



36th

**Santa Barbara**  
INTERNATIONAL

**Film**<sup>TM</sup>

FESTIVAL

March 31 - April 10 2021

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# Special Events

## Opening Night Film Invisible Valley



Wednesday, March 31 - 8:00 PM  
Available Online and at Both Drive-In Theatres  
Presented by UGG®

INVISIBLE VALLEY skillfully weaves together the seemingly disparate stories of undocumented farmworkers, wealthy snowbirds, and music festival-goers over the course of a year in California's Coachella Valley. The intimate, on-the-ground profiles drive home the incongruity of the lifestyles that coexist in an affluent community. In exploring the history of the region as well as its future, the film uncovers an undercurrent of a looming ecological crisis threatening it all. Directed by Aaron Maurer

\*Only available to view online for 24 hours starting March 31 @ 8:00 PM

## Maltin Modern Master Award Bill Murray



Friday, April 02 - 6:00 PM  
A Live-Streamed Event  
Presented by Manitou Fund

Academy Award-nominated actor and American film legend Bill Murray will be honored for his long-standing contributions to the film industry. Most recently, he starred as Felix Keane in Sofia Coppola's ON THE ROCKS opposite Rashida Jones and Marlon Wayans. For his performance, he received Golden Globe and Critics Choice nominations. Leonard Maltin will return for his 30th year to moderate the evening. The Maltin Modern Master Award honors an individual who has enriched our culture through accomplishments in the motion picture industry.

PRESENTED BY

# UGG®

# Special Events

## Virtuosos Award



**Saturday, April 03 - 6:00 PM**

**A Live-Streamed Event**

Presented by UGG®

Riz Ahmed (*SOUND OF METAL*), Maria Bakalova (*BORAT SUBSEQUENT MOVIEFILM*), Kingsley Ben-Adir (*ONE NIGHT IN MIAMI*), Andra Day (*THE UNITED STATES VS. BILLIE HOLIDAY*), Sidney Flanigan (*NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES ALWAYS*), Vanessa Kirby (*PIECES OF A WOMAN*), Tahar Rahim (*THE MAURITANIAN*), and Zendaya (*MALCOLM & MARIE*) will receive the Virtuosos Award, an honor created to recognize a select group of talent whose noteworthy performances in film have elevated them into the national cinematic dialogue.

## Cinema Vanguard Award Carey Mulligan



**Monday, April 05 - 2:00 PM**

**A Live-Streamed Event**

Carey Mulligan will be honored and recognized for her remarkable career and most recent performance in Focus Features' dark comedy *PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN* written, produced, and directed by Emerald Fennell (*Killing Eve*, *The Crown*). The Cinema Vanguard Award recognizes actors who have forged their own path, taking artistic risks and making a significant and unique contribution to film.

# Special Events

## Variety Artisans Award



**Monday, April 05 - 6:00 PM**

**A Live-Streamed Event**

Sponsored by Variety

The Artisans Award celebrates those essential to the filmmaking process and those who have exhibited the most innovative work of the year in their respective fields. The award will be presented to Alan Baumgarten (*THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7* - Editing), Nicolas Becker (*SOUND OF METAL* - Sound), Alexandra Byrne (*EMMA* - Costume Design), Sean Faden (*MULAN* - VFX), Donald Graham Burt and Jan Pascale (*MANK* - Production Design), Mia Neal (*MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM* - Hair/Makeup), Leslie Odom, Jr. (*ONE NIGHT IN MIAMI* - Original Song), Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross (*MANK* and *SOUL* - Original Score), and Joshua James Richards (*NOMADLAND* - Cinematography).

## Outstanding Directors of the Year Award



**Tuesday, April 06 - 6:00 PM**

**A Live-Streamed Event**

Sponsored by The Hollywood Reporter

Chloé Zhao (*Nomadland*), David Fincher (*Mank*), Lee Isaac Chung (*Minari*), and Thomas Vinterberg (*Another Round*) will receive this honor, created to recognize a select group of directors who have pushed the boundaries in their storytelling and created films that showcase the art of filmmaking at its best.

# Special Events

## **Outstanding Performer of the Year Award Sacha Baron Cohen**



**Wednesday, April 07 - 6:00 PM**  
**A Live-Streamed Event**  
Presented by the all new Mirai

Sacha Baron Cohen will be honored for his critically acclaimed work in both Aaron Sorkin's *THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7* from Netflix and *BORAT SUBSEQUENT MOVIEFILM* from Amazon Studios. The Outstanding Performer of the Year Award recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves with exceptional performances in film this past year.

## **American Riviera Award Delroy Lindo**



**Thursday, April 08 - 6:00 PM**  
**A Live-Streamed Event**

Delroy Lindo will be honored and recognized for his many contributions to the art of film over the years and most recently for his work in Spike Lee's *DA 5 BLOODS* from Netflix. The American Riviera Award was established to recognize actors who have made a significant contribution to American cinema.

# Special Events

## **Montecito Award Amanda Seyfried**



**Friday, April 09 - 6:00 PM**  
**A Live-Streamed Event**

Amanda Seyfried will be honored and recognized for her impressive career and performance in David Fincher's *MANK* from Netflix, for which she recently received Academy Award, Golden Globe, and Critics Choice nominations. The Montecito Award is named after one of the most beautiful and stylish areas in Santa Barbara.

## **Closing Night Film Santa Barbara Closing Night Shorts**



**Saturday, April 10 - 8:00 PM**  
**Available Online and at Both Drive-In Theatres**

For our Closing Night we put the spotlight on Santa Barbara to highlight a series of short documentaries by local filmmakers. This distinctive selection of films covers a range of iconic people and places in the Santa Barbara area including the Chumash people's annual trip to their historical village site, one woman's journey to restore ecosystems with her flock of sheep, a local musician who received care and support from Hospice of Santa Barbara, the story of a community surviving 2020 through outdoor dancing, an artist who specializes in miniature diorama art, and a celebrated local roller-skating icon who sparked a community group known as the SB Rollers.

# Panel Discussions

## PRODUCERS PANEL

Saturday, April 03 - 11:00 AM  
A Live-Streamed Event

The Producers Panel brings together some of the industry's leading producers to provide insight into the business as well as the creative sides of producing.

Panelists include:

Christina Oh (MINARI)  
Ceán Chaffin (MANK)  
Dan Janvey (NOMADLAND)  
David Parfitt (THE FATHER)  
Josey McNamara (PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN)  
Marc Platt (THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7)  
Sacha Ben Harroche (SOUND OF METAL)  
Shaka King (JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH)

## WRITERS PANEL

Saturday, April 03 - 2:00 PM  
A Live-Streamed Event

The Writers Panel brings top writers together to converse about what it takes to write a script and about their journeys to the big screen.

Panelists include:

Aaron Sorkin (THE TRIAL OF THE CHICAGO 7)  
Darius Marder (SOUND OF METAL)  
Emerald Fennell (PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN)  
Florian Zeller (THE FATHER)  
Kemp Powers (SOUL)  
Kenny and Keith Lucas (JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH)  
Lee Isaac Chung (MINARI)  
Peter Baynham (BORAT SUBSEQUENT MOVIEFILM)  
Ramin Bahrani (THE WHITE TIGER)

## WOMEN'S PANEL

Thursday, April 08 - 2:00 PM  
A Live-Streamed Event

Women from all stages of film production come together to discuss the unique challenges they have faced and successes they have had in the film industry.

Panelists include:

Dana Murray (SOUL - Producer)  
Elvira Lind (THE LETTER ROOM - Writer/Director)  
Garret Bradley (TIME - Director)  
Kori Rae (ONWARD - Producer)  
Madeline Sharafian (Pixar's BURROW - Director)  
Michele Couttolenc (SOUND OF METAL - Sound Design)  
Tiara Thomas (*Fight For You* - Co-Writer of the Oscar nominated song from JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH)  
Trish Summerville (MANK - Costume Design)

# Educational Programs

## MIKE'S FIELDTRIP TO THE MOVIES

Sponsored by Bentson Foundation, Montecito Bank & Trust, Patagonia, Union Bank, and Volentine Family Foundation

Named for renowned nature cinematographer Mike deGruy, Mike's FieldTrip to the Movies uses filmmaking to stimulate creative, confident, and culturally aware thinkers. This year's Mike's FieldTrip to the Movies Program will be offered to 5,000-6,000 underserved and low-income 4th-6th grade students from Title I schools throughout Santa Barbara County. This year's program will include to-be-announced critically acclaimed films. SBIFF will provide classrooms with a virtual introduction to the art of filmmaking and storytelling through recorded discussions with the filmmakers and artisans from three of this year's top animated films, along with film education study guides and activities.

## 10-10-10 STUDENT PROGRAM

Sponsored by Final Draft

The 10-10-10 Student Program is made up of 20 high school and college screenwriters and filmmakers from Santa Barbara. This year's program includes virtual workshops and mentorship, with each participant being paired with an industry mentor specifically assigned to them in addition to casting, visual effects, producing, and sound mentors who are there to support the students throughout their production process. The student screenwriters and directors are guided through the steps of taking a film from script to screen. Other program highlights include pitching sessions, table reads, guest speakers, and film talks.

