

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2018
Veteran's Hall Gala 6pm Films begin at 8pm

Green Zone

Mehmet Kanadlı, Turkey, Eco-Sustainability, 7 min.

A dystopian future-world where entry into forests is strictly prohibited except to those lucky winners of the weekly draw. But are they really as lucky as they seem? (Turkish w/ English subtitles)

Georgia O'Keefe and Me

Robert Belinoff, USA, Art in Film, 6 min.

Love and art in the age of Trump. Chaos and order compete as a married man falls for an artist ingenue. Art prevails.

Gokurosama

Clémentine Frère, Aurore Gal, Yukiko Meignien, Anna Mertz, Robin Migliorelli, Romain Salvini; France, Animated Shorts, 7 min.

Early in the morning in a Japanese shopping center, a shopkeeper gets stuck. In order to help her, her young employee decides to cross the shopping center with her.

No Correspondence

Nuria Audi, Spain, Film School Student Shorts, 13 min.

Marcos is a young postman, but he's always dreamt of being a poet. He's never shown his literary skills, but his secret passion explodes when he meets Marina, an intriguing artist. (Spanish w/ English subtitles)

Rag Dolls

Justin and Kristin Schaack, USA, Short Shorts, 4 min.

Playtime turns into uncontrolled shenanigans when a child discovers rag dolls in an antique chest. Her imagination runs wild, but for the dolls' real-life doppelgängers, self-control is out of their hands. **WINNER - BEST SHORT SHORT**

Brothers

Jack Ballo, USA, Smartphone Shorts, 16 min.

Broke and alone, two brothers who drank away their inheritance start a new life together while trying to put their troubled past behind them. Living off the grid in New Jersey, their innovative ability to survive went on for four years...until one of them decided it was time to get out, leaving his brother to make an important decision.

WINNER - BEST SMARTPHONE SHORT

Are We?

Indica DeRose, USA, High School or Younger Student Shorts, 7 min.

A short film narrated by a girl who is crazy. She talks about how she sees her life and how she truly feels about everyday topics.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2018
Veteran's Hall 1pm - 3pm

The Journey of Water

Matthew Von Kleindorfer, Christopher Lunn, USA, Eco-Sustainability, 7 min.

See wildlife as water traverses through its cycle from high mountains to low valleys.

A Passion of Gold and Fire

Sébastien Pins, Belgium, Eco-Sustainability, 6 min.

A beekeeper shares his worries about the future of his apiary school. A passion of gold and fire which definitely helps our environment to keep on living.

Confluir

Henry Worobec, USA, Eco-Sustainability, 43 min.

In Peru, the headwaters of the Amazon River cut through the Andes Mountains and help sustain resident communities as well as the most diverse ecosystem on Earth. As the energy demands of Peru increase, the currently free flowing Marañón River faces over 20 proposed dam projects, two of which have already been approved. Our international team of scientists and river experts spent 28 days rafting the Marañón while documenting the natural and cultural resources that would be eminently impacted by proposed dam projects.

WINNER - BEST ECO-SUSTAINABILITY

Big Boom

Marat Narimanov, Russian Federation, Eco-Sustainability, 4 min.

The history of humanity and of our planet in four minutes. An eco-friendly statement developed in a single shot that has it all: humor, action and tragedy.

The Salmon Will Run

Shadia Fayne Wood, Olivia Abtahi, USA, Eco-Sustainability, 16 min.

The Salmon Will Run follows the story of Chief Caleen Sisk of the Winnemem Wintu tribe and the journey to bring their salmon home. Though they are not a federally recognized tribe and are small in numbers, the Winnemem Wintu have made tremendous strides in achieving their mission. They have galvanized people across the country, made their way into federal agency meeting rooms, and have raised over \$70,000.

Our Wonderful Nature - The Common Chameleon

Tomer Eshed, Germany, Animated Short, 4 min.

The feeding habits of the common chameleon as never seen before.

The Reindeer Belong to the Wind

Päivi Kapiainen-Heiskanen, Finland, Eco-Sustainability, 39 min.

Sami actress Anni-Kristiina Juuso (Kukushka 2002, Russia) takes viewers to her local sami community. These people have long kept silent but decide now to open up and let the world know what threatens traditional sami reindeer herding. Threats are related to mining, fencing, tourism and land use. This documentary gives a voice to people rarely heard in Finnish cultural and political life.

Break 3pm - 3:30pm

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2018
Veteran's Hall 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Monument

Marcin Gizycki, Poland, Art in Film, 3 min.

A secret life of monumental sculptures from The Soviet Military Cemetery in Warsaw, Poland.

Count Your Curses

Lorène Yavo, Belgium, Animated Shorts, 9 min.

