

ASPEN FILM

INDEPENDENT BY NATURE



Aspen Shortsfest

28th Annual

April 2-7, 2019

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#shortsfest19

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Aspen Shortsfest

HELLO!

Thankfully we had an amazing Winter season in town, and despite the fact that it still doesn't feel like Spring, our 28th annual Aspen Film Shortsfest is upon us!

Once again Program Director Landon Zakheim and his inspired programming team have come up with a six-day curation that is sure to delight, inspire and make us ponder many facets of life, art and filmmaking. We'll cross continents, immerse ourselves in animation, contemplate some incredible documentaries, laugh with the comedies, absorb compelling drama and hopefully embrace new ideas throughout. Our goal is to have you, our audience, walk away with a feeling of discovery.

This year, we're honored to welcome back one of our own alumni, Destin Cretton, whose *SHORT TERM 12* short played in Aspen in 2009, receiving a Special Jury Prize, and he returned with the feature version by the same name in 2013, which won the Audience Award at Filmfest. Cretton will be talking about his process of turning an award-winning short into a groundbreaking indie hit, and what it was like to work with some of today's biggest talents: Brie Larson, Rami Malek and LaKeith Stanfield.

One of the strongest tenets of Aspen Film and Shortsfest in particular is education. Our unrivaled FilmEducates program is a boon for teachers and students alike. We bring our filmmakers from the world over into classrooms to meet and discuss their work with students; we also have students attending our film programs and conversations. Everyone involved benefits from these exchanges, and most of our programs are offered free of charge.

Our goal to enlighten, enrich, educate and entertain is illustrated best through our year-round film programming. This includes a major film event in every season, monthly Indie Film Showcases and partnerships with other like-minded nonprofits that appreciate film as a medium to promote cross-cultural dialogue and broaden perspectives. Much of what Aspen Film brings to the community would likely not be seen in our area, so we strive to keep our programming fresh and thought-provoking.

We are thrilled that you are joining us for what promises to be another stellar festival featuring 69 short films from 26 countries. We are proud of the diversity represented in this year's program, which is quite representative of today's world, showcasing the best in contemporary short-form cinema creation.



Susan Wrubel
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



WOW—IT IS SUCH A GREAT YEAR FOR SHORT FILMS!

It is a tremendous gift to be able to view so many powerful pieces of quality filmmaking for consideration and heartening to know that after 27 years, short-form cinema is more vibrant and resonant than ever. For our 28th edition of the mighty Aspen Shortsfest, the festival continues our long-standing tradition of showcasing the very best shorts have to offer to our eager and enthusiastic audience, welcoming industry guests and visiting filmmakers from all over the world.

Our program this year comprises 69 incredible short films from 26 countries, culled from nearly 2,600 submissions by our dedicated programmers Opal Bennett, Emily Doe, Angie Driscoll and Sudeep Sharma. They all worked passionately and tirelessly to carefully curate these selections into the tightly knit patchwork that makes up the 12 programs that will play throughout the week at our very own Wheeler Opera House, a palace worthy of presenting this fine work.

Our whole team will be in attendance, along with many of the filmmaking groups, and I would encourage you to say hi at our happy hours and panels and in-between screenings. We're always excited to discuss these films. And of course we'll have remixes of 4 programs down in Carbondale as well for your further enjoyment.

Speaking of panels, we're doing something a little different and a little new this year. While we will still have our excellent panel conversations daily with directors and film industry guests—always a great way to learn about the state of the art, whether you're an aspiring filmmaker or a fan of cinema in general—we will be adding a screening to one of our special filmmaker conversations.

In the past, we have hosted wonderful conversations with directors who turned their past short films into successful feature careers, and for the first time in festival history, we will be showcasing one of those features. Destin Cretton's short film *SHORT TERM 12* won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival before winning a Special Jury Prize here at Shortsfest. His feature enjoyed a wonderful festival life before screening at the Aspen Filmfest in 2013. The screening will precede the conversation, and it will be one not to miss.

Every single program is unique, a stunning variety of tones, voices, storytelling and storytellers that will take you on a journey into a number of different and unusual worlds. You'll have the chance to watch top prizewinners of the year as well as freshly finished gems from some of the most exciting minds at work in short-film cinema. We hope you'll love these as much as we do. You'll be seeing a lot more from these creators in the years to come!



Landon Zakheim
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING



ASPEN FILM

INDEPENDENT BY NATURE

Membership has its benefits

100+ movies each year

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Special Events

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Aspen Film seeks to enlighten, enrich, educate and entertain through film.

Join now to enjoy all the benefits an Aspen Film membership has to offer!

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FILMMAKER CONVERSATIONS & panel discussions

Join us for *IN-DEPTH CONVERSATIONS* with visiting Shortsfest filmmakers and industry execs. We will talk programming, process and craft, and give an overview of the opportunities that exist for short film in today's marketplace.

FILMMAKER CONVERSATIONS

With Shortsfest Filmmakers

Wednesday, April 3 | 12–1:30PM

Mountain Chalet Aspen | 333 E Durant Avenue, Aspen

Aspen Film Members and Passholders FREE | General Public \$20

Lunch provided by Grateful Deli | \$10

Thursday, April 4 | 12–1:30PM

Mountain Chalet Aspen | 333 E Durant Avenue, Aspen

Aspen Film Members and Passholders FREE | General Public \$20

Lunch provided by Grateful Deli | \$10

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Outside the Frame: What Are the Programmers Thinking?

Friday, April 5 | 12–1:30PM

Mountain Chalet Aspen | 333 E Durant Avenue, Aspen

Aspen Film Members and Passholders FREE | General Public \$20

Each short film festival has its own mandate, personality and vision. Do you wonder what programmers look for and what criteria they consider when curating programs for some of these notable festivals? Come hear insights, best practices and tips for submitting from some of this country's esteemed shorts programmers.

PANEL GUESTS: Britta Erickson, Festival Director, Denver Film Society; Randi Kleiner, Founder + CEO, SeriesFest; Mike Plante, Sundance Senior Programmer for Short Film; Lili Rodriguez, Festival Director for ShortFest + Director of Programming for the Palm Springs International Film Festival

Outside the Frame: So You've Made a Short Film...Now What?

Friday, April 5 | 2–3:30PM

Mountain Chalet Aspen | 333 E Durant Avenue, Aspen

Aspen Film Members and Passholders FREE | General Public \$20

So you've made a short film that is now making the festival rounds—what happens next? What are the options for getting it out to the world, creating a series or a feature, leveraging the film for your next project and finding distribution and/or representation? Hear from top industry executives working in the short-form cinema realm today about next steps, best practices and ways to keep the momentum going.

PANEL GUESTS: Miranda Bailey, CEO, Cold Iron Pictures/CherryPicks; Ian Durkin, Senior Curator, Vimeo; Brian Levy, Manager/Producer, Pulse Films

FEATURE FILM PRESENTATION

SHORT TERM 12 (2013)

Feature film screening preceded by a conversation with award-winning director Destin Cretton

Saturday, April 6 | 2:15PM

Wheeler Opera House | 320 E Hyman Ave, Aspen

For the first time in the history of Aspen Film's Shortsfest, we have a special presentation feature film as part of our program. This is an opportunity for us to shine the spotlight on a filmmaker who turned an incredible short into one of the best-received and lauded indie films of the last several years—one that helped launch the careers of its stunning ensemble cast.

This feature-length film is based on director Destin Cretton's 2008 short film SHORT TERM 12, which received a Grand Jury Prize at Sundance and a Special Jury Award at Shortsfest 2009. The feature film by the same name played Aspen Filmfest in 2013, winning the Audience Award that year. This groundbreaking work helped launch and further the careers of Oscar® winner Brie Larson, Oscar® winner Rami Malek and award winner LaKeith Stanfield. A decade after his short film premiered here, we are honored to have Destin Cretton back in Aspen with us for a comprehensive short-to-feature conversation about his work.

