



MARYLAND FILM FESTIVAL

APR 27 - MAY 1
2022

IN PERSON
IN BALTIMORE

WELCOME

TO THE 2022 MARYLAND FILM FESTIVAL!

After two years of virtual screenings and programming, we are thrilled to return in-person for the 24th-annual Maryland Film Festival (MdFF)! This year's 5-day festival will offer an array of content for a total of 20 feature films, 130 short films, and one episodic, including kids & family, LGBTQ+, Baltimore-centric pieces, and more.

The program this year includes one-of-a-kind movies across genres. MdFF 2022 continues the tradition of celebrating the short form with our signature robust slate of shorts films from around the world as well as our Opening Night program, the fourth iteration of Balti-Shorts, a special screening of MAPS TO THE STARS presented by legendary icon John Waters, and a closing night event featuring two new documentaries by Oscar-nominated and Emmy winner Stanley Nelson.

Thank you for supporting the Maryland Film Festival and we look forward to seeing you at the movies!





FEATURE FILMS

AFTER SHERMAN (2022, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Beautifully layered and expressionistic, *After Sherman* is a story about inheritance and the tension that defines our collective American history, especially Black history. The filmmaker follows his father, a minister, in the aftermath of a mass shooting at his church in Charleston, South Carolina to understand how communities of descendants of enslaved Africans use their unique faith as a form of survival as they continue to fight for America to live up to its many unfulfilled promises to Black Americans.

DIRECTOR:

Jon-Sesrie Goff

SCREENINGS:

Fri, Apr 29, 7:45PM @ MICA BBOX

Sat, Apr 30, 11:00AM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

RUNTIME:

88 mins.



THE ART OF MAKING IT (2021, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Focusing on a diverse group of compelling young artists at pivotal moments in their careers, The Art of Making It explores the forces that thrust some into the stratosphere while leaving others struggling to survive. Who gets seen, who gets left behind, and who is anointed to tell the stories of our time? Interweaving the voices of creative luminaries and disruptors, the film is both a cautionary tale about what America stands to lose if we don't rethink what we value, and a love letter to those who persevere in their artistic practice in spite of the extraordinary odds of ever achieving commercial success.

DIRECTOR:

Kelcey Edwards

SCREENINGS:

Fri, Apr 29, 5:30PM @ MICA BBOX

Sat, Apr 30, 4:00PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

RUNTIME:

94 mins.



FIRE OF LOVE (2022, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Katia and Maurice Krafft loved two things — each other and volcanoes. For two decades, the daring French volcanologist couple roamed the planet, chasing eruptions and documenting their discoveries. Ultimately, they lost their lives in a 1991 volcanic explosion, leaving a legacy that forever enriched our knowledge of the natural world. Director Sara Dosa and the filmmaking team fashion a lyrical celebration of the intrepid scientists' spirit of adventure, drawing from the Kraffts' spectacular archive. FIRE OF LOVE tells a story of primordial creation and destruction, following two bold explorers as they venture into the unknown, all for the sake of love.

DIRECTOR:

Sara Dosa

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30, 1:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

Sun, May 1, 11:30AM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

RUNTIME:

93 mins.



HIT THE ROAD (2021, IRAN)

DESCRIPTION:

HIT THE ROAD tells the story of a family that takes a road trip across the rugged landscape of Iran to drop their older son off at the border in order to leave the country. Despite the ebullient presence of their younger son, unspoken tensions arise and risks involving the elder son's flight become increasingly evident as the family approaches its destination. Over the course of the trip, they bond over memories of the past, grapple with fears of the unknown, and fuss over their sick dog. The humanist drama is an authentic, raw, and deeply sincere observation of an Iranian family preparing to part with one of their own.

DIRECTOR:

Panah Panahi

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30, 11:15AM @ MICA BBOX

Sun, May 1, 2:15PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

RUNTIME:

93 mins.



HOMEBODY (2021, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Johnny loves his babysitter Melanie, and he's heartbroken that today is her last day with him before she transitions into being a full-time doula. He discovers a YouTube video that teaches him about Free-Spirit Meditation, a practice by which you can send your spirit out of your body and into someone else's body. Johnny-as-Melanie plays dress-up, uses Melanie's credit card to buy an obscene amount of candy, and has an awkward run-in with a high school friend of Melanie's. From there, the pressures of pretending to be someone else stack up fast...

