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International Film Festival™

JUNE 1-4, 2017

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A person is walking away from the camera on a gravel path that winds through a hilly, grassy landscape. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The person is wearing dark pants and light-colored sneakers. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.

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Founded in 2014, the sole purpose of *ALS Finding a Cure* is funding research to find a cure for this devastating disease. To break down barriers to finding that cure, we support collaborative, innovative science through partnerships that include General Electric, ALS Association and ANSWER ALS. General Electric Healthcare, a primary collaborator, has developed breakthrough technology to better understand the brain and spinal cord. As a partner, we utilize their technology and findings to better understand ALS and accelerate therapy development. Our team of researchers is led by Chief Medical Officer Dr. Merit Cudkowicz and overseen by president Peter N. Foss. *ALS Finding a Cure* is a program of the Leandro P. Rizzuto Foundation and we are proud to report that 100% of donations go directly to funding research. Our program is inspired by, and a tribute to, Christie Rizzuto. Diagnosed with ALS in 2009 at the age of 41, it is Christie, and the many others like her, who drive our work.

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Film

Finance

Philanthropy

We applaud the Greenwich
International Film Festival for
supporting the gifted artists who
use film to create positive change.

J.P.Morgan



FESTIVAL DETAILS

PASSES AND TICKETS

Please visit www.greenwichfilm.org for ticket information and a current schedule of events. Purchase passes and event tickets online or at our Box Office.

How to Purchase Passes and Tickets

Website: www.greenwichfilm.org/boxoffice

Box Office: 22 Railroad Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Box Office Hours: Monday-Saturday 11-6:00PM Sunday: 12-4:00PM

Box Office Telephone: 203-869-1609

Admission for Passholder vs. Ticket Holders

Passholders are required to wear their badge at the entrance of all Festival events.

Ticket holders must present their printed tickets at the entrance to each Festival event.

FILM, PANEL AND PARTY LOCATIONS

Film Screening Locations

Bow Tie Cinemas, Theaters 1-3: 2 Railroad Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Cole Auditorium at Greenwich Library: 101 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

The Avon Theatre: 272 Bedford Street, Stamford, CT 06901

Panels & Workshop Locations

Cole Auditorium at Greenwich Library: 101 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Greenwich Arts Council: 299 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Indian Harbor Yacht Club: 710 Steamboat Road, Greenwich, CT 06830

Party Locations

Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich: 4 Horseneck Lane, Greenwich, CT 06830

Betteridge: 239 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Gabriele's Steak House: 35 Church Street, Greenwich, CT 06830

J House Greenwich: 1114 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06878

L'escale Restaurant & Bar: 500 Steamboat Road, Greenwich, CT 06830

Perfect Provenance: 47 Arch Street, Greenwich, CT 06830

Sweaty Betty: 200 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Theory: 396 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

GETTING THERE & PARKING

Interstate-95 North and South, Exit-3 - Arch St.

Metro-North Railroad - Schedules & Tickets: www.mta.info/mnr

Select Passholders are granted one complimentary VIP festival parking pass.

Additional parking:

Island Beach Parking Lot: Across from 100 Arch Street

Horseneck Parking Lot: Horseneck Lane

Arch Street and Sound View Drive Parking Lot

ACCOMMODATIONS

Delamar Greenwich Harbor: (203) 661-9800 | 500 Steamboat Road, Greenwich, CT 06830

J House Greenwich: (203) 698-6980 | 1114 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06878

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A Note from the Chairman of the Board

by **Wendy Stapleton Reyes**
Founder/Chairman of the Board

Dear GIFF supporters, film lovers, community activists, staff and volunteers, welcome to the third annual Greenwich International Film Festival. I am incredibly excited about this year's program and our charity partners.

The year started out with a great opportunity for us to show GIFF's ability to GIVE back and highlight the great work happening here in our own backyard on NBC's show *GIVE*. We sent our good friend and GIFF Board Member Mark Teixeira to Family Centers and Maria Fareri Children's Hospital to highlight the incredible work they are doing for so many in our community. Filming was a GIFF family affair; the Emmy-winning show is produced by GIFF Board Member Bobby Friedman, hosted by our own Jenna Bush Hager and featured Mark as GIFF's celebrity ambassador. A big thank you to the whole *GIVE* team for this opportunity.

We have hosted several fabulous pre-screenings throughout the year for the community including *ARRIVAL*, *JACKIE*, *20TH CENTURY WOMEN* and *CARRIE PILBY*.

The slate of films for 2017 is remarkable. The Programming Team has done an excellent job curating a line-up that will inform and inspire.

Our Opening Night Party on Friday, June 2nd will feature Sophia Bush as head of our Social Impact Jury followed by a concert with Flo Rida, an evening which will not disappoint!

I am particularly excited for this year's Changemaker Gala on June 1st, where we will honor Christy Turlington Burns for her work with Every Mother Counts and Renée Zellweger for raising funds and awareness for those afflicted with ALS. New this year, we will be honoring a Community Changemaker, Andrew Niblock. Andrew is the Head of the Lower School of Greenwich Country Day and was recently diagnosed with ALS. He is inspiring our children and the entire community by confronting this disease head on and by doing all he can to help others in the process.

There is great hope on the ALS front thanks to the incredible work of an organization called ALS Finding a Cure. I am excited that many of the nation's top doctors and ALS researchers will be in attendance at the gala on June 1st.

Thank you to all who have helped make GIFF a reality! Because of you, we are able to present the community with 80 events over the course of the Festival weekend and host year round screenings. I am thrilled to announce that by the end of this season we will have raised more than \$300,000 for charity partners and awarded \$100,000 for filmmakers.

Let's continue to Make an Impact together!

All the Best, Wendy

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Colleen deVeer, *Director of Programming*
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Ginger Stickel, *Executive Director*

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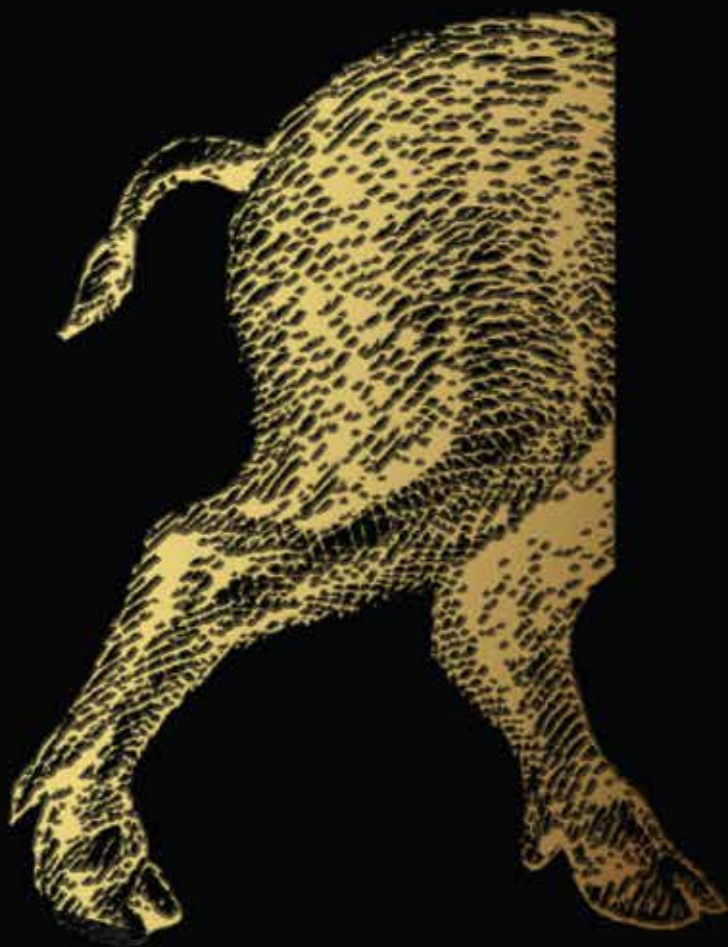
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SUMMER 2017



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3

THE AVON
THEATRE

4

J HOUSE
GREENWICHGREENWICH
International Film Festival™

FESTIVAL MAP

2

GABRIELE'S ITALIAN
STEAKHOUSE

E. ELM ST.

GREENWICH
ARTS COUNCIL

6

BETTERIDGE

7

GREENWICH AVE.

WEST PUTNAM AVE.

SWEATY BETTY

5

1

COLE AUDITORIUM
AT GREENWICH LIBRARY

W. ELM ST.

P

DEERFIELD DR.

1. Cole Auditorium at Greenwich Library

101 W Putnam Ave. | (203) 622-7900

2. Gabriele's Italian Steakhouse

35 Church St. | (203) 622-4223

3. The Avon Theatre

272 Bedford St. Stamford, CT | (203) 967-3660

4. J House Greenwich

1114 E Putnam Ave. | (203) 698-6980

5. Sweaty Betty

200 Greenwich Ave. | (203) 717-1095

6. Betteridge

239 Greenwich Ave. | (203) 869-0124

7. Greenwich Arts Council

299 Greenwich Ave. | (203) 862-6750

8. The Perfect Provenance

47 Arch St. | (203) 900-1131

9. Theory

396 Greenwich Ave. | (203) 422-0020

10. Bow Tie Criterion Cinemas

2 Railroad Ave. | (203) 869-3121



11. GIFF Box Office

22 Railroad Ave. | (203) 869-1609

12. Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich

4 Horseneck Ln. | (203) 869-3224

13. L'escale Restaurant

500 Steamboat Rd. | (203) 661-4600

14. Indian Harbor Yacht Club

710 Steamboat Rd. | (203) 869-2484

KEY



Off Map



Parking



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A Note from Programming

by **Colleen deVeer**
Founder/Director of Programming

Sam Kleiner
Programmer

Greetings GIFF Friends and Family,

It is hard to believe that another year has passed by so quickly and that we are already on our third edition of this Festival. It has been another whirlwind of a year with new staff members, travel, excitement, and lots of great movies! Sam Kleiner, our new Programmer Extraordinaire, joined the team after several years of working in film publicity. He has been a wonderful addition to GIFF and we've been having so much fun putting together this fantastic line-up of films and panels for you.