Join us for this unique opportunity to listen to an award-winning filmmaker describe his journey and process of taking a film from 21 minutes to 96 minutes, discovering and working with nascent talent and all of the steps in between.

At a foster-care facility for at-risk teenagers, Grace (Brie Larson) is a young counselor trying to do her best for kids who often have been pulled from the worst kinds of home situations. Life is not easy as Grace and her colleagues care for kids who are too often profoundly scarred, even as they try to have lives of their own. Now, things are coming to a head as Grace readies for marriage while some of her charges are coming to major turning points in their lives. To cope, Grace will have to make difficult decisions that could put her career, and more importantly her charges, at dire risk. (Destin Cretton, USA, 96 minutes; rated R.)

Programmers

Landon Zakheim

Director of Programming

Landon Zakheim became director of programming for Aspen Shortsfest in 2018. In addition to his duties for Aspen Film, he is currently a short-film programmer for the Sundance Film Festival, where he has worked since 2008, senior programmer for the Philadelphia Film Festival and interactive curator for the Denver Film Festival. He is the co-founder and co-director of the Overlook Film Festival, a four-day celebration of all things horror that takes place in New Orleans, May 30–June 2. He programs The Wrap's online Short List Film festival and was head shorts programmer for the final 4 years of the LA Film Festival. Zakheim formerly programmed the American Film Institute's fall festival in Los Angeles, AFI FEST, and has more than a decade of festival experience with such organizations as the Telluride Film Festival, San Francisco Film Society, CineVegas, Austin Film Society, Tribeca Film Festival, Palm Springs Film Society and Outfest. He has consulted for a variety of short-form projects including First Look's Topic.com, an online magazine of short films, Vimeo and Lexus Short Films, and has been a juror at such prestigious festivals as SXSW, BiFan and Sitges. He once directed two short films that went on to play at over 60 prestigious festivals around the world, including Aspen Shortsfest.



Angie Driscoll

Angie Driscoll is a short-film champion who brings enthusiasm, passion and over 15 years of programming experience at a variety of international film festivals to Aspen Shortsfest. She has programmed for the Toronto International Film Festival, the CFC Worldwide Short Film Festival, Sundance and Nordisk Panorama. She has curated films for pioneering online platform Babelgum, music videos for the Prism Prize and silent shorts for Toronto subway screens. Angie recently received the Bittersweet Decision-Maker Prize at Docs Port Incheon in South Korea, and is currently the Senior Shorts & Senior International Features Programmer at Hot Docs in Toronto.



Sudeep Sharma

Sudeep Sharma is a senior programmer at the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles and Palm Springs International ShortFest, as well as a shorts programmer at Sundance and an associate programmer for features at Tribeca. He has also held programming positions at AFI FEST, Los Angeles Film Festival and the Indian Kaleidoscope Film Festival. He was director of programming for the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences. He completed his Ph.D. in Cinema and Media Studies at UCLA and has taught at universities throughout Southern California.



Opal Bennett

Opal has been a festival programmer since 2014. Beginning as a volunteer for the first Sundance London Film Festival, she now curates year-round. Opal is on the programming teams for Aspen Shortsfest, Athena, DOC NYC and Nantucket Film Festival, and is a program consultant for the March on Washington Film Festival. A Columbia Law grad, Opal holds an M.A. in media studies from the London School of Economics, and received her B.A. from New York University.



Emily Doe

Emily Doe is a short-film programmer for the Sundance Film Festival and Aspen Shortsfest. Previously, she distributed short films through McSweeney's quarterly DVD magazine, Wholphin, and worked in film education at the San Francisco Film Society. She grew up outside Boston, studied film and literature at Kenyon College in Ohio and now lives in San Francisco with her family.



Volunteer Pre-Screeners

Robin Buchalter, Jessica Buchanan, Ruth Carver, Marie Chan, Marc Dulin, Judy Dunn, Clay Farland, Alicia Goldsmith, Martha Gregory, Christine Helling, Julian Hills, Regna Jones, Sheri Kaufman-Marsh, Ali Lightfoot, Mary McClure, Ryan McNamara, Evan Meyer, Amy Mountjoy, Patrick Oster, Hannah Pike, Lisa Prior, Ernie Quiroz, Gabrielle Rafelson, Richard Roche, Aaron Rogers, Alexa Ruth, Molly Scharlin, Becky Steere, Jennifer Taylor, Craig Turpin, Christopher Wheatley, Wendle Whiting, Sydney Louise Williams



Jury

Miranda Bailey

Miranda Bailey is a prolific producer, actor and director, known for producing high-quality independent films. Her passion for bringing compelling, well-crafted stories to the screen has been the driving force in her distinguished 15-year career. Bailey has produced over 20 films, such as the Oscar®-nominated THE SQUID AND THE WHALE, the Spirit Award-winning THE DIARY OF A TEENAGE GIRL and SWISS ARMY MAN, released by A24, and the critically acclaimed NORMAN, released by Sony Pictures Classics. Bailey's directorial narrative feature debut, YOU CAN CHOOSE YOUR FAMILY, premiered at the 2018 SXSW Film Festival. Bailey previously directed two documentaries: GREENLIT and THE PATHOLOGICAL OPTIMIST.



Mike Plante

Mike Plante is a filmmaker and festival programmer in Los Angeles. He has worked for film festivals since 1993, as a projectionist for the Telluride Film Festival (1999–2005) and as director of programming for CineVegas (2002–2009), and is currently a senior programmer for Short Film at the Sundance Film Festival, where he has worked since 2001. He makes documentaries about outsiders, both as a producer (GIUSEPPE MAKES A MOVIE, 2014) and a director (BE LIKE AN ANT, 2011; THE POLAROID JOB, 2016). His most recent film as director is AND WITH HIM CAME THE WEST (2019, 77 min.), which premiered at MoMA Doc Fortnight.



Liliana Rodriguez

Liliana Rodriguez is a programmer and festival organizer based in Palm Springs, California. She works year-round at the Palm Springs International Film Society, where she is festival director for ShortFest and director of programming for the Palm Springs International Film Festival, and programs genre films at the Overlook Film Festival in New Orleans.



Industry

Norwood Cheek

Norwood Cheek's passion for filmmaking began when he was 15, making in-camera, edited Super 8 short films. He combined his love for film with music and began shooting and directing music videos, primarily on Super 8 and 16mm. He has directed more than 70 music videos for such artists as She & Him, the EELS, SuperChunk, AFI, Ben Folds Five, French Kicks and Squirrel Nut Zippers. He directed and ran the Flicker Film Festival in Chapel Hill and Los Angeles from 1994 to 2010 and wrote the "Flicker Guide to the World of Super 8 Filmmaking." He also ran the Super 8 in-camera, shoot-to-show film festival, Attack of the 50 Foot Reels, held at the American Cinematheque's Egyptian Theatre in Los Angeles. His films and music videos have won numerous awards and have screened at festivals around the world.



Destin Cretton

Destin Daniel Cretton is a film director, screenwriter, producer and editor best known for writing and directing his second feature film, SHORT TERM 12 (2013). Cretton's short film by the same title, written for his senior project at San Diego State University, premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, where it won the Grand Jury Prize for US Short Filmmaking. The short was adapted into a feature-length screenplay which earned Cretton an Academy Nicholl Fellowship in screenwriting in 2010, and the film went on to receive critical acclaim. Destin's directing credits include I AM NOT A HIPSTER (2012) and THE GLASS CASTLE (2017).



Ian Durkin

Ian Durkin is a senior curator at Vimeo. Since 2011, Ian has watched hundreds of thousands of films and helped select the world's very best for the Vimeo Staff Picks Channel. Outside of Vimeo, Ian also works as a commercial director and editor. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.



