# HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



<u>October 3-13, 2025</u>

Vija Celmins Courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery



PROGRAM GUIDE

HAMPTONS FILM



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# 2025 HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

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**FOUNDATION SUPPORT** 



HamptonsFilm is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.



**SUFFOLK COUNTY FILM COMMISSION**This program is partially funded by the Suffolk County Executive's Office.

**AWARD CONTRIBUTORS** 















## WELCOME LETTERS

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the 33rd annual Hamptons International Film Festival.

Since its founding in 1992, the Hamptons International Film Festival (HIFF) has celebrated film as a medium by providing a platform for innovative creators to showcase their work and engage with audiences. By hosting special presentations and airing productions from around the world, HIFF immerses attendees in diverse stories while inspiring meaningful dialogues. The HIFF Jr. educational programs for aspiring filmmakers, including workshops and student clubs, offer young people the resources to make their voices heard and create groundbreaking art.

Today, you come together to celebrate your 33rd annual festival and welcome film fans and industry leaders to partake in a week of exciting entertainment. New York State is proud to host the Hamptons International Film Festival and congratulates all film professionals for their dedication to enriching our cultural landscape. Best wishes for an enjoyable event.

Sincerely

Kathy Hochul

Governor, State of New York

Dear Friends,

It is my honor to join you at the 33nd Annual Hamptons International Film Festival.

As its name suggests, the festival engages a global audience, celebrating film and a diverse range of topics. It is now the East End's premier film event, boasting numerous positive reviews.

Since 1992, Hamptons Film has run year-round programming to enlighten, educate, and provide invaluable exposure to filmmakers, while enriching Long Island's East End with unique cultural opportunities.

On behalf of the 1.5 million residents of Suffolk County, I would like to congratulate Hamptons Film and its partners on another successful festival. May you continue to elevate filmmakers and the art of filmmaking on the global stage.

I thank you again and hope you enjoy the festivities.

Edward P. Romaine Suffolk County Executive Dear Friends,

As Mayor of America's Most Beautiful Village, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 33rd Annual Hamptons International Film Festival. We are honored to host this remarkable celebration of cinema and culture right here in our historic village.

It's always a thrill to see the energy, creativity and excitement this beloved Festival brings each year. While you are here, I invite you to explore all our village has to offer. Grab a coffee from a local café, browse our shops and galleries, take a walk through our tree-lined streets, or visit one of our beautiful beaches—specifically Main Beach, ranked this year as one of the Top 5 Beaches in America!

Thank you for being a part of this wonderful event. Enjoy the Festival—and all that East Hampton Village has to offer.

Sincerely

Jerry Larsen

Mayor, East Hampton

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Town of East Hampton, it is my great pleasure to welcome film lovers, filmmakers, actors, and volunteers to the 33rd Annual Hamptons International Film Festival. For more than three decades, HIFF has been a highlight of our cultural calendar, bringing the world's stories to our screens, sparking meaningful conversations, and showcasing the extraordinary talent of storytellers from near and far.

This festival is a celebration of both film and community. As you take in the remarkable selection of films, panel discussions, and special events, I hope you also enjoy the natural beauty, rich history, and vibrant local flavor that make East Hampton such a special place to visit and call home.

Welcome to the Hamptons International Film Festival. May this year's celebration be filled with creativity, connection, and unforgettable moments.

Kathee Burke-Gonzalez

Supervisor, Town of East Hampton

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our festival coincides with Indigenous Peoples' Day, and we would like to acknowledge that the land on which this festival takes place is the original homeland of the Shinnecock Nation and Montaukett People.

We honor and respect the many Indigenous Peoples still connected to this land.

# FROM THE FESTIVAL

Welcome to the 33rd annual Hamptons International Film Festival. For the second year, we are proud to present eleven days of world-class films across the East End, including anticipated new work from acclaimed masters and first features and shorts from emerging directors who represent the bright future of cinema.

The HamptonsFilm team has been busy this year, returning with a Winter Classic screening at Guild Hall, commemorating 25 years of celebrating emerging voices in our Screenwriters Lab, showcasing Melissa Mathison-winning screenplay in front of a live audience in New York City, and bringing films into our local schools via our HIFF Jr. initiatives. We just wrapped up a successful summer, with our 17th SummerDocs series, two sessions of Student Film Camp, and our very popular outdoor summer movie series—including a blockbuster 50th anniversary screening of JAWS on Main Beach, our largest one to date!

This year's festival marks a long-awaited return to Southampton, where we are proud to partner with the newly-revamped Southampton Playhouse, boasting state-of-the-art technology mixed with showstopping design. In addition, we are thrilled to return to the iconic Guild Hall, East Hampton Middle School and Sag Harbor Cinema. As usual, the Regal/UA in East Hampton will be a hub of activity throughout the 11-day festival.

Our audiences will be the first in the country to see David Freyne's charming romantic comedy ETERNITY starring Miles Teller, Callum Greene and Elizabeth Olsen; Olsen will also join us for one of this year's Conversations With. From there, we dive into ten more days of smart and entertaining features, including seven world premieres and more than 28 US and North American premieres—including many of the most celebrated films from Cannes, Sundance, Telluride and beyond. Our 57 short films include both our showcase of work from emerging female directors—through our partnership with NYWIFT—and a program by university students from around the world. Through our signature programs, we address issues of animal rights, global conflict, and climate change, and highlight new works by local filmmakers and films shot here on Long Island.

Our 2025 honorees include Sydney Sweeney, whose electrifying performance in our Centerpiece film CHRISTY is sure to captivate. We are also excited to welcome legendary actor Ethan Hawke, who will take part in a Conversation With while here with his new film BLUE MOON. We also celebrate UBS Breakthrough Director Eva Victor, who stunned Sundance earlier this year with their film SORRY, BABY, and UBS Breakthrough Performer Tonatiuh's performance in KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN announces the arrival of a major new talent.

We want to recognize our dedicated board members for their many contributions and especially thank board member Regina K. Scully and her Artemis Rising Foundation for returning as our Presenting Sponsor, in addition to our Premier sponsor Audi for their long-term commitment to HIFF. A special thank you to our new and returning partners—without you, none of this is possible. Thank you once again to the New York State Council on the Arts and the Suffolk County Film Commission for the continued support, and to the numerous sponsors, patrons, donors, and members who support us—we thank you for your generous belief in our efforts.

HamptonsFilm is a year-round, non-profit organization that relies on the dedication of a hardworking team of individuals—we thank you for your tireless commitment. This year we welcomed three new Board members—longtime supporters Andrew Murstein, Maiken Baird and Geralyn Dreyfous—and we thank our entire board, staff, partners and volunteers for your efforts and your enthusiasm.

At HIFF33, we look forward to welcoming hundreds of talented artists and filmmakers to our beloved corner of the world to share their stories in conversations and Q&As. Last year's Festival films raked in a record number of wins at the Academy Awards®, including ANORA's thrilling win for Best Picture. What films will audiences discover this year? Let's all find out together.

Sincerely,



Randy Mastro Co-Chair of the Board



Alec Baldwin Co-Chair of the Board

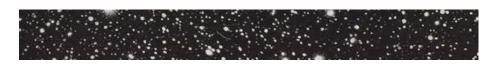


David Nugent Chief Creative Officer



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REGAL UA EAST HAMPTON CINEMA (UA1-5)

30-38 Main Street - East Hampton **Weekday Box Office:** Oct 6-9: 3PM-8PM Oct 13: 10AM-6PM

Screenings: Oct 3-13

GUILD HALL
158 Main Street - East Hampton
Screenings: Oct 10-12

MAIN BOX OFFICE at SUNSHINE

98 Newtown Lane - East Hampton **Weekend Box Office:** Oct 3-5: 10AM-6PM Oct 10-12: 10AM-6PM

EAST HAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL (EHMS)

76 Newtown Lane - East Hampton **Screenings + Events:** Oct 3-5

THE WHITE ROOM GALLERY

3 Railroad Avenue - East Hampton **Registration:** Oct 3-5 + Oct 10-11 **Filmmaker Lounge:** Oct 4-5 + Oct 10-12

SAG HARBOR CINEMA (SHC)

90 Main Street - Sag Harbor Screenings: Oct 4-5

SOUTHAMPTON PLAYHOUSE

43 Hill Street - Southampton

Screenings: Oct 9-12

[There is ample parking at the playhouse]

8 VILLAGE BISTRO
10 Main Street - East Hampton
Morning Talks: Oct 4-5, Oct 11-12

Reutershan Parking Lot between Herrick Park and stores on Main St (8AM-6PM: 2 hours free, 3rd hour w/ payment)

Lumber Lane Longterm Parking Lot
Lumber Lane and Gingerbread Lane Extension
(unlimited free daily parking year round)

Sag Harbor Longterm Parking Lot Bridge Street and Long Island Avenue (unlimited free daily parking year round)

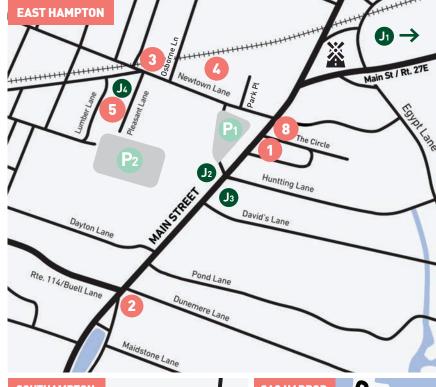
#### **Hampton Jitney Shuttle Loop**

**J**1 East Hampton House

J<sub>2</sub> Westbound Jitney

J<sub>3</sub> Eastbound Jitney Stop

White Room Gallery, 3 Railroad Avenue









FREE EAST HAMPTON JITNEY SHUTTLE LOOP will run Sat 10/4, Sun 10/5 & Sat 10/11 from 10:30am -10:30pm. Sun 10/12 Shuttle hours: 12:30pm -10:30pm. HIFF badge or film ticket holders can also **RIDE FOR FREE** on any regularly scheduled Hampton Jitney between Southampton and Montauk during the Festival.

# **2025 TICKET PRICES**

GENERAL FILMS & SPECIAL SCREENINGS	\$20
SPOTLIGHT FILMS	\$35
OPENING NIGHT FILM	\$45
CENTERPIECE FILMS	\$40
CLOSING NIGHT FILM	\$40
A CONVERSATION WITH	\$40

## **FESTIVAL PASSES** & PACKAGES

#### **FOUNDER PASS**

\$2,500 (\$1,250 Tax Deduction)

Photo required. Non-transferable.

- Ticketless entry for one (1) to all festival screenings and programs
- Entry for one to Opening Weekend Celebration (for <u>purchased</u> passes only)

Preferred entry for one (1) on the Founder Pass Line, available up until 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time for all screenings, special presentations and Signature Programs

# FIRST DIBS PACKAGE

Ticket selection\* begins September 16 at 12pm (online, by phone)

- 12 tickets to General Film Screenings
- 4 tickets to Spotlight Films
- 2 tickets to A Conversation With...

# **COMPANION PACKAGE**

\$600

Ticket selection\* begins September 18 at 12pm (online, by phone)

- 12 tickets to General Film Screenings
- 4 tickets to Spotlight Films
- 2 tickets to A Conversation With...

#### **FILMMAKER DISCOVERY PACKAGE**

\$250

Ticket selection\* begins September 18 at 12pm (online, by phone)

- 6 tickets to General Film Screenings
- 2 tickets to Spotlight Films

\*When fulfilling any ticket package, a customer can request a maximum of 2 tickets to any one screening or event.

## **BOX OFFICE**

The Main Box Office will not open for in-person sales until Friday, October 3rd, the first day of the Festival. All package fulfillment and pre-Festival ticket sales will take place online or through the Call Center. Please note: The Main Box Office can not fulfill ticket packages.

#### INDIVIDUAL TICKETS ON SALE **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 12PM**

online or by phone only

#### BY PHONE

(631) 825-0050

Sept 3-12: weekdays, 12-4 Sept 15-Oct 2: daily, 10-4 Oct 3-Oct 13: daily, 10-6

#### **WEBSITE**

#### hamptonsfilmfest.org

Available 24 hours, 7 days a week

#### MAIN BOX OFFICE

Box Office will switch locations mid-Festival

#### FRI, OCT 3 - SUN, OCT 5: 10AM - 6PM SUNSHINE

98 Newtown Lane, East Hampton

MON, OCT 6 - THU, OCT 9: 3PM-8PM Regal UA East Hampton Cinema 30-38 Main Street - East Hampton

FRI, OCT 10 - SUN, OCT 12: 10AM - 6PM SUNSHINE

98 Newtown Lane, East Hampton

**MON OCT 13: 10AM - 6PM** Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

30-38 Main Street - East Hampton

#### **TIPS & TRICKS**

#### PDF TICKETS

- Ticket holders can download the PDF of their tickets onto their phone to be scanned at the respective venues.
- Ticket holders can also print their tickets prior to arriving at the festival if they would prefer.
- There will be no printing of tickets at any of the Box Offices.

#### **RUSH SALES**

- If Rush tickets are available, a Rush line will form at the venue, usually 30 minutes before showtime.
- Available seats are sold on a first-come, first-served basis to those in line.

## **INFO**

#### **TICKET LIMITS**

During individual ticket sales to the public (beginning on 9/22), a customer is limited to four tickets to any one film or presentation.

#### **POLICIES**

The festival maintains a zero tolerance policy regarding bigotry, hate, discrimination, bullying, or harassment of any kind. We are committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment where staff and quests are treated with dignity, courtesy and respect. If you are found in violation of this policy you will be asked to leave and not return. You will not be issued a refund.

#### **SEATING**

To quarantee admission. attendees must be present in line at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Seats are general admission, and tickets are subject to availability. Saving space in line or seats within the theater is not permitted. Late seating is at the discretion of the venue management.

#### TICKET DISCOUNTS

HIFF offers a 20% senior discount (65+) for Spotlight and General Films ONLY. Discounted admissions are only available at the Box Office with valid ID. Discounts must be applied at the point of purchase. Refunds will not be applied retroactively. Discounts can not be stacked

#### **TICKET SURCHARGES**

Tickets purchased online or by phone are subject to a 15% per item surcharge. Tickets purchased at any HIFF Box Office are subject to a 20% per item surcharge. Print at home delivery option is available for no additional charge. All pass and packages are subject to a fulfillment surcharge per item.

All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges are given, regardless of weather, traffic, or other unexpected circumstances, except in the case of program cancellations or Federal, State or Local government shutdowns or mass gathering restrictions.



# Local Team



**Weekdays** | 4:30 - 7:00AM

# VIJA CELMINS

This year's poster art is STARFIELD (2010) by Vija Celmins, courtesy of Matthew Marks Gallery.



HamptonsFilm is thrilled to announce that the poster for the 33rd annual Hamptons International Film Festival features artwork from world-renowned artist and longtime Sag Harbor resident Vija Celmins, continuing our 33-year tradition of featuring artwork from local Hamptons artists. This year's poster features Vija Celmins' piece "Starfield": 2010, © Vija Celmins, Courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery.

Vija Celmins (pictured, left) has long been admired for her meticulous renderings of natural imagery, including ocean waves, desert floors, and night skies. Her paintings, sculptures, drawings, and prints depict scenes that are too vast or mercurial to be fixed in the mind's eye. Her work has been featured in major institutions including MoMA, the Whitney, and the Centre Pompidou, and has had more than 40 solo exhibitions and retrospectives, and her awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship, a MacArthur Fellowship, and the Carnegie Prize. Vija is currently the subject of a comprehensive solo exhibition featuring a selection of her paintings, drawings, and sculptures spanning from the 1960s to the present day, at the Fondation Beyeler in Basel, Switzerland.

"Vija Celmins is a celebrated visual artist known for her intricate drawings of oceans, stars, and desert landscapes. Her minimal, contemplative yet daring work mirrors the spirit of the films we champion at HIFF and reflects the natural beauty of the Hamptons. Having been inspired by Vija's art for many many years, I am deeply proud and grateful to her for sharing her extraordinary work with us as the 2025 HIFF poster artist," said Toni Ross, local East End artist and HIFF co-founder and founding Chairman of the Board.







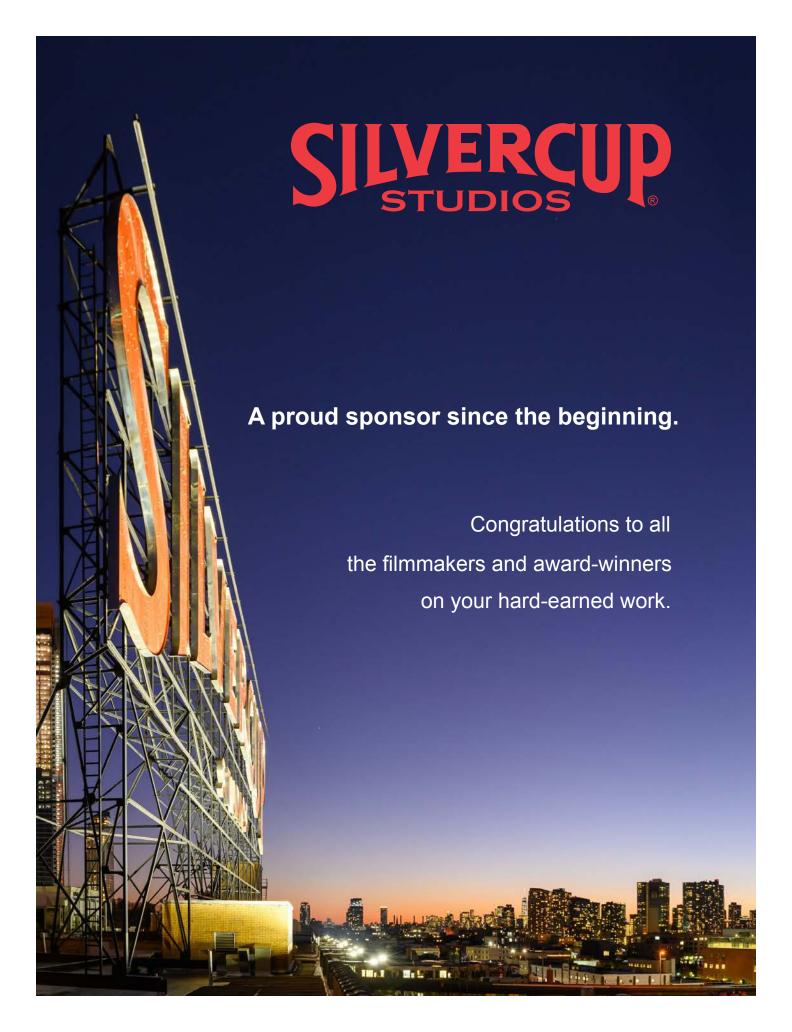
King & Spalding proudly supports the Hamptons International Film Festival and its co-chair, Randy Mastro, in furthering HIFF's mission to introduce audiences to a unique spectrum of films and filmmakers.

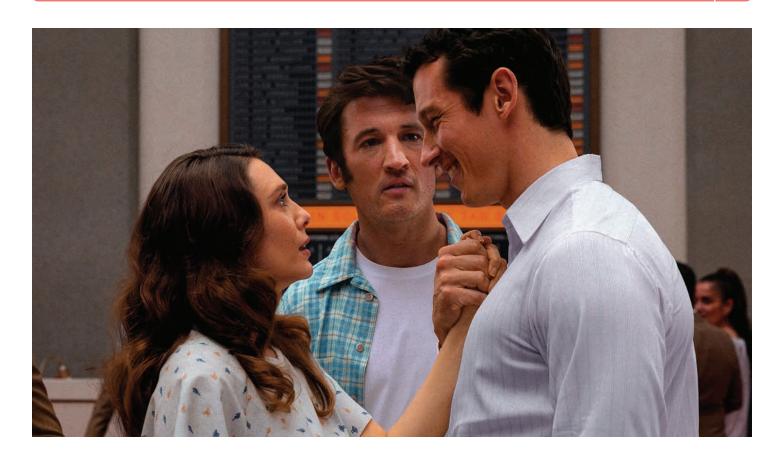
kslaw.com

# OPENING, CLOSING, CENTERPIECE, CONVERSATIONS, & HONOREES

The buzz starts here! Join us for these special gala presentations of some of the most anticipated films and events of the year.

OPENING NIGHT FILM	13
CENTERPIECE FILM	15
CLOSING NIGHT FILM	17
A CONVERSATION WITH	21
BREAKTHROUGH ARTISTS	23





# **ETERNITY**

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 112 MINUTES, ENGLISH

After a lifetime of marriage, the souls of recently deceased Joan (Elizabeth Olsen) and her husband Larry (Miles Teller) find themselves in an afterlife that offers numerous ways to spend eternity. Infinite summers on the French Riviera, day after day in the Swiss Alps, even one never-ending night of dancing in ecstasy—could all be yours in this heaven-set romantic comedy. However, once a choice is made, it cannot be reversed. Just as Joan and Larry begin to consider their forever decision, Joan is struck by the presence of her first husband, Luke (Callum Turner), who died in war as a young man and has been waiting to spend eternity with her ever since. Racing against the clock, Joan searches for the answer to an impossible question while Luke and Larry face off to prove their worthiness.

Featuring hilarious and heartfelt scene-stealing performances from supporting cast including Academy Award® Winner Da'Vine Joy Randolph and John Early, director David Freyne blends whimsical movie magic of yesteryear with fresh stylings of today. In this delightfully imaginative cosmic love triangle, ETERNITY explores the makings of a romantically fulfilling life—even when it's over. An A24 Films release.

10/3 6:30PM EAST HAMPTON - EHMS 10/3 7:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

# **DIRECTOR**David Freyne

# SCREENWRITERS Pat Cunnane David Freyne

# PRODUCERS Tim White Trevor White

# CAST Miles Teller Elizabeth Olsen Callum Turner John Early Olga Merediz Da'Vine Joy Randolph

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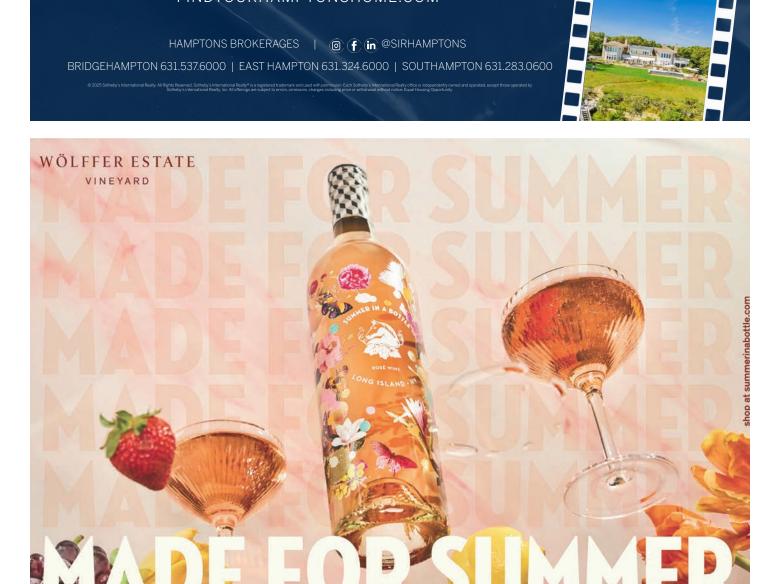
# The most important scene is the one you come home to

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# **CHRISTY**

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 135 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Christy Martin (Emmy Award® nominee Sydney Sweeney) never imagined life beyond her small-town roots in West Virginia—until she discovered a knack for knocking people out. Fueled by grit, raw determination, and an unshakable desire to win, she charges into the world of boxing under the guidance of her trainer and manager-turned-husband, Jim (Ben Foster). But while Christy flaunts a fiery persona in the ring, her toughest battles unfold outside it—confronting family, identity, and a relationship that just might become life-or-death.



8:30PM

5:15PM

10/4

10/5

Based on remarkable true events, CHRISTY is a story of resilience, courage, and the fight to reclaim one's life. Sweeney's transformative performance showcases her deep commitment to her craft, earning the HIFF 2025 Achievement in Acting award. A Black Bear Pictures release.

Sydney Sweeney will receive the 2025 Achievement in Acting award following the screening on Saturday, October 4.

