

6th Annual

**NEVADA** **WOMEN'S** **FILM**

**FEST**

June 22-28, 2020

Virtual Festival

Las Vegas, NV



# 2020 Festival Guide

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## Box Office

Streaming available beginning June 22, 2020

Live Events: June 25 - 28, 2020

Tickets available online: [www.NWFFest.com](http://www.NWFFest.com).



[twitter.com/nwffest](https://twitter.com/nwffest)



[instagram.com/nwffest](https://www.instagram.com/nwffest)



[facebook.com/NVWomensFilmFestival](https://www.facebook.com/NVWomensFilmFestival)



# Welcome to the 2020 Nevada Women's Film Festival

As they say in showbiz, "The show must go on!"

Our extended annual event will accommodate all **68 films from 23 countries** which were originally scheduled for March at UNLV. The virtual fest will allow our attendees to **interact and participate in live Q&A sessions with nearly all the filmmakers -- a truly international event.**

Live events include our **2020 Nevada Woman Filmmaker of the Year** honoree, UNLV Film graduate **Andrea Walter**. We are pleased to present her critically acclaimed feature, **Empty by Design**, and on **Friday at 7:00 pm PDT**, a live interview and Q&A with the filmmaker will be conducted by **Roudi Boroumand** of **UNLV's Department of Film**.

This year's **Vanguard Award** for achievement in film goes to **Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre**. We will present her award-winning directorial debut, *The Mustang*, which was shot on location in Northern Nevada and based upon an actual rehabilitation program in Carson City. On **Saturday at 1:00 pm PST**, Laure and **producer Molly Hallam** will join us live from Paris for a conversation and Q&A session with **Dr. Heather Addison, Chair of UNLV's Department of Film**.

The festival is also delighted to present a special screening of the **2020 Oscar winner** for Best Documentary (Short Subject): **Learning to Skateboard in a Warzone (If You're a Girl)**. **Academy Award winner Carol Dysinger** will be our special guest for another live Q&A session on **Sunday at 1:30 pm PDT**.

NWFFest will conclude on **Sunday** with the **6th Annual Emmy Awards**, a ceremony honoring our most outstanding filmmakers. Awards will include the Spirit of Activism, Best Female Protagonist, Best Nevada Filmmaker, LGBTQ-themed, as well as student, fiction and documentary awards.

Although it has been challenging to adapt to an online festival, we've been overwhelmed with the positive support and grateful that we can now welcome more filmmakers than ever before. Please remember to **begin streaming films on June 22** and **tune in to our live events starting June 25**.

Follow us on social media for news about our first ever **Virtual Welcome Mixer** and other announcements.

From all of us at **NWFFest**, we look forward to seeing you at our virtual fest.

Cheers! :)



Executive Director & Founder



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## NWFFEST 2020 LIVE EVENT SCHEDULE\*

Most films available to stream starting June 22

Online Catalog: <https://watch.eventive.org/nwffest>

### Thursday, June 25

#### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 1

**5:00 pm PDT**

*An Upside-Down Tale* (13 min)  
*Tristan & Kelly* (15 min)  
*Red* (13 min)  
*Ghazaal* (15 min)  
*Dance Dance Astro Gurl* (5 min)  
*Places* (5 min)  
*Team Marilyn* (9 min)

#### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 2

**6:00 pm PDT**

*Vilomah* (28 min)  
*The Water Runs Red* (11 min)  
*Ingenue* (20 min)  
*The Lost City Museum* (17 min)  
*The Big Wish* (1 min)

#### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR CAT PEOPLE

**8:00 pm PDT**

*Cat People* (62 min)



# Schedule

Friday, June 26

## 2020 NEVADA WOMAN FILMMAKER OF THE YEAR: ANDREA WALTER

with Featured Guest Filmmaker **Andrea Walter**

5:00 pm PDT Streaming Available for *Empty By Design*

7:00 pm PDT

**LIVE INTERVIEW and Q&A Session with Andrea Walter,**  
hosted by **Roudi Boroumand**

presentation of the 2020 Nevada Woman Filmmaker of the Year Award, Q&A session

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 4

8:30 pm PDT

*Always Remember Me* (13 min)

*Toni Fitzgerald's Cult Following* (12 min)

*F\*ckboy Manifesto* (13 min)

*The Most Beautiful* (21 min)

*Cecilia the Celibate Episode 1* (13 min)

*Kenin* (3 min)



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The advertisement features a dark blue background with a grid pattern and mathematical symbols like  $m_1 = eV$  and  $V = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}$ . It includes three inset images: a classroom with desks and a chalkboard, a hospital room with a bed and medical equipment, and a green screen studio setup.

Saturday, June 27

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 5

**11:00 am PDT**

*St Bernie* (15 min)

*Electric Swan* (40 min)

*Prodana* (19 min)

*While I Can Lift My Hands* (21 min)

*Wordless* (4 min)

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 6

**12:00 pm PDT**

*Dear Bella* (8 min)

*Deuce* (9 min)

*The Family Farm* (14 min)

*Gabrielle* (14 min)

*Knocking Down The Fences* (12 min)

*The Necklace* (30 min)

## VANGUARD EVENT

with Featured Guest Filmmaker **Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre**

**1:00 pm - 2:30 pm PDT**

**LIVE INTERVIEW and Q&A Session with Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre,**  
hosted by **Dr. Heather Addison**

presentation of the Vanguard Award, Q&A session

*The Mustang* (96 min)

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 7

**4:00 pm PDT**

*Bad Mother* (11 min)

*Hard Shadow* (3 min)

*I Exist* (10 min)

*Colourblind* (8 min)

*Night Tide* (7 min)

