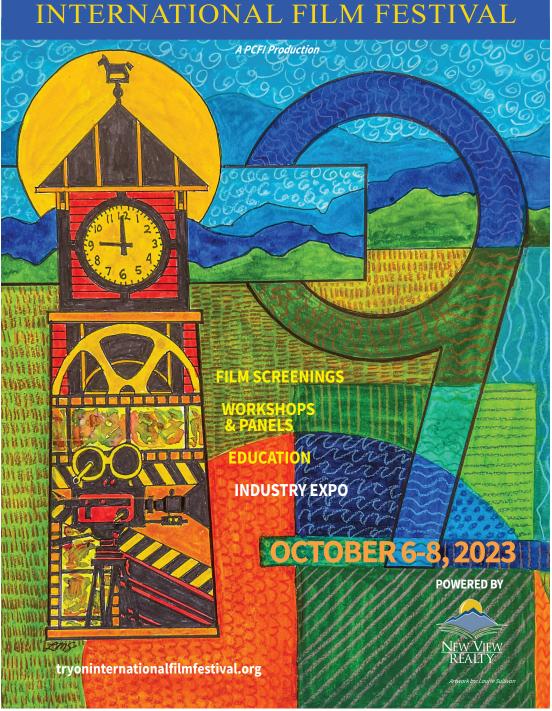
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TRYON, NORTH CAROLINA 28782
(828) 859-6654 ● FAX (828) 859-6653

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



October 6, 2023

Dear Tryon International Film Festival Guests:

Welcome to our out-of-town visitors, residents of our community, and the artists who are making this the ninth annual Tryon International Film Festival. This ambitious undertaking, brought to us by the Polk County Film Initiative, is an opportunity to showcase our Town and the surrounding area to our guests.

We hope you will take this opportunity to stroll through our downtown historic district, visit our businesses and meet our citizens. We have galleries, shops, good food, and interesting history to explore, including the Tryon History Museum. We offer great access to the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The Film Initiative and Festival sponsors have done a great job of assembling artists, films and venues for you. We hope you enjoy the results, return to visit Tryon, and return to next year's event.

Warm regards,

J. Alan Peoples

Mayor of Tryon







In the heart of North Carolina, where Southern hospitality meets cinematic dreams, we invite you to a realm where the silver screen's allure mingles with the warmth of genuine camaraderie. Step into a world born from the audacious minds of Kirk Gollwitzer and Beau Menetre, a dynamic duo who dared to tread where others hesitated, birthing the extraordinary journey that is the Tryon Film Festival.

Ten years ago, as Kirk, the maestro of words and tales, joined forces with Beau, a conductor of grand live spectacles, eyebrows were raised and bets were placed on their sanity. Armed with little more than a fervent spirit and a credit card daring enough to challenge conventions, they transformed into the David and Goliath of the film festival realm. Their canvas was the indie film arena, brushed with charm and sprinkled with a touch of wildness.

Imagine a world of opulent hotels and grand theaters, the staple of film festivals. Now, allow us to introduce you to Tryon, a realm where hotels step aside for the embrace of local hospitality, and grand theaters yield to the allure of park benches and humble church basements. Here, Kirk and Beau didn't merely embrace indie films; they entwined their essence with the very spirit of indie creation.

When Airbnb wasn't an option, filmmakers found themselves nestled on Kirk's floor or cradled within Beau's abode. Ashley Menetre and her culinary artisans conjured gourmet marvels, turning Beau's place into a haven of taste and comfort. Why opt for a hotel when the warmth of a stranger's living room and the scent of home-cooked wonders envelope you?

Budgets, once a conundrum, were tossed into the air and admired like avant-garde artwork. Blowing past financial boundaries became their yearly ritual, a badge of honor donned with a bashful smile. Fundraising? Oh, they elevated it into a celebration, akin to a child's exhilaration in a candy store. Masquerades, BBQ bashes, and culinary contests with local virtuosos became their signature, where exuberance trumped fiscal limitations.

And behold, against all odds, it flourished. Filmmakers traversed continents to converge upon Tryon, the cinematic honeycomb Kirk and Beau had sculpted. An IMDb nod? Naturally. Their repute? It soared to legendary heights, cementing their status as local icons even before the online realm embraced the concept of virality.

As the festival matured, the chaos metamorphosed into curated charm. Esteemed judges from the global stage joined their merry troupe, infusing the event with international allure. A branch of education sprouted, inspired by the Sundance Institute but bearing the unmistakable twist that only Kirk and Beau could weave — a smidgen of naivety paired with a heap of audacity.

Yet, here's the kicker: the Tryon International Film Festival (TRIFF) transcended mere films; it exuded the magic of Kirk and Beau's audacious spirits. On the cusp of their decade milestone, who can fathom what lies ahead? The Oscars, perhaps? Sundance reborn? Does it truly matter? The festival's essence is woven into the audacious partnership that seized an improbable dream, a credit card verging on its limit, and a reservoir of courage, and magically crafted it into an enchanting, idiosyncratic masterpiece.

With open arms, we welcome you to the 2023 Tryon International Film Festival, a realm where Southern hospitality and cinematic dreams fuse into an unforgettable tapestry, each thread woven by the daring spirits of Kirk and Beau. Enjoy the magic that unfolds, for this festival is a testament to the extraordinary that sprouts when audacity takes the lead.

Yours in Cinema,

Co-founders: Beau Menetre and Kirk Gollwitzer









ERIKA ARLEE and KRISTI RAY — Erika is a writer, director, and co-founder of the award-winning production company, Honey Head Films. Her debut feature film, A Song For Imogene, is a

gritty, Southern drama that tells the story of a female musician who, after fleeing an abusive relationship, ends up back in her hometown where she reconciles with her past in order to reclaim her future. The film is Erika's homage to the landscape of the American South — a place that raised her as an independent filmmaker and creative entrepreneur. Her multi-talented approach to cinema marks her directorial style, which focuses on finding unique ways to tell authentic, character-driven stories. Erika's current works in development include a post-apocalyptic thriller, a dark comedy, and a psychological cult drama.

Kristi Rav is a multi-hyphenate creative who's been making waves in the independent film scene for the past fifteen years. She began her acting career onstage at just six years old, starring in her first feature film 12 years later. Classically trained at Lee Strasberg in NYC, her work as a leading lady gravitates toward dynamic characters and strong, compelling, female-centric stories. Kristi Ray has won several awards for her work in cinema, including Best Actress in a Feature, Best Supporting Actress, Outstanding Performer of the Year along with many other nominations. With small-town roots and an insatiable desire for growth, she has lived and worked in all seven of America's major production hubs; eventually settling in the burgeoning film city of Wilmington, NC. A fearless Libra and self-made entrepreneur, in 2016 she co-founded Honey Head Films an award winning, female owned production house with a mission-driven approach to narrative filmmaking. As a creative producer and actress she is intentionally moving the needle forward for marginalized voices in cinema both in front of and behind the lens. She stars in a number of features including the latest Honey Head narrative, A Song For Imogene, which boasts a 100% above-the-line female team and exceptional crew made up of 70% women. In addition to a full time career in film, Kristi

Ray is a programmer and judge for multiple festivals and continues to push the boundaries for high quality, female-centric stories.



KEVIN BERNHARDT — Kevin has had more than 30 very different screenplays resulting in produced films. They range from commercial action to critically and spiritually acclaimed. In the past five years, as a writer he

has had four films shot with budgets up to \$30 million with casts including Michael Caine, Orlando Bloom, Michael Shannon, Christopher Plummer, and Ben Foster. In addition to those, Bernhardt's work has resulted in films with Academy Award winners and nominees, including Donald Sutherland, John Lithgow, Nick Nolte, Sylvester Stallone, and Dennis Hopper. Other prestigious notables include Kevin Bacon, Matthew Goode, Patrick Swayze, Chris Rock, Roy Scheider, Lesley Ann Warren, Charlie Sheen, Dolph Lundgren, Peter Weller, Jennifer Beals, Tom Berenger, and Wesley Snipes. While building a career as a writer Bernhardt supported himself as an actor, with multi year contract/lead roles on General Hospital and Dynasty, followed by numerous leads in films such as Clive Barker's Hellraiser, Most recently, he has a supporting role opposite Michael Caine and Ben Foster in Medieval, which will be released theatrically in the U.S. in September 2022. But screenwriting remains his passion. He is presently co-writing a screenplay with Academy Award winner John Cleese.