EAST HAMPTON - EHMS SAG HARBOR - SHC1

# **DIRECTOR**David Michôd

#### **SCREENWRITERS**

Mirrah Foulkes David Michôd

#### **STORY**

Katherine Fugate

#### **PRODUCERS**

Kerry Kohansky-Roberts Teddy Schwarzman Brent Stiefel Justin Lothrop David Michôd Sydney Sweeney

#### EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Michael Heimler
John Friedberg
Andrew Golov
Clementine Quittner
Harrison Huffman
Mirrah Foulkes
Brad Zimmerman
David Levine
Ryan Schwartz
Nick Shumaker

#### **CAST**

Sydney Sweeney Ben Foster Merritt Wever Katy O'Brian Ethan Embry

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# **MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG**

#### **WORLD PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 145 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

In a bold new cinematic presentation of the Tony Award®-winning musical filmed across multiple performances during its sold-out run in July 2024, MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG invites audiences into the heart of the beloved story—not just watching it unfold, but inhabiting it.

Spanning two decades, MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG traces the complex, often heartbreaking unravelling of a once-unbreakable friendship between composer Franklin Shepard (Jonathan Groff) and his two closest friends—playwright-lyricist Charley (Daniel Radcliffe) and writer Mary (Lindsay Mendez). But this is no ordinary story. Told in reverse, the story winds backwards through time, beginning in fractured adulthood and journeying back to the bright-eyed optimism of youth—when everything still seemed possible.

Long considered a cult classic ahead of its time, MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG features some of Stephen Sondheim's most personal and piercing songs. Shot with intimacy and immediacy, this film places viewers on stage and inside the action, offering a deeply immersive experience that reveals the emotional truth of the piece in a way no theatre seat ever could. A Sony Pictures Classics release.

#### **DIRECTOR**

Maria Friedman

#### **MUSIC AND LYRICS**

Stephen Sondheim

#### **BOOK**

George Furth

#### **ORIGINAL PLAY (BASED ON)**

George S. Kaufman Moss Hart

#### **PRODUCERS**

Sonia Friedman David Babani Patrick Catullo F. Richard Pappas Jon Kamen Dave Sirulnick

#### EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Meredith Bennett
No Guarantees Productions
Scott Abrams
Jonathan Corr
Mary Maggio
Jeff Romley
Tony Yurgaitis
Andrew Cohen
Amanda Lipitz
Henry Tisch
Stephanie P. McClelland

#### **CAST**

Daniel Radcliffe Jonathan Groff Lindsay Mendez Krystal Joy Brown Katie Rose Clarke Reg Rogers

10/12 7:45PM 10/12 8:15PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL EAST HAMPTON - UA1

With Additional Support From Riki Kane Larimer



# BLAVATNIK FAMILY FOUNDATION

CONGRATULATES

# THE LAST MUSICIAN OF AUSCHWITZ

ON ITS NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE AT HIFF33

blavatnikfoundation.org





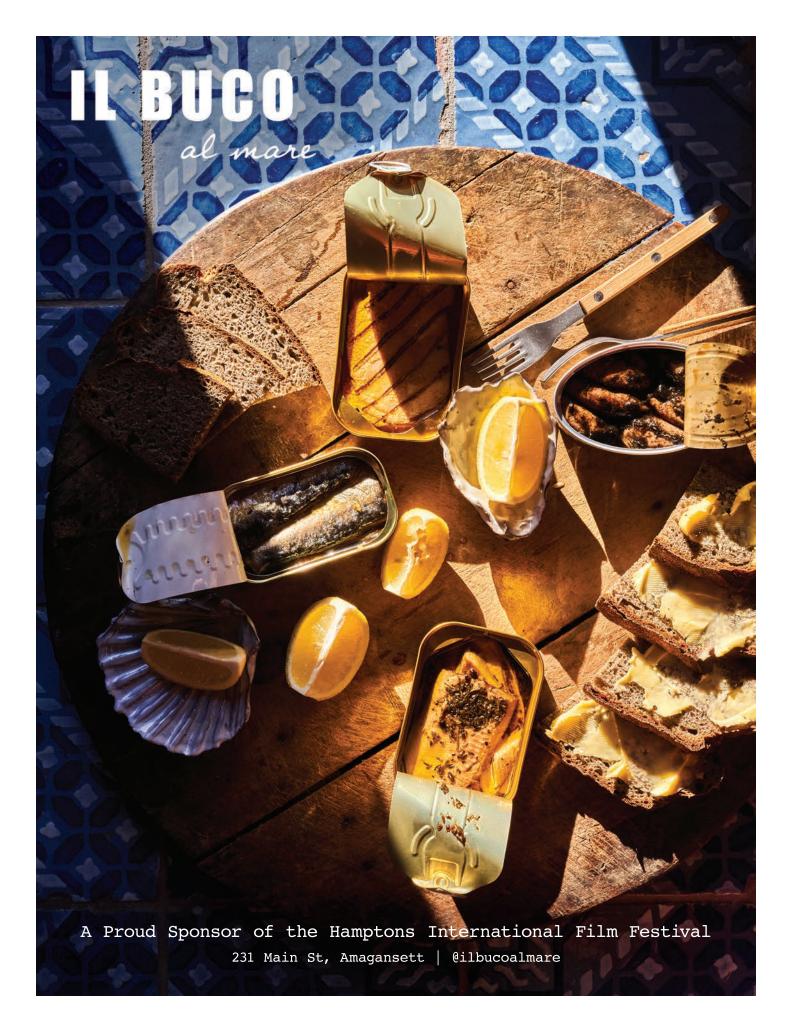




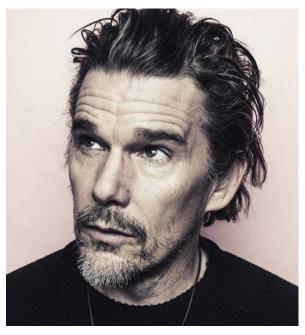


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#### A CONVERSATION WITH...



Ethan Hawke stars in BLUE MOON, screening 10/4 and 10/5 (see p. 26).

## ETHAN HAWKE

Ethan Hawke has long stood among cinema's most distinctive and quietly brilliant actors. In BLUE MOON, his ninth collaboration with Richard Linklater, he delivers a career-defining performance as Lorenz Hart—magnetic, emotionally raw, and deeply human.

Over nearly four decades, Hawke has continually reshaped his screen identity in acclaimed work like TRAINING DAY, BOYHOOD, the BEFORE trilogy, and FIRST REFORMED, for which he earned both Gotham and Independent Spirit Awards, plus over 30 critics prizes—including the rare trifecta of Best Actor honors from the New York Film Critics Circle, Los Angeles Film Critics Association, and National Society of Film Critics. His blazing turn as abolitionist "John Brown" in *The Good Lord Bird* earned Hawke a Peabody, a Gotham Award, and nominations from SAG, the Golden Globes, and TCA. Next, he stars in Sterlin Harjo's FX drama *The Lowdown*.

Across every genre and format, Hawke remains a fearless, ever-evolving screen artist.

Photographer: Francois Berthier

10/4 3:00PM

**EAST HAMPTON - EHMS** 

SPONSORED BY



#### A CONVERSATION WITH...



Elizabeth Olsen stars in our Opening Night Film ETERNITY on 10/3 (see p. 13).

# ELIZABETH OLSEN

Elizabeth Olsen stars in (and is an executive producer on) the A24 romantic comedy ETERNITY, the Opening Night Film at HIFF33. She recently completed production on the FX pilot *Seven Sisters*, where she reunited with director Sean Durkin, as well as the Warner Brothers thriller PANIC CAREFULLY, opposite Julia Roberts. Olsen is also set to star in the thriller FLESH OF THE GODS alongside Kristen Stewart and Oscar Isaac.

Additional film credits include THE ASSESSMENT; HIS THREE DAUGHTERS, which received the Robert Altman Award at the 2025 Film Independent Spirit Awards; the AVENGERS franchise; KODACHROME; INGRID GOES WEST; I SAW THE LIGHT; OLDBOY; VERY GOOD GIRLS; RED LIGHTS; SILENT HOUSE; and MARTHA MARCY MAY MARLENE, for which she received Critics Choice, Independent Spirit, and Gotham Award nominations.

Olsen's television credits include *Love and Death*, for which she received a Golden Globe nomination; *WandaVision*, for which she received Emmy®, Golden Globe and Critics Choice Award nominations; and *Sorry For Your Loss*. In addition, Olsen is a *New York Times* best-selling author with her children's book *Hattie Harmony: Worry Detective*.

10/4 12:00PM S

**SAG HARBOR - SHC1** 



# Truly inspiring

UBS is proud to support the Hamptons International Film Festival

#### **Eric Gioia**

Managing Director–Wealth Management 212-713-4194 eric.gioia@ubs.com

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Each year, the Hamptons International Film Festival recognizes a new class of emerging talents. These up-and-coming stars with uncommonly bright futures are celebrated at the Festival.

#### **UBS BREAKTHROUGH DIRECTOR**

# EVA VICTOR



Join Eva Victor in Q&A following our special screening of SORRY, BABY on Friday, October 10 (p. 70)

Eva Victor (they/she) is a writer-director and actor whose fearless character-forward comedic sensibility has cemented them as an undeniable triple threat to watch.

Victor has boldly established themself as a singular emerging cinematic voice with their feature directorial debut SORRY, BABY, which world premiered to massive acclaim at the Sundance Film Festival. The film, which Victor also wrote and stars in alongside Naomi Ackie and Lucas Hedges, was produced by Barry Jenkins' PASTEL. Following its premiere, SORRY, BABY quickly became the breakout film of this year's festival, winning the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award, with the jury praising its "stunning honesty [and] moving sense of humor." A24 acquired the rights to the film shortly after its premiere for a 2025 release.

Critics have lauded Victor as "an idiosyncratic and exciting new American artist," (*The Daily Beast*), "a breakaway talent" (*Esquire*) and "one of her generation's most insightful new voices" (*The Wrap*), among other praise.

Prior to SORRY, BABY, Victor cut her teeth in the comedy sphere, achieving significant success with myriad viral videos, which led The New York Times to deem them "a magnetic performer whose motormouth characters evoke the comic anxiety of Roz Chast cartoons." They have written for The New Yorker and Reductress, serving as an associate editor and staff writer at the latter, and made videos for Comedy Central. As an actor, Victor has appeared in several roles, most notably as Rian in the final three seasons of SHOWTIME's *Billions*.

Victor was born in Paris, France and is now based in Los Angeles, CA.

#### **UBS BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMER**

# *TONATIUH*



Join Tonatiuh in Q&A following our screening of THE KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN on Saturday, October 4 (p. 26).

Tonatiuh is an actor and screenwriter currently who stars as Molina in Bill Condon's KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN. Most recently. Tonatiuh starred in the Netflix thriller CARRY-ON (2024). alongside Taron Egerton and Jason Bateman.

His passion for the stage has led him to collaborate with prominent Los Angeles theatre companies, including IAMA Theatre Company, where he starred in Species Native to California and The House That Jake Built, and ECHO Theatre Company, where he delivered a standout performance in *Fixed*. On television, Tonatiuh starred as a series regular in ABC's *Promised Land*, and appeared in Peacock's *Angelyne*. He also lends his voice as a recurring character in Nickelodeon's *The Loud House*.

On the film side, he starred in the SXSW-selected indie feature DRUNK BUS and played a supporting lead in the indie dramedy SHOPLIFTERS OF THE WORLD.

# **NETFLIX** PROUDLY CONGRATULATES OUR SELECTIONS FOR THIS YEAR'S

# HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



ALL THE EMPTY ROOMS DIRECTED BY: JOSHUA SEFTEL



NOUVELLE VAGUE DIRECTED BY: RICHARD LINKLATER



THE PERFECT NEIGHBOR DIRECTED BY: GEETA GANDBHIR



THE STRINGER DIRECTED BY: BAO NGUYEN



TRAIN DREAMS DIRECTED BY: CLINT BENTLEY



WAKE UP DEAD MAN DIRECTED BY: RIAN JOHNSON

# SPOILIGHT KILLS

Our Spotlight screenings feature a diverse range of star-studded films that will no doubt count among the year's best.

**SPONSORED BY** 





#### A PRIVATE LIFE

10/7 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

10/11 2:15PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, FRANCE, 2025, 107 MINUTES, FRENCH

Academy Award® winner Jodie Foster (NYAD, HIFF 2023) stars in this playful and thrilling mystery from French director Rebecca Zlotowski. Lilian (Foster) is a renowned American psychiatrist living in Paris. Deeply troubled by the sudden death of one of her longtime patients (Virginie Efira), Lilian teams up with her ex-husband Gabriel (French film star Daniel Auteuil) to investigate what she believes is foul play. Foster and Auteuil light up the screen in this delightful Cannes hit, which merges titillating pursuits, whodunit intrigue, and even experimental hypnosis with the sophistication of French arthouse cinema. A Sony Pictures Classics release.

DIRECTOR: Rebecca Zlotowski

SCREENWRITERS: Anne Berest, Rebecca Zlotowski, in collaboration with Gaëlle Macé

PRODUCER: Frederic Jouve

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:** Albert Blasius

CAST: Jodie Foster, Daniel Auteuil, Virginie Efira, Mathieu Amalric, Vincent Lacoste,

Luàna Bajrami, Noam Morgensztern, Sophie Guillemin



#### AFTER THE HUNT

10/4 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/5 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - EHMS

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 138 MINUTES, ENGLISH

In this gripping psychological drama, a college professor (Academy Award® winner Julia Roberts) finds herself at a personal and professional crossroads when a star student (Emmy Award® winner Ayo Edebiri, *The Bear*) makes an accusation against one of her colleagues and a dark secret from her own past threatens to come to light. Director Luca Guadagnino (CALL ME BY YOUR NAME, CHALLENGERS) returns to HIFF with this shrewd and titillating indictment of cancel culture, featuring an all-star supporting cast including Andrew Garfield, Chloë Sevigny, and Michael Stuhlbarg. An Amazon Studios release.

DIRECTOR: Luca Guadagnino
SCREENWRITER: Nora Garrett

PRODUCERS: Brian Grazer, Luca Guadagnino, Jeb Brody, Allan Mandelbaum EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Karen Lunder, Justin Wilkes, Alice Dawson, Nora Garrett CAST: Julia Roberts, Ayo Edebiri, Andrew Garfield, Michael Stuhlbarg, Chloë Sevigny



#### **BLUE MOON**

10/4 12:00PM EAST HAMPTON - EHMS 10/5 8:30PM SAG HARBOR - SHC1

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA/IRELAND, 2025, 100 MINUTES, ENGLISH

On the evening of March 31, 1943, legendary lyricist Lorenz Hart (Academy Award® nominee Ethan Hawke) confronts his shattered self-confidence in Sardi's bar as his former collaborator Richard Rodgers (Emmy Award® nominee Andrew Scott, *Fleabag*) celebrates the opening night of his groundbreaking hit musical *Oklahoma!* Acclaimed director Richard Linklater evokes the warm nostalgia of a bygone era in New York, aided by a wistful soundtrack and a remarkable, chameleon-like performance from Hawke. Also featuring standout turns from Margaret Qualley and Bobby Cannavale, BLUE MOON is a charming and witty look at one icon's struggle to cope with the inevitable passage of time. A Sony Pictures Classics release.

**DIRECTOR:** Richard Linklater **SCREENWRITER:** Robert Kaplow

PRODUCERS: Mike Blizzard, John Sloss, Richard Linklater

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** David Kingland, Todd Rognes, Lisa Crnic, Aaron Wiederspahn, Macdara Kelleher, Donna Eperon, John Keville, Jim Selby, Victor Zaraya, Steven Farneth

CAST: Ethan Hawke, Margaret Qualley, Bobby Cannavale, Andrew Scott



#### **BUGONIA**

10/4 8:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

10/10 7:15PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL

#### EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, UK, 2025, 118 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Academy Award® winner Emma Stone (LA LA LAND) and nominee Jesse Plemons (THE POWER OF THE DOG) star in this explosive psychological thriller about a high-powered pharmaceutical CEO (Stone) who gets kidnapped by two conspiracy-obsessed young men (Plemons and newcomer Aidan Delbis). Convinced she is an alien intent on destroying planet Earth, the pair hold her hostage in hopes of disrupting her sinister plans. Academy Award winner Yorgos Lanthimos (POOR THINGS, THE FAVOURITE) returns to HIFF with this pitch-black comic window into our modern age of madness. A Focus Features release.

**DIRECTOR:** Yorgos Lanthimos **SCREENWRITER:** Will Tracy

**PRODUCERS:** Ed Guiney, Andrew Lowe, Yorgos Lanthimos, Emma Stone, Ari Aster, Lars Knudsen, Miky Lee, Jerry Kyoungboum Ko

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Yoon Sang Hyun, Khan Kwon, Mark Byrne, Chistian Vesper, Seb Shorr, Jang Joon Hwan, Handae Rhee

CAST: Emma Stone, Jesse Plemons, Aidan Delbis, Stavros Halkias, Alicia Silverstone



#### THE CHORAL

10/11 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL 10/12 11:15AM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

# US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, UK, 2025, 113 MINUTES, ENGLISH

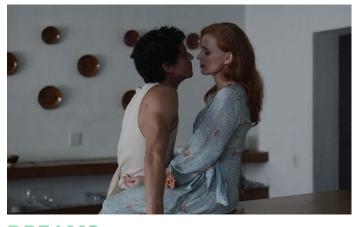
As World War I rages on the Western Front, the Choral Society in Ramsden, Yorkshire has lost most of its men to the army, leaving a ragtag group of women, elderly men, and boys too young to enlist. Determined to press ahead, the Choral's ambitious committee hires a new chorus master, Dr. Henry Guthrie (Academy Award® nominee Ralph Fiennes)—driven and uncompromising, but controversial due to his many years working in Germany. In the face of uncertainty, sacrifice, and loss, Guthrie sets out to help the community cope with the chaos laying waste to their lives through the power of music. A Sony Pictures Classics release.

DIRECTOR: Nicholas Hytner SCREENWRITER: Alan Bennett

PRODUCERS: Kevin Loader, Nicholas Hytner, Damian Jones

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Eva Yates, Caroline Cooper Charles, Paul Grindey, Charles Moore, Phil Hunt, Compton Ross

CAST: Ralph Fiennes, Roger Allam, Mark Addy, Alun Armstrong, Robert Emms, Lyndsey Marshal, Ron Cook, Amara Okereke, Emily Fairn, Shaun Thomas, Jacob Dudman, Oliver Briscombe, Taylor Uttley, Simon Russell Beale



#### **DREAMS**

10/4 8:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/5 2:30PM SAG HARBOR - SHC1

## NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, MEXICO/USA, 2025, 95 MINUTES, ENGLISH/SPANISH

In this sharp, unflinching social critique, a powerful American philanthropist (Academy Award® winner Jessica Chastain) and the promisingly talented Mexican ballet dancer she champions (Isaac Hernández) begin a salacious and dangerous affair. Each with their own threshold for risk and ramification, the pair revel in the compounding pleasure and destruction that threatens their reputations and livelihoods. But when the power imbalance between them shifts, any remaining affection transforms into pain and revenge. Charged with searing chemistry between Chastain and Hernández, DREAMS offers a heightened, allegorical portrayal of class dynamics with glaring honesty from director Michel Franco. A Greenwich Entertainment release.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Michel Franco
PRODUCERS: Eréndira Núñez Larios, Michel Franco, Alexander Rodnyansky
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Jessica Chastain, Kelly Carmichael
CAST: Jessica Chastain, Isaac Hernández, Rupert Friend



#### **FANTASY LIFE**

10/4 5:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/5 11:45AM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

#### NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 91 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Winner of the SXSW Audience Choice Award, Matthew Shear's directorial debut follows overly anxious and out of work Sam (Shear), who agrees to join his psychiatrist's (Judd Hirsch) family as a nanny for the summer on Martha's Vineyard. When Sam meets his charges' mother (Amanda Peet), a middle-aged actress in a rocky marriage, the pair form an intimate and unexpected bond. This charming indie comedy playfully explores themes of self-doubt and self-discovery and features a winning ensemble cast including Alessandro Nivola, Bob Balaban, Andrea Martin, Zosia Mamet, and Holland Taylor. A Greenwich Entertainment release.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Matthew Shear

**PRODUCERS:** Charlie Alderman, Christopher Dodd, David Bernon, Phil Keefe, Emily McCann Lesser, Amanda Peet, Sam Slater

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Alex Field, Greg Field, Matthew Shear

CAST: Amanda Peet, Matthew Shear, Allesandro Nivola, Judd Hirsch, Bob Balaban



#### **HAMNET**

10/5 2:00PM EAST HAMPTON - EHMS 10/12 1:45PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL

### EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, UK, 2025, 125 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Academy Award®-winning writer/director Chloé Zhao (NOMADLAND, HIFF 2020) returns with the powerful story of love and loss that likely inspired the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece Hamlet. Based on Maggie O'Farrell's best-selling novel of the same name, HAMNET follows William Shakespeare (Academy Award nominee Paul Mescal, AFTERSUN) and his wife Agnes (Academy Award nominee Jessie Buckley, WOMEN TALKING) from their early courtship to their unimaginable loss, and how their all-consuming grief influenced the writing of a masterpiece. With immersive and textured cinematography, Zhao's latest work is an emotional testament to the healing power of art. A Focus Features release.

**DIRECTOR:** Chloé Zhao

**SCREENWRITERS:** Chloé Zhao, Maggie O'Farrell

PRODUCERS: Liza Marshall, Pippa Harris, Nicolas Gonda, Steven Spielberg, Sam Mendes EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Kristie Macosko Krieger, Chloé Zhao, Laurie Borg

CAST: Jessie Buckley, Paul Mescal, Emily Watson, Joe Alwyn



#### **HEDDA**

10/4 2:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/9 8:45PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

## EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 107 MINUTES, ENGLISH

From writer-director Nia DaCosta comes a provocative, modernized reimagining of Henrik Ibsen's classic play *Hedda Gabler*. Tessa Thompson (HIFF Variety 10 Actors to Watch 2015) stars as Hedda, a brilliant but unsatisfied new bride who finds herself torn between the lingering ache of a past love and the quiet suffocation of her present life. Over the course of one debaucherous party at her extravagant estate, long-repressed desires and hidden tensions erupt—pulling her and everyone around her into a titillating spiral of manipulation, passion, and betrayal. An Orion Pictures/Amazon MGM Studios release.

**DIRECTOR:** Nia DaCosta

SCREENWRITER: Nia DaCosta, based on Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen
PRODUCERS: Dede Gardner, Jeremy Kleiner, Gabrielle Nadig, Nia DaCosta, Tessa Thompson
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Brad Pitt, Kishori Rajan, Michael S. Constable
CAST: Tessa Thompson, Imogen Poots, Tom Bateman, Nicholas Pinnock, Nina Hoss



#### HAD LEGS I'D KICK YOU

8:30PM SAG HARBOR - SHC1 10/4 10/5 2:30PM **EAST HAMPTON - UA1** 

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 113 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Golden Globe® Award and Emmy® Award nominee Rose Byrne (Damages) gives a wrenching, career-defining performance as Montauk therapist Linda, an overwhelmed mother whose life is crashing down around her. As she attempts to navigate her child's mysterious illness, her absent husband, a missing person, and an increasingly hostile relationship with her own therapist (Conan O'Brien), she becomes desperate for some kind of relief from her difficult reality. Director Mary Bronstein delivers a harrowing, surreal ride through Linda's psyche, vividly excavating anxieties around motherhood and the impossible expectations we place on ourselves. An A24 Films release.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Mary Bronstein

PRODUCERS: Sara Murphy, Ryan Zacarias, Ronald Bronstein, Josh Safdie, Eli Bush, Conor Hannon, Richie Doyle

CAST: Rose Byrne, Conan O'Brien, Danielle Macdonald, Christian Slater, A\$AP Rocky



#### IS THIS THING ON?

10/13 4:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 119 MINUTES, ENGLISH

As their marriage quietly unravels, Alex (Emmy Award® nominee Will Arnett) and Tess (Academy Award® winner Laura Dern) agree to separate. With Alex finding unlikely new purpose in standup comedy and ex-Olympic athlete Tess confronting the sacrifices she made for their family, they navigate co-parenting, identity, and whether their love can take a new form. The latest from Academy Award® nominee Bradley Cooper (MAESTRO, HIFF 2023), IS THIS THING ON? is a warm and charming look at middle-aged self-discovery and the bonds that help us make sense of life's unexpected turns. A Searchlight Pictures release.