In an effort to continue our year-round programming, we had the pleasure of holding several complimentary advance screenings for our community in the Fall and Winter which included *Arrival*, *Jackie*, *20th Century Women*, and *Carrie Pilby* at Bow Tie Cinemas and The Avon Theatre. After screening hundreds of submissions, the programming team traveled to Sundance in search of the best of the best in filmmaking on the festival circuit. In March, our team spent a week at SXSW curating films to round out what has shaped into a program that we are tremendously proud of and excited to share with the community.

Our 2017 Festival slogan is "Make an Impact"—and that we have. By the end of this Festival, we will have awarded \$100,000 to filmmakers. Additionally, over half of our slate is comprised of films that have social impact.

In order to achieve a delicate balance and cohesive line-up of films in our slate each year, we have to give careful consideration to programming films that share diverse stories from around the world. We are thrilled that 16 countries are represented in the 2017 program which include the United States, Mexico, Cuba, Ireland, Croatia, Israel, Denmark, Austria, Germany, France, Norway, Algeria, Poland, Sweden, South Africa, and the United Kingdom.

We are pleased to say that we've raised the bar this year with our unbelievable Opening Night Film, *Bending the Arc*, directed by Kief Davidson and Pedro Kos. *Bending the Arc* is a powerful and moving documentary feature which chronicles the team of doctors and activists whose work thirty years ago to save lives in a rural Haitian village grew into a global battle in the halls of power for health equity for all. Following this spectacular film, will be a Q&A moderated by Global Health Corps Founder, Barbara Pierce Bush, and will include panelists, Ophelia Dahl and Joia Mukherjee of Partners in Health, Dr. Rifat Latifi of WMC Health Network, and Writer/Producer, Cori Stern, who will be discussing the state of global healthcare.

We also have the pleasure of sharing with you our two Centerpiece Films in our line-up. From first-time feature director and Emmy-nominated Australian filmmaker, Jessica Thompson, comes *The Light of the Moon*—a poignant and captivating film starring Stephanie Beatriz. Beatriz gives a powerful and moving performance as Bonnie, a woman who maintains her dignity and sense of humor as she deals with the aftermath of a sexual assault. *The Light of the Moon* is a powerful reminder of the resilience of the human spirit in the face of a tragedy. Following the screening, will be a Town Hall to discuss global rape culture and how we can use film and media to help stop the objectification of women.



Our second Centerpiece Film is *Charged: The Eduardo Garcia Story* which follows the life of chef, Eduardo Garcia, whose body was jolted by 2400 volts of electricity in a bizarre backcountry accident in Montana. When his career as a highly respected chef and outdoorsman comes to a sudden halt, he is forced to face the complicated relationships he has with his family and friends. *Charged* is a survivor story about the strength of a man, his family, and his friends. Above all, it is a story about finding one's best self in order to live a full life—one that is truly charged.

Our documentary and narrative line-up of shorts and feature films is stellar this year as well. Our films explore subject matter from mental illness, global health, racial injustice, and bullying, to labor rights, freedom of press, censorship, rape culture, the refugee crisis, international relations, poverty, maternal health, holocaust remembrance, genocide awareness, animal conservation, environmental protection, disabilities, female empowerment, and forced migration.

In addition to our beautiful and inspiring films, our panels include, THE FILM REVIEW: An Inside look at the Formidable Responsibility of a Film Critic, LIVE FROM CT: A Conversation with SNL Writers, WOMEN DRIVING ROI IN THE FILM MARKETPLACE, and PRODUCING SPORTS: ESPN 30 for 30's *Mike* and *The Mad Dog* screening followed by an insightful panel with leaders in sports entertainment.

We hope that you enjoy the program and connect with the stories of our filmmakers and panelists as much as we have over the past 9 months. We anticipate that they will inspire change in the world, that you will walk away with a shift in perspective and a new sense of awareness about the struggles that people face on a global level.

Sam and I thank the GIFF team for their patience and support, our fantastic Jury of entertainment professionals for their time and efforts in helping us select the winners of each competitive category, our Pre-screening Committee and our interns who spent thousands of hours of their time reviewing and rating films, our families, and all of you, who have trusted our taste and taken a leap with us.

Enjoy the shows!

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Narrative Shorts



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Social Impact



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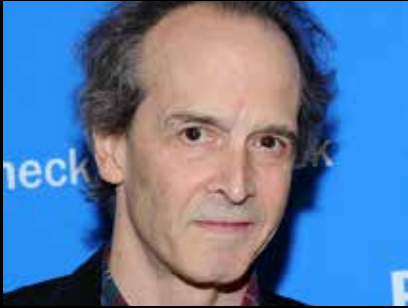


SOPHIA BUSH
Actress, Philanthropist, Activist



BREVEN WARREN
Producer

Documentary Features



NICHOLAS DOOB
Cinematographer



NINA ROSENBLUM
Director



KIRK SIMON
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Documentary Shorts



RACHEL BOYNTON
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Connecticut Shorts



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5 DOCTORS

USA // 92 mins // **Comedy**

Convinced that he's dying from a bizarre array of symptoms, struggling comedian Spencer Kaminsky returns home to visit his five childhood doctors in a single day, all while desperately trying to avoid the friends and family that he left behind.



Matt Porter



Max Azulay

Directors: Max Azulay, Matt Porter

Screenwriters: Max Azulay, Matt Porter, Phil Primason

Producers: Joe Greco, Josh Rabinowitz, Ayesha Rokadia

Editors: Joanna Naugle, Matt Porter

Key Cast: Max Azulay, Matt Porter, Emily Walton, Zoe Azulay, Bobby Moynihan, Eddie Pepitone, Jodi Long, Jeremy Shamos, Peter Friedman, Adam Dannheisser, Jordan Baker, Joe Pera, Annabelle Zasowski, Jack Scott, Ann Gulian

Dir. of Photography: Zach Kuperstein

6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 6:00PM

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 2:30PM

Q&A with Matt Porter (Writer/Director/Cast), Max Azulay (Writer/Director/Cast), and Phil Primason (Writer/Producer)



A BAD IDEA GONE WRONG

USA // 85 mins // **Comedy**

A comedy about two would-be thieves who accidentally arm the alarm system and have to break out of the house they just broke into. When they discover an unexpected housesitter, they suddenly have to deal with a hostage situation, double crosses, sexual tensions, and discoveries that make their difficult escape even more dubious.



Jason Headley

Director: Jason Headley

Screenwriter: Jason Headley

Producers: Derek D. Brown, Jonathan Duffy, Red Sanders, Kelly Williams

Editor: Tim Fender

Key Cast: Matt Jones, Will Rogers, Eleanor Pienta

Dir. of Photography: Nathan Smith

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 10:45AM

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 1:45PM

Q&A with Jason Headley (Director) and Eleanor Pienta (Cast)



BEACH RATS

USA // 95 mins // **Drama**

An aimless teenager on the outer edges of Brooklyn struggles to escape his bleak home life and navigate questions of self-identity, as he balances his time between his delinquent friends, a potential new girlfriend, and older men he meets online.



Eliza Hittman

Director: Eliza Hittman

Screenwriter: Eliza Hittman

Producers: Brad Becker-Parton, Andrew Goldman, Drew P. Houpt, Paul Mezey

Editors: Scott Cummings, Joe Murphy

Key Cast: Harris Dickinson, Madeline Weinstein, Kate Hodge, Frank Hakaj

Dir. of Photography: Helene Louvart



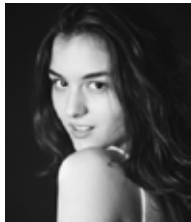
6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 8:45PM



BLAME

USA // 100 mins // **Drama**

It's the start of a new year at a small suburban high school—Abigail (Quinn Shephard) is an eternal outcast returning for the first time after a mysterious event the previous year. Facing constant bullying, Abigail escapes from her hostile surroundings by immersing herself in the worlds of the characters she reads about, much to the amusement of her manipulative classmate, Melissa (Nadia Alexander). When the girls' intriguing new drama teacher Jeremy (Chris Messina) announces Arthur Miller's 'The Crucible' as their fall show, and casts Abigail over Melissa in the starring role, Abigail's confidence blooms — but soon her relationship with Jeremy begins to move beyond the fantasy world she's constructed. This taboo bond strikes



Quinn Shephard

Director: Quinn Shephard
Screenwriter: Quinn Shephard
Producers: Laurie Shephard, Quinn Shephard
Editor: Quinn Shephard
Key Cast: Chris Messina, Quinn Shephard, Nadia Alexander, Tate Donovan, Trieste Kelly Dunn, Tessa Albertson
Dir. of Photography: Aaron Kovalchik

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 3:45PM*

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 3:45PM

Q&A with Quinn Shephard (Director), Nadia Alexander (Cast), and Laurie Shephard (Producer)

*Reception following at Theory on 396 Greenwich Ave.



CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS: THE FIRST EPIC MOVIE

USA // 89 mins
Comedy/Animation

Based on the worldwide sensation and bestselling book series, and boasting an A-list cast of comedy superstars headed by Kevin Hart and Ed Helms, DreamWorks Animation brings audiences the long-awaited global movie event, CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS: THE FIRST EPIC MOVIE. This raucously subversive comedy for the entire family tells the story of two overly imaginative pranksters named George and Harold, who hypnotize their principal into thinking he's a ridiculously enthusiastic, incredibly dimwitted superhero named Captain Underpants.



David Soren

Director: David Soren
Screenwriter: Dav Pilkey (book), Nicholas Stoller (screenplay)
Producers: Mireille Soria, Mark Swift
Key Cast: Jordan Peele, Kevin Hart, Kristen Schaal, Nick Kroll, Ed Helms

6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 4:30PM

Q&A and Book Signing with author Dav Pilkey following the screening at GIFF Box Office, 22 Railroad Ave.



DAYVEON

USA // 75 mins // **Drama**

In the wake of his older brother's death, 13-year-old Dayveon spends the sweltering summer days roaming his rural Arkansas town. When he falls in with a local gang, he becomes drawn to the camaraderie and violence of their world.



