoking. - *Murtada Elfadl* (USA/VENEZUELA, 84 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 7:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26



**Heaven Rain Flow Sweetly**

**Director:** Shasha Li  
**Producers:** Shasha Li, Xin Li  
**World Premiere** After wildfires force her to leave her home in Oregon, a young filmmaker reconnects with the rituals and the landscapes of her maternal tribe in Himalayan China. In a poetic and contemplative revisiting of her family and her ancestors’ history, director Shasha Li reflects on their animistic traditions while visiting her childhood hometown, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, transformed beyond recognition into a bustling tourist attraction. - *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 68 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 3:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26



**Who's Behind Black Art**

**Director:** John Campbell | **Producers:** John Campbell, Phillip Michael Collins, Chandler Wild, Thomas E. Moore III  
**World Premiere** This four-part docuseries delves into the creative lives of five emerging Black artists from the U.S. and Canada as they open up about complexities of navigating the art world that aren't often acknowledged. Sleek filmmaking pairs with insights from Black art experts, as each artist shares their lived experience and illuminates their practice through studio visits in anticipation of a galvanizing group exhibition of their work. - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 129 MIN)

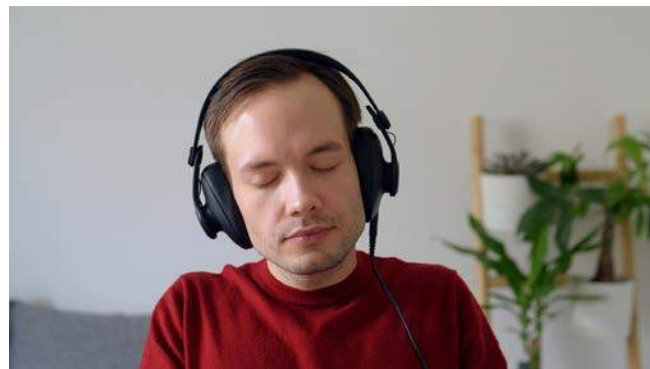
SAT NOV 11, 12:45PM | VE MON NOV 13, 2:45PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26



**Witness**

**Directors:** Yasmine Mathurin, Carol Nguyen, Amar Wala  
**Producers:** Amar Wala, Soko Negash  
**International Premiere** *Witness* explores the personal, political, and cultural ramifications of going viral. Directors Yasmine Mathurin, Amar Wala, and Carol Nguyen follow people who chose to document what they saw, whether in rage, fear, or amusement, and reflect on the staggering but fleeting attention that changed their lives. This series of six short episodes tells the stories that happened after the stories we heard about. - *Murtada Elfadl* (CANADA, 83 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 5:00PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 10-26



**The Kind Stranger**

**Director:** Sini Hormio  
**Producers:** Ari Matikainen, Ian Davies  
**International Premiere** A stranger on the internet whispers while running a hairbrush slowly through her hair, and viewers find themselves immersed in a sudden tingly serotonin boost. ASMR influencers are part of the cultural landscape, providing a unique source of care to others remotely. This documentary demystifies one of the stranger phenomena to capture our collective attention. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (FINLAND/UK, 52 MIN)

WED NOV 15, 8:30PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 16 - 26



**The Three of Us**

**Director:** Henya Brodbeker  
**Producer:** Avigail Sperber  
**International Premiere** A young ultra-Orthodox woman documents her family’s struggle to secure support for their beloved autistic son. Henya Brodbeker takes us inside her world with an arresting vulnerability as she finds herself questioning her partnership with her husband, her relationship to her faith, and her place in the world. Henya and her husband’s determination not to give up on the fundamental aspects of their identity while negotiating incredibly complex circumstances represents courage of a very high order. - *Jaie Laplante* (ISRAEL, 80 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 6:45PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26

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**The Cost of Inheritance**

**Director:** Yoruba Richen  
**Producers:** Mehret Mandefro, Lacey Schwartz Delgado  
**World Premiere** The decades-long debate surrounding reparations is fraught, mired in racial tension and the semantics of restorative justice. While the national conversation remains stalled due to legislative inaction, communities across the country examine their histories and take it upon themselves to arrange their own form of reparations. This detailed investigation of restitution presents accounts of everyday people confronting the past and exploring the possibilities of wealth transfer. - *Brandon Harrison* (USA, 60 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 3:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26



**Is There Anybody Out There?**

**Director:** Ella Glendining  
**Producer:** Janine Marmot  
**NYC Premiere** Born with a rare physical disability, filmmaker Ella Glendining inhabits and loves her unusual body while searching the globe for others like her. Many whom she encounters insist that she, and others with similar conditions, could or should be surgically altered toward "normality," a prejudicial outlook known as ableism. With the gifts of a truly empathetic storyteller, Ella demonstrates what a life free from the mental shackles of ableism is like. - *Jaie Laplante* (UK, 87 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 1:00PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26



**Three Promises**

**Director:** Yousef Srouji  
**Producers:** Marielle Olentine, Zein Khleif  
**New York Premiere** Yousef Srouji's childhood in Palestine wasn't something that he and his parents spoke of as a family, so when he found a box of his mother's home videos from the early 2000s, the tapes became a means for remembering and comprehending a especially perilous and tumultuous period in the West Bank, the tapes became a means for remembering and comprehending a painful past. The stories she captured illuminate the nature of life in a war zone, and familial bonds that cannot be broken. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (USA/LEBANON/PALESTINE, 90 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 4:30PM | VE MON NOV 13, 8:45PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26



**We Are Fire! (Draw for Change)**

**Director:** Karen Vázquez Guadarrama  
**Producer:** Hanne Phlypo  
**International Premiere** Maremoto (Mar) is a young illustrator in Mexico City struggling to make sense of a town where 11 women are murdered daily, and 95,000 people have gone missing, with no one held accountable. Her feminist drawings support her community in dealing with the emotional trauma left by the femicides and galvanize them to fight to get the government forces to act. With her work, Mar also creates a safe space for the LGBTQ+ community and teaches self-acceptance. - *Ruth Somalo* (BELGIUM/FRANCE/GERMANY, 52 MIN)

MON NOV 13, 5:30PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26



**No One Asked You**

**Director:** Ruth Leitman  
**Producers:** Rachel Rozycki, Andrea Raby  
**World Premiere** With the conservative movement conspiring to take away healthcare and bodily autonomy from women, "Daily Show" co-creator Lizz Winstead brings us on the road with her merry band of activists and comedians as they crisscross the U.S. to support abortion clinics and providers. An urgent and humorous account of the serious work that this audacious group of activists are doing to battle misogyny and fight for reproductive rights in a divided country. - *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 100 MIN)

MON NOV 13, 8:45PM | IFC TUE NOV 14, 5:30PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26



**Rainbow Warrior**

**Director:** Edward McGurn  
**Producers:** Sophie Daniel, Edward McGurn, Eva Gunz, Chris Dallas-Feeney, Katie Buchanan  
**North American Premiere** The Rainbow Warrior was a Greenpeace ship that sank in New Zealand in 1985 while heading to a protest against nuclear testing, taking the life of photographer Fernando Pereira. Edward McGurn's enlightening and exciting documentary uncovers a tangled tale of nuclear weapons, geopolitical coverups, and attempts to take action against impending environmental collapse. Was Pereira's death an accident or part of a larger political plot? - *Ruth Somalo* (UK/FRANCE, 94 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 9:00PM | VE FRI NOV 10, 12:15PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26



**Yours In Freedom, Bill Baird**

**Director:** Rebecca Cammisa  
**Producers:** Walter Köhler, Sarah Nörenberg  
**World Premiere** In an America where more and more women and trans people are losing legal bodily autonomy, the history of Bill Baird's long fight for women's right to abortion is as relevant as ever. Oscar-nominated filmmaker Rebecca Cammisa doesn't just give us a portrait of Baird, but also creates a historical register of allyship and activism that those fighting to uphold freedom and choice can access, and perhaps emulate. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (AUSTRIA, 105 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 6:00PM | VE SUN NOV 12, 12:30PM | VE  
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**Candace Parker: Unapologetic**

**Director: Joie Jacoby | Producers: Giselle Rodriguez, Julie Lilleby, Paige Bethmann, Carolyn Hepburn**  
**World Premiere** Candace Parker's journey has taken her from the neighborhood courts of Naperville, Illinois, to WNBA superstardom and beyond. A high school phenom who lived up to and surpassed all expectations, Parker redefined what is possible for female athletes in the 21st century. A dedicated mother, loving wife, and Hall of Fame player, Parker opens up about her life and struggles as her nearly 20-year career approaches its end. - *Brandon Harrison* (USA, 77 MIN)

WED NOV 8, 7:15PM | SVA THU NOV 9, 2:30PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 9 - 26



**Into the Shaolin**

**Director: Hongyun Sun**  
**Producer: Can Luo**  
**New York Premiere** An engrossing portrait of the Shaolin Monastery, where Buddhist peace and enlightenment are pursued through the practice of martial arts. A Serbian Ph.D. candidate doing field work over the course of a year serves as the audience's proxy, a keen observer to the daily routines that define life at the monastery and to the contrast of being on the road as the monks travel to perform Kung Fu exhibitions in a world dominated by temptation. - *Brandon Harrison* (CHINA, 92 MIN)

TUE NOV 14, 8:30PM | VE WED NOV 15, 1:00PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26



**Riders on the Storm**

**Directors / Producers: Jason Motlagh, Mark Oltmanns**  
**New York Premiere** Khaiber Akbarzada is on the verge of becoming Afghanistan's champion of buzkashi, the popular national sport where men on horseback compete for control of a goat carcass. The looming exit of U.S. forces from the country puts the buzkashi superstar at risk as his prominent status makes him a target for the Taliban regime. Haunted by his own history of family tragedy, Akbarzada must make a critical decision about his future as massive change sweeps the nation. - *Brandon Harrison* (AUSTRIA, 101 MIN)

MON NOV 13, 6:00PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26



**Right to Fight**

**Director: Georgina Cammalleri**  
**Producers: Cassie Thornton, Tim Wardle**  
**International Premiere** A rousing look at the genesis of women's boxing, with archival footage and shocking stories adding extra punch. In the 1970s, a group of pioneering pugilists sought to change the sport's sexist bureaucracy by organizing bouts between the best female boxers of the era. The furious fists of Marian "Lady Tiger" Trimiar, Cathy "Cat" Davis, and Pat "Liberation" Pineda shattered gender barriers and laid the foundation for a generation of fighters to come. - *Brandon Harrison* (UK, 90 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 6:30PM | VE FRI NOV 10, 1:00PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26



**Jesszilla**

**Director: Emily Sheskin**  
**Producer: Benjamin Kainz**  
**NYC Premiere** New Jersey's own Jesselyn Silva, a three-time national boxing champion, is on her way to superstardom, dominating the junior ranks at the age of 15. With her every step of the way is her father, Pedro, a single parent who helps her navigate coaches, training schedules, and the angst of teenage life. When a devastating diagnosis threatens the father-daughter tandem, the pair turn to each other to fight their greatest opponent yet: cancer. - *Brandon Harrison* (USA, 90 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 12:30PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26



**The Minister of Defense**

**Directors: Ken Rodgers, Courtland Bragg**  
**Producers: Courtland Bragg, Nick Mascolo, Ken Rodgers, Chip Swain, Kobi Theiler**  
**World Premiere** At the time of his tragic death in 2004 at the age of 43, NFL Hall of Famer Reggie White was known as much for his dogmatic religiosity as for his devastating sacks. However, during a little-known interview shortly before his passing, White questioned his indoctrination and revealed his journey to discover the meaning of his faith. Including intimate interviews with his son, Jeremy, the superstar defensive lineman's story deftly explores the cultural complexity of evangelical Christianity. - *Brandon Harrison* (USA, 107 MIN)

TUE NOV 14, 7:45PM | VE TUE NOV 15, 1:15PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26



**Unsyncable**

**Director: Megan Wennberg**  
**Producer: Erin Oakes**  
**International Premiere** Seniors from around the country hold back the hands of Father Time by taking on the elegant sport of synchronized swimming. Sue, Ellen, Cris, Luther, Monica, and Joyce find themselves pushing their physical boundaries in preparation for the annual U.S. Masters Artistic Swimming Championship. While some go for gold and others simply for a good time, this extraordinary group of elders reminds us that the spirit of competition doesn't falter with old age. - *Brandon Harrison* (CANADA, 75 MIN)

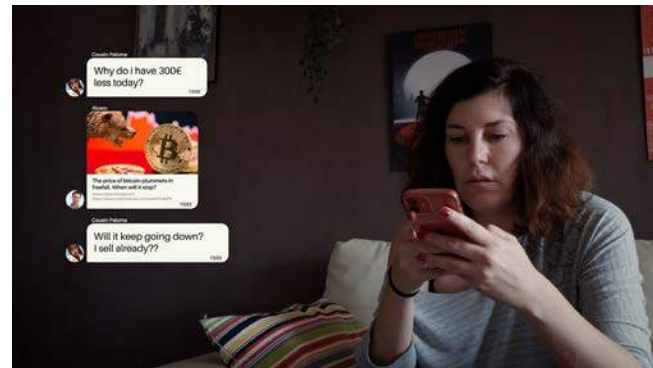
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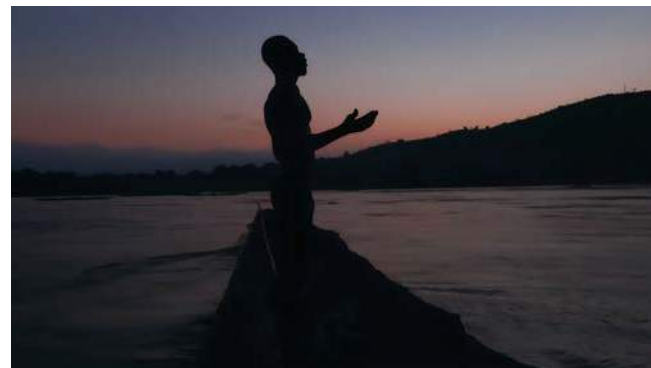
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**Bull Run**