**DIRECTOR:** Bradley Cooper

SCREENWRITERS: Bradley Cooper, Will Arnett, Mark Chappell PRODUCERS: Bradley Cooper, Weston Middleton, Will Arnett, Kris Thykier CAST: Will Arnett, Laura Dern, Andra Day, Bradley Cooper, Amy Sedaris, Sean Hayes,

Christine Ebersole, Ciarán Hinds, Scott Icenogle



#### KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

10/4 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - EHMS 10/5 11:00AM SAG HARBOR - SHC1

#### **NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 128 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

This emotionally charged adaptation of the Tony Award®-winning Broadway musical stars Diego Luna (Andor), Tonatiuh (HIFF 2025 UBS Breakthrough Performer), and global superstar Jennifer Lopez. In 1970s Argentina, political prisoner Valentín (Luna) shares a cell with Molina (Tonatiuh), a larger-than-life window dresser persecuted for his sexuality. The two form an unlikely bond as Molina recounts the plot of a Hollywood musical starring his favorite silver screen diva, Ingrid Luna (Lopez), challenging each of them to expand their world views. Accomplished director Bill Condon (DREAMGIRLS) returns to the movie musical in this story of political resistance punctuated with dazzling Technicolor-hued fantasy. A Roadside Attractions release.

At the 10/4 screening, Tonatiuh will receive the UBS Breakthrough Performer award and Bernard Telsey will receive the inaugural HIFF Achievement in Casting award.

**DIRECTOR:** Bill Condon

**SCREENWRITERS:** Bill Condon, Manuel Puig, Terrence McNally, John Kander, Fred Ebb PRODUCERS: Barry Josephson, Tom Kirdahy, Greg Yolen

CAST: Diego Luna, Tonatiuh, Jennifer Lopez



#### **NUREMBERG**

10/5 4:45PM EAST HAMPTON - EHMS 10/6 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 148 MINUTES, ENGLISH/GERMAN

Imprisoned Nazi leader Herman Göring (Academy Award® winner Russell Crowe) awaits the consequential Nuremberg Trials while chief prosecutor for The Allies Robert H. Jackson (Academy Award® nominee Michael Shannon) maps out his case against Göring. As US Army psychiatrist Douglas Kelley (Academy Award® winner Rami Malek) is tasked with keeping him alive through the trial, the pair develop a complicated doctor-patient dynamic in which boundaries dissolve and psychological warfare ensues. NUREMBERG's lauded leads and standout ensemble cast—including John Slattery, Colin Hanks, Richard E. Grant, and Leo Woodall—imbue this lesser-known piece of World War II history with thrilling suspense and palpable personal stakes. A Sony Pictures Classics release.

#### **DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** James Vanderbilt

PRODUCERS: Richard Saperstein, Bradley J. Fischer, James Vanderbilt, William Sherak, Frank Smith, Benjamin Tappan, Cherilyn Hawrysh, István Major, George Freeman EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Brooke Saperstein, Annie Saperstein, Beau Turpin, W. Porter Payne Jr., Jack El-Hai, Paul Neinstein, Géza Deme, Tamás Hajnal CAST: Russell Crowe, Rami Malek, Michael Shannon, Richard E. Grant, Leo Woodall, John Slattery, Mark O'Brien, Colin Hanks, Lydia Peckham, Wrenn Schmidt, Lotte Verbeek, Andreas Pietschmann



#### ON THE END

10/4 5:15PM SAG HARBOR - SHC1 10/5 7:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

### WORLD PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 112 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Tom (Tim Blake Nelson) is a down-on-his-luck Montauk mechanic who finds his fortune changing when he unexpectedly falls in love with Freckles (Mireille Enos), a fellow outcast. Their love is jeopardized when the town of East Hampton conspires to forcibly remove Tom from his beachfront home and auto repair shop. With delightful performances from an ensemble cast including Anna Chlumsky, Lois Smith, and Sawyer Spielberg, ON THE END is a love story inspired by true events that evolves into a David vs. Goliath battle against greed and power in the rapidly changing East End. *Also screening in the Views From Long Island section*.

#### **DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Ari Selinger

PRODUCERS: Raven Jensen, Jason Beekman, Harris Gurny, Matthew Heymann EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Tim Blake Nelson, Iris Cohen, Mark Selinger, J. Perkins, Ryan Miller, Will Janowitz, Niki Eve Aarons, Joanna Naugle, Evan Wolf Buxbaum CAST: Tim Blake Nelson, Mireille Enos, Lois Smith, Anna Chlumsky, James Badge Dale, Sawyer Spielberg



#### PETER HUJAR'S DAY

10/4 11:45AM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/5 4:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA/GERMANY, 2025, 76 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Ira Sachs' (FRANKIE, HIFF 2019) latest is a rich cinematic rendering of a conversation recorded in 1974 between two major figures in the legendary 1970s New York downtown scene: the singular writer Linda Rosenkrantz (Rebecca Hall) and the brilliant and famously uncompromising photographer Peter Hujar (Ben Whishaw). As the sun sets in Linda's West Side apartment, she interviews him about every detail of his previous 24 hours, including vivid recounts of interactions with contemporaries Allen Ginsberg and Susan Sontag. A masterclass in acting from Whishaw and Hall, PETER HUJAR'S DAY is an immersive rumination on both an artist's life and the ephemerality of time itself. A Sideshow/Janus release.

Preceded by the short film CAROL & JOY (see p. 87)

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Ira Sachs **PRODUCERS:** Jordan Drake, Jonah Disend

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Lucas Joaquin, Paul Weston, Corin Taylor, Michelle Jaffe, Martin Kalina, Ben Whishaw, Rebecca Hall, Adam Kersh

CAST: Ben Whishaw, Rebecca Hall



#### REBUILDING

10/10 4:30PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL 10/11 6:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

## EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 95 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Writer-director Max Walker-Silverman (2020 HIFF Screenwriters Lab alum) returns with this gently humanist story of the American West. Dusty (Josh O'Connor, CHALLENGERS) is a divorced father whose ranch burns down in a devastating wildfire. Living in a government-run trailer campsite with nearly nothing left, he seeks a way forward by reconnecting with his young daughter Callie-Rose (Lily LaTorre) and ex-wife Ruby (Emmy Award® nominee Meghann Fahy, *The White Lotus*) and by finding common ground with his new neighbors. Filmed against the rapturous backdrop of southern Colorado, REBUILDING is a ruminative, moving portrait of resilience and human connection in the wake of loss. A Bleecker Street release.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Max Walker-Silverman

PRODUCERS: Jesse Hope, Dan Janvey, Paul Mezey

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Douglas Choi, Phillipp Engelhorn, Sakurako Fisher, Andrew Goldman, Alex C. Lo, Jan McAdoo, Josh Peters, Robina Riccitiello, Bill Way, Elliott Whitton **CAST:** Josh O'Connor, Meghann Fahy, Amy Madigan, Kali Reis, Lily LaTorre, Nancy Morlan, Zeilyanna Martinez



#### RENTAL FAMILY

10/4 2:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

10/10 1:30PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 109 MINUTES, ENGLISH/ JAPANESE

Set in modern-day Tokyo, RENTAL FAMILY follows an American actor (Academy Award® winner Brendan Fraser) who struggles to find purpose until he lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese "rental family" agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers. As he immerses himself in his clients' worlds, he begins to form genuine bonds that blur the lines between performance and reality. Confronting the moral complexities of his work, he rediscovers purpose and belonging. RENTAL FAMILY is a touching depiction of the quiet beauty of human connection. A Searchlight Pictures release.

DIRECTOR: HIKARI

**SCREENWRITERS:** HIKARI, Stephen Blahut

PRODUCERS: Eddie Vaisman, Julia Lebedev, HIKARI, Shin Yamaguchi

CAST: Brendan Fraser, Takehiro Hira, Mari Yamamoto, Shannon Gorman, Akira Emoto



#### SENTIMENTAL VALUE

10/11 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL 10/12 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

# NARRATIVE FEATURE, NORWAY/FRANCE/DENMARK/GERMANY, 2025, 134 MINUTES, ENGLISH/NORWEGIAN

SENTIMENTAL VALUE reunites Renate Reinsve with director Joachim Trier (THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD, HIFF 2021) in this Cannes Grand Prix winner. After the loss of their mother, Nora (Reinsve) and Agnes (Inga Ibsdotter Lilleaas) reconnect with their estranged father, the charismatic, once-renowned filmmaker Gustav (Stellan Skarsgård). When Nora turns down a role written for her in Gustav's ambitious, highly personal new film, she soon finds he has instead given her part to an eager young Hollywood star (Elle Fanning). With masterfully rendered emotion, Trier delivers a stirring portrait of a family grasping for connection through grief and art when ordinary language fails. A NEON release.

**DIRECTOR:** Joachim Trier

**SCREENWRITERS:** Joachim Trier, Eskil Vogt

**PRODUCERS:** Maria Ekerhovd, Andrea Berentsen Ottmar

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Eva Yates, Tom Quinn, Jeff Deutchman, Alexandre Mallet-Guy **CAST:** Renate Reinsve, Stellan Skarsgård, Elle Fanning, Inga Ibsdotter Lilleaas

#### \*\*\* FILMS ON THIS PAGE ADDED AFTER PRINTED FILM GUIDE \*\*\*

# SPOTLIGHT FILMS

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#### CHRONOLOGY OF WATER

10/10 8:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/13 6:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

#### EAST COAST PREMIERE, USA/FRANCE/LATVIA, 2025, 126 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Marking the directorial debut of Academy Award® nominee Kristen Stewart and based on Lidia Yuknavitch's memoir, THE CHRONOLOGY OF WATER is a raw and unflinching portrait of survival, sexuality, and self-invention. The film traces Lidia's life from her earliest memories in the Pacific Northwest and her years as promising swimmer through fractured relationships, near-motherhood, addiction, and encounters with artistic heroes. Told as a fluid memory wash, the story transforms trauma into art. Not only a chronicle of a woman becoming a writer, the film is a visceral journey through the wreckage and resilience of a life lived against the grain. A The Forge release.

#### **DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Kristen Stewart

PRODUCERS: Michael Pruss, Rebecca Feuer, Charles Gillibert, Yulia Zayceva, Max Pavlov, Svetlana Punte, Maggie McLean, Kristen Stewart, Dylan Meyer, Andy Mingo EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Ridley Scott, Scott Aharoni, Sinan Eczasibasi, Alihan Yalcindag, Igor Pronin, Christian Vesper, Seb Shorr, Patrick Sutter, Danny Skutelis, Abigail Honor, Chris Cooper, Yan Vizinberg, Melanie Biessy, Daniel John Goldberg, Lidia Yuknavitch, Rhonda Hughes

**CAST:** Imogen Poots, Thora Birch, Susannah Flood, Tom Sturridge, Kim Gordon, Michael Epp, Jim Belushi



#### **JAY KELLY**

10/11 8:15PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL 10/12 8:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### USA, 2025, 132 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Famous movie actor Jay Kelly (Academy Award® winner George Clooney) and his devoted manager Ron (Golden Globe® nominee Adam Sandler) find themselves unexpectedly traveling through Europe together. Each at a point of nostalgic reflection in their lives, Jay and Ron take stock of their personal regrets and notable industry glories. Led by stellar performances charged with humor and wisdom, four-time Academy Award nominee Noah Baumbach's (MARRIAGE STORY, HIFF 2019) JAY KELLY is a sensitive portrayal of the questions we ask once life's major milestones are behind us. A Netflix release.

**DIRECTOR:** Noah Baumbach

SCREENWRITERS: Noah Baumbach, Emily Mortimer
PRODUCERS: David Heyman, Amy Pascal, Noah Baumbach
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Donald Sabourin, Emily Mortimer

CAST: George Clooney, Adam Sandler, Billy Crudup, Laura Dern, Grace Edwards, Stacy Keach, Riley Keough, Emily Mortimer, Patrick Wilson, Isla Fisher, Nicôle Lecky, Thaddea Graham, Jim Broadbent, Eve Hewson, Alba Rohrwacher, Lenny Henry, Josh Hamilton, Greta Gerwig

# WORLD CINEMA: DOCUMENTARY



#### THE NEW YORKER AT 100

10/9 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/12 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5

#### USA, 2025, 96 MINUTES, ENGLISH

In a new documentary by Academy Award®-winning director Marshall Curry (THE NEIGHBORS' WINDOW) and narrated by Academy Award winner Julianne Moore, THE NEW YORKER AT 100 gives viewers a rare glimpse inside the century-old machine, showing how the words and images printed on its pages have shaped politics and culture. Using archival materials alongside interviews with heavy-hitting contributors like Hilton Als, Roz Chast, and Ronan Farrow as well as notable fans of The New Yorker including Jesse Eisenberg, Ronny Chieng, and Molly Ringwald, the film provides a rare glimpse into the legacy and current dynamics of one of America's preeminent publications. A Netflix release.

**DIRECTOR:** Marshall Curry

PRODUCERS: Marshall Curry, Xan Parker

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Judd Apatow, Michael Bonfiglio, Josh Church, Amanda

Rohlke, Helen Estabrook, Sarah Amos



#### TRAIN DREAMS

10/10 8:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

10/12 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL

#### EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 101 MINUTES, **ENGLISH**

Based on Denis Johnson's beloved novella of the same name, TRAIN DREAMS is the moving portrait of Robert Grainier (Joel Edgerton, in a magnetic lead performance), a logger and railroad worker who leads a life of unexpected depth and beauty in the rapidly-changing American West of the early 20th century. Academy Award®-nominated writer-director Clint Bentley (JOCKEY, HIFF 2021) and Academy Award® nominated co-writer Greg Kwedar (SING SING, HIFF 2024) craft a sweeping and visually lush epic of one man's place in American history, featuring fantastic supporting turns from Felicity Jones, William H. Macy, and Kerry Condon. A Netflix release.

**DIRECTOR:** Clint Bentlev

SCREENWRITERS: Clint Bentley, Greg Kwedar, based on the novella by Denis Johnson PRODUCERS: Marissa McMahon, Teddy Schwarzman, Will Janowitz, Ashley Schlaifer,

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Joel Edgerton, Scott Hinckley, Greg Kwedar, John Friedberg

CAST: Joel Edgerton, Felicity Jones, William H. Macy, Kerry Condon



#### WAKE UP DEAD MAN: A KNIVES OUT MYSTERY

10/5 8:30PM EAST HAMPTON - EHMS 10/13 7:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 144 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Everyone's favorite modern movie detective Benoit Blanc (Daniel Craig) is back on the case for the third installment of this beloved murder-mystery franchise, following KNIVES OUT (HIFF 2019) and GLASS ONION (HIFF 2022). Set in a small-town church, WAKE UP DEAD MAN: A KNIVES OUT MYSTERY follows Blanc as he cleverly tries to solve another seemingly uncrackable case. Josh Brolin, Glenn Close, Kerry Washington, Jeremy Renner, Cailee Spaeny, Andrew Scott, Josh O'Connor, and Mila Kunis join the star-studded ensemble for the most dangerous installment of Rian Johnson's franchise yet. A Netflix release.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Rian Johnson PRODUCERS: Ram Bergman, Rian Johnson **EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Tom Karnowski

CAST: Daniel Craig, Josh O'Connor, Glenn Close, Josh Brolin, Mila Kunis, Jeremy Renner, Kerry Washington, Andrew Scott, Cailee Spaeny, Daryl McCormack, Thomas Haden Church

# SPECIAL SCREENING



**NOSFERATU: A SYMPHONY OF HORROR** 

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, GERMANY, 1922, 95 MINUTES, SILENT (WITH **ENGLISH INTERTITLES**)

Kick off HIFF's second weekend with silent film and live music! For over a century, NOSFERATU has been celebrated as a masterpiece of the silent era. The saga of the vampire Count Orlok (Max Schreck) has inspired generations of gothic horror-including Robert Eggers' acclaimed version last year. Now the original's raw power has been reborn with a modern score written and performed by Austin-based band Invincible Czars. With this one-of-a-kind event, the group brings its unique musical achievement to the Southampton Playhouse as part of its monthlong Halloween programming. Past and present collide as the Czars imbue the movie with new life. Film courtesy of Kino Lorber.

**DIRECTOR:** F.W. Murnau WRITER: Henrik Galeen

CAST: Max Schreck, Greta Schroder

# SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Explore our distinctive programs: these exclusive screenings, conversations, guests, and special events are unique to the Hamptons International Film Festival.

FILMS OF CONFLICT & RESOLUTION VIEWS FROM LONG ISLAND AIR, LAND, & SEA COMPASSION, JUSTICE, & ANIMAL RIGHTS	34
	37
	41
	45
MORNING TALKS AT VILLAGE BISTRO	47

This program is dedicated to showcasing films that deal with the complex issues and societal effects of war, violence, and injustice. Since this signature section was launched over 25 years ago, it has continued to stimulate discussion about major issues and conflicts of our time.

With support from Brizzolara Family Foundation (see p. 51).



#### **COVER-UP**

10/11

5:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

10/12 4:00PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 117 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

In this timely and revelatory political thriller, Academy Award® winner Laura Poitras (ALL THE BEAUTY AND THE BLOODSHED, HIFF 2023) and Emmy Award® winner Mark Obenhaus trace the explosive career of Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter Seymour Hersh. Urgent and deeply reported, COVER-UP is both a portrait of a relentless journalist and an indictment of institutional violence that reveals a cycle of impunity in U.S. military and intelligence agencies across decades. Drawing on exclusive access to Hersh's notes and interweaving primary documents and archival footage with intimate firsthand interviews, Poitras and Obenhaus capture the intensive process and essential power of investigative journalism. Also screens in the World Cinema Documentary section.

**DIRECTORS:** Laura Poitras, Mark Obenhaus

PRODUCERS: Yoni Golijov, Laura Poitras, Mark Obenhaus, Olivia Streisand

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Thomas MacWhirr, Brad Pitt, Dede Gardner, Jeremy Kleiner, Josh

Braun, Nick Shumaker



# THE EYES OF GHANA

10/4 2:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/11 2:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5

# US PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 90 MINUTES, ENGLISH/TWI/GA

In his debut feature, two-time Academy Award®-winning director Ben Proudfoot and executive producers Michelle and Barack Obama dazzle with a cinematic message about the essential role of filmmaking in protecting a healthy democracy. When Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first democratically elected leader, was overthrown in a military coup in 1966, all film records of his leadership were destroyed. Now, his 93-year-old personal cinematographer Chris Hesse reveals a decades-long secret: he covertly preserved film negatives of Nkrumah that document his monumental influence on Africa's post-colonial history. Uplifting and timely, THE EYES OF GHANA features thrilling anecdotes alongside remarkable previously lost footage of Nkrumah with notable world leaders. Also screens in the Documentary Competition section.

**DIRECTOR:** Ben Proudfoot

**PRODUCERS:** Nana Adwoa Frimpong, Ben Proudfoot, Moses Bwayo, Anita Afonu, Brandon Somerhalder. Ethan Lewis. Vinnie Malhotra

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, John Akomfrah, Dan & Lian Gill, Max Johnson, Jonathan E. Lim, Michael Risley, Josh Rosenberg, David Treatman, Esther Wojcicki



# **HOLDING LIAT**

10/11 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/12 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

#### DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 97 MINUTES, ENGLISH/HEBREW

After Israeli-American Liat Beinin Atzili and her husband Aviv are kidnapped from their kibbutz on October 7th, 2023, director Brandon Kramer observes different generations of his extended family as they grapple with conflicting perspectives on the agonizing situation. Kramer follows Liat's father Yehuda as he travels to Washington D.C. to fight for the hostages' release, thrusting the family into the global conversation. Winner of the Best Documentary Award at the Berlin Film Festival and produced by Academy Award® nominee Darren Aronofsky, HOLDING LIAT sensitively captures the moral complexities and intimate reflections of one family at the center of an evolving conflict.

With support from Susie + Michael Gelman

**DIRECTOR:** Brandon Kramer

**PRODUCERS:** Darren Aronofsky, Lance Kramer, Yoni Brook, Ari Handel, Justin A. Gonçalves **EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Elliot Joseph, Janine Frier, Alexandra Shiva, Ted Haddock, Albert

Wenger, Gigi Danzinger



10/4 4:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/5 3:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA/UK, 2025, 96 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

Lynsey Addario is not afraid to face bombs and gunfire to capture a photograph—it's in her job description as a Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist. Academy Award®-winning filmmakers E. Chai Vasarhelyi and Jimmy Chin (FREE SOLO, NYAD) portray Addario's ascent in the male-dominated world of conflict photography through adrenaline-fueled moments of Addario photographing Ukraine during the early days of the invasion juxtaposed with scenes from her comparatively mundane life in England, where she raises her two young sons with her supportive husband. LOVE+WAR intimately explores the challenge of balancing work life and home life through a poignant, unique lens. A National Geographic release.

DIRECTORS: E. Chai Vasarhelyi, Jimmy Chin

PRODUCERS: E. Chai Vasarhelyi, Jimmy Chin, Shannon Dill, Anna Barnes

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Carolyn Bernstein, Tim Horsburgh



#### THE VOICE OF HIND RAJAB

10/11 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/12 5:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, TUNISIA, 2025, 89 MINUTES, ARABIC

Academy Award®-nominated Tunisian director Kaouther Ben Hania (FOUR DAUGHTERS, HIFF 2023) returns with a docu-drama based on the true story of Hind Rajab, a 6-year-old Palestinian girl trapped in a car in war-torn Gaza, pleading for rescue from the Palestine Red Crescent Society. As the team of volunteers comfort the terrified child on the line, they rush to assemble a safe plan to reach her by ambulance. With her signature approach blending fiction and documentary, Ben Hania incorporates the real audio recording of Hind's voice with a fictional reenactment of the volunteers' efforts, highlighting the impossible choices faced by those living through war. A Willa Release.

With additional support from Leila Straus

**DIRECTOR:** Kaouther Ben Hania

PRODUCERS: Nadim Cheikhrouha, Odessa Rae, James Wilson CAST: Saja Kilani, Motaz Malhees, Clara Khoury, Amer Hlehel

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Jonathan Glazer, Joaquin Phoenix, Rooney Mara, Alfonso Cuarón,

Brad Pitt, Geralyn White Dreyfous

# FILMS OF CONFLICT & RESOLUTION SHORTS PROGRAM

10/10 2:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 72 MINUTES



#### ALL THE EMPTY ROOMS

DIRECTOR: Joshua Seftel

Reporter Steve Hartman and photographer Lou Bopp embark on a cross-country journey to memorialize the bedrooms of children lost to school shootings.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 33 MINUTES, ENGLISH

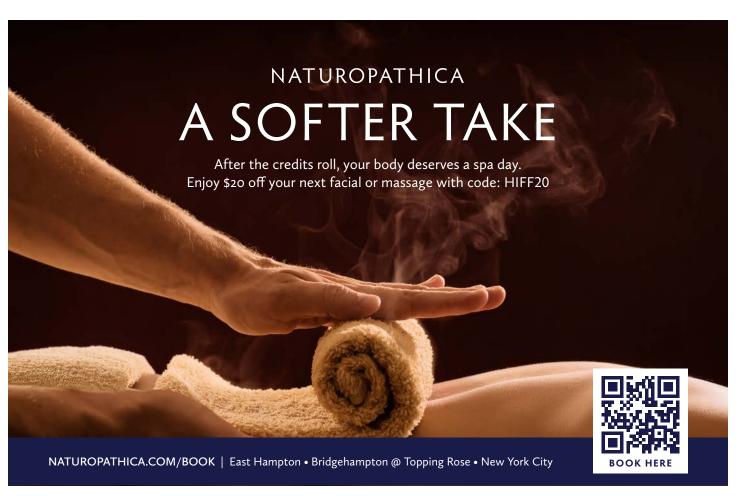


#### CLASSROOM 4

**DIRECTOR:** Eden Wurmfeld

In a course taught inside a prison, college students learn about the history of crime and punishment in the US alongside incarcerated classmates.

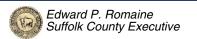
NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 39 MINUTES, ENGLISH





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In 2002, HIFF and longtime partner the Suffolk County Film Commission inaugurated the Views From Long Island program, focusing on local filmmakers, the area's unique landscapes, and the important social and political issues facing Long Island communities today. One narrative film from this section will receive the Suffolk County Film Commission Next Exposure Grant (see p. 51).