## FILM STUDIES PROGRAM

Sponsored by Lynda Weinman and Bruce Heavin

Returning for its seventh year, the Film Studies Program will virtually host 30 undergraduate film students from across the country to attend the Film Festival and take part in a packed curriculum that turns the festival into an interactive classroom. Participants receive access to the films, SBIFF's acclaimed panel series, filmmaker seminars, tributes, as well as intimate Q&As with filmmakers, talent, and other professionals. SBIFF also invites an additional thirty college students in Santa Barbara to take an 11-day Film Festival course through Santa Barbara City College.

# Sidebars

## **DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION**

Sponsored by SEE International

FILMS: Alaskan Nets / Daughters of the Waves / Fellinopolis / The Forbidden Strings / La Recua - The Mule Pack Train / Last Call: The Shutdown of NYC Bars / Mirage (Miraggio) / Six Angry Women

## **INDEPENDENT COMPETITION**

Sponsored by Panavision

FILMS: Akilla's Escape / Broken Diamonds / Cinema of Sleep / Coast / My First Summer / Run Woman Run / Snakehead / Trees of Peace / Under My Skin / We Burn Like This

## **JEFFREY C. BARBAKOW INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION**

FILMS: By Your Side (À la folie) / The Cinderella Addiction / Fear (Strah) / The Flood Won't Come (Tvano nebus) / The Knot (Ujhan) / The Man with the Answers / One-Way to Moscow / Poppie Nongena / When I'm Done Dying

## **NORDIC CINEMA COMPETITION**

FILMS: Backyard Village / Erna at War (Erna i krig) / Ladies of Steel / The Last Ones (Viimeiset) / Persona Non Grata / The Pit (Bedre)

## **SANTA BARBARA FEATURES**

FILMS: Addict Named Hal / Climb / Evan Wood / Highway One / The Revolution Generation

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE COMPETITION**

FILMS: The Conservation Game / Four Mothers / The Hosts (Os donos da casa) / Reclaim Idaho / \$avvy / Teach Me if You Can

## **SPAIN/LATIN AMERICA COMPETITION**

FILMS: Baby / A Bruddah's Mind (Cabeça de negro) / Fortitude (La fortaleza) / The Ghosts (Los fantasmas) / Karnawal / Listen / We Will Never Die

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

FILMS: American Skin / Giants Being Lonely / Hope

# Shorts Programs

## **ANIMATED SHORTS**

FILMS: The Carousel / Clara with a Mustache / First Light / The Great Malaise / I, Barnabé / Kapaemahu / Malakout / Mechanical Dancer / Mrs. Taylor's Show & Tell - A Prince Story / The Unknown / The Winter

## **COMEDIC SHORTS**

FILMS: Fucking Great Assault / In White Places / Project H / Remisivir / Sperm / Sweet Dreams

## **DOCUMENTARY SHORTS: DO SOMETHING**

FILMS: The Beauty President / Eyes / Kaizo / Man with a Broom / Nine / Savior / Stormy and the Admirals

## **DOCUMENTARY SHORTS: IN MOTION**

FILMS: Cycles / Keiara / Lion on the Mat / Mariah: A Boxer's Dream / My Father the Mover / Tristo

## **INTERNATIONAL LIVE-ACTION SHORTS**

FILMS: East-West / Identibye / The Kicksled Choir / The Last Ferry from Grass Island / Roy / Shadow of the Fox

## **LIVE-ACTION SHORTS**

FILMS: Anything for You / Becoming Eddie / Black Boys Can't Cry / Can't Have It Both Ways / Heartland / Safe / Waking Up / Wally Wenda

## **NATURE SHORTS**

FILMS: The Beast of Our Time / Ocean Stories: Michele's Magic Carpet Ride / Pant Hoot / River Tigers: Giant Taimen of the Russian Far East

## **SANTA BARBARA CLOSING NIGHT SHORTS**

FILMS: Dist-Dance! / Electric Lady / Homecoming: Journey to Limuw / Hospice of Santa Barbara Presents: Manuel's Story / Santa Barbara Weed Country / Shepherd's Song / Vuja De

## **SANTA BARBARA DOCUMENTARY SHORTS**

FILMS: Not One More / Stand by 888 Hours / Underdogs

## **SANTA BARBARA LIVE-ACTION SHORTS**

FILMS: Anxious / Bobby / Lucky / A Man with Emotions / Sunshine in the Rain / Vial / When It's Late

## **SANTA BARBARA MIXER SHORTS**

FILMS: A Critter Fable / Dia de los Muertos / Gratified / Keeping the Sport Alive / Language of Dreams / Nickel in the Sand / Stoke Chasers / Subtle Body / Tides: A Sandy Cycling Ode

## **YOUTH CINEMEDIA**

FILMS: Coils And Curls / Defend The Sacred - The San Marcos Foothills / Dreams on Hold / Dreams to Life / Everything's for Sale / La Mexicana Bakery / Life on Break / The New Normal / Six Feet / The Sound of Thunder

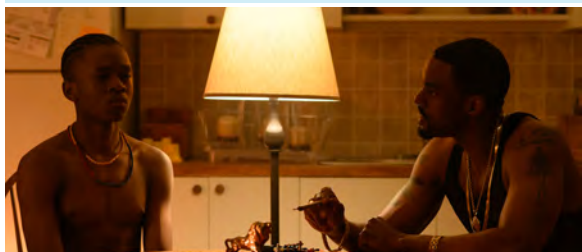
### Addict Named Hal



When young, sheltered Amy is sent unwillingly to a recovery house by her mom, the connections that she makes with everyone who lives there—including Hal, a recently incarcerated heroin addict—have intense consequences. Inspired by writer/director Lane Michael Stanley's experiences for six months in a halfway house for drug and alcohol recovery, this personal, intimate drama explores the everyday struggles, joys, and horrors of getting clean.

Directed by Lane Michael Stanley  
92 min - 2021 - USA  
Santa Barbara Features  
World Premiere

### Akilla's Escape



During what is supposed to be a routine handoff, drug trader Akilla Brown is caught in a violent robbery and captures one of the teenage thieves. When Akilla discovers that the boy's gang is tied to the crime organization he fell into as a child, he feels compelled to help the boy survive — and make the escape that he never could. Set in present-day Toronto and 1990s Brooklyn, this neo-noir-meets-coming-of-age story provides a look at social violence and the toll it takes on Black lives.

Directed by Charles Officer  
90 min - 2020 - Canada  
Independent Competition  
US Premiere

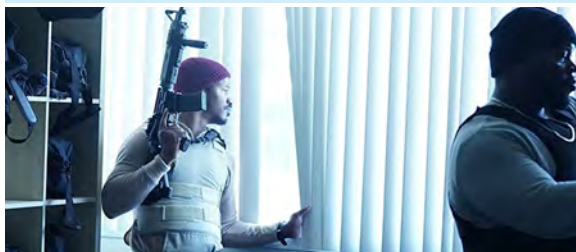
### Alaskan Nets



Off the coast of southeast Alaska lies a remote island that is home to the Tsimshian Indians of Alaska's last native reserve, Metlakatla. For more than a century, two sacred traditions have defined Metlakatla: fishing and basketball. In an improbable journey, two cousins lead their team and town in search of their first state championship in more than thirty years—the only thing that will bring life back to an island that has been rocked by unimaginable tragedy.

Directed by Jeff Harasimowicz  
120 min - 2021 - USA  
Documentary Competition  
World Premiere

### American Skin



Lincoln Jefferson is a Marine veteran who works as a custodian in a prestigious high school—a job he secured to ensure the enrollment of his 14-year-old son, KJ. When Lincoln and KJ are stopped by police, an altercation leads to the fatal shooting of the unarmed boy. Lincoln is dismayed to learn the officer will go uncharged and will return to active duty without an indictment. Desperate, he takes the matter into his own hands, hoping for justice for his son. - *Venice Film Festival*

Directed by Nate Parker  
89 min - 2019 - USA  
Special Presentations

## Baby



Billed as a dark fairy tale and almost free of dialogue, *BABY* is set in a modern town nestled deep in an eerie forest. There, a young drug addict hits rock bottom when she sells her newborn baby to child traffickers. She soon regrets her decision and finds the courage to get him back. To do so, she must break into a house occupied by an old lady she met, her albino servant, and a little girl. Nothing could have prepared the young mother for what she will discover.

Directed by Juanma Bajo Ulloa  
106 min - 2020 - Spain  
Spain/Latin America Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

## Backyard Village



After spending time in a health spa in a small town, 40-year-old Brynja cannot bring herself to cross the heath separating her from her home in the city. Her mother has returned to Iceland after 35 years, and reluctant to face her, Brynja takes shelter in a small guesthouse, *Backyard Village*. There she meets Mark, an Englishman who is coming to terms with his own personal tragedy. The vulnerable pair form an unbreakable bond that will help them move on with their lives.