Britta Erickson

With more than two decades of arts, culture and film industry experience, Britta Erickson serves as festival director for the Denver Film Society overseeing the Denver Film Festival, Film on the Rocks and the Filmmaker Focus program. A nationally recognized film industry leader, she has helped to deliver thousands of compelling films and extensive year-round programming to Colorado film lovers. In addition to serving on numerous film festival juries around the country, Britta's producing credits include ACTOR MARTINEZ (2016), ROLLING PAPERS (2015) and CONVENTION (2009). Before working at DFS, Britta was the founding executive director of the Acoma Center, a performing arts venue in Denver, where she co-founded and produced for the nationally recognized Curious Theatre Company.



Randi Kleiner

Randi Kleiner is a producer, director and entrepreneur. She is the founder and CEO of SeriesFest, a nonprofit organization dedicated to championing artists at the forefront of episodic storytelling. With year-round educational programs, initiatives supporting underserved voices and professional development opportunities, SeriesFest inspires, educates and connects a worldwide community of creators. Randi also owns Trifecta Studios, an event production agency that works with major brands, including Marc Jacobs, Macallan, WWD, Sephora, Godiva and Pepsi, to produce experiential events around the world.



Brian Levy

Brian Levy is a literary manager and producer at Pulse Films, a multi-disciplinary content studio and subsidiary of VICE Media. He represents writers and directors with eclectic credits ranging from celebrated festival darlings to studio tentpoles. Pulse Films' credits include Andrea Arnold's Cannes Jury Prize winner and BAFTA-nominated AMERICAN HONEY, Sundance Award winners THE WITCH and Beyoncé's Grammy-nominated LEMONADE. Forthcoming projects include the television series GANGS OF LONDON with Gareth Evans and the feature film LOST TRANSMISSIONS, written and directed by Katharine O'Brien. Previously, Brian was a literary agent at ICM and creative executive at Dimension Films/The Weinstein Company.



Aspen Shortsfest 2019 awards



THE FESTIVAL *at-a-glance*

Aspen
Shortsfest

ASPEN

TUE APRIL 2

OPENING RECEPTION
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
Aspen Film Member Reception
6:30–7PM
General Public with
Ticket or Priority Pass
7–7:30PM

SHORTS PROGRAM 1
8PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
90 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

APRÈS SCREENING
10PM
HOCH CRAFT
COCKTAIL BAR
301 E HOPKINS AVE

WED APRIL 3

FILMMAKER CONVERSATION
12–1:30PM
MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN
333 E DURANT AVE

HAPPY HOUR
4–5PM
JIMMY'S
307 S MILL ST

SHORTS PROGRAM 2
5:15PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
92 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

SHORTS PROGRAM 3
8PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
91 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

APRÈS SCREENING
10PM
MARBLE BAR
415 E DEAN ST

THU APRIL 4

FILMMAKER CONVERSATION
12–1:30PM
MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN
333 E DURANT AVE

HAPPY HOUR
4–5PM
JIMMY'S
307 S MILL ST

SHORTS PROGRAM 4
5:15PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
91 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

SHORTS PROGRAM 5
8PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
91 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

APRÈS SCREENING
10PM
BAD HARRIET
310 E MAIN ST

FRI APRIL 5

PANEL DISCUSSION
OUTSIDE THE FRAME:
WHAT ARE THE
PROGRAMMERS THINKING?
12–1:30PM
MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN
333 E DURANT AVE

PANEL DISCUSSION
OUTSIDE THE FRAME:
SO YOU'VE MADE A SHORT
FILM...NOW WHAT?
2–3:30PM
MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN
333 E DURANT AVE

HAPPY HOUR
4–5PM
JIMMY'S
307 S MILL ST

SHORTS PROGRAM 6
5:15PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
88 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

SHORTS PROGRAM 7
8PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
92 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

APRÈS SCREENING
10PM
MI CHOLA
411 E MAIN ST

SAT APRIL 6

SHORTS PROGRAM 8
11:30AM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
88 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

SHORT TERM 12 (2013)
FEATURE FILM PRESENTATION
CONVERSATION WITH
DIRECTOR DESTIN CRETTON
PRECEDES SCREENING
2:15PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

HAPPY HOUR
4–5PM
JIMMY'S
307 S MILL ST

SHORTS PROGRAM 9
5:15PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
84 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

SHORTS PROGRAM 10
8PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
92 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

APRÈS SCREENING
10PM
7908
415 E HYMAN AVE

SUN APRIL 7

BREAKFAST AT THE FEST
11AM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

SHORTS PROGRAM 11
FAMILY FUN
12PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
46 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

SHORTS PROGRAM 12
DOCUMENTARIES
2:15PM
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE
80 MINUTES
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

SHORTSFEST
AWARDS DINNER
6:30PM
JIMMY'S
307 S MILL ST

SCREENING *venues*

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE { ASPEN }
320 East Hyman Avenue

CRYSTAL THEATRE { CARBONDALE }
427 Main Street

CARBONDALE

SAT APRIL 6

SHORTS PROGRAM A
5:15PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
82 MINUTES

SHORTS PROGRAM B
ANIMATION
7:30PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
83 MINUTES

SUN APRIL 7

SHORTS PROGRAM C
5:15PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
81 MINUTES

SHORTS PROGRAM D
DOCUMENTARIES
7:30PM
CRYSTAL THEATRE
80 MINUTES

PASSES

VIP PASS

Available to Aspen Film Visionary + Benefactor Level Members; includes unlimited entry for two (2) to all Aspen Film festivals, year-round membership and guaranteed reserved seats bearing your name for all screenings.

PRIORITY PASS

Available to Aspen Film Star + Producer Level Members; includes a year-round membership; Stars receive access to seating in a special reserved section for all screenings; Producers receive access to the best available seating 30 minutes before showtime.

FLEX PASS | \$350

Valid for 10 ticket vouchers of your choice during any Aspen Film festival: Academy Screenings, Shortsfest and Filmfest; also includes a year-round Director Level membership.

SUPER SCREENER PASS | \$150

For young professionals (35 & under), the Super Screener Pass includes a single ticket admission to all Shortsfest presentations; also includes a year-round Director Level membership.

SINGLE TICKETS

We strongly recommend purchasing tickets in advance through the Wheeler Opera House Box Office in person, by phone (970.920.5770) or online (aspenshowtix.com), and at Bonfire Coffee, 433 Main Street, Carbondale (970.510.5327), for all Carbondale shows. Single tickets to Shortsfest are \$20 for General Admission and \$15 for Aspen Film members.

TICKETS FOR PANEL DISCUSSIONS can be purchased in advance through the box office or at the door, pending availability.

ADMISSION FOR SUNDAY SCREENING OF FAMILY FUN is \$15 for adults (\$12 for Aspen Film members). Complimentary kids' tickets must be issued in advance by the Wheeler Opera House Box Office, day of show, pending availability.

RUSH TICKETS

In the case of a sold-out screening, Aspen Film will make any unfilled seats available for sale 5 minutes prior to the start of each film. The rush line forms at the venue 30 minutes prior to each screening. Rush tickets are \$20 for General Admission and \$15 for Aspen Film members and are cash only.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have special needs covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify Aspen Film at 970.925.6882.

for up-to-date information visit aspenshowtix.com



@ASPENFILM

#SHORTSFEST19

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THE SHORTSFEST *experience*

TUESDAY *april 2*

Special Events are all part of the Shortsfest experience.
Celebrate great film with great conversation!

Opening Reception

Tuesday, April 2

Aspen Film Member Reception | 6:30–7PM

General Public with Ticket or Priority Pass | 7–7:30PM

Wheeler Opera House | 320 E Hyman Ave | Aspen

Join us for our Opening Reception to kick off our 28th Shortsfest! We'll gather upstairs in the lobby of the historic Wheeler Opera House, one of Aspen's oldest and most notable buildings.

Food prepared by Chef Steve McKenney of European Caterers, who has been cooking for Aspen for over 24 years. His varied background is unique, making him an ideal fit for our Opening Night celebration.