FRANCESCA CALO — Calo is a bicoastal actor, MoCap performer, and voice actress who spent her childhood on film and television sets with her parents. She began acting at the age of seven, and has since enthusiastically

followed her passion. She studied and performed with theaters such as the moscow Art Theatre Company, New continued...



VENDOR EXPO

Tryon Fine Arts Center Lobby

Sat, Oct 7 | 9 AM - 7 PM Sun, Oct 8 | 9 AM - 6 PM















JUDGES

York Stage and Film, as well as with acclaimed international director, Adolf Shapiro. In the voice over realm, she has worked on a myriad of animated series, anime, films, and video games. She can be heard as Salene Crow in Wasteland 3: The Battle of Steeltown, Cheng Chen in the popular mobile game, Seven Knights 2, Stella Loussier in Gundam Seed: Destiny, Pokemon, and more.



FRANK M CALO — Frank is an independent producer and director whose film The Believer, starring Ryan Gosling and Billy Zane, won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival. That film won at many festivals that year, including The Berlin Film Festival. It was shown nationwide and

had a great box office run. His film Here & There with Cyndi Lauper and David Thornton won the Best New York Narrative In World Competition 2009 at Robert De Niro's Tribeca Film Festival in NYC and had its official New York premier played to audiences domestically and overseas. Calo has worked with Robert De Niro (Godsend), Demi Moore, Mike Myers, Shelly Winters, Marlon Brando, and many more. His film The Cookout, distributed by Lionsgate, with Queen Latifah also had a great box office run. He also worked for two years with The Motion Picture Bond Company under Robert Bordiga, as a producer working on films throughout the tri-state area. He was one of the few and only directors who studied privately under Mr. Elia Kazan.



RON DAVIS - Ron co-directed/ produced Pageant (2009, Wolfe Video), a film that follows the lives of five female impersonators as they vie for the crown at the 34th annual Miss Gay America Pageant. Pageant made its theatrical

debut at New York City's Cinema Village theater and its television premiere on The Sundance Channel. **Miss You Can Do It** (2013, HBO Documentary Films Original), chronicled Abbey Curran, Miss Iowa USA 2008 and the first woman with a disability to compete at the Miss USA Pageant, as well as eight

young girls with various disabilities as they participate in the Miss You Can Do It Pageant. **Harry and Snowman** (2016, FilmRise), tells the remarkable love story between Dutch immigrant Harry deLeyer and the horse Snowman, which he bought for \$80 off of a slaughter truck bound for the glue factory. The film was a critical and box office hit as one of 2016's top theatrical grossing documentary films.



STEVEN ESTEB – Steven is a versatile filmmaker who has worked as an actor and a Hollywood screenwriter, and director of commercials, music videos, documentaries, and features. His film Hate Crime won both Best Feature and Human

Right & Dignity categories in the 2016 Tryon International Film Festival. Other films include Dirty Politics, a dark comedy starring Judd Nelson, Beau Bridges, and Howard Hesseman; and Baller Blockin, a rap film for Universal starring Lil Wayne that hit #1 on the Billboard charts in DVD and video sales eventually going quadruple platinum. Esteb has been represented by top agencies like ICM and Paradigm as a screenwriter and has worked as a script doctor, coach, and screenwriting teacher. He is currently teaching film and screenwriting at Loyola University in New Orleans. He lived and worked at an AIDS hospice for two years while making the feature length documentary Living With... A Film About Love and AIDS. It premiered at the Santa Barbara Film Festival and traveled the world, contributing to the opening of new AIDS hospices, his proudest accomplishment. Esteb studied film production in the graduate program at Boston University and has a degree in political science.



He now lives in rural Louisiana, his adopted home, with his wife and two children.

GREGG JAMBACK & **JAMIE HUSS** - Gregg and Jamie



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of Swiftwater Media (SWM) work as a team when judging films. Their independent feature length documentary, In Pursuit of Justice (now streaming on Amazon Prime Video), added the 2019 Tryon International Film Festival "Audience Choice Award" to its list of 13 awards. They fell in love with Tryon's festival vibe and have participated ever since. Gregg — owner of Swiftwater Media — has had a film/video career spanning nearly 40 years. His work has been seen on broadcast outlets such as NatGeo. Animal Planet, ESPN, public television, Disney, and others. Swiftwater Media's corporate and non-profit clients are numerous including IBM, Amex, Pitney Bowes, Deloitte & Touche, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Krispy Kreme, Winston-Salem Foundation, Hospice, and Crisis Control Ministries to name a few. Jamie — with 11 years experience in a Fortune 500 corporate position involving communications, presentations, and training sessions company-wide — is comfortable with creating/organizing materials for storyline comprehension, fundraising strategies, and marketing — all needed in producing an independent film. Additionally, with more than 30 years experience owning a health-related solo practice, Jamie has honed interview skills used when dealing with confidential, traumatic, or emotional subjects — important when dealing with sensitive topics this couple loves to tackle. Gregg and Jamie worked as producing partners on three other independent productions: Discover Yourself with the Enneagram (2001). The Real Cost of Coal (2010). and an award-winning doc short Greg Taylor — "Ghost" (2014). Additionally, Gregg produced The Little America's Cup Challenge and Peelers, Busters, & Soft Shell Crabs (broadcast on UNC-TV). Four SWM doc short projects in

development now include: "A Community's Response" (gun violence), "gay, Gay, GAY!" (LGBTQ), "How Much?!" (white collar crime /small non-profit embezzlement), and "An Assuming Activist" (profile of 80-year old poet/writer/activist Janet Joyner).



HOMAYRA SELLIER – Homayra is the founder of Innocence In Danger (IID), is an international child protection organization, operating in nine countries (France, United Kingdom, Colombia, Germany,

Switzerland, United States of America, Austria, Iran, and Morocco). Because Sellier is multilingual — fluent in Spanish, French, English, and Farsi — she selects all films submitted to TRIFF's Human Rights and Dignity category. She has devoted her life to human rights issues. Throughout the years. Sellier's organization has utilized television documentaries, billboard campaigns, and other media platforms to help raise awareness on human abuse. A number of the French, Swiss, and German films and visual works that she and her offices have been involved with have been nominated for the Prix Olivier Debouzy, one of France's most prestigious awards, and short films/spots at Cannes Film Festival. Sellier was the primary inspiration for Illegitimate Advantage, a 2016 novel written by Kirk Gollwitzer, the cofounder of TRIFF. They are now actively working together to adapt the novel into a major motion picture.

Thank You Town of Tryon for supporting TRIFF for 9 Years and running!