#### **ARTHUR ELGORT: MODELS & MUSES**

10/10 5:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/11 5:30PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

#### **WORLD PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 83 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

Famed photographer and Southampton resident Arthur Elgort defined an era of *Vogue*, introduced the candid 'snapshot' style of modern fashion photography, and lensed the legendary supermodels of the '80s and '90s. Now, the artist becomes muse and subject in this dynamic and affectionate portrait directed by his son Warren Elgort. Pairing iconic archival footage and photos with present-day, star-studded interviews with industry icons including Anna Wintour, Linda Evangelista, Christy Turlington, Cindy Crawford, and Grace Coddington, ARTHUR ELGORT: MODELS & MUSES effectively blends nostalgia with timeless style and inspiration.

**DIRECTOR:** Warren Elgort

PRODUCERS: Warren Elgort, Emma Elgort

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Anne Goursaud, Hamilton South



#### ON THE END

10/4 5:15PM SAG HARBOR - SHC1 10/5 7:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

# WORLD PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 112 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Tom (Tim Blake Nelson) is a down-on-his-luck Montauk mechanic who finds his fortune changing when he unexpectedly falls in love with Freckles (Mireille Enos), a fellow outcast. Their love is jeopardized when the town of East Hampton conspires to forcibly remove Tom from his beachfront home and auto repair shop. With delightful performances from an ensemble cast including Anna Chlumsky, Lois Smith, and Sawyer Spielberg, ON THE END is a love story inspired by true events that evolves into a David vs. Goliath battle against greed and power in the rapidly changing East End. *Also screens in Spotlight section*.

#### **DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Ari Selinger

PRODUCERS: Raven Jensen, Jason Beekman, Harris Gurny, Matthew Heymann EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Tim Blake Nelson, Iris Cohen, Mark Selinger, J. Perkins, Ryan Miller, Will Janowitz, Niki Eve Aarons, Joanna Naugle, Evan Wolf Buxbaum CAST: Tim Blake Nelson, Mireille Enos, Lois Smith, Anna Chlumsky, James Badge Dale, Sawyer Spielberg



#### THE SECRETS WE BURY

10/4 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/5 11:15AM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

#### WORLD PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 84 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Patricia Gillespie (THEY CALLED HIM MOSTLY HARMLESS, HIFF 2023) returns with an enthralling homegrown murder investigation that unfolded entirely in Suffolk County. THE SECRETS WE BURY follows the Carroll siblings on their mission to find answers about their father's mysterious disappearance 58 years ago. When the family's search leads them to their Lake Grove childhood home, they uncover a story much darker than anything they could have imagined. Thrust into the media spotlight, the foundations of the Carrolls' tight-knit family are shaken as they try to reconcile their childhood memories with the horrifying truth, highlighting the corrosive power of secrets.

**DIRECTOR:** Patricia E. Gillespie **PRODUCER:** Jessica Horowitz

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** James Buddy Day, Patricia E. Gillespie, Linsey Romero, Liz Massie



### **THOUGHTS OF INFINITY**

#### WORLD PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2024, 81 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Abstract painter James Howell has created over 400 works composed entirely of varying shades of gray. For Howell, gray embodies the "in-between" space of both color and existence. His paintings reflect not only his technical skill but also a deep, meditative spirit that permeates this documentary, exploring ideas of Taoism, meditation, and Howell's relationship with public perception. Transporting viewers from the chaos of everyday life to the serene landscapes of the Pacific Northwest and Montauk—where he had a home for 20 years—THOUGHTS OF INFINITY is a tastefully crafted portrayal of a thought-provoking artist.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Halina Krystyna Dyrschka **PRODUCERS:** Halina Krystyna Dyrschka, Laura Bardier



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# VIEWS FROM LONG ISLAND SHORTS

10/5 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/9 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 **101 MINUTES** 



#### **BORN 2 LOSE**

**DIRECTOR:** Carlos Cardona

In 2005, sixteen-year-old Latino punk rocker Andrew navigates the hierarchical world of high school in the Hamptons.

NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 33 MINUTES, ENGLISH/SPANISH



# LET'S NOT SUFFER AT THE END OF THE WORLD

**DIRECTOR:** MC Harvey

In the hopes of spending a romantic weekend at the end of the world (Montauk), Mia waits for her boyfriend to arrive.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 12 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### PORTRAIT OF THE LIGHTHOUSE

**DIRECTOR:** Emily Anderson

Painter Megan Euell sets out to capture the iconic Montauk Lighthouse, revealing a deep-rooted connection between place, memory, and art.

WORLD PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2024, 6 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### SHIRIN NESHAT: VOICE OF A WOMAN

**DIRECTOR:** Sophie Chahinian

Acclaimed and exiled Iranian-American artist Shirin Neshat discusses the foremost theme of her work: women's bodies as a locus for political and religious exploitation.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2024, 17 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **SIREN**

**DIRECTOR:** Raina Yang

After Raven grows apart from her husband, the haunting presence of a mysterious stranger ignites her unspeakable desires.

WORLD PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA/ CHINA, 2025, 17 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **WEST LANDING**

**DIRECTOR:** Doug Gallo

As open-water swimmers gather every morning in Hampton Bays, their daily swims provide a sense of community, friendship, purpose, and joy.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 16 MINUTES, ENGLISH





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# LUMINARA

Founded in 2016 with the goal to generate awareness around man-made environmental issues, this section fosters a deeper appreciation for our planet, and allows filmmakers and experts to share information and discuss solutions to the global issues of environmental conservation. Air, Land + Sea began from an idea brought to us by Nicole Delma.



# NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 89 MINUTES, ENGLISH

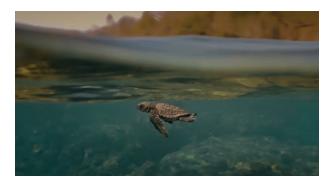
While women were once considered bad luck at sea, marine biologist Dr. Edie Widder built her career investigating the mysteries of the ocean. A trailblazer as the first woman in her field, Widder led the effort to understand and record deep-sea bioluminescence, the phenomenon that allows life to survive in the darkest parts of the ocean. A LIFE ILLUMINATED blends archival scenes from the pioneering dives that launched her career with breathtaking new footage from her latest feat: descending 3,300 feet beneath the ocean's surface to make a discovery that could change how we understand life on Earth.

#### A LIFE ILLUMINATED

10/4 12:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/10 8:00PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3 **DIRECTOR:** Tasha Van Zandt

SCREENWRITERS: Tasha Van Zandt, Sebastian Zeck, Eileen Meyer PRODUCERS: Tasha Van Zandt, Sebastian Zeck, Jessica Harrop, Kathryn Everett

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Alison Klayman, Ray Dalio



#### DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, INDIA/USA, 2024, 75 MINUTES, ENGLISH/HINDI

In January of 1977, a chance discovery of a sea turtle nest changed the course of Satish Bhaskar's life. Dedicating his life to spearheading the efforts to protect the coastline and research sea turtles and their vital natural habitats, Bhaskar risked his safety to survey and map 2500 miles of India's shores on foot in his commitment to safeguard the animals from extinction. With awe-inspiring visuals, director Taira Malaney powerfully recreates his early expeditions exploring the uninhabited beaches where sea turtles nest, and, decades later, introduces those working to continue his legacy after the devastating environmental effects of the 2004 tsunami.

#### **TURTLE WALKER**

10/9 5:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/10 12:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 **DIRECTOR:** Taira Malaney

**SCREENWRITERS:** Taira Malaney, Sam Rogers

**PRODUCERS:** Zoya Akhtar, Reema Kagti, Vikram Malaney, Angad Dev Singh, Taira Malaney **EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Isabelle Couture, James Reed, Sean B. Carroll, Jared Lipworth



#### **YANUNI**

10/4 3:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/5 5:00PM SAG HARBOR - SHC2

#### DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, AUSTRIA/BRAZIL/USA/CANADA/GERMANY, 2025, 112 MINUTES, PORTUGUESE

HIFF alum Richard Ladkani (THE IVORY GAME, 2016) returns with this riveting cinematic portrait of Juma Xipaia, a charismatic Indigenous chief from the remote Brazilian Amazon who rises to the global frontlines of climate justice. After surviving six assassination attempts, she becomes Brazil's first Secretary of Indigenous Rights while her husband, a federal environmental agent, leads dangerous operations against illegal gold mines deep in the rainforest. As Juma navigates political power, growing threats, and impending motherhood, she confronts the personal cost of resistance. At once intimate and epic, YANUNI is a powerful story of Indigenous sovereignty, love, and the urgent fight to protect the planet we call home.

**DIRECTOR:** Richard Ladkani

PRODUCERS: Anita Ladkani, Richard Ladkani, Juma Xipaia, Leonardo DiCaprio, Jennifer

Davisson, Phillip Watson

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Joanna Natasegara, Laura Nix, Eric Terena, Dax Dasilva, Martin

Choroba, Philipp Schall



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# AIR, LAND, & SEA SHORTS PROGRAM

LUMINARA

#### 10/11 1:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

**81 MINUTES** 



#### ISLAND WILLING

**DIRECTOR:** Cece King

The community on Chile's Robinson Crusoe Island—home to more endemic species per square kilometer than the Galápagos-defends its culture of stewardship against outside pressures.

**WORLD PREMIERE,** DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 29 MINUTES, **SPANISH** 



#### **QOTZŨNI: PEOPLE OF THE LAKE**

DIRECTORS: Gastón Zilberman, Michael Salama

After the disappearance of Lake Poopó, the Uru-Murato communities must face what it means to be Qotzünis, or "People of the Lake."

**DOCUMENTARY SHORT,** ARGENTINA/USA, 2024, 12 MINUTES, SPANISH/ QUECHUA



#### SALLIE'S ASHES

**DIRECTOR:** Brennan Robideaux

Faced with terminal cancer, 80-year-old Sallie Smith rallies a team of fellow Alabama grandmas to fight for the removal of a toxic coal ash pit.

**EAST COAST PREMIERE.** DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 40 MINUTES, **ENGLISH** 





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Matrimonial & Family Law

Municipal Law
Non-Profit Law
Personal Injury
Real Estate
Tax Grievances/Certiorari
Taxation
Trademarks & Copyrights
Wills, Trusts & Estates

This program provides a platform for filmmakers to share stories of inspiration that raise awareness about the moral and ethical treatment and the rights of animals. These films seek to arouse dialogue among viewers and encourage respect for the dignity of all living beings. Created in 2012 in partnership with longtime educator and animal rights advocate Zelda Penzel, with support from our generous donors (see p. 119).



#### **WORLD PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 56 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

HIFF alum Allison Argo (THE LAST PIG, 2017) invites the viewer to reimagine our relationship with farm animals as one that leads with empathy and care. FOREVER HOME documents the heartwarming journey of building the Piedmont Farm Animal Refuge, a unique animal sanctuary in North Carolina founded by Lenore Braford and Paul Drake. While Lenore cares for the animals, Paul is an architect whose innovative approach meets the needs of their furry residents. As they build vertical spaces for goats and sunlit houses for chickens, the couple demonstrate compassion, expertise, and friendship for humans and non-humans alike.

#### **FOREVER HOME**

10/7 7:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/8 5:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER/PRODUCER: Allison Argo



#### EAST COAST PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 98 MINUTES, **ENGLISH/JUL'HOAN**

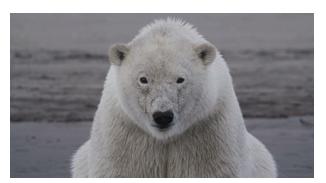
Filmmaking legend Werner Herzog (INTO THE INFERNO, HIFF 2016) follows Dr. Steve Boyes through the wooded, mist-shrouded Bié Plateau of Angola in his search for evidence of an elusive herd of giant elephants, who have gone undetected by modern technology for decades. Boyes sets out with master trackers from Namibia to achieve his dream of seeing these mythical animals in reality, but soon encounters a deeper underlying ethical question: would it not be better to keep these gigantic elephants hidden from the threat of human contact? A National Geographic release.

#### **GHOST ELEPHANTS**

10/4 11:15AM SAG HARBOR - SHC2 10/12 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 **DIRECTOR:** Werner Herzog

PRODUCERS: Werner Herzog, Ariel Leon Isacovitch

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Brian Nugent, Andrew Trapani, David Sze, David B. Kirk, Emerson G. Farrell, Richard Sneider, Christopher White, Veronica Ferres, Ralf Berchtold, Casey Graf, Steve Boyes, David Garrett, Carolyn Bernstein, Tim Horsburgh



#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, UK/AUSTRALIA, 2025, 98 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

In this bombshell exposé that examines how we protect threatened species on a global level, three eco-warriors from different walks of life team up in a fight to protect polar bears from international trade. Filming over six years across nine countries, director Abraham Joffe follows the investigation into the black-market fur trade until his subjects uncovers a disturbing truth: those entrusted with safeguarding the species may be entangled in their continued commercialization. Executive produced by Academy Award® winner Adam McKay (THE BIG SHORT), TRADE SECRET poses urgent questions about how we protect the most vulnerable when the lines between protection and exploitation have become blurred.

#### TRADE SECRET

10/5 5:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/6 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 **DIRECTOR:** Abraham Joffe

PRODUCERS: Abraham Joffe, Louis Cooper Robinson, Dom West

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Martin Hughes, Celestina Hughes, Adam McKay



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VILLAGE BISTRO

10 MAIN ST., EAST HAMPTON



Each year, HIFF kicks off our weekend festival days with our long-running Morning Talks series. Come enjoy complimentary breakfast pastries alongside coffee and tea over engaging and insightful conversations from seasoned leaders and up-and-coming voices across the film industry. From dynamic panel discussions probing the ever-evolving challenges and opportunities in the entertainment landscape to in-depth Q&A sessions with filmmaking icons, HIFF Morning Talks are the perfect place to get the inside scoop on the craft and business of filmmaking.

This year's Morning Talks will cover everything from the early conception of a feature film to the tangible impact storytelling can make in the real world once films are released. Expect frank insight, rousing anecdotes, and intimate conversation from this year's crop of filmmakers and participants. Please visit our website for forthcoming details on individual participants by date.



#### **VILLAGE BISTRO: 10 MAIN STREET, EAST HAMPTON**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 10:00AM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 | 10:00AM SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 | 10:00AM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 | 10:00AM SPONSORED BY





# PROUD SPONSOR OF HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL MORNING TALKS

MODERN LUXURY

# HAMPTONS



# ART LOVERS HAVE GREAT TASTE

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# *AUDIENCE AWARDS*

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# **HAMPTONS**

Through Festival-wide balloting, HIFF audiences will select their favorite films in three categories.



- Best Narrative Feature Film
- Best Documentary Feature Film
- Best Short Film

HIFF has proudly bestowed close to five million dollars over the past thirty-three years. This year, we are honored to be rewarding emerging filmmakers with \$99,000 in cash, as well as over \$142,500 in in-kind goods and services, through the following awards.

# COMPETITION AWARDS

# NARRATIVE FEATURE

The Narrative Feature Competition honors emerging directors who represent cinema's next generation of innovative film artists.

Juried by world-class filmmakers and industry professionals, the winning Narrative Feature film receives a \$2,500 cash prize as well as a film production package of in-kind goods and services, with a total value of \$92,500.

# DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Featuring an array of powerful subjects, the Documentary Feature Competition honors new and distinctive voices in documentary filmmaking. Juried by world-class filmmakers and industry professionals, the winning Documentary Feature film receives a \$2,500 cash prize as well as a film production package of in-kind goods and services, with a total value of \$50,000.

#### NARRATIVE SHORT FILM

Featuring exceptional technique and storytelling, the Narrative Short Competition honors the fresh perspectives of up-and-coming filmmakers. Juried by world-class filmmakers and industry professionals, the Narrative Short Competition winner will take home a cash prize of \$1,000 and qualify for Academy Award® consideration.

#### DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM

The Documentary Short Competition celebrates new and emerging voices in the documentary film world. Juried by world-class filmmakers and industry professionals, the Documentary Short Competition winner will take home a cash prize of \$1,000 and qualify for Academy Award consideration.

# ADDITIONAL AWARDS

# The Subject Matter Award: \$50,000

Subject Matter awards a \$25,000 grant to a documentary film in the HIFF program that highlights an urgent social issue in an effort to reach more audiences, along with a \$25,000 grant to a nonprofit working on the issue featured in the film. The Subject Matter team will attend the HIFF screenings to invite inspired audiences to create a positive community action in response to the film.

#### The Artemis Rising Foundation Award for Social Impact: \$10,000

The Artemis Rising Foundation champions powerful stories about our most challenging social justice issues—including gender-bias, healing, trauma, mental health, addiction and women's empowerment. This award will honor one film that transforms our culture and challenges the status quo.

# The Peter Macgregor-Scott Memorial Award - \$10,000

This award continues the celebrated producer's mentorship for a new generation of passionate filmmakers. Sponsored by Susan Macgregor-Scott, this award is specifically designed to recognize narrative short filmmakers and reward creative approaches to solving practical production challenges in the service of storytelling.

#### Brizzolara Family Foundation Award for Films of Conflict & Resolution - \$5,000

Given to a film in the Films of Conflict and Resolution section, which showcases films that focus on the realities of war and conflict around the world and inspire possibilities for resolution.

#### The Sherzum Award - \$5,000

Sponsored by producer Jayne Baron Sherman, a long time LGBTQ+ activist, this award is designed to acknowledge and foster stories about LGBTQ+ people, issues and concerns. Named for Jayne and her wife Deborah Zum, the Sherzum Award will encourage films that show the realities and challenges—as well as successes—of the people and communities it represents.

# The Zelda Penzel Giving Voice to the Voiceless Award - \$2,500

Given to a film in the Compassion, Justice and Animal Rights section that provokes discussion about animal rights, as well as moral and ethical treatment of animals. Given by Zelda Penzel—longtime educator, advocate, and volunteer at HIFF.

#### The Victor Rabinowitz & Joanne Grant Award For Social Justice - \$2,000

Given to a film that exemplifies the values of peace, equality, global justice, and civil liberties; named in honor of two people who spent their entire lives fighting for those values.

# Suffolk County Next Exposure Grant - \$3,000

Awarded to a film that has completed 50% of principal photography within Suffolk County, New York. Presented by the Suffolk County Film Commission.

#### New York Women in Film & Television Awards - \$1,000, Excellence in Narrative Filmmaking, \$1,000, Excellence in Documentary Filmmaking

These awards honor outstanding female and nonbinary narrative and documentary filmmakers who have demonstrated exceptional artistic vision and dedication to their craft.

#### University Short Film Showcase Awards - \$500

Awarded to five student filmmakers selected from hundreds of submissions, this program highlights the extraordinary talent and achievements of exceptional students.



Attorney Advertising



# COMPETITION FILMS

Discover thrilling new talent in our prestigious competition section. Each year, the Competition Awards honor emerging narrative and documentary directors who represent cinema's next generation of innovative film artists.

NARRATIVE FEATURE COMPETITION & JURY	55
DOCUMENTARY FEATURE COMPETITION & JURY NARRATIVE SHORT COMPETITION DOCUMENTARY SHORT COMPETITION	57
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#### NEW YORK PREMIERE, COLOMBIA, 2025, 123 MINUTES, SPANISH

Middle-aged, unemployed, and living with his mother, Oscar (brilliant first-time actor Ubeimar Rios) is a failed writer clinging to fantasies of greatness in the Latin American literary scene. Wandering the streets of Medellín drunk, he stumbles upon an opportunity to mentor a truly gifted teenage poet—but can he avoid screwing up his chance at redemption? Brought to life by Rios' darkly comic lead performance, Simón Mesa Soto's Cannes Un Certain Regard Jury Prize-winner is a raw and riotous farce about how good deeds are often met with the universe's idea of cruel and unusually poetic punishment. A 1-2 Special release.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Simón Mesa Soto

PRODUCERS: Juan Sarmiento G., Manuel Ruiz Montealegre, Simón Mesa Soto CAST: Ubeimar Rios, Rebeca Andrade, Guillermo Cardona, Allison Correa, Margarita Soto, Humberto Restrepo

#### **A POET**



# US PREMIERE, GERMANY, 2025, 104 MINUTES, GERMAN/TURKISH/KURDISH/ARABIC/ENGLISH

When a burned Quran is discovered on a German film set, 24-year-old intern Elif (Devrim Lingnau) finds herself at the center of simmering tensions between the filmmakers, cast, and crew. As the situation escalates, Elif begins to play a dangerous game of secrets and lies, unwittingly finding herself at the heart of an all-absorbing conspiracy. Writer-director Mehmet Akif Büyükatalay's taut, sharply written thriller premiered at Berlinale this year, gripping audiences by wielding a pressure-cooker situation to dissect the complicated role of identity and representation in art and filmmaking.

#### **HYSTERIA**

10/10 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/11 7:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 **DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Mehmet Akif Büyükatalay **PRODUCERS:** Mehmet Akif Büyükatalay, Claus Herzog-Reichel **CAST:** Devrim Lingnau, Mehdi Meskar, Serkan Kaya, Nicolette Krebitz, Aziz Çapkurt,

Nazmi Kırık



# **OMAHA**

10/10 4:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/11 5:15PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### NEW YORK PREMIERE, USA, 2025, 83 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Poignantly navigating the challenges of fatherhood, Cole Webley's debut feature from Sundance is an intimate and sharply observed reimagining of the road movie. John Magaro (PAST LIVES, HIFF 2023) stars as a recently-widowed father who takes his two young children—impressive newcomers Molly Belle Wright and Wyatt Solis—on a cross-country journey after their home is foreclosed upon. As the family travels from Utah to Omaha, the children slowly begin to discern the painful reality beneath their spontaneous vacation. Cinematically enrapturing, OMAHA is a heart-stirring portrait of family bonds grounded by the lived-in performances of its three leads. A Greenwich Entertainment release.

**DIRECTOR:** Cole Webley

**SCREENWRITER:** Robert Machoian

PRODUCERS: John Foss, Scott James, Preston Lee

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Russ Kendall, Adam Thomas Anderegg, Micah Merrill,

Nicholas Hill, Nick Warner

CAST: John Magaro, Molly Belle Wright, Wyatt Solis, Talia Balsam





#### THE PRESIDENT'S CAKE

10/4 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/11 10:45AM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, IRAQ/USA/QATAR, 2025, 105 MINUTES, ARABIC

In 1990s Iraq, 9-year-old Lamia is selected to prepare a cake for her class to celebrate President Saddam Hussein's birthday. In a landscape of fear and scarcity of basic ingredients, Lamia sets out on a determined journey throughout the big city in search of eggs, flour, and sugar, accompanied by her grandmother, her loyal friend Saeed, and her pet rooster Hindi. Winner of the Cannes Camera D'Or and Audience Award, THE PRESIDENT'S CAKE is a standout debut feature from director Hasan Hadi that embodies innocence, imagination, and inner strength in the face of a tumultuous world. A Sony Pictures Classics release.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Hasan Hadi

PRODUCER: Leah Chen Baker

CAST: Baneen Ahmed Nayyef, Sajad Mohamad Qasem, Waheeda Thabet Khreibat, Rahim AlHaj



#### SOUND OF FALLING

10/11 1:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/12 5:15PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, GERMANY, 2025, 149 MINUTES, GERMAN/ TURKISH/KURDISH/ARABIC/ENGLISH

Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, SOUND OF FALLING announces the arrival of a powerful new cinematic voice with writer-director Mascha Schilinski. Across a century, four girls—Alma, Erika, Angelika, and Lenka—each spend their youth on the same remote farm in northern Germany. As the home evolves alongside a dangerous and changing world, violent echoes of the past linger in its walls. Though separated by time, their lives begin to mirror each other. Equal parts spellbinding and brutal, SOUND OF FALLING is an immersive and impressionistic exploration of womanhood, inheritance, and trauma. Germany's entry in the Academy Awards® race for Best International Feature Film. A MUBI release.

**DIRECTOR:** Mascha Schilinski

SCREENWRITERS: Louise Peter, Mascha Schillinski PRODUCERS: Lasse Scharpen, Lucas Schmidt EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Maren Schmidt

CAST: Hanna Heckt, Lena Urzendowsky, Susanne Wuest

# JURY

#### **MATT DONNELLY**



Award-winning journalist Matt Donnelly is *Variety's* senior entertainment and media writer. Donnelly has delivered compelling breaking-news stories and deeply reported analysis of the film industry, Hollywood culture and the annual awards race at the historic publication for seven years. He previously served as a senior film contributor at *TheWrap* and was a founding writer at the *Los Angeles Times* celebrity and industry vertical *Ministry of Gossip*.

The Philadelphia native holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Temple University and lives in L.A. with his screenwriter partner and his muse, a dog named Chester.