*Card Tricks* (14 min)

*Suddenly, The Night* (25 min)

# Schedule

## Saturday, June 27

### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 8

**6:00 pm PDT**

*Lost In The Eighties* (17 min)

*The Cunning Man* (13 min)

*Blink of an Eye: Profile of Photographer Mary Schroeder* (8 min)

*Two Paper Nightingales* (17 min)

*Possibilities* (12 min)

### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 9

**7:00 pm PDT**

*The Unseen Children* (31 min)

*The Same Story* (19 min)

*Strangers' Reunion* (13 min)

*Pappy Hour* (11 min)

## Sunday, June 28

### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR THAT'S THE WAY YOU LOVE

**10:00 am PDT**

*That's the Way You Love* (Adult situations) (96 min)

### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR DELIGHT IN THE MOUNTAIN

**11:00 am PDT**

*Delight in the Mountain* (90 min)

### LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 10

**12:00 pm PDT**

*Names For Snow* (6 min)

*Motherland* (19 min)

*Jones* (9 min)

*Clara and the Imaginary Lives* (45 min)

*Choker* (4 min)

*Shadow At The Door* (4 min)

**Sunday, June 28**

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SPACE CAPTAIN AND CALLISTA

**1:00 pm PDT**

*Space Captain and Callista* (100 min)

## SPECIAL LIVE Q&A SESSION

with Special Guest Filmmaker **Carol Dysinger**

**7:00 pm PDT**

**LIVE Q&A Session with Oscar Winner Carol Dysinger**

2020 Academy Award Winner (Documentary Short) *Learning to Skateboard in a Warzone (If You're a Girl)* (If You're a Girl) (39 min)

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR PIONEERS IN SKIRTS

**2:30 pm PDT**

*Pioneers in Skirts* (60 min)

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR FOUND IN KOREA

**3:00 pm PDT**

*Found in Korea* (74 min)

## LIVE Q&A SESSION FOR SHORTS PROGRAM 11

**4:00 pm PDT**

*Insanity* (2 min)

*Lunch Break* (12 min)

*La Lettre* (7 min)

*Pool Party* (9 min)

*Let The Blonde Sing* (13 min)

*9th Island Stories: Hula* (5 min)

*Rainshadow* (37min)

**6:00 PM**

**6TH ANNUAL FEMMY AWARDS**

# Board of Directors



## NIKKI CORDA | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & FOUNDER

Nikki spent her early career in feature film development in Los Angeles, with stints at Twentieth Century Fox and Michael Douglas's company at Paramount. She began producing and writing independently with the award-winning documentary, *Urban Rescuers*, and continues to follow her passion for nonfiction film with her business, Life-Portraits. Nikki has taught a variety of film/video and English classes at the College of Southern Nevada and Nevada State College. She holds a B.S. in Film from Boston University, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Sierra Nevada College.

## DR. HEATHER ADDISON | BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Heather Addison joined the Department of Film at UNLV as Chair in 2016. She is a film scholar who has taught a broad range of courses in film history, criticism, and theory. She studies Hollywood's relationship to American culture, and has published her work in a large number of peer-reviewed journals. Her books include *Hollywood and the Rise of Physical Culture* (Routledge, 2003) and *Motherhood Misconceived: Representing the Maternal in U.S. Films* (SUNY, 2010), a collection of essays co-edited with Elaine Roth and Mary Kate Goodwin-Kelly.



## SHIRLEY JOHNSTON | BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shirley is a Professor of History at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas, teaching American History and Nevada History. She's a graduate of Colorado Mesa University and earned her M.A. at UNLV. Shirley served for five years as co-chair of the Women's Alliance at CSN and has a passionate interest in furthering its mission to help create a diverse society where the contributions of all are celebrated and recognized. This commitment to celebration drew her to the Nevada Women's Film Collective and the NWFFest, where that diversity is embraced.

## BRETT LEVNER | BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brett graduated with honors from NYU and got her start at MTV where she worked her way up from intern to producer. Brett attended Columbia University's graduate film program. She became the first woman to win the Coca Cola Refreshing Filmmaker Award in 2004, with her film *Being Reel*. Brett is an Associate Professor of Film at UNLV. She most recently directed *The Track*, a feature film about underage sex trafficking in Las Vegas.



## JO MEURIS | BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jo holds an MFA from University of California, Los Angeles and a BFA from Concordia University in Montreal. Jo is an animator by trade and the films she has worked on as well as personal films have screened and won awards at hundreds of film festivals worldwide. Jo moved from Canada to Las Vegas in 2014 to build the new animation program at Nevada State College, where she currently teaches animation, editing, and drawing. In her spare time, Jo goes adventuring and fights dragons for fun.

# Board of Directors



## MICHELLE PATRICK | BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michelle Patrick joined the City of Las Vegas' Office of Cultural Affairs in 2020 as the new Performing Arts Manager. Originally from New York City, Michelle serves as a board member for the Las Vegas Arts District, and has served as a grants reader for the National Endowment for the Arts. Over the past decade, Patrick has worked at the intersections of theater, dance, film, arts programming and public speaking. She is also an actress, director, and voice over artist. Patrick's experience comes from a varied background that includes the Nevada Arts Council, Denver Center for the Performing Arts and the Sundance Film Festival.

## DANETTE TULL | BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Danette works for the Nevada Film Office, a division of the Governor's Office of Economic Development. Working closely with major productions, Danette directly has a hand in film, commercial and television projects featuring Nevada, driving economic benefits and tourism. She works closely with student filmmakers to ensure that the next generation of local filmmakers has all the possible opportunities to become successful. She holds an M.S. in Library Science from the University of North Texas and a B.A. in Foreign Languages from U.C. Riverside.