CASH BAR | 7–7:30PM

CATERING | European Caterers



Breakfast at the Fest

Sunday, April 7 | 11AM

Wheeler Opera House | 320 E Hyman Ave | Aspen

Aspen Film Members, Passholders and Family Fun Ticket Holders | Complimentary

Come enjoy a complimentary breakfast on us! Our filmmakers, industry guests, patrons and members will be in attendance, so come enjoy a complimentary breakfast buffet provided by Paradise Bakery and European Caterers before heading into our Family Fun Shorts program.

CATERING | Paradise Bakery and European Caterers



Shortsfest Awards Dinner

Sunday, April 7 | 6:30PM

Jimmy's | 307 S Mill St | Aspen



Come celebrate with us as we wrap up Shortsfest 2019! Awards determined by our esteemed Shortsfest Jury will be presented to filmmakers in a host of categories. Our Best Drama, Documentary, Comedy, Animation and Short Short categories are all Oscar®-qualifiers. The Youth Jury Award is a coveted filmmaker honor, and our Ellen Award is bestowed by Aspen Film Founder Ellen Hunt and her veteran Aspen Film jury. Once again the evening will be hosted by Master of Ceremonies Lane Johnson, an inspired Aspenite, a film aficionado, an adventurer, a giver of himself and an all-around guide for the evening.

For the second year, we are also proud to be able to present the Vimeo Staff Pick Award, a live iteration of the platform's Staff Picks laurel. This is a prestigious honor from the creator-first platform. The winning film will be available for viewing worldwide on the Vimeo Staff Picks channel on April 8, the day after the Awards Dinner.

* Limited tickets are available for purchase for this event.
Please call Aspen Film at 970.925.6882 to reserve.

WINE SPONSOR | Sopris Liquor & Wine

Afternoon Happy Hours

Wednesday–Saturday | April 3–6 | 4–5PM

Jimmy's | 307 S Mill St | Aspen

Open to the Public

We are pleased to welcome Aspen Film members, film enthusiasts and the general public at our daily Happy Hours at Jimmy's before our evening Shorts screenings. Meet and mingle with Aspen Film's programming team, filmmakers from around the world and many of our visiting industry guests. Jimmy's has been known as an "Aspen Institution" since opening in 1997, and both nothing and everything has changed. Offering impeccable hospitality, American cuisine, carefully curated wines and globally inspired cocktails, Jimmy's strives to be innovative in its approach to food and drink, spends time looking at ways to be easier on the planet, works to provide better service and to serve delicious food that is seasonally available.

SPONSOR | SAGIndie



Nightly Après Screenings

Tuesday–Saturday | April 2–6 | 10PM

After each night's final film program, the party moves from the Wheeler to a different hot spot around town for drinks and dialogue with our visiting programming team, filmmakers and industry guests. Drink specials for all Aspen Film members, Shortsfest Passholders and Shortsfest ticket holders.

tuesday | Hooch | 301 E HOPKINS AVE | ASPEN

wednesday | Marble Bar | 415 E DEAN ST | ASPEN

thursday | Bad Harriet | 310 E MAIN ST | ASPEN

friday | Mi Chola | 411 E MAIN ST | ASPEN

saturday | 7908 | 415 E HYMAN AVE | ASPEN

Opening Reception

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Aspen Film Member Reception

6:30–7PM

General Public with Ticket or Priority Pass

7–7:30PM

Shorts Program 1

90 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

Presented by Aspen Magazine/Modern Luxury

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

8PM

Life in Miniature

Kath Holden is an artist of the everyday. Inspired by the world around her, Kath's creations are whimsical yet keenly observed, and a far cry from the genteel museum pieces that her contemporaries are producing. A proud Yorkshire woman, Kath reflects on her life and art as she carves a place for herself in the precious world of miniatures. (Ellen Evans, UK, 5 min.)



The Minors

A slice-of-life film about a grandpa and his grandsons. (Robert Machoian, USA, 10 min.)



Crowley—Cowboy Up

Fourteen-year-old Crowley has gone through a lot in his young life. His older brother Yancie died in a car accident, and his parents are now divorced. But Crowley isn't about to let life get the better of him—he's got a dream to make come true. He wants to be a good rodeo rider, just like Yancie. (Andre Hörmann, Germany, 15 min.) **North American Premiere**



Alien Culture

West London, 1979. Margaret Thatcher is in power and racial tensions are running high in the UK. Lucky (28), a second-generation British Indian, thinks his younger brother, Sunny (17), is getting bullied by skinheads. When he finds out the truth is far from what he expected, he's forced to cope with new filial responsibilities, rethink his priorities and question his own insular views about the world he occupies. (Iesh Thapar, UK, 16 min.) **International Premiere**



This Magnificent Cake!

An unforgettable work of stop-motion animation exploring the bitter milieu of Belgium-occupied Congo. (Emma De Swaef, James Roels, Belgium/France/Netherlands, 44 min.)



Après Screening

10PM

HOOCH CRAFT COCKTAIL BAR

301 E HOPKINS AVE | ASPEN

Since 2016, Hooch Craft Cocktail Bar has featured a seasonal menu with new concoctions, twists on classics and straight-up traditional cocktails. Hooch also features craft beers on tap, wines by the glass and Fernet-Branca on tap. Striving to make every guest feel at home, the proprietors created a space filled with beautiful bottles of booze, chandeliers, couches and comfy chairs, thrift store art and fun music. The quality of ingredients, attention to detail and special ambience make Hooch the perfect place to hang out.



Filmmaker Conversation12–1:30PM

MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN | 333 E DURANT AVE | ASPEN

[DETAILS ON PAGE 4]

Happy Hour4–5PM

JIMMY’S | 307 S MILL ST | ASPEN

[DETAILS ON PAGE 7]


Shorts Program 25:15PM

92 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE


How to Swim

Abigail is heavily pregnant, and terrified about the imminent birth. While waiting in line at the doctor’s office, she spots an intriguing woman and pretends to be a friend from the past. The two have one adventurous afternoon, with some painful truths emerging. (Noa Gusakov, Israel, 15 min.)




The Clinic

For a few hours every Saturday, Dr. Marc Lasher and a group of volunteers provide free medical care and clean needles to IV drug users from across Fresno County, California. On a dingy old school bus, Dr. Lasher slices abscesses, bandages open wounds and counsels his patients, many of whom have turned to street medicine to avoid the stigma and cost of our failed healthcare system. (Elivia Shaw, USA, 16 min.)




Kanarí

Vala and Benni are leaving Reykjavik for a simpler life in the countryside and are struggling to find common ground about what their future holds. Their journey comes to a violent stop when they get into a head-on collision with another car. Vala must find a way out of the wreckage and come to grips with what has happened. (Erlendur Sveinsson, Iceland, 14 min.)




The Infection

Krister and Kristina’s marriage is crumbling. All the petty annoyances of their everyday life have eroded their relationship. They seek counseling, but it just might be too late to cure the infection that is tearing them apart. (Patrik Eklund, Sweden, 16 min.) **North American Premiere**



Las del Diente

Girls are weird. Babies are weird. Bodies are extra weird. LAS DEL DIENTE is a film about now, a time when women are tired of choosing between having kids and their careers. Days in which anomalies in the reproductive system are celebrated instead of stigmatized. (Ana Perez Lopez, USA/Spain, 6 min.)



The Summer of The Electric Lion

Hidden in a house far from the city, Alonso accompanies his dear sister, Daniela. She expects to become the seventh wife of The Lion, a prophet who (according to stories) electrocutes you when you touch him. (Diego Céspedes, Chile, 22 min.)




Shorts Program 38PM

91 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE


Everything You Wanted to Know About Sudden Birth* (*but were afraid to ask)

The true story of how the Berkeley police department, the Nazi invasion of the Netherlands, an Academy Award winner and Mr. Spock of *Star Trek* fame are all connected by “Sudden Birth,” one of the most unintentionally hilarious and disturbing educational films ever created. (Scott Calonico, UK/Germany, 11 min.)