Directed by Marteinn Thórrson  
91 min - 2020 - Iceland  
Nordic Cinema Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

## Broken Diamonds



In the wake of his father's death, a twenty-something writer sees his dream of moving to Paris put in jeopardy when he is forced to temporarily take in his wildly unpredictable, mentally ill sister. The film's all-star cast includes award-winning actor Ben Platt (*Dear Evan Hansen*, *PITCH PERFECT*), Lola Kirke (*Mozart in the Jungle*), and Yvette Nicole Brown (*Community*).

Directed by Peter Sattler  
90 min - 2021 - USA  
Independent Competition  
World Premiere

## A Bruddah's Mind (Cabeça de nêgo)



As a member of his school's student council, Saulo, an introverted geek and fan of the Black Panther Movement, is on a mission to promote changes in his school and neighborhood. During a classroom quarrel, Saulo reacts to a racial insult from a classmate and is expelled. Outraged, he refuses to leave the school until justice is done. His occupation mobilizes the community and challenges the school board. The students did not anticipate, however, the director's extreme reaction.

Directed by Déo Cardoso  
86 min - 2020 - Brazil  
Spain/Latin America Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled



### By Your Side (À la folie)



Emmanuelle returns to her childhood home to celebrate her mother's birthday. Her visit brings back memories of her past, but there is also a difficult present with her psychologically unstable older sister. No one suspects that this family celebration will quickly take an unexpected turn.

Directed by Audrey Estrougo  
82 min - 2020 - France  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

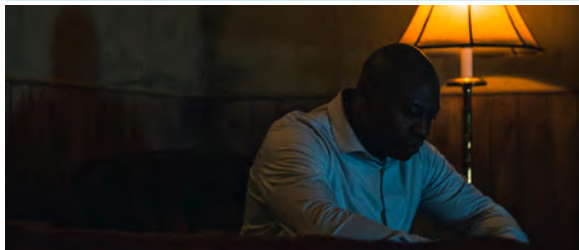
### The Cinderella Addiction



Koharu works for child welfare services. Her mother abandoned her when she was young, leaving her with feelings of envy and longing toward mother figures. One night, a series of events thrusts Koharu into a pit of despair. She is rescued by Daigo, a rich doctor and a widower who is raising his only daughter Hikari by himself. One day, Daigo proposes to Koharu, asking her to "become Hikari's mother." Koharu would live a life envied by all ... or so it seemed.

Directed by Ryohei Watanabe  
110 min - 2021 - Japan  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
World Premiere - Subtitled

### Cinema of Sleep



Anthony plans to bring his family from Nigeria to join him in the United States. These plans are threatened when a mysterious woman in need of help shows up at his motel room. When he awakens to find her dead in his bed, he must untangle a strange mystery that forces him to question his own mind. This psychological thriller is directed by Jeffrey St. Jules, whose film BANG BANG BABY won the SBIFF Panavision Spirit Award for Independent Cinema in 2015.

Directed by Jeffrey St. Jules  
105 min - 2021 - Canada  
Independent Competition  
World Premiere

### Climb



Santa Barbara triathlete Neil Myers was nearly killed in a horrific training accident on Gibraltar Road in 2018. One week after the accident, he signed up to compete in a triathlon that was a year away, with a goal of simply crossing the finish line. Four months after healing and leaving rehab, Neil began his cycling training. Only one year after the accident, he surpassed the goal he had set while he was in the hospital. He and his team won the 2019 Santa Barbara Triathlon.

Directed by Neil Myers  
57 min - 2021 - USA  
Santa Barbara Features  
World Premiere - Documentary

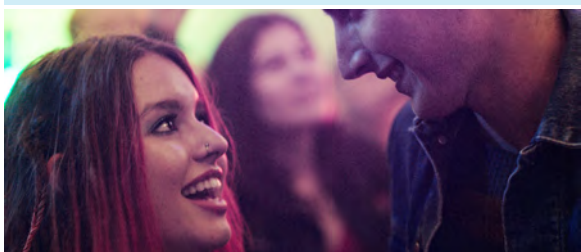
## The Conservation Game



Retired Ohio police officer Tim Harrison stumbles upon a bombshell discovery while undercover at an exotic animal auction. His world is turned upside down as he starts an investigation to track down the whereabouts of rare and endangered big cats. As his investigation unfolds, Tim wrestles with the consequences of exposing the tightly held secrets of the exotic pet trade and confronting his childhood hero.

Directed by Michael Webber  
107 min - 2021 - USA  
Social Justice Competition  
World Premiere - Documentary

## Coast



Desperate to escape the trappings of her small coastal farming town, 16-year-old Abby falls for the lead singer of a touring rock band and must decide whether or not to leave her family and friends behind. With live music performances and an exciting ensemble cast, COAST is about female friendships, finding your truth, and letting the music take you home.

Directed by Jessica Hester, Derek Schweickart  
96 min - 2021 - USA  
Independent Competition  
World Premiere

## Daughters of the Waves



Although only 20, Vahine Fierro is undaunted by the Teahupoo wave, considered the most dangerous in the world. Vahine surfs as no other Polynesian girl has ever surfed. In Tahitian culture, riding the waves is an ancestral activity from which women had been gradually eliminated, but now surfing is open to women, just in time for the Olympics. Coming from an entire family of surfers, Vahine and her two sisters hope to make a living with their passion and travel the world.

Directed by Lisa Monin, Sébastien Daguerressar  
53 min - 2021 - France  
Documentary Competition  
World Premiere - Subtitled

## Erna at War (Erna i krig)



World War I is raging in Europe, and Germany is so low on soldiers that young Danish men are being drafted. Soldiers come to Erna's house to enlist her 17-year-old son, Kalle. Determined to protect him, Erna takes on the identity of a deserter. As she comes to terms with Kalle's determination to find his own way amid the horrors of war, she finally opens her heart, discovers passion, and frees herself from the dark secret she has been holding for so many years.

Directed by Henrik Ruben Genz  
106 min - 2020 - Denmark, Estonia, Belgium  
Nordic Cinema Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

## Evan Wood



Rachel, a writing student in Los Angeles, finds her life disrupted when she receives news of her grandmother's passing. At the encouragement of a trusted professor, she goes home to process the family's trauma through her writing. Her return has both healing and painful revelations: a romantic rekindling with an old love interest and, most notably, the challenge of helping her brother as he struggles with issues of mental health and addiction.

Directed by Niki Byrne  
89 min - 2021 - USA  
Santa Barbara Features  
World Premiere

## Fear (Strah)



Svetla is a widow who has recently lost her job as a teacher. She lives in a village near the border between Bulgaria and Turkey, where refugees often enter illegally. One day, while hunting in a forest, Svetla comes across Bamba, a man who has fled his home in Africa. The border guard officer, overwhelmed by an influx of refugees, cannot help her, and Svetla decides to take Bamba into her home--a decision that will cause a dramatic turn in her life.

Directed by Ivaylo Hristov  
110 min - 2020 - Bulgaria  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

## Fellinopolis



Between 1976 and 1986, Ferruccio Castronuovo had carte blanche to film Federico Fellini's sets and backlots, unveiling a city of the imagination populated by unique characters. Interviews show what it was like to work with Fellini and why he attracted such devotion from his collaborators. These interviews and the backstage footage show Fellini's playfulness, perfectionism, charisma, and manipulations. Enter the world of Federico Fellini and his city of dreams. Enter Fellinopolis.

Directed by Silvia Giulietti  
80 min - 2020 - Italy  
Documentary Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

## The Flood Won't Come (Tvano nebus)



An accomplished military officer, who has fought and served in other countries for many years, finds himself in a difficult situation when civil war breaks out in his native country. As a colonel fighting for one of the sides, he must utilize the professional skills he has developed in his years of battle. Although he does not want to, he has to fight.

Directed by Marat Sargsyan  
95 min - 2020 - Lithuania  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### The Forbidden Strings



Akbar, Soori, Mohammed and Hakim, the children of Afghan parents who fled to Iran in the 1980s, have formed a rock band. Despite the danger they will face, they dream of performing in Afghanistan. They travel a perilous route to get there, and they realize what they are up against soon after arriving. Clearly, Afghanistan is still a very dangerous place. Moments of joy are infectious, and sobering reality is always lurking as four young people break with tradition to express themselves.

Directed by Hasan Noori  
92 min - 2020 - Iran, Afghanistan, Qatar  
Documentary Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

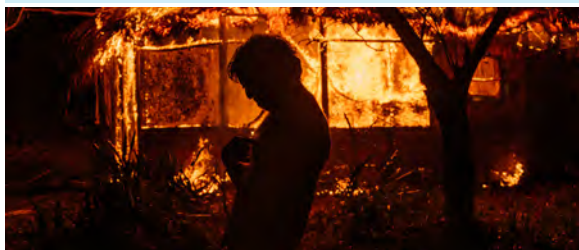
### Four Mothers



In Israel, war has claimed tens of thousands of victims. Over the years, based on an ethos of sacrifice, generations of mothers have played their assigned roles and sent their sons to war without asking questions. This film tells the story of a small group of mothers who protested the war in southern Lebanon. As their numbers grew, this female-driven, grassroots group took on the military establishment, challenged a patriarchal society, and helped to bring about an end to the war.