Amman Abbasi

Director: Amman Abbasi
Screenwriters: Amman Abbasi, Steven Reneau
Producers: Amman Abbasi, Lachion Buckingham, Alexander Uhlmann
Editors: Michael Carter, Dominic LaPerriere
Key Cast: Devin Blackmon, Dontrell Bright, Lachion Buckingham, Kordell Johnson
Dir. of Photography: Dustin Lane



6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 4:00PM

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 1:30PM



FITS AND STARTS

USA // 80 mins // **Comedy**

David Warwik is a struggling writer who has been toiling away at the same novel for years. His wife Jennifer is a hot young literary figure, who has just released a critically acclaimed work. When her publisher invites the couple to an artists' salon at his home in Connecticut, the pair embark on a twisted journey, and David must face his demons and try to "not be weird" among the waspy salon guests and competitive art set in attendance. He encounters a dentist with publishing aspirations, a book critic full of condescending advice, a fellow writer



Laura Terruso

Director: Laura Terruso
Screenwriter: Laura Terruso
Producers: Margherita Arco, Neda Armian, Stacey Parks, Laura Terruso, Steven Christopher Wallace
Editor: Robert Grigsby Wilson
Key Cast: Wyatt Cenac, Greta Lee, Maria Dizzia, Alex Karpovsky, Ben Sinclair, Onur Turkel, John Rothman, Louis Cancelmi, Larry Murphy, Sam Seder
Dir. of Photography: Benjamin Rutkowski

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 1:30PM

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 11:15AM

Cast & crew in attendance for Q&A



GORAN

CROATIA // 86 mins // **Drama**
***VIEWER DISCRETION ADVISED**

Goran just wants to drive his taxi and take care of his beautiful wife, Lina. Unfortunately, the people closest to him have their own agendas which threaten his carefree existence. In the idyllic surroundings of the snow-covered Croatian mountainside, the fiery personalities of the highlanders surface and collide.



Nevio Marasovic

Director: Nevio Marasovic
Screenwriter: Gjermund Gisvold
Producer: Danijel Pek
Editor: Marko Ferkovic
Key Cast: Franjo Dijak, Natasa Janjic, Goran Bogdan, Edita Karadjole, Filip Krizan, Bojan Navojec
Dir. of Photography: Damir Kudin

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 7:00PM



THE HERO

— PRESENTED BY —

HSS HOSPITAL FOR SPECIAL SURGERY

USA // 93 mins
Comedy/Drama

THE HERO stars the legendary Sam Elliott as an aging actor confronting mortality in the moving new film from writer/director Brett Haley (*I'll See You in My Dreams*). Lee Hayden (Sam Elliott) is a Western icon with a golden voice, but his best performances are decades behind him. He spends his days reliving old glories and smoking too much weed with his former-co-star-turned-dealer, Jeremy (Nick Offerman), until a surprise cancer diagnosis brings his priorities into sharp focus. He soon strikes up an exciting, contentious relationship with stand-up comic Charlotte (Laura Prepon), and he attempts to reconnect with his estranged daughter, Lucy (Krysten Ritter), all while searching



Brett Haley

Director: Brett Haley
Screenwriters: Marc Basch, Brett Haley
Producers: Sam Bisbee, Amy Jarvela, Houston King, Erik Rommesmo
Editor: Brett Haley
Key Cast: Sam Elliott, Laura Prepon, Krysten Ritter, Nick Offerman, Katharine Ross
Dir. of Photography: Rob Givens

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 4:30PM



HOT SUMMER NIGHTS

USA // 107 mins // **Drama**

American flags wave as fireworks light the sky, -- it's 1991 in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and summer is in full swing. A lonely teenage boy is taken under the wing of the town rebel, falls in love with the prettiest girl in fifty miles, and gets entangled in a drug ring - all as the deadliest hurricane in New England history barrels towards the coast. This coming of age film marks the feature debut of writer/director Elijah Bynum.



Elijah Bynum

Director: Elijah Bynum
Screenwriter: Elijah Bynum
Producers: Bradley Thomas, Dan Friedkin, Ryan Friedkin
Editors: Jeffrey J. Castelluccio, Dan Zimmerman, Tom Costantino
Key Cast: Timothée Chalamet, Maika Monroe, Alex Roe, Emory Cohen, Thomas Jane, Maia Mitchell, William Fichtner

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 9:00 PM



IT'S ONLY THE END OF THE WORLD

CANADA // 100 mins // **Drama**

After 12 years of absence, a writer goes back to his hometown, planning on announcing his upcoming death to his family. As resentment soon rewrites the course of the afternoon, fits and feuds unfold, fueled by bitterness and fear, while all attempts of empathy are sabotaged by their incapacity to listen, and love.



Xavier Dolan

Director: Xavier Dolan
Screenwriters: Xavier Dolan, Jean-Luc Lagarce
Producers: Silvain Corbeil, Xavier Dolan, Nancy Grant, Elisha Karmitz, Nathanael Karmitz, Michel Merkt, Patrick Roy, Vincent Cassel
Editor: Xavier Dolan
Key Cast: Nathalie Baye, Vincent Cassel, Marion Cotillard, Lea Seydoux
Dir. of Photography: Andre Turpin

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 7:30PM



THE LIGHT OF THE MOON

USA // 90 mins // **Drama**

Stephanie Beatriz (*Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *Short Term 12*) gives a powerful and moving performance as Bonnie, a woman who maintains her dignity and sense of humor as she deals with the aftermath of a sexual assault. Written and directed by Emmy-nominated Australian filmmaker Jessica M.



Jessica M. Thompson

Director: Jessica M. Thompson
Screenwriter: Jessica M. Thompson
Producers: Michael Cuomo, Darin Hallinan, Myriam Schroeter, Jessica M. Thompson, Carlo Velayo
Editor: Jessica M. Thompson
Key Cast: Stephanie Beatriz, Michael Stahl-David, Conrad Ricamora, Catherine Curtin
Dir. of Photography: Autumn Eakin



6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 1:00PM

Following this screening will be a Town Hall with principal cast, the director, producers, and Peg Cafferty, (Producer of *India's Daughter*) to discuss global rape culture and how we can use film and media to help stop the objectification of women. Moderated by Leslie Coplin, Prevention and Outreach Coordinator of Domestic Abuse Services, YWCA

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 1:30PM

Cast & crew in attendance for Q&A



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HEALTHALLIANCE HOSPITAL: MARY'S AVENUE CAMPUS | MARGARETVILLE HOSPITAL



MEGAN LEAVEY

USA // 120 mins // **Drama**

Directed by Gabriela Cowperthwaite (*Blackfish*), MEGAN LEAVEY is based on the true life story of a young Marine Corporal (Kate Mara) whose unique discipline and bond with her military combat dog saved many lives during their deployment in Iraq. When she is assigned to clean up the K9 unit after a disciplinary hearing, Leavey identifies with a particularly aggressive dog, Rex, and is given the chance to train him.

Over the course of their service, Megan and Rex completed more than 100 missions until an IED explosion injures them, putting their fate in jeopardy.



Gabriela Cowperthwaite

Director: Gabriela Cowperthwaite

Screenwriters: Pamela Gray, Annie Mumolo, Tim Lovestedt

Producers: Mickey Liddell, Jennifer Monroe, Pete Shilaimon

Editor: Peter McNulty

Key Cast: Kate Mara, Tom Felton, Bradley Whitford, Ramon Rodriguez, Edie Falco, Will Patton, Common, Geraldine James, Marko Caka, Catherine Dyer, Corey Johnson, Sam Keeley, Miguel Gomez, Melina Matthews

Dir. of Photography: Craig Braden

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 7:00PM



MENASHE

USA // 82 mins

Drama

— PRESENTED BY —
The Avon.
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Deep in the heart of New York's ultra-orthodox Hasidic Jewish community, Menashe, a kind, hapless grocery store clerk, struggles to make ends meet and responsibly parent his young son, Rieven, following his wife Leah's death. Tradition prohibits Menashe from raising his son alone, so Rieven's strict uncle adopts him, leaving Menashe heartbroken. Meanwhile, though Menashe seems to bungle every challenge in his path, his rabbi grants him one special week with Rieven before Leah's memorial. It's his chance to prove himself a suitable man of faith and fatherhood, and restore respect among his doubters.

Performed entirely in Yiddish, the colloquial language of the Hasidic community, MENASHE uses intimate, handheld camerawork to drop us inside and humanize a hermetically sealed world of black-hatted, working-class men debating in crowded shuls or seeking counsel in the rabbi's library. And yet Menashe is in many ways an outsider in this tight-knit circle, as he bucks convention and ruffles feathers to stay true to himself.



Joshua Z. Weinstein

Director: Joshua Z. Weinstein

Screenwriters: Alex Lipschultz, Musa Syeed, Joshua Z. Weinstein

Producers: Yoni Brook, Royce Brown, Traci Carlson, Daniel Finkelman, Maya Fischer, Gal Greenspan, Alex Lipschultz, David Medford, Nancy Medford, Joshua Z. Weinstein, Melanie Zoey

Editor: Scott Cummings

Key Cast: Menashe Lustig

Dirs. of Photography: Yoni Brook, Joshua Z. Weinstein

6/4 | The Avon Theatre | 11:00AM



THE STRANGE ONES

USA // 81 mins // **Drama/Thriller**

Mysterious events surround two travelers, seemingly brothers, as they make their way across a remote American landscape. On the surface all seems normal, but what appears to be a simple vacation soon gives way to a dark and complex web of secrets.



Lauren Wolkstein & Christopher Radcliff

Directors: Christopher Radcliff, Lauren Wolkstein

Screenwriters: Christopher Radcliff, Lauren Wolkstein

Producers: Sébastien Aubert, Shani Geva, Zachary Luke Kislevitz, Kristen Konvitz, Noah Lang, Ben Pakman, Barbara Perry, Michael Prall, Eric Schultz, Daniela Taplin Lundberg

Editors: Christopher Radcliff, Lauren Wolkstein

Key Cast: Alex Pettyfer, James Freedson-Jackson, Emily Althaus, Gene Jones, Owen Campbell, Tobias Campbell, Marin Ireland

Dir. of Photography: Todd Banhazl

6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 7:15PM

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 9:00PM



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES



SYLVIO

USA // 80 mins // **Comedy/Drama**

This is the story of a small town gorilla, Sylvio, who is stuck in his job at a debt collection agency. Deep down he just wants to express himself with his hand puppet, Herbert Herpels, and his puppet show that highlights the quiet moments of life. He accidentally joins a local TV program and a series of on-air mishaps threaten to shatter his identity, sending him on a journey of self-discovery.