Z S Z NTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 6-8, 2023

MEDIA ARTS



EDUCATION & CAREER DAY For aspiring artists *6th Grade - Adults

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023 | 9 AM - 2:00 PM



O TRYON FINE ARTS CENTER | 34 MELROSE AVE, TRYON, NC

- 9 AM 11:30 AM Drop In Education & Career Fair
 - 11:45 AM Keynote Speaker Linda Burns, *PA Academy (Production **Assistant**)

martphone Filmmaking

Alison Marek

WY 6

Veh Stage

- 9 AM 11:30 AM Free Filmmaking
- 1:30 PM Next Generation Student "Awe" Film Project: Screening & Classes





Register Here

Entrepreneurship & Independent Filmmaking Working in Major Motion Pictures (risti Ray + Erika Arlee Getting Started in the Industry Documentary Filmmaking /isual Effects + Editing Marketing & Advertising Francesca Calo /oiceover & Animation Cargo Agency Clay Johnson Glen Caruso Justin Myrick Al + Technology Frank Calo Linda Burns Lunch 10:20 AM 10:40 AM 9:20 AM 9:40 AM 1:20 AM 1:45 AM 12:50 PM 10 AM II AM

TRYONINTERNATIONALFILMFESTIVAL.ORG/EDUCATION

The Awe Project Screening & Awards

1 PM

TRY & N EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



Veh Stage

Pavilion

9 AM - 11 AM | Filmmaking for Kids - TBD 11 AM - 12:30 PM | Drone Workshop with

Group with Clay Johnson, Jamie Huss, Gregg 9 AM - 10:30 AM | Documentary Discussion

Jamback, Terry Brown

1 PM - 2:30 PM | Marketing for Creatives with Creatives Meet Marketing & Stisa

Advertising with the Cargo Agency: Discussion

Group

11 AM - 12:30 PM | Content for Marketing &

1 PM - 2:30 PM | Cinematography Panel with

Saturday

Erik Olsen, and Trinity Greer

Cher Brown

Talent Agency

3 PM - 4:30 PM | The Future of AI w/ Patti

Filmmaking Part One with Alison Marek 5 PM - 6:30 PM | Smartphone

Jazelle Foster, Robert Therrall, Chase Bridges,

Cruz Crane

5 PM - 7 PM | Content Creation Panel with

3 PM - 4:30 PM | The Nuts and Bolts of

Filmmaking with Frank Calo

Mahler Room

9 AM - 11 AM | Licensing & Copyright with Sally C.

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM | Distribution with Samuel

12 PM - 1 PM | Grant Writing 101 with Debra Torrence & Sherene Strausberg L:30 PM - 3 PM | Editing with Gregg Jamback

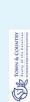
3:30 PM - 5 PM | Visual Effects with Justin Myrick 5 PM - 6:30 PM | Union Strikes Discussion with Frank Calo

October 7 & 8, 2023

34 Melrose Ave, Tryon, NC Tryon Fine Arts Center









Sunday

10 AM - 12 PM | Voiceover & Animation with Francesca Calo + Ian Russell

12:30 PM - 2 PM | A Conversation with Honey Head with Erika Arlee & Kristi Ray

Brock, Patti Price, Ian Russell, Matt Burke, Jazelle Foster, Francesca Calo, Beverly 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM | Casting Panel with and Justin Livingston 5 PM - 6:30 PM | Screenwriting with Kevin Bernhardt, Steve Esteb, & Michael Stokes

11 AM - 12:30 PM | Costume Design with Mikołaj Wąsowski

PM - 2:30 PM | Creative Non-Fiction Panel with Gregg Jamback, Clay Johnson, Kirk Gollwitzer, Terry Brown, and Paul Reid

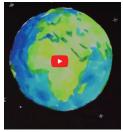
3 PM - 4:30 PM | Smartphone Filmmaking Part Two with Alison Marek 5 PM - 6:30 PM | The Art of Screen Acting with Sabal Studios' Matt Burke & Justin



SPECIAL SCREENINGS

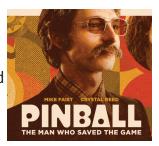
Friday Night Film and Gala Reception

Friday, October 6th • Gala 5–8:30 pm 201 Pacolet St., Tryon Films: 7 pm (SOLD OUT) & 9:15 pm – Tryon Theatre – 45 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC Limited to VIP & Gala Pass Holders



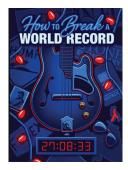
Graham Nash - A Better Life: The official music video for "A Better Life" by Graham Nash, containing thousands of hand-painted frames created by Jeff Scher. The beautiful video offers an optimistic view on our future in the face of climate change and the general crisis of the world around us — "a kind of sequel to 'Teach Your Children," Nash calls it. "A Better Life" is the second single from Nash's new album 'Now,' release May 19, 2023.

Pinball - The Man Who Saved the Game - Pinball tells the story of Roger Sharpe, the GQ journalist and real-life pinball wizard who in 1976 single-handedly overturned New York City's 35-year ban on pinball machines.

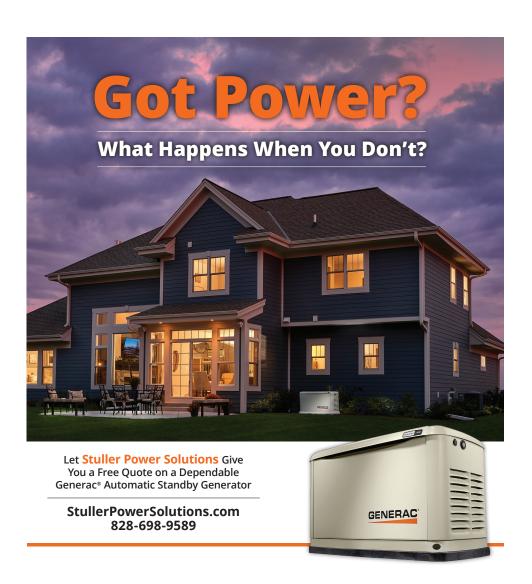


Saturday Night Feature Film

Saturday, October 7th • 7:45–9:30 pm Tryon Theatre – 45 S. Trade Street, Tryon, NC 28782 General Admission and Reception - 8pm



How To Break A World Record - A rock band with a propensity to create their own adventures attempts to bring a mandolin Guinness World Record from India to their hometown in Greenville, South Carolina. Along the way, they discover it's far more challenging than they had ever imagined, and there's suddenly a lot riding on their ability to succeed in this one-of-a-kind documentary film.





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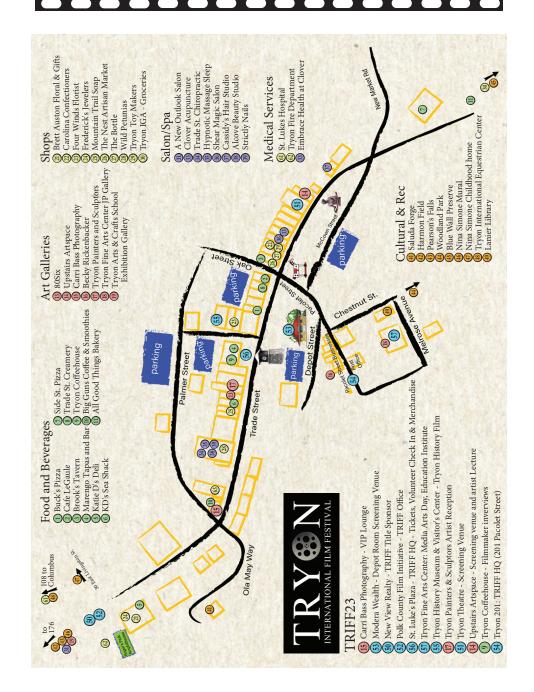
Stay prepared with local weather updates

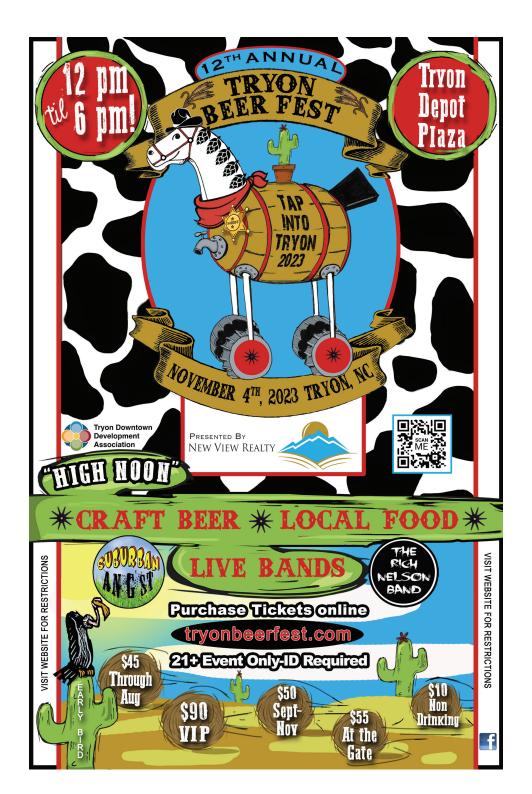
Generator Sales & Service
Ask About Easy Financing!