#### **JOHN BENJAMIN HICKEY**



John Benjamin Hickey has appeared on *Broadway* in Love! Valour! Compassion!, Cabaret, The Crucible, Mary Stuart, The Inheritance (Tony nomination), and The Normal Heart (Tony Award). He recently directed the Broadway revival of Neil Simon's Plaza Suite, which also played the West End. His films include LILLY, SALEM'S LOT, SUBLET, PITCH PERFECT, FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS, THE ANNIVERSARY PARTY, TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN, THE TAKING

OF PELHAM 1-2-3, and MAPPLETHORPE. On TV, he was Emmy®-nominated for his role on Showtime's *The Big C.* Additional credits include *Daredevil: Born Again, In Treatment, Manhattan, Gossip Girl, Sex and the City, Modern Family, Hannibal, Law & Order* (all of them), *The Good Wife* and *The Good Fight*.





#### **NEW YORK PREMIERE, USA, 2025, 88 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

Unexpected, irreverent, and absurdly funny, ANDRÉ IS AN IDIOT is a wildly life-affirming film about death. When André, a brilliant idiot, learns he's dying from a disease he could have detected with a colonoscopy, he teams up with director Tony Benna to document his final journey. André approaches mortality with his trademark humor and curiosity, determined to learn how to die both happily and ridiculously. Winner of the Sundance Audience Award for US Documentary, ANDRÉ IS AN IDIOT is a celebration of resilience, inappropriate humor, and the beauty of fully embracing the human experience-even at its end.

**DIRECTOR:** Anthony Benna

PRODUCERS: André Ricciardi, Tory Tunnell, Stelio Kitrilakis, Joshua Altman, Ben Cotner **EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Nicole Stott, Emily Osborne, Marissa Torres Ericson, Jessica Harrop, Greg Boustead, Joby Harold, Lee Einhorn

# ANDRÉ IS AN IDIOT

10/11 4:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/12 2:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

US PREMIERE, USA, 2025, 90 MINUTES, ENGLISH/TWI/GA

In his debut feature, two-time Academy Award®-winning director Ben Proudfoot and executive producers Michelle and Barack Obama dazzle with a cinematic message about the essential role of filmmaking in protecting a healthy democracy. When Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first democratically elected leader, was overthrown in a military coup in 1966, all film records of his leadership were destroyed. Now, his 93-year-old personal cinematographer Chris Hesse reveals a decades-long secret: he covertly preserved film negatives of Nkrumah that document his monumental influence on Africa's post-colonial history. Uplifting and timely, THE EYES OF GHANA features thrilling anecdotes alongside remarkable previously lost footage of Nkrumah with notable world leaders. Also screens in Films of Conflict & Resolution.

DIRECTOR: Ben Proudfoot

PRODUCERS: Nana Adwoa Frimpong, Ben Proudfoot, Moses Bwayo, Anita Afonu, Brandon Somerhalder, Ethan Lewis, Vinnie Malhotra

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, John Akomfrah, Dan & Lian Gill, Max Johnson, Jonathan E. Lim, Michael Risley, Josh Rosenberg, David Treatman, Esther Wojcicki

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE, DENMARK, 2025, 78 MINUTES, DANISH

#### THE EYES OF GHANA

10/4 2:00PM **EAST HAMPTON - UA4** 10/11 2:30PM **EAST HAMPTON - UA5** 



Denmark is consistently ranked the best country in the world for women, who seem to have it all: better grades, better jobs, better parenting skills. So... where does that leave the men? In this humorous and affectionate study of dynamics within Danish relationships, questions and assumptions around gender roles are explored through a charmingly progressive and playful lens. While some moments unfold as if in a utopia of feminist progress, others highlight the struggles men face when their masculinity is challenged. No one knows exactly how any society will reach true gender equality, but patience, empathy—and being nice—will hopefully help us get there.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITERS:** Josefine Exner, Sebastian Gerdes PRODUCER: Mathilde Hvid Lippmann

#### THE NICEST MEN ON EARTH

11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/12 11:45AM EAST HAMPTON - UA4



#### REMAINING NATIVE

10/9 5:30PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3 10/10 2:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

#### **USA, 2025, 87 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

Ku Stevens, a 17-year-old Native American competitive runner, is determined to become a college athlete at his dream school. Outstriding all local competition and the bounds of his hometown in Northwest Nevada, Ku must push beyond his physical and regional limits to have a chance at recruitment. As he prepares to leave home for the first time, Ku finds deeper meaning in his sport as an opportunity to honor his great-grandfather, who escaped an abusive Indian boarding school by running 50 miles across the desert. Winner of the SXSW Documentary Feature Audience and Special Jury Awards, REMAINING NATIVE is an inspiring, emotional triumph from first-time feature filmmaker Paige Bethmann.

**DIRECTOR:** Paige Bethmann

PRODUCERS: Jessica Epstein, Paige Bethmann, Judd Ehrlich

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Andrea Meditch, Billy Mills, Christopher Gebhardt, Randy Gebhardt, Daniel Chalfen, Dawn Bonder, Marci Wiseman, Tracy Rector, Wendy Ettinger



### TO THE WEST, IN ZAPATA

10/10 8:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/11 7:45PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### NEW YORK PREMIERE, CUBA/SPAIN, 2025, 74 MINUTES, SPANISH

Landi is a father who secretly camps in the marshlands of Zapata, Cuba, where he hunts crocodiles with his bare hands to feed his family. On the coast, his wife Mercedes awaits his return as she cares for their son, who suffers from severe autism. Days go by, and Mercedes becomes impatient—Landi should have returned by now, and there is no news of him. Shot in stunning black-and-white cinematography, TO THE WEST, IN ZAPATA is an enrapturing and meditative portrait of one family's cycle through need and absence, and the resilience they find in themselves and each other.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** David Bim **PRODUCERS:** Lia Rodríguez, David Bim

# JURY

#### **AGNES CHU**



Agnes Chu (Co-Founder, Firecracker Media) is a 20+ year entertainment executive with a prescient eye for identifying IP. She is currently producing Werner Herzog's BUCKING FASTARD, starring Kate and Rooney Mara. As President of Condé Nast Entertainment, Agnes founded the film/TV and audio arms of *The New Yorker, Vogue* and *Vanity Fair*, and built the digital video strategy connecting modern viewers to Condé's cultural live events. At The Walt Disney Company,

Agnes led the content launch of Disney+ with Star Wars' The *Mandalorian* and *Andor*, Marvel's *Wandavision* and *Bluey*, the most watched show of 2024. Agnes is also a former documentary producer.

#### **LOREN HAMMONDS**



An Emmy®- and Peabody Award-winning producer, Loren Hammonds is Head of Documentary at TIME Studios. Recent credits include FRIDA (Amazon MGM), VIKTOR (Winner, HIFF Best Documentary Feature), THE LIONHEART (HBO), THE TERRITORY (Nat Geo), and KATRINA BABIES (HBO). A former VP of Immersive Programming at Tribeca, he is a board advisor for Subject Matter, Agog: The Immersive Media Institute, and ONX Studio. His views on cinematic storytelling

have been featured in *The New York Times, BBC Click, NPR, The Today Show,* and *Vice,* and he has spoken at Cannes, Sundance, AIDC, SXSW, Columbia University Digital Storytelling Lab, Mutek, Pratt Institute, Scuola Holden, P&G Signal, and more.



#### 10/11 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5

**82 MINUTES** 

Featuring exceptional technique and storytelling, the Narrative Short Competition honors the fresh perspectives of up-and-coming filmmakers. The winner will receive a \$1000 cash prize and qualify for consideration at the Academy Awards® for Best Live Action Short Film.



#### **BLUE HEART**

**DIRECTOR:** Samuel Suffren

In Haiti, Marianne and Petion wait for a call from the USA, where their son has gone in search of the American dream.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, HAITI, 2025, 15 MINUTES, HAITIAN CREOLE



#### THE CURFEW

**DIRECTOR:** Shehrezad Maher

The language barrier between Ayaan and his grandmother raises specters of a colonial past.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2025, 19 MINUTES, ENGLISH/URDU



#### **GOD IS SHY**

**DIRECTOR:** Jocelyn Charles

While Ariel and Paul pass the time sketching their deepest fears during a train ride, their game takes an unexpected turn.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, FRANCE, 2025, 15 MINUTES, FRENCH



#### RAGAMUFFIN

**DIRECTOR:** Kaitlyn Mikayla

As a 12-year-old motocross racer attends a race with her father, she explores her identity, her deafness, and what it means to be a girl.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 14 MINUTES, ENGLISH



# SAMMI, WHO CAN DETACH HIS BODY PARTS

**DIRECTOR:** Rein Maychaelson

Sammi can remove his body parts, and he shares them with loved ones throughout his life. When he dies, his mother tries to collect the pieces.

NARRATIVE SHORT, INDONESIA, 2025, 19 MINUTES, BAHASA INDONESIA 10/10 5:30PM

#### **EAST HAMPTON - UA5**

99 MINUTES

The Documentary Short Competition celebrates new and emerging voices in the documentary film world. Juried by world-class filmmakers and industry professionals, the winner will take home a cash prize of \$1,000 and qualify for Academy Award consideration.



#### CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG

**DIRECTOR:** Hao Zhou

In a struggle of love, legacy, and beliefs, a desperate family in Southwest China tries to purge an entity from their queer heir.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA/GERMANY, 2025, 23 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **GRANNY & THE FISHES**

DIRECTORS: Maria Mavati. Ehsan Farrokhi Fard

By the dried-up Hamoon Lagoon, a lone granny remains, walking each day to gather the dead fish left behind.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, IRAN, 2025, 28 MINUTES, PERSIAN



#### **HOOPS, HOPES & DREAMS**

**DIRECTOR:** Glenn Kaino

The untold story of how Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a team of civil rights activists took to basketball courts to connect with young voters.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 20 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **LANAWARU**

DIRECTOR: Angello Faccini Rueda

When a local community member disappears, a boy faces an early memory, seeking comfort in Indigenous traditions, healing rituals, and guidance from his grandfather.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, COLOMBIA/MEXICO/ USA, 2024, 15 MINUTES, SPANISH/YUKUNA



#### TIGER

**DIRECTOR:** Loren Waters

TIGER highlights award-winning, internationally acclaimed Indigenous artist and elder Dana Tiger, her family, and the resurgence of the iconic Tiger t-shirt company.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2024, 13 MINUTES, ENGLISH



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NARRATIVE 62
DOCUMENTARY 71

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#### ALL THAT'S LEFT OF YOU

10/12 7:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/13 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

# EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, GERMANY/CYPRUS/PALESTINE/JORDAN/GREECE, 2025, 145 MINUTES, ARABIC/ENGLISH

Actress-writer-director Cherien Dabis crafts a powerful, decades-spanning story following one Palestinian family after their displacement from Jaffa in 1948. When her teenage son (Muhammad Abed Elrahman) gets swept up into a 1980 West Bank protest, the family's matriarch (Dabis) recounts the family story of hope, courage, and relentless struggle that led to this fateful moment. Driven by unforgettable performances and told with steadfast humanity, ALL THAT'S LEFT OF YOU premiered at Sundance this year to great acclaim for its sweeping examination of the legacy of loss and resilience across generations. Jordan's entry in the Academy Awards® race for Best International Feature Film.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Cherien Dabis

PRODUCERS: Thanassis Karathanos, Cherien Dabis, Martin Hampel, Karim Amer EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Andy Nahas & The Prospect Fund, Nadia Saah, Bennett Lindenbaum, Geralyn White Dreyfous, Idriss Mokhtarzada, Nasser Barghouti, Negin Salmasi, H.E. Shkh. Al-Zain Al-Sabah, Meshari Boodai, Mohamed Hefzy, Maiken Baird, Faisal Sukhtian, Moudhy Al-Rashid, The Tawfiq & Nimat Fakhouri Initiative, Stephanie Nadi Olson & Erik Olson, Mohannad Malas CAST: Saleh Bakri, Cherien Dabis, Adam Bakri, Maria Zreik, Mohammad Bakri, Muhammad Abed Elrahman



#### **AMRUM**

10/10 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL 10/11 3:00PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

# US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, GERMANY, 2025, 93 MINUTES, GERMAN

Golden Globe Award-winning filmmaker Fatih Akin reunites with Diane Kruger (IN THE FADE) for this tender coming-of-age tale about the loss of innocence. Twelve-year-old Nanning (Jasper Billerbeck) lives on a remote German island with his devout Nazi mother (Laura Tonk) as World War II is coming to an end. When his anti-fascist neighbor Tessa (Kruger) reveals the Nazi party has fallen, his mother is sent into decline, and Nanning must embark on a journey to feed her, encountering revelations along the way that challenge his understanding of the world and his family's place in it. A Kino Lorber Release.

**DIRECTOR:** Fatih Akin

**SCREENWRITERS:** Hark Bohm, Fatih Akin

**PRODUCERS:** Fatih Akin, Herman Weigel, Lara Rose Förtsch, Ann-Kristin Homann, Ann-Kristin Bardi

CAST: Diane Kruger, Matthias Schweighöfer, Laura Tonke, Jasper Billerbeck, Detlev Buck, Lisa Hagmeister



#### **ARCO**

10/4 2:15PM SAG HARBOR - SHC2 10/12 1:30PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

# US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, FRANCE, 2025, 89 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Featuring artful animation and a stellar ensemble voice cast led by Will Ferrell and Natalie Portman, ARCO is a visually magical, family-friendly adventure that made a big splash at this year's Cannes Film Festival. In the year 2075, ten-year-old Iris witnesses a mysterious boy in a rainbow suit fall from the sky. This is Arco, who comes from an idyllic far future where time travel is possible. Together, Iris and Arco must evade detection while seeking a way to return him to his time. A NEON release.

DIRECTOR: Ugo Bienvenu

SCREENWRITERS: Ugo Bienvenu, Félix de Givry

PRODUCERS: Félix de Givry, Sophie Mas, Natalie Portman, Ugo Bienvenu

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Audrey Tondre, Remembers Studio

CAST: Will Ferrell, America Ferrera, Flea, Natalie Portman, Mark Ruffalo, Andy Samberg

# WORLD CINEMA: NARRATIVE



#### **CALLE MALAGA**

10/5 12:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/6 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

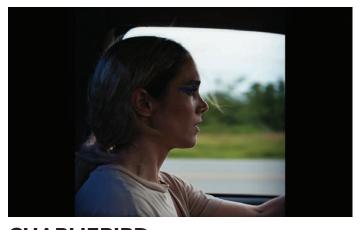
#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, MOROCCO/FRANCE/SPAIN/ GERMANY/BELGIUM, 2025, 116 MINUTES, SPANISH/ARABIC

Spanish screen legend Carmen Maura (VOLVER, WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN) stars as Maria Angeles, a 79-year-old woman who lives alone in Tangier, Morocco and takes comfort in her familiar neighborhood and quiet daily routine. When her daughter (Marta Etura) arrives from Madrid to sell the apartment in which she has spent her whole life, Maria Angeles becomes determined to save her home, making an unexpected discovery along the way: new adventures, love, and sensuality are not over for her yet. Fresh from premieres at Venice and TIFF, CALLE MALAGA is an affirming, playful, and touching celebration of life's third act from director Maryam Touzani.

**DIRECTOR:** Maryam Touzani

SCREENWRITERS: Maryam Touzani, Nabil Ayouch

PRODUCERS: Nabil Ayouch, Amine Benjelloun, Jean-Rémi Ducourtioux CAST: Carmen Maura, Marta Etura, Ahmed Boulane, María Alfonsa Rosso



#### CHARLIEBIRD

10/10 5:30PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4 10/11 11:30AM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 98 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Alyse (Samantha Smart, JANE AUSTEN'S PERIOD DRAMA, HIFF 2024) is a devoted music therapist working in a children's hospital alongside a rambunctious team of practitioners. When Charlie (Gabriela Ochoa Perez), a guarded teenage girl, enters her care, a rewarding—and at times precarious—friendship blossoms between the two. With Charlie facing a troubling diagnosis, Alyse's past emotional wounds around family loss resurface and, with some luck, begin to heal. Taking home Best U.S. Narrative Feature and Performance Awards at Tribeca, CHARLIEBIRD is a sensitively crafted, tender feature debut from director Libby Ewing.

**DIRECTOR:** Libby Ewing

**SCREENWRITER:** Samantha Smart

PRODUCERS: Libby Ewing, Samantha Smart, Elliot Gipson

CAST: Samantha Smart, Gabriela Ochao Perez, Gabe Fazio, Maria Peyramaure



#### **DJ AHMET**

10/5

10/4 11:30AM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

# NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, NORTH MACEDONIA/CZECH REPUBLIC/SERBIA/CROATIA, 2025, 99 MINUTES, TURKISH/MACEDONIAN

Ahmet (Arif Jakup), a 15-year-old shepherd living in a remote conservative Yuruk village in North Macedonia, finds refuge from his father's strict expectations through an unlikely secret dream of becoming a DJ. He soon meets a beautiful girl who shares his passion for electronic dance music, but when he learns she is to be married to someone else, he decides to fight for her the only way he knows how: through the power of music. This charming debut dramedy won the Sundance World Cinema Dramatic Audience Award for its playful and heartwarming story of self-discovery amid tensions between tradition and modernity.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Georgi M. Unkovski
PRODUCERS: Ivan Unkovski, Ivana Shekutkoska

CAST: Arif Jakup, Agush Agushev, Dora Akan Zlatanova, Aksel Mehmet



#### **GOOD BOY**

10/5 8:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/11 8:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 72 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Our canine hero Indy finds himself on a new adventure with his human owner—and best friend—Todd, leaving city life for a long-vacant family home in the country. From the start, two things are abundantly clear: Indy is wary of the creepy old house, and his affection for Todd is unwavering. After moving in, Indy is immediately on guard, tracking an invisible presence only he can see and perceiving phantasmagoric warnings from a long-dead dog. When Todd begins succumbing to the dark forces swirling around the house, Indy must battle a malevolence intent on dragging his beloved Todd into the afterlife. An IFC Entertainment Group release.

**DIRECTOR:** Ben Leonberg

**SCREENWRITERS:** Alex Cannon, Ben Leonberg **PRODUCERS:** Kari Fischer, Ben Leonberg

CAST: Indy as Himself, Sane Jensen, Arielle Friedman, Larry Fessenden, Stuart Rudin



#### **ISLANDS**

10/8 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/11 8:00PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

# US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, GERMANY, 2025, 123 MINUTES, ENGLISH/SPANISH

Jan-Ole Gerster (LARA, HIFF 2019) returns to HIFF with a gripping noir set in a luxury holiday resort in the Canary Islands. Tom (Sam Riley, MALEFICENT) is a former professional tennis player whose aimless life as a hotel tennis instructor is disrupted when a guest (Jack Farthing, SPENCER) goes missing after a night of heavy drinking. Tom is seductively drawn into the investigation by the missing man's wife (Stacy Martin, THE BRUTALIST), uncovering hidden truths that mirror his own. This smart, psychosexual thriller simmers to a boiling point against the stunning backdrop of an island paradise. A Greenwich Entertainment release.

**DIRECTOR:** Jan-Ole Gerster

SCREENWRITERS: Jan-Ole Gerster, Blaz Kutin, Lawrie Doran

PRODUCERS: Jonas Katzenstein, Maximilian Leo

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Charles Collier, Klaus Dohle, Adrià Monés, Maud Petit,

Jonathan Saubach, Simon B. Stein

CAST: Sam Riley, Stacy Martin, Jack Farthing



# IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT

10/11 2:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/12 3:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

# NARRATIVE FEATURE, IRAN/FRANCE/LUXEMBOURG, 2025, 103 MINUTES, PERSIAN

Iranian filmmaker Jafar Panahi (THE WHITE BALLOON, NO BEARS) won the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes Film Festival for this taut, sharply written tale of revenge. What begins as a minor accident sets in motion a series of escalating consequences when car mechanic Vahid (Vahid Mobasseri) believes he has encountered the government interrogator who tortured him, but he cannot be certain because he never saw the man's face. Filmed in secret in Iran—where Panahi remains under arrest—IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT elegantly confronts its characters with entangled questions of suspicion, moral ambiguity, and the meaning of retribution. A NEON release.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Jafar Panahi **PRODUCERS:** Jafar Panahi, Philippe Martin

**CAST:** Vahid Mobasseri, Mariam Afshari, Ebrahim Azizi, Hadis Pakbaten, Majid Panahi, Mohamad Ali Elyasmehr

# WORLD CINEMA: NARRATIVE



#### KÖLN 75

10/11 2:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/12 11:30AM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

# US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, GERMANY/POLAND/BELGIUM, 2025, 112 MINUTES, GERMAN/ENGLISH

Jazz legend Keith Jarrett's one-hour, entirely improvised performance in January 1975 would go on to become the best-selling solo album in jazz history—but it nearly didn't happen. HIFF alum Ido Fluk (THE TICKET, 2016) uncovers the against-the-odds powerhouse force behind the concert: teenage up-and-coming concert promoter Vera Brandes (Mala Emde). Starting with nothing but a fierce passion for music and infectious ambition, she breaks away from her conservative family into the wild jazz scene of the 70s, where she meets Jarrett (a magnetic John Magaro, PAST LIVES) and must convince him to make history. A Zeitgeist Films release.

#### DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Ido Fluk

**PRODUCERS:** Sol Bondy, Fred Burle

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Oren Moverman, Lillian Lasalle, Zelene Fowler, Michael Fowler, Annegret Weitkämper Krug, Paul Hudson, Talaat Captan, Rain Sharing, Tõnu Hiilaid, Barbaros Özbugutu, Julianne Hausler, Jennifer Fox, Christoph Lange **CAST:** Mala Emde, John Magaro, Michael Chernus, Shirin Eissa, Enno Trebs, Leo Meier



#### **LATE SHIFT**

10/7 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/13 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

# US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, SWITZERLAND/GERMANY, 2025, 92 MINUTES, GERMAN/FRENCH/TURKISH

Twenty-six patients. One nurse. The clock ticks down in this gripping medical drama directed by Petra Volpe (THE DIVINE ORDER, HIFF 2017). Leonie Benesch (SEPTEMBER 5, HIFF 2024) stars as nurse Floria, a dedicated professional straining to meet the accumulating demands placed on her as one late shift pushes her to a breaking point. Inspired by real-life nurse Madeline Calvelage's powerfully immediate memoir, *Our Profession is Not the Problem—It's the Circumstances*, LATE SHIFT stunned audiences this year at the Berlin Film Festival with its fast-paced, thrilling glimpse into the unmanageable workload and extreme pressures faced by today's healthcare workers. Switzerland's entry in the Academy Awards® race for Best International Feature Film. A Music Box Films release.