Directed by Dana Keidar Levin, Rephael Levin  
70 min - 2020 - Israel  
Social Justice Competition  
US Premiere - Documentary - Subtitled

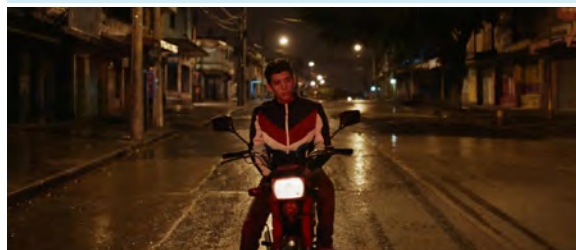
### Fortitude (La fortaleza)



To escape crisis in Venezuela--and his alcoholism --Roque retreats to the Amazon jungle to renovate a cabin he built during happier times. There he struggles with feverish withdrawal visions. When he goes to work in an illegal gold mine controlled by Colombian guerrillas, he is plunged into a cycle of self-destruction. Roque will need fortitude to get out and start anew. FORTITUDE is based on the true story of the filmmaker's father, who stars in the film as himself.

Directed by Jorge Thielen Armand  
108 min - 2020 - Venezuela, Colombia, France, Netherlands  
Spain/Latin America Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### The Ghosts (Los fantasmas)



Koki, an attractive young man, works in Guatemala City as a thief. On sun-drenched afternoons he befriends tourists who are then mugged. At night he seduces men in bars, leading them to a hotel room where they are robbed. He is aided by Carlos, a hotel staff member who moonlights as a wrestler. When the tables are turned and Koki is betrayed by Carlos, he finds himself pushed even further into society's margins, forced to witness the violent effects of his actions.

Directed by Sebastián Lojo  
76 min - 2020 - Guatemala, Argentina  
Spain/Latin America Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

## Giants Being Lonely



In a leafy, semi-rural Southern enclave, high school seniors Adam, Bobby, and Caroline navigate their final year together through the ups and downs of love, sex, loneliness, friendship, baseball, and death – as the pressure mounts to make it out alive.

Directed by Grear Patterson  
81 min - 2019 USA  
Special Presentations

## Highway One



In Cambria, California, Anna is hosting a New Year's Eve party. Nina, a long-gone high school friend, makes an appearance at the party after returning to Cambria from New York. Maria, one of the guests, struggles with the feelings Nina's presence evokes and with facing the party goers: a gaggle of eccentric millennials. Featuring a cast of international talent, HIGHWAY ONE is a dreamy and nostalgic dive into youth, love, and humanity.

Directed by Jaclyn Bethany  
90 min - 2021 - USA  
Santa Barbara Features  
World Premiere

## Hope



Anja and Tomas adore their careers in dance and theater. Their blended family structure is complicated. Returning home after the triumphant international debut of a ballet she directed, Anja is given a dire diagnosis: she has an inoperable tumor. In this clear-eyed, adult love story about the sacrifices we're sometimes called upon to make for those closest to us, HOPE asks us what we really consider important — and whether we can pursue our ambitions.

Directed by Maria Sødahl  
126 min - 2019 Norway, Sweden, Denmark  
Special Presentations  
Subtitled

## The Hosts (Os donos da casa)



THE HOSTS shows four Brazilians who were affected by the 2014 FIFA World Cup in different ways, from a woman selling street food by the stadiums to a man who was displaced by construction projects. It paints a social-political portrait of Brazil in this historical time - before, during and four years after the World Cup - and makes a commentary on FIFA, mega-events, and their long-term impacts on the host countries.

Directed by Carla Dauden  
80 min - 2021 - Brazil  
Social Justice Competition  
World Premiere - Documentary - Subtitled

### Invisible Valley



INVISIBLE VALLEY skillfully weaves together the seemingly disparate stories of undocumented farmworkers, wealthy snowbirds, and music festival-goers over the course of a year in California's Coachella Valley. The intimate, on-the-ground profiles drive home the incongruity of the lifestyles that coexist in an affluent community. In exploring the history of the region as well as its future, the film uncovers an undercurrent of a looming ecological crisis threatening it all.

Directed by Aaron Maurer

87 min - 2021 - USA

Opening Night Film

World Premiere - Documentary - Subtitled

\*Only available to view online for 24 hours starting March 31 @ 8:00 PM

### Karnawal



Near the border between Argentina and Bolivia, Cabra, a young malambo dancer, prepares for the most important competition of his life. When his ex-convict father makes an unexpected visit, he jeopardizes everything by taking Cabra and his mother on a road trip that takes them along the roads of northern Argentina and into his criminal world. Simultaneously on the run and lost in the middle of the desert, Cabra struggles to return in time for his dance contest.

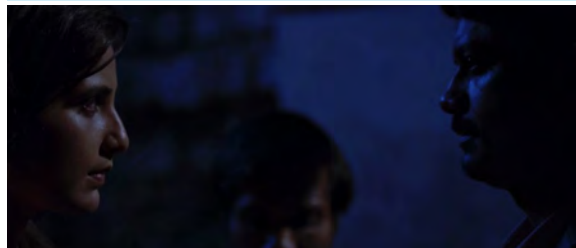
Directed by Juan Pablo Félix

95 min - 2020 - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico

Spain/Latin America Competition

US Premiere - Subtitled

### The Knot (Uljhan)



In this suspenseful drama, Shirish and Geeta, an upper middle class Indian couple, accidentally run over someone. Their differing reactions to the consequences of the accident reveal fissures in their relationship and put their values and beliefs to the test. THE KNOT explores class conflict, materialism, and guilt. It asks whether high walls and locked gates can banish inequality and class structure, or whether the complicity of the middle class infects our most intimate relationships.

Directed by Ashish Pant

113 min - 2021 - India

Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition

World Premiere - Subtitled

### La Recua - The Mule Pack Train



Darío Higuera Meza, a 70-year-old saddle maker in Baja California, traveled 200 miles in 20 days by muleback, herding a pack train of donkeys all the way to La Paz. Overcoming health issues, rattlesnakes, and hot days on dusty, forgotten trails, he and his family carried a load of goat cheese, dates, sugarcane candy, and wine. They made this journey to honor the memory of *los arrieros de las recuas*, the muleteers of Baja's donkey pack trains.

Directed by Darío Higuera Meza, Trudi Angell

86 min - 2021 - USA, Mexico

Documentary Competition

World Premiere - Subtitled

### Ladies of Steel



Inkeri, age 75, hit her husband over the head with a frying pan after being belittled by him for almost 50 years. She flees with her two sisters in a journey across Finland that is filled with charming hitchhikers, memories, and sinful dancing. She finds her old university writings and a crush from her youth that remind her of her dreams that were suppressed by a patriarchal marriage. Now Inkeri must make a choice between happiness and convention.

Directed by Pamela Tola  
92 min - 2020 - Finland  
Nordic Cinema Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

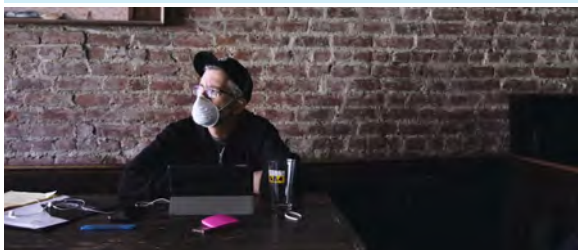
### The Last Ones (Viimeiset)



In the Lapland tundra, dilapidated shipping containers and construction trailers pile up in a mining village that is a hotbed of tension between reindeer herders and miners. Rupi, a tough young miner, falls in love with his friend's wife, who has also caught the eye of the owner of the mine, nicknamed The Fisherman. The two men are set on a collision course after The Fisherman seems to have killed the husband and Rupi escapes into the tundra with the wife.

Directed by Veiko Õunpuu  
117 min - 2020 - Finland, Estonia, Netherlands  
Nordic Cinema Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### Last Call: The Shutdown of NYC Bars



The hospitality industry is the artistic heartbeat of New York. Thousands of artists, musicians, and actors flock to Queens to work in the service industry to supplement their dreams. In March of 2020 these dreamers put their lives on hold, self-isolating and sacrificing their income as Queens became the global epicenter of COVID-19. LAST CALL follows two local bars and frontline workers in a tale of two sacrifices that saved not only the lives of thousands but also the future of New York.

Directed by Johnny Sweet  
60 min - 2021 - USA  
Documentary Competition  
World Premiere

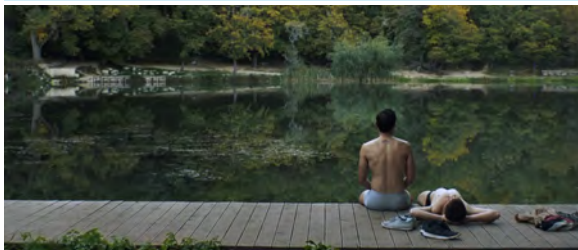
### Listen



On the outskirts of London, a Portuguese couple with three children struggle to make ends meet. A misunderstanding at school about their 7-year-old deaf daughter causes British social services to grow concerned and take drastic action. LISTEN portrays the tireless battle of these immigrant parents who are desperate to keep their family together. Although the family in LISTEN is fictional, everything that happens to them has happened to real families.