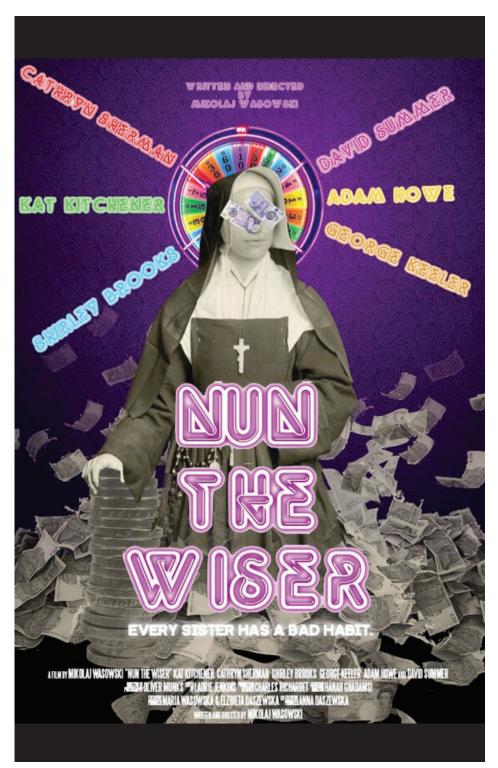


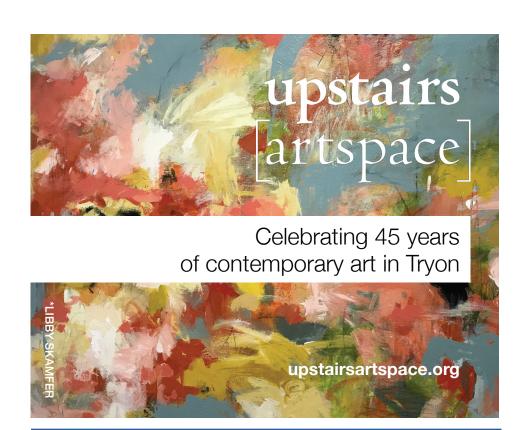


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FULL LENGTH FEATURE FILM



The Founder Effect PLEASE NOTE: English language subtitles and closed-captions will be available upon request. As well, non-English subtitles will also be available in a variety of

OUTLINE: When a young boy goes missing in the town of Hope, his grandfather must grapple with their family history and navigate mysterious phenomena as he sets out on a quest of conscience

languages.

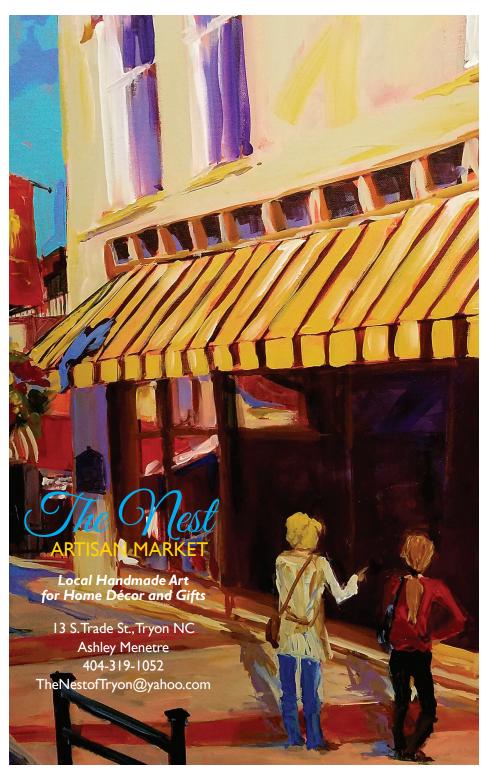
to save his grandson from the shadows.

SUMMARY: A perfect family getaway is suddenly upended when a policeman's grandson disappears. Jack Rooney (Rick Edwards) has already lost a son. He's not about to lose his grandson, too. Forced to reckon with family history, he sets out to rescue the boy from the shadows... a journey of conscience rippled by the voice of a visiting missing persons expert (Greg Sestero), whose haunting tales of the vanished illuminate the mysterious phenomena that seem to be in Jack's way. In a town called Hope, can redemption be found?



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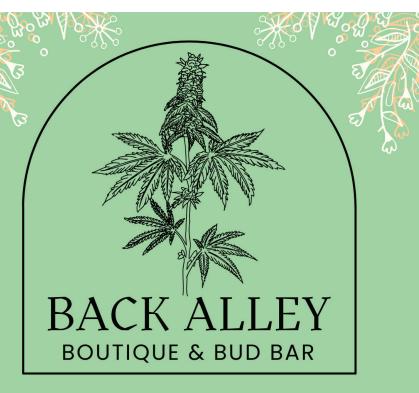


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Spartanburg, SC







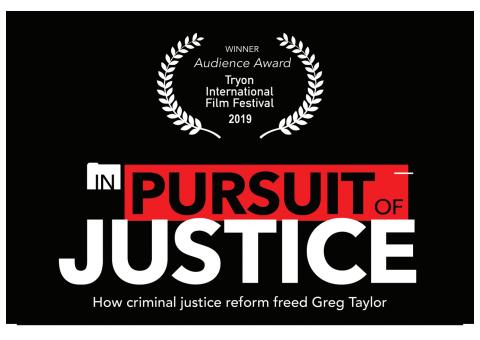
For more information, contact Kim Arnold: Karnold@urbanleagueupstate.org



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FULL LENGTH DOCUMENTARY FILMS



Bringle: A Tale of Two Makers tells the inspiring life story of eighty four year old identical twins, Cynthia and Edwina Bringle who have led storied lives as craftspeople in the South, producing remarkable works of art, mentoring a vast community of makers, and sharing what they

know with students, visitors, and collectors at every turn. They have been anchors in the studio craft movement from the 1960s to the present and enabled others to carry those traditions forward. The Bringle sisters are not only masters of their craft but the life they've built and the legacy they've created is a beautiful work of art in itself.



Ellis is the first feature-length documentary about Ellis Marsalis Jr. and the Marsalis Music Family, often called the First Family of Jazz. The film chronicles the life of this exceptional New Orleans composer, performer, and educator, the profound influence that the city had on him — and

that he had on the jazz that came out of New Orleans. It is also a story of how one man transcended racial injustices he faced from his birth during segregation to his death from COVID 19. Made with the full cooperation of Ellis, his family and everyone around him, ELLIS is told from an insider perspective with never-before-seen footage. For three years until his passing in April 2020, I worked closely with Ellis Marsalis on this film about his life. He tells it in his own words and he guides us through the events of his life in his own way: With his music. We filmed Ellis' last concerts at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York and Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro in New Orleans, and a solo concert at the Marsalis Center for Music performed exclusively for the film. These concerts are interlaced with verité scenes that place Ellis in his city and with interviews with his sons Wynton, Branford, Delfeayo, Ellis III., and Jason, and colleagues, and disciples. Archival footage and photos take us back to New Orleans of the early twentieth century, to California of the fifties where Ellis served in the Marines and played with modernist giant Ornette Coleman, to New York of the seventies where he toured, and to his classrooms throughout the years.

The result is more than a biography of one of jazz's heroes. The film interweaves Ellis' accomplishments with key threads of American cultural history, placing him in historical context as someone who was both deeply affected the by world around him, and who, by responding to it helped to shape that world.