The Mute

A girl tries to find the answer about love before her big day, on a rainy night. (An Pham Thien, Vietnam/USA, 15 min.)




She-Pack

It’s a birthday party at a public pool disco, and underdog Ronja challenges the girls’ alpha female to a battle for dominance. The game escalates quickly, and as the thirst for power grows, Ronja and the other girls lose control. (Fanny Ovesen, Norway, 18 min.) **North American Premiere**




Dios Nunca Muere (God Never Dies)

Living in hidden America, Paula, a Mexican farmworker, struggles to raise two children on her own. When a new caravan arrives on the cramped lot they live on, Paula allows herself and her children to imagine the home is theirs—a fantasy highlighting the fragility of her reality and her family. (Barbara Cigarroa, Ireland/USA, 14 min.)




Falling

In 1994 France, a clever, much-bullied young esthete and his popular classmate develop an unexpected intimacy when they’re paired up for a high school presentation. (Benjamin Vu, France, 33 min.)



Après Screening10PM

MARBLE BAR | 415 E DEAN ST | ASPEN



MARBLE DISTILLING CO. & THE DISTILLERY INN

Marble Bar Aspen is a Marble Distilling Co. concept and tasting room. Find them in the heart of downtown Aspen within the Hyatt Residence Club Grand Aspen, next to the Silver Circle Ice Rink. Enjoy the spirits of the season at their custom marble bar or while lounging fireside. Marble Bar Aspen is one of the hippest après-ski and nightlife destinations in Aspen.

Filmmaker Conversation

12–1:30PM

MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN | 333 E DURANT AVE | ASPEN
[DETAILS ON PAGE 4]

Happy Hour

4–5PM

JIMMY'S | 307 S MILL ST | ASPEN
[DETAILS ON PAGE 7]

Shorts Program 4

91 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

5:15PM

Patision Avenue

Yanni's mum is on her way to audition for a role as Shakespeare's Viola, when she discovers that her young son has been left home alone. Through a series of phone calls, she fights to balance the most important roles of her life, whilst walking in the most controversial area of central Athens, Patision Avenue. (Thanasis Neofotistos, Greece, 13 min.) **North American Premiere**



Little Grey Bubbles

Kim and Marlon were best friends, despite the fact they'd never actually met. The unlikely pair, she a young woman thriving in New York City and he an older married man in small-town Canada, communicated exclusively online. Just before he died, he sent her a message that said he had something really important to tell her. He never got the chance. In an effort to find out what it was, and to get a deeper sense of her friend, she travels to his small-town home to attend his funeral. (Charles Wahl, Canada, 14 min.)



Street Flame

A crew of motley skaters and street teens commemorates their friend Jinx on their own terms. (Katherine Propper, USA, 12 min.)



Sweetheart Dancers

Sean and Adrian are a Two-Spirit couple determined to rewrite the rules of Native American culture through their participation in the Sweetheart Dance. This celebratory contest is held at powwows across the country, primarily for heterosexual couples, until now. (Ben-Alex Dupris, USA, 14 min.)



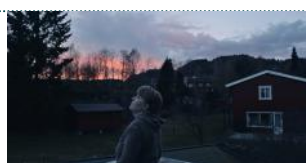
The Hunt

During a summer holiday in the Polish countryside, an 11-year-old boy goes exploring with a cassette recorder and a bow. In the course of his innocent adventures, he discovers violence for the first time. (Mateusz Jarmulski, Poland, 8 min.) **North American Premiere**



Haunted

A mother who rarely sees her filmmaker son suddenly encounters a ghost outside his childhood bedroom. He pays her a long overdue visit to explore the mystery, and to contemplate why his family has drifted apart. (Christian Einshøj, Denmark, 30 min.)



Shorts Program 5

91 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

8PM

Kevlar

Camilo, from the projects outside Stockholm, sees Amina on her way to a party. He borrows his friend's expensive jacket and approaches her, offering to show her the way. They connect, and Amina invites Camilo to the party. But when a guy at the party mistakes Camilo's jacket for his own, the social battles lines are drawn. (Tuna Özer, Sweden, 12 min.)



The Likes and Dislikes of Marj Bagley

In this innovative documentary, a family recreates itself using stop-motion animation. The film tells the lifelong struggle of Marj, the matriarch of the Bagley clan, to find happiness. Marj battles infidelity, broken noses, dysfunctional relationships, giant birds and a fateful game of cards with her grandchildren. Through a combination of interviews and recreations, her family reflects on the legacy of a woman whom they realize they may not understand. (Taylor Stanton, USA, 14 min.)



Appreciation

An African Pentecostal pastor questions everything she believes after a life-changing event. (Tomisin Adepeju, UK, 15 min.) **North American Premiere**



Helsinki Mansplaining Massacre

An intensely hysterical horror comedy about one woman's desperate struggle to survive a horde of men with frail egos, who just want to explain everything to her. But the biggest horror may be closer to her than she thinks. (Ilja Rautsi, Finland, 15 min.)



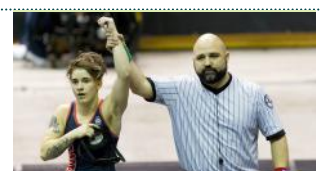
Splash

The splash of water is like a bomb, about to break the tranquility of the pool. (Jie Shen, China, 9 min.) **North American Premiere**



Mack Wrestles

Mack Beggs broke records and changed history when he won the Texas state title as a transgender wrestler. Now with high school ending and college on the horizon, the sports champion, national activist and high school hero must grapple with what comes next. (Erin Sanger, Taylor Hess, USA, 26 min.)



Après Screening

10PM

BAD HARRIET | 310 E MAIN ST | ASPEN

BAD HARRIET
HOTEL JEROME

The newest addition to Aspen's social scene pays homage to the wife of Hotel Jerome's original proprietor, Jerome B. Wheeler. But instead of referencing her otherwise well-behaved persona, they gave it a cheeky narrative twist. Craft cocktails and small plates are aptly named after other strong women in history.

Panel Discussion 12–1:30PM

Outside the Frame: What Are the Programmers Thinking?

MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN | 333 E DURANT AVE | ASPEN
[DETAILS ON PAGE 4]

Panel Discussion 2–3:30PM

Outside the Frame: So You’ve Made a Short Film…Now What?

MOUNTAIN CHALET ASPEN | 333 E DURANT AVE | ASPEN
[DETAILS ON PAGE 4]

Happy Hour 4–5PM

JIMMY’S | 307 S MILL STREET | ASPEN
[DETAILS ON PAGE 7]

Shorts Program 6 5:15PM

88 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Lavender
What started off as a casual hookup has quickly evolved into something far more intimate, leaving Andy to navigate Arthur and Lucas’s dreamy lifestyle and marriage. LAVENDER is a tender, poignant look at an unconventional relationship as it blossoms and ultimately unravels. (Matthew Puccini, USA, 11 min.)



The Trial
Meet the lawyers tasked with defending 9/11 suspects against the U.S. government. (Johanna Hamilton, UK, 17 min.)



Facing It
Shaun doesn’t fit in. It’s not that he wants to be alone, but somehow, he always feels separate and isolated from the happy world around him. Whilst waiting for his parents in a busy pub, Shaun struggles valiantly to join in with the admirably confident people in the crowd, but the more he tries, the more things in the pub go awry. Shaun finds himself confronted by the painful memories that made him who he is. His feelings, memories and desires overwhelm him, and by the end of the evening he is ready to explode. (Sam Gainsborough, UK, 8 min.) **US Premiere**



Green
Two undocumented Turkish brothers face the challenges of life in New York City together. Green (a.k.a. Samet), the younger brother and a recent arrival to the city, wants to make a fresh start in a new place, but Abi, older and battle-worn, has been in the city longer. Knowing the challenges that await his brother, he wants to protect him. When a street altercation turns into an assault, Green draws the police to the apartment that he shares with his brother and several undocumented Middle Eastern men, unwittingly putting them all at risk of discovery. The result pits Abi and Green against the other residents and threatens to separate the newly reunited brothers. (Suzanne Andrews Correa, USA, 12 min.)