Kentucker Audley & Albert Birney

Directors: Kentucker Audley, Albert Birney

Screenwriters: Kentucker Audley, Albert Birney, Meghan Doherty

Producers: Meghan Doherty, Josh Polon

Editors: Kentucker Audley, Albert Birney

Key Cast: Sylvio Bernardi

Dir. of Photography: Eric Laplante

6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 8:30PM

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 5:30PM

Q&A with Meghan Doherty (Producer, Co-writer)



AUGIE

USA // 89 mins

Augie Nieto was known as "the Steve Jobs of the fitness industry"—the founder of LifeFitness and the first person to popularize LifeCycle in gyms across the country. He lived life in the fast lane—was in impeccable shape, tough, bullheaded, and devilishly handsome. At the age of 47, Augie and his wife, Lynne, his high school sweetheart, seemed to have it all—until their lives were turned upside down when he was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). AUGIE is the story of a man who, when faced with tragedy, teamed with his incredible wife and family to do everything in their power to find a cure for ALS. Their bravery encourages ALS patients and their families to never give up. Their love story is, quite simply, one of the most inspiring and beautiful you'll ever see.



James Keach

Director: James Keach

Producers: Eric Carlson, James Keach

Editors: Elisa Bonora, Parker Laramie

Dirs. of Photography: Alex Exline, Ian Coad

6/3 | Cole Auditorium | 2:30PM

Q&A with Lynne Nieto, James Keach (Director), Eric Carlson (Producer) and Andrew Niblock



BENDING THE ARC

— PRESENTED BY —



USA // 102 mins

A powerful documentary about the extraordinary team of doctors and activists - including Paul Farmer, Jim Yong Kim, and Ophelia Dahl - whose work thirty years ago to save lives in a rural Haitian village grew into a global battle in the halls of power for the right to health for all. Epic, yet intimate, the film is a compelling argument for the power of collective and personal vision and will to turn the tide of history.



Kief Davidson

Pedro Kos

Directors: Kief Davidson, Pedro Kos

Screenwriter: Cori Stern

Producers: Kief Davidson, Cori Stern

Editors: Yuki Aizawa, Pedro Kos

Dir. of Photography: Yong Kim

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 5:45PM

Q&A with Ophelia Dahl, Joia Mukherjee, Cori Stern (Screenwriter, Producer), and Dr. Rifat Latif (Westchester Medical Center) and moderated by Barbara Pierce Bush.

OPENING NIGHT FILM

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES



BIG SONIA

USA // 93 mins

For years, Sonia Warshawski (90) has been an inspirational public speaker at schools and prisons, where her stories of surviving the Holocaust as a teenager have inspired countless people who once felt their own traumas would leave them broken forever. But when Sonia is served an eviction notice for her iconic tailor shop (in a dead mall), she's confronted with an agonizing decision: either open up a new shop, or retire. For a woman who admits she stays busy "to keep the dark parts away", facing retirement dredges up fears she'd long forgot she had, and her horrific past resurfaces. **BIG SONIA** explores what it means to be a survivor and how this affects families and generations. Will you let your trauma define you? Or will your past make you stronger?



Leah Warshawski Todd Soliday

Directors: Leah Warshawski, Todd Soliday

Producer: Leah Warshawski

Editor: Doug Loviska

Dir. of Photography: Todd Soliday



6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 3:00PM

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 11:00AM



BOBBI JENE

USA // 95 mins

American dancer Bobbi Jene Smith has spent 10 years as the star of famous Israeli dance company Batsheva. She finally makes the difficult and life-altering decision to uproot her life and career to move back to the US. Bobbi first came to Israel at a young age. She's spent the past decade under the tutelage of renowned choreographer Ohad Naharin, who radically shaped her personal life and professional work. The life-changing decision to leave is made all the more difficult considering her budding relationship with fellow dancer, Or Schraiber. Instead of allowing it to weigh her down, Bobbi uses the long separation from her home country as strength and as inspiration, allowing her to see her surroundings through a fresh lens. Back in San Francisco, she goes out on a limb and starts work on a solo choreography, channeling her experience into her work, and premieres a groundbreaking new piece. With a fly-on-the-wall approach, director Elvira Lind makes the viewer feel a part of Bobbi's process as she hones and perfects her movements. This footage intermingles with the



Elvira Lind

Director: Elvira Lind

Producers: Julie E. Pedersen, Sara Stockmann

Editor: Adam Nielsen

Dir. of Photography: Elvira Lind

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 3:30PM



CHARGED: THE EDUARDO GARCIA STORY

USA // 86 mins

CHARGED: THE EDUARDO GARCIA STORY follows the life of celebrity chef, Eduardo Garcia whose body was jolted with 2400 volts of electricity in a bizarre backcountry accident in Montana. When his career as a highly respected chef and outdoorsman comes to a sudden halt as he fights for his life, he has to undergo 21 surgeries to get back on his feet. Halfway through his recovery, the doctors inform him that he is also suffering from testicular cancer and will have to undergo intensive chemotherapy. Physical survival is followed by emotional upheaval as he is forced to deal with his now changed relationships with his family and everyone else close to him. Most challenging is his relationship with his former girlfriend, whom he betrayed and whom, for reasons she does not even understand, becomes his primary caregiver. **CHARGED** is a survivor story



Phillip Baribeau

Director: Phillip Baribeau

Producer: Dennis Aig

Editor: Tony Hale

Dir. of Photography: Manuel Garcia



6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 6:30PM

Q&A with Eduardo Garcia, Jennifer Jane, Philip Baribeau (Director), Dennis Aig (Producer), Teri Weinberg (Executive Producer) and Michael Strahan (Executive Producer) and moderated by Mark Lindsay

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 12:00PM

Cast & crew in attendance for Q&A



CITY OF GHOSTS

USA // 90 mins
Language: Arabic

Directed, produced, and filmed by Academy Award-nominated, Emmy-winning filmmaker, and Connecticut native Matthew Heineman (*Cartel Land*, 2015 Sundance Film Festival Directing Award), *CITY OF GHOSTS* is a singularly powerful cinematic experience that is sure to shake audiences to their core as it elevates the canon of one of the most talented documentary filmmakers working today. Captivating in its immediacy, *CITY OF GHOSTS* follows the journey of "Raqqia is Being Slaughtered Silently"—a handful of anonymous activists who banded together after their homeland was taken over by ISIS in 2014. With astonishing, deeply personal access, this is the story



Matthew
Heineman

Director: Matthew Heineman
Producers: Juan Camilo Cruz, Matthew Hamachek, Matthew Heineman, Joedan Okun, Maya Seidler
Editors: Matthew Hamachek, Matthew Heineman, Pax Wassermann
Dir. of Photography: Matthew Heineman



6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 6:00PM



DINA

USA // 101 mins

Dina is getting married in a few weeks and there is still so much to do. She has to move her boyfriend, Scott, from his parents' house to her apartment and settle him into the second home he's ever lived in, all while juggling his schedule as an early morning Walmart door greeter. She has to get her dress, confirm arrangements with the venue, and make peace with her family, who are nervous for Dina after the death of her first husband and the string of troubled relationships that followed. Throughout it all, in the face of obstacles large and small, Dina remains indomitable. She has overcome tragedy and found the man she wants and, at age 48, is bent on building the life for herself that she believes she deserves. Dina is unstoppable—a force of nature, and as the star of her own life story, she's an unconventional movie protagonist the likes of which hasn't been seen before in film.



Antonio Santini



Dan Sickles

Directors: Antonio Santini, Dan Sickles
Producers: Antonio Santini, Dan Sickles
Editor: Sofia Subercaseaux
Dir. of Photography: Adam Uhl



6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 6:15PM



DOLORES

USA // 95 mins

In the copious volumes written about Cesar Chavez and how he formed the first farm workers' union in America, there's little mention of Dolores Huerta, although she was his equal partner and co-founder of the union. *DOLORES* sheds light on this enigmatic, intensely private woman who is among the most important yet little-known activists in American history. With unprecedented access to both Dolores and her children, the film reveals the raw, personal stories behind the public figure. It portrays a woman both heroic and flawed, working tirelessly for social change even as her eleven children longed to have her at home.



Peter Bratt

Director: Peter Bratt
Producers: Brian Benson, Carlos Santana
Editor: Jessica Congdon
Dir. of Photography: Jesse Dana

6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 8:00PM
6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 7:30PM

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WINES OF ITALY



DOCUMENTARY FEATURES



GIVE ME FUTURE

USA/CUBA // 85 mins
Language: English, Spanish

In March 2016, following the restoration of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States, electronic dance music trio Major Lazer made history, becoming one of the first major American acts to play in the communist state. Unsure how their descent on Havana would be received and hoping to reach a few tens of thousands, the epic concert unexpectedly drew in close to half a million fans. Much more than a garden variety music film, GIVE ME FUTURE begins as a behind-the-scenes look at the historic concert and evolves into a masterful exploration of Cuba's inspirational youth movement and its ingenious DIY information culture. Capturing exhilarating performance footage and authentic stories highlighting the country's cultural growth and desire for inclusion in the



Austin Peters

Director: Austin Peters
Producers: Diplo, Jay Peterson, Jack Turner
Editors: Peter Hedberg, Ezra Paek, Sheila Shirazi, Zachary Stuart-Pontier, Eugene Yi
Dir. of Photography: Deering Regan

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 3:30PM
6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 12:45PM

Q&A with producers Jack Turner and Jay Peterson



A GRAY STATE

USA // 93 mins

In 2010 David Crowley, an Iraq veteran, aspiring filmmaker and charismatic up-and-coming voice in fringe politics, began production on his film, *Gray State*. Set in a dystopian near-future where civil liberties are trampled by an unrestrained federal government, the film's crowd-funded trailer was enthusiastically received by the burgeoning online community of libertarians, Tea Party activists as well as members of the nascent alt-right. In January of 2015, Crowley was found dead with his family in their suburban Minnesota home. Their shocking deaths quickly become a cause célèbre for conspiracy theorists who speculate that Crowley was assassinated by a shadowy government concerned about a film and filmmaker that was getting too close to the truth about their aims. Directed by *Grizzly Man* producer, Erik Nelson and executive produced by, Werner Herzog, *A GRAY STATE* combs through Crowley's archive of 13,000 photographs, hundreds of hours of home video, and exhaustive behind-



Erik Nelson

Director: Erik Nelson
Producer: Werner Herzog
Editor: Lara Andre
Dirs. of Photography: David Crowley, Thomas Kaufman

6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 9:00PM
6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 9:00PM



HELL ON EARTH: THE FALL OF SYRIA AND RISE OF ISIS

USA // 100 mins

In National Geographic Documentary Films' *HELL ON EARTH: THE FALL OF SYRIA AND THE RISE OF ISIS*, Academy Award-nominated Filmmaker and best-selling author Sebastian Junger and his Emmy-winning Filmmaking partner, Nick Quested, chronicle Syria's descent into the unbridled chaos that allowed the rise of the Islamic State, better known as ISIS.