THE WOMEN'S  
RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE  
o f N E V A D A

# Executive Committee



## ESTHER GABRIEL | DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

After graduating UNLV's film program, Esther began her career producing a long-running pay-per-view promotional series in Toronto, and started a broadcast licensing company with her husband. Later in Los Angeles, she worked as an editor and handled the post-production on many documentaries and films, including *Everything will be Alright* and *A Great Big Beautiful Tomorrow*. In 2013, Esther and her husband moved back to Las Vegas to open the production facility Mission Control Studio.

## KELSIE STACY | TECHNICAL PRODUCER & FESTIVAL MANAGER

Born and raised in Vegas, Kelsie's interest in film began at an early age; her long time favorites are *Interview with the Vampire* and *The Mask*. She studied both film and English at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 2015. Kelsie previously worked as a content manager for an independent film studio and network website, and has also appeared set as a production assistant.

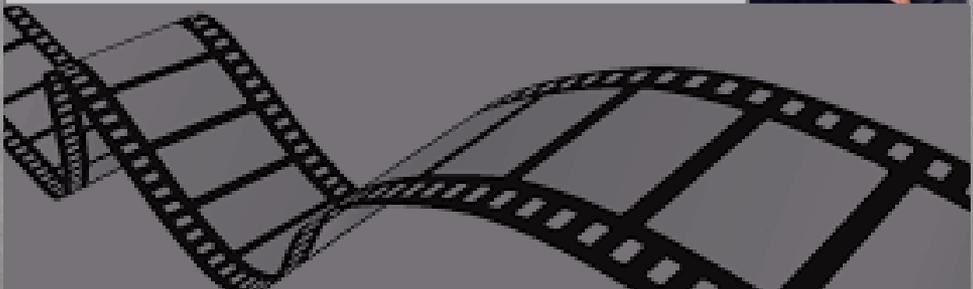


## KOURTENAYE MONROE | SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Kourtenaye Monroe is a singer, actor, and film production assistant. She studied Theatre and Voice, earning undergraduate credits at UNLV, and completed her Bachelor's of Fine Arts Degree in Theatre Arts on scholarship at Boston University. Kourtenaye remains enthusiastic and proud to support multiple arts & cultural events, film festivals, and media promoting human connection and life-enriching experiences in her hometown community of Las Vegas.

## KRISTEL TORVIK MUIR | PRODUCTION MANAGER

Kristel Torvik Muir is a 30 year resident of Las Vegas. She was a student during the very first year of the distinguished Las Vegas Academy of the Arts. She's currently the CFO of Stickman Sound, a staple of the Nevada production community. In her 12 years as CFO, she's achieved considerable success working with big-budget and award-winning productions. Kristel also regularly donates her time and services to budding filmmakers, film festivals, and charities.





## CONTENT CREATION

Mr. Camera, Inc. has been providing the highest quality Las Vegas Production Services since 1981. Our team has developed key relationships throughout Las Vegas, enabling us to provide an unparalleled level of service. We serve broadcast, corporate, commercial, and convention video production needs. Mr. Camera provides concept to completion services for your broadcast quality production that will meet the needs of any client.

# Nevada Woman Filmmaker of the Year

*Nevada Women's Film Festival is proud to present our*  
**2020 NEVADA WOMAN FILMMAKER OF THE YEAR AWARD** recipient...  
**ANDREA A. WALTER**



## NEVADA WOMAN FILMMAKER OF THE YEAR

**Andrea A. Walter**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 7:00 PM PDT**  
LIVE INTERVIEW and Q&A Session  
with **Andrea Walter**,  
hosted by **Roudi Boroumand**

Streaming of the film available starting  
**June 26, at 5:00 PM PDT**

Andrea A. Walter is an Independent Writer, Director and Producer of British Filipina descent. Born and raised in the Philippines, she moved to the USA for university and pursuits of making films abroad. After graduating from UNLV with a BA in film studies, she continued to work in Las Vegas on a variety of productions before moving to Los Angeles.

Andrea has a background in cinematography and editing and has worked as a programmer for the Las Vegas Film Festival.

*Empty by Design* (2019) is her first feature film as a writer and director, in addition she served as the cinematographer on the production.

Currently Andrea has finished working as a cinematographer on Dante Basco's directorial debut, *The Fabulous Filipino Brothers* (2020) and is in development for her second feature film. She is repped by Matt Shelton and Josh Dove at Stride Management.



**Roudi Boroumand** is an Iranian-American filmmaker, film studies writer, and translator. A graduate of Portland State University and North West Film Center and a current MFA candidate in Writing for Dramatic Media at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, she is a film and screenwriting instructor at UNLV. Roudi has been a writer for film journals and she is currently a collaborator of Rise Up Daily as a film critic.

# Special Screening

## EMPTY BY DESIGN

by pioneering filmmaker Andrea Walter

*Sponsored by UNLV*

Streaming of the film available starting  
June 26, at 5:00 PM PDT



## EMPTY BY DESIGN

ANDREA WALTER

FEATURE | UNITED STATES | 86 MINS

*Empty by Design* is a thoughtful exploration of feeling lost between two places. Amidst the urban rhythms of contemporary Manila, Filipino millennials Eric (Osric Chau, who also serves as producer) and Samantha (Rhian Ramos) return home after some time abroad and find themselves drawn together through their mutual loneliness. A film where a sense of belonging feels elusive, *Empty by Design* explores the emotional heaviness of coming back to a place you unknowingly fought so hard to forget.