Scenes from a Dry City
In South Africa, an impending water crisis grips an entire nation. (François Verster, Simon Wood, South Africa, 13 min.)



Brotherhood
Mohamed is a hardened shepherd living in rural Tunisia with his wife and two sons. He is deeply shaken when his oldest son Malik returns home after a long journey with a mysterious new wife. Tension between father and son rises over three days until it reaches a breaking point. (Meryam Joobeur, Canada/Tunisia/Qatar/Sweden, 25 min.)



Shorts Program 7 8PM

92 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Milton
A guy makes a bad first impression when he meets his girlfriend’s family as they gather at her grandfather’s deathbed. (Tim Wilkime, USA, 11 min.)



The Water Slide
In 2016, an accident happened at an amusement park in Kansas. The story is recounted through television coverage. (Nathan Truesdell, USA, 9 min.)



Alma
Alma has just entered a new high school and her classmate, Víctor, invites her to a party. The transition of her body and her hidden desires lead Alma to face her inner fears and thus take the first step to love herself as she is. (Santiago León Cuéllar, Colombia, 17 min.) **North American Premiere**



Sister
A man thinks back upon his childhood memories of growing up with an annoying little sister in China in the 1990s. What would his life have been like if things had gone differently? (Siqi Song, China/USA, 8 min.)



The Field
A poor agricultural labourer leads a double life in the village’s last remaining cornfield. But the harvest is approaching... (Sandhya Suri, France/UK/India, 19 min.)



Edgecombe
Through a small window of time and space, EDGECOMBE presents the numerous ways Black folks overcome challenges across generations. By following the lives of Shaka Jackson, Ms. Doris Stith and Deacon Joyner, the film highlights the exhaustion of overcoming individual circumstances while navigating shared systemic experiences. Their collective stories create a mosaic that expresses the soul and spirit of their shared space. (Crystal Kayiza, USA, 15 min.)



Sometimes I Think About Dying
Fran likes to think about dying; it’s comforting to her. She imagines a different death every day and doesn’t need anything more. But her routine is unexpectedly interrupted by some enticing attention paid to her by a good looking co-worker. She made him laugh and now he wants more—a movie date, a slice of pie, a conversation. But if dating him means learning to live, she’s pretty sure she can’t do that. (Stefanie Abel Horowitz, USA, 12 min.)



Après Screening

10PM
MI CHOLA | 411 E MAIN ST | ASPEN

Darren Chapple and Adam Malmgren’s cantina Mi Chola is a true labor of love. Being California kids, Adam and Darren both independently left Aspen and the restaurant’s former incarnation, The Cantina, for the West Coast in search of the “real world.” But this town and the restaurant kept pulling them back, which is why they refer to the establishment as their baby and their girl. Because she’s Mexican-American with street spice and an attitude shaped by hardship and change over the years, she really is Mi Chola in the truest, most endearing sense of the word. Your experience while there is intended to reflect her passion. Progressive Mexican cuisine with attentive service in an environment that is casual, hip and fun is their sole soul mission.



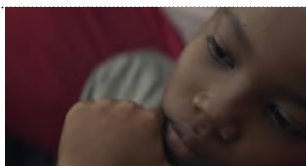
Shorts Program 8

88 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Dulce

On Colombia's Pacific Coast, a mother teaches her daughter how to swim. It is an essential skill in this remote region, where livelihoods are made on the sea and where rising tides, made worse by climate change, have swept entire villages away in recent years. The girl, named Dulce, learns to overcome her fears and join the community of women who harvest the mangrove cockle, or piangua, for a living. It is a coming-of-age process that helps her understand both her cultural and natural surroundings, from the mud of the mangrove swamps to the powerful tides. (Angello Faccini, Guille Isa, Colombia/USA, 11 min.)



Nest Egg

When a young American woman decides to become a gestational surrogate to a couple from China, her insecure husband tries to torpedo the arrangement. (Henry Loevner, USA, 13 min.) **World Premiere**



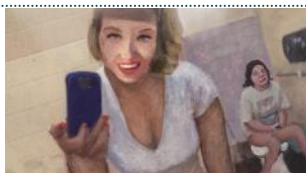
Liberty

Best friends Milagros (Loggy) and Alex have been neighbors their entire lives in Miami's redeveloping Liberty Square. Loggy detaches when she learns that Alex is being displaced and relocated to another community. The two are chosen to dance together at the community's groundbreaking ceremony, but their plans are derailed when the memorial of Milagro's slain mother is confiscated. The integrity of their friendship is tested as they search for its whereabouts. (Faren Humes, USA, 17 min.)



SELFIES

In a veritable fireworks display of digital self-portraits, hundreds of quaint, embarrassing and dreadfully disturbing selfies were arranged in a unique short film composition. Single photos, artistically reworked, consolidate to form a ghastly grin that outshines the abyss of human existence. (Claudius Gentinetta, Switzerland, 4 min.)



How to Make a Rainbow

This film observes a young girl (Alaizah) and her mother (Jade) over two years as they journey through the realities of a parent in transition. The story centers on Alaizah and her process of figuring out what to call her "papa," who is in the beginning years of a gender transition. In its exploration of the perceived limits of love, gender expression and childhood, this film invites us to let Alaizah be our guide as we learn and unlearn alongside her the limits and possibilities of identity and connection. (Ryan Maxey, USA, 16 min.) **World Premiere**



Jack

A trip to the vet forces a blue-collar man to deal with his emotions and accept the fate of his cat the only way he knows how: through denial and baseball. (Nick Paonessa, USA, 8 min.)



Connected

In this short documentary examining one day in the life of a 50-year-old couple, Blind Krzysztof goes skiing with Wiola, his wife and guide. They prepare for skiing in the early morning. Krzysztof mounts bluetooth kits on the helmets that will connect them to each other. They go to the top of the mountain in a chairlift, and the higher they go, the more we learn about their life. At the same time, weather conditions are changing; mist thickens on the mountain slopes. When Wiola and Krzysztof finally reach the summit, they must find each other and connect in the surrounding fog. (Aleksandra Maciejczyk, Poland, 18 min.) **North American Premiere**



FEATURE FILM PRESENTATION

SHORT TERM 12 (2013)

2:15PM

Feature film screening preceded by a conversation with award-winning director Destin Cretton

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE | 320 E HYMAN AVE | ASPEN
RUN TIME 96 MINS. [DETAILS ON PAGE 4]



Happy Hour

4-5PM

JIMMY'S | 307 S MILL ST | ASPEN
[DETAILS ON PAGE 7]

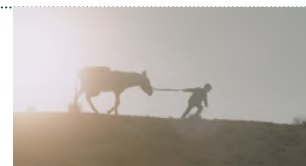
Shorts Program 9

84 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

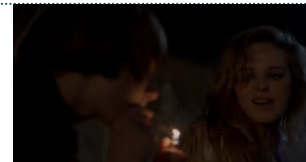
Nefta Football Club

In the south of Tunisia, two football fan brothers bump into a donkey lost in the middle of the desert on the border of Algeria. Strangely, the animal wears headphones over its ears. (Yves Piat, France, 17 min.)



Lou

Lou, a teenage tomboy in a small California town, idolizes her single father. When he has a date over one night and she is cast out of the house, Lou wanders to the outer reaches of town and into a new era of teenage identity. (Clara Balzary, USA, 12 min.) **US Premiere**



Bavure

In the beginning was the Stain. A paintbrush reveals a being of gouache, opens him, transforms him, twists him, completes him. From this accelerated evolution arises a conquering being... (Donato Sansone, France, 5 min.)



Super Comfort

Taina, 52, is preparing a perfect weekend with the family, since her son Eetu, 23, is visiting with his girlfriend Noora. Nothing goes as planned. The more Taina tries to entertain everyone, the less comfortable they feel. The youngsters leave earlier than expected, and husband Tero escapes to his man cave. Taina takes out her disappointment on a department store's client service, when a surprising question stops her. (Kirsikka Saari, Finland, 15 min.)