Sebastian Junger Nick Quested

Directors: Sebastian Junger, Nick Quested
Screenwriter: Mark Monore
Producers: Sebastian Junger, Nick Quested
Editor: Aaron Soffin

5/31 | The Avon Theatre | 7:00PM
Cast & crew in attendance for Q&A



IT'S NOT YET DARK

IRELAND // 78 mins

Soon after premiering his short film *The Sound of People* at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, promising young Irish director Simon Fitzmaurice was tragically diagnosed with motor neurone disease (ALS). At just 34 years old, he was given four years to live, Fitzmaurice and his wife were expecting their third child, and a career in storytelling lay at his feet. Reeling from the shock, Fitzmaurice drew strength from his deepest desires—instead of being stuck in that painful moment, he realized his greatest defiance of ALS would be to direct his first feature film. Seven years later, despite total physical incapacitation, Fitzmaurice completed *My Name is Emily* (2015), directing it only with the use of his eyes. This emotional journey of self-realization and personal triumph over life-crushing adversity is nothing short of inspiring. All of it is captured with intimate home movies, photographs, and an affectionate voice-over by compatriot



Frankie Fenton

Director: Frankie Fenton
Producers: Kathryn Kennedy, Lesley McKimm
Editor: Dermot Diskin
Dir. of Photography: Kate McCullough



LITTLE STONES

USA // 86 mins

— PRESENTED BY —

UBER

LITTLE STONES weaves together the personal stories of four women artists, from across the world, who dedicate their lives to empowering women and survivors of gender based violence to express and help eradicate the atrocities of domestic violence, human trafficking, extreme poverty, and female genital mutilation, with their unique art forms.



Sophia Kruz

Director: Sophia Kruz
Screenwriter: Sophia Kruz
Producers: Sophia Kruz, Meena Singh
Editor: Karoliina Tuovinen
Dir. of Photography: Meena Singh

6/2 | Cole Auditorium | 3:00PM
 6/4 | Cole Auditorium | 11:00AM*

Q&A with Sophia Kruz (Director), Anna Taylor, and Meena Singh (Producer) following the screening.

*Reception following the Q&A at Sweaty Betty at 200 Greenwich Ave.

Sweaty Betty
LONDON



MIKE AND THE MAD DOG ESPN'S 30 FOR 30

USA // 50 mins

Over the years, New York sports fans have witnessed many legendary combinations. Mike Francesa and Chris Russo, and their "Mike and the Mad Dog" show ruled afternoon sports talk from the studios of WFAN 660 for 19 years—not bad considering they didn't think they'd last 19 days together. Even though they both brought Long Island accents and encyclopedic sports knowledge to the microphone, they were distinctly different personalities who often clashed on and off the air. But when all was said and done, they changed sports radio forever.

In this revealing 30 for 30 documentary, the story of their success is told through in-depth interviews, archival tapes and a chorus of colleagues and fans. The film captures the chemistry that made "Mike and the Mad Dog" so compelling.

Francesa and Russo both went on to success on their own. But for a



Daniel H. Forer

Director: Daniel H. Forer
Producers: Vincent D'Anton, Mario Diaz, John Fontanelli, Daniel H. Forer, Jason Heilig, Mark Noad, Ted Shaker

generation of sports fans, there will never be another sports radio show as entertaining, as argument-inducing, as good as "Mike and the Mad Dog."

6/4 | Cole Auditorium | 3:00PM

Followed by Producing Sports Panel

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 10:30AM



SWIM TEAM

— PRESENTED BY —

abilis

USA // 90 mins

FAMILY FRIENDLY

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SWIM TEAM is a feature documentary chronicling the rise of a competitive swim team made up of children and teens on the autism spectrum. Based in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, the cast of SWIM TEAM is largely Latino and Asian, minorities that are underrepresented in competitive swimming and underserved in autism intervention and education. The film follows three of the team's star athletes, boys on the cusp of adulthood as they face a future of exclusion and dependence. But everything changes when they come together as a team with parent coaches who train them with high expectations and zero pity. As the team vies for state and national Special Olympics championships, SWIM TEAM captures a moving quest for inclusion, independence and a life that feels winning.



Lara Stolman

Director: Lara Stolman

Producers: Lara Stolman, Ann Collins, Shanna Belott

Editor: Ann Collins

Dir. of Photography: Laela Kilbourn

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 4:45PM

6/4 | Cole Auditorium | 5:15PM



TROPHY

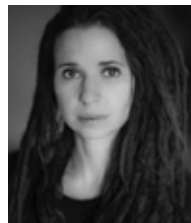
— PRESENTED BY —

EST 2004
RAMBLERS
— WAY —
CLOTHING for a GOOD LIFE

USA, UK,
SOUTH AFRICA
108 mins

TROPHY is an ambitious, multidimensional look into the controversial relationship between those that profit from the wild and those that aim to protect it. As populations decline and value rises, the dynamic between big-game hunters and committed conservationists grows more and more complicated with each advancement on either side of the argument.

In an effort to provide true insight on the animal trading industry, the documentary profiles passionate breeders, hunters and wildlife activists. The film promises to leave you questioning what is right, what is wrong and what is the solution with this fiery topic.



Christina Clusiau Shaul Schwarz

Directors: Christina Clusiau, Shaul Schwarz

Producers: Juan Bertrán, Luke Boelitz, Lauren Haber, Julia Nottingham, Alex Scharfman

Editors: Halil Efrat, Jay Arthur Sterrenberg

Dirs. of Photography: Christina Clusiau, Shaul Schwarz

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 1 | 4:00PM



BACKSTORY

GERMANY // 8 mins // **Drama**

As a young child, our protagonist is left by his mother and has to live with his violent father. He fights his way through adolescence and falls in love with the woman of his dreams and just as everything seems to be finally working out for him, a sudden event changes the course of his life forever. A story about how everything we love, everything we learn, everything we build, everything we fear, will one day be gone.



Joschka Laukeninks

Director: Joschka Laukeninks

Screenwriter: Joschka Laukeninks

Producers: Benjamin Horstkotte, Tobias Wichura, The Marmalade Films-Hamburg

Editor: Vera Berg

Key Cast: Jan Stapelfeldt, Xenia Assenza, Jessica McIntyre

Dir. of Photography: Eike Rieche

The Narrative Shorts Program will screen twice as a series.

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 6:30PM

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 2:30PM

****VIEWER DISCRETION ADVISED****



BOAT PEOPLE

GERMANY, AUSTRIA // 28 mins
Drama

On his journey from Somalia to Europe, shipwrecked Moussa is picked up by a wealthy couple on their luxurious catamaran. The athletic young man is the only survivor of a disaster in the Mediterranean Sea and asks Hannes and Gerlinde to smuggle him across the border. Questioning Moussa's true intentions, the yacht owners are torn between mistrust, fear and the urge for helping a fellow human being. A political drama of two separated worlds colliding within one global community.



Paul Meschùh

Director: Paul Meschùh
Screenplay: Paul Meschùh
Producer: Therese Seemann
Editor: Matthias Writze
Cast: Eugene Boateng, Jule Ronstedt, Thomas Clemens



BUTTERCUP

USA // 6 mins // **Comedy**

Sheila's new babysitter Emmie asks if there are any bedtime rituals she should know about. There are.



Jason Neulander

Director: Jason Neulander
Screenwriter: Jason Neulander
Producer: Christopher Shea
Editor: Eve Tarlo
Key Cast: Josephine McAdam, Scarlett Neulander, Chris Gibson, Cami Alys
Dir. of Photography: Patrick Smith



GLASS HOUSE

NORWAY // 11.5 mins
Dark Comedy

The past few months, Jens has realized that he isn't happy. Luckily, he has chosen the suitable time and place for spilling his guts... the family dinner. GLASS HOUSE is a black comedy that will make you choke on laughter and salty duck breast.



Erik Ivar Sæther



Nicolai Berg Hansson

Directors: Erik Ivar Sæther, Nicolai Berg Hansson
Screenwriters: Erik Ivar Sæther, Nicolai Berg Hansson
Producers: Thale Espenes, Vidar Tevasvold Aune
Editor: Robert Alexander Adams
Key Cast: Hans Petter Nilsen, Trine Wiggen
Dir. of Photography: Ole Kollstrøm Heilevang

The Narrative Shorts Program will screen twice as a series.

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 6:30PM

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 2:30PM

VIEWER DISCRETION ADVISED

NARRATIVE SHORTS



L'ÉCHAPPÉE

FRANCE/ALGERIA // 21 mins
Drama

A kaleidoscopic journey through the streets of Algiers in HOCINE FILALI's ramshackle taxi. With dreams of setting sail for a better life in Italy, Hocine will first have to escape the grip of this magical city and its colorful cast of characters.