**Director: Ana Ramón Rubio**  
**Producer: Juanjo Moscardó Rius**  
**International Premiere** Director Ana Ramón Rubio becomes obsessed with cryptocurrency trading to the point where her family is worried. She agrees to seek addiction therapy as long as she can make a film about her experience and demonstrate how to finance a film with tokens. Fully funded by bitcoin and other crypto in less than 24 hours, this humorous and informative rollercoaster of a film explores the social and technological changes that the blockchain is bringing to the world. - *Ruth Somalo* (SPAIN, 78 MIN)

WED NOV 15, 7:15PM | VE      THU NOV 16, 11:45AM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 16 - 26



**Eat Bitter**

**Directors: Pascale Appora-Gnekindy, Ningyi Sun**  
**Producer: Mathieu Faure**  
**New York Premiere** Two men work alongside each other in the Central African Republic, the first a local laborer struggling to meet everyday needs and the other his boss, a Chinese expatriate construction manager far from home who's trying to improve his economic standing. While never wavering from its two subjects, this striking documentary effectively portrays how globalization impacts individual lives, and the destabilizing effects of the new international hierarchy in Africa. - *Murtada Elfadl* (CHINA / CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, 95 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 7:30PM | VE      ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26



**Searching for Nika**

**Director: Stanislav Kapralov**  
**Producers: Yan Fisher, Taras Stadnikov, Roger Corbi**  
**North American Premiere** When Russian forces invaded Ukraine and filmmaker Stanislav Kapralov's parents fled the country, his beloved dog Nika ran away. In a heroic attempt to find Nika he goes back to Kyiv and joins several volunteers on a mission to rescue pets left behind during Russia's brutal attacks. This lucid and riveting portrait of the effects of life under siege is crafted around the bond between humans and animals. - *Ruth Somalo* (SPAIN/UKRAINE/USA, 77 MIN)

TUE NOV 14, 9:00PM | IFC      WED NOV 15, 2:00PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26



**Who I Am Not**

**Director: Tunde Skovran**  
**Producer: Andrei Zinca**  
**NYC Premiere** In South Africa, Sharon-Rose Khumalo and Dimakatso Sebidi, two intersex individuals, find strength and support in each other, while tackling their society's misunderstanding and prejudices about their bodies. A call for empathy and understanding, this portrait reveals that, in the end, difference is what you make of it. - *Jaie Laplante* (ROMANIA/CANADA, 103 MIN)

SAT NOV 14, 6:00PM | IFC      ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26



**How to Have an American Baby**

**Director: Leslie Tai**  
**Producers: Leslie Tai, Jillian Schultz**  
**New York Premiere** A nuanced, behind-the-scenes look into the booming shadow economy catering to pregnant Chinese tourists who travel to America in order to obtain U.S. citizenship for their babies. Told through a series of observational vignettes, and with extraordinary access to the maternity hotel industry and their clients, the film outlines the contours of the underground birth tourism industry. An intimate and compassionate portrait of women's reproductive journeys, family, traditions, and capitalist desires. - *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 117 MIN)

TUE NOV 14, 6:45PM | VE      ONLINE | NOV 15 - 26



**Polish Prayers**

**Director: Hanka Nobis**  
**Producer: Esther van Messel**  
**North American Premiere** Can people truly change? In Hanka Nobis' engrossing observational film, she follows a 22-year-old Polish man named Antek as he goes from membership in a far-right, anti-LGBTQ group called The Brotherhood to, four years later, joining his girlfriend for a Gay Pride march he formerly protested against. What happens to Antek in those four years reveals much about the character of those who traffic in hate as a means of identification. - *Jaie Laplante* (SWITZERLAND/POLAND, 84 MIN)

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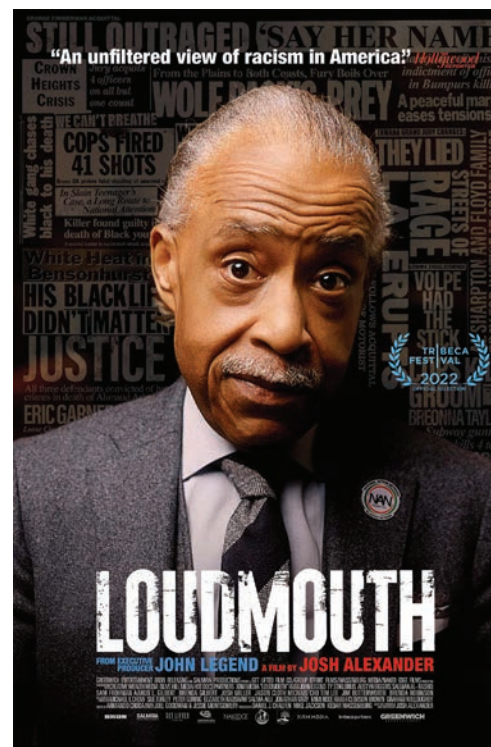
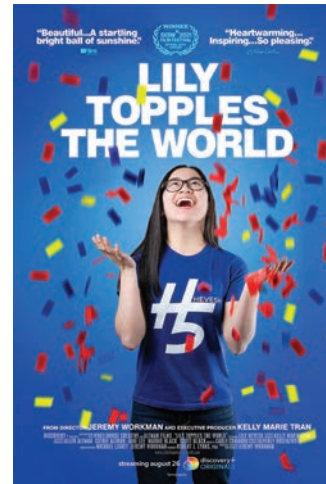
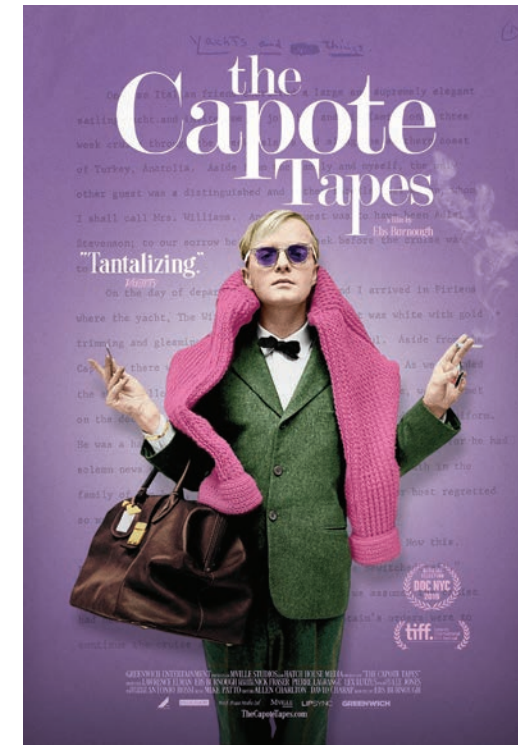
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**Bye Bye Tiberias**

**Director:** Lina Soualem  
**Producer:** Jean-Marie Nizan  
**New York Premiere** Director Lina Soualem traces the history of four generations of Palestinian women in her family by pointing the camera at her mother, actress Hiam Abbas, of *Succession* fame. In playfully recreating moments from Abbas' life in Palestine, Soualem pays tribute to her mother while creating a record of the political and cultural issues of her lifetime. - *Murtada Elfadl* (FRANCE/PALESTINE/BELGIUM/QATAR, 82 MIN)

**MON NOV 13, 7:00PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26**      **TUE NOV 14, 4:00PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26**



**The Lady Bird Diaries**

**Director:** Dawn Porter  
**Producers:** Dawn Porter, Kim Reynolds  
**New York Premiere** A groundbreaking all-archival documentary film about Lady Bird Johnson, one of the most influential and least understood first ladies. Beautifully honed from 123 hours of Lady Bird's intimate audio diary, the film brings her to life and reveals her as a shrewd political strategist who preserved natural resources for the American people through her policies of "beautification." A great time capsule of an era of turmoil and progress that deeply resonates today. - *Ruth Somalo* (USA, 100 MIN)

**SAT NOV 11, 5:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**      **SUN NOV 12, 11:15AM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**



**Shari & Lamb Chop**

**Director:** Lisa D'Apolito  
**Producers:** Cassidy Hartmann, Nicholas Ferrall, Morris Ruskin, Douglas Warner, Lisa D'Apolito  
**World Premiere** Shari Lewis was a dancer, singer, and magician but is best known as the ventriloquist behind puppets Charlie Horse, Hush Puppy and, of course, Lamb Chop. This lively doc charts the life and career hits and misses of this spunky perfectionist, who changed the face of children's television. Featuring ventriloquists she inspired and nostalgia-inducing clips, this portrait of the brilliant Bronx native turned beloved TV personality brims with warmth and charm. - *Karen McMullen* (USA, 92 MIN)

**SAT NOV 11, 6:30PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**      **TUE NOV 14, 3:45PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26**



**The Trials of Alan Dershowitz**

**Director / Producer:** John Curtin  
**World Premiere** Alan Dershowitz is a fierce criminal defense attorney known for representing infamous clients like Donald Trump and Jeffrey Epstein, whose unwavering defense of constitutional rights and civil liberties is both admirable and divisive. The film explores his notable victories and lesser losses, as well as his court battles with one of Epstein's victims, who accused him of sexual abuse. Narrated by Dershowitz with insights from Gloria Allred, Mike Tyson, and Megan Kelly, this engaging documentary unveils a fresh perspective on the provocative and controversial lawyer. - *Karen McMullen* (CANADA, 109 MIN)

**THU NOV 9, 6:00PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26**      **FRI NOV 10, 1:00PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26**



**Liv Ullmann: A Road Less Travelled**

**Director:** Dheeraj Akolkar  
**Producers:** Hege Christensen, Kaare Hersoug  
**North American Premiere** This delightful portrait of Liv Ullmann brims with intimate memories and profound reflections on her hopes, fears, grief, rejections, dreams pursued, and lessons learned. An indomitable character as an actor, writer, director, and activist is revealed through her own writings and the accounts of close friends and collaborators like Jessica Chastain, Cate Blanchett, Jeremy Irons, and John Lithgow. Ullmann captivates and inspires with her authenticity, humor, integrity, and phenomenal presence. - *Ruth Somalo* (NORWAY, 102 MIN)

**SUN NOV 12, 5:00PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26**      **MON NOV 13, 3:00PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26**



**Merchant Ivory**

**Director:** Stephen Soucy  
**Producers:** Jon Hart, Stephen Soucy  
**World Premiere** Oscar winner James Ivory began his storied career making documentaries in India. While screening one at India's Consulate in New York City, he met his life and business partner, Ismail Merchant. As Merchant Ivory Productions they made 44 films, including such classics as *Howard's End*, *A Room with a View*, and *The Remains of the Day*. Jaw-dropping behind-the-scenes stories of their creative process and impact are shared here in fresh interviews with Vanessa Redgrave, Emma Thompson, Helena Bonham Carter, and more—and, of course, the spry 95-year-old Ivory himself. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 112 MIN)

**SAT NOV 11, 5:45PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**      **SUN NOV 12, 5:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26**

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**Famoudou Konate – The King of Djembe**

**Directors:** André Piruka, Billy Konate  
**Producer:** André Piruka  
**U.S. Premiere** A captivating journey through the history of the essential African drum, the djembe, as seen through the remarkable life of revered Guinean percussionist Famoudou Konate. From his childhood playing the once-sacred instrument to his globe-trotting days with Les Ballets Africains, the film celebrates Konate's unique role in African culture. An uplifting and gorgeous tribute, the film's rich blend of music and dance, along with Konate's warmth and charm, affirms his legacy.  
 - Karen McMullen (BRAZIL, 78 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 9:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26



**Fanny: The Other Mendelssohn**

**Director / Producer:** Sheila Hayman  
**North American Premiere** This documentary illuminates the overlooked life of a remarkable composer, Fanny Mendelssohn. Born in 1800's Berlin, hindered by societal constraints on women, her talents remained buried until feminist scholars uncovered her impressive body of work. Overshadowed by her brother Felix, she was confined at home while he soared to fame. The film, punctuated with masterful piano performances, paints a vivid portrait of her musical legacy. - Karen McMullen (UK, 101 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 5:30PM | IFC MON NOV 13, 3:00PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26



**Play with the Devil - Becoming Zeal & Ardor**

**Directors:** Olivier Joliat, Matthias Will  
**Producer:** Frank Matter  
**North American Premiere** Manuel Gagneux, a mixed-race Swiss musician, fuses American Negro work songs and heavy metal music to create "Black Death Metal," an explosive new genre that confronts societal ills. A year-long global tour with his band, Zeal & Ardor, is a raging success with their die-hard fans, yet reveals Manu's aversion to authority and ambivalence towards fame. A head-banging, thought-provoking documentary that spotlights this unique band and their dynamic, complex leader. - Karen McMullen (SWITZERLAND, 72 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 8:30PM | VE WED NOV 15, 6:45 | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26



**Pretty Ugly - The Story of the Lunachicks**

**Director / Producer:** Ilya Chaiken  
**World Premiere** The Lunachicks, an all-female punk band renowned for their unabashed humor and unwavering pro-women ethos, made their mark on NYC's underground music scene in the '90s. A rollercoaster of drugs, romances, and creative conflicts ultimately led to their 2000 breakup, but can love of the music reunite them for one last show? Buoyed by energetic storytelling, gritty '80s-'90s nightclub footage, insightful interviews, and high-voltage performances, this is a must-watch for music history enthusiasts. - Karen McMullen (US, 91 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 9:15PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 11 - 26



**Garland Jeffreys: The King of In Between**

**Director:** Claire Jeffreys  
**Producers:** Claire Jeffreys, Evan M. Johnson  
**World Premiere** Garland Jeffreys, the mixed-race Brooklyn native whose music defied industry norms, receives long-overdue recognition in this enlightening documentary. His unique fusion of folk, soul, and rock earned him accolades abroad, yet left him underrated at home. Jeffreys' story, narrated from his NYC home and featuring interviews with fans like Harvey Keitel, Laurie Anderson, and Vernon Reid sheds light on the life and artistry of an unclassifiable talent. - Karen McMullen (US, 70 MIN)

WED NOV 8, 9:00PM | IFC THU NOV 9, 1:15PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 9 - 26



**Paul Muldoon: Laoithe 's Lirici' / A Life in Lyrics**

**Director:** Alan Gilsean  
**Producer:** Stephen Douds  
**New York Premiere** Charting the remarkable journey of poet and wordsmith Paul Muldoon, this film weaves his life's chapters through the artistry of renowned actors, musicians, and artists. From his humble roots in Ireland through prestigious positions at institutions like Oxford and Princeton, Muldoon's story unfolds like a vivid tapestry. The lyrical narrative features a star-studded cast — Ruth Negga, Liam Neeson, Bono, and Paul McCartney — reciting and singing Muldoon's gorgeous writings. A visually engaging, artfully constructed masterpiece that celebrates the beauty of language. - Karen McMullen (IRELAND / UK, 75 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 3:30PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26



**They Shot the Piano Player**

**Directors:** Fernando Trueba, Javier Mariscal  
**Producer:** Cristina Huete  
**NYC Premiere** Thirteen years after their Oscar-nominated animated collaboration *Chico & Rita*, Spanish artists Fernando Trueba and Javier Mariscal reunite to explore the origin story of bossa nova, the universally beloved Brazilian music movement. With gorgeous hand-drawn frames and vivid colors, *They Shot the Piano Player* examines the 1976 disappearance of Brazilian piano virtuoso Francisco Tenório Júnior as the totalitarian movement sweeping Latin America began clamping down on artists and those fighting for the freedom of expression that connects all peoples. - Jaie Laplante (SPAIN/FRANCE, 103 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 8:00PM | SVA ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

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Winner's Circle highlights films that arrive at DOC NYC with an awards pedigree already in place—in many cases from Oscar-qualifying international festivals—but might fly below the radar of American audiences.