#### **DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Petra Volpe

PRODUCERS: Reto Schaerli, Lukas Hobi

CAST: Leonie Benesch, Sonja Riesen, Alireza Bayram, Selma Aldin, Urs Bihler Margherita Schoch, Urbain Guiquemdé, Elisabeth Rolli, Jürg Plüss, Lale Yava



# THE LOVE THAT REMAINS

10/12 2:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/13 2:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

# NARRATIVE FEATURE, ICELAND/DENMARK/SWEDEN/FRANCE, 2025, 109 MINUTES, ICELANDIC/SWEDISH/FRENCH

HIFF alum Hlynur Pálmason (A WHITE, WHITE DAY, 2019) returns with this portrait of a year in the life of an Icelandic family as parents Anna (Saga Garðarsdóttir) and Magnús (Sverrir Guðnason) navigate their separation. Premiering to acclaim at the Cannes Film Festival, THE LOVE THAT REMAINS cinematically positions the characters within the natural beauty of their surroundings to evoke the vibrant inner world of each character and their complex but deeply felt affection for each other. Through playful and heartfelt moments, Pálmason portrays the bittersweet nature of faded love and shared memories amidst the changing seasons. A Sideshow/Janus release.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Hlynur Pálmason **PRODUCERS:** Anton Máni Svansson, Katrin Pors

**CAST:** Saga Garðarsdóttir, Sverrir Guðnason, Ída Mekkín Hlynsdóttir, Grímur Hlynsson, Þorqils Hlynsson, Inqvar Siqurðsson, Anders Mossling



#### **MAGIC HOUR**

10/4 5:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/5 5:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

#### NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 94 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Harriet Peterson (Miriam Shor, AMERICAN FICTION, Younger) is a cinephile stuck in the suburbs who longs to be a filmmaker. After Harriet's husband leaves her unexpectedly, she decides to chase her dreams by enrolling in film school. Inspired by writer-director Jacqueline Christy's experience attending NYU's film program in her forties, MAGIC HOUR follows Harriet's hilarious misadventures as she tries to become a NYC filmmaker and fit in with her much younger peers. Christy's feature debut is a heartwarming testimony to the transformative power of film and the magic of pursuing your passion, no matter your age.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Jacqueline Christy **PRODUCERS:** Jacqueline Christy, Eva Minemar **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:** José Rivera

CAST: Miriam Shor, Cameron Morton, Sendhil Ramamurthy, Josh Stamberg



#### THE MASTERMIND

10/8 7:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/11 12:00PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 110 MINUTES, ENGLISH

In a sedate corner of Massachusetts circa 1970, JB Mooney (Emmy Award® winner Josh O'Connor, *The Crown*) an unemployed carpenter turned amateur art thief, plans his first big heist. When his undercooked plan goes awry, his life quickly unravels, forcing him to go on the run. In her signature slow-burn style, Kelly Reichardt (NIGHT MOVES, FIRST COW) celebrates and subverts the heist genre while harnessing nostalgia for 1970s American cinema. Premiering to critical acclaim at Cannes, THE MASTERMIND boasts a jazzy percussive score and patient, lived-in performances from O'Connor, Hope Davis, Alana Haim, Gaby Hoffmann, and John Magaro. A MUBI release.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Kelly Reichardt
PRODUCERS: Neil Kopp, Vincent Savino, Anish Savjani
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Efe Cakarel, Zane Meyer, Jason Ropell, Sam Tischler
CAST: Josh O'Connor, Alana Haim, Gaby Hoffmann



#### **MIROIRS NO. 3**

10/7 5:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/10 2:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, GERMANY, 2025, 86 MINUTES, GERMAN

During a weekend in the German countryside, piano student Laura (Paula Beer, TRANSIT) miraculously survives a shocking car crash. Awakening in a nearby house, Laura finds herself in the care of a local woman (Barbara Auer) who tends to her with motherly devotion and integrates her into daily life with her husband and son. The family finds a strange harmony together, but soon the ghosts of the past begin to stir. Acclaimed director Christian Petzold (UNDINE, HIFF 2020) spins a modern gothic fairytale about the lies we tell ourselves and the strange ways that grief, connection, and humanity bind and sustain us. A 1-2 Special release.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Christian Petzold
PRODUCERS: Florian Koerner von Gustorf, Michael Weber, Anton Kaiser
CAST: Paula Beer, Barbara Auer, Matthias Brandt, Enno Trebs

# WORLD CINEMA: NARRATIVE



#### **NOUVELLE VAGUE**

10/12 5:45PM EAST HAMPTON - GUILD HALL

10/13 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, FRANCE, 2025, 105 MINUTES, FRENCH

Academy Award® nominee Richard Linklater's love letter to the spellbinding magic of French cinema reimagines the making of Jean-Luc Godard's revolutionary French New Wave classic BREATHLESS. As critic-turned-director Godard makes and breaks the rules, a mix of fresh faces and daring talents—including an incredible Zoey Deutch as Jean Seberg—bring his spontaneous, electric film to life. Capturing the youthful dynamism and creative chaos at the heart of one of the world's most beloved and influential movies, NOUVELLE VAGUE transports us to the streets of 1959 Paris for an ode to the power of cinema to transform our lives. A Netflix release.

**DIRECTOR:** Richard Linklater

SCREENWRITERS: Holly Gent, Vincent Palmo Jr. PRODUCERS: Laurent Pétin, Michèle Pétin

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Emmanuel Montamat, John Sloss, Mike Blizzard

CAST: Guillaume Marbeck, Zoey Deutch, Aubry Dullin



#### ORPHAN

10/4 7:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/9 8:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3



#### THE PLAGUE

10/10 8:30PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4 10/12 5:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

# US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, HUNGARY/UK/GERMANY/FRANCE, 2025, 132 MINUTES, HUNGARIAN

In 1957 Budapest, a twelve-year-old Jewish boy Andor (outstanding newcomer Bojtorján Barabas) comes of age in the aftermath of the uprising against the communist regime. Andor's mother (Andrea Waskovics) raises him on idealized tales of his father, a hero who died in the camps during World War II. When a brutish man (Grégory Gadebois) appears in their lives claiming to be Andor's true father, everything he understands about himself turns upside down. Fresh from premieres at Venice and TIFF, HIFF alum László Nemes (SON OF SAUL, 2015) returns with this poignantly written and superbly acted interrogation of the legacy of violence and war on Jewish identity.

**DIRECTOR:** László Nemes

SCREENWRITERS: László Nemes, Clara Royer

PRODUCERS: Ildikó Kemény, Mike Goodridge, Alexander Rodnyansky, Szále Ferenc,

Gregory Jankilevitsch, Alexander Bazarov

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Yoav Rosenberg, Michael Kupsik, Klaudia Smieja-

Rostworowska, Sipos Gábor

**CAST:** Bojtorján Barabas, Andrea Waskovics, Marcin Czarnik, Elíz Szabó, Grégory

Gadebois, Sándor Soma

# EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, ROMANIA/USA, 2025, 95 MINUTES, ENGLISH

At an all-boys water polo camp, socially anxious twelve-year-old Ben (Everett Blunck) is pulled into a cruel tradition: targeting an outcast by claiming the boy has an illness they call "The Plague." As the game escalates, Ben begins to fear the joke might be hiding something real. Sharply observational and visually immersive, THE PLAGUE premiered at Cannes and features Golden Globe® nominee Joel Edgerton (LOVING, HIFF 2016) as the coach and lone adult amongst a standout ensemble cast of young newcomers. With his feature debut, director Charlie Pollinger delivers an astute look at social dynamics between boys as they seek to understand their emerging masculinity. An IFC Entertainment Group release.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Charlie Polinger

**PRODUCERS:** Joel Edgerton, Lizzie Shapiro, Lucy McKendrick, Steven Schneider, Roy Lee, Derek Dauchy

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Ben Ross, Rami Yasin, Gabi Antal, James Presson, Cory Finley, Cullen Conly, Gus Deardoff, Lexi Tannenholtz, Reuben Walker

CAST: Everett Blunck, Joel Edgerton, Kayo Martin







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#### WORLD CINEMA: NARRATIVE



#### THE SECRET AGENT

10/9 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/10 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, BRAZIL/FRANCE/NETHERLANDS/GERMANY, 2025, 160 MINUTES, PORTUGUESE

Under the dictatorship of 1977 Brazil, technology expert Marcelo (Wagner Moura) is on the run. He arrives at a safe house for dissidents in Recife during the week of Carnival hoping to reunite with his estranged son, but soon discovers that the city is far from the non-violent refuge he seeks. Brazilian auteur Kleber Menonça Filho (BACURAU) delivers a stylish thriller of mythic proportions—complete with assassins, severed legs, and a two-faced cat—that took home both the Best Director Award at Cannes and the Best Actor Award for Moura's exceptional performance. A NEON release.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER: Kleber Mendonça Filho

PRODUCER: Emilie Lesclaux

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:** Brent Travers

**CAST:** Wagner Moura, Maria Fernanda Cândido, Gabriel Leone, Carlos Francisco, Alice Carvalho. Hermila Guedes



#### SIRÂT

10/11 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/12 8:45PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, FRANCE/SPAIN, 2025, 115 MINUTES, SPANISH/FRENCH

In the glorious and forbidding Moroccan desert, a middle-aged Spanish father (Sergi López) searches for his missing daughter at a remote techno rave, enlisting the help of a band of French punks in his mission to find her. In this extraordinary psychological journey, director Oliver Laxe crafts a sensory experience of audacity and shock that probes the fragility of our lives. Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at Cannes, SIRÂT embraces hypnotic visuals, pulsing music, and the vastness of the desert landscape to deliver an unforgettably gripping philosophical experience. A NEON release.

**DIRECTOR:** Oliver Laxe

**SCREENWRITERS:** Santiago Fillol, Oliver Laxe

**PRODUCERS:** Domingo Corral, Oliver Laxe, Xavi Font, Pedro Almodóvar, Agustín Almodóvar, Esther García, Oriol Maymó Ferrer, Mani Mortazavi, Andrea Queralt

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:** Esther García

**CAST:** Sergi López, Brúno Nuñez, Stefania Gadda, Joshua Liam Henderson, Tonin Janvier, Jade Oukid, Richard Bellamy



#### TWO PROSECUTORS

10/7 8:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/12 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, FRANCE/GERMANY/NETHERLANDS/LATVIA/ROMANIA/LITHUANIA, 2025, 118 MINUTES, RUSSIAN

Based on the novella of the same name by Georgy Demidov, TWO PROSECUTORS riveted audiences at Cannes with its unflinching look at the quiet brutality of totalitarian power. In the 1937 Soviet Union, amidst the Stalinist purges, a smuggled letter reaches young prosecutor Alexander Kornyev (Aleksandr Kuznetsov). Upon meeting the prisoner who wrote the letter, Kornyev uncovers a systematic abuse of power by secret police in his home district. A dedicated Bolshevik of integrity, Kornyev resolves to seek justice. Director Sergei Loznitsa pits idealism against the grit of corruption in this slow-burn political fable. A Sideshow/Janus release.

**DIRECTOR:** Sergei Loznitsa

SCREENWRITERS: Sergei Loznitsa, based on a story by Georgy Demidov

**PRODUCER:** Kevin Chneiweiss

CAST: Aleksandr Kuznetsov, Alexander Filippenko, Anatoli Beliy



#### WE BELIEVE YOU

10/8 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/10 5:45PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, BELGIUM, 2025, 78 MINUTES, FRENCH

In this riveting Belgian courtroom thriller, Alice (Myriem Akheddiou) stands before a judge, knowing there's no room for error. Over the course of one hearing, she must speak up on behalf of her children and confront their father (Laurent Capelluto), as her sole custody is being called into question. Can she make her voice heard and protect her family before it's too late? Premiering to acclaim at the 2025 Berlin Film Festival, WE BELIEVE YOU is a taut debut from writer-director Charlotte Devillers that makes economic use of its contained setting to exhibit razor-sharp writing and an unforgettably gripping performance from Akheddiou.

**DIRECTOR:** Charlotte Devillers

SCREENWRITERS: Charlotte Devillers, Arnaud Dufeys PRODUCERS: Arnaud Ponthière, Arnaud Dufeys

CAST: Myriem Akheddiou, Laurent Capelluto, Natali Broods, Ulysse Goffin, Adèle Pinckaers, Alisa Laub, Marion de Nanteuil, Mounir Bennaoum

5:45PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3



#### YOUNG MOTHERS

10/9 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/10 11:45AM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

#### US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE FEATURE, BELGIUM/FRANCE, 2025, 105 MINUTES, FRENCH

The latest from masterful Academy Award®-winning auteurs Luc and Jean-Pierre Dardenne (TWO DAYS, ONE NIGHT, HIFF 2014) tells the powerful story of five teenage girls struggling with family trauma in the face of untimely motherhood. The group is united by their shared home, a community shelter run by a caring, non-judgmental staff. As they meet daily challenges, each hopes to break her cycle of struggle in pursuit of a better future. Taking home the Cannes Best Screenplay Award, YOUNG MOTHERS is a poignant depiction of the heartbreaks and resolve of an overlooked population and the critical public services that help them survive. Belgium's entry in the Academy Awards® race for Best International Feature Film. A Music Box Films release.

**DIRECTORS/SCREENWRITERS:** Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne **PRODUCERS:** Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne, Delphine Tomson, Denis Freyd **CAST:** Babette Verbeek, Elsa Houben, Janaina Halloy Fokan, Lucie Laruelle, Samia Hilmi

### SPECIAL SCREENING





#### **SORRY, BABY**

10/10 7:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

#### NARRATIVE FEATURE, USA, 2025, 103 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Something bad happened to Agnes. But life goes on—for everyone around her, at least. When a beloved friend visits on the brink of a major milestone, Agnes starts to realize just how stuck she's been, and begins to work through how to move forward. HIFF 2025 UBS Breakthrough Director Eva Victor (Billions) writes, directs, and stars in this charming, funny, and deeply touching force of a debut feature that won the Sundance Waldo Scott Screenwriting Award. With Naomi Ackie and Lucas Hedges in superb supporting roles and produced by Academy Award® winners Barry Jenkins and Adele Romanski (MOONLIGHT), SORRY, BABY announces the arrival of a distinct creative voice. An A24 Films release.

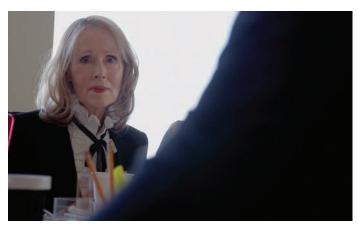
Eva Victor will receive the UBS Breakthrough Director Award following this screening.

**DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER:** Eva Victor

PRODUCERS: Adele Romanski, Mark Ceryak, Barry Jenkins

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Carloe Baraton, Pauline Boucheny Pinon, Catalina Rojter, Frank Ariza, Michael B. Clark, Tim Foley, Alex Turteltaub, Alex Orlovsky, Duncan Montgomery, Jack Selby, Rick Covert, Tim Headington, Lia Buman, Ana Leocha, Neil Shah **CAST:** Eva Victor, Naomi Ackie, Louis Cancelmi, Kelly McCormack, Lucas Hedges

#### SPONSORED BY



#### **ASK E. JEAN**

10/4 2:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/5 5:00PM **EAST HAMPTON - UA3** 

#### EAST COAST PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 91 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Ivy Meeropol (INDIAN POINT, HIFF 2015) returns to HIFF with a glimpse into the thrilling life and career of E. Jean Carroll. We follow Carroll from her early days as Miss Cheerleader USA and her rise as a trailblazing journalist, author, and beloved advice columnist to her later quest to become the only woman to successfully beat Donald Trump (twice) in court. ASK E JEAN provides a portrait of an indomitable and fearless woman with a sharp wit who proves it's never too late to reclaim your voice, rewrite your story, and change the world.

**DIRECTOR:** Ivy Meeropol

PRODUCERS: Laura Bickford, Annabelle Dunne, Ivy Meeropol

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Graydon Carter, Ruth Ann Harnisch, Geralyn White Dreyfous, Katrina Vanden Heuvel, Sheila Nevins, Jenny Warburg, Alexia Blaze, Jenny Raskin, Mitch Solomon, Emily Lansbury



#### **COVER-UP**

**EAST HAMPTON - UA2** 10/11 5:45PM 10/12 4:00PM **SOUTHAMPTON - SP3** 

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 117 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

In this timely and revelatory political thriller, Academy Award® winner Laura Poitras (ALL THE BEAUTY AND THE BLOODSHED, HIFF 2023) and Emmy Award® winner Mark Obenhaus trace the explosive career of Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter Seymour Hersh. Urgent and deeply reported, COVER-UP is both a portrait of a relentless journalist and an indictment of institutional violence that reveals a cycle of impunity in U.S. military and intelligence agencies across decades. Drawing on exclusive access to Hersh's notes and interweaving primary documents and archival footage with intimate firsthand interviews, Poitras and Obenhaus capture the intensive process and essential power of investigative journalism. Also screens in Films of Conflict & Resolution.

**DIRECTORS:** Laura Poitras. Mark Obenhaus

PRODUCERS: Yoni Golijov, Laura Poitras, Mark Obenhaus, Olivia Streisand **EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Thomas MacWhirr, Brad Pitt, Dede Gardner, Jeremy

Kleiner, Josh Braun, Nick Shumaker



#### THE CYCLE OF LOVE

11:15AM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/11 10/12 7:15PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### EAST COAST PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, UK/SWEDEN/INDIA, 2025, 98 MINUTES, ENGLISH/HINDI

Academy Award® winner Orlando von Einsiedel (THE WHITE HELMETS, HIFF 2016) returns with the cross-continental love story of PK Mahanandia and Lotta von Schedvin. In 1977, PK, a 23-year-old Delhi street artist, embarked on a 6,000-mile bicycle trip in his mission to find Lotta, the Swedish tourist who had captured his heart on her twomonth visit to India. Von Einsiedel invites viewers into the endearing, decades-spanning relationship of Lotta and Delhi-using PK's sketches as a tool to relive their history. THE CYCLE OF LOVE is a heart-warming, epic adventure about risking everything for what your heart tells you.

**DIRECTOR:** Orlando von Einsiedel

PRODUCERS: Harri Grace, Chloe Leland, Emelie Mahanandia von Schedvin, Karl Mahanandia von Schedvin

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Anne Carey, Adriana Banta, Jorge Villon, Abhijeet Chhabra, Dan Silver, Ryan Harrington, Geralyn Dreyfous, Emily Goldner, Chris Silvestri, Mark Roden, Melony and Adam Lewis, Regina K. Scully, Lekha Singh, Michael Humphries, Christina Ljungberg, Victoria Steventon



#### THE LAST MUSICIAN OF AUSCHWITZ

10/5 1:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/6 5:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1

#### NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, UK, 2025, 90 MINUTES, ENGLISH

How can there be music in the worst place in the world? 99-year-old Holocaust survivor Anita Lasker-Wallfisch's experience as a cellist imprisoned at Auschwitz opens up a larger examination of the complex and surprising role of music during the Holocaust. This emotionally moving documentary features both the testimonies of survivors through archival interviews and new performances of music created by camp victims filmed in locations around Auschwitz. THE LAST MUSICIAN OF AUSCHWITZ investigates how music became a conduit for prisoners of all faiths to survive and resist the atrocities of war. A BBC Select release.

**DIRECTOR:** Toby Trackman **PRODUCERS:** Deborah Lee

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Emily Blavatnik, Danny Cohen, Suzy Klein, Alistair Pegg, Alan Clements



#### THE LIBRARIANS

10/5 11:00AM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/6 5:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 92 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

With an unprecedented wave of book banning largely targeting topics of race and LGBTQ issues sweeping Texas, Florida, and beyond, librarians have suddenly found themselves front-line defenders of intellectual freedom. Seven-time HIFF alum Kim A. Snyder (2025 Academy Award® nominee for DEATH BY NUMBERS) spotlights the librarians leading an inspiring grassroots movement who are standing up against harassment, threats, and regressive laws aimed at criminalizing their work. Executive produced by Sarah Jessica Parker, THE LIBRARIANS engaged and enraged audiences at Sundance and SXSW with its exposure of a systematic attack on intellectual freedom and the unlikely everyday heroes leading the resistance.

**DIRECTOR:** Kim A. Snyder

PRODUCERS: Kim A. Snyder, Janique L. Robillard, Maria Cuomo Cole, Jana Edelbaum EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Sarah Jessica Parker, Alison Benson, Hallee Adelman, Amber Alonso, Kate Garwood, Marni Grossman, Geralyn Dreyfous, Tegan Acton, Emma Pompetti, Thomas Campbell Jackson, Penny B. Jackson, Melony & Adam Lewis, Regina K. Scully, Peter Resnick, Christian Camargo, Colleen Deveer, Misa Sagay, Rachel Cohen, Heidi Stolte, Chris Stolte, Ruth Ann Harnisch, Lois Vossen, Carrie Lozano



PRETTY DIRTY: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MARILYN MINTER (NEW TITLE)

10/11 11:45AM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/12 2:45PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP4

#### WORLD PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 79 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Visual artist Marilyn Minter has been a major creative voice since the 1970s. Despite her undeniable talent, her provocative style—often blurring the lines between pornographic and commercial—has kept her at arm's length from the art world's inner sanctum. Marilyn's steadfast commitment to her own creative instincts has carried her through eras of success and rejection and into the present, where she has become known for capturing cultural icons like Lizzo, Jane Fonda, Pamela Anderson, Monica Lewinsky, and many others. As the public appetite catches up to Marilyn's vision, will the establishment's gatekeepers finally accept her?

**DIRECTORS:** Jennifer Ash Rudick, Amanda M. Benchley **PRODUCERS:** Jennifer Ash Rudick, Amanda M. Benchley, Debi Wisch **EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Regina K. Scully, Sue Hostetler, Melony & Adam Lewis,
Lizzie & John Tisch. Susan Rockefeller



#### **NATCHEZ**

10/4 6:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/5 11:30AM SAG HARBOR - SHC2

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 86 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

For generations, the town of Natchez, Mississippi, has showcased its antebellum history with elaborate home and garden tours complete with authentically costumed, hoop-skirted docents. As new homeowners and tour guides begin to offer perspectives that challenge this romanticized vision of the past, the town must reckon with its role in America's larger history and the debt it owes to the descendants of slavery. Winner of the Best Documentary Feature Award at Tribeca, director Suzannah Herbert uses a keen cinematic eye and distinctly observational approach to capture one town's soulsearching over a contested past and an uncertain future. An Oscilloscope release.

Preceded by the short film BUICK (see p. 87)

**DIRECTOR:** Suzannah Herbert

SCREENWRITERS: Suzannah Herbert, Pablo Proenza PRODUCERS: Suzannah Herbert, Darcy McKinnon

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Sam Pollard, Cindy Meehl, Ted Haddock, Jacqueline

Glover, Mari Nikachi, Carrie Lozano, Lois Vossen



#### INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, CANADA, 2025, 89 MINUTES, ENGLISH/JAPANESE/AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

The stately, childhood home of writer Julietta Singh is rich with history in its carefully restored architecture and ties to Winnipeg's past. But when Singh's aging mother decides to sell the house, lesser-known chapters of its history, all anchored by resilient women, come to light. Singh guides us through the lives of the brave women—Indigenous, Deaf, Japanese, and more—who resisted oppression while living in this inherently colonial home at different moments in history. Above all, THE NEST compassionately demonstrates the importance of reaching mutual understanding and chronicling untold histories to achieve collective progress.

DIRECTORS/SCREENWRITERS: Chase Joynt, Julietta Singh PRODUCERS: Alicia Smith, Justine Pimlott EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Chanda Chevannes, David Christensen

#### THE NEST

10/5 2:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/6 8:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3



#### **NEWPORT & THE GREAT FOLK DREAM**

10/3 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/4 2:00PM SAG HARBOR - SHC1

#### NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 99 MINUTES, ENGLISH

Before Coachella and Woodstock, there was Newport: a stage where a generation found its voice and reshaped a nation. From 1963 to 1966, the famed Newport Folk Festival brought together the likes of Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Johnny Cash, Pete Seeger, Howlin' Wolf, and more. Award-winning filmmakers Robert Gordon and Joe Lauro draw entirely from rare and previously unseen archival footage to capture this charged moment when freedom songs met work songs, tradition met innovation, and the spirit of protest filled the air. Documenting four years of cultural upheaval, NEWPORT & THE GREAT FOLK DREAM reveals how music can illuminate struggle, inspire courage, and keep democracy alive.

DIRECTOR: Robert Gordon PRODUCER: Joe Lauro

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Bruce Feldbaum, Robert Gordon, Joe Lauro, Dan Braun, Josh Braun

# Be Inspired. Explore what's happening near you with the free Discover Long Island app, your go-to guide for local events, attractions, restaurants, and things to do. From wine country weekends to last-minute dinner plans, it's all just a tap away. isit DiscoverLongIsland.com and download the app to start planning. Photo Credit: Del Vino Vineyards



#### THE PERFECT NEIGHBOR

10/10 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA4 10/11 11:00AM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 97 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

Winner of the Directing Award for US Documentary at Sundance, filmmaker Geeta Gandhbir weaves together bodycam footage from dozens of police visits to reconstruct the story of a tight-knit Florida community navigating relentless harassment from Susan Lorincz against children playing in her yard. The ongoing nightmare takes a sinister turn when the hostility escalates into a fatal crime against mother of four Ajike "AJ" Owens. Both a highly innovative approach to the craft of documentary filmmaking and an urgent examination of racial bias and Stand Your Ground laws, THE PERFECT NEIGHBOR is a riveting story of tragedy and justice told with striking humanity and unflinching clarity. A Netflix release.

**DIRECTOR:** Geeta Gandbhir

PRODUCERS: Sam Bisbee, Alisa Payne, Geeta Gandbhir, Nikon Kwantu EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Sam Pollard, Takema Robinson, Soledad O'Brien, Rose Arce, Jackie Kelman Bisbee, Wendy Neu



#### THE RAFTSMEN

10/12 2:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/13 11:15AM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

#### NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, AUSTRALIA, 2024, 90 MINUTES, ENGLISH

In 1973, twelve misfits from seven countries united to carry out charismatic Spanish explorer Vital Alsar's impossible dream: to cross the world's largest ocean on three handmade wooden rafts with only the stars and sun to guide them. Battling storms, sharks and psychological demons, the epic expedition took six months at sea and covered 9,000 miles from Ecuador to Australia, remaining the world's longest ever raft journey. Now, fifty years later, director Chadden Hunter beautifully remasters the original 16mm footage of the voyage into 4K and finally gives the surviving raftsmen a voice with which to share their incredible story.