Guaxuma

In this elegiac animated short, the director revisits her childhood in Guaxuma, a district in a city on the northeastern coast of Brazil. She and her friend Tayra grew up on a beach there and were inseparable. The sea breeze brings back happy memories. (Nara Normande, France/Brazil, 14 min.)



Ghosts of Sugar Land

In Sugar Land, Texas, a group of young Muslim American men ponder the disappearance of their friend "Mark," who is suspected of joining ISIS. (Bassam Tariq, USA, 21 min.)



Shorts Program 10

92 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

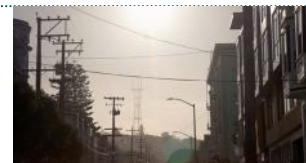
Ashmina

Ashmina, 13, lives with her family on the outskirts of Pokhara, Nepal, nestled between a beautiful lake and the Himalayas. The remote and traditional town is the paragliding capital of the world, and a busy travel destination where the locals are profoundly affected by the swarms of tourists who visit it daily. Forced to skip school, Ashmina helps her family make ends meet by working at the landing field, packing the parachutes of foreign pilots in return for small change. (Dekel Berenson, Nepal/UK, 15 min.)



Enforcement Hours

In a climate of xenophobia and confusion, a San Francisco hotline aims to provide limited assistance to a targeted population. (Paloma Martinez, USA, 14 min.)



Lockdown

After a failed attempt to confess her feelings for her best friend, Lena, 14-year-old Marie designs a plan that will force Lena to come to terms with their now undefined relationship. (Celine Held, Logan George, USA, 12 min.)



SATURDAY

april 6

SATURDAY *april 6* continued

Crannog



Alexis has a life-threatening disease. She spends her time in the wooded expanse of northern Scotland, where she takes care of dozens of others who are also sick, wounded or dying. Some have terminal cancer; some were about to be killed because of their disabilities; some were saved from slaughterhouses. Alexis provides palliative care for animals. Crannog follows Alexis as she tirelessly tries to nurse a neglected sheep back to health. A quiet reflection on kindness in the face of death, the film intimately explores the fragility and strength that comes from dedicating your life to the care of others. (Isa Rao, UK, 15 min.)

The Inner Side



Working at a family connection center, Aya, a social worker watching through the glass window, observes meetings between children and their estranged parents. One unusual child causes her to cross over to the other side of the window. (Danel Elpeleg, Israel, 15 min.) **US Premiere**

Feathers



Elizier, an emotionally dejected new enrollee at the Edward R. Mill School for Lost Boys, must overcome memories of a tragic past and the present hazing by his peers in order to tackle larger issues dominating his young life. (A.V. Rockwell, USA, 19 min.)

Après Screening

10PM



7908 | 415 E HYMAN AVE | ASPEN

Situated in the heart of the world's most adored and irreverent mountaintop resort, 7908 offers a space that allows for an authentic, extraordinary Aspen experience. A place to dine in the early evening and dance late into the night, it's sophisticated and fun; it's raucous and regal, inclusive and exclusive; it's Aspen. Taking its name and cultural direction from the exact elevation of this former small mining town perched 7,908 feet high in the Rocky Mountains, 7908 will bring together under one roof the eclectic, talented and empowered many, who long ago determined Aspen to be their most cherished place to visit.

SUNDAY

april 7

Breakfast at the Fest

[DETAILS ON PAGE 7]

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

11AM

Shorts Program 11: Family Fun

46 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

Presented by The Aspen Times

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

12PM

One Small Step

Luna is a vibrant young Chinese American girl who dreams of becoming an astronaut. From the day she witnesses a rocket launching into space on TV, Luna is driven to reach for the stars. In the big city, Luna lives with her loving father Chu, who supports her with a humble shoe repair business he runs out of his garage. As Luna grows up, she enters college, facing adversity of all kinds in pursuit of her dreams. (Andrew Chesworth, Bobby Pontillas, USA/China, 8 min.)



Hors Piste

The two best rescue workers in the region are ready for their new mission. Yet despite their professionalism and determination, it will not go as planned... (Léo Brunel, Loris Cavalier, Camille Jalabert, Oscar Malet, France, 6 min.)



Transmitter-Receiver

In order to escape the monotony and boredom of the end of the school year, a young boy fabricates a transceiver-receiver to communicate with strangers in the sky. (Vincent Wilson, Canada, 9 min.)



The Wiremen

When electricity is first brought to 1960s rural Ireland, an imaginative young girl believes the new power in her home is in fact the work of a faerie, a magical creature of folklore who she reasons must control "the Light." Ignoring her grandmother's warnings, she attempts to capture their surprise guest and unwittingly causes a blackout, ultimately summoning the sinister creatures of her grandmother's stories who haunt the surrounding countryside, the true keepers of the Light—the Wiremen. (Jessica Patterson, Ireland, 10 min.) **International Premiere**



Athleticus: Course de demi fond

Wild animals compete in athletic events. They are judoka hippos, gymnast ostriches, elephants playing basketball or referee seals. From table tennis to fixed bar, archery and high jumping, the animals of "Athleticus" react according to their personalities and the peculiarities of their anatomy, creating situations that are comical or poetic, but always offbeat. Today, pink flamingos line up on the starting blocks of a middle-distance race. Among them, an odd one... (Nicolas Deveau, France, 2 min.) **North American Premiere**



Thatha's Secret

Every summer, Arya and her sister Tara spend their holidays at their grandfather's forest home. And no summer holiday is complete without their customary camping trip and their grandfather's (Thatha's) stories under the open night sky. But this year Thatha's story has a few unexpected twists that could change Arya profoundly. (Sharanya Ramesh, India, 9 min.) **North American Premiere**



The Fox and the Bird

A solitary fox finds itself improvising fatherhood for a freshly hatched baby bird. Two paths cross and a family is formed, until fate reminds each of the life it was meant to lead. (Sam Guillaume, Fred Guillaume, Switzerland, 11 min.) **International Premiere**



Shorts Program 12: Documentaries

80 MIN. | FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

2:15PM

All in My Family

All in My Family tells a heartfelt, cross-cultural autobiographical story of Chinese-born filmmaker Hao Wu, who creates a thoroughly modern LGBTQ family with his gay partner in the US, only to face the dilemma of how to introduce his partner and two children to his very traditional parents and relatives back in China—some of whom don't even know he's gay. (Hao Wu, USA, 40 min.)



Life Overtakes Me

Over the past 15 years, hundreds of refugee children in Sweden have withdrawn into Resignation Syndrome, a sort of "willed death," remaining in a coma-like state for months or even years. The families of these children have been subject to severe trauma in their home countries, followed by the anxiety of a lengthy asylum process and an uncertain future. Intercut with sweeping Swedish landscapes, LIFE OVERTAKES ME follows three families for over a year. Viewers are immersed in their lives as the anguished parents struggle to care for their sick children. (John Haptas, Kristine Samuelson, USA, 40 min.)