Jonathan Mason Hamid Saidji

Directors: Jonathan Mason, Hamid Saidji
Screenwriters: Jonathan Mason, Hamid Saidji
Producers: Jonathan Mason, Hamid Saidji, Claire Mazeau-Karoum, Tewfik Rays
Key Cast: Said Ait Ali Said, Mouni Boullam, Anis Bosli, Moussa Chikh, Samir Saidani, Tewfik Rays
Dir. of Photography: Hamza Sahraoui



LE GRAND BAIN

FRANCE // 17 mins // **Comedy**

A recent divorcee moves into a new building and teaches its residents to swim, despite not having a swimming pool.



Valérie Leroy

Director: Valérie Leroy
Screenwriter: Valérie Leroy
Producer: Fabrice Prével-Cléach
Editor: Thomas Sagna
Key Cast: Anne Agbadou-Masson, Camille Bardery, Djemel Barek, Franc Bruneau, Béatrice Clement, Flaminio Corcos, Anouchka Csernakova, Maryse Flaquet, Valérie Leroy, Stéphane Ly-Cuong, Jean Masini, Carole Massana, Olivier Ruidavet, Pierre Zéni



POOL

BRAZIL // 30 mins // **Drama**

Claudia decides to investigate her grandmother's past, who recently passed away. Through a letter, she comes to Marlene, an old German lady who lives in Brazil and keeps her memories inside a pool without water. During the visit, the old lady reveals details of her life that intersect with Claudia's grandmother's past, a German fugitive of the 2nd World War.



Leandro Goddinho

Director: Leandro Goddinho
Screenwriter: Leandro Goddinho
Producer: Amina Jorge
Editors: Leandro Goddinho, Mirella Martinelli
Key Cast: Luciana Paes, Sandra Dani, Carolina Bianchi, Marcela Feter, Ester Laccava, Mawusi Tulani, Jane Eyre
Dir. of Photography: Bruno Risas

The Narrative Shorts Program will screen twice as a series.

6/2 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 6:30PM

6/4 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 2:30PM

VIEWER DISCRETION ADVISED

**UNDERPRESSURE**AUSTRIA // 33 mins // **Drama**

Clara, an OB/GYN, supports her patients decisions, whether they are bringing a child into the world or terminating a pregnancy. As a wife and loving mother to her two little children, the increasing pressure of daily life and her self-imposed belief system are beginning to falter. She finds that her duties at the clinic suddenly seem insurmountable and her family is slipping away.



Lilli Schwabe

Director: Lilli Schwabe
Screenwriter: Lilli Schwabe
Producer: Lilli Schwabe
Editor: Kathi Senn
Key Cast: Karin Lischka, Jan Mixsa, Gabi Schuchter, Julia Zborowska, Norman Shetler, Tess Werner, Anna Schwabe, Nadine Petrea, Katrin Graf, Heinz Rank u.a.
Dir. of Photography: Lilli Schwabe

**CLOSE TIES**

POLAND // 19 mins

Barbara and Zdzisław are soon to celebrate their forty-fifth anniversary. It would have been quite the occasion if not for the fact that Zdzisław spent eight of those years living with another woman. Now he's back with his wife, although she claims that if it were not for her husband's infirm legs, he would still be chasing skirts around Cracow. In spite of everyday bickering, somewhat inexplicably, their relationship perseveres.



Zofia Kowalewska

Director: Zofia Kowalewska
Screenwriter: Zofia Kowalewska
Producers: Ewa Jastrzebska, Grzegorz Zariczny
Editor: Jerzy Zawadzki
Dir. of Photography: Weronika Bilska

**DEER SQUAD**

USA // 5 mins

Kelvin Peña, a charismatic high schooler from rural Pennsylvania, went viral in 2016 after befriending a group of wild deer and posting his adventures with them on Snapchat and Instagram. In this short documentary, he discusses his life philosophy, describes his experience with sudden internet fame, and takes the filmmakers on a trip to meet his deer friends.



Pipus Larsen



Kenneth Gug



Scott J. Ross

Directors: Pipus Larsen, Kenneth Gug, Scott J. Ross
Producer: Scott J. Ross
Editors: Pipus Larsen, Kenneth Gug, Scott J. Ross
Dir. of Photography: Pipus Larsen

The Documentary Shorts Program will screen twice as a series.
 6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 5:30PM
 6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 10:45AM



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FISH STORY

U.K. // 14 mins

A search for the truth behind a fishy tale.



Charlie Lyne

Director: Charlie Lyne
Screenwriter: Charlie Lyne
Producers: Catherine Bray, Anthony Ing, Charlie Lyne
Editor: Charlie Lyne
Dir. of Photography: Charlie Lyne



GIVING BIRTH IN AMERICA EPISODE

USA // 14 mins

Maternal health non-profit Every Mother Counts presents a new three-part, short documentary series, GIVING BIRTH IN AMERICA to examine some of the key reasons that the U.S. is falling so far behind in maternal healthcare. Each short film follows pregnant women and their healthcare providers in Florida, Montana and New York in the days leading up to delivery. Together, they navigate challenges of race, poverty, chronic illness, overuse of medical interventions and other inequalities that impact maternal health outcomes in America.



Clancy McCarty

Director: Clancy McCarty
Producers: Clancy McCarty, Christy Turlington Burns
Editor: Josh Banville
Dir. of Photography: Jessica Dimmock



THE ILLUMINATION

USA // 19 mins

In a remarkable twist of fate, it was the decades-long effort of one blind person, Gordon Gund, that made it possible for another, Yannick Duwé, to see. After more than 45 years, the journey of Gordon and Lulie Gund to find a cure for blindness can only be described as an act of love.



Tom Scott

Director: Tom Scott
Screenwriter: Tom Scott
Producers: Maximilian Guen, Matteo Zevi, Rosanna Bach
Editor: Stephen Simon
Dir. of Photography: Jake Saner

The Documentary Shorts Program will screen twice as a series

6/1 | Bow Tie – Theater 3 | 5:30PM

6/3 | Bow Tie – Theater 2 | 10:45AM



THE RABBIT HUNT

USA // 12 mins

In the Florida Everglades, rabbit hunting is considered a rite of passage for young men. **THE RABBIT HUNT** follows seventeen year old Chris and his family as they hunt in the fields of the largest industrial sugar farms in the US. The film records a tradition by which migrant farm workers in the communities surrounding Lake Okeechobee have been hunting and preparing rabbits since the early 1900s.



Patrick Bresnan

Director: Patrick Bresnan
Screenwriter: Ivete Lucas
Producers: Maida Brankman, Patrick Bresnan, Beth Earl, Ivete Lucas
Editor: Ivete Lucas
Dir. of Photography: Patrick Bresnan



REFUGE

USA // 20 mins

A small team of filmmakers, photographers, and storytellers travel to Greece to document human stories from the Refugee Crisis. This film explores the answers to the universal questions, 'Why did you leave your home?' and 'What do you hope to find where you're going?'



Matthew K. Firpo

Director: Matthew K. Firpo
Producers: Maximilian Guen, Matteo Zevi, Rosanna Bach
Editor: Stephen Simon
Dir. of Photography: Jake Saner



TEN METER TOWER

SWEDEN // 16.5 mins

People on a ten meter diving tower have to choose whether to bravely jump or climb down. This dilemma is an entertaining study of the human in a vulnerable position.



Axel Danielson and
Maximilien Van Aertryck

Directors: Axel Danielson, Maximilien Van Aertryck
Screenwriters: Axel Danielson, Maximilien Van Aertryck
Producers: Axel Danielson, Erik Hemmendorff, Ami Ekström
Editors: Axel Danielson, Maximilien Van Aertryck
Dirs. of Photography: Axel Danielson, Maximilien Van Aertryck

The Documentary Shorts Program will screen twice as a series.
6/1 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 5:30PM
6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 2 | 10:45AM

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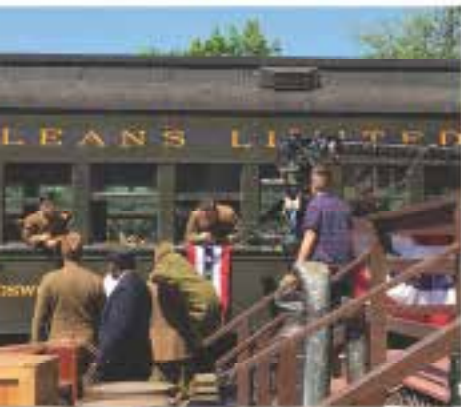
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A CHRISTMAS SURPRISE

USA // 4.2 mins // **Comedy Narrative Short**

When a young girl finds out the devastating truth that Santa isn't real on the night before Christmas, she analyzes the implications of this realization.



Sarah Lew

Director: Sarah Lew
Screenwriter: Sarah Lew
Producer: Savannah Hemmig
Editor: Christopher Tennant
Key Cast: Kim Rogers
Dir. of Photography: Christopher Tennant



HI-GLOW RETRO

USA // 14 mins // **Comedy Narrative Short**

Tommy Ashby, a high school senior with severe social anxiety, decides to step out of his comfort zone to learn 70's disco dancing. HI-GLOW RETRO is a proof of concept for a feature film of the same name.



Alex Morsanutto

Director: Alex Morsanutto
Screenwriter: Alex Morsanutto
Producers: Joseph Walker, Alex Morsanutto, Jason Ludman, Sam Cutler-Kreutz
Editors: Alex Morsanutto, Carlos Zozaya
Key Cast: Bryan Burton, Jessica Cadden-Osborne, Nina Negron, Jack Brinkley-Cook
Dir. of Photography: Sam Cutler-Kreutz



BLIND SUSHI

USA // 17 mins
Documentary Short

A blind adventure writer and the first sustainable sushi chef search for enlightenment in the murky depths of the New England coast.