Gender Transformation: The Untold Realities - The transgender movement has attracted a lot of attention in the last decade. From transgender athletes who by far win over female competitors, male prisoners

who call themselves trans moving to women's prisons, to creating additional bathrooms for third gender, now children are educated at a young age that they can choose which gender feels best for them. It seems a frightening trend has arisen. The influences in the educational system in American schools, social media, medical clinics, and therapists all work actively to" help"children discover that they have been"born in the wrong body" regarding gender. The solution is to use puberty blockers, hormones, and surgery to solve the problem. However, is the problem solved, and what happens to the children that have been through this" treatment"? Who is profiting from this, and what happens to the families where one or both parents don't want their children to start" the treatment" at a young age? The effects of the transgender movement, often associated with social justice and human rights, have surfaced. With a near 100% affirmation rate from the gender clinics, medical clinics, financially supported by taxpayers' money, have been authorized to" help" children with puberty blockers and hormones. Together with schools, social media, the entertainment industry, high politicians, and other organizations, they have created an atmosphere that unconditionally supports children. Without proper investigations of actual situations, children are affirmed with their preferred gender and start with experimental medicines to change their genders. This is done with medications that have neither been properly evaluated according to medical research, nor do these medical institutions tell the children of the actual side effects. The side effects

continued...





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FULL LENGTH DOCUMENTARY FILMS

that will lead to severe and irreversible implications for their future lives. This documentary will unveil what actually happens to those who started to change their gender, its implications, the financial interests behind the transgender movement, and the political and societal mechanisms in play. How To Break A World Record: A rock band with a propensity to create their own adventures attempts to bring a mandolin Guinness World Record from India to their hometown in Greenville, South Carolina. Along the way, they discover it's far more challenging than they had ever imagined, and there's suddenly a lot riding on their ability to succeed in this one-of-a-kind documentary film.



How To Break A World Record

- A rock band with a propensity to create their own adventures attempts to bring a mandolin Guinness World Record from India to their hometown in Greenville, South Carolina. Along the way, they discover it's far more challenging than they had ever

imagined, and there's suddenly a lot riding on their ability to succeed in this one-of-a-kind documentary film.



Natures Wisdom Thru Native

Eyes - What happens when storytelling, native wisdom and nature's intelligence converge? Possibly a way to heal our broken relationship with the living world.



Pinball - The Man Who Saved the Game - Pinball tells the story of Roger Sharpe, the GQ journalist and real-life pinball wizard who in 1976 single-handedly overturned New York City's 35-year ban on pinball machines.

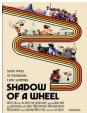


Secretariat 50th Anniversary Remembrance - Secretariat

Big Red' won the Triple Crown on June 9th, 1973. Fifty years later, several noteworthy Hall of Fame racing insiders share their stories of how this historic' Monster of a Racehorse' forever affected all

their and our lives. Eight Hall of Fame jockeys including

Ron Turcotte and Eddie Maple tell it 'like it was' back in the 70's. Three legendary broadcasters and immediate connections fill in the pieces of this remarkably historic once in a lifetime story.



Shadow of a Wheel - In the summer of 1982, 31 teenagers attempted a daunting coast-to-coast 3,600 mile bicycle journey across the United States. These "Spokesmen of America" riders set out to raise money and

awareness for Multiple Sclerosis and experienced a coming of age summer filled with intense challenges, humor, mishaps, personal discovery and tragedy. An ensemble cast tells this poignant and powerful story, encapsulating the era, the adventure and life itself.



The Renegade Legacy of Bleecker and MacDougal: Scenes of ground-breaking subversive poetry, radical music and

activism that started more

than 50 years ago in small cafes in New York City and went on to help change the political and social nature of the US. are interwoven with current - and important - scenes of today's contemporary poets, protest singers, and activists who are using their work for social change. Filled with appearances of iconic legends, this documentary celebrates creativity, protest, and original ways to fight conformity.



Unreined - Nancy Zeitlin is fearless when adapting to a new country, breaking stereotypes and leaping over societal barriers. Born in San Diego, she moves to Israel as a child. As she rises to become an Olympic-level equestrian, she must navigate through

a divided religious and secular Israeli society outside and inside her own family. Her anchor of stability in an unstable world? Horses. With them she does the unthinkable and becomes a trainer of Palestinians in Jericho. A moving tale of how one woman confronts taboos and boundaries.

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BEST SHORT ANIMATED FILMS

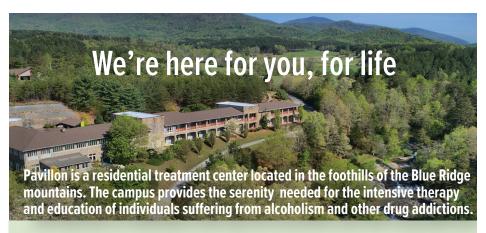


Graham Nash - A Better Life: The official music video for "A Better Life" by Graham Nash, containing thousands of hand-painted frames created by Jeff Scher. The beautiful video offers an optimistic view on our future in the face

of climate change and the general crisis of the world around us — "a kind of sequel to 'Teach Your Children", Nash calls it. "A Better Life" is the second single from Nash's new album 'Now,' release May 19, 2023.



You Are Not Small - A short film about how small people can have a big impact on the world.



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BEST STUDENT FILMS



Beth - A true story of one asylum patient's struggle as her focus on returning home does not go as she planned. A period piece that highlights the travesty of those resting in unmarked graves from barbaric treatments



Blackout - When a group of four rowdy college students takes a camping trip, one friend is left to face an unexpected surprise after waking up in the woods alone.

Cross Bay Bridge follows a lonely old man's heartfelt attempt to reconnect with his recently divorced daughter through an elaborate birthday dinner. Both father and daughter embark on personal journeys



of self-discovery, seeking the courage to bridge the emotional gap and confront their past. With the city's iconic bridge as a metaphor, he endeavors to reconnect with her daughter and cross the bridge to her heart, their emotions blending into

the night. But with the distant sound of a railway, uncertainty looms—is this a joyful reunion or merely a dream?



Moral Combat - A worker struggling to survive sees a man drop his wallet, torn to decide whether to fulfill his needs or to follow ethics.



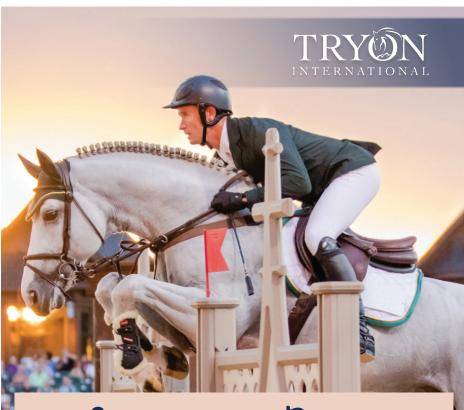


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Signature Events

Saturday Night Lights Sept 23 - Oct 28, 2023

WCRA Rodeo October 6 - 7, 2023

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November 20, 2023-January 1, 2024

Winterfest Village November 30 - December 23, 2023 **Tryon Block House Steeplechase** April 13, 2024

Saturday Night Lights May through October, 2024

> **PBR© Chute Out** June 21 - 22, 2024

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BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY FILMS



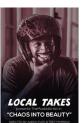
An Introduction to Working Equine - A snapshot of the people and animals Brooke USA serves with broad view of the countries where work is funded.





This film tells the story of the upside-down life of Tom Catena. Tom was born with a one-way ticket to the good life. As he was becoming a man he was hungry for the best life could offer "Plenty of money and time on the golf course with his buddies" However, while

studying management at Brown he started secondguessing this desire, and after graduating, pursued medicine. That choice was the first step in a long journey of choosing the upside-down life of less over more. The film follows Tom's steps and climaxes in the present day, nearly 35 years later, at a small hospital in remote Sudan. As we look closer at his life there, it would be fair to ask if his upside-down life is actually right-side up.



Chaos Into Beauty - the MadddArtist - Roderice Cardell, "TheMadddArtist," was a painter, musician, and performer. In 2019 we visited his studio to find out more about the man behind the motorcycle helmet. He didn't hold back;

we talked about anger, and we talked about chaos. He used art to heal, for self-discovery, and to share that inner struggle with others. TheMadddArtist chose to transform anger and chaos into beauty and understanding. Local Takes is a documentary film series from Spartanburg, SC spotlighting southern artists.