Directed by Ana Rocha de Sousa  
73 min - 2020 - Portugal, UK  
Spain/Latin America Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

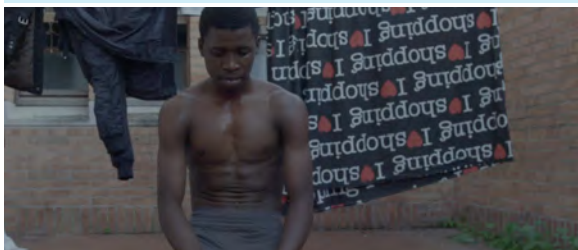
### The Man with the Answers



Victor, an ex-diving champion in his early 20s, works in a factory and lives with his grandmother in a seaside town in Greece. Distracted after her death, he decides to take her old car to Germany. On the boat to Italy, he meets Matthias, a young German who persuades Victor to take him along. As they drive, free-spirited Matthias pushes uptight Victor to go beyond his comfort zone. In this tender story of self-discovery, love, and family, their road trip takes unexpected turns.

Directed by Stelios Kammitis  
80 min - 2021 - Cyprus, Greece, Italy  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### Mirage (Miraggio)



When Issa arrived from West Africa to Rome, he found a life of homelessness and unemployment – which meant no money to send home. Other African refugees like him waited in Italian asylum centers, lived in refugee camps without identity papers, or were forced to move from job to job. After a grueling odyssey, none found the Italy they were hoping for. Disillusioned, they find themselves in a vacuum of waiting.

Directed by Nina Stefanka  
86 min - 2020 - Switzerland  
Documentary Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### My First Summer



Sixteen-year-old Claudia has grown up in isolation from the outside world. Stranded on a remote property after her mother's death, she is shocked when Grace, a spirited local teen, appears in the garden like a mirage, a breath of fresh, sugary air. The pair find in each other the support, love, and intimacy they need, teaching one another the restorative power of human connection. Their idyllic peace becomes fragile as the adult world closes in and threatens their secret summer love.

Directed by Katie Found  
78 min - 2020 - Australia  
Independent Competition  
US Premiere

### One-Way to Moscow



Switzerland was shocked 30 years ago by a scandal that has almost been forgotten: police monitored more than 700,000 people for their political beliefs. Set against this historical background, the zealous policeman Viktor Schuler is sent to Zurich to observe the left-wing theater scene. He succumbs to the charm of the chaotic life of an artist and falls for an actress he is supposed to monitor. As this political spy-comedy plays out, Schuler increasingly begins to doubt his mission.

Directed by Micha Lewinsky  
99 min - 2020 - Switzerland  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled



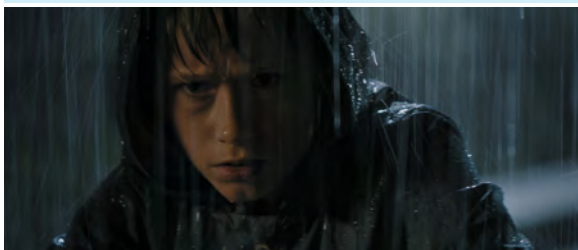
### Persona Non Grata



In this humorous drama, Laura has distanced herself from her family in the countryside and has moved to Copenhagen to be a writer and live the bohemian lifestyle. When she reluctantly returns to her childhood home to participate in her brother's wedding, she discovers that he is about to marry her worst childhood enemy, Catrine. Laura realizes that Catrine has taken over her place in the family—and now Laura feels a strong need to get it back.

Directed by Lisa Jespersen  
91 min - 2020 - Denmark  
Nordic Cinema Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### The Pit (Bedre)



Ten-year-old Markuss must adapt to his new life in the countryside with his grandmother. After a neighbor's daughter makes some contemptuous remarks about his dead father, Markuss seeks revenge and teaches the girl a cruel lesson, an act that is soundly condemned by the local townsfolk. The only person who seems to understand the boy is an old sailor who lives in the nearby woods--and who has a mysterious past.

Directed by Dace Pūce  
90 min - 2020 - Latvia, Finland  
Nordic Cinema Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### Poppie Nongena



POPPIE NONGENA tells the true story of a South African Xhosa mother whose life revolved around finding stability for her family during a period of insufferable upheaval in her country. When her husband became too ill to work, Poppie was deemed to be an illegal resident in her own country. Such women were arrested, fined, and forced to leave their homes to be resettled in remote areas. For Poppie, the love for her family needed no permit and had no boundaries.

Directed by Christiaan Olwagen  
106 min - 2020 - South Africa  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### Reclaim Idaho



In 2011 many Republican-run states refused to expand Medicaid in protest of the Affordable Care Act. In Idaho that left an estimated 62,000 people without health insurance. Idaho legislators did nothing to address the issue. In 2018, Emily and Garrett Strizich set out with a friend, driving from town to town, knocking on doors, and collecting signatures. The result was something no one expected: Medicaid expansion would come to a vote for the very first time.

Directed by Laura Wing-Kamoosi, Jim Kamoosi  
60 min - 2021 - USA  
Social Justice Competition  
World Premiere - Documentary

## The Revolution Generation



Narrated by and starring Michelle Rodriguez (*Lost*, *AVATAR*, *THE FAST AND FURIOUS*), this documentary is a manifesto for today's youth, addressing the societal forces that have shaped and held back their generation. *THE REVOLUTION GENERATION* shows how young people can deploy their strengths to revolutionize the system as they confront both the US political crisis and the global environmental crisis.

Directed by Josh Tickell, Rebecca Tickell  
80 min - 2021 - USA  
Santa Barbara Features  
World Premiere - Documentary

## Run Woman Run



Beck, a single mom, lives in Six Nations, Canada. After her mother's death, she abandons her dream of becoming a Mohawk language teacher, and an unhealthy lifestyle leads to a diagnosis of Type 2 Diabetes. The ghost of Tom Longboat, a sports legend of the early 1900s, appears to her. He teaches Beck to become an honor runner, dedicating each run to an aspect of creation or a special person in her life. With Tom's help, Beck is able to turn her life around.

Directed by Zoe Hopkins  
100 min - 2020 - Canada  
Independent Competition  
US Premiere

## \$avvy



*\$AVVY* investigates the historical, cultural, and societal norms around women and money. With incisive humor and captivating honesty, this documentary questions why women often take a backseat to their finances. Interviews with business and financial experts like Carrie Schwab, Farnoosh Torabi, Sallie Krawcheck, and Haley Sacks (aka Mrs. Dow Jones) show why it is so important—now more than ever—for women to take control of their financial futures.

Directed by Robin Hauser  
79 min - 2021 - USA  
Social Justice Competition  
World Premiere - Documentary

## Six Angry Women



In 1984, six feminists kidnapped an Auckland University lecturer, beat him, and chained him to a tree. The event sparked debates about gender politics and vigilante justice that divided New Zealand and led to social change. But the identities of the six women and why they attacked the man remained a mystery. Three decades after the attack, director Megan Jones reopens the case and tries to find out not only who the six women were, but what drove them to take such unprecedented action.

Directed by Megan Jones  
90 min - 2020 - New Zealand  
Documentary Competition  
US Premiere

### Snakehead



Sister Tse is brought to New York by a snakehead, a human smuggler. Although she is indebted to the crime family responsible for her transport, her survival instincts help her gain favor with the matriarch, and she rises quickly in the ranks. Soon Tse must reconcile her success with her real reason for coming to America—to find the child that was taken from her. In the end, Sister Tse must draw on the strength she found in transforming her victimhood into power.

Directed by Evan Jackson Leong  
89 min - 2021 - USA  
Independent Competition  
World Premiere

### Teach Me if You Can



From a nomads' camp buried under snow in Siberia to the stifling scrublands of Burkina Faso, from the flooded fields and roads of Bangladesh to a remote village in South Lebanon, teachers are inspired by a belief that an educated child can change the world. To achieve this, they overcome challenges, barriers, and hardship as they transform teaching into a genuine adventure. This is the story of the transformation of the lives of children and their teachers alike.

Directed by Émilie Théron  
82 min - 2020 - France  
Social Justice Competition  
US Premiere - Documentary - Subtitled

### Trees of Peace



Based on events during the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, four women from different backgrounds and beliefs are trapped together in an underground room. As they contend with the fear of being found and fight a slow death from starvation, they are forced to reconcile their inner demons and put their differences aside to live through the day—for 81 days straight. TREES OF PEACE is the story of four women who find unity, hope, and strength through one of the world's darkest tragedies.

Directed by Alanna Brown  
97 min - 2021 - USA  
Independent Competition - World Premiere  
Winner of the ADL Stand Up Award sponsored by ADL Santa Barbara/Tri-Counties, the Skinner Social Impact Fund, and Steve and Cindy Lyons

### Under My Skin



Denny, a free spirit and artist, falls for Ryan, a strait-laced lawyer. This love is tested when Denny begins to question their gender identity. As one of the first films to address non-binary gender as part of the plot, Denny is played by four actors who identify as non-binary or trans non-binary. This romance of our times offers a glimpse into the lives of two people struggling with the disconnect between the socially accepted versions of themselves and the truth of what lies under the skin.