# Vanguard Award

Nevada Women's Film Festival is proud to present our  
2020 **VANGUARD AWARD** recipient...  
**LAURE DE CLERMONT-TONNERRE**



## VANGUARD AWARD

**Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1:00 PM PDT LIVE**  
INTERVIEW and Q&A Session  
with **Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre**  
hosted by **Dr. Heather Addison**

**Sponsored by UNLV**

Streaming of the film available **24 hrs only**  
starting **June 26, 1:00 PM PDT**

"Filmmaker Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre's story of a troubled convict...bonding with a wild mustang is a striking debut. Each time you think you have this movie pegged, it'll knock you for a loop." Peter Travers, *Rolling Stone*

"To achieve a sense of realism in *The Mustang*, Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre spent five years researching the U.S. prison system and animal therapy. Her new film focuses on an inmate, played by Matthias Schoenaerts, in a maximum security prison in Nevada. When he is enrolled in a program that trains wild horses, his life is forever changed...

"Clermont-Tonnerre credits the film, which she co-wrote and directed, with hard work and an important relationship with the Sundance Institute. She created a short called *Rabbit* which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2015. That film told the story of a correctional facility's Pet Partnership Program. Shortly after, her script for *The Mustang* won the Sundance Institute/NHK Award, and she was selected for their directing lab." Holly Rosen Fink, *Women & Hollywood*

"I had a lot of female support behind the camera. Having female crew members was very important to me. Throughout the long journey of making this film over five years, I've been around women who never gave up and always believed in this project. All those women were a great force behind this project." -Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre



**Dr. Heather Addison** joined UNLV FILM in 2016 as the new Chair. She has taught a broad range of courses in film history, criticism, and theory. Her primary research area is Hollywood's relationship to American culture, and at UNLV is focusing on the materials in the Department of Film's Howard Hughes Motion Picture Records.

# Special Screening

## THE MUSTANG

by pioneering filmmaker Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre

*Sponsored by UNLV*

Streaming of the film available **24 hrs only**  
starting **June 26, 1:00 PM PDT**



## THE MUSTANG

LAURE DE CLERMONT-TONNERRE

FEATURE | UNITED STATES | 96 MINS

The story of Roman Coleman, a violent convict, who is given the chance to participate in a rehabilitation therapy program involving the training of wild mustangs.

Filmed in Northern Nevada.

# Special Screening and Live Interview

## LEARNING TO SKATEBOARD IN A WARZONE (IF YOU'RE A GIRL)

*Sponsored by A&E Indie Films*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 1:30 PM PDT**

**LIVE INTERVIEW and Q&A Session with Oscar Winner, Carol Dysinger**

Streaming of the film available starting **June 25**



### LEARNING TO SKATEBOARD IN A WARZONE (IF YOU'RE A GIRL)

**CAROL DYSINGER**

**DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES & AFGHANISTAN | 39 MINS**

In Afghanistan, many young girls are not able to participate in sports. Cultural and religious norms, along with other factors such as safety concerns and years of warfare, have resulted in limited athletic and recreational opportunities for women and girls, especially those who come from impoverished neighborhoods. But there is a new generation of Afghan girls who believe they can do anything.

Winner of the 2020 Oscar for Best Documentary (Short Subject)

# Think. Do.

## Find an uncharted path.

Whether in the seminar room, on the streets of downtown Vegas, or deep in the Mojave Desert, our program blends theory and practice in unconventional ways. Merging environmental topics with material culture studies, oral history, and digital humanities, our MA and PhD students research, plan, and implement public history projects that find inspiration in our surroundings. Las Vegas and the American West sit at the nexus of labor, immigration, environmental, and cultural history.

Our "brand" of public history is just like our city—unapologetically unique.

For nearly two decades, the Public History program has provided preservation and interpretive support for the Walking Box Ranch, a historic property built in 1931 and maintained by the Bureau of Land Management. Once owned by silent screen stars Clara Box and Rex Bell, the ranch brings our students face-to-face with the histories of popular culture, labor, indigenous people, and the environment in the American West.

Join us May 9th at the ranch for an onsite celebration of public history in the Mojave Desert.

See below website for more details!



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[www.unlvpublichistory.com](http://www.unlvpublichistory.com)

# Feature Films



## CAT PEOPLE

ASAKO USHIO

DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES & JAPAN | 62 MINS

This documentary poses the question of how we as humans coexist with cats by exploring the eclectic lives of devoted cat lovers. We'll journey from America to a small island in Japan to learn and explore various human/feline relationships.



## CLARA AND THE IMAGINARY LIVES

GIULIA CASAGRANDE

DOCUMENTARY | ITALY | 45 MINS

The discovery of a photo taken at the end of the 1930s is the starting point as we travel through Clara's past. While her memory becomes ever more frail, her young granddaughter attempts to reconstruct her youth in fascist Italy with the help of images that ignite the memory of a relentless film buff. Using vintage footage, the film explores coming of age in an era dominated by great turmoil. An era in which cinema and propaganda influenced the identity of an entire generation.