Dodomu - In February 2022, Russia launched its full-scale war in Ukraine, triggering a mass exodus of people fleeing Ukraine to various countries across



Europe. "Dodomu," meaning "home" or "homeward bound" in Ukrainian, is a poignant documentary that follows the journey of three Ukrainian refugees as they navigate the challenges of starting anew in a foreign land. The film offers

a glimpse into the lives of the refugees, revealing their struggles to rebuild their lives in Poland and their hopes for the future. Through candid interviews and cinematic storytelling, the movie exposes the complexities of refugee matters and the difficult decisions that Ukrainians have had to make in the face of conflict. As a National Goodwill Ambassador for UNHCR and the film's narrator. Jung Woo-Sung brings a unique perspective to the film, examining the global plight of refugees and offering a call to action for viewers to empathize with their struggle and support those in need. Through powerful storytelling and intimate portraits of those affected by the war, "Dodomu" stands as a testament to the strength and resilience of the human spirit in times of crisis.



Dual Enrolled is a short documentary on the demands and commitment that is required of equestrian student-athletes. Presented by The Plaid Horse, Catie Staszak

Media, Inc. and Victoria Sheehan Productions, the film follows Emma Blumenkrantz, Cristian Hacker, Natalie Jayne and Campbell Hudkins, along with coaches Lynn Jayne and TJ O'Mara as they navigate the competitive winter show season in Wellington, FL. Each individual is at a different place in their academic and riding careers: Some attend brick and mortar school, while others take courses online or are engaged in a hybrid model; some are new to the juggle, while others have seen their work rewarded with recruitment to a Division 1 college program. Each, however, has made success in their

continued...

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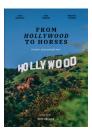
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BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY FILMS

sport possible through a unique commitment that extends far behind the few minutes seen on center stage in the show ring. There is more than one kind of education. Get to know Emma Blumenkrantz, Cristian Hacker, Natalie Jayne and Campbell Hudkins, along with coaches Lynn Jayne and TJ O'Mara, in Dual Enrolled.



From Hollywood to Horses - An entrepreneur takes the ultimate leap of faith to leave her cushy Hollywood movie studio career to pursue her deep love for horses and helping humanity. She faces her

fears and doubts and ultimately accomplishes her heartfelt dream!



From The Soul: Beth Pullman Regula -

Most people will tell you polymer clay is for crafting small trinkets and jewelry, but Beth Bullman Regula wanted more. By combining it with string, wire, and other media, she has built large layered

canvases and freestanding sculptures, packed with tiny details like leaves, seeds, and flowers. Her works often portray some element of the natural world weaving in among fluid human figures, and Beth herself has woven an artist's life in the forest in Spartanburg, SC where her studio sits among the trees. In this short documentary, Beth shares her work, her process, and what she's learned



along the way. Local Takes is a documentary film series from Spartanburg, SC spotlighting southern artists.

Ghost Horses of the Ozards - In the quiet town of Eminence, Missouri, nestled

amidst rolling hills and picturesque landscapes, there exists a herd of wild horses that roam freely through the misty valleys and along the meandering rivers. These magnificent creatures possess an air of mystery and hold a special place in the hearts of the locals.



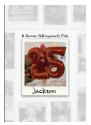
Hero Horse: A Magical True Story - The story of Magic, a tiny horse called One of History's Ten Most Courageous Animals by Time magazine, Newsweek's Animal Hero of the Year and AARP's Most Heroic Pet in America.

Magic had a flag flown over the U.S Capital in her honor for her service to the United States, a Certificate of Senate Recognition and a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition. She is a Breyer Portrait Model Horse and an official sworn in police officer. Magic walks the red carpet at movie theatres in her tuxedo.



Imagined Narratives: Annette Giaco - Old photos are cherished by loved ones, but what happens when they're abandoned? Dusty, corroded, and warped, some of these photos find a new life in Annette Giaco's paintings. Local Takes is a documentary

film series from Spartanburg, SC spotlighting southern artists.



Jackson - When Jackson was born, he was only expected to live for a few months. But today is his 25th birthday, and this special milestone is an opportunity to celebrate a story that's not only about Jackson - his unique obstacles,

his magnetic spirit, his inspiring endurance - but about those who love and care for him too, and continued...





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BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY FILMS

whose own words help shape a portrait of a man whose life holds lessons for us all.



Karen Baden Crouch in the Land of Make Believe

- Bronze sculptor shares her life and metalworking process in this brief but captivating look inside her imagination.



Sallie Blink - Deep in the Mountain Hollows of Western North Carolina...live the tiniest of creatures doing their thing...all the while while watching you as you walk by hiking on a trail.. Salamanders and Crawdaddies can be seen

out in the open if you are still enough and respectful of their environments. Forest Bathing is the perfect method to observe our surroundings without ever disturbing, handling or injuring this fragile wildlife. One never has to turn over a rock to see these creatures living their lives. They are Nature's Tiny Wonders. Produced by One Life, One Legacy® Films ©2022 All Rights Reserved www.onelifeonelegacy. net



The Herd Within Project

- R. J. Donovan Correctional Facility: A brief documentary following two trauma therapy group facilitators as they work with inmates and

horses through equine therapeutic exercises.



The Rowdy and the Righteous - Andrew Blanchard - Andrew Blanchard gleans inspiration from a hand-lettered church sign, a phrase in southern fiction, or in the vacant lots left by a devastating storm. Raised in Mississippi, Blanchard has

traveled the Southern states photographing details

of the region, and bringing these images together with paint, collage, and screenprinting. His process demands reckless abandon, and absolute precision - stepping "one foot into the rowdy, and one in the righteous." Local Takes is a documentary film series from Spartanburg, SC spotlighting southern artists.



The "24 Behaviors of the Ridden Horse in Pain: Shifting the Paradigm of How We See Lameness - 24 Behaviors" is a 35-minute

documentary featuring worldrenowned expert in equine orthopedics, Dr. Sue Dyson,

and her research on how "bad" horse behavior can actually be an early indicator of pain. The film educates horse lovers on how to spot the early signs of pain while taking viewers on an emotional "ride" through the eyes of a young girl who loves her horse and will stop at nothing to try to figure out how to make her comfortable.



Vessel - Lucy Boland

- When Lucy Boland gave birth to premature triplets, caretaking seemed to consume her life. Yet it was in that chapter that she rediscovered her lifelong passion to create. Until then, fear of judgement kept her

silent. Lucy reveals how her paths to becoming an artist and a mother are intertwined, and what it took to accept her creative voice. Local Takes is a documentary film series from Spartanburg, SC spotlighting southern artists.

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Friday, October 6th

Times Tryon Theatre - 45 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC

7:00 PM Graham Nash - A Better Life (USA) 3:33 - Short Animation PINBALL - The Man Who Saved The Game (USA) 01:30:00



9:15 PM Graham Nash - A Better Life (USA) 3:33 - Short Animation PINBALL - The Man Who Saved The Game (USA) 01:30:00

Saturday, October 7th

Times	Tryon Theatre - 45 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC
11:00 AM	Nature's Wisdom Thru Native Eyes (USA) 56:29 - Full Length Documentary
12:30 PM	Gender Transformation: The Untold Realities (USA) 01:30:00 - Full Length Documentary (HR&D)
2:30 PM	The Founder Effect (Canada) 01:53:00 - Full Length Feature
5:00 PM	Shadow of a Wheel (USA) 02:12:00 - Full Length Documentary
	Saturday Feature Film:

7:45 PM How To Break A World Record (USA) 01:23:00 - Full Length Documentary

Times	Tryon Depot Room - 22 Depot St., Tryon, NC	Times	Upstairs Artspace - 49 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC
12:00 PM	Short Film Block A - 47:20 + Q&A Applause (Portugal) 13:01 - Short Dramatic BETH (United Kingdom) 9:50 - Short Dramatic Student Film Nun The Wiser (United Kingdom) 16:26 - Short Dramatic Student Film Blackout (USA) 8:43 - Short Dramatic Student Film	11:00 AM	Short Film Block D - 60:74 + Q&A Dodomu (Republic of Korea) 35:37 - Short Documentary Morendo (USA) 18:21 - Short Dramatic Moral Combat (China) 2:00 - Short Dramatic Student Film Vanished (France) 5:16 - Short Dramatic
2:00 PM	Short Film Block B - 49:28 + Q&A Don't Be Disposed (USA) 7:30 - Short Dramatic Creator's Crisis (USA) 13:40 - Short Dramatic The Session (USA) 12:00 - Short Dramatic The Video (USA) 6:30 - Short Dramatic C'est La Vie (USA) 13:37 - Short Dramatic Worn Thin (USA) 10:28 - Short Dramatic	1:00 PM Podcast Listening Block A - 120:00 + Q&A Journalista - This is a Firing Squad (USA) 43:00 Journalista - Partying with Pablo (USA) 41:00 Journalista - The Ever Elusive War (USA) 41:00 4:00 PM Short Film Block E - (56:11) + Q&A Jackson (USA) 12:04 - Short Documentary Beyond Lesser Things (USA) 24:00 - Short Documentary Baseball with Dad (USA) 14:23 - Short Dramatic Sallie Blink (USA) 1:54 - Short Documentary He is in Town (USA) 1:54 - Short Documentary He is in Town (USA) 1:54 - Short Documentary He is in Town (USA) 2:30 - Short Dramatic	
4:00 PM	Short Film Block C - 55:37 + Q&A (S)hit Squad (USA) 8:20 - Short Dramatic Backyard Blackbird (USA) 15:20 - Short Dramatic In the Pines (USA) 18:00 - Short Dramatic Shore (USA) 6:46 - Short Dramatic Cross Bay Bridge (USA) 7:51 - Short Dramatic Student Film		

Schedule of Events

Sunday, October 8th

Times	Tryon Theatre - 45 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC
12:30 PM 2:45 PM 4:30 PM 6:00 PM	ELLIS (USA) 01:36:00 - Full Length Documentary The Renegade Legacy of Bleecker and MacDougal (USA) 01:12:00 - Full Length Documentary BRINGLE: A TALE OF TWO MAKERS (USA) 51:44 Full Length Documentary The 24 Behaviors of the Ridden Horse in Pain: Shifting the Paradigm of How We See Lameness (USA) 35:00 - Short Documentary
7:00 PM	TRIFF Awards Ceremony
Times	Tryon Depot Room - 22 Depot St., Tryon, NC
1:00 PM	Short Film Block F - (69:61) + Q&A LIMITE (fka MARK OF DISTINCTION) (Mexico) 37:33 - Short Dramatic The Countryman (USA) 21:00 - Short Dramatic A.B (USA) 11:28 - Short Dramatic
2:30 PM	Short Film Block G - (48:40) + Q&A Cart Return (USA) 3:42- Short Dramatic The Line Jumper (USA) 6:10 - Short Dramatic Race (USA) 5:40 - Short Dramatic Wicked Image (USA) 8:48 - Short Dramatic Dishes Or: How We Both Get What We Want (USA) 22:14 - Short Dramatic You Are Not Small (United Kingdom) 2:30 - Short Animation The Last Oreo (USA) 0:56 - Short Dramatic
4:00 PM	Short Film Block H - (36:54) + Q&A Imagined Narratives - Annette Giaco (USA) 5:12 - Short Documentary The Rowdy & The Righteous - Andrew Blanchard (USA) 5:35 - Short Documentary Chaos Into Beauty - The MadddArtist (USA) 6:02 - Short Documentary Vessel - Lucy Boland (USA) 4:50 - Short Documentary From the Soul: Beth Bullman Regula (USA) 6:06 - Short Documentary Karen Paden Crouch in the Land of Make Believe (USA) 9:49 - Short Documentary
5:00 PM	Short Film Block I - (44:08) + Q&A The Birthday Butterfly (USA) 24:26 - Short Dramatic No Chance (USA) 7:40 Smitten Prelude (USA) 4:21 Short Dramatic Student Film Lovestruck (USA) 8:21 Short Dramatic
Times	Upstairs Artspace - 49 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC
12:00 PM	Equestrian Film Block J - (111:52) + Q&A Dual Enrolled (USA) 12:50 - Short Documentary Hero Horse: A Magical True Story (USA) 30:00 - Short Documentary Get Back Up (USA) 4:02 - Short Dramatic / Music Video Secretariat 50th Anniversary (USA) 01:05:00 - Full Length Documentary
3:00 PM	Equestrian Film Block K - (94:45) + Q&A The Herd Within Project: RJ Donovan Correctional Facility (USA) 13:51 - Short Documentary An Introduction to Working Equines (USA) 2:58 - Short Documentary Ghost Horses of the Ozarks (USA) 13:36 - Short Documentary UnReined (USA) - 01:05:00 Full Length Documentary From Hollywood to Horses (USA) 2:57 - Short Documentary
5:00 PM	Short Film Block L - (42:34) + Q&A In the Shadows of War (USA) 18:14 - Short Dramatic Fireflies Save The Night (USA) 9:20 - Short Dramatic COMMON AS RED HAIR (USA) 15:00 - Short Dramatic

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BEST SHORT DRAMATIC FILMS



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A.B. - An interview-style capturing of the life of Ab, a young struggling artist trying to find her way, all while dealing with the unwanted company of her sentient mirror reflection.

Applause - A message of praise to the President concludes a Party assembly, sparking apotheotic applause. In the middle of the crowd inquisitive eyes of the State Police look for the slightest sign of dissent, and the ovation does not cease.



misguided father forces his unwilling son to spend a day with him learning to play the family pastime of baseball. A tradition that goes back further than he could ever imagine. With the help of an old family bat, both sides learn more about each other and what a relationship means between a father and son.

Cart Return - Melanie is just too busy and self-absorbed and refuses to return her shopping cart, leading to an unfortunate turn of events when she's transported directly into a 1960's Hitchcocklike thriller.



C'est La Vie - After a fatal accident sends a long haul trucker into a spiral, he seeks solace in something new and exciting only to discover he wasn't the only one looking for relief from that fateful night.



CREATOR'S CRISIS

Common As Red Hair

- The aftermath of an emotional funeral causes a grieving father and mother to reexamine their early life decision to have gender normalization surgery performed on their intersex infant.

Creator's Crisis - An eccentric artist goes against navsavers and animate fabric to finally create his elusive art piece.



Dishes Or, How We **Both Get What We**

Want - Mark and Amy are hosting old friends James and Corinne for dinner for the first time since the birth of their second child. As the drinks flow, tensions rise as each grapples with partner's

and friends' inability to offer support in the new roles each now plays. When a hungover Amy arrives in the kitchen the following morning to discover that Mark has let her down again, the unspoken erupts. How much should each of them have to sacrifice to give the other what they need?

Don't Be Disposed - Two men must dispose of a body, despite what trouble it gives them. After what they think to be a successful hit Slim Jim

continued...







BEST SHORT DRAMATIC FILMS



and his young assistant Fred are tasked with disposing of the body. Once in the woods the two try a few different options for hiding the body. Unknown to them the body still has a trick or two waiting for them



Fireflies Save The Night

 Hiding in a bedroom closet, an embattled teenager comforts his younger sister and discusses the purpose of fireflies before finding a solution to his family's misery.



Get Back Up -Music Video for Templeton Thompson's single'Get Back Up'



He Is In Town - Maddy and Aria try to find out what happened to their two friends who have gone missing the night before while on the run from Maddy's ex-boyfriend who is stalking them.



In The Pines - With their lives at stake, three young people must rely on their love and friendship to defy the forces of hate and violence that set their world ablaze in turn-of-thecentury North Carolina.