Supernatural story of two roommates needing to replace their house spirit devoured by an unknown creature overnight. (French w/ English subtitles)

7 Maidens' Theater

Kirsten Gainet, Russian Federation, Art in Film, 23 min.

When in 1941 the men of a village theatre went to war, 7 actresses performed every day on their front-line stage, raising national spirits over four years. This theatre of 7 girls still exists: the Salavat state Bashkir drama theatre, a reminder of the war that is impossible to forget. (Russian, Tatar and Uzbek w/ English subtitles) **WINNER - BEST ART IN FILM**

Any Exit

Irina Karelina, Germany, Art in Film, 3 min.

Animation uses minimalistic visuals and sound to create an atmosphere of anxiety with a dot and a line running in circles without any exit.

Two Arrows

Vasilena Popilieva, South Africa, Art in Film, 23 min.

A famous South African author is offered a fortune by a rich American to turn his memories into a novel. As the woman from the story takes shape, the writer realizes he needs to face his past ... This is about art, self-improvement, love and redemption.

Modellastry

Risto Kütt, Estonia, Animated Shorts, 6 min.

A film about a young woman with a wooden hand who desperately is trying to become a model. The film focuses on fashion designers' weirdness and the eating disorders and other issues models face. **CONTAINS SEXUAL THEMES AND SCENES.**

Chamber Music Wonderland

Emanuel Altenburger, Austria, Art in Film, 50 min.

A group of musicians set up their own music festival showcasing 500 years of chamber music and discuss their backgrounds as they play music in a monastery in Western Austria. The music is truly amazing. (German w/ English subtitles)

InterState

Ilana Goldman and Gabriel Williams, USA, Art in Film, 6 min.

This short dance film features a mysterious and ambiguous masked figure embodying both animalistic and human characteristics as it travels across the country in search of home and self. InterState is an investigation of identity, migration, and displacement, set against the backdrop of America's most dramatic and dynamic landscapes.

Break 5:30pm - 8pm

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2018

Veteran's Hall 8pm - 10pm

With Me

Azadeh Ghochagh, Iran, Short Shorts, 5 min.

A girl dreams of her past in a sad setting.

Beer & Calippo

Paul Ploberger, Austria, Film School Student Shorts, 28 min.

It's summer, Jojo wants to join boyfriend Toni and his band on tour. Her father gives permission, then suddenly Jojo is pregnant, her father finds out, and Toni has a crush on the drummer girl. (German w/ English subtitles)

WINNER - BEST FILM SCHOOL STUDENT SHORT

Story of Self

Set Hernandez Rongkilyo, USA, Short Shorts, 3 min.

What does it mean to choose, when you only have one choice? What does it mean to be unafraid, when your enemy seems undefeatable? What does it mean to have a story, when you are undocumented? This is my story of self.

Consciousness

Gergely Tápai, Hungary, Short Shorts, 2 min.

There are those weird days... when you reconsider everything in your life.

(Hungarian w/ English subtitles)

Ecuador, con los ojos cerrados

Daniel Chamorro, Spain, Eco-Sustainability, 20 min.

Ecuador is a country full of changes that is fighting to develop itself. Manos Unidas is helping in that way. According to Chamorro, "Making films is not a goal, but a way to change the world." (Spanish w/ English subtitles)

Milk Fit

Vilma Kartalska, Bulgaria, Smartphone Shorts, 3 min.

A charming story about the trials that women nowadays put themselves through in the name of beauty, most often to fulfill somebody else's ideas of good looks. Feeling good is not a matter of physical appearance, but rather a state of mind. (Bulgarian w/ English subtitles)

The Train

Javad Matouri, Iran, Animated Shorts, 3 min.

A person riding a flying bicycle in the sky, full of happiness. Then we realize he is in a monster factory mechanism and is trapped in slavery's cycle.

Behind the Mask

Jutta Tränkle, Germany, Art in Film, 54 min.

Against strange sounds, figures in disguise dance around a large fire and punch one another with a pig's bladder. It is carnival in the Black Forest of Germany — with a similar custom in a small town in Sardinia. The film observes both spectacles and asks: Why these crazy archaic rhythms in our modern world? (German and Italian w/ English subtitles)

WINNER - BEST OF FESTIVAL

Your Face Global Jam

Ken Mora, USA, Animated Shorts, 4 min.

In 1987, Bill Plympton was nominated for an Oscar for his hand-drawn animated short "Your Face." This tribute includes over 40 animators and illustrators in 3-second segments in the style of each participating animator. **WINNER - BEST ANIMATED SHORT**

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

Veteran's Hall 1pm - 3pm

The Man With a Plan

Gabe Schmidt, USA, High School or Younger Student Shorts, 4 min

A bank robber with a master plan faces a wannabe superhero in LegoLand.