SHORTS PROGRAM 10

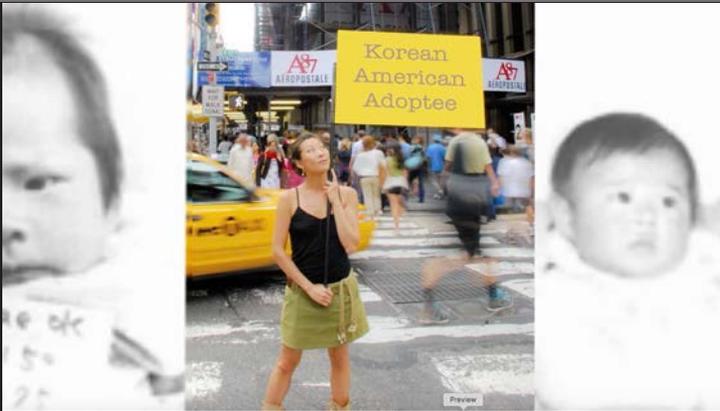


## DELIGHT IN THE MOUNTAIN

FRANCISCO TORRES

COMEDY | UNITED STATES | 90 MINS

After spending most of her career as a lawyer defending the mob, Anna Maria tries to hide from the rough characters who have surrounded her. In “soap opera” style, the mob tracks her down, kidnaps her mother, and demands she argue one more case defending the son of the mafia boss.



## FOUND IN KOREA

NAM HOLTZ, ALLISON LANE, KEVYN SETTLE

DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES & DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA | 74 MINS

An adoptee travels back to Korea for the first time in 35 years in search of her birth parents and the world she lost as a baby. While retracing the steps of her own adoption, she discovers her culture and identity, and questions why Koreans are not adopting their own.

# Feature Films



## PIONEERS IN SKIRTS

ASHLEY MARIA

COMEDY | UNITED STATES | 60 MINS

*Pioneers in Skirts* is an entertaining examination of gender parity in the workplace from the perspective of the filmmaker who was frustrated with her own problems in the film industry.

STREAMING AVAILABLE BEGINNING JUNE 27, 2:30 PDT



## SPACE CAPTAIN AND CALLISTA

A.R. KAGAN

DRAMEDY | UNITED STATES | 100 MINS

A young man with Asperger's Syndrome, under the shadow of his overprotective mother, wants to live independently. A tough-as-nails teen girl has a troubled, chaotic home life. Their unlikely friendship is tainted by outsiders' suspicions and accusations.



### THAT'S THE WAY YOU LOVE

LIMOR SHMILA

DRAMA | ISRAEL | 96 MINS

Tamara, a successful career woman, lives in a world of high expectations and perfect performances. When she gives birth to her daughter, the change alters the power dynamics in her marriage and sex life. As she struggles to maintain her place at work, their intimacy becomes more and more demanding. When her home becomes a battlefield, Tamara realizes she is a queen trapped in her own castle.

**A&E INDIE FILMS®**

# Short Films

## 9TH ISLAND STORIES: HULA

**DIRECTOR: REYN KANESHIRO | STUDENT | DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES | 5 MINS**

*9th Island Stories: Hula* is a short documentary about a student organization at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas dedicated to preserving Hawaiian culture in the ninth island of Las Vegas.

SHORTS PROGRAM 11

## ALWAYS REMEMBER ME

**DIRECTOR: NELL TEARE | DARK COMEDY | UNITED STATES | 13 MINS**

Grief's a party. A young woman confronts her past at her childhood best friend's 7th birthday party. This is complicated, because her best friend has been dead for 18 years. Based on true events.

SHORTS PROGRAM 4

## BAD MOTHER

**DIRECTOR: MARNIE BAXTER & NICOLA STUART-HILL | THRILLER | UNITED KINGDOM | 11 MINS**

Based on the true story of a mother at the end of her tether who finds understanding and solace from a stranger on the beach. But is she right to trust this woman, another mother, with the care of her children? *Bad Mother* explores the struggles of motherhood, questioning our relationship with strangers in this modern world, and how we judge each other as mums.

SHORTS PROGRAM 7

## THE BIG WISH

**DIRECTOR: NICOLLE PETERSON & LILI CAMPISI | STUDENT | COMMERCIAL | UNITED STATES | 1 MIN**

As the winner of the Social Media Campaign award from the Coca-Cola/Regal Cinemas contest, this spot screened in Regal theaters across the country.

SHORTS PROGRAM 2

## BLINK OF AN EYE: PHOTOGRAPHER MARY SCHROEDER

**DIRECTOR: BILL WISNESKI | DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES | 8 MINS**

Profile of the legendary Detroit Free Press sports photographer Mary Schroeder.

SHORTS PROGRAM 8

## CARD TRICKS

**DIRECTOR: STEPHIE ROLLOFF | STUDENT | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 14 MINS**

An amateur magician gets more than he bargained for when he gets a new roommate.

\* This is a non-dialogue piece; hearing impaired friendly..

SHORTS PROGRAM 7

## CECILIA THE CELIBATE EPISODE 1

**DIRECTOR: CRYSTAL S ROMAN | COMEDY | UNITED STATES | 13 MINS**

The Black Latina Movement presents a romantic comedy about Cecilia Vasquez, a young woman who teams up with her two best friends to conquer her quest for love and happiness while staying true to her vow of celibacy.

SHORTS PROGRAM 4

## CHOKER

**DIRECTOR: ORSON CORNICK | THRILLER | UNITED KINGDOM | 4 MINS**

As a girl drops from the sky onto a crowded beach, a mysterious man drives at breakneck speed towards her.

*Choker* is a unique narrative take on one of the biggest challenges facing our planet. Due to its 'no dialogue' nature, it is a film that we hope will resonate with audiences around the world.

SHORTS PROGRAM 10

## COLOURBLIND

**DIRECTOR: THE BASHFORD TWINS | DRAMA | UNITED KINGDOM | 8 MINS**

Based on true events. The story follows Amber's life falling for the wrong man who manipulates her over the years. From what appears to be a loving relationship quickly unfolds the reality of a victim unable to escape from domestic abuse. Supported by SafeLives charity..