Many of the films in this section are making their New York City premieres, while others have just recently played or are about to premiere in American art houses. Discover why these hidden gems have been embraced by juries and critics around the world.

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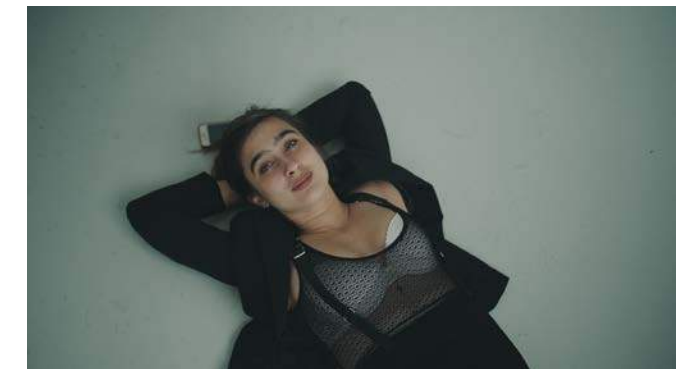
**Director:** Ken August Meyer  
**Producers:** Ken August Meyer, Jason Roark

**NYC Premiere** When talented art director Ken August Meyer is diagnosed with systemic sclerosis, a rare life-threatening disease, he struggles to cope with the disease's ravages on his body, and the unanswerable question: why me? Receiving no answer from the silent universe, Meyer turns to a study of Paul Klee, a Swiss-German painter of the 1930s who is believed to have suffered from the same disease. In the life and work of Klee, Meyer finds a spiritual companion to guide his journey to hope and meaning. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 74 MIN)

Winner, SXSW Grand Jury Prize, Documentary Feature Competition

MON NOV 13, 8:00PM | VE

ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26



### Apolonia, Apolonia

**Director:** Lea Glob  
**Producer:** Sidsel Lønvig Siersted

For a class assignment in 2009, Danish film student Lea Glob began documenting a young bohemian painter from France. The assignment blossomed into something deeper that spanned 13 years in the life of Apolonia Sokol and her circle of artists, activists, curators, lovers, and more. From Paris to New York and Los Angeles and back again, Lea finds in Apolonia a story of an entire generation of hopes and dreams. - *Jaie Laplante* (DENMARK/POLAND, 116 MIN)

Best Feature-Length Documentary, IDFA- International Documentary Film Festival, Amsterdam

FRI NOV 10, 3:15PM | IFC



**Bad Press**

**Directors:** Rebecca Landsberry-Baker, Joe Peeler  
**Producers:** Conrad Beilharz, Garrett F. Baker, Tyler Graim  
**NYC Premiere** The Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma has a hard-hitting news outlet, Mvsokoke Media, but reporter Angel Ellis has watched with concern as free press within her community becomes increasingly fragile. When she strives to expose corruption in her government, she runs headlong into censorship and threats, in a battle that has wide-ranging implications. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 98 MIN)

Winner, Special Jury Award: Freedom of Expression, U.S. Documentary, 2023 Sundance Film Festival

MON NOV 13, 5:15PM | VE WED NOV 15 3:30PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 14 - 26



**Beyond Utopia**

**Director:** Madeleine Gavin  
**Producers:** Jana Edelbaum, Rachel Cohen, Sue Mi Terry  
 Intertwining two nail-biting stories of dangerous escape attempts from North Korea, *Beyond Utopia* shows us the reality of life in one of the most repressive totalitarian countries on Earth. Filmmaker Madeline Gavin takes us on a harrowing journey, crosscutting between jaw-dropping cellphone video, and anguished cellphone audio, as she examines the high-stakes operation of an underground network that is the only hope of Koreans desperate to escape persecution and reunite with family. - *Jaie Laplante* (USA, 119 MIN)

Winner, Audience Award, U.S. Documentary, 2023 Sundance Film Festival

SAT NOV 11, 9:30PM | IFC ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26



**Name Me Lawand**

**Director:** Edward Lovelace  
**Producers:** Fleur Nieddu, Sam Arnold, Beyan Taher, Neil Andres, Marisa Clifford, Edward Lovelace  
 Lawand is a deaf 5-year-old boy from Iraq whose family goes to great lengths to move to England and enroll him at the Royal School for the Deaf Derby, where he learns British Sign Language (BSL) and begins to blossom. But will the government allow Lawand to stay? Filmmaker Edward Lovelace combines a roaming camera with a transcendent score and sound design to envelope viewers in an interior world largely absent of spoken language. - *Jaie Laplante* (UK, 82 MIN)

Winner, Special Jury Prize, International Feature Documentary, Hot Docs

WED NOV 15, 6:45PM | IFC THU NOV 16, 2:00PM | IFC  
 ONLINE | NOV 16 - 26



**Rojek**

**Director:** Zaynê Akyol  
**Producers:** Audrey-Ann Dupuis-Pierre, Sylvain Corbeil, Zaynê Akyol  
**U.S. Premiere** Kurdish-Canadian filmmaker Zaynê Akyol interviews some members of the Islamic State in Syrian Kurdistan, as well as some of their wives, in the aftermath of the defeat of ISIS. "This absorbing and admirably even-handed documentary looks the beast in the eye to weigh the context, cost, and consequences of fundamentalism." (POV magazine) - *Jaie Laplante* (CANADA, 127 MIN)

Winner, Special Jury Prize, Canadian Feature Documentary, Hot Docs

SAT NOV 11, 5:30PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26



**In the Rearview**

**Director:** Maciek Hamela  
**Producers:** Maciek Hamela, Piotr Grawender  
**New York Premiere** When Russia escalated its war against Ukraine in 2022, Polish director Maciek Hamela bought a van and volunteered to drive Ukrainian refugees – mostly women and children – on their quest to escape. From his passenger seat we meet the vanloads of people forced to leave everything behind. Today, as the war stretches on, it's inevitable for outsiders to feel fatigue, but this poignant film makes a quietly eloquent case to keep our eyes on the road ahead. - *Thom Powers* (POLAND/France/UKRAINE, 84 MIN)

Winner, Grand Jury Award, International Competition, Sheffield DocFest 2023

SUN NOV 12, 3:15PM | VE SUN NOV 12, 8:30PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 13 - 26

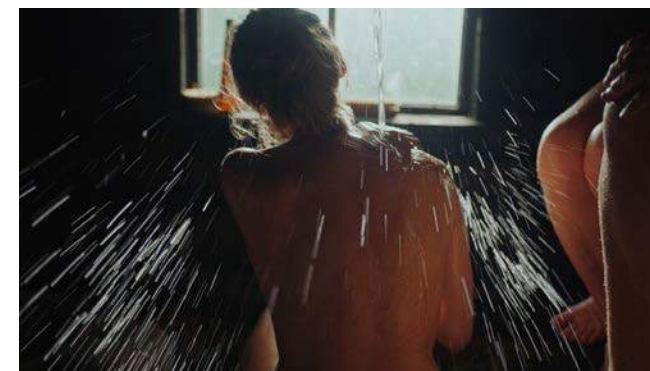


**Kokomo City**

**Director:** D. Smith  
**Producers:** D. Smith, Harris Doran, Bill Butler  
 From the film's opening monologue about a sex worker wrestling with a client over a gun, *Kokomo City* is riveting. Filmmaker D. Smith makes a stellar debut as director, cinematographer, editor, and composer as she profiles four Black transgender sex workers in New York City and Atlanta. The women are raw and hilarious as they celebrate their self-realization in the face of discrimination and violence. - *Thom Powers* (USA, 73 MIN)

Winner, Next Innovator Award, Sundance Film Festival 2023

SAT NOV 11, 9:30PM | VE

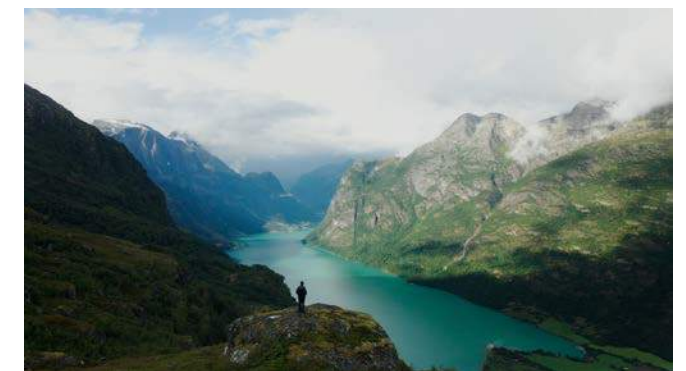


**Smoke Sauna Sisterhood**

**Director:** Anna Hints  
**Producer:** Marianne Ostrat  
**NYC Premiere** In a smoke sauna in Estonia, as the hot-damp air hangs heavy, a group of Voro women gather. Their sweat, tears, and laughter mingle, and in the ethereal in betweenness of light and darkness, they find a way to shed the toil and shame that sticks to their bodies. Anna Hints' debut feature has garnered awards all over the world, including Sundance's Documentary directing award. - *Bedatri D. Choudhury* (ESTONIA, 89 MIN)

Jury Award, Directing (World Cinema Documentary), Sundance Film Festival 2023

THU NOV 9, 6:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26



**Songs of Earth**

**Director:** Margreth Olin  
**Producers:** Margreth Olin, Lena Faye-Lund Sandvik  
**NYC Premiere** With the film's first image of a lone elderly man trekking through an untouched snowy landscape, we sense that director Margreth Olin is taking us somewhere special. The man is her father Jørgen who shares his journey to stunning vistas of glaciers, waterfalls, and fjords. The film's artistry has won the support of executive producers Wim Wenders and Liv Ullman. It's a stunning cinematic experience that's unlike any other documentary this year. - *Thom Powers* (USA/THE NETHERLANDS, 84 MIN, ENGLISH)

Winner, Krakow Film Festival 2023, Recommendation to European Film Awards, Documentary

FRI NOV 10, 4:00PM | IFC

Each year, DOC NYC picks 15 films for our Short List for Features, representing the best of the year.

These films are distinguished by festival honors, critical accolades, audience enthusiasm and undeniable buzz. A strong prognosticator for awards season, the Short List has brought dozens of Oscar nominees and winners to DOC NYC audiences.