Affogare (Drown)

Marco Berton Scapinello, Italy, Film School Student Shorts, 17 min

A relationship ends in misery, but a sudden glance takes this lover back in time remembering the beauty of a love that once was and how it fell apart.

(English and Italian w/ English subtitles) **CONTAINS SEXUAL THEMES AND SCENES.**

Hidden Life

Hannah Mattner, Kaitlyn Satter, USA, Eco-Sustainability, 18 min

An exploration of the controversy behind the "Rigs to Reefs" program which allows decommissioned oil platforms to stay in marine environments to act as artificial reefs.

Ready for a Baby

Anastasia Dyakova, Australia, Film School Student Shorts, 5 min

She's in her thirties, she's found a loving, supportive partner; life is good--now is the perfect time to get pregnant. Piece of cake..... right.

Blessed Days (Nos Jours Bénis)

Valentina Casadei, Italy, Film School Student Shorts, 13 min

Adèle loses her beloved husband after 63 years of marriage; her pain is almost unbearable.

Then, through a dream, she is able to relive the last moments of their life together at the museum.

(Italian w/ English subtitles) **This is Casadei's second year at the BFF, last year's entry was the well-received All About Emily.**

The Wild Chef

Ross Harvey, United Kingdom, Eco-Sustainability, 13 min

A professional chef, caught up in the fast-paced cuisine industry, seeks an escape on a far-away remote Scottish island, to explore and discover ingredients to make a wild meal good enough for top restaurants.

Scheideweg-Teenage Threesome

Arkadij Khaet, Germany, Short Shorts, 4 min

One Boy. One Girl. One Protective Stepbrother. A "hot date" goes awry. This film was made in 72 hours as an entrance exam to a film academy. (German w/English subtitles)

CONTAINS SEXUAL THEMES AND SCENES.

Ripples

Aleksandra Czenczek, United Kingdom, Short Shorts, 5 min

Maggie, a young woman with a generous body, arrives at a swimming pool. She loves swimming and being in the water; it's the only place where she can feel relaxed, far from the judging looks of others. Today's swim though, takes an unusual turn.

Shadow of Drought: Southern California's Looming Water Crisis

Bill Wisneski, USA, Eco-Sustainability, 42 min

While California recovers from the worst drought in state history, a myriad of impacts resulting from climate change threaten Southern California's imported water supply. As a shadow of drought hangs over the region, this documentary explores the dire consequences of inaction that lie ahead.

Break 3pm - 3:30pm

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2018
Veteran's Hall 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Perfect Match

Grace Parry, United Kingdom, Short Shorts, 4 min

Sidney is a successful casting director looking for her "Perfect Match." Reece is a lovable but unsuspecting bachelor who has no idea what awaits him on their first encounter.

No More...

Steek Oner, Guadeloupe, Smartphone Shorts, 1 min

Making a statement in a minute.

Ojalá (Hopefully)

George Hawke, USA, High School or Younger Student Shorts, 24 min

Two high school students grow interested in their classes, relating the material to their respective love interests as the homecoming dance draws near.

CONTAINS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT LANGUAGE.

WINNER - BEST HIGH SCHOOL AND YOUNGER STUDENT SHORT

Panic Attack!

Eileen O'Meara, USA, Animated Shorts, 3 min

We've all had those nagging thoughts: "Did I leave the coffee on?" This hand-drawn animation explores anxiety, obsession and one woman's slippery hold on reality.

Saving Sight

Nicholas Belgrad, USA, High School or Younger Student Shorts, 8 min

Eye-opening film that chronicles Dr. Anthony Aldave working with two hospitals in Vietnam to perform and teach cornea transplant surgery to restore sight to poor people.

Some Kind of Daydream

Tony Alfaro, USA, Film School Student Shorts, 12 min

Two lovers have a heart to heart about their future as a couple. The only thing standing between them is reality. See if you can catch the scenes shot in Benicia.

Deserted

Manuel Velásquez, USA, Film School Student Shorts, 13 min

Bill loses the love of his life in a car accident in Los Angeles, then is forced to find a way to overcome culture and language barriers with his girlfriend's family in order to share each others' grief.

Something's Trigger

Makoto Sudo, Japan, Animated Shorts, 2 min

A grey and negative world blooms into a visual treat.

Yarchen Gar

Filippo Chiesa, Italy, Short Shorts, 3 min

This film captures the lives of people living in an isolated and rarely visited village, high in the Tibetan plateau, home to the world's largest Buddhist monastery.

Living in the Story

Lynn Estomin, USA, Art in Film, 50 min.

This film documents thirty-five years of innovative images and unorthodox photographic art-making by photographer Patrick Nagatani, an artist deeply concerned with world events and who uses imagery and storytelling to raise awareness about modern anxieties, especially nuclear weapons.