Preceded by VALENTINE directed by Beck Kitsis and Chris McKnabb.

DIRECTOR:

Joseph Sackett

SCREENINGS:

Thu, Apr 28, 8:30PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

Fri, Apr 29, 10:15PM @ MICA BBOX

RUNTIME:

75 mins.



JETHICA (2022, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Hiding out in New Mexico after a freak accident, Elena runs into Jessica, an old friend from high school. When Jessica's stalker suddenly shows up at their door, they must seek help from beyond the grave to get rid of him, for good.

Preceded by Scrunchies directed by Eric Cotton.

DIRECTOR:

Pete Ohs

SCREENINGS:

Fri, Apr 29, 10:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

Sat, Apr 30, 9:45 PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

RUNTIME:

70 mins.



KARMALINK (2021, CAMBODIA & USA)

DESCRIPTION:

In near-future Phnom Penh, the rich and privileged are augmented with nanotech and new skyscrapers crowd the skyline. In Tralop Bek, a tight-knit community threatened with forced eviction, 13 year-old Leng Heng is having vivid dreams of his past lives. He and his friends are convinced they are meant to find a buried Buddhist statue to save their homes and they seek out help from a street-smart girl in the neighborhood, Srey Leak. Together they follow clues across town and into the past. As Leng Heng's dreams converge on the present, his very sense of identity begins to unravel. When it becomes clear that the stakes are higher than they imagined, the two friends must decide how far they are willing to go to find their treasure and the truth.

DIRECTOR:

Jake Wachtel

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30, 1:15PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

Sun, May 1, 11:30 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

RUNTIME:

102 mins.