Directed by David O'Donnell  
97 min - 2020 - Australia  
Independent Competition  
US Premiere

### We Burn Like This



When 22-year-old Rae, a descendant of Holocaust survivors, is targeted by neo-Nazis in Billings, Montana, her ancestors' trauma becomes real. Rae returns home to her mother and uncovers the truth about a childhood accident, and Rae must learn to forgive herself, her mother, and the broken world. Inspired by true events, this coming-of-age story shows the inherited effects of historical trauma and the strength of survival and healing.

Directed by Alana Waksman  
81 min - 2021 - USA  
Independent Competition  
World Premiere

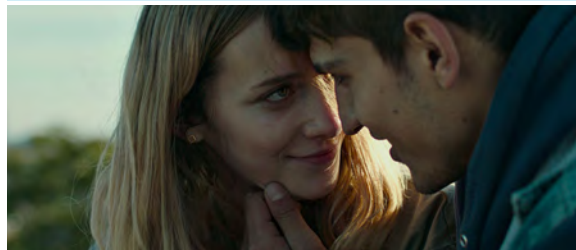
### We Will Never Die



Rodrigo and his mother travel to the town where his older brother had just died. There his mother will try to uncover the mysteries surrounding the death, and together they will go through the first stages of their mourning. As Rodrigo experiences adults' pain, he will imperceptibly begin to leave childhood behind. WE WILL NEVER DIE, a pensive film with a delicate mixture of melancholy and light humor, is a tribute to the people of a small provincial town as it goes through mourning.

Directed by Eduardo Crespo  
82 min - 2020 - Argentina  
Spain/Latin America Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

### When I'm Done Dying



Fehmi, a 19-year-old aspiring rapper from a rough neighborhood of Istanbul, is addicted to a cheap and deadly drug that jeopardizes his dreams of becoming a successful rapper. When Fehmi crosses paths with Devin, a 25-year-old affluent DJ, they fall hard for each other--until their love becomes toxic. This compelling film provides a portrait of youth subculture in the slums of Istanbul and features edgy rap composed by one of the most acclaimed beatmakers and rappers in Turkey, Da Poet.

Directed by Nisan Dağ  
97 min - 2020 - Turkey, USA, Germany  
Jeffrey C. Barbakow International Competition  
US Premiere - Subtitled

# Animated Shorts

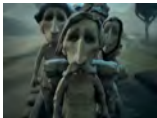
## The Carousel



A girl works at her cruel grandfather's merry-go-round. Fears transform into freedom, as the carousel made of birds takes flight.

Directed by Valerio Berruti  
Runtime: 11 min - 2020 - Italy

## Clara with a Mustache



A banknote with a portrait of Clara Schumann travels from one person to another, unveiling each person's stories and perspectives.

Directed by Ilir Blakcori  
Runtime: 10 min - 2021 - Kosovo  
WORLD PREMIERE

## First Light



Rising from the sea monster of death, a young woman's ghost leads her grieving sister through the heart of darkness in search of light.

Directed by Amy Lee Ketchum  
Runtime: 8 min - 2020 - USA

## The Great Malaise



A young woman describes herself, offering a self-portrait in the most favorable light possible. The visual narrative tells a different story.

Directed by Catherine Lepage  
Runtime: 5 min - 2020 - Canada

## I, Barnabé



Barnabé is drunk with unhappiness when lightning strikes his church. A mysterious bird appears, forcing him to reconsider his life.

Directed by Jean-François Lévesque  
Runtime: 15 min - 2020 - Canada

## Kapaemahu



KAPAEMAHU reveals the healing power of four mysterious stones on Waikiki Beach – and the legendary dual male and female spirits within them.

Directed by Hinalieimoana Wong-Kalu, Dean Hamer, Joe Willson  
Runtime: 8 min - 2020 - USA

# Animated Shorts

## Malakout



In this award-winning short, a piano player tries to bring his wife back to life. The deal awakens the devil inside him.

Directed by Farnoosh Abedi  
Runtime: 10 min - 2020 - Iran

## The Mechanical Dancer



In a small theater owned by an eccentric old man, "The Mechanical Dancer" is a sight to behold, although perhaps it has seen better days.

Directed by Jenna Jaillet  
Runtime: 13 min - 2020 - USA

## Mrs. Taylor's Show & Tell - A Prince Story



In 2001 Victor Dean's chance encounter with His Royal Badness, Prince, turned into a serendipitous elevator ride with The Purple One.

Directed by Victor Dean  
Runtime: 6 min - 2020 - USA

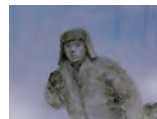
## The Unknown



On his way home from work, Sam dies. He wakes and meets Death who takes him on a walk to self-discovery.

Directed by Stephanie Marshall  
Runtime: 10 min - 2020 - UK

## The Winter



Walking in a snowy forest, a peasant sees a mystical deer. As the deer draws him into the forest, the peasant follows.

Directed by Xin Li  
Runtime: 5 min - 2020 - Australia

# Comedic Shorts

## Fucking Great Assault



Two friends are planning to rob a gas station to finance their film production. Their ambivalence about doing it results in a hilarious outcome.

Directed by Ricardo García-Nateras  
Runtime: 9 min - 2020 - Mexico

## In White Places



Chester (Keith Powell, *30 Rock*) has just moved into the neighborhood, and courier Jamil (Grantham Coleman) makes a mysterious delivery.

Directed by Keith Powell  
Runtime: 11 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

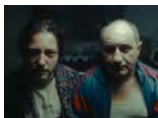
## Project H



Three soldiers put together a bold plan to rebuild Haiti, reminding us that to achieve great things, we must aim for the impossible.

Directed by Maharaki  
Runtime: 5 min - 2020 - France

## Remisivir



Two brothers, trying to make sense of a world gripped by a pandemic, grasp at anything to increase their chances of survival.

Directed by Bobby Barbacioru  
Runtime: 12 min - 2020 - Romania  
US PREMIERE

## Sperm



Craig thinks his landlords are in desperate need of his late rent payment, but he quickly finds out they need much more than that.

Directed by Kirsten Kearse  
Runtime: 12 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Sweet Dreams



A sleep-talking incident forces Arthur and his wife to confront the uncomfortable truths of their sexual relationship.

Directed by Navid Saedi  
Runtime: 7 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Documentary Shorts Do Something

## The Beauty President



If a bad actor can be president, why not a good drag queen? Terence Smith had a place in gay rights history at the height of the AIDS crisis.

Directed by Whitney Skauge  
Runtime: 10 min - 2020 - USA

## Eyes



This film tells the story of LA Animal Saves, a group of people who join together in the meatpacking district of downtown Los Angeles.

Directed by Zachary Goodwin, Flynn Harris, Alex Flanagan, Alex Kumph  
Runtime: 6 min - 2020 - USA

## Kaizo



A niche video-gaming community single-handedly raises millions of dollars a year for charities, including Santa Barbara's Direct Relief.

Directed by Jeremy Lethco  
Runtime: 20 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Man with a Broom



Fred, a homeless resident of Middletown, Connecticut, does the (mostly unpaid) street sweeping that has become his day job.

Directed by Joel Rader, Lydia Leiber, Caroline Nouhan  
Runtime: 11 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Nine



After the passage of Title IX in 1972, a group of women petitioned for women's crew to be recognized as a varsity sport at Boston University.

Directed by Jane Musky  
Runtime: 8 min - 2020 - USA

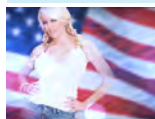
## Savior



Presidential and political speeches meet experimental dance in a performance embodying the ideological war of the modern era.

Directed by Christopher Oroza-Nostas  
Runtime: 5 min - 2020 - USA

## Stormy and the Admirals



Elderly feminists living in The Admiral, a senior apartment building in Chicago, go see Stormy Daniels perform at the Admiral, a strip club.

Directed by Dan Rybicky  
Runtime: 9 min - 2020 - USA

# Documentary Shorts In Motion

## Cycles



The story of two Black motorcycle stunt riders from Compton and Waits reveals two unlikely friends and the cycle of incarceration in their lives.

Directed by Jonathan Barenboim  
Runtime: 21 min - 2020 - USA

## Keiara



Keiara is the only female member of the Compton Cowboys. She aspires to become the first Black female rider to compete in the national rodeo.

Directed by Floyd Russ  
Runtime: 10 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Lion on the Mat



Mai Nguyen, a 29-year-old Vietnamese American martial artist, trains for an upcoming match, preparing herself mentally as well as physically.

Directed by Asali Echols  
Runtime: 16 min - 2020 - USA

## Mariah: A Boxer's Dream



Sixteen-year-old Navajo boxer Mariah Bahe is a six-time national champion with her sights set on competing in the Olympic Games in 2024.

Directed by Nina Meredith  
Runtime: 16 min - 2020 - USA

## My Father the Mover



Using African dance moves, Alatha's father helps kids transcend hardship. In a tender moment, he helps his daughter to find her own powers.

Directed by Julia Jansch  
Runtime: 12 min - 2020 - South Africa

## Tristo



Tristan Oliver uses basketball to connect with the hardships of his past, although he realizes that things are not much different now.