**DIRECTOR:** Chadden Hunter

PRODUCERS: Chadden Hunter, William Ward

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Serge Ou, Michael Tear, Bettina Dalton, Anna Godas, Oli Harbottle



#### **RAOUL'S: A NEW YORK STORY**

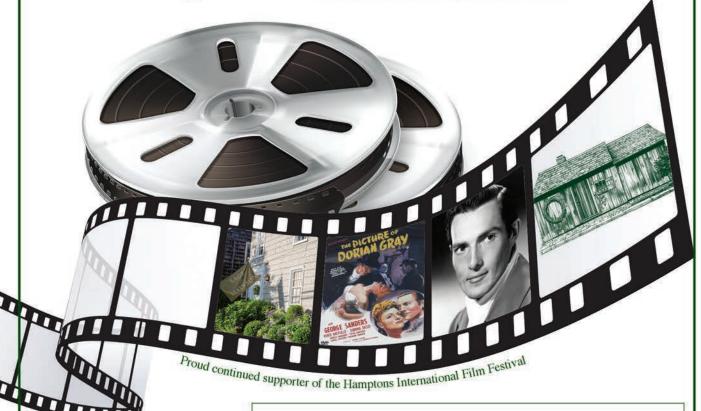
10/10 2:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA1 10/11 1:45PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 98 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

In 1979, French immigrants Serge and Guy Raoul founded an unassuming French bistro on Prince Street that would become one of New York City's most iconic restaurants, eventually launching the careers of superstar chefs such as Thomas Keller and Tom Colicchio. Now, Serge's son Karim and co-director Greg Olliver capture the rich history of Raoul's, featuring appearances from devoted customers like Matthew Broderick, Daniel Boulud, Kate Spade, Jean-Georges Vongerichten, and more. This sizzling slice of New York is a heartwarming tale of family, food, and the vital contributions of immigrants who make New York the best city in the world.

**DIRECTORS/PRODUCERS:** Greg Olliver, Karim Raoul **EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Edgar Sabounghi, Beth Hamlin, Berry Welsh, Jack Turner, Todd Lubin, Jay Peterson

# Sage & Madison\* in the heart of Sag Harbor Village



#### **Fun Film Fact**

Screen actor Hurd Hatfield who was best known for his role in the Oscar Wilde film "The Picture of Dorian Gray" lived for many decades in the house now known as Sage and Madison.

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#### **SEEDS**

10/4 8:00PM SAG HARBOR - SHC2 10/5 11:30AM EAST HAMPTON - UA5

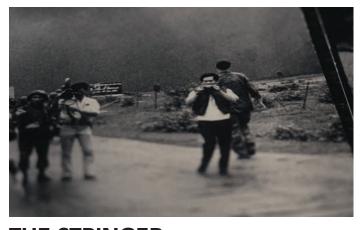
#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA, 2025, 123 MINUTES, ENGLISH**

This winner of the Sundance US Documentary Grand Jury Prize interweaves the stories of three Black generational farmers to create a collective portrait of farming in America today. With unforgettable intimacy and lyrical black-and-white imagery, first-time director Brittany Shyne crafts a moving and powerful exploration of their lives, joys, and struggles to earn a livelihood in a system that is historically stacked against them. SEEDS is a meditative celebration of the detail that defines everyday lives—cotton harvesting, chasing cows, dealing with broken machinery—that also speaks powerfully on the significance of owning land and the precarious future facing generational black farmers

**DIRECTOR:** Brittany Shyne

PRODUCERS: Danielle Varga, Sabrina Schmidt Gordon, Brittany Shyne

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:** Leslie Fields-Cruz



#### THE STRINGER

10/8 7:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3 10/9 8:15PM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3

#### EAST COAST PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, USA/VIETNAM, 2025, 101 MINUTES, VIETNAMESE/ENGLISH

Bao Minh Nguyen's gripping exposé questions the origin of one of the most well-known photographs of the 20th century: *The Terror of War.* Better known as *Napalm Girl*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph showing a young girl running from a Napalm attack during the Vietnam War has long been officially credited to photographer Nick Ut. However, after a gripping two-year investigation into the photograph's authorship, acclaimed war photographer Gary Knight and a small team of journalists attempt to seek justice for photostringer Nguyen Thanh Nghe—who they believe was truly behind the camera. Through its intensive investigation into the past, THE STRINGER makes an impassioned case for journalistic integrity. A Netflix release.

**DIRECTOR:** Bao Minh Nguyen

PRODUCERS: Fiona Turner, Terri Lichstein

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Gary Knight, Sue Turley, Grace Lay, Michael Y. Chow, Alex Cotraviwat, Kevin Lin, Nina and David Fialkow, Andrew Reid, Jeremy Gardner, Jeff Zimbalist, James Costa, Trevor Burgess



#### **UNDERLAND**

10/5 8:15PM SAG HARBOR - SHC2 10/7 5:15PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

#### DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, UK/USA, 2025, 79 MINUTES, ENGLISH/SPANISH

Academy Award® nominee Sandra Hüller narrates the poetic prose of Robert Macfarlane, whose book *Underland* inspired this documentary about the unknown worlds beneath our feet. In this fascinating and meditative exploration, director Robert Petit and producer Darren Aronofsky follow the paths of three researchers into ancient sacred caves, melting glaciers, underwater burial chambers, and an underground scientific laboratory, seeking to unlock the secrets of the universe. While each works in a distinct field with different immediate aims, all are driven by a desire for the greater understanding of humanity and life on earth that we gain by looking underneath its surface.

**DIRECTOR:** Robert Petit

PRODUCERS: Darren Aronofsky, Ari Handel, Lauren Greenwood, Jessica Harrop EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: André Singer, Figs Jackman, Robert Macfarlane, Craig Miller, Elizabeth Radshaw, Richard Wolfe, Keith Potter



"I'm a NYWIFT member because my fellow members inspire me to do more: to hire more consciously and to elevate the films we make."

> Gretchen McGowan, NYWIFT Board Member Head of Production, Goldcrest Films

New York Women in Film & Television

Learn more at nywift.org/join















Expect the unexpected in HIFF's dynamic short film programs. Running the gamut from social impact dramato compelling documentaries to off-the-wall delights, there's definitely something for everyone.

The short films in the lineup will screen in the following programs:

TA-DA! SHORTS FOR ALL AGES	80
THIS IS NOT MY BEAUTIFUL LIFE	81
BREAKING THE MOLD	82
TURNING POINTS	83
NEW YORK WOMEN IN FILM AND TELEVISION	84
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SHORTS BEFORE FEATURES	87

**SPONSORED BY** 



#### TA-DA: SHORTS FOR ALL AGES

Discover the joy of care and family in short films that bring generations together.

10/12 11:15AM SOUTHAMPTON - SP3 10/13 2:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

**57 MINUTES** 



#### **CLAY BIRD**

**DIRECTOR:** Kiran Bhakta Joshi

After 9-year-old Sichu loses her potter grandfather, she reclaims a clay bird she once broke to honor his memory.

NARRATIVE SHORT, NEPAL, 2025, 14 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### DANCING IN THE RAIN

DIRECTOR: Chao-chun Yeh

As a girl in Taipei falls asleep, she drifts off into a dreamy magical adventure, quided by mice.

NARRATIVE SHORT, JAPAN/TAIWAN, 2024, 6 MINUTES, NO DIALOGUE



#### **FOREVERGREEN**

**DIRECTORS:** Nathan Engelhardt, Jeremy Spears

An orphaned bear cub finds a home with a fatherly evergreen tree, until his hunger for trash leads him into danger.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA/ ARGENTINA, 2025, 13 MINUTES, NO DIALOGUE



#### POW!

**DIRECTOR:** Joey Clift

A Native American kid scrambles to charge his dying video game console at a bustling intertribal powwow.

NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2025, 8 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### ROBOT LEO

DIRECTORS: Piret Sigus, Silja Saarepuu

Leo is a robot who lives in a cozy rusty house with his cat. As a visit from his first ever guest looms, Leo's anxiety grows.

US PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, ESTONIA, 2025, 8 MINUTES, NO DIALOGUE



#### WEDNESDAYS WITH GRAMPS

**DIRECTORS:** Chris Copeland, Justin Copeland

When a teenage boy visits his Gramps at an assisted living facility, he finds they have much more in common than he thought.

NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 8 MINUTES, NO DIALOGUE

#### THIS IS NOT MY BEAUTIFUL LIFE

When life refuses to follow the script, these characters improvise—with unexpected results.

10/12 2:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

77 MINUTES



#### **DEAR MOTHER**

**DIRECTOR:** Theodor Solin

Hidden tensions resurface when Julius returns home to find his mother has replaced him with a lodger who now occupies his old room—and her affections.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, SWEDEN, 2025, 13 MINUTES, SWEDISH



#### FAME AND OTHER FOUR LETTER WORDS

**DIRECTOR:** Miranda Kahn

In a world where Instagram is dead and scientists are hot, one influencer must face her biggest fear: being irrelevant.

NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2025, 14 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### THE FINAL CUT

**DIRECTOR:** Sascha Seinfeld

Alan's life flashes before his eyes—but instead of powerful moments, it's a sloppy sizzle reel. He meets with God and demands a re-cut.

EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 8 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **MYSTERY SEEDS**

**DIRECTOR:** Nathan Truesdell

After mysterious packages sow the seeds of a xenophobic conspiracy, we track its growth through news, internet detectives, and online shopping history.

EAST COAST PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 9 MINUTES, ENGLISH/MANDARIN



#### NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

**DIRECTOR:** Emily Everhard

A grieving septuagenarian widow with two left feet rediscovers herself in a ballroom dance studio.

EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2025, 12 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### SOMEONE SPECIAL

**DIRECTOR:** Alice Gervat

Lisa matched with Xuân through a dating app, and now she has one week to actually learn Vietnamese...

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, FRANCE, 2024, 7 MINUTES, FRENCH



#### **SOMETHING REAL**

**DIRECTOR:** Tamara Shogaolu

In a near-future where breakups can be outsourced, a perfectionist orchestrates the ideal split. When the system falters, she collides with the absurdity of love.

WORLD PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA/ NETHERLANDS, 2025, 14 MINUTES, ENGLISH

#### BREAKING THE MOLD

The power of creative expression shines in stories of artists who see—and shape—the world differently.

10/5 2:45PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5

**87 MINUTES** 



#### **EDGE OF DAYBREAK**

**DIRECTOR:** Dawn Porter

In 1979, inmates at a maximum-security prison came together to record an album of original music—attesting to the power of creativity in any setting.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2024, 32 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### FREEMAN VINES

**DIRECTORS:** Tim Kirkman, André Robert Lee

82-year-old artist Freeman Vines hand-carves exquisite guitars, some from the wood of a tree linked to the lynching of a young Black man.

DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 15 MINUTES, ENGLISH



### A MAN WHO TAKES PICTURES OF FLOWERS

**DIRECTOR:** Yoo Lee

Jung Myung Kim is a photographer who has dedicated decades of his life to capturing wildflowers in Korea, discovering true happiness in the process.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA/SOUTH KOREA, 2025, 13 MINUTES, KOREAN



### THE NEW YORKER THEATER: A TALBOT LEGACY

**DIRECTOR:** Sergio Maza

The Talbots launched The New Yorker Theater in 1960 without money or experience, creating one of America's most influential cinemas through innovative programming.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA/ARGENTINA, 2025, 27 MINUTES, ENGLISH

#### **TURNING POINTS**

Spanning multiple generations across international borders, these contemplative tales explore the role of the past in shaping the present.

10/4 11:15AM EAST HAMPTON - UA4

**88 MINUTES** 



#### **INDIGO BLUE**

**DIRECTOR:** Albert Pritchard

After a risky medical procedure is denied by their insurance company, a young couple risks everything to save their daughter.

EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2025, 10 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **JEAN JACKET**

**DIRECTORS:** Maxim Nebeker, Lucy Nebeker

Narrative Short, USA, 2024, 13 minutes, English Jean Jacket is a down-on-her-luck cowgirl trying to get it all back. With no real hope of success, she turns to the ultimate American Dream maker: the lottery. NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 13 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### LIGHTNING BUG

**DIRECTOR:** Zane Pais

When a family dinner spirals into theatrics, retired actress Lydia must take control of the situation.

WORLD PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2025, 15 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **SUSANA**

**DIRECTORS:** Amandine Thomas, Gerardo Coello Escalante

Alone in Mexico City, a middle-aged American tourist meets a group of young tourists who show her adventure and the power of her dollars.

NARRATIVE SHORT, MEXICO/USA, 2025, 16 MINUTES, ENGLISH/ SPANISH



#### **WE HAD FUN**

**DIRECTOR:** Linda Lô

Linda, Biram and Roger live far from their mother in Gabon. When the eldest goes on a weekend getaway, his siblings see their first snow.

EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, FRANCE, 2025, 18 MINUTES, FRENCH



#### WHAT IF THEY BOMB HERE TONIGHT

**DIRECTOR:** Samir Syriani

A Lebanese family spends a sleepless night fearing an Israeli airstrike could shatter their glass walls. Should they stay or flee?

EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, LEBANON, 2025, 16 MINUTES, LEBANESE ARABIC

#### NEW YORK WOMEN IN FILM AND TELEVISION: FILMMAKERS CALLING THE SHOTS

Since 2003, we have proudly celebrated our partnership with New York Women in Film & Television with our annual showcase of outstanding achievements by female and nonbinary filmmakers.

10/12 4:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA3

**84 MINUTES** 



#### **CHASING THE PARTY**

**DIRECTOR:** Jessie Komitor

Melissa and Stephanie dream of becoming the "It" girls they worship, but their fantasy shatters when the photographer they idolize lifts the veil.

NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 14 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### I WOULD NEVER F&%K YOU

DIRECTORS: Mika Lungulov-Klotz, Alanna Murray

Close friends Ira and Morgan ready themselves for a big night out, preparing to look amazing before an impending confrontation with their crushes at the bar.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 17 MINUTES, ENGLISH



### THE INCREDIBLE SENSATIONAL FIANCÉE OF SÈYÍ ÀJÀYÍ

**DIRECTOR:** Abbesi Akhamie

In the stylized African nation of Alkebulan, a brilliant scholar discovers her fiance's secret engagement and takes spectacular revenge, earning the recognition she always deserved.

NARRATIVE SHORT, USA/NIGERIA, 2024, 16 MINUTES, ENGLISH/ GUINEA CREOLE



#### MY MOTHER IS A COW

**DIRECTOR:** Moara Passoni

Left in her aunt's care at the edge of the Brazilian wetland, 12-year-old Mia is desperate for her mother's love.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, BRAZIL, 2024, 15 MINUTES, PORTUGUESE



#### **NUN'S BEACH**

**DIRECTOR:** Kate diRienzi

When introduced to a fellow nun's family, Sister Flora questions her romantic relationship with Sister Muriel and her devotion to God.

EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 13 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### SUPER HIGH: A PERIOD PIECE

**DIRECTOR:** Bianca Lambert

To combat fibroid pain, Amanda tries edibles. When objects start speaking to her, she realizes she has bitten off more than she can chew.

NARRATIVE SHORT, UNITED STATES, 2024, 9 MINUTES, ENGLISH

#### UNIVERSITY SHORT FILM SHOWCASE

Curated from hundreds of submissions, these prize-winning short films showcase the extraordinary talent and achievements of five exceptional student filmmakers.

10/4 4:45PM SAG HARBOR - SHC2

**84 MINUTES** 

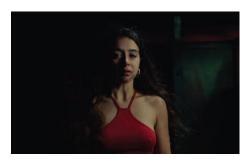


#### **BREASTMILK**

**DIRECTOR:** Ifeyinwa Arinze

A new Nigerian mother struggles to breastfeed her baby while navigating both her tense relationship with her husband and her family's expectations.

NARRATIVE SHORT, USA/NIGERIA, 2025, 16 MINUTES, ENGLISH, YORUBA



#### **CRAZY FOR YOU**

**DIRECTOR:** Greta Díaz Moreau

Rural Spain, Y2K. Alma is 16 and desperate to be seen. Overlooked by everyone, she finds an unexpected guide in a cow.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, SPAIN, 2025, 19 MINUTES, SPANISH

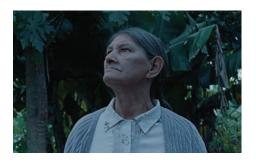


#### **MOTHER AND ULYSSES**

**DIRECTOR:** Mushi Cai

Against her wishes, Anna's estranged son becomes a film director. When his film is set to screen in the city, Anna travels to see it.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, UK, 2024, 15 MINUTES, ENGLISH



#### **OUR OWN SHADOW**

**DIRECTOR:** Agustina Sánchez Gavier

The sky augurs bad omens. Where nature is despised, people disappear, trees fall and the sun is devoured.

EAST COAST PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, GERMANY/ARGENTINA, 2024, 20 MINUTES, SPANISH



#### **PUNTER**

DIRECTOR: Jason Adam Maselle

Brett must navigate the underbelly of the gambling world as a seemingly harmless horse racing bet jeopardizes the surprise he's prepared for his father's birthday.

NEW YORK PREMIERE, NARRATIVE SHORT, SOUTH AFRICA, 2024, 14 MINUTES, ENGLISH, ISIXHOSA, AFRIKAANS



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#### SHORTS BEFORE FEATURES



#### BUICK

**DIRECTOR:** Michael Godere

Three teenagers in the 1990s spend Friday night cruising to Brand Nubian. On their way to a late movie, an encounter escalates into violence. Screening before NATCHEZ (see p. 73).

10/4 6:00PM EAST HAMPTON - UA5 10/5 11:30AM SAG HARBOR - SHC2

> **NEW YORK PREMIERE,** NARRATIVE SHORT, USA, 2024, 12 MINÚTES, **ENGLISH**



#### **CAROL & JOY**

**DIRECTOR:** Nathan Silver

A documentary portrait of the relationship between Academy Award-nominated actress Carol Kane and her mother Joy, a music teacher still giving singing (and life) lessons at 98. Screening before PETER HUJAR'S DAY (see p. 30).

10/4 11:45AM EAST HAMPTON - UA2 10/5 4:30PM EAST HAMPTON - UA2

> **DOCUMENTARY SHORT, USA, 2025, 38 MINUTES, ENGLISH**







Our commitment to connecting the Hamptons through cinema doesn't end in October: we are pleased to offer dynamic, engaging movies, events and educational programs all year long.

SCREENWRITERS LAB	90
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#### SCREENWRITERS LAB

Celebrating its 25th year in 2025, the Screenwriters Lab champions the artistic visions of up-and-coming screenwriters and directors by pairing them with established writers and creative producers for one-on-one screenplay mentorship.



#### 2025 MENTORS

Dan Janvey (NOMADLAND, BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD)
Justin Kuritzkes (CHALLENGERS, QUEER)
Rachel Shukert (*Nine Perfect Strangers, The Handmaid's Tale, Glow*)

#### 2025 SCREENPLAYS

Lullaby, by Aliza Brugger
The Mirex, by Pepi Ginsberg
Halloween 1999, by Keaton Ventura

After a carefully selected submission process, the Lab invites screenwriters with feature-length projects to an annual intimate gathering where, over the course of the weekend, film industry veterans advise them in individual and group development sessions.

Since its inception, over seventy-five screenplays have taken part in the Lab. Recent projects include Kelly O'Sullivan's MOUSE, Anu Valia's WE STRANGERS (SXSW 2024), Andrew Semans' RESURRECTION (IFC Films, Sundance 2022), Annabelle Attanasio's MICKEY AND THE BEAR (Utopia, SXSW 2019), Michael Tyburski and Ben Nabors' THE SOUND OF SILENCE (IFC Films, Sundance 2019), Cathy Yan's DEAD PIGS (Film Movement, Sundance 2018), Christina Choe's NANCY (Samuel Goldwyn Films, Sundance 2018), and Ísold Uggadóttir's AND BREATHE NORMALLY (Netflix, Sundance 2018).

Recent Lab Mentors include Celine Song (PAST LIVES); Michael Angelo Covino (SPLITSVILLE); Debra Granik (WINTER'S BONE, LEAVE NO TRACE); Mollye Asher (NOMADLAND); Peter Hedges (WHAT'S EATING GILBERT GRAPE?, ABOUT A BOY); Jim Taylor (SIDEWAYS, ELECTION); Michael H. Weber (THE FAULT IN OUR STARS, (500) DAYS OF SUMMER); Tamara Jenkins (PRIVATE LIFE, THE SAVAGES); Bill Collage (ASSASSIN'S CREED); Michael Cunningham (THE HOURS); Robin Swicord (THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON); and Alex Dinelaris (BIRDMAN).

#### MELISSA MATHISON AWARD

FOUNDER, MELISSA MATHISON AWARD: TAYLOR BARTON-SMITH

Established in 2016, the Melissa Mathison Award, named for the late Hollywood screenwriter, is instrumental in ensuring that female filmmaker voices are showcased for years to come.

The Melissa Mathison Award winner is chosen from each year's Screenwriters Lab participants. After the lab, this screenwriter is given the opportunity to further develop her connection to key industry contacts through mentorship for one year and a public screenplay reading with established actors in NYC.



The 2025 Melissa Mathison Award recipient is Pepi Ginsberg's, The Mirex.

#### **SUMMERDOCS**



2025 FILMS

MY MOM JAYNE, directed by Mariska Hargitay
MIDDLETOWN, directed by Jesse Moss and Amanda McBaine

Curated by Chief Creative Officer David Nugent and Board Co-Chair Alec Baldwin, the HamptonsFilm SummerDocs series celebrated seventeen years of bringing groundbreaking, thought-provoking documentary filmmaking to the East End this summer.

Past SummerDocs selections have gone on to Academy Award® nominations and even wins for Best Documentary Feature Film, including NAVALNY (2023), FIRE OF LOVE (2023), SUMMER OF SOUL (2021), ICARUS (2017), TWENTY FEET FROM STARDOM (2013), SEARCHING FOR SUGAR MAN (2012), and THE COVE (2009).

Left: Mariska Hargitay and Molly Jong-Fast in conversation following MY MOM JAYNE

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#### SUMMER OUTDOOR SCREENINGS



For the sixth summer, HamptonsFilm showcased FREE outdoor screenings in Herrick Park and on Main Beach. Hundreds of community members gathered under starlit skies to celebrate beloved classics—including the 50th anniversary screening of JAWS, 30th anniversary screening of TOY STORY, ELF, SCHOOL OF ROCK, TOP GUN: MAVERICK, and BARBIE—with trivia, community partners and popcorn for fans of all ages!

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#### HIFF JR. EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

Education has been a hallmark program for HamptonsFilm since our very first year. For over three decades, HIFF Jr. has exposed tens of thousands of schoolchildren of all ages to a world of diverse realities. At the same time, our programs have both empowered them to recognize film as an accessible medium for creativity and encouraged them to make their voices heard.





#### **SUMMER FILM CAMP**

We were thrilled to offer student Film Camps in the Hamptons for kids ages 8 to 18, continuing a signature HIFF Jr. initiative. Campers create their own short films while learning screenwriting, directing, acting, producing and editing from industry professionals. Film Camp provides a creative outlet and thorough introduction to filmmaking to help kids launch their own projects for fun, passion, and perhaps even a future career. Check back next spring for details about Summer 2026! Generous scholarships are available.

### DURING HIFF: UNITED NATIONS SHORT FILM PARTNERSHIP

HamptonsFilm is proud of our longstanding partnership with the United Nations Plural+ International Film Festival, allowing us to invite local students to view films made by global youth and engage in discussions around diversity, migration, inclusion and human rights. Since 2015, thousands of students have attended these screenings—followed by conversations with the filmmakers themselves—and continued to wrestle with these larger issues back in the classroom. These screenings amplify the voices of those around the world experiencing some of the same critical issues we face right here in the Hamptons.

#### **IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

HIFF Jr. presents various screenings in local schools throughout the year. Programs in partnership with United Nations Plural+ (see above) address issues of global human rights. Our Compassion, Justice and Animal Rights program centers on the humane treatment of all living beings. The Neo-Political Cowgirls and HamptonsFilm partner on The Hero Project—an annual school residency for middle schoolers where film and theater meet to creatively help young people build empathy—and also offer free after-school filmmaking courses called Dude's Eye View and Girls' Gaze, which allow high school students to express themselves through the art of filmmaking.