*Short List: Features screenings have a reduced ticket price of \$13 (\$10 IFC Center members). Most in-person screenings include Q&As with the filmmakers, so don't miss this chance to catch them. Visit [docnyc.net](http://docnyc.net) for the latest updates.*



## 20 Days in Mariupol

**Director:** Mstyslav Chernov  
**Producers:** Mstyslav Chernov, Michelle Mizner, Raney Aronson Rath, Derl McCrudden

THU NOV 9, 4:15PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26

Ukrainian journalist Mstyslav Chernov arrives at the strategically key city of Mariupol, Ukraine just as Russian forces begin assaulting the city on the first day of their full-scale invasion. Sending dispatches to AP, Chernov and his team bear witness as the beautiful city is ravaged with bombings, disintegration, and death one devastating day at a time. Refusing to leave until the last possible moment, Chernov and his team capture defining images that galvanize the West to rally to his country's defense. *Courtesy of PBS Distribution/Frontline (USA, 94 MIN)*



## American Symphony

**Director:** Matthew Heineman  
**Producers:** Matthew Heineman, Lauren Domino, Joedan Okun

THU NOV 9, 6:15PM | IFC  
 FRI NOV 10, 3:00PM | VE

**NYC Premiere** Musician Jon Batiste was riding high in 2022 with 11 Grammy nominations and a planned event at Carnegie Hall to present a new composition called "American Symphony." But the year grows more complex when his life partner Suleika Jaouad, a writer and musician, learns that her cancer has returned after a decade in remission. Oscar-nominated filmmaker Matthew Heineman (*Cartel Land*) follows the couple as they experience the best and worst of what life has to offer. *Courtesy of Netflix (USA, 103 MIN)*



## Bobi Wine: The People's President

**Directors:** Moses Bwayo, Christopher Sharp  
**Producers:** Christopher Sharp, John Battsek

THU NOV 9, 9:30PM | VE

Bobi Wine, a popular Afrobeats musician, directs his charisma to politics as he runs for office as Uganda's presidential opposition candidate, challenging longtime leader Yoweri Museveni. The film unfolds like a thriller as Wine faces a brutal pushback. "It's a gripping piece of filmmaking: a propulsive, kinetic account of a grassroots campaign captured at what would seem to be considerable personal risk to both the subject and directors" (*The Guardian*). *Courtesy of National Geographic Documentary Films (UGANDA/UK, 118 MIN)*



## The Disappearance of Shere Hite

**Director:** Nicole Newnham  
**Producers:** Nichole Newnham, Molly O'Brien, R.J. Cutler, Elise Pearlstein, Kimberley Ferdinando, Trevor Smith

**THU NOV 9, 9:00PM | IFC**  
**FRI NOV 10, 3:30PM | VE**  
**ONLINE | NOV 10 - 16**

**NYC Premiere** Feminist sexologist Shere Hite helped change public perception toward masturbation, clitoral orgasm, and more, with her groundbreaking research in the 1970s and '80s. Her books rank among the biggest best-selling nonfiction titles of all time. Oscar-nominated filmmaker Nicole Newnham (*Crip Camp*) explores her rise and fall from prominence through a trove of archival footage, and enlists Dakota Johnson to give voice to Hite. *Courtesy of IFC Films*



## Every Body

**Director:** Julie Cohen  
**Producers:** Molly O'Brien, Tommy Nguyen

**WED NOV 15, 4:00PM | VE**

The term "intersex" covers a broad range of people who are born with reproductive anatomy that doesn't easily fit the categories of male or female. Often their stories have been shrouded in mystery and shame by the medical establishment and media. Oscar-nominated filmmaker Julie Cohen (*RBG*) captures a new generation of intersex people who are living loudly and proudly. The film covers the history, science, and politics of a movement advocating against medically unnecessary surgeries on intersex children. *Courtesy of Focus Features (USA, 92 MIN)*



## The Eternal Memory

**Director / Producer:** Maite Alberdi

**THU NOV 9, 3:30PM | VE**

Journalist Augusto Góngora and actress Paulina Urrutia form the unforgettable couple at the heart of this film about love, politics, and loss. Oscar-nominated filmmaker Maite Alberdi (*The Mole Agent*) profiles the pair as Góngora copes with Alzheimer's disease and Urrutia adapts to this new phase of their relationship with resilience. "Alberdi's beautiful meditation has the viewer's anatomy in its sights: touching the heart, activating the mind, working its way into our bones" (*The Los Angeles Times*). *Courtesy of MTV Documentary Films (CHILE, 84 MIN)*



## Four Daughters

**Director:** Kaouther Ben Hania  
**Producer:** Nadim Cheikhrouha

**THU NOV 9, 8:45PM | VE**

The Tunisian mother Olfa Hamrouni gained prominence in 2016 when two of her four daughters ran away to join the Islamic State in Libya. She grew outspoken in the hope of preventing other mothers from suffering her loss. Now filmmaker Kaouther Ben Hania takes a novel approach to telling this story by casting two actors to portray the missing daughters alongside Hamrouni and her other daughters. "Four Daughters is an enthralling narrative about memory" (*Variety*). *Courtesy of Kino Lorber (FRANCE/SAUDI ARABIA/GERMANY/CYPRUS, 107 MIN)*



## Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Story

**Directors:** Joe Brewster,  
Michèle Stephenson  
**Producers:** Joe Brewster, Michèle  
Stephenson, Tommy Oliver

THU NOV 16, 5:30PM | VE

Nikki Giovanni is a trailblazing poet who rose to be a key figure in the Black Arts Movement of the 1960s and remains just as vibrant today. Filmmakers Joe Brewster and Michèle Stephenson capture her artistry and spiky personality in this warm portrait. "She is a vibrant, prickly, unpredictable presence in both private and public life, and hearing her read her own poetry is even better than reading it on the page" (*Art Forum*). *Courtesy of HBO Documentary Films (USA, 102 MIN)*



## Little Richard: I Am Everything

**Director:** Lisa Cortés  
**Producers:** Robert Friedman, Lisa  
Cortés, Liz Yale Marsh, Caryn Capotosto

TUE NOV 14, 5:15PM | VE

Lisa Cortés' Sundance opening night documentary tells the story of the queer Black origins of rock 'n' roll, exploding the whitewashed canon of American pop music to reveal the innovator – the originator – Richard Penniman. Through a wealth of archive and performance that brings us into Richard's complicated inner world, the film unspools the icon's life story with all its switchbacks and contradictions. In interviews with family, musicians, and cutting-edge Black and queer scholars, the film reveals how Richard created an art form for ultimate self-expression, yet what he gave to the world he was never able to give to himself. *Courtesy of Magnolia Pictures (USA, 98 MIN)*

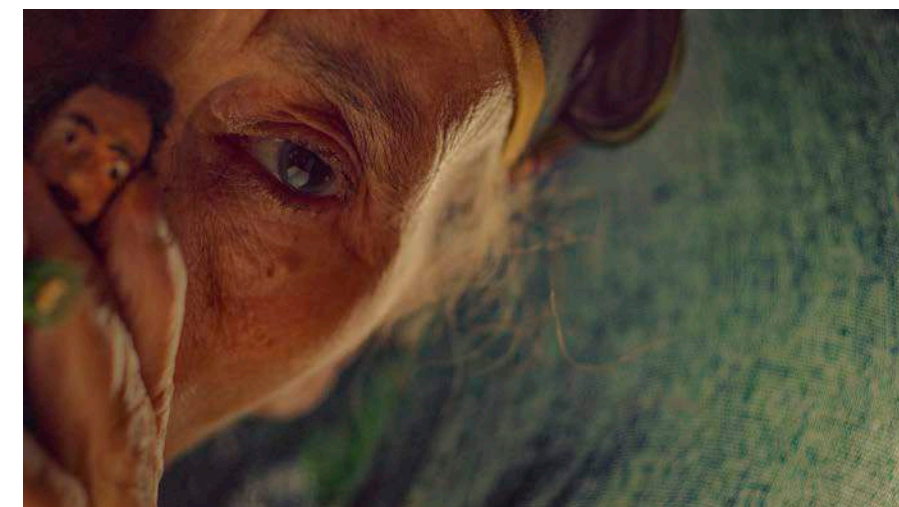


## Lakota Nation vs. the United States

**Directors:** Jesse Shortbull,  
Laura Tomaselli  
**Producers:** Benjamin Hedin, Phil Pinto

WED NOV 15, 9:00PM | IFC

One of the greatest injustices ever committed on North American soil is examined in sweeping historical detail by filmmakers Jesse Shortbull and Laura Tomaselli. As American settlers moved west, the U.S. government signed treaty after treaty with the Lakota and other Indigenous tribes, only to continually break their legal and moral commitments with complete impunity. As traditional Lakota lands shrink under impingement, exploitation, and genocide, a new generation takes a stand against their oppressors. *Courtesy of IFC Films (USA, 120 MIN)*



## The Mother of All Lies

**Director / Producer:** Asmae El Moudir

SAT NOV 11, 5:30PM | VE  
TUE NOV 14, 3:15PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 12 - 26

**U.S. Premiere** A poetic, riveting, and cathartic exploration of the lies and misrememberings of director Asmae El Moudir's family, surrounding the Casablanca Bread Riots of 1981. The period of repression known in Morocco as the "Years of Lead" is hardly ever discussed. Narratives of trauma, loss, and love are recovered here through exquisite re-enactments played by handmade figurines, sculpted by El Moudir's father and dressed by her mother, placed in a scale model of her neighborhood. (MOROCCO, EGYPT, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, 96 MIN)





FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION  
**Best Documentary Feature**  
AND ALL ELIGIBLE CATEGORIES

## SHORT LIST: FEATURES



### The Pigeon Tunnel

**Director:** Errol Morris  
**Producers:** Errol Morris, Dominic Crossley-Holland, Steven Hathaway, Simon Cornwell, Stephen Cornwell

FRI NOV 10, 3:15PM | VE

Oscar-winning filmmaker Errol Morris interviews David Cornwell aka John Le Carré, who describes this as the "definitive" interview before his death. Crucial to the narrative is Cornwell's relationship to his father Ronnie, a con artist who was endlessly on the run from the mob or the police. Morris keeps the visuals as lively as the conversation, creating his own cinematic imaginings of Cornwell's history along with clips from famous film and TV adaptations of Le Carré's thrillers. *Courtesy of AppleTV+ (UK, 94 MIN)*



### Silver Dollar Road

**Director:** Raoul Peck  
**Producers:** Raoul Peck, Rémi Grellety, Blair Foster, Hébert Peck

THU NOV 9, 6:30PM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 10 - 26

Oscar-nominated filmmaker Raoul Peck (*I Am Not Your Negro*) chronicles the way real estate developers work in blatant and subtle ways to divest Black families from inherited property. He focuses on the case of the Reels family in North Carolina who resisted intimidation tactics and dubious legal maneuvers over several decades. The film draws upon the in-depth reporting of Lizzie Presser, published by ProPublica and *The New Yorker*. *Courtesy of Amazon Studios (USA, 100 MIN)*

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION  
in all categories including  
**BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE**

Written, Directed and Produced by  
**RAOUL PECK**

Produced by  
**RÉMI GRELLETY · BLAIR FOSTER · HÉBERT PECK**

# SILVER DOLLAR ROAD



AMAZON  
STUDIOS | MGM

## SHORT LIST: FEATURES



### Stamped from the Beginning

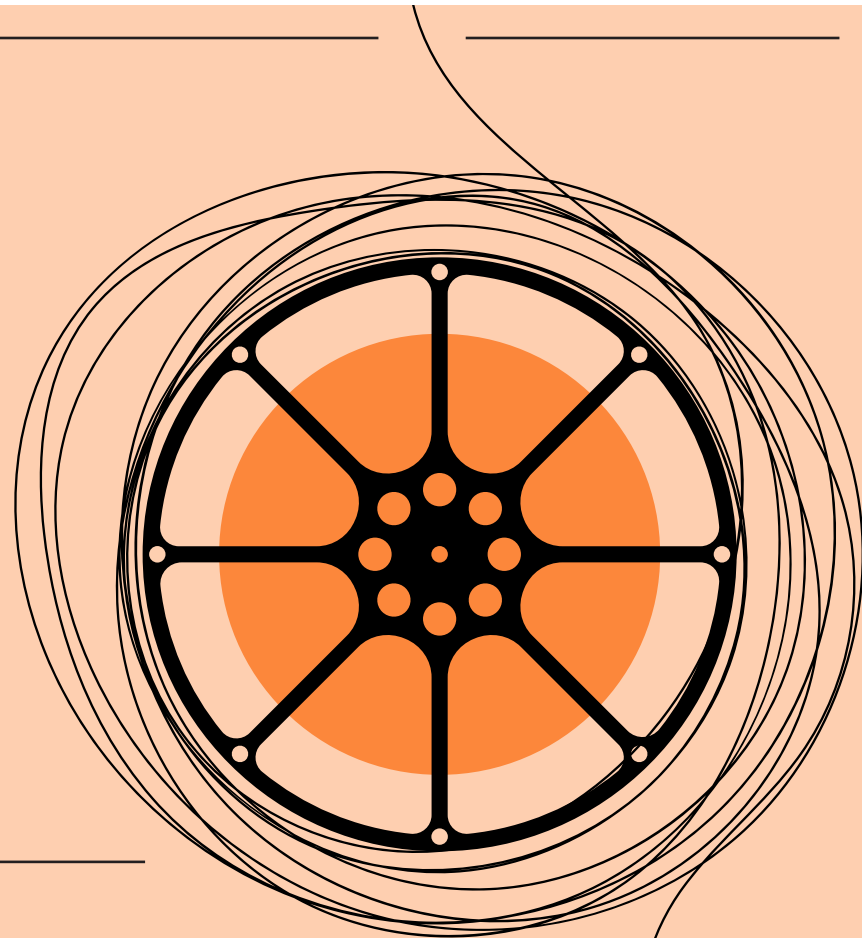
Director: Roger Ross Williams  
Producers: Alisa Payne, Roger Ross Williams, David Teague

WED NOV 8, 6:45PM | IFC  
THU NOV 9, 1:30PM | VE

**NYC Premiere** In his book *Stamped From the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*, author Dr. Ibram X. Kendi explored the history of anti-Black racist ideas and their impact on the United States. Oscar-winning filmmaker Roger Ross Williams takes inspiration from Kendi's work to explore those themes with an array of powerful film techniques. Music and visual sampling are injected to create vivid storytelling with a hip-hop sensibility. *Courtesy of Netflix (USA, 94 MIN)*

## Congratulations on the 14th edition of DOC NYC!

We believe that documentary film has the power to contribute to a multi-racial, gender-inclusive democracy and a society of belonging.



Ford Foundation  
JustFilms



### While We Watched

Director: Vinay Chukla  
Producers: Vinay Shukla, Khusboo Ranka, Luke Moody

FRI NOV 10, 1:00PM | IFC  
ONLINE NOV 11 - 26

Ravish Kumar is an award-winning journalist hosting one of India's leading prime-time news shows. His courage and objectivity have remained unswayed by government changes. As we witness the financial, organizational and emotional risks journalists navigate, the challenges Kumar faces resonate far beyond India. *Courtesy of BritDocs/POV (INDIA/UK, 94 MIN)*

## SHORT LIST: SHORTS

Short List: Shorts showcases some of the year's finest nonfiction short work, grouped together in thematic programs with a reduced in-person ticket price of \$13.

Get an Online Shorts Pass to stream almost all the festival's shorts for only \$49.

Filmmakers in person for most screenings; check docnyc.net for the latest information.