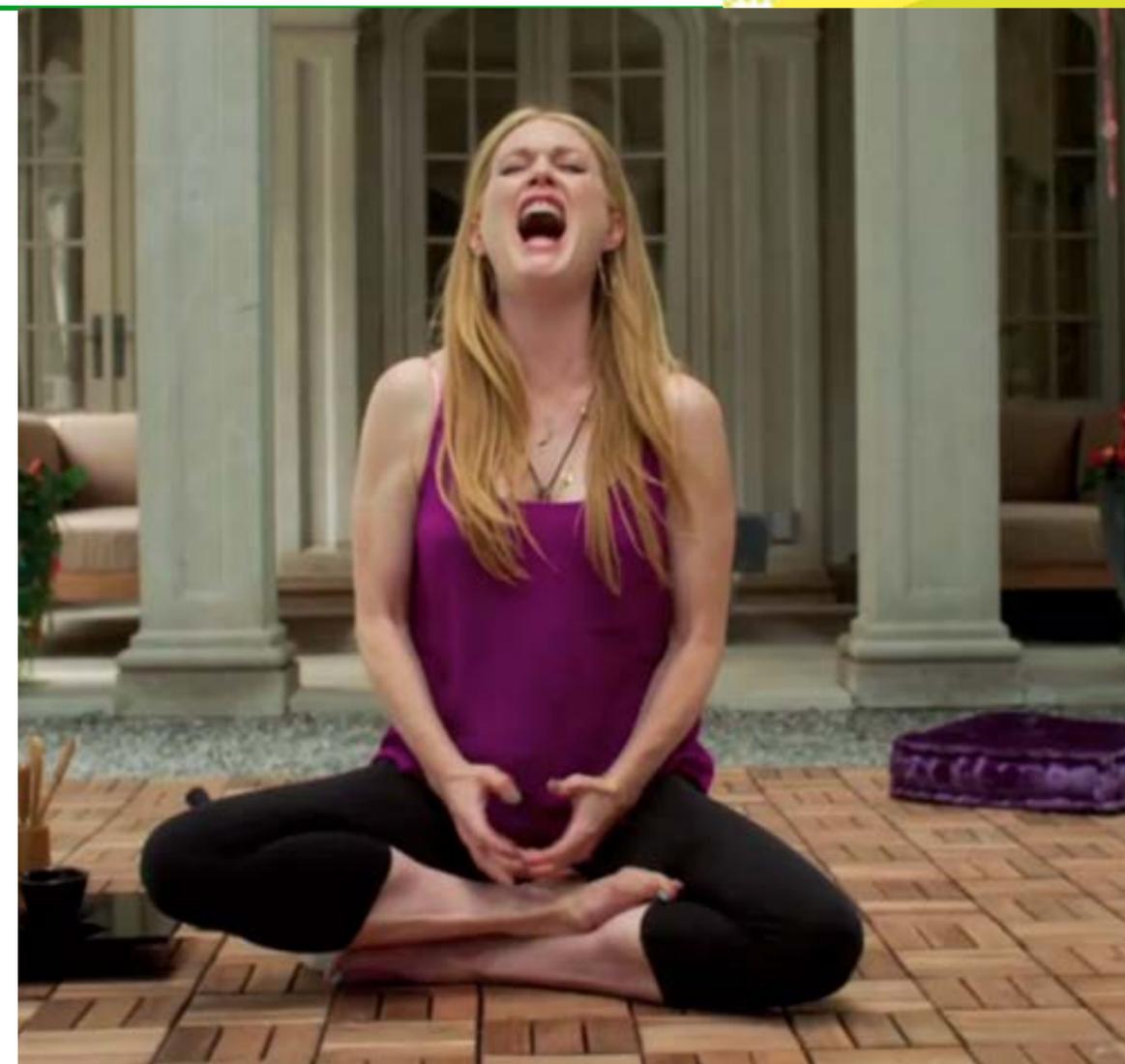


JOHN WATERS PRESENTS: MAPS TO THE STARS (2014, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Every year since the first MdFF in 1999, Baltimore's iconic cultural asset, the legendary artist and filmmaker John Waters, selects a film that he adores and feels hasn't yet received the attention or accolades it deserves to share with Baltimore's film enthusiasts. With an array of works ranging from recent international arthouse cinema to nuggets from the 60s and 70s and everything in between, JOHN WATERS PRESENTS offers an insightful and often hilarious analysis of the films and their makers in an unforgettable evening of movie mayhem.

Mr. Waters' 2022 pick is David Cronenberg's 2014 MAPS TO THE STARS, a delightfully unhinged Hollywood satire penned by Bruce Wagner (reportedly written when he worked as Beverly Hills Hotel limo driver) and stars Julianne Moore, John Cusack, Mia Wasikowska, Olivia Williams, and Robert Pattison, post-Twilight and Cosmopolis playing a mysterious limo driver. Cronenberg brings his signature mash-up of black comedy and high drama to this story of a dysfunctional Los Angeles family and a web of people associated with them as they navigate the consequences of their worst character flaws, small and large, from ego to incest.



DIRECTOR:

David Cronenberg

SCREENING:

Fri, Apr 29, 7:00PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE (2021, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

A teenage delinquent befriends a surly magician who helps her navigate her inner demons and dysfunctional family with sleight of hand magic. MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE is a coming-of-age comedy that touches on unlikely friendships, grief, and finding hope in the darkest moments. At the core of this playful and inventive movie is a celebration of the unlikely friendship between two outsiders: an unruly Chinese American teenager and a surly magician who's old enough to be her grandmother. After a chance meeting during an especially fraught time in each of their lives the two form a close bond, changing each other forever in unexpected and fantastic ways.

DIRECTOR:

Kate Tsang

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30, 4:15PM @ MICA BBOX

Sun, May 1, 1:30 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

RUNTIME:

81 mins.



MEDUSA (2021, Brazil)

DESCRIPTION:

Mariana, 21 years old, belongs to a world where she must do her utmost to keep up the appearance of a perfect woman. In order to resist temptation, she and her girlfriends try their best to control everything and everyone around them. And that includes the town sinners. At night, the girl squad put on masks, hunt and beat up all women who have deviated from the right path. However, the day will come when the urge to stray will be stronger than it ever has been before...

DIRECTOR:

Anita Rocha da Silveira

SCREENINGS:

Fri, Apr 29, 11:00PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

Sat, Apr 30, 9:15 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

RUNTIME:

129 mins.