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Your steadfast commitment to championing independent cinema, and cultivating creative talent, continues to leave a profound mark on both artists and audiences. In a world yearning for connection, this festival reminds us of the enduring power of stories—to inspire, to challenge, and to unite. I am deeply grateful to the remarkable staff and board, who year after year, elevate emerging voices, celebrate excellence, and foster a space where meaningful dialogue and artistic expression thrive.

Thank you for your tireless devotion to the art of filmmaking, and for building a home where imagination takes flight!

With my profound admiration,
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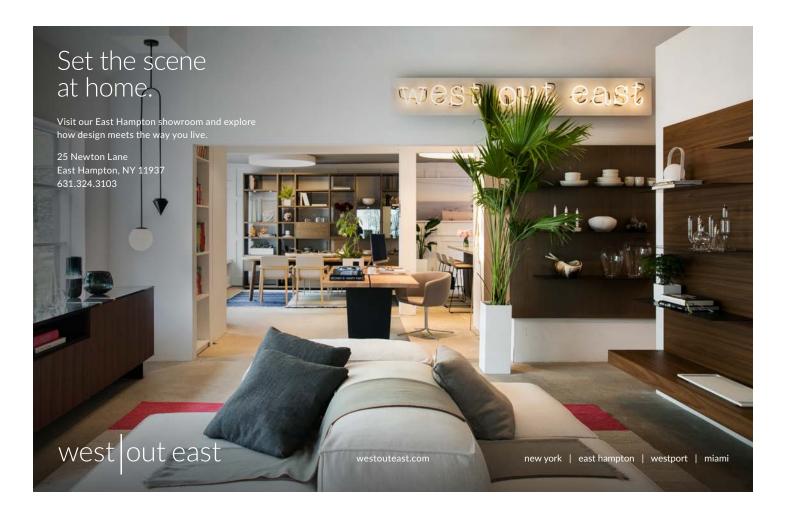
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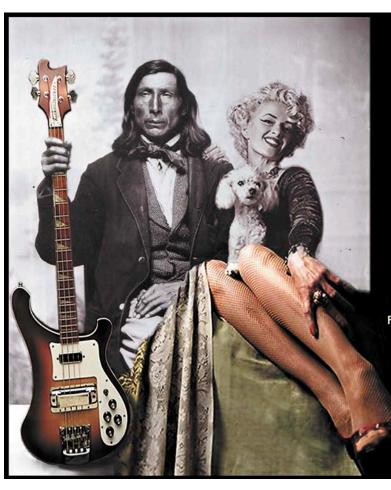
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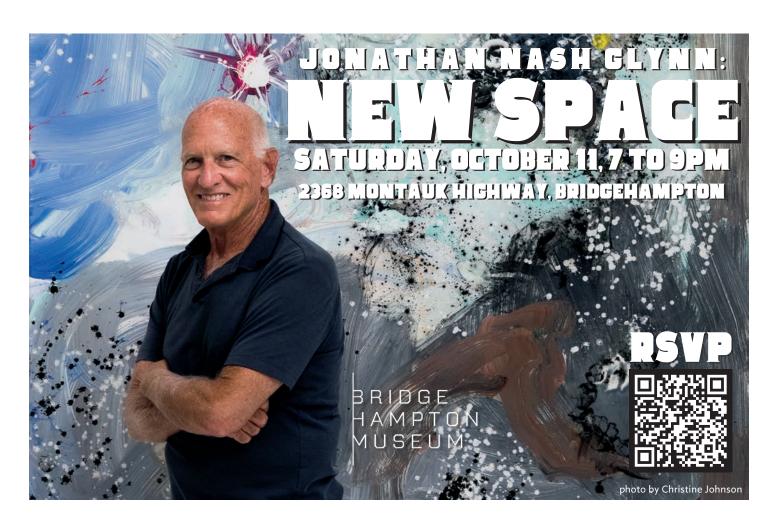
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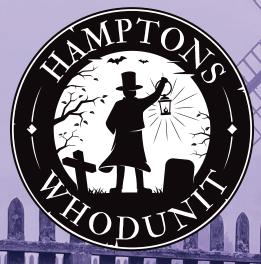


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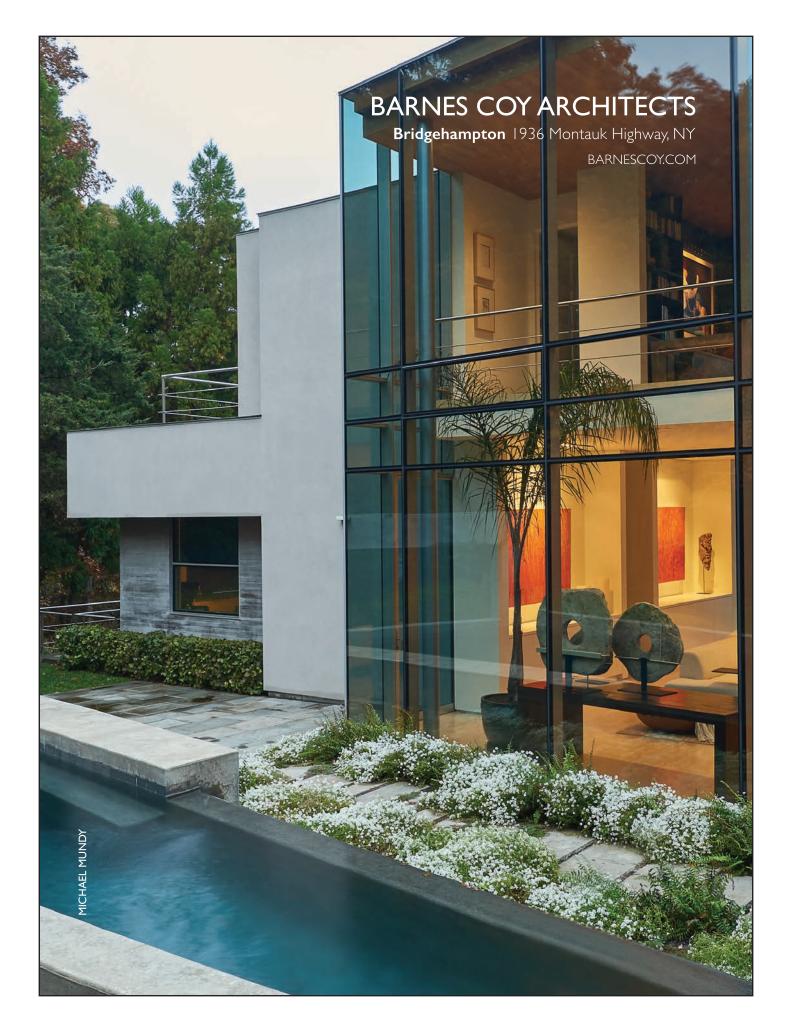
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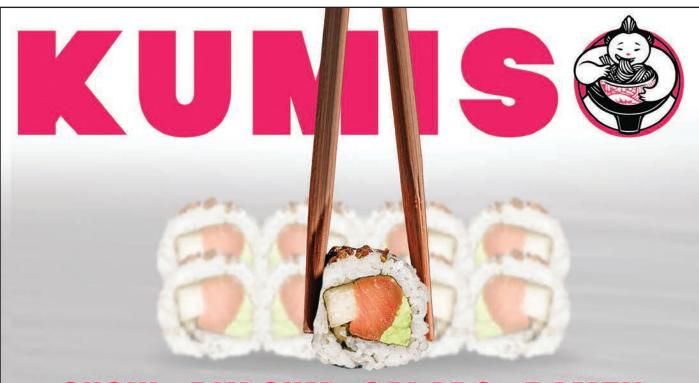
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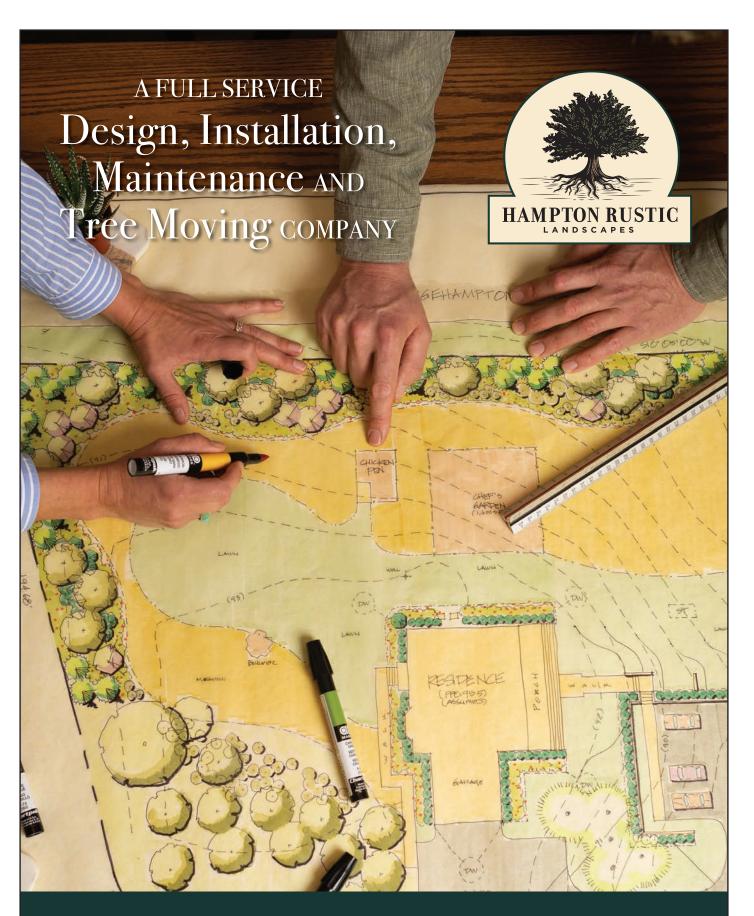
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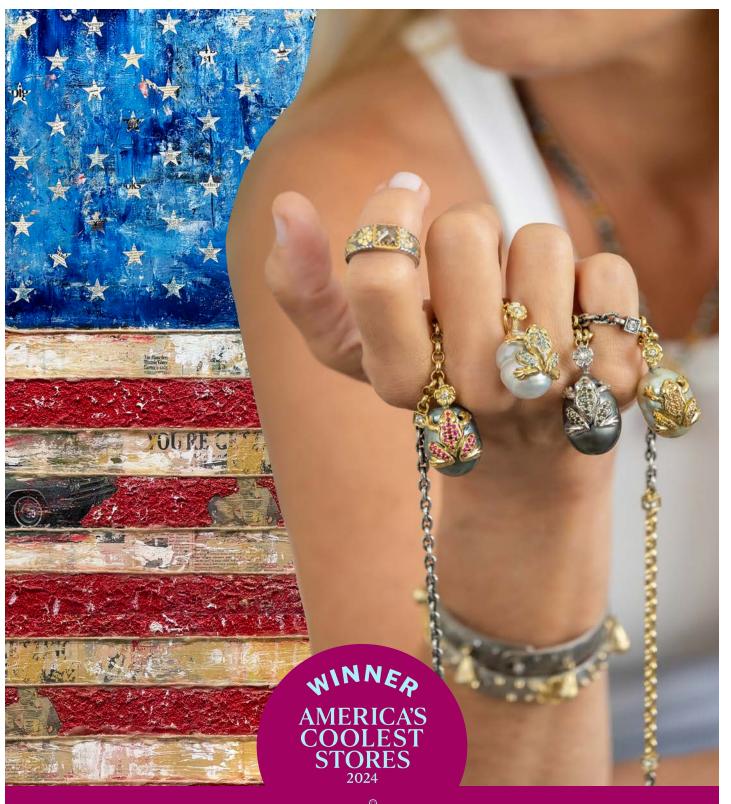
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Jov Vida Jones Leisa Jones Mara Kaplan Lisa Karabel Christopher Kelley Alan Klinger Lee Anna Lackey Edward Laub Arianna Laufer Shari Linder Setha Low Diane Moss Sarah Nagourney Tedi Najarian Carol Ostrow Julie Persily

Joe Piropato
Jill Robertson
Richard Rothberg
Sandra Schoenbart
Leslie Siben
Heidi Siegel
Jessica Solomon
Melissa Stoller
Julie Stonberg
Michelle Toto
James Williams
Julia Williams
Debbie Wolf
Stephen Wronski
Sandra Yoraschek

## FRIDAY, OCT 3

OPENING NIGHT: ETERNITY

**EHMS 6:30** PM

**UA1 7:15** PM

NEWPORT & THE GREAT FOLK DREAM

**UA2 7:45** PM

## **SATURDAY, OCT 4**



**EHMS** - East Hampton Middle School

**GH** - Guild Hall

SH - Sag Harbor Cinema

**UA** - Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

**SP** - Southampton Playhouse

OPENING/CLOSING/CENTERPIECE
SPOTLIGHTS
SPECIAL SCREENINGS

**WORLD CINEMA** 

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS
SHORTS
TALKS/CONVOS

**COMPETITION FILMS** 

TO BE ANNOUNCED

## **SUNDAY, OCT 5**



EHMS - East Hampton Middle School

**GH** - Guild Hall

SH - Sag Harbor Cinema

**UA** - Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

**SP** - Southampton Playhouse

OPENING/CLOSING/CENTERPIECE **SPOTLIGHTS SPECIAL SCREENINGS WORLD CINEMA** 

**COMPETITION FILMS SIGNATURE PROGRAMS SHORTS** TALKS/CONVOS

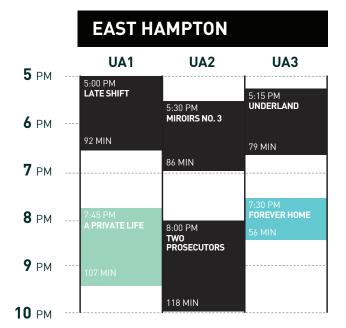
Find the most up-to-date

schedule online at hamptonsfilmfest.org

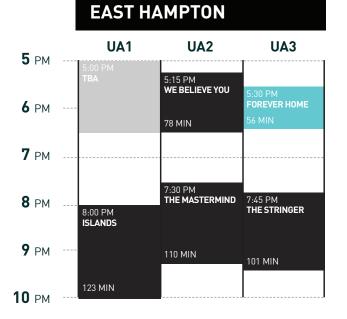
## MONDAY, OCT 6

#### **EAST HAMPTON** UA1 UA2 UA3 **5** PM THE LAST MUSICIAN OF AUSCHWITZ 5:15 PM CALLE MALAGA THE LIBRARIANS **6** PM 90 MIN 92 MIN **7** PM 116 MIN **8** PM 8:15 PM **THE NEST 9** PM 89 MIN **10** PM

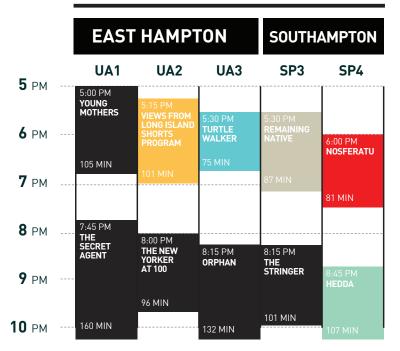
## **TUESDAY, OCT 7**



### **WEDNESDAY, OCT 8**



### THURSDAY, OCT 9



**EHMS** - East Hampton Middle School

**GH** - Guild Hall

SH - Sag Harbor Cinema

**UA** - Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

**SP** - Southampton Playhouse

OPENING/CLOSING/CENTERPIECE
SPOTLIGHTS
SPECIAL SCREENINGS
WORLD CINEMA

COMPETITION FILMS
SIGNATURE PROGRAMS
SHORTS
TALKS/CONVOS

#### TO BE ANNOUNCED

## FRIDAY, OCT 10



EHMS - East Hampton Middle School

**GH** - Guild Hall

SH - Sag Harbor Cinema

**UA** - Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

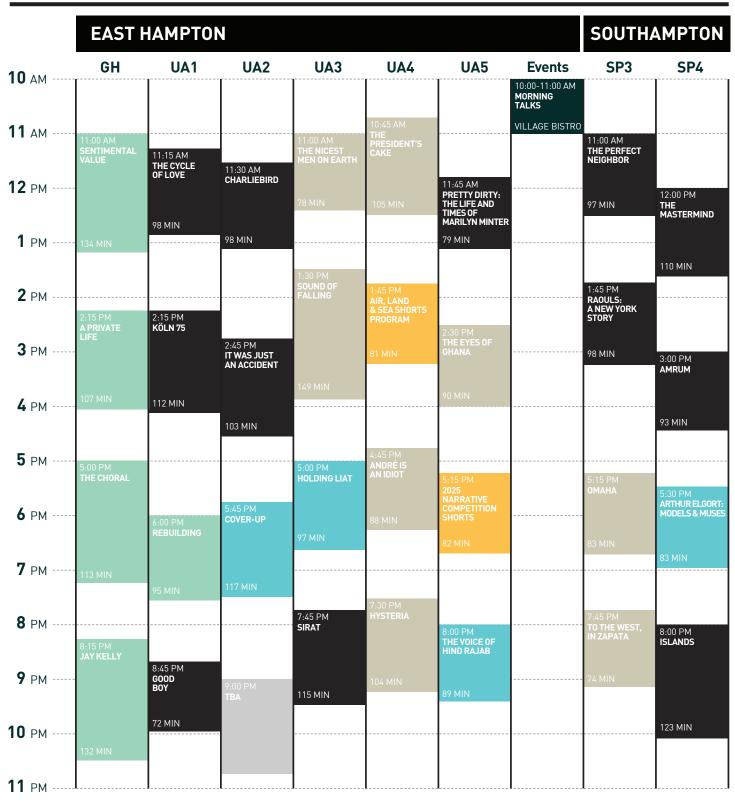
**SP** - Southampton Playhouse

OPENING/CLOSING/CENTERPIECE
SPOTLIGHTS
SPECIAL SCREENINGS
WORLD CINEMA

COMPETITION FILMS
SIGNATURE PROGRAMS
SHORTS
TALKS/CONVOS

TO BE ANNOUNCED

## **SATURDAY, OCT 11**



EHMS - East Hampton Middle School

**GH** - Guild Hall

SH - Sag Harbor Cinema

**UA** - Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

**SP** - Southampton Playhouse

OPENING/CLOSING/CENTERPIECE
SPOTLIGHTS
SPECIAL SCREENINGS
WORLD CINEMA

COMPETITION FILMS
SIGNATURE PROGRAMS
SHORTS
TALKS/CONVOS

TO BE ANNOUNCED

## **SUNDAY, OCT 12**



EHMS - East Hampton Middle School

**GH** - Guild Hall

SH - Sag Harbor Cinema

**UA** - Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

**SP** - Southampton Playhouse

OPENING/CLOSING/CENTERPIECE
SPOTLIGHTS
SPECIAL SCREENINGS
WORLD CINEMA

COMPETITION FILMS
SIGNATURE PROGRAMS
SHORTS
TALKS/CONVOS

TO BE ANNOUNCED

## FALL 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



VISUAL ARTS

NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 26, 2025

MARY HEILMANN: WATER WAY & JOEL MESLER: MILES OF SMILES



COMMUNITY FUN!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 7-10 PM

HALLOWEEN SILENT DISCO DANCE PARTY



**OPERA** 

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1-4:45 PM

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## MONDAY, OCT 13



**EHMS** - East Hampton Middle School

**GH** - Guild Hall

SH - Sag Harbor Cinema

**UA** - Regal UA East Hampton Cinema

**SP** - Southampton Playhouse



COMPETITION FILMS
SIGNATURE PROGRAMS
SHORTS
TALKS/CONVOS

TO BE ANNOUNCED

**28 HAMNET** 

41	A LIFE ILLUMINATED	28	HEDDA	30	PETER HUJAR'S DAY
82	A MAN WHO TAKES PICTURES	34	HOLDING LIAT	<b>67</b>	THE PLAGUE
	OF FLOWERS	<b>59</b>	HOOPS, HOPES & DREAMS	39	PORTRAIT OF THE LIGHTHOUSE
	A POET	54	HYSTERIA	80	POW!
26	A PRIVATE LIFE	84	I WOULD NEVER F&%K YOU	55	THE PRESIDENT'S CAKE
26	AFTER THE HUNT	29	IF I HAD LEGS I'D KICK YOU	85	PUNTER
62	ALL THAT'S LEFT OF YOU	84	THE INCREDIBLE SENSATIONAL	43	QOTZUNI: PEOPLE OF THE LAKE
35	ALL THE EMPTY ROOMS		FIANCÉE OF SÈYÍ ÀJÀYÍ	58	RAGAMUFFIN
62	AMRUM	83	INDIGO BLUE	<b>75</b>	THE RAFTSMEN
56	ANDRÉ IS AN IDIOT	29	IS THIS THING ON?	75	RAOUL'S: A NEW YORK STORY
62	ARCO	43	ISLAND WILLING	31	REBUILDING
37	ARTHUR ELGORT: MODELS & MUSES	64	ISLANDS	<b>57</b>	REMAINING NATIVE
71	ASK E. JEAN	64	IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT	31	RENTAL FAMILY
58	BLUE HEART	83	JEAN JACKET	80	ROBOT LEO
26	BLUE MOON	29	KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN	43	SALLIE'S ASHES
39	BORN 2 LOSE	65	KÖLN 75	58	SAMMI, WHO CAN DETACH HIS
85	BREASTMILK	<b>59</b>	LANAWARU		BODY PARTS
27	BUGONIA	72	THE LAST MUSICIAN OF AUSCHWITZ	69	THE SECRET AGENT
87	BUICK	65	LATE SHIFT	37	THE SECRETS WE BURY
63	CALLE MALAGA	39	LET'S NOT SUFFER AT THE END	77	SEEDS
87	CAROL & JOY		OF THE WORLD	31	SENTIMENTAL VALUE
63	CHARLIEBIRD	72	THE LIBRARIANS	39	SHIRIN NESHAT: VOICE OF
84	CHASING THE PARTY	83	LIGHTNING BUG		A WOMAN
27	THE CHORAL	35	LOVE+WAR	69	
15	CHRISTY	65	THE LOVE THAT REMAINS	39	SIREN
35	CLASSROOM 4	66	MAGIC HOUR	81	SOMEONE SPECIAL
80	CLAY BIRD	72	MARILYN MINTER: PRETTY/DIRTY	81	SOMETHING REAL
59	CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG	66	THE MASTERMIND	70	SORRY, BABY
34, 71	COVER-UP	17	MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG	55	SOUND OF FALLING
58	THE CURFEW	66	MIROIRS NO. 3	77	THE STRINGER
71	THE CYCLE OF LOVE	85	MOTHER AND ULYSSES	84	SUPER HIGH: A PERIOD PIECE
85	CRAZY FOR YOU	84	MY MOTHER IS A COW	83	SUSANA
80	DANCING IN THE RAIN	81	MYSTERY SEEDS		THOUGHTS OF INFINITY
81			NATCHEZ		TIGER
63	DJ AHMET		THE NEST		TO THE WEST, IN ZAPATA
27	DREAMS	73	NEWPORT & THE GREAT		TRADE SECRET
	EDGE OF DAYBREAK		FOLK DREAM		TRAIN DREAMS
	ETERNITY	82	THE NEW YORKER THEATER:		TURTLE WALKER
	THE EYES OF GHANA		A TALBOT LEGACY		TWO PROSECUTORS
81	FAME AND OTHER FOUR		THE NICEST MEN ON EARTH		UNDERLAND
	LETTER WORDS		NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY		THE VOICE OF HIND RAJAB
	FANTASY LIFE	32	NOSFERATU: A SYMPHONY	32	WAKE UP DEAD MAN:
	THE FINAL CUT		OF HORROR		A KNIVES OUT MYSTERY
	FOREVER HOME	67			WE BELIEVE YOU
80			NUN'S BEACH		WE HAD FUN
	FREEMAN VINES		NUREMBERG		WEDNESDAYS WITH GRAMPS
45	GHOST ELEPHANTS		OMAHA		WEST LANDING
58		,	ON THE END	83	WHAT IF THEY
64	GOOD BOY		ORPHAN		BOMB HERE TONIGHT
59	GRANNY & THE FISHES	85	OUR OWN SHADOW	41	YANUNI

75 THE PERFECT NEIGHBOR

**70 YOUNG MOTHERS** 

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