SHORTS PROGRAM 7

## THE CUNNING MAN

**DIRECTOR: ZOE DOBSON | SUSPENSE | UNITED KINGDOM | 13 MINS**

*The Cunning Man* is inspired by a real Cunning Man, John Harries (c.1785 - 1839). It's an enchanted tale of compassion in the face of callous greed.

SHORTS PROGRAM 8

## DANCE DANCE ASTRO GURL

**DIRECTOR: MARGARITA SALAZAR PARRENAS | STUDENT | MUSIC VIDEO | UNITED STATES | 5 MINS**

On Planet Voluptua, Orbit's mission is to be accepted by curvaceous aliens. As the Voluptuous communicate with their bodies, she must learn their moves and in turn show them her best.

SHORTS PROGRAM 1

## DEAR BELLA

**DIRECTOR: ZAIRA B AGUILAR | STUDENT | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 8 MINS**

Bella accidentally discovers her mother is mysteriously ill and moved into an isolated bedroom. Through her innocent attempts to rebuild the relationship, they become pen pals. As the separation begins to take a toll, Bella is left no choice but to confront the harsh realities of life.

SHORTS PROGRAM 6

# Short Films

## DEUCE

**DIRECTOR: ALICE FELGATE | DRAMEDY | UNITED STATES | 9 MINS**

A girl checks into a beautifully remote five-star hotel - but what is she up to? All is revealed in *Deuce* - a quirky family dramedy about the daughter of a tennis pro. She is her father's champion and cheerleader. Together they can take on the world.

SHORTS PROGRAM 6

## ELECTRIC SWAN

**DIRECTOR: KONSTANTINA KOTZAMANI | EXPERIMENTAL | ARGENTINA & GREECE | 40 MINS**

Buildings are not supposed to move. But on Avenida Libertador 2050, a building moves and the ceiling shivers, causing a strange nausea that devours its residents. Those who live on the top are afraid they'll fall - those who live beneath are afraid they'll drown.

SHORTS PROGRAM 5

## THE FAMILY FARM

**DIRECTOR: KIM JANSSON | DOCUMENTARY | SWEDEN | 14 MINS**

A daughter moves from the family farm as a nineteen year old. Twenty years later her aging parents still live and work on the farm. The daughter/ director tells a story about choices in life, mortality and the ambivalence of leaving a place that symbolises both security and stagnation.

SHORTS PROGRAM 6

## F\*CKBOY MANIFESTO

**DIRECTOR: GRACIELA GARCIA | STUDENT | DRAMEDY | UNITED STATES | ## MINS**

When Alex, a young woman in college, is dissed in love for the nth time, she retraces her not-so-casual hookups. We follow her journey as she meets the dark, sexy senior (who looks like a vampire), the goofy freshman who skates, and finally, the golden-boy-next-door. As she wades through cigarette smoke, tiny hats, Carhartt jackets, and false promises, Alex turns to you, her audience, to help her understand how to navigate this tricky landscape.

SHORTS PROGRAM 4

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## GABRIELLE

**DIRECTOR: NICOLA ROSE | DRAMEDY | UNITED STATES | 14 MINS**

When 13-year-old Gabrielle signs up for ballet, she encounters bullying from her teacher — and true friendship where she least expects it. A story about overcoming bullying, body image, friendship and knowing your worth.

SHORTS PROGRAM 6

## GHAZAAL

**DIRECTOR: RAGINI BHASIN | STUDENT | DOCUMENTARY | INDIA | 15 MINS**

A 13-year-old Afghan girl hustles around in a refugee camp, trying to survive the harsh circumstances.

SHORTS PROGRAM 1

## HARD SHADOW

**DIRECTOR: NEDA KHANIFAR | STUDENT | DRAMA | IRAN | 3 MINS**

“The right to be free is the most important gift that must be given to every human being from the very beginning.”

SHORTS PROGRAM 7

## I EXIST

**DIRECTOR: JEMSEN YUMICO BOLLOZOS & ALYSON ARSEN | STUDENT | DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES | 10 MINS**

Living with the burden of expectation, a mother and a daughter confront their fears.

SHORTS PROGRAM 7

## INGENUUE

**DIRECTOR: SOPHIE WEBB | THRILLER | UNITED STATES | 20 MINS**

A young Australian actress moves to Hollywood with dreams of making it big, but her ambitions are jeopardized when mysterious letters start showing up in her mail box.

SHORTS PROGRAM 2

## INSANITY

**DIRECTOR: JEMSEN YUMICO BOLLOZOS | STUDENT | EXPERIMENTAL | UNITED STATES | 2 MINS**

Impressions of a dancer's rage.

SHORTS PROGRAM 11

## JONES

**DIRECTOR: STACEY MALTIN | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 9 MINS**

Aware that her drinking has become destructive, Jones takes a go at living the sober life. Not wanting to be someone else's problem, she pushes away help and comes face to face with herself and her lack of control.

SHORTS PROGRAM 10

# Short Films

## **KENIN**

**DIRECTOR: ELISA MOAR | STUDENT | EXPERIMENTAL | CANADA | 3 MINS**

A deeply moving personal poem that embodies the #metoo movement.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 3**

## **KNOCKING DOWN THE FENCES**

**DIRECTOR: MEG SHUTZER | STUDENT | DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES | 12 MINS**

A look at AJ Andrews, the first woman to win a Rawlings Gold Glove, and her struggle to make it as one of the best professional softball players in the world.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 6**

## **LA LETTRE**

**DIRECTOR: KATHERINE HAROLD | STUDENT | DRAMA | FRANCE | 7 MINS**

A look at marital issues in the 1950's as the wife seeks more independence and recognition within the relationship. Story loosely inspired by Henrik Ibsen's play A Doll's House.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 11**