In The Shadows of War

- Soldiers in war adopt a stray dog



Limite - Manuel is a 16-yearold living in Tijuana, Mexico with his grandfather while his mom works in the U.S., supporting them. When he meets a girl he thinks he loves, he sees an opportunity to assert his independence, but what

he doesn't know is that she is working for a drug dealer to whom Manuel is now indebted. When he is asked to perform a favor he can't refuse, Manuel must choose between risking his life and losing his dignity.



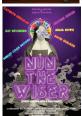
Lovestruck - Jax, a young video store attendant, comes face to face with an unlikely patron, a young lady who is either his biggest romantic fantasy or worst nightmare



Morendo - In the solitude of his twilight years, Mateo can't help but reminisce about his life.
Consumed by the memories of a former lover, he turns to the only thing he knows that can satisfy his longing for the past, music.
Mateo uses a device that allows the listener to gain the ability to relive their memories, and he revisits some of the core moments of his life.



No Chance - The Big Ball Lottery drawings always turn out the same for Jerry and Sherry, until tonight. Now their lives will never be the same.



Nun The Wiser - Three nuns, of mostly questionable character, compete in a quiz show for the clergy and get creative with the rules to bag the hefty prize.

continued...

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BEST SHORT DRAMATIC FILMS

















Race - An overly confident cop's first day on the job gets tense as he navigates unfamiliar territories and people. Learning how to survive on the hood.

Shit Squad - Two hitmen, one with irritable bowel syndrome, face complications during their latest assignment.

Shore - Carly meets an interesting guy after she almost drowns.

Smitten Prelude - A black and white silent film about 4 minutes long conveys a story by using body language to express the effects of a premature relationship. After encountering each other in the middle of nowhere and leading a relationship by force and attraction. They both return back to where they initially met and take separate strolls down each other's path before starting the relationship.

The Birthday Butterfly -Michael's childhood friend is the black sheep of the group with good reason. When he show up unannounced to the birthday party of Michael's 10 year old daughter, everything that could go wrong does go wrong in this hilarious adult comedy.

The Countryman - Bitterness threatens to destroy a small farming community until a stranger arrives with a curious proposition.



The Last Oreo - In "The Last Oreo", we see two competitive siblings, Lily and Easton, determined to claim the ultimate prize: the last Oreo cookie in the

house. In a climactic face-off, both siblings unleash their powers simultaneously, resulting in unexpected fate. The realization that their competition has inadvertently led to their father's snack-time victory, leaves them speechless. Lesson learned, there are no winners in war, and you should never leave just one Oreo.







The Line Jumper - Would YOU iump the line? The Line Jumper is co-directed by Hugh Ovake Murchison and Rob Underhill. Hugh Ovake Murchison is a first time filmmaker. He is a second generation American: his mother is Japanese, and his father African American.

The Session - A tyranical music producer holds a struggling artist hostage in the hopes of producing a radio hit

The Video - John, the new director of The Southern Reach. watches the classified tapes from an expedition into the enigmatic zone called Area X. Only allowed four minutes of access to the footage, he begins to feel the mentally spiraling effects it has on him



Vanished - Lisa, unable to confront the sudden disappearance of her daughter and her probable guilt, lives and relives the moment of the tragedy again, imagining in spite of herself, what could have happened.

continued...





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BEST SHORT DRAMATIC FILMS



Wicked Image - Lucifer, Satan, and the Devil meet with a corporate PR agent to rehabilitate their images — which includes reminding the world that they're women. However, they quickly discover that the PR agent is more evil than they are.



Worn Thin - A single mother works seven days a week self-lessly to provide a worry-free upbringing for her son, but when he gets a rare look into one of her day dreams, he has the opportunity to choose work or play in order to show his appreciation and love.





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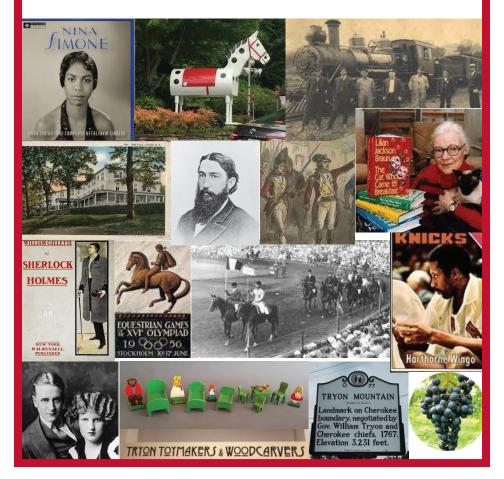




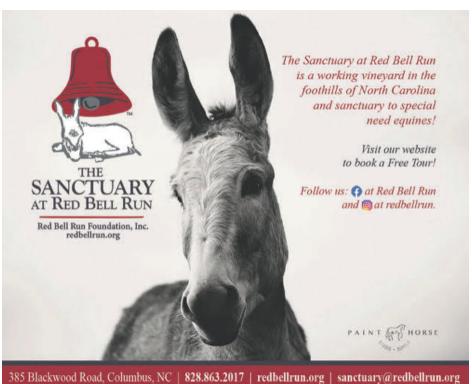
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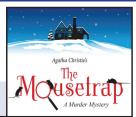
Anniversary Season 2023 - 2024



Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2023 Director: Dan Harvey

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Directed by Jim Powell





March 1-3 & 8-10, 2024

Book by Larry L. King & Peter Masterson Music & lyrics by Carol Hall Director Lori Lee • Music Director Pam McNeil

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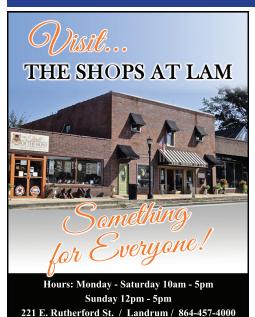


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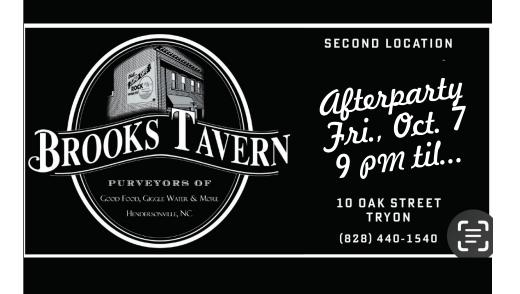














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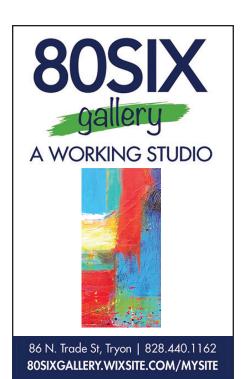
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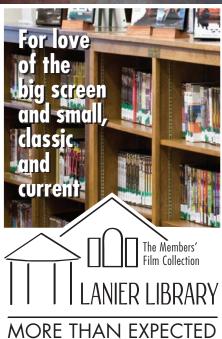
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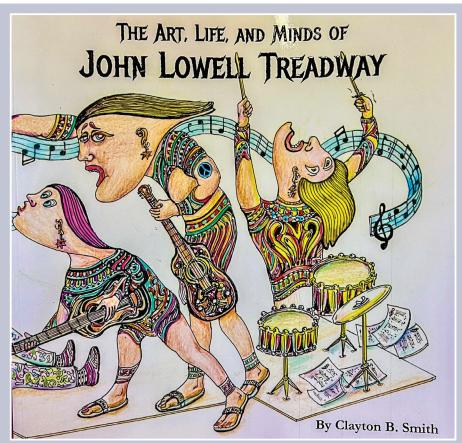
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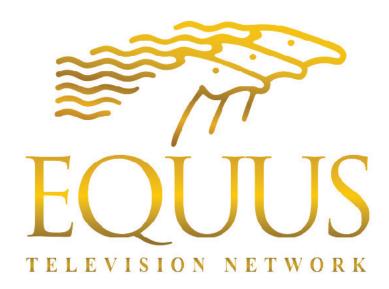
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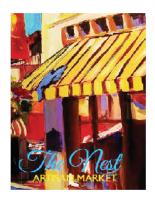


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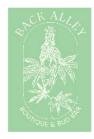
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