### American Santa

**Director:** Avi Zev Weider  
**Producers:** Avi Zev Weider, Alexandra Berger  
Screening as part of the Short List program "Up Close and Personal"

This haunting documentary zooms in on Black Santas and the gravity of their work during the holiday season. *Courtesy of The New Yorker* (USA, 24 MIN)

**SAT NOV 11, 11:30AM | VE**

**ONLINE NOV 8 - 26**



### Between Earth and Sky

**Director:** Andrew Nadkarni | **Producers:** Andrew Nadkarni, Swetha Regunathan, Katie Schiller  
Screening as part of the Short List program "Up Close and Personal"

The story of one professor's career researching the rainforest canopy, where she was hurt, and where she also healed. *Produced in association with Field of Vision* (USA, 25 MIN)

**SAT NOV 11, 11:30AM | VE**

**ONLINE NOV 8 - 26**



### Black Girls Play: The Story of Hand Games

**Directors / Producers:** Joe Brewster, Michèle Stephenson  
Screening as part of the Short List program "The Kids Are Alright"

Learn about the impactful and joyful hand games played by Black girls from generation to generation. *Courtesy of ESPN Films* (USA, 18 MIN)

**FRI NOV 10, 12:00PM | VE**

**ONLINE NOV 8 - 26**



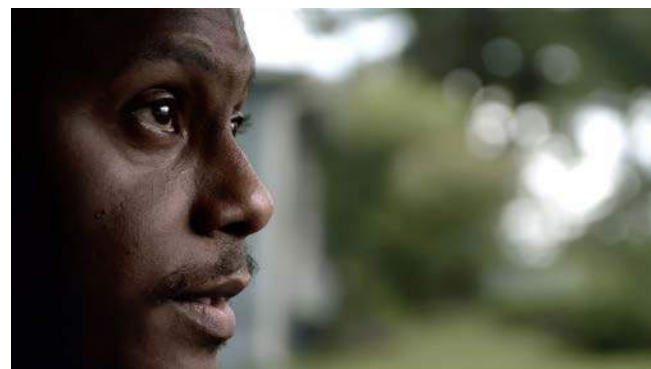
### Ayenda

**Director / Producer:** Marie Margolius  
Screening as part of Short List program "New Beginnings"

Witness the true story of an Afghani girls soccer team who relocate from their home country all in the name of the sport. *Courtesy of MSNBC* (USA, 39 MIN)

**FRI NOV 10, 2:45PM | VE**

**ONLINE NOV 8 - 26**



### The Barber of Little Rock

**Directors:** John Hoffman, Christine Turner  
**Producers:** Christina Avalos, John Hoffman, Christine Turner  
Screening as part of Short List program "New Beginnings"

The barbershop is the heart of the Black community, and in Little Rock, Arkansas, the starting place of a new community lending program. (USA, 35 MIN)

**FRI NOV 10, 2:45PM | VE**

**ONLINE NOV 8 - 26**



### Camp Courage

**Director:** Max Lowe  
**Producers:** Marilyn Ness, Katy Chevigny  
Screening as part of the Short List program "Louder Than Words"

A profile of a young girl, her grandmother, and the camp that builds confidence for children going through big changes. *Courtesy of Netflix* (SLOVAKIA, UKRAINE, 33 MIN)

**THURS NOV 9, 12:30PM | VE**



### Carpenter

**Director:** Xelil Sehragerd  
**Producers:** Xelil Sehragerd, New York Studio  
Screening as part of Short List program "Louder Than Words"

In this meditative documentary we meet a Kurdish carpenter as he serves his community in an unexpected way. *Courtesy of RêtaW Film Distribution* (IRAN/USA, 14 MIN)

**THURS NOV 9, 12:30PM | VE**

**ONLINE NOV 8 - 26**



## The Dads

**Director / Producer: Luchina Fisher**  
**Screening as part of Short List program “The Kids Are Alright”**

Six fathers of diverse backgrounds gather for a weekend of fishing, and sharing ideas of how to better support their beloved trans children. *Courtesy of Netflix* (USA, 10 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 12:00PM | VE



## Deciding Vote

**Directors: Jeremy Workman, Robert Lyons**  
**Producers: Jeremy Workman, Robert Lyons, Melissa Jacobson**  
**Screening as part of the Short List program “Up Close and Personal”**

The decision to legalize abortion in the state of New York came down to one person. This is his story. *Courtesy of The New Yorker* (USA, 20 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 11:30AM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26



## Nina & Irena

**Director: Daniel Lombroso**  
**Producer: Devon Blackwell**  
**Screening as part of Short List program “New Beginnings”**

**NYC Premiere** As her 90th birthday approaches, Nina divulges the story behind her sister’s disappearance during the Holocaust. *Courtesy of The New Yorker* (USA, 22 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 2:45PM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26



## Puffling

**Director: Jessica Bishopp**  
**Producers: Alice Hughes, Gannesh Rajah, Ada Benjamínsdóttir, Jessica Bishopp**  
**Screening as part of Short List program “The Kids are Alright”**

Young women on a remote island off Iceland help lost baby puffins, who easily lose their bearings. *Courtesy of The New Yorker* (UK/ ICELAND, 20 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 12:00PM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26



## Holy Cowboys

**Director: Varun Chopra**  
**Producers: Anna Hashmi, Varun Chopra**  
**Screening as part of Short List program “Louder Than Words”**

A dedicated group of young Hindu men are encouraged to protect cows at any cost. (USA/ INDIA, 24 MIN)

THURS NOV 9, 12:30PM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26



## The Last Repair Shop

**Directors: Ben Proudfoot, Kris Bowers**  
**Producers: Ben Proudfoot, Kris Bowers, Jeremy Lambert, Josh Rosenberg**  
**Screening as part of Short List program “The Kids Are Alright”**

One warehouse in the Los Angeles area devotes their time and energy to repairing 80,000 instruments for city schoolchildren. (USA, 39 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 12:00PM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26



## The Takeover

**Director: Anders Sømme Hammer**  
**Producers: Anders Sømme Hammer, Charlotte Cook**  
**Screening as part of the Short List program “Louder Than Words”**

Witness the transition inside Afghanistan during the Taliban's government takeover. *Courtesy of Field of Vision* (USA, 35 MIN)

THURS NOV 9, 12:30PM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26



## A Tattoo on My Brain

**Directors / Producers: David Heilbroner, Kate Davis**  
**Screening as part of the Short List program “Up Close and Personal”**

For his entire career neurologist Daniel Gibbs found the poor prognosis for Alzheimer's patients daunting. Now, with his own diagnosis, he commits himself to researching and writing about his symptoms. *Courtesy of MTV Documentary Films* (USA, 32 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 11:30AM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26

# QUEENS

NARRATED BY  
ANGELA BASSETT

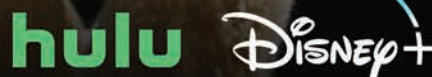
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MAR 4

STREAM ON



### Shorts: Animal Farm

These docs explore the relationships between humans and entertaining, sentient, magnificent animals. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 87 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 9:50PM | VE      SUN NOV 12, 6:00PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

#### Frank and His Dogs

Director / Producer: Owen Markham  
**World Premiere** Frank surrounds himself with friends and dogs, leading a busy but modest life. - AR (USA, 11 MIN)

#### Willie's Wings

Directors: Alberto Vignati, Reina Daniels  
Producer: Andrea Italia  
**New York Premiere** After losing his arm in an accident, Willie Wright Junior finds his passion again by flying pigeons. - DD (ITALY, USA, 11 MIN)

#### Not Wasting My Time

Director / Producer: Derek Howard  
**World Premiere** Stray cats abound in New York City, and Steven Hock seeks to save them. The more cats he rescues, the more he feels rescued. - DD (USA, 16 MIN)

#### Visible Mending

Director: Samantha Moore  
Producer: Tilley Bancroft  
A story about love, loss, and knitting. - SA (UK, 9 MIN)

#### \*You Can't Shrink Love

Director / Producer: Veena Rao  
**New York Premiere** Artist Lucy Francis creates miniatures of dogs to show their spirit and feed her passion for man's best friend. - DD (USA, 6 MIN)

#### Happy

Director / Producer: Laura Rindlisbacher  
**NYC Premiere** Are animals illegally confined in zoos? Lawyers for Happy the elephant fight for her right to freedom from the Bronx Zoo. - DD (UK, 22 MIN)

\*Pictured Above



### Shorts: Artscapes

A glimpse into the artistic process behind brilliant creators across disciplines. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 81 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 12:45PM | IFC      ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

#### The Promise of Spring

Director: Anna Andersen  
Producer: Katie Rose Vaughan  
**New York Premiere** Prolific backdrop artist Sarah Oliphant hopes to guide her daughter, Violet, in artistic pursuits of her own. - DD (USA, 14 MIN)

#### Love, Jamie

Director: Karla Murthy  
Producer: Andrew Fredericks  
**NYC Premiere** We follow a journey and celebration of resiliency through Jamie Diaz, an incarcerated transgender artist, whose art reaches beyond prison walls. - AR (USA, 20 MIN)

#### Forbidden Pond

Director / Producer: Eric Jenkins-Sahlin  
**World Premiere** Deb Kapell mounted her camera to a microscope and now photographs the microscopic life from puddle samples in New York City. - DD (USA, 13 MIN)

#### \*Whitney Houston in Focus

Director: Benjamin Alfonsi  
Producers: Benjamin Alfonsi, Audra McDonald  
**World Premiere** Iconic photographer Bette Marshall reminisces on her memories as photographer of Whitney Houston right before she ascended to stardom. - SA (USA, 34 MIN)



## Shorts: Caretakers

A selection of tenderhearted films about taking care of memories, heirlooms, and family members. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 86 MIN)

MON NOV 13, 8:30PM | VE THU NOV 16, 11:00AM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### Caretaker

Director / Producer: Verónica Rose Wood

**World Premiere** In this exploration of sacrifice, we see how love endures as Antonio's sister moves to Texas to take care of him after he loses his sight. – AR (USA, 9 MIN)

### \*The Medallion

Director: Ruth Hunduma

Producers: Lily Usher, Tolu Stedford

**North American Premiere** Ruth divulges the history of a precious artifact: a medallion that signifies her family's struggles, successes, and hopes for the future. – AR (UK/ETHIOPIA, 19 MIN)

### My Cure and Me

Director / Producer: Alan Bradley

**International Premiere** Two rural Irish faith healers' experiences are brought to light, giving us insight into an ancient practice infused with faith and folklore. – AR (IRELAND, 13 MIN)

### The Echo of Her Voice

Director: Rodrigo Guzmán Espíndola

Producers: Rodrigo Guzmán Espíndola, Daniela Contreras, Nicolas Défossé

**New York Premiere** In Mexico, Margarita searches for answers to her daughter's death and discovers Paulina's voice can echo the struggles of a movement. – AR (MEXICO, 14 MIN)

### Behind the Mask

Director / Producer: Håvard Bustnes

**World Premiere** Survivor of a Uyghur internment camp has an opportunity to confront a former guard from his camp but must consider the effect on his children, who witnessed his arrest. – DD (NORWAY, 31 MIN)



## Shorts: Changing Tides

This program captures the shifting currents when we forge a new outlook on life. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 85 MIN)

THU NOV 16, 1:00PM | VE THU NOV 16, 4:00PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### I See You

Director: Adam Weingrod

Producer: Kobi Mizrahi

**International Premiere** When Danny regains his sight after 25 years, his perspective on life changes with the newfound light in his life. – AR (ISRAEL, 20 MIN)

### Whiteness at Work

Director: Peter Nelson

Producer: Evan Weselmann

**New York Premiere** White people wonder what to do with their nascent understanding of privilege, race, and power in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd. – AR (USA, 6 MIN)

### \*Looking Forward

Director: Steven Ascher

Producers: Steven Ascher, Jeanne Jordan

**World Premiere** In this short film we consider the nature of optimism and pessimism in a world where humans face off against rapidly-evolving technology. – AR (USA, 12 MIN)

### When a Rocket Sits on the Launch Pad

Director: Bohao Liu

Producers: Bohao Liu, Gene Gallerano

**NYC Premiere** At 15, Fang's life is about to take off, but first she must face the mundanity of fixing her phone and navigating her teen life. – DD (USA/CHINA, 12 MIN)

### The Cities I Live In

Director: Rabie Mustapha

Producer: Michael Hewitt

**International Premiere** This director pens a visual letter to his children after moving from city to city, fleeing war for a better life. – SA (UK, 11 MIN)

### Marungka tjalatjunu (Dipped in Black)

Directors: Matthew Thorne, Derik Lynch

Producers: Matthew Thorne, Patrick Graham

**U.S. Premiere** Derik Lynch's childhood memories return as he journeys home from Adelaide to his remote Aboriginal community to seek spiritual healing. – AR (AUSTRALIA, 25 MIN)

\*Pictured Above



## Shorts: Collateral Damage

The outcomes of war go beyond the physical. These short documentaries capture the far-ranging implications of modern warfare. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 80 MIN)

TUE NOV 14, 1:30PM | VE WED NOV 15, 1:30PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 8-26

### \*Boat People

Directors: Thao Lam, Kjell Boersma

Producers: Justine Pimlott, Jelena Popović

**New York Premiere** A daughter animates her parent's experience fleeing Vietnam after years of their silence desperately trying to forget the war. – SA (CANADA, 10 MIN)

### Between Me and the Sea

Director: Mohsin Mohi-Ud Din

Producers: Mohsin Mohi-Ud Din, Rafe Scobey-Thal, People's TV

**World Premiere** A visually immersive diary of a young girl who dreams of life outside of the Zaatari refugee camp. – SA (USA, 12 MIN)

### Stones

Director: Arman Ayzvazyan

Producer: Vardan Hovhannisyan

**North American Premiere** Armenian volunteers move the ancient monuments off the land that a peace treaty ceded to Azerbaijan. – DD (ARMENIA, 17 MIN)