Shortsfest Awards Dinner

[DETAILS ON PAGE 7]

JIMMY'S | 307 S MILL STREET | ASPEN

6:30PM

SATURDAY *april 6*

Shorts Program A

82 MINUTES

CRYSTAL THEATRE

5:15PM



LIFE IN MINIATURE (page 7)



THE MINORS (page 7)



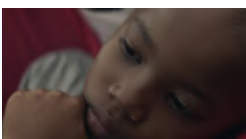
CROWLEY—COWBOY UP (page 7)



ALIEN CULTURE (page 7)



NEST EGG (page 11)



DULCE (page 11)



SOMETIMES I THINK ABOUT DYING
(page 10)

SUNDAY *april 7*

Shorts Program C

81 MINUTES

CRYSTAL THEATRE

5:15PM



MILTON (page 10)



CONNECTED (page 11)



SUPER COMFORT (page 11)



EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT
SUDDEN BIRTH* (*BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK)
(page 8)



BROTHERHOOD (page 10)

Shorts Program B: Animation

83 MINUTES

CRYSTAL THEATRE

7:30PM



HORS PISTE (page 12)



THE LIKES AND DISLIKES OF MARJ BAGLEY
(page 9)



SELFIES (page 11)



THE WIREMEN (page 12)



BAVURE (page 11)



FACING IT (page 10)



THE FOX AND THE BIRD (page 12)



SISTER (page 10)



SPLASH (page 9)



ONE SMALL STEP (page 12)

Shorts Program D: Documentaries

80 MINUTES

CRYSTAL THEATRE

7:30PM



ALL IN MY FAMILY (page 12)



LIFE OVERTAKES ME (page 12)

tickets

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE DOOR BEFORE EACH SCREENING
at the Wheeler Opera House in Aspen or Crystal Theatre in Carbondale

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND PURCHASING TICKETS IN ADVANCE

Wheeler Opera House Box Office (for all shows)

320 East Hyman Ave, Aspen

970.920.5770

aspenshowtix.com

Bonfire Coffee (Carbondale shows)

433 Main St, Carbondale

970.510.5327

film educates

For more than 20 years, Aspen Film has dedicated itself to youth education and outreach. We believe that film is a vibrant artistic expression and powerful communication tool, able to open windows to the world and build bridges of understanding between cultures. While movies may not change our world, they can make a difference in how we see and live in it. Aspen Film's free school programs seek to expand worldviews, develop critical viewing skills, cultivate curiosity and inspire creativity. As more and more schools eliminate media literacy from their curricula, Aspen Film helps fill that void by providing extensive free programs for youth, an underserved segment of our population with limited access to age-appropriate cultural opportunities. Our FilmEducates programs are incredibly popular with teachers who value film for its compelling appeal to students and its ability to illustrate issues, concepts and ideas with succinct creativity. Aspen Film partners with schools, art centers and youth organizations in three counties from Aspen to Rifle and beyond. From serving as a teacher resource to creating curriculum-enriching programs, we create meaningful opportunities for all grades.



FILMMAKERS TO THE CLASSROOM As part of our most popular program, international filmmakers visit schools from Aspen to Glenwood Springs to share their films, culture and creative process in classroom and auditorium settings.

MAKING MOVIES MATTER Aspen Film provides films and themed shorts packages (e.g., immigration, the environment, creative storytelling) to enrich curricula in language and visual arts, history, world geography, social sciences and ESL.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS Students and teachers are invited to experience in-depth public panel discussions with filmmakers and invited industry professionals on various topics relating to the art and industry of filmmaking today.

SCHOOLS TO THE FESTIVAL Schools and youth programs receive free admission to public programs during Filmfest and Shortsfest. We also distribute dozens of complimentary tickets to families and young clients of health and human services.

TICKETS FOR TEACHERS To encourage local educators to identify new films appropriate for their curricula, Aspen Film provides tickets for teachers to attend certain programs at Filmfest and Shortsfest at no charge.

YOUNG FILMMAKER LABS At Shortsfest, visiting filmmakers meet with high school students to screen films, including student works-in-progress, explore the creative process and offer feedback on students' work.

YOUTH JURY A recruited jury comprising local middle and high school students awards a student prize to their favorite Shortsfest film. Filmmakers have said that winning this award is one of the highest honors at the festival.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROSS DANIELS

ASPEN FILM

INDEPENDENT BY NATURE

ASPEN FILM MEMBERS ARE THE BEDROCK OF OUR ORGANIZATION.
A huge thank you to all of our patrons and supporters.

aspen film staff

Susan Wrubel | Executive Director + Artistic Director
Landon Zakheim | Shortsfest Director of Programming
Audrey Allen | Operations Manager
Lauren Ciarallo | Events Manager
Emma Martin | Operations + Program Coordinator
Arielle Lyons | Programming Consultant
Milana Perry | Shortsfest Submissions Coordinator
Mary McClure | Education Consultant
Hannah Pike | Education Coordinator
Alyssa Lopez | Guest Services Manager
Adrenia Kemp | Guest Services Coordinator
Travis Volz | Publicity + Social Media Consultant
SoloShoe Communications, LLC | Advertising + Marketing
Kelly Alford / Words Pictures Colours | Graphic Design
Cast Iron Design | Festival Identity
Terri Grob | Accounting
Christy Eller | Wired Right | Web Design
Tom Wardaszka | Technical Film + Media Support
Polly Pollard | House Manager | Crystal Theatre
Beth Partin | Copy Editor

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aspen film founder

Ellen Hunt

ambassadors

Judy Dunn
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Mary McClure
Rebecca Mirsky
Paula Nirschel
Christine Nolen
Katherine Roberts
Lynne Rosenfeld

the ellen jury

Steve Alldredge
Linda Girvin
Gail Holstein
Ellen Hunt
Lynda Palevsky

special thanks

THE ASPEN TIMES

Ashton Hewitt
Samantha Johnson
David Krause
Amy Laha
Igor Laray
Andrew Travers

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

Gena Buhler
Chad Eaton
Alexandra Feeley
Julie Gillespie
Jeni Hepler
Nicole Levesque
Maria Machuca
Maddy Overton
Sarah Sanders
Mackenzie Sexton
Ginger Kennington
Julie Lampton
Jeffrey Riggenbach
Dianna Platero
Pete Hajdu

Aspen Film Volunteers

Bonfire Coffee
Crystal Theatre | Kathy & Bob Ezra
District Theatre | Jonathan Geller
George Eldred & Laura Thielen
Katherine Sand & Rob Martin
Katie Shapiro
Metropolitan's Isis Theatre | Ryan Folse
Temporary Theater | Ryan Honey

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PHOTOGRAPH BY JORDON KERN

WHY ASPEN FILM?

With a history going back to 1979, and a mission to enlighten, enrich, educate and entertain through film, Aspen Film has been creating unique and memorable experiences for both the cinephile and the casual movie lover throughout the Roaring Fork Valley for nearly four decades. Aspen Film is more than just a film festival. We are, in fact, a film society that puts on three significant film festivals annually, organizes year-round film programming, produces special film events and offers a robust educational program that extends beyond our valley.

One of our main objectives is to present the best of cinema from around the globe. We embrace the spirit of community, striving to align ourselves with partners throughout the valley who share our mission and passion. Film is a discipline that flourishes within the arts, humanities and many sciences. Using cinema to highlight education, art and culture is a way to bolster the work of our neighbors and colleagues.

Aspen Film endeavors to highlight diverse views and provide a glimpse into something new. In addition to adult programs offering one-of-a-kind experiences with filmmakers, we create educational programs exploring the craft and theory of cinema that inspire learning in the classroom and at our festivals. Our plan is to grow Aspen Film's footprint in the Roaring Fork Valley by incorporating these programs into summer camps and afterschool programs.

Each year we welcome close to 20,000 participants to our presentations and happenings. We are committed to original content and show more than 100 regional debuts annually, many of which might not otherwise find their way to local audiences. Hosting more than 75 film artists and other special guests every year, we provide educational experiences for audiences of all ages. The majority of these programs are offered free of charge.

Aspen Film aspires to be bigger, bolder and better. We bring you unique experiences, from intimate, small group dialogues in and out of the classroom, to shorts and features on the big screen. As Aspen is remote and unique—a special place to visit but a challenging place to reach—it takes resources to get filmmakers and artists here to engage with the community, and to bring students into town to experience our programs on a deeper level.

In order to amplify our contributions to the Roaring Fork Valley, we need your support. Whether it's your feedback, word-of-mouth, donations, or membership, no gesture is too small. We are grateful for all your help, and for your time, the most valuable resource of all.

Please consider making a contribution to Aspen Film, so that we can keep giving back to our community that has been so generous to us over the years.

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JOIN NOW

970.925.6882

aspenfilm.org