MIJA (2020, USA, Mexico)

DESCRIPTION:

Doris Muñoz desperately longed for better representation in the indie music she listened to as a teenager. At 23, she took matters into her own hands and began a career in music talent management, passionately advocating for rising Latinx artists. Her swift success transformed her into a pillar for first-and second-generation Americans seeking community, as well as a breadwinner for her undocumented family.

Preceded by VISIONS directed by Karina Lomelin Ripper.

DIRECTOR:

Isabel Castro

SCREENINGS:

Thu, Apr 28, 6:00PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Sun, May 1, 11:15AM @ MICA BBOX

RUNTIME:

85 mins.



NAVALNY (2022, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

In August 2020 a plane traveling from Siberia to Moscow diverted to Omsk when a passenger onboard became deathly ill. That passenger was Vladimir Putin's fiercest critic—Alexei Navalny, the leader of Russia's opposition, a man many had long feared would be killed for his refusal to be silent. Navalny's wife and colleagues, convinced that Navalny had been poisoned and terrified of what might happen to him in a Siberian hospital, raced to Omsk and fought to evacuate him to Germany. There, German authorities confirmed that Navalny had been dosed with the Soviet-era nerve agent Novichok.

But how was Navalny poisoned? And by whom? These questions are at the core of *NAVALNY*, a fly-on-the-wall documentary that unfolds with the pace of a thriller.

DIRECTOR:

Daniel Roher

SCREENINGS:

Thu, Apr 28, 9:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

Sat, Apr 30, 11:30AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

RUNTIME:

98 mins.



NEPTUNE FROST (2021, RWANDA & USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Co-directors Saul Williams and Anisia Uzeyman deliver a compelling and completely singular vision in their feature debut, a queer Afro-Futurist musical shot and set in Rwanda. NEPTUNE FROST follows the parallel journeys of two characters: Neptune a young man destined for transition (played by two actors over the course of the movie) and Matalusa, a coltan miner grieving his brother's untimely death. The world they traverse is visually and sonically striking, a dreamy landscape full of repurposed technological objects where members of a hacker collective clash with an oppressive police force known as "The Authority." Driven by the music created for Williams' 2016 concept album MartyrLoserKing (another iteration of this multi-disciplinary project) NEPTUNE FROST is an anti-colonial, anti-capitalist allegory full of poetry and possibility.

DIRECTOR:

Saul Williams and Anisia Uzeyman

SCREENINGS:

Fri, Apr 29, 6:00PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall
Sat, Apr 30, 4:15 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

RUNTIME:

105 mins.



SIRENS (2022, USA & Lebanon)

DESCRIPTION:

On the outskirts of Beirut, Lilas and her thrash metal bandmates, Shery, Maya, Alma and Tatyana (Slave to Sirens), have big dreams but few opportunities. When the band's appearance at a UK music festival isn't the life-changer they had hoped for, Lilas comes home to Lebanon on the brink of collapse. At the same time, the complicated friendship between Lilas and her fellow guitarist Shery starts to fracture. The future of her band, her country and her dreams now all at stake, Lilas faces a crossroad. She must decide what kind of leader she will be, not only for her band, but also as a young woman struggling to define herself in Lebanon, a region of the Middle East as complex as each of the Sirens themselves.

DIRECTOR:

Rita Baghdadi

SCREENINGS:

Thu, Apr 28, 6:00PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

Fri, Apr 29, 4:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

RUNTIME:

78 mins.



SWEET DISASTER (2021, GERMANY)

DESCRIPTION:

SWEET DISASTER tells the story of Frida, a German-Finnish, painting therapist and forty-year-old as two events change the usual course of her life. She gets unexpectedly pregnant and Felix, the father of her child breaks up with her to reunite with his ex who is suddenly back. While Felix admits that it is not the best timing, it does not prevent him from leaving. Despite her sunny disposition Frida cannot accept Felix's decision and even as some serious health problems emerge late in her pregnancy, she tries to get Felix back with the help of absurd, exaggerated and sometimes absolutely comic antics.

Preceded by SWEET AS CREAM directed by Mary Budnitz.