### The Syrian Cosmonaut

Director: Charles Emir Richards

Producer: Enis Ozkul

**New York Premiere** Muhammed Faris was the first Syrian to go to space, but now his ideas of a free Syria have forced him to flee his country. – AR (TURKEY, 13 MIN)

### Enemy Alien

Director: Gabriel Murphy

Producer: Andrew McMartin

An exploration of the life of Joseph Murakami and his traumatic experiences as a young person in an internment camp in Australia. – AR (AUSTRALIA, 13 MIN)

### Dictionary of Emotions in a Time of War

Director / Producer: Leah Loftin

**New York Premiere** One woman's powerful daily journal of atrocities during the war on Ukraine. – AR (USA, 12 MIN)



## Shorts: Community

Whether by nature or necessity, we find solace and support in our communities. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 88 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 5:00PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 8- 26

### \*Addresses

Directors: María Luisa Santos, Carlo Nasisse

Producer: Natalia Quesada

In Costa Rica addresses are described by landmarks, rather than numbers and street names. A filmmaker returns to Costa Rica to learn the origin of this cultural practice. – DD (USA/COSTA RICA, 14 MIN)

### 74 Messages Sent & Received

Director / Producer: Danya Abt

**World Premiere** A covert exchange of text messages is artfully edited into a story of caregiving and unlikely alliances. – DD (USA, 11 MIN)

### Empress Nicole the Great

Director / Producer: Dara Bratt

**International Premiere** Nicole, an iconic drag activist, meditates on her legacy as she continues to champion LGBTQ+ rights and highlights the challenges the community still faces. – AR (USA, 16 MIN)

### Everything's Fine, Potatoes in Line

Director: Piotr Jasiński

Producer: Ondřej Šejnoha

**North American Premiere** Is Czech or Polish potato salad better? An innocuous contest stands in for an inter-border environmental and labor dispute. – AR (CZECH REPUBLIC, 14 MIN)

### Radio Bingo

Director / Producer: Shelby Adams

**New York Premiere** A popular bingo game broadcast on a reservation radio station helps to revitalize the Mohawk language. – DD (CANADA/USA, 8 MIN)

### If Dreams Were Lightning: Rural Healthcare Crises

Director: Ramin Bahrani

Producers: Pamela Ryan, Jason Orans, Ramin Bahrani

**NYC Premiere** Appalachian locals share their experiences with limited healthcare resources, and thoughts about how to address the crises. – SA (USA, 25 MIN)

Filmmakers in person at most screenings; check docnyc.net for details.



### Shorts: Family Matters

A collection of shorts about families: those we're born into and those we choose. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 74 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 3:30PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

#### MnM

Director: Twiggy Pucci Garçon

Producers: Colleen Cassingham, Jess Devaney

**NYC Premiere** Mermaid and Milan showcase their talents and confident personas at Kiki balls as they navigate the nonbinary community. – AR (USA, 15 MIN)

#### Parker

Directors: Sharon Liese, Catherine Hoffman

Producers: Sharon Liese, Funmi Ogunro, Samantha Hake

**New York Premiere** Three generations of family members change their last names to unify their bloodline, on paper and in their hearts. – SA (USA, 13 MIN)

#### Grape Soda in the Parking Lot

Directors: Megan Kyak-Monteith, Taqralik Partridge

Producers: Christa Couture, Michelle St. John

**New York Premiere** A beautifully animated tale of family, memories, love, pain, and the rebirth of language. – AR (CANADA, 7 MIN)

#### \*Buttons and Dumplings

Directors: Calvin Sang, Mei Ling Lee

Producer: Mei Ling Lee

**International Premiere** A close-knit family bond over food, mahjong, and a prime minister. – AR (NEW ZEALAND, 7 MIN)

#### A Bear Named Jesus

Director: Terril Calder

Producers: Christa Couture, Michelle St. John

**New York Premiere** In this surreal and inventive stop-motion animated story, a bear named Jesus abducts the narrator's mother from their reservation. – AR (CANADA, 6 MIN)

#### Trenton: To the Moon & Back

Director: Josh Leong

Producers: Josh Leong, Sofia Bara

**New York Premiere** Two brothers trapped in a scheme far from their home in the Solomon Islands seek help from a conservative town in Georgia. – DD (USA, 18 MIN)



### Shorts: Hidden Histories

The backstories of under-recognized people and cultural institutions. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 91 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 5:15PM | VE SAT NOV 11, 11:00AM | IFC  
ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

#### Black Godfather of Scuba

Director: Matt Kay

Producer: Andrew Carver

**World Premiere** Marine biologist and diver Dr. Albert Jose "Doc" Jones dove into the first lost slave ship ever to be recovered, and co-founded the National Association of Black Scuba Divers. – SA (UK/USA, 24 MIN)

#### Jack and Sam

Director / Producer: Jordan Matthew Horowitz

Two Holocaust survivors in their twilight years meet in the most unlikely of circumstances. – SA (USA, 20 MIN)

#### \*Tracing History

Director: Jalena Keane-Lee

Producer: Reaa Puri

**New York Premiere** Mother and daughter, sixth generation Chinese Americans, travel to where their ancestors labored on the transcontinental railroad, and learn about themselves and their relationship in the process. – DD (USA, 13 MIN)

#### Taking Back the Groove

Director: Celia Aniskovich

Producers: Celia Aniskovich, Roddy Lindsay

**New York Premiere** As his story unfolds, disco icon Richie Weeks returns to the spotlight, relaying a struggle to cement his legacy and share his music the way it was meant to be heard. – AR (USA, 33 MIN)



### Shorts: Inside and Out

Honest vignettes of the prison industrial complex. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 85 MIN)

FRI NOV 10, 9:00PM | IFC SUN NOV 12, 2:45PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

#### The Bus

Director: Sandra Reina

Producers: Valérie Delpierre, Jaume Fargas Coll

**New York Premiere** As the passengers settle on a bus, we overhear many odd conversations about their upcoming weekend. – DD (SPAIN, 30 MIN)

#### \*Tito

Directors: Kervens Jimenez, Taylor McIntosh

Producers: Corbin J. Stone, Jean Roody St. Vilien, Taylor McIntosh

**New York Premiere** A startling view of Haitian prison, shot by an inmate with a camera hidden from the guards. – DD (HAITI, 15 MIN)

#### Ike Brown

Director: Caleb Clowe

Producers: Matthew Veeder, Kelly O'Quinn

**New York Premiere** After the tragic death of his son, one father learns to forgive the killer by meeting him face to face. – SA (USA, 15 MIN)

#### Rocko

Directors: Emma Bergman, James Jones

Producers: Emma Bergman, Caren Holmes

**World Premiere** An incarcerated organizer and his long-distance friend speak on the phone about the daily indignities of living in prison, and the care networks that arise to address them. – DD (USA, 7 MIN)

#### Breaking Silence

Directors: Amy Bench, Annie Silverstein

Producers: Amy Bench, Monique Walton

**NYC Premiere** A deaf activist works to create support systems for deaf prisoners and parolees, and in the process he forges closer bonds with his formerly incarcerated daughter. – DD (USA, 18 MIN)



### Shorts: Love Letters

Stories all about love (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 95 MIN)

MON NOV 13, 5:45PM | VE TUE NOV 14, 2:30PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

#### And Then I Was Here

Director / Producer: Alex Stergjiu

**New York Premiere** A genderqueer person navigates the end of a high risk pregnancy, first-time parenthood, and the biases against their identity. – DD (USA, 13 MIN)

#### Tidal

Director: Katrina Lillian Sorrentino

Producers: Bryn Silverman, John Condne, Alexandra Liveris

**World Premiere** After her divorce, Treen finds what she thought was a fairy-tale romance. When leaving that abusive relationship she brings together friends, family, and other survivors for support. – DD (USA, 19 MIN)

#### Pigeons Mate for Life

Director / Producer: Tabitha Yong

**World Premiere** Artist Mother Pigeon and her husband ruminate on their marriage, past projects, and the path forward. – DD (USA, 10 MIN)

#### Blue Dots

Director: Lorenzo Squarcia

Producers: Manuel Grieco, Simone Spampinato, Lorenzo Squarcia

**New York Premiere** If you sit on Biagio's bench in Washington Square Park, he will share a love story through photos and letters. – AR (ITALY, 13 MIN)

#### \*Freedom Waders: The Struggle to Integrate Chicago's Rainbow Beach

Director / Producer: Alex S. Hinton

**World Premiere** Velma and Norman Hill, married more than 60 years, recount their experience braving mob violence at the height of the Civil Rights Movement. – AR (USA, 15 MIN)

#### Ted & Noel

Director: Julia Alcamo

Producers: Dan Hodgson, Mary Pattison

**International Premiere** The iconic activist Ted Brown reflects on his love for his partner Noel, and his more than 50-year fight for LGBTQ+ rights. – AR (UK, 25 MIN)

\*Pictured Above



## Shorts: The Meaning of Work

This collection of shorts unpacks capitalism through the process of labor. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 89 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 2:15PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### Chronicle of a Summer Day

Director / Producer: Bronzeville Collective  
**New York Premiere** A portrait of an artist whose medium is flowers as he works with his team on an installation for Chicago's Juneteenth celebrations. – SA (USA, 16 MIN)

### Fitting

Director: Caitlin McMullan  
 Producer: Marissa Keating  
**International Premiere** This short explores the intimate process of the creation of a prosthesis, and the relationship between the amputee and prosthetist. – DD (UK, 11 MIN)

### \*The Last Carnival

Directors: Tucker Morrison, Samuel Ott, Anthony Wilson  
 Producers: David Brown, Tucker Morrison, Samuel Ott, Anthony Wilson  
**New York Premiere** A migrant worker muses on the American Dream and his home as he helms the rides at a carnival. – DD (USA, 13 MIN)

### Dust to Light

Director / Producer: Erika Houle  
**NYC Premiere** Four Zen practitioners reflect on the transformative process of cleaning when it is approached as a meditation rather than burdensome chore. – DD (USA, 12 MIN)

### Fleshwork

Director / Producer: Lydia Cornett  
**New York Premiere** Meat processors at a butcher shop contemplate their lives and their work. – DD (USA, 7 MIN)

### Rambo

Directors: Matthias Joulaud, Lucien Roux  
 Producers: Lionel Baier, Nicolas Wadimoff  
**North American Premiere** A grandfather teaches his grandson the ins and outs of farming, and makes mistakes along the way. – SA (SWITZERLAND, 30 MIN)



## Shorts: Music Medley

A loaded program for lovers of musicians, instruments, and music! (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 84 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 8:15PM | CC ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### \*The Orchestra Chuck Built

Director: Christopher Stoudt  
 Producers: Christopher Stoudt, Ryan Suffern, Maryann Garger, Bob Logan, Ains "Brainz" Prasad  
**New York Premiere** Chuck is a devoted mentor and leader of a Los Angeles youth orchestra who empowers students through the art of music in this tender portrait. – SA (USA, 22 MIN)

### Do You See Me?

Director: Camille Gottscheck  
 Producer: Ailed Cazares  
**NYC Premiere** The extraordinary story of Kyle Woodruff, a musical prodigy who became an educator and the first blind member of the Tabernacle Choir. – AR (UK, 22 MIN)

### Last Song From Kabul

Director: Kevin MacDonald  
 Producer: Lawrence Elman  
**New York Premiere** Young girls in an Afghani music school find a new way to play after leaving the country to pursue their dreams. – SA (USA, 31 MIN)



## Shorts: New York, New York

Our beloved city through the eyes of many. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 87 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 7:45PM | VE TUE NOV 14, 8:15PM | VE  
 ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### \*Kingdome

Director / Producer: Shawn Antoine II  
**World Premiere** Through its founder, Terry Cooper, we witness the story of the infamous basketball tournament in Harlem that has symbolized resilience, hope, and community for decades. – AR (USA, 20 MIN)

### Friendly Fridges

Director / Producer: Ilja Willems  
**International Premiere** During the pandemic a new heart of the community is popping up in every neighborhood—in the shape of refrigerators. Friendly fridges, where people can take what they need and leave what they can. – SA (THE NETHERLANDS, 14 MIN)

### Rite of Passage

Director / Producer: Talha Jalal  
**World Premiere** In this atmospheric for elegy the MTA's MetroCard, we learn that each new technology has a "privacy tax." – SA (PAKISTAN, 21 MIN)

### The Fish Doctor (a doc about the fish doc)

Directors / Producers: Adam Levin, Riley Patterson  
**World Premiere** Follow the journey of Steven Branch, who became a professional fish wrangler and a notorious New Yorker at the same time. – AR (USA, 9 MIN)

### Through Sunless Ways

Directors: Kira Dane, Katelyn Rebelo  
 Producers: Aisha Jama, Andrea Yu-Chieh Chung, Gretta Wilson  
**New York Premiere** Five New Yorkers share their relationship with light, and the actions they've taken to foster it around them. – DD (USA, 24 MIN)



## Shorts: Our Climate / Our Crisis

The inventive solutions and devastating realities of our climate crisis, on film. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 84 MIN)

SUN NOV 12, 6:45PM | VE ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### Conceiving Our Future

Director / Producer: Annie Pancak Vogt  
**New York Premiere** Some view having children as a necessary chapter in the human experience; others are concerned the decision is self-serving. – SA (USA, 9 MIN)

### I am the nature

Director: Taliesin Black-Brown  
 Producers: Helena Sardinha, Rafael Thomaseto, Ramiro Vargas Chumpi Washikiat  
**World Premiere** A poetic perspective on the environment from the Achuar peoples of the Amazon Rainforest. – SA (BRAZIL/USA, 5 MIN)

### \*Frozen Harvest

Director: Mark Fleming  
 Producer: Lone Spruce Creative  
 An astonishing legacy of ice harvesting is now endangered as an ice house in Maine faces the impact of global warming. – AR (USA, 3 MIN)

### School of Fish

Directors / Producers: Oliver Sutro, Colin Arisman  
**New York Premiere** An intimate look at Indigenous culture and salmon fishing, with a focus on an Alaskan family that fights to defend their history, future, and lifestyle. – AR (USA, 20 MIN)