## **LET THE BLONDE SING**

**DIRECTOR: RACHEL KNOLL | DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES | 13 MINS**

An intimate look into a small community in Alaska through the eyes of Beverly Sue Waltz, the bartender of the only bar open all-year-round.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 11**

## **THE LOST CITY MUSEUM**

**DIRECTOR: BENJAMIN VAN ALSTYNE & SPENCER HOLMES | STUDENT | DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES | 17 MINS**

In the small-town of Overton, Nevada, 1.5 hours north of Las Vegas, the Lost City Museum has been educating visitors about the Moapa Valley since 1935. The museum is a place of pride for the community; however, due to its remote location and low funding, it struggles to remain relevant in our modern day. The new director archaeologist Mary-Beth Timm tackles the museum's struggles.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 2**

## **LOST IN THE EIGHTIES**

**DIRECTOR: BRANDON MOWLES | STUDENT | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 17 MINS**

A young woman finds her father and details of her past after the death of her mother.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 8**

## LUNCH BREAK

**DIRECTOR: TYLER SMITH & MO ALLEN | DRAMEDY | UNITED STATES | 12 MINS**

Before she can go on her lunch break, office receptionist Mel is pushed to the limits by her boss's sexist demands, including babysitting his precocious six year-old son.

SHORTS PROGRAM 11

## THE MOST BEAUTIFUL

**DIRECTOR: RACHEL IRENE WILKE | STUDENT | THRILLER | UNITED STATES | 21 MINS**

Isolated in an unforgiving landscape, an expecting mother navigates the abusive relationship with her husband in the pursuit of a spiritual freedom just beyond her reach.

SHORTS PROGRAM 4

## MOTHERLAND

**DIRECTOR: EMILY MKRTICHIAN & JESSE SOURSOURIAN | DOCUMENTARY | ARMENIA | 19 MINS**

What if fighting for your country meant going against some of its most traditional values? *Motherland* explores the women who shake tradition to rid their country of landmines leftover from a devastating ethnic war. Individually outcast; together, a collective - the deminers support each other as they take on the dangerous role of breaking stereotypes and securing the future of their war-torn republic.

SHORTS PROGRAM 10

## NAMES FOR SNOW

**DIRECTOR: REBECCA THOMASSI | STUDENT | DOCUMENTARY | CANADA | 6 MINS**

We follow Rebecca Thomassie, an Inuk woman, around Kangirsuk as she learns the 52 Inuktitut words for snow.

SHORTS PROGRAM 10

## THE NECKLACE

**DIRECTOR: SHIRELLE EDERY | DRAMA | ISRAEL | 30 MINS**

Mathilde Loisel regrets her modest lot in life and spends endless hours imagining a more extravagant existence. One night, her husband returns home proudly bearing an invitation to a formal party. He hopes that Mathilde will be thrilled with the chance to attend an event of this sort, but she is instantly angry and begins to cry.

French language; based on the short story by Guy de Maupassant.

SHORTS PROGRAM 6

## NIGHT TIDE

**DIRECTOR: ANNETTE BEDROSSIAN | STUDENT | EXPERIMENTAL | UNITED STATES | 7 MINS**

An awkward young boy finds the love of his life at the ocean near where they reside, As they grow up together and their love blossoms, tragedy strikes as the ocean wants to destroy their happiness.

SHORTS PROGRAM 7

# Short Films

## PAPPY HOUR

**DIRECTOR: NELL TEARE | COMEDY | UNITED STATES | 11 MINS**

A woman must bring together her dysfunctional family to fulfill her father's last wish.

SHORTS PROGRAM 9

## PLACES

**DIRECTOR: CLAUDIA BARRAL | EXPERIMENTAL | SPAIN | 5 MINS**

In *Places* we explore the limits of time, the trip to different instants, expanding the possibilities of the ellipsis and giving birth to an artistic universe that evokes memories.

SHORTS PROGRAM 1

## POOL PARTY

**DIRECTOR: POLINA BUCHAK | STUDENT | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 9 MINS**

Nika, an introverted high schooler, lives every day feeling like an outcast. Marked with a significant scar on her stomach, she prefers to remain unnoticed until a pool party invitation pushes her to confront her insecurities.

SHORTS PROGRAM 11

## POSSIBILITIES

**DIRECTOR: CHARLOTTE BARRETT & SEAN FALLON | DARK COMEDY | UNITED STATES | 12 MINS**

Immediately after his dog dies, Dennis goes on a Tinder date hoping it will help him escape his grief.

SHORTS PROGRAM 8

## PRODANA

**DIRECTOR: ALEKSANDRA NESTOROV | DOCUMENTARY | SERBIA & MONTENEGRO | 14 MINS**

Four Roma women recall experiences of escaping or surviving forced early marriage and facing obstacles in education and employment, while preserving their integrity and opposing oppression.

SHORTS PROGRAM 5

## RAINSHADOW

**DIRECTOR: KARI BARBER | DOCUMENTARY | UNITED STATES | 37 MINS**

Rainshadow, a high school for at-risk students, is threatened with being taken over by the state for low test scores, but the school's art teacher and principal have one last shot to save the school that has saved so many kids.

SHORTS PROGRAM 3

## RED

**DIRECTOR: AMIT SHAMIR | ISRAEL | DRAMA | 13 MINS**

On the evening of the Jewish Passover, Leon, a 14-year-old girl, deals with the shock of getting her period for the first time. During the dinner celebration, she takes a stand, challenging her Israeli-Moroccan family to confront the patriarchal traditions within their home.