Eric Heimbold

Director: Eric Heimbold
Screenwriter: Eric Heimbold
Producer: Eric Heimbold
Editor: Jed Hernandez
Dir. of Photography: Eric Heimbold

The Connecticut Shorts Program will screen twice as a series

6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 3:00PM

6/4 | Cole Auditorium | 7:45PM

****VIEWER DISCRETION ADVISED****



MY NAME IS JOAN

USA // 29.5 mins
Documentary Short

MY NAME IS JOAN tells the story of a woman who was born to an unwed mother in a mother and baby home in Ireland in 1949 and then illegally adopted by an American family when she was over 2 years old. The film highlights how the Catholic Church and the Irish Government allowed the illegal exporting of babies for money to occur for decades and how the church and the government are still denying adopted children the right to access their adoption records and learn their true identities.



Margaret Stapor Costa

Director: Margaret Stapor Costa
Screenwriter: Margaret Stapor Costa
Producer: Margaret Stapor Costa
Editors: Bruce Colgate, Remo DeNardo
Dir. of Photography: Matt Skinner, Reno Denardo



A WONDERFUL PLACE

USA // 9 mins
Documentary Short

A WONDERFUL PLACE is a short documentary film told from the perspective of 80 year old Greenwich, CT estate owner, Norma Asnes. We travel with Norma, via John Deere electric cart, around her property and on the journey gain insights into family and nature.



Sam Ketay

Director: Sam Ketay
Editor: Sam Ketay
Dir. of Photography: Sam Ketay



KID FLIX: CHILDREN'S SHORTS PROGRAM

INT'L // 64 mins // **FAMILY FRIENDLY**

Selected for our younger audience members, KID FLIX features the newest short films from esteemed filmmakers from all over the world.



Multiple Directors

The Connecticut Shorts Program will screen twice as a series
6/3 | Bow Tie - Theater 3 | 3:00PM
6/4 | Cole Auditorium | 7:45PM
VIEWER DISCRETION ADVISED

6/3 | Cole Auditorium | 11:00 AM

Note: All children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

LIVE FROM CONNECTICUT

A Discussion with
Saturday Night Live Writers

Since the inaugural utterance of its now infamous opening line—“Live from New York, it’s Saturday Night!”—NBC’s *Saturday Night Live* has gone on to become one of the most popular, celebrated, and longest-running programs in television history. This legendary late-night sketch show, known for the irreverent manner in which it has poked fun at politics and pop culture, has been a preeminent breeding ground and launching pad for some of the best comedy writers, most talented performers, and biggest stars of the last forty years. This multiple Emmy Award winning show arguably has provided more classic moments of entertainment than any other program in the history of the medium—and it all starts in the writers’ room.

Please join us in an engaging discussion with **Tim Herlihy** and **Bryan Tucker** to discuss the creative process of script to screen.
Moderator: **Lorne Manly**, *New York Times*

Thursday, June 1
7PM
The Avon Theatre
272 Bedford Street
Stamford CT 06901

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FIRST REPUBLIC



Tim Herlihy

Women Driving ROI IN THE FILM MARKETPLACE

A Luncheon and Panel Discussion

Movies for women do better than movies focused on any other demographic at the box office, yet funding is harder to come by for female focused entertainment.

Join us for an engaging discussion about this illogical disparity and how Hollywood can grow by investing in female-centric films.
Panelists: **Suzanne Farwell**, Producer (*Carrie Pilby*, *It's Complicated*, *The Intern*, *Something's Gotta Give*) and **Susan Cartsonis**, Producer (*No Reservations*, *Carrie Pilby*, *The DUFF*, *What Women Want*)
Moderator: **Ruth Ann Harnisch**, Lead Investor, Superlative Films, Executive Producer (*The Hunting Ground*, *Unrest*.)

Friday, June 2
12:30PM
Indian Harbor
Yacht Club
710 Steamboat Road
Greenwich, CT 06830

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CHANGEMAKER

Honoree Gala

Join us in honoring the 2017 Changemakers

Thursday, June 1, 2017
6 PM Cocktail Reception

Betteridge, 239 Greenwich Ave.

8 PM Awards Dinner

L'escale Restaurant, 500 Steamboat Rd.



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the SIMS Foundation and Every Mother Counts.



THE FILM REVIEW

An Inside Look at

The Formidable Responsibility of a Film Critic

**Friday, June 2
3:00PM
Greenwich Arts
Council**
299 Greenwich Ave
Greenwich, CT 06830

Ever since the dawn of cinema when the Lumière Brothers first set up their cameras, there has been a flood of filmmakers who have attempted, in various ways, to capture "objective truth" on celluloid. For almost as long, film criticism has wrestled with the difficulties inherent in the process of analyzing a film objectively. Is it possible—or even desirable—for film criticism to be free from personal bias? And what is a critics responsibility to the success or failure of a film? A critics response can ultimately be the make or break of that movie's future in terms of festival play, its distribution success, and its box office prowess.

Join us in a conversation with top film critics as we discuss objective criticism and the formidable responsibility these heavy hitters have over the future of a film. Panelists: **Richard Lawson** (*Vanity Fair*), **Marshall Fine** (General Manager, NYFCC), **Chris Nashawaty** (*Entertainment Weekly*), and **Alison Willmore** (*Buzzfeed*). Moderator: **Joe Meyers** (*CT Post*)

CANNONBALL REUNION!

**Friday, June 2
6:30PM
Greenwich Library
Cole Auditorium**
101 West Putnam Ave
Greenwich, CT 06830

Meet the real outlaws who were depicted in the 1981 film *The Cannonball Run...* and those who followed in their footsteps later on!

Relive those desperado days through excerpts from the movie and get the real facts and wild stories from the legends!

Featuring: Pamela Yates, Bill Brodrick, Judy Stropus, William Jeanes, Jack Cowell, Bill Warner, Alex Roy and others who beat the law as they sped from New York to Los Angeles!

Hosted by Mike Spinelli, Executive Producer, TheDrive.com at Time Inc., co-host of The Drive on NBC Sports and co-founder of Jalopnik.

Plus video greetings from Dan Gurney, Toly Arutunoff and Pete Brock, and others, telling their stories. And a tribute to the man himself, the late Brock Yates.



Original outlaw cars on display

including Brock Yate's Challenger, Bill Warner's Porsche 911, Travis Bell's Transcon Medi-Vac recreation, Alex Roy's BMW M5, and more!

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Sunday, June 4
1:00PM
Greenwich Polo Club
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Panel & Screening of ESPN 30 for 30's new documentary
MIKE AND THE MAD DOG



Please join us for a screening of ESPN 30 for 30's new documentary **MIKE AND THE MAD DOG** – based on two of the greatest sportscasters in history – followed by a discussion of the bright future of sports entertainment with **Chris Russo** (*Mike and the Mad Dog*), **Connor Schell** (Co-creator and EP, *ESPN's 30 for 30*), **Mark Teixeira** (Analyst, *ESPN*), **Hannah Storn** (Anchor, *ESPN*) and **Kyle Martino** (Analyst, *NBC Sports*). Moderator: **Ryen Russillo** (Radio Host, *ESPN*)

Sunday, June 4
4:30PM
Greenwich Library
Cole Auditorium
 101 West Putnam Ave
 Greenwich, CT 06830



Mark Teixeira



Chris Russo


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WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Schedule subject to change.

TIME	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 1	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 2	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 3	Cole Auditorium Greenwich Library	Various Locations. Check Event
7 PM					Hell On Earth: The Fall of Syria and Rise of ISIS The Avon Theatre 7:00 PM 100 Mins
8 PM					
9 PM					

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

3 PM					
4 PM		Dayveon 4:00 PM - 75 Mins	Big Sonia 3:00 PM - 93 Mins		
5 PM	Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie 4:30 PM - 89 Mins				
6 PM		5 Doctors 6:00 PM - 92 Mins	Documentary Shorts 5:30 PM - 120 Mins		Changemaker Gala 6:00-10:00 PM Betteridge & L'escale Restaurant
7 PM	The Strange Ones 7:15 PM - 81 Mins				Live from CT: SNL Panel 7:00 PM The Avon Theatre
8 PM			Dolores 8:00 PM - 95 Mins		
9 PM	A Gray State 9:00 PM - 93 Mins	Sylvio 8:30 PM - 80 Mins			



FRIDAY, JUNE 2

TIME	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 1	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 2	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 3	Cole Auditorium Greenwich Library	Various Locations. Check Event	
11 AM						
12 PM						
1 PM						
			Dayveon 1:30 PM - 75 Mins			
2 PM						
3 PM	5 Doctors 2:30 PM - 92 Mins			Little Stones 3:00 PM - 86 Mins	The Film Review 3:00 PM Greenwich Arts Council	
4 PM		Bobbi Jene 3:30 PM - 95 Mins	Give Me Future 3:30 PM - 85 Mins			
5 PM						
6 PM	Opening Night Film Bending the Arc 5:45 PM - 102 Mins					
7 PM		Goran 7:00 PM - 86 Mins	Narrative Shorts Program 6:30 PM - 144 Mins	The Cannonball Run Reunion 6:30 PM		
8 PM						
9 PM	A Gray State 9:00 PM - 93 Mins	The Strange Ones 9:00 PM - 81 Mins			Opening Night Party 8:30 PM Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich	
10 PM						



TIME	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 1	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 2	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 3	Cole Auditorium Greenwich Library	Various Locations. Check Event
10 AM					
11 AM	A Bad Idea Gone Wrong 10:45 AM - 85 Mins	Documentary Shorts 10:45 AM - 120 Mins	It's Not Yet Dark 10:30 AM - 78 Mins	Kids Flix: Children's Shorts Program 11:00 AM - 63 Mins	
12 PM					
1 PM	The Light of the Moon 1:00 PM - 90 Mins		Give Me Future 12:45 PM - 85 Mins		
2 PM		Fits and Starts 1:30 PM - 80 Mins			
3 PM	The Light of the Moon Town Hall Discussion		CT Shorts Program 3:00 PM - 74 Mins	Augie 2:30 PM - 89 Mins	
4 PM		Blame 3:45 PM - 100 Mins			
5 PM	The Hero 4:30 PM - 93 Mins		Swim Team 4:45 PM - 90 Mins	Secret Screening Event*	
6 PM				5:30 PM - 64 Mins	
7 PM	Charged: The Eduardo Garcia Story 6:30 PM 86 Mins	Dina 6:15 PM - 101 Mins			
8 PM			It's Only the End of the World 7:30 PM 100 Mins		Filmmaker and VIP Afterparty - 8:00 PM J House Greenwich 1114 E.Putnam Ave Greenwich
9 PM	Hot Summer Nights 9:00 PM - 107 Mins	Beach Rats 8:45 PM - 95 Mins			