### The Shelmecca Serpent

Director: Laura Bermúdez  
 Producer: Luis Flores Alvarenga  
**New York Premiere** Wildres Wood, an Indigenous biologist, explores the mysterious Río Plátano. – AR (HONDURAS, 13 MIN)

### When the Grass Must Go

Director: Ilja Willems  
 Producer: Bert Janssen  
**International Premiere** To save water during an ongoing drought, a landscaper in Nevada is removing grass lawns under a first of a kind state law. – DD (THE NETHERLANDS, 14 MIN)

### Mountain Man

Director / Producer: Arun Bhattacharai  
**North American Premiere** A glaciologist goes on perilous trips to measure ice while leaving this family behind. – DD (BHUTAN, 22 MIN)

\*Pictured Above





## Shorts: The People Vs.

Stories that command attention about those who fight for a better future for all. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 98 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 3:30PM | VE

ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### \*Banned Book Club

Director: Sinead Keirans

Producers: Em Shapiro, Mary-Elizabeth Esquibel

**New York Premiere** In central Texas, high school students read books banned from the library shelves in hopes of fighting for their return. – DD (USA, 16 MIN)

### The Menstruation Station

Director: Miguel Luis

Producers: Miguel Luis, Nicole Olwagen

**World Premiere** Activists install shelves and stations of feminine hygiene products around Amsterdam as a means to help people across the city. – DD (THE NETHERLANDS / PHILIPPINES, 15 MIN)

### Sanctuary

Directors / Producers: John Haley, Julia Szromba

**New York Premiere** In the first city in Ohio to ban abortion, a former city councilor questions how this will impact local residents in need of life-changing healthcare. – SA (USA, 16 MIN)

### Suddenly TV

Director / Producer: Roopa Gogineni

**New York Premiere** A group of young Sudanese people create an imaginary television station at a besieged sit-in. – DD (SUDAN / QATAR, 19 MIN)

### How We Get Free

Directors: Geeta Gandbhir, Samantha Knowles

Producers: Kathleen Lingo, Sweta Vohra, Jess Devaney

**NYC Premiere** Formerly incarcerated Elisabeth Epps worked to eradicate cash bail in Colorado and now answers the call from her community to run for state representative. – AR (USA, 32 MIN)



## Shorts: Physical Pursuits

Athletic feats and strong bonds build this program of physical pursuits across the globe. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 85 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 4:00PM | VE

ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### Outside Line

Director / Producer: Jack Gordon

**New York Premiere** Rajah Caruth, one of the few African American NASCAR drivers, forged his way onto the circuit through virtual racing. Now driving in the real world, he seeks to get ahead in the sport. – DD (USA, 17 MIN)

### The Ugandan Quidditch Movement

Director: Ben Garfield

Producer: Kristina Budelis

**World Premiere** One man brings the fictional sport of Quidditch to his community as a means to boost confidence and collaboration among young people. – SA (USA, 16 MIN)

### \*Queen of the Sea

Director: Kate Cox

Producers: Danielle Wright, Emory Ruegg

**World Premiere** Seventeen-year-old surfer Deguene blazes a trail for women in Senegal while nurturing her relationship to her family, and to the water. – DD (UK, 11 MIN)

### Gloves Without Ring

Director / Producer: Karen Sotolongo Menendez

**North American Premiere** Five female Cuban boxers grow stronger in their craft as they fight for ring space. – SA (CUBA, 18 MIN)

### Kemonito: The Final Fall

Director / Producer: Teresa de Miguel

**New York Premiere** Kemonito, a beloved mascot of the Mexico World Wrestling Council, has suffered many injuries, but he can't retire and lose his only means to support his family. – DD (MEXICO, 23 MIN)



## Shorts: Profiles

Portraits and profiles of unique individuals, with filmmaking to match. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 94 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 8:45PM | VE

ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### House of Tulip

Director: Cydney Tucker

Producer: Zaferhan Yumru

**New York Premiere** This short follows two Black, trans activists who run for office to protect their community in the Deep South state of Louisiana. – AR (USA, 24 MIN)

### \*Funny Not Funny

Directors / Producers: Marc D'Agostino, Ben Feldman

**New York Premiere** We follow Kirsten, a comedian who dares her audience to laugh at her terminal illness. – AR (USA, 14 MIN)

### Echo

Directors: Ben Wolin, Michael Minahan

Producers: Michael Yuchen Lei, Melissa Fajardo

**New York Premiere** Witness the brilliance of one man who uses echolocation to "see," as he teaches the next generation how to do the same. – SA (USA, 17 MIN)

### Pitch Black

Director / Producer: Guillym Davenport

**North American Premiere** Former incels Mark and Luke attempt to shed their hostile attitude toward women as they learn how harmless online behavior can lead to real-life violence. – AR (AUSTRALIA, 17 MIN)

### Denial

Directors: Paul Moakley, Daniel Lombroso

Producer: Paul Moakley

**New York Premiere** Zoom into the iconic voting center in Maricopa County, Arizona during the midst of a tumultuous media storm surrounding their election practices. – SA (USA, 22 MIN)



## Shorts: She Stories

Women share their stories from in front of, and behind, the camera. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 91 MIN)

THU NOV 9, 9:15PM | IFC

WED NOV 15, 9:15PM | VE

ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### Bear

Director: Morgane Frund

Producer: Volko Kamensky

**New York Premiere** A student helps a filmmaker with his nature doc, and confronts him with the unexpected footage she discovers in his archive. – AR (SWITZERLAND, 19 MIN)

### A Home on Every Floor

Director / Producer: Signe Rosenlund-Hauglid

**U.S. Premiere** Writer Hanna Asefaw recreates the model of the council housing flat her Eritrean family lived in in Oslo, memorializing its diverse community, which was ultimately destroyed by the building's privatization. – DD (NORWAY, 11 MIN)

### \*Daughter of the Sea

Directors: Nicole Gormley, Nancy Kwon

Producers: Min Chul Shin, Sooyoung "Suzy" Kim, Nicole Gormley

**New York Premiere** A hypnotic film about a woman's return home to Mara Island, where generations of women support their families by free-diving to harvest sea life from the ocean floor. – AR (USA/SOUTH KOREA, 18MIN)

### The Only Girl in the Orchestra

Director: Molly O'Brien

Producers: Molly O'Brien, Lisa Remington

**World Premiere** Learn about the amazing career of Orin O'Brien, the first woman hired to play in the New York Philharmonic. – SA (USA, 34 MIN)

\*Pictured Above

# SHORTS PROGRAMS



## Shorts: Vantage Point

Films taking a different perspective or way of viewing the world. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 93 MIN)

MON NOV 13, 3:15PM | VE  
ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

WED NOV 15, 9:30PM | VE

### \*Zug Island

Director: Nicolas Lachapelle

Producers: Nicolas Lachapelle, Guillaume Collin

**U.S. Premiere** A mysterious hum brings the filmmaker to the industrial complex of Zug Island to find its source and discover the effect on the people who live nearby. -DD (CANADA, 22 MIN)

### There's Not Much We Can Do

Director: Erica Monde

Producer: Clara Harris

The filmmaker reflects on her diagnosis of endometriosis through observing the invasive Japanese knotweed. - DD (UK, 19 MIN)

### Of Dreams in the Dream of Another Mirror

Director: Yunyi Zhu

Producer: Eric Prigent

"My hands are my mirror, my fingers are my reflection." How do the blind see their reflections? And beyond their reflections, how do they see the world? - DD (FRANCE, 16 MIN)

### Two One Two

Director / Producer: Shira Avni

A moving, experimental animated portrait of a neurodiverse mother and child as a two-headed creature, and their eventual individuation. - DD (USA, 4 MIN, ENGLISH)

### Landline

Director / Producer: Samuel Wright Smith

A heartrending expression of mortality and loss through animated collage. - DD (USA, 2 MIN)

### Incident

Director: Bill Morrison

Producers: Bill Morrison, Jamie Kalven

**New York Premiere** A reflection on the possibility of truth, through recordings of a police shooting from different vantage points shown simultaneously. - DD (USA, 30 MIN)



## Shorts: Wise Ones

A lovely program dedicated to our wise, wonderful elders. (TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 78 MIN)

SAT NOV 11, 11:45AM | VE

ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

### \*Nai Nai & Wai Pó (Grandma & Grandma)

Director: Sean Wang

Producers: Sean Wang, Sam Davis, Malcolm Pullinger

A tale of two grandmothers who pass the time dancing, stretching, and being best friends. - AR (USA, 17 MIN)

### The Queen Vs. Texas

Directors: Emil Lozada, Raemonn James

Producer: Emil Lozada

Follow Hermajestie the Hung as she performs her infamous drag show and fights for social justice in Texas. - AR (USA, 14 MIN)

### The Silent Witness

Directors: George Kunhardt, Teddy Kunhardt

Producers: George Kunhardt, Teddy Kunhardt, Aleks Gezentsvey, Matthew Henderson

Tomiko Morimoto West reflects on her time as a 13-year-old girl in Hiroshima and recounts what she witnessed, how she survived, and the impact of the experience. - AR (USA, 18 MIN)

### Bubjan

Director: Nicholas Mihm

Producers: Lisa Rudin, Nicholas Mihm

Parwiz reflects on the principles he was raised with as a boy in Iran, and hopes his dreams will inspire a new generation. - AR (USA, 28 MIN)

\*Pictured Above

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**EAT BITTER**  
Pascale Appora-Gnekindy & Ningyi Sun



**ROJEK**  
Zaynè Akyol



**SOMEONE LIVES HERE**  
Zack Russell



**THE TRIALS OF ALAN DERSHOWITZ**  
John Curtin



**UNSYNCABLE**  
Megan Wennberg



**WHO AM I NOT**  
Tunde Skovran



**WITNESS**  
Yasmine Mathurin, Carol Nguyen, Amar Wala



**TWO ONE TWO**  
Shira Avni



**BOAT PEOPLE**  
Kjell Boersma & Thao Lam



**ZUG ISLAND**  
Nicolas Lachapelle



**RADIO BINGO**  
Shelby Mitchell-Adams



**A BEAR NAMED JESUS**  
Terril Calder



**GRAPE SODA IN THE PARKING LOT**  
Taarak Partridge

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Whether about teenage crushes or acting through Zoom, the next generation of filmmakers captures it all.

### DOC NYC U: Portraits

(TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 83 MIN)

THURS NOV 16, 1:00PM | VE

ONLINE | NOV 8 - 26

#### Allies Welcome

Directors / Producers: Tavleen Tarrant, Shakeeb Asrar - Columbia University

This film follows Fatima, Hamed, and Yasser as they leave Afghanistan, resettle in the U.S., and try to create a new home, whilst fearing for the safety of their family and friends back home. - AR (USA, 23 MIN)

#### Slice of Goodness

Director / Producer: Usman Chohan - Brooklyn College

Hakki Akdeniz, an immigrant from Turkey, went from rags to riches with his passion for making pizza for New Yorkers. - DD (USA, 6 MIN)

#### Second Act

Director / Producer: Britney Bautista - Pratt Institute

Bringing background actors to the forefront, this short shares the inspiring stories of three individuals who discovered the joy of being on a film set later in life. - DD (USA, 15 MIN)

#### Just Story Hour

Director / Producer: Lu Yao - School of Visual Arts

Drag queen Harmonica Sunbeam is an affable storyteller at a time where Drag Story Hour is a source of controversy and protests. - DD (USA, 7 MIN)

#### I Told You So

Directors / Producers: Malak AlSaiyyad, Amaan Stewart  
Producer: Loren Townsley - Columbia University

After years of debilitating period pain and unexplained symptoms, Malak finally gets a diagnosis: endometriosis. What follows is how she grapples with a tumultuous relationship with her pain, her body, and her dreams for the future. - AR (USA/EGYPT, 31 MIN)

### DOC NYC U: Rebirth

(TOTAL RUNNING TIME: 100 MIN)

THURS NOV 16, 3:30PM | VE

ONLINE NOV 8 - 26

#### More Than Brothers

Director / Producer: Andrea von Siebenthal - New York Film Academy

This short documentary portrays the personal sacrifices of two Green Berets, Afghans who kept U.S. soldiers safe during their deployments. - AR (USA/SWITZERLAND, 23 MIN)

#### Land

Director / Producer: Satoko Saito - Hunter College

One Japanese artist's loving homage to the Indigenous people who took care of the land before her. - AR (JAPAN, 20 MIN)

#### Through a Glass Eye

Director / Producer: Lola Granger-Jourdan - The New School

The line between reality and imagination becomes blurred with the creation of a bestiary in this documentary on taxidermy. - DD (USA/UK, 16 MIN)

#### It Smells Like Springtime

Director / Producer: Mackie Mallison - Pratt Institute

Through glimpses into her childhood, jeweler Ada Chen reckons with the roots of her work and the complexities of Asian American identity. - DD (USA, 16 MIN)

#### A Good Death

Directors / Producers: Boya Sun, Jean Chapiro - Columbia University

A unique profile on end-of-life doula Virginia Chang as she guides, supports, and accompanies clients and their loved ones in the transition from life to death. - DD (USA, 25 MIN)

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# 11TH HOUR RACING

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From the oxygen we breathe to the food we eat to the stability of our climate, we only thrive when our ocean thrives. At 11th Hour Racing, we envision a future where the ocean is healthy and thriving. We work with sports and the outdoor community because everything we do on land affects the ocean. By leveraging the power of storytelling, 11th Hour Racing unites people to inspire collective action toward sustainable practices.



For more than 30 years, Cowan, DeBaets, Abrahams & Sheppard LLP has provided legal counsel to leading media and entertainment clients, from individual creators, to corporations, associations and non-profit organizations. We provide transactional services for clients in connection with feature film, documentaries, cable, broadcast television, theatre, music, publishing, dance, photography, visual arts, fashion, software, advertising, licensing and online technologies. We counsel in copyright, trademark and other intellectual property rights as well as manage clients' trademark portfolios. Our litigators handle all forms of media and digital rights disputes including copyrights, trademarks, advertising, domain name, media defense, publicity rights and commercial cases. We understand our clients' businesses and are committed to offering them individual attention that includes in-depth industry knowledge, as well as focused legal advice.