Directed by Ryan Oligmueller  
Runtime: 10 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# International Live-Action Shorts

## East-West



Four million citizens of Ukraine left the country looking for refuge in Poland. Sometimes the paths of the refugees cross.

Directed by Natalia Koniarz  
Runtime: 20 min - 2021 - Poland  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Identibye



The protagonist in this story faces a dilemma regarding his innermost feelings. He must decide that one's true identity is what matters most.

Directed by Sajjad Shahhatami  
Runtime: 15 min - 2021 - Iran  
WORLD PREMIERE

## The Kicksled Choir



Gabriel wants to sing in the local choir, known for its kindness to local refugees. Then his dad gets into a fight with one of the refugees.

Directed by Torfinn Iversen  
Runtime: 18 min - 2020 - Norway

## The Last Ferry from Grass Island



A Hong Kong hitman retires as a fisherman. One day his Chinese apprentice arrives, tasked to kill him before the last ferry departs.

Directed by Linhan Zhang  
Runtime: 14 min - 2020 - Hong Kong

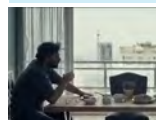
## Roy



Seeking moments of companionship, a widower makes cold calls to strangers. An accidental call to an adult hotline leads to an unlikely friendship.

Directed by Tom Berkeley, Ross White  
Runtime: 16 min - 2021 - UK  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Shadow of the Fox



Shahram's wife has left, and while dealing with a terrible mental crisis, he must try to answer his teenage daughter's questions.

Directed by Nooshin Meraji  
Runtime: 11 min - 2021 - Iran  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Live-Action Shorts

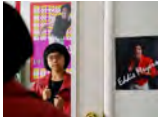
## Anything for You



Richard wants to have an affair and needs his best friend's help. What starts out as lunch date escalates to a test of friendship.

Directed by Matt Ferrucci  
Runtime: 12 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

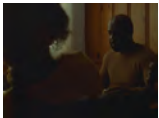
## Becoming Eddie



To become popular, Yong wishes to become his idol, a foul-mouthed comedian. When his wish comes true, it brings unexpected results.

Directed by Lilan Bowden  
Runtime: 16 min - 2020 - USA

## Black Boys Can't Cry



A dutiful and loving Black father is haunted by a secret he buries in silence. Only the prayerful hands of his grandmother can help him.

Directed by Victor Gabriel  
Runtime: 5 min - 2020 - USA

## Can't Have It Both Ways



A couple on a first date have political differences. Romance comes to a screeching halt when she bursts into song to express her views.

Directed by Morningstar Angeline  
Runtime: 8 min - 2020 - USA

## Heartland



A woman tries to immortalize her dying grandfather using virtual reality technology, but her obsessive documentation drives a wedge between them.

Directed by Jahmil Eady  
Runtime: 11 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Safe



In the middle of the night, a startled little girl hears a noise outside and fears a monster—but danger is often within.

Directed by Josema Roig  
Runtime: 10 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Live-Action Shorts

## Waking Up



When a young gay man visits his uncle in the hospital, he launches into a series of hilarious and vulnerable stories.

Directed by James Patrick Nelson  
Runtime: 13 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Wally Wenda



An unconventional sailor on a solo trip is on the brink of starvation and must use her wits and resources to figure out her next meal.

Directed by Diane Russo  
Runtime: 5 min - 2020 - USA



# Nature Shorts

## The Beast of Our Time



Narrated by Jeff Bridges, this inquiry into the relationship between climate change and grizzly bears is both a dire warning and a call to action.

Directed by Maaikie Middleton  
Runtime: 28 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

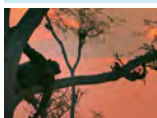
## Ocean Stories: Michele's Magic Carpet Ride



A famous marine cinematographer recounts her interaction with a Pacific manta ray that could only be seen as an inter-species act of gratitude.

Directed by Patrick Creadon, Greg Goggin  
Runtime: 8 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Pant Hoot



A genocide survivor transcends overwhelming odds to become a chimpanzee linguist, mastering the complicated pant-hoot chimp language.

Directed by Richard Reens  
Runtime: 21 min - 2020 - USA

## River Tigers: Giant Taimen of the Russian Far East



An unlikely trio is lured to a remote river to search for a mythical 150-pound trout and to unlock the river's secrets in order to save it.

Directed by Andy Maser, Adam Bagger  
Runtime: 15 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

# Santa Barbara Closing Night Shorts

## Dist-Dance!



This film shows how one community survived 2020 by dancing outdoors through the pandemic.

Directed by Michael Love  
Runtime: 30 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Electric Lady



For nearly 30 years, Ana Marie Coffey, a strong and talented African American woman, danced on roller skates near Santa Barbara's Dolphin Fountain.

Directed by Casey McGarry  
Runtime: 22 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Homecoming: Journey to Limuw



Keeping their traditions alive, the Chumash people make an annual journey to their historical village site on Limuw, now Santa Cruz Island.

Directed by Nick Zachar  
Runtime: 14 min - 2020 - USA

## Hospice of Santa Barbara Presents: Manuel's Story



Manuel loved music. When he received an unexpected diagnosis, support from Hospice of Santa Barbara helped him play his music again.

Directed by Greg Kroes  
Runtime: 10 min - 2020 - USA

## Santa Barbara Weed Country



A look into the clash between Weed and Wine in Santa Barbara County.

Directed by Benjamin Goedert  
Runtime: 10 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Shepherd's Song



After her parents' death, Jenya embarks on a new path restoring ecosystems with her flock of sheep. In healing the land, we heal ourselves.

Directed by Abby Fuller  
Runtime: 18 min - 2020 - USA

## Vuja De



VUJA DE is a journey into the dreams of Santa Barbara artist Michael E. Long and to his historic Santa Barbara art studio, "The Rondo."

Directed by Casey McGarry  
Runtime: 6 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Santa Barbara Live-Action Shorts

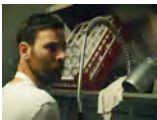
## Anxious



A traumatic night from a woman's past looms over her spontaneous date night with an old high school crush.

Directed by Anthony Gilbert  
Runtime: 17 min - 2020 - USA

## Bobby



After receiving a visitor from his past, a small-time diner owner is forced back into the underground world of Los Angeles.

Directed by Henry Burge  
Runtime: 17 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Lucky



Capturing the feeling of seeing a lost loved one again, a mother and daughter find and lose one other, adrift in dreams and time.

Directed by Phinehas L. Hodges  
Runtime: 7 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## A Man with Emotions



Rui finds a box with a golden bell inside that can extract emotions from people to paper—and paper can give emotions to anyone.

Directed by Miki Inoguchi  
Runtime: 16 min - 2020 - USA

## Sunshine in the Rain



The sudden presence of a new woman leads a man to the past he tries so hard to forget in this story about grief, lost love, and courage.

Directed by Benny Chen  
Runtime: 26 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Santa Barbara Live-Action Shorts

## Vial



A couple's relationship is put to the test when they experiment with an illicit drug while celebrating their anniversary during quarantine.

Directed by Sonja O'Hara, Micah Stuart  
Runtime: 14 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## When It's Late



This film follows a night in the life of a singer and her manager as they navigate the music industry in Los Angeles.

Directed by Mitch Hadley  
Runtime: 15 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Santa Barbara Documentary Shorts

## Not One More



On May 23, 2014, a college student went on a killing rampage in the college town of Isla Vista, killing 6 people and injuring 14 others.

Directed by Cameron Leingang  
Runtime: 32 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Stand by 888 Hours



For more than 888 hours, KEYT provided unprecedented team coverage of the Thomas Fire and subsequent mudslide.

Directed by Chelsey Michaelis  
Runtime: 40 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Underdogs



At the California Men's Colony, a special connection forms between dogs training to be service animals and their inmate handlers.

Directed by Alex Astrella  
Runtime: 16 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Santa Barbara Mixer Shorts

## A Critter Fable



A caterpillar who can't transform can still add color to the world. Quadriplegic artist/composer Grace Fisher features art by kids with special needs.

Directed by Grace Fisher  
Runtime: 8 min - 2020 - USA

## Dia de los Muertos



A father takes his son on a spiritual journey to honor his ancestors and to keep their traditions alive.

Directed by George Ortega, Ricardo Ortega  
Runtime: 4 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Gratified



Christina Apostolopoulos performs her song "Gratified." A grifter girl on the lam arrives in Santa Barbara.

Directed by Leslie Hope  
Runtime: 4 min - 2020 - USA

## Keeping the Sport Alive



This is the story of the Western Racing Association, a group dedicated to preserving and exhibiting vintage dirt track race cars.

Directed by Will Hahn  
Runtime: 21 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

## Language of Dreams



Those who have end-of-life dreams and those who seek to fulfill them come together, illuminating the profound effects of these interactions.

Directed by Peter Sasowsky  
Runtime: 28 min - 2020 - USA

## Nickel in the Sand



A young couple clears up misconceptions about their feelings for each other while waiting for a table.

Directed by Mike Winger  
Runtime: 3 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Santa Barbara Mixer Shorts

## Stoke Chasers



Facing generations of stigma, a group of bold young women are breaking out of the mold to start a new kind of movement.