SUNDAY, JUNE 4

TIME	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 1	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 2	Bow Tie Cinemas Theater 3	Cole Auditorium Greenwich Library	Various Locations. Check Event	
10 AM						
11 AM						
	Fits and Starts 11:15 AM - 80 Mins	Big Sonia 11:00 AM - 93 Mins		Little Stones 11:00 AM - 86 Mins	Menashe 11:00 AM The Avon Theatre 82 Mins	
12 PM			Charged: The Eduardo Garcia Story 12:00 PM 86 Mins			
1 PM						
	The Light of the Moon 1:30 PM - 90 Mins	A Bad Idea Gone Wrong 1:45 PM - 85 Mins			Greenwich Polo VIP LOOK Tent 1:00 PM 1 Hurlingham Dr. Greenwich	
2 PM						
3 PM			Narrative Shorts Program 2:30 PM - 144 Mins	Mike and The Mad Dog Producing Sports Panel 3:00 PM		
4 PM	Trophy 4:00 PM - 108 Mins	Blame 3:45 PM - 100 Mins				
5 PM						
			Sylvio 5:30 PM - 80 Mins	Swim Team 5:15 PM - 90 Mins		
6 PM		City of Ghosts 6:00 PM - 90 Mins				
7 PM	Megan Leavey 7:00 PM - 120 Mins					
8 PM			Dolores 7:30 PM - 95 Mins	CT Shorts Program 7:45 PM - 74 Mins		
9 PM						



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A woman with dark, wavy hair is looking off to the side. She is wearing a black leather motorcycle jacket over a white lace-trimmed top. The background is a plain, light color.

Theory

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Finding a CURE

with **Dr. Merit Cudkowitz**

Being alive means we, as humans will inevitably face challenges throughout life that test our physical strength and mental fortitude in the face of unthinkable experiences. They may have repercussions that last a day or even a lifetime, but will generally fall within a range of emotions we can understand. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is outside that range. How can someone begin to understand a disorder that can be so vicious and cruel? Something so destructive could be misinterpreted for a villain in a film or literary work; wreaking havoc among an already chaotic world. It begs the question, who will stand up against this terrifying affliction?

The answer is Dr. Merit Cudkowitz – Chief Medical Officer of **ALS Finding a Cure (ALSFAC)**, HMS Julieanne Dorn Professor of Neurology, and chief of the Department of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital. GIFF is honored to have ALSFAC host the Changemaker Honoree Gala on June 1st, 2017. At the event, Dr. Cudkowitz will be speaking about her research and clinical work dedicated to the treatment and understanding of ALS.

In 1994, Dr. Cudkowitz met a family who opened her eyes to what it was like to live with this disease. This personal relationship integrated her care and research philosophy, ultimately inspiring a collaboration with others across the globe. Dr. Cudkowitz states, “My colleagues all over the world share the same passion and dedication to helping people and finding treatments fast.”

Dr. Cudkowitz leads a team of researchers at ALS Finding a Cure, bringing together leading experts from multiple institutions and countries, all searching for cures. ALSFAC is currently focused on new studies aiming to understand

the causes of ALS and bring immediate treatment to those suffering. This organization has partnered with GE Healthcare, whose innovative technology assists in diagnosing patients sooner. Dr. Cudkowitz explains how these tools in the contemporary medical landscape have provided incredible advances over time. Her team now has the ability to see the brain and spinal cord, analyze cells at a molecular level, and provide insight as to how motor neurons can be repaired and saved. Every dollar raised for ALSFAC goes directly to research, which is open source and shared for others to use.

Dr. Cudkowitz has immense pride in her team’s accomplishments, and is deeply grateful for the patients and families who actively participate in ALSFAC supported studies. She is hopeful for new treatments and claims that, “there is hope now - where there was none before.” Dr. Cudkowitz urges everyone to become involved in the ALS community, whether it is through a research study, support group, fundraiser, or webinar.

When asked about the future of those diagnosed with ALS, Dr. Merit Cudkowitz states, “I envision a day when ALS will be considered a chronic, survivable illness - like diabetes or hypertension - where there are many therapeutic options - where we tailor peoples’ treatments to what works best for them and what they respond to. Ultimately, I hope we find ways to prevent ALS from ever happening in the first place.”

The Greenwich International Film Festival would like to commend Dr. Merit Cudkowitz on her continuous work with ALS Finding A Cure. We look forward to hearing more about her spirit, vitality, and inspirational journey at the 2017 Changemaker Honoree Gala!

.....

alsFINDING**a**CURE

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and

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In their Efforts to Raise Awareness
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*"When I am older I am
going to develop a medicine
to cure ALS and Mr. Niblock
will be the first to use it!"
Cayden Ever (age 7)*

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WE ARE IN!

Community Changemaker, **Andrew Niblock**
by **Wendy Stapleton Reyes**

The Greenwich International Film Festival is proud to honor our first ever, Community Changemaker, Andrew Niblock.

Andrew has been an educator his entire working life. Currently, he is Head of the Lower School at Greenwich Country Day School (GCDS), a position he has held for the past 4 years. His passion for education is palpable and any parent who has heard him speak, whether to introduce a new school year, a play, or a science fair, can attest to this. It should come as no surprise that Andrew, who was diagnosed with ALS last year, is using his battle with ALS to teach our community about the disease and to help others.

Andrew recently revealed his diagnosis to the children of GCDS in two age-appropriate films. The films lead with celebrities doing the now famous ice bucket challenge, something he did with his wife and two young children before his diagnosis. The Ice Bucket Challenge was one of the most successful mass fundraising and awareness efforts in history. Not only did it raise over \$200 million for ALS research, but it had an exponential effect on overall awareness. Andrew went on to explain what all these people all over the world were doing and why.

In one sequence, Adam Rhodie, Headmaster of GCDS asks Andrew "Is ALS contagious, can you catch it?" Andrew assures the students that no, they can't catch it, and then explains what it feels like to have ALS and what simple things they can do to help him each day.

What he has done in the video, and what he is doing every day when he greets each child with a morning handshake, is teaching our children about compassion. As the year has progressed, Andrew's handshake has gotten weaker but his determination to be a guiding force in his students' lives has not. Each day Andrew is leading by example, demonstrating how to carry oneself with grace in the face of personal struggle. The effect his strength will have on these children as they grow into adulthood is invaluable.

There have been meaningful advancements in ALS research and it is directly tied to funding. ALS Finding a Cure and other phenomenal organizations like it are discovering new drugs and getting them to market as quickly as possible. Recent advancements are allowing more people with ALS to move and communicate with adaptive technology, improving their quality of life.

Andrew is an ideal Community Changemaker as he bravely enlightens and enriches our community. GIFF is proud to support the work Andrew and his wife Eliza are doing to raise awareness and funds for ALS research.

Andrew, WE ARE ALL IN. And together, we will Make An Impact.

A N D R E W

You inspire, teach, and humble us each day!



Thank you for everything you do and always making us smile!

Love,
ALL THE ROACHES

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for the dynamic women of GIFF and for their

highlighting issues affecting our world through

organizations like Every Mother Counts,

The Family Centers Inc., The Maria Fareri

Children's Hospital, and the fight to cure ALS.

THE STAPLETON FAMILY

"Andrew is a friend and an incredible inspiration to not only our girls, but the entire community."



Andrew, you are exemplary!

WENDY, DIEGO, LOULIE, MIA AND GEORGIE REYES

Mark & Leigh Teixeira

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and congratulate

ANDREW NIBLOCK

on being named the

2017 Community Changemaker

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S
COMMUNITY CHANGEMAKER**

ANDREW NIBLOCK

You truly are an inspiration to the entire community!



Thank you GIFF for bringing awareness to ALS and your community partners!

**KRISTINA & MICHAEL GABELLI
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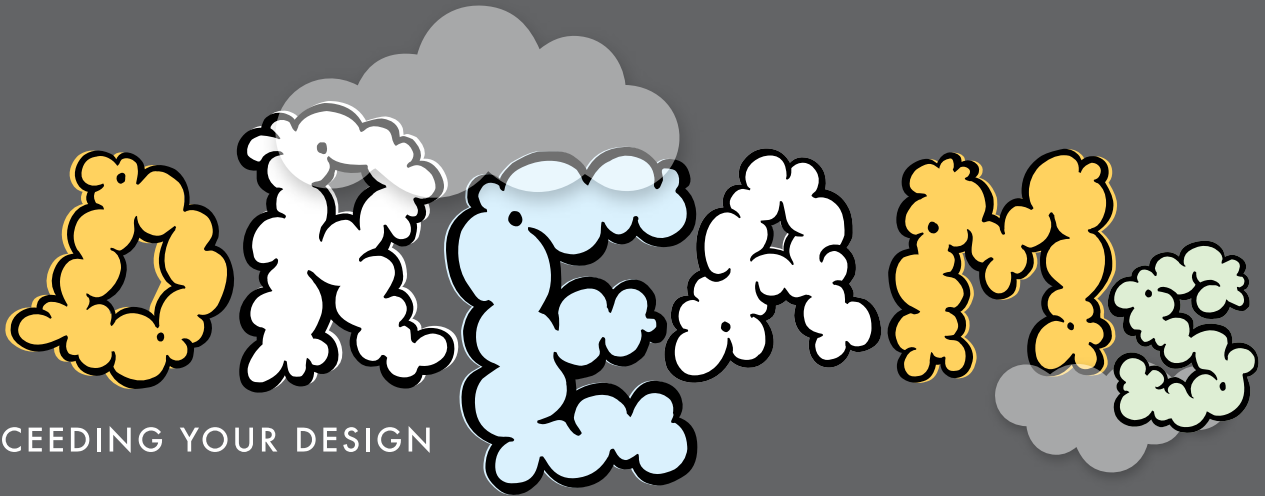
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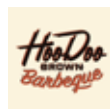
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