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cdas.com



The conference brings together filmmakers and industry professionals to explore key aspects of documentary financing, production and distribution. Organized around day-long thematic topics, DOC NYC PRO assembles panels of experts and insiders to examine new breakthroughs in how documentaries are being made and reaching audiences.

To experience the DOC NYC PRO lineup, purchase an individual **PRO Day Pass**, offering access to any individual day's events, for \$125.

Discounted **PRO Day Pass packages** can be purchased for \$450 for any four days of PRO programming, or \$850 for all eight days of the PRO conference.

PRO Passes also include same-day access to the Festival Lounge, offering daily Breakfast and Happy Hour, plus a place to network throughout the day.

For additional information on Pass pricing and benefits, see page 94. DOC NYC PRO events take place at Village East by Angelika.

For full DOC NYC PRO programming check [docnyc.net](http://docnyc.net) for updates!

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9: Live Pitch Day**

Live Pitch is an opportunity for 12 filmmaking teams with works-in-progress to present live pitches to industry figures from the fields of distribution, financing, production, and sales. Watch live pitches and discover how to make your best case to funders and other industry representatives. *Co-presented by Kickstarter*

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10: Producing and Directing Day**

Join us for an enlightening day of panels featuring renowned producers and directors as they share their experiences, insights, and best practices for crafting compelling documentary films. *Co-presented by Hulu*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11: Cinematography Day**

Accomplished cinematographers will illuminate their techniques for capturing breathtaking visuals, crafting scenes, enhancing storytelling through imagery, and navigating the unique challenges of filming real-life narratives. *Co-presented by National Geographic*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12: Editing Day**

Case studies from prominent editors will elucidate the craft and help build your editor's toolkit. Insider tips on how to craft scenes for maximum storytelling impact will also be highlighted. Special interactive panel exploring mental health for documentary editors. *Co-presented by Participant*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13: Journalism and Documentary Day**

Hear from experts on two panels as we explore the intersection of journalism and documentary filmmaking. Then join us for a special NBC Original Voices live pitch event hosted by NBCU Academy, NBC News Studios, and IF/Then Shorts as six teams pitch their archival and journalistically-driven short documentary works-in-progress. *Co-presented by NBC News Studios*

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14: Music and Sound Day**

Let's go in depth into the world of music and sound for feature docs. Hear about collaboration and behind the scenes tips from music teams on some of this year's leading documentaries.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15: Business of Documentary Day**

Explore how to navigate the intricate business landscape of documentary filmmaking including inspirational examples of creative funding sources.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16: Creative Distribution Day**

Gain valuable insights on educational distribution and retaining film rights while exploring innovative distribution ideas to reach wider audiences and make a lasting impact with your storytelling.

# PICTURE START

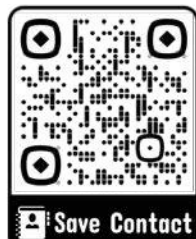


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SCAN FOR COMPLETE SCHEDULE

## DOC NYC All Film Pass \$995

Binge on all of the films in the 2023 program! The DOC NYC All Film Pass gets you access to every film screening during the live, in-person festival November 8-16, plus films on the festival's virtual screening platform November 8-26. Additionally, All Film Passholders get complimentary access, space permitting, to the Festival Lounge at Bar Veloce, including daily Breakfasts and Happy Hours, and the option to purchase discounted Visionaries Tribute Luncheon tickets.

*Note: Only a limited number of All Film Passes will be available. The All Film Pass is valid for one (1) person and is not transferable. The All Film Pass does not include the Visionaries Tribute lunch or PRO events.*

## Ten-Ticket Package \$170

**A package of 10 festival tickets for regular in-person screenings at a special discounted price - Save \$30 off regular festival admission!**

An individual ticket for each of the 10 included admissions must be redeemed online or at a festival venue box office for admission. Not redeemable for admission to Opening, Centerpiece or Closing Night films.

## Online Film Pass \$250

Grants access to all the films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 8-26. Films screening online in this year's program will only be available to watch in the U.S. and U.S. territories.

*Note: The Online Film Pass does not include access to in-person screenings and events, or to films not hosted on the festival platform.*

## Online Shorts Pass \$49

Grants access to all short films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 8-26. Films screening online in this year's program will only be available to watch in the US and US territories.

*Note: The Online Shorts Pass does not include access to in-person screenings and events, or to films not hosted on the festival platform.*

## Five-Ticket Package (Online Screening Only) \$55

A package of 5 online tickets at a special discount - Save \$10! An individual ticket for each of the 5 included admissions must be redeemed online for access to virtual screenings. Films screening online in this year's program will only be available to watch in the U.S. and U.S. territories.

## Ten-Ticket Package (Online Screening Only) \$100

A package of 10 online tickets at a special discount - Save \$30! An individual ticket for each of the 10 included admissions must be redeemed online for access to virtual screenings. Films screening online in this year's program will only be available to watch in the U.S. and U.S. territories.

## DOC NYC PRO Passes

### DOC NYC PRO Day Pass \$125

Grants access to a single DOC NYC PRO thematic day of 4 panels, plus complimentary access, space permitting, to the Festival Lounge at Bar Veloce for that day, including the day's Breakfast and Happy Hour.

*Note: Only a limited number of DOC NYC PRO Day Passes will be available. Each DOC NYC PRO Pass is valid for one (1) person and is not transferable.*

### DOC NYC PRO Multi-Day Packs: 4 Passes for \$450 | 8 Passes for \$850

Grants access to a selection of any 4 or all 8 DOC NYC PRO programming thematic days for one individual from November 9-16. Grants complimentary access, space permitting, to the Festival Lounge at Bar Veloce for days selected, including those days' Breakfasts and Happy Hours. Does not include access to the Visionaries Tribute Luncheon or film screenings.

*Note: Only a limited number of DOC NYC PRO Multi-Day Packs will be available. Passes purchased via a DOC NYC PRO Multi-Pass Pack are valid for one (1) person and are not transferable. Multi-Day Packs will not be sold to sold-out PRO days.*

## Pass Purchase & Usage

### Purchasing a Pass

All passes may be purchased online at [DOCNyc.net/tickets-and-passes](https://docnyc.net/tickets-and-passes). Online purchasers will be emailed details on using their pass and picking up their badge.

Passes and ticket packs for in-person screenings are available for purchase at the IFC Center box office starting November 1, or at any open festival venue box office starting November 8. In-person purchasers may pick up festival passes starting on November 9 at the DOC NYC festival table at Village East by Angelika if a PRO Pass or at the Festival Lounge at Bar Veloce for all other pass types starting at 9:00am daily.

DOC NYC PRO Day Passes are available for in-person purchase at Village East by Angelika November 9-16.

### Using a Pass

Passes and ticket packages for online screenings can be activated in your account. Instructions will be emailed to purchasers.

For in-person film screenings, All Film Pass holders may simply display their badge at the venue for admission to a film and will be admitted free, providing they arrive no later than 15 minutes before showtime.

Customers with a Ten-Ticket Package for in-person screenings must redeem their tickets for individual film screenings online or at the box office while or after purchasing their ticket package. Ten-Ticket Package purchases by themselves will not guarantee admission to a screening; an individual film screening ticket must be selected online or at a venue box office. Ten-Ticket Package admissions cannot be redeemed for Opening Night, Closing Night or Centerpiece presentations, or for admission to any sold-out show.

For all DOC NYC PRO panels and events, DOC NYC PRO Day Pass holders may simply display their badge at the venue for admission to PRO panels for the day indicated on the badge. Pass holders who have purchased the PRO 8-Day Pack will receive a single badge good for entry to all eight days of PRO. Those who purchase a 4-Day Pack will be issued an individual badge for each of the four days selected.

For all DOC NYC PRO panels and events, DOC NYC PRO Day Pass holders may simply display their badge at the venue for admission to PRO panels for the day indicated on the badge. Pass holders who have purchased the PRO 8-Day Pack will receive a single badge good for entry to all eight days of PRO. Those who purchase a 4-Day Pack will be issued an individual badge for each of the four days selected.

## How to Buy Tickets

**Tickets are now on sale for all events. We encourage you to order early to avoid being shut out of a sold-out show.**

### Online at DOCNyc.net

There are individual ticket links on each film and event page for all available in-person shows and online screening windows. There is a \$2.00 per ticket service charge for tickets purchased online, except for IFC Center members, who pay no online fee for member-priced tickets.

### In Person

November 1-7: Advance tickets for all in-person DOC NYC screenings and events are available at IFC Center (323 Sixth Avenue at West Third Street, open daily 10:30am-10pm).

November 8-16: Tickets for all in-person screenings and events are available at any DOC NYC venue box office, open from 30 minutes before the venue's first show of the day to 15 minutes after the venue's last show of the day. *Tickets for online screenings are only available to purchase online.*

### Rush Line

For sold-out shows, a limited number of tickets may be released 15 minutes before showtime at the screening venue, on a first-come, first-served basis. Rush lines begin forming one hour before sold-out shows at the screening venue.

### Questions

Visit the IFC Center box office or email [ticketing@docnyc.net](mailto:ticketing@docnyc.net).

## Ticket Prices

**Opening Night: *The Contestant*** (p. 11)

**Centerpiece: *Uncropped*** (p. 15)

**Closing Night: *South to Black Power*** (p. 13)

**\$30 General Admission | \$25 IFC Center Members**

**Tickets for other festival films:**

**In Person Screenings:**

**\$20 Adult | \$18 Seniors/Children | \$16 IFC Center Members**

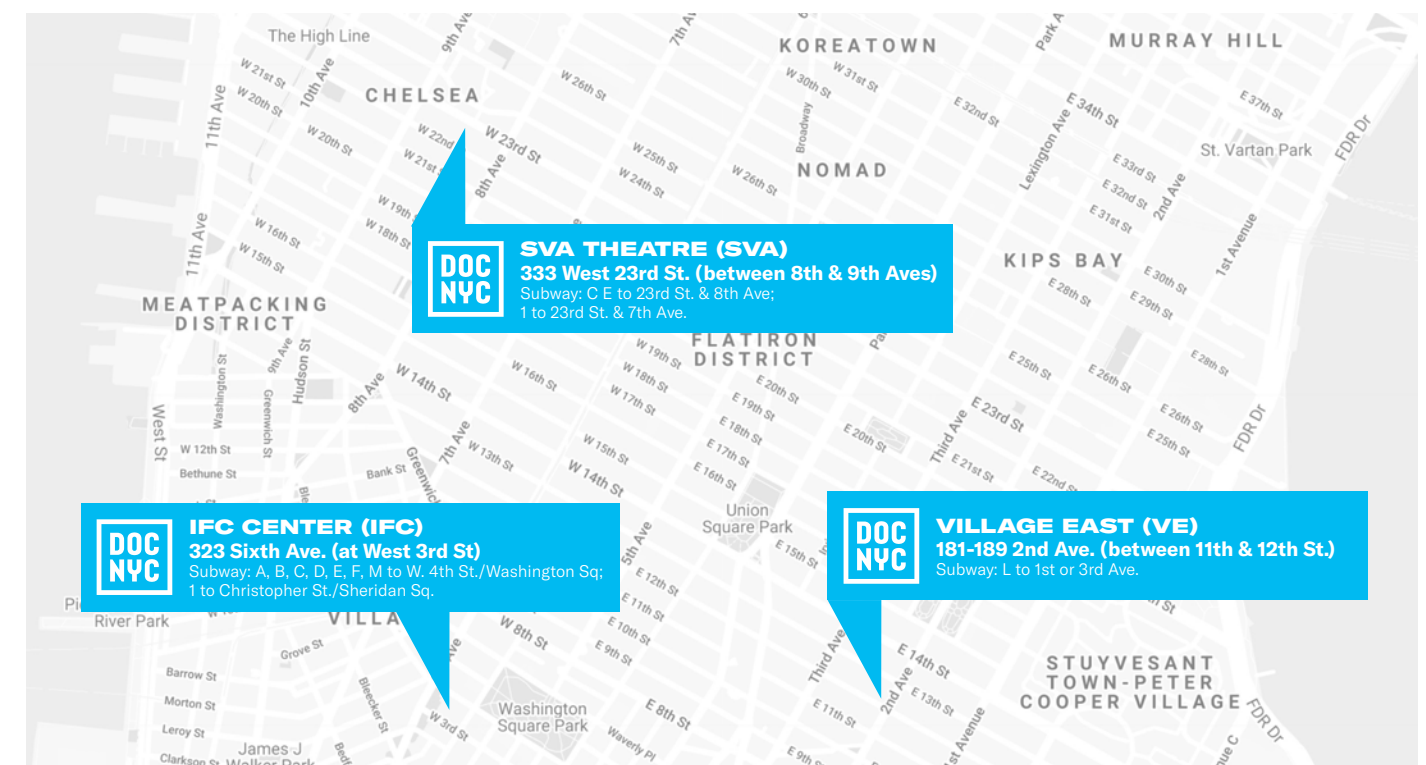
**Short List** (p. 56-69), **DOC NYC U** (p. 83)

and other **Monday-Friday screenings starting before 5:00pm:**

**\$13 General Admission | \$10 IFC Center Members**

**Online screenings:**

**\$13 | \$9 IFC Center Members**





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**DOC NYC 2023  
SHORT LIST SELECTIONS**

**FEATURES**



**AMERICAN  
SYMPHONY**

*Directed by Matthew Heineman*



**STAMPED FROM  
THE BEGINNING**

*Directed by Roger Ross Williams*

**SHORTS**



**THE DADS**

*Directed by Luchina Fisher*



**CAMP COURAGE**

*Directed by Max Lowe*