Directed by Jo Anna Edmison  
Runtime: 10 min - 2020 - USA

## Subtle Body



On a mountain outcropping of Lizard's Mouth above Santa Barbara, dancer Nikki Pfeiffer performs in concert with sky and clouds.

Directed by Robin Bisio  
Runtime: 4 min - 2020 - USA  
US PREMIERE

## Tides: A Sandy Cycling Ode



A pro cyclocross racer loves to ride his bike and write poetry. A training routine creates a lemniscate, an infinite structure that is also fleeting.

Directed by Andrew Juliano  
Runtime: 3 min - 2021 - USA  
WORLD PREMIERE

# Youth CineMedia

Youth CineMedia is a local Santa Barbara organization that teaches documentary filmmaking to diverse groups from both urban and rural communities. Founded by Osiris Castañeda in 2002, YCM focuses on creating films that address social justice issues, helping to create positive change through the lens of today's youth.

## Coils and Curls



With styles like box braids, twists, kinks, and coils deeply ingrained in Black culture, what is the history of Black hair and why does cultural appropriation matter now more than ever?

Directed by Sierra Shelton

## Defend the Sacred - The San Marcos Foothills



Can community members and local Chumash come together in time to save one of Santa Barbara's most sacred and beautiful open spaces from development?

Directed by Malakai Castañeda, Mathew Martinez, Mia Sweeney, and Osiris Castañeda

## Dreams on Hold



Faced with an uncertain future, a college athlete deals with the repercussions of a global pandemic.

Directed by Sycamore Mitchell

## Dreams to Life



This film offers a friendly reminder to embrace the beauty of life and the people around us.

Directed by Logan Flynn

## Everything's for Sale



A series of unfortunate events leads to the start of a clothing line. Will boredom stop creativity during quarantine, or will Rumi flourish?

Directed by JB Packer

# Youth CineMedia

## La Mexicana Bakery



Family, culture, and food prove that the American Dream is still possible in a legendary bakery in Austin, Texas.

Directed by Yum Cimil

## Life on Break



With children kept at home and the death toll climbing, what happens when the world is put on pause due to a worldwide killer virus?

Directed by Vesela Ivanova

## The New Normal



Four young adults cope with the new realities of living in a global pandemic.

Directed by Daniela Estrada

## Six Feet



A young filmmaker looks at COVID-19 through the eyes of those on Boston's streets.

Directed by Jan Bloch

## The Sound of Thunder



This film examines the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on families and individuals of the community of Maui.

Directed by Ha'ena Balibin

# Drive-In Theatre Info

## RESERVATIONS

Reservations for each film will begin at 8:00 AM the day before showtime at [sbiff.org/drivein](http://sbiff.org/drivein)

Only one reservation per vehicle is needed.

A confirmation of your reservation will be emailed to you and must be shown for admission.

Admission for those with reservations begins 45 minutes prior to each film's start time.

Reservations become void 20 minutes prior to each film's start time. Admission will then be on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you arrive without a reservation prior to 20 minutes before showtime, there is no staging area. You will be required to drive around the block and get in the back of the line.

Both drive-in theatres are located at Santa Barbara City College, 140 Loma Alta Road. Please arrive by turning onto Loma Alta Road from Shoreline Drive.

There is no assigned parking, except for select SBIFF Patrons and Sponsors. You will be guided into a space by parking attendants on a first-come, first-served basis.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

If you are feeling sick or unwell, please stay home.

A COVID compliance officer will be onsite at all times.

Masks must be worn by staff, volunteers and attendees outside of their personal vehicle. Masks must cover both the nose and mouth.

Social distancing of 6 feet must be maintained at all times when outside of a vehicle.

Attendees must stay in their vehicles at all times except to use the restrooms.

Restrooms will be professionally sanitized daily.

Multiple hand sanitizing stations will be available.

Contactless ticket scanning is available upon entry.

Please take your trash with you and dispose of it at home.

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN

CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN

8:00 PM - 9:32 PM  
INVISIBLE VALLEY

8:30 PM - 10:02 PM  
INVISIBLE VALLEY

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 10:14 AM  
**One-Way  
to Moscow**

12:00 PM - 1:27 PM  
**By Your Side**

3:30 PM - 4:57 PM  
**We Will Never Die**

7:00 PM - 8:45 PM  
**Run Woman Run**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 11:21 AM  
**Poppie Nongena**

1:00 PM - 2:31 PM  
**La Recua**

4:30 PM - 6:07 PM  
**The Forbidden  
Strings**

8:00 PM - 9:55 PM  
**The Cinderella  
Addiction**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 9:53 AM  
**My First Summer**

12:00 PM - 1:35 PM  
**Highway One**

3:30 PM - 5:01 PM  
**A Bruddah's Mind**

7:00 PM - 8:50 PM  
**Cinema of Sleep**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 10:51 AM  
**The Ghosts**

1:00 PM - 2:25 PM  
**The Hosts**

4:30 PM - 5:57 PM  
**By Your Side**

8:00 PM - 9:36 PM  
**Backyard Village**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 3**

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 10:04 AM  
**Evan Wood**

12:00 PM - 1:05 PM  
**Last Call**

3:30 PM - 4:54 PM  
**\$avvy**

7:00 PM - 9:05 PM  
**Alaskan Nets**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 11:01 AM  
**A Bruddah's Mind**

1:00 PM - 2:50 PM  
**Cinema of Sleep**

4:30 PM - 6:14 PM  
**One-Way  
to Moscow**

8:00 PM - 10:02 PM  
**The Last Ones**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**SUNDAY, APRIL 4**

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 10:07 AM  
**Ladies of Steel**

12:00 PM - 1:27 PM  
**Teach Me  
if You Can**

3:30 PM - 4:51 PM  
**The Ghosts**

7:00 PM - 8:55 PM  
**Fear**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 10:57 AM  
**We Will Never Die**

1:00 PM - 2:45 PM  
**Run Woman Run**

4:30 PM - 6:21 PM  
**Poppie Nongena**

8:00 PM - 9:35 PM  
**Broken Diamonds**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MONDAY, APRIL 5

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 9:54 AM  
**\$avvy**

9:30 AM - 11:25 AM  
**Fear**

12:00 PM - 1:35 PM  
**Broken Diamonds**

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM  
**Four Mothers**

3:30 PM - 5:10 PM  
**The Flood  
Won't Come**

4:30 PM - 5:48 PM  
**Listen**

7:00 PM - 8:34 PM  
**Snakehead**

8:00 PM - 9:42 PM  
**When I'm  
Done Dying**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 10:06 AM  
**Backyard Village**

9:30 AM - 10:48 AM  
**Listen**

12:00 PM - 1:37 PM  
**Addict Named Hal**

1:00 PM - 2:34 PM  
**Snakehead**

3:30 PM - 4:53 PM  
**My First Summer**

4:30 PM - 6:07 PM  
**Ladies of Steel**

7:00 PM - 8:52 PM  
**The Conservation  
Game**

8:00 PM - 9:40 PM  
**Karnawal**



# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 10:12 AM  
**When I'm  
Done Dying**

12:00 PM - 1:55 PM  
**The Cinderella  
Addiction**

3:30 PM - 4:55 PM  
**The Man  
with the Answers**

7:00 PM - 8:26 PM  
**We Burn Like This**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 11:05 AM  
**The Pit**

1:00 PM - 2:31 PM  
**Mirage**

4:30 PM - 6:05 PM  
**Akilla's Escape**

8:00 PM - 9:51 PM  
**Baby**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 10:10 AM  
**Karnawal**

12:00 PM - 1:25 PM  
**The Revolution  
Generation**

3:30 PM - 5:12 PM  
**Under My Skin**

7:00 PM - 8:36 PM  
**Coast**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 10:56 AM  
**We Burn Like This**

1:00 PM - 2:58 PM  
**The Knot**

4:30 PM - 6:05 PM  
**The Pit**

8:00 PM - 9:51 PM  
**Erna at War**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 9:55 AM  
**The Man  
with the Answers**

12:00 PM - 1:35 PM  
**Six Angry Women**

3:30 PM - 5:06 PM  
**Persona Non Grata**

7:00 PM - 8:42 PM  
**Trees of Peace**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 11:05 AM  
**Akilla's Escape**

1:00 PM - 2:42 PM  
**Under My Skin**

4:30 PM - 5:35 PM  
**Reclaim Idaho**

8:00 PM - 9:53 PM  
**Fortitude**

# Drive-In Theatre Schedule

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

**STADIUM  
DRIVE-IN**

8:30 AM - 10:21 AM  
**Erna at War**

12:00 PM - 1:41 PM  
**Coast**

3:30 PM - 4:55 PM  
**Fellinopolis**

8:00 PM - 9:45 PM  
**Santa Barbara  
Closing Night Shorts**

**CLIFFSIDE  
DRIVE-IN**

9:30 AM - 10:32 AM  
**Climb**

1:00 PM - 1:58 PM  
**Daughters  
of the Waves**

4:30 PM - 6:12 PM  
**Trees of Peace**

8:30 PM - 10:15 PM  
**Santa Barbara  
Closing Night Shorts**

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