SHORTS PROGRAM 1

## THE SAME STORY

**DIRECTOR: ALICE AIROLDI | STUDENT | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 19 MINS**

1976. A member of the Weathermen Underground has finally been arrested and is under trial for his actions. But Madeline, the young journalist covering the trial, can't stop thinking of all the events and misunderstandings that brought her, the accused and the prosecutor together.

SHORTS PROGRAM 9

## SHADOW AT THE DOOR

**DIRECTOR: ROSHNI BHATIA | HORROR | UNITED STATES | 4 MINS**

A troubled young woman searches for an intruder in her home unaware that what she's really looking for may be something she refuses to see.

SHORTS PROGRAM 10

## ST. BERNIE

**DIRECTOR: ELISE TYSON | STUDENT | DRAMEDY | AUSTRALIA | 15 MINS**

When fourteen-year-old Bernie is caught with her meticulously compiled "sex bible," she must convince her religious mother that she isn't depraved or sex-obsessed, but just a girl forced to navigate her crucial teenage years alone.

SHORTS PROGRAM 5

## STRANGERS' REUNION

**DIRECTOR: LIZ SARGENT | DRAMA | UNITED KINGDOM & HONG KONG | 13 MINS**

Mira, a Korean-American adoptee, travels to Hong Kong to meet her birth mother for the first time. Impulsively, she invites Yura to visit her the day before their meeting in the hope that they'll find a connection "before a translator gets in the way." However, with only a basic understanding of each other's languages, misunderstandings threaten their tenuous attempts at connection.

SHORTS PROGRAM 9

## SUDDENLY, THE NIGHT

**DIRECTOR: CRISTINA BODELÓN & IGNACIO DE VICENTE | DRAMA | SPAIN | 25 MINS**

Elena and Mario need a second child desperately, it's a matter of life or death. After an unexpected miscarriage, Elena becomes pregnant again. But the pressure to carry out her pregnancy successfully dive Elena into an abyss.

SHORTS PROGRAM 7

# Short Films

## TEAM MARILYN

**DIRECTOR: LATOYA MORGAN | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 9 MINS**

On the eve of a game-changing campaign event, a politician must decide what to do when a secret scandal erupts a few days out from a historic presidential election.

SHORTS PROGRAM 1

## TONI FITZGERALD'S CULT FOLLOWING

**DIRECTOR: FELICITY PICKERING | STUDENT | DARK COMEDY | AUSTRALIA | 12 MINS**

Toni Fitzgerald is a stand up comic. The only issue is she just isn't funny; not to her workmates, not to her roommate, not even to her Mum. So when she stumbles upon a cult that doesn't approve of popular culture, she finds willing acceptance an opportunity that she can't refuse.

SHORTS PROGRAM 4

## TRISTAN & KELLY

**DIRECTOR: SARAH ANN MASSE & NICK AFKA THOMAS | ROMCOM | UNITED KINGDOM | 15 MINS**

On a dark night, in a small British hamlet, a young American backpacker and a struggling British jobseeker unexpectedly collide. Grappling with fear, frustration, and attraction, Tristan & Kelly's violent introduction sets off a series of events that change both of their lives forever.

SHORTS PROGRAM 1

## TWO PAPER NIGHTINGALES

**DIRECTOR: KAYLIN GEORGE | STUDENT | SCI-FI/FANTASY | UNITED STATES | 17 MINS**

*Two Paper Nightingales* is an original fairy tale illustrated simultaneously from three distinct cultural perspectives. Two princesses are torn apart by prejudice when one fraternizes with a warring state. To be reunited, the women will have to discover that which is universal to the human experience and to adopt acceptance of all peoples.

SHORTS PROGRAM 8

## THE UNSEEN CHILDREN

**DIRECTOR: AORI | DOCUMENTARY | DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA | 31 MINS**

Meet Eunkyeong who escaped from North Korea through Laos when she was 13, Seungjin who was nearly shot at the border of China when he was 19, and Seunghee who followed her mom to South Korea when she was 11.

SHORTS PROGRAM 9

## AN UPSIDE-DOWN TALE

**DIRECTOR: INÉS PINTOR SIERRA & PABLO SANTIDRIÁN | DRAMA | SPAIN | 13 MINS**

Luz and Javier meet after two years apart. They have a child in common and they used to be a family. This reunion may be a new beginning or an ending.

SHORTS PROGRAM 1

## VILOMAH

**DIRECTOR: GABRIELA VIZCARRA & JOSEPH ANAYA | DRAMA | UNITED STATES | 28 MINS**

After she loses her daughter, Val dedicates every waking second to finding out the truth to why her child and many others are going missing in her city.

SHORTS PROGRAM 2

## THE WATER RUNS RED

**DIRECTOR: NICOLLE PETERSON | STUDENT | HORROR | UNITED STATES | 11 MINS**

A loving boyfriend, Chris, brings his girlfriend, Lauren, to a cemetery to propose to her with two grave plots that he bought them. When she freaks out, they discover a fountain that runs blood red water.

SHORTS PROGRAM 2

## WHILE I CAN LIFT MY HANDS

**DIRECTOR: HELEN REYNOLDS | DOCUMENTARY | NEW ZEALAND | 21 MINS**

Women in remote subsistence farms in Timor-Leste come together to learn business skills and lift themselves into the money economy.

SHORTS PROGRAM 5

## WORDLESS

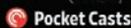
**DIRECTOR: ANA PIO | STUDENT | DRAMA | UNITED KINGDOM | 4 MINS**

Zara returns home to find that her housemate Sacha has invited a friend of his over, a man with whom Zara once had a forceful encounter. Throughout the night she struggles with the idea of expressing her feelings or resigning herself to silence.

SHORTS PROGRAM 5

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