DIRECTOR:

Laura Lehmus

SCREENINGS:

Fri, Apr 29, 5:45PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

Sat, Apr 30, 4:15PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

RUNTIME:

90 mins.



WE MET IN VIRTUAL REALITY (2022, UK)

DESCRIPTION:

WE MET IN VIRTUAL REALITY is an enchanting portrait of social app VRChat composed of intimate and hilarious moments inside global VR communities. Shot entirely inside VRChat using cinematic virtual cameras during the Covid lockdown crisis, this film captures a precious time for two long distance couples who are unable to meet physically and a sign language teacher facing tragedy in their deaf and hard of hearing community.

DIRECTOR:

Joe Hunting

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30, 2:00PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

Sun, May 1, 2:00PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

RUNTIME:

91 mins.



WHEN A CITY RISES (2021, HONG KONG)

DESCRIPTION:

Hong Kong 2019 - The world has seen the iconic images of protestors covered in black, tossing back tear gas, waving black flags, demonstrating against the authoritarian superpower that is China to fight for a democratic future. It is easy to be caught up in the action, in the glorification of bravery and sacrifice. But away from the limelight, who are these hidden people concealed underneath their masks? What are the protestors really fighting for? What is at stake for them? WHEN A CITY RISES follows a teenage couple in love, a student leader, and a father, as they navigate the protest movement each taking different kinds of action to strike back against the superpower overshadowing their lives.

DIRECTORS:

Iris Kwong, Ip Kar Man, Cathy Chu, Han Yan Yuen, Huang Yuk-kwok, Jenn Lee, Evie Cheung

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30@ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

RUNTIME:

103 mins.



A WOMAN ON THE OUTSIDE (2022, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Growing up, Kristal watched nearly every man in her life disappear to prison. She channeled that struggle into keeping families connected, both as a social worker and with her van service that drives families to visit loved ones in far-off prisons. But when Kristal's dad and brother return to Philly, her happiness meets the realization that release doesn't always mean freedom. Passionate, funny and resilient, Kristal remains determined to carve out a different future -- for herself and for her young nephew, Nyvae. Part observational documentary, part family album, A WOMAN ON THE OUTSIDE is a tender portrait of one family striving to love in the face of a system built to break them.

DIRECTORS:

Zara Katz and Lisa Riordan Seville

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30, 6:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

Sun, May 1, 1:15PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

RUNTIME:

85 mins.



YOU RESEMBLE ME (2021, USA, FRANCE & EGYPT)

DESCRIPTION:

Cultural and intergenerational trauma erupt in this story about two sisters on the outskirts of Paris. After the siblings are torn apart, the eldest, Hasna, struggles to find her identity, leading to a choice that shocks the world. Director Dina Amer takes on one of the darkest issues of our time and deconstructs it in an intimate story about family, love, sisterhood, and belonging. This confident debut feature uses shifting form to explore France's relationship to Muslim women, media narratives around terrorism, and how individuals process trauma.

DIRECTOR:

Dina Amer

SCREENINGS:

Sat, Apr 30, 9:45PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

Sun, May 1, 4:45PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

RUNTIME:

91 mins.



The background features a complex, abstract composition of overlapping shapes and patterns. On the left, there are yellow and light green areas with a dotted texture. Moving right, there are sections with dark green diagonal stripes, a solid green field with small yellow dots, a dark teal shape with yellow dots, and a light green area with a fine grid pattern. A large, solid dark teal shape is prominent on the right side. The overall aesthetic is modern and graphic.

EPISODIC

WE OWN THIS CITY (2022, USA)

DESCRIPTION:

Executive produced by George Pelecanos and David Simon —and based on the book by Baltimore Sun reporter Justin Fenton — WE OWN THIS CITY is a six-hour, limited series chronicling the rise and fall of the Baltimore Police Department's Gun Trace Task Force. Join us for a screening of Part One followed by a discussion with members of the cast and crew.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION:

Join us for a screening of WE OWN THIS CITY: PART ONE followed by a open community discussion. Cast, crew, and advisors from the production will be on hand to answer questions and hear your thoughts about the show in a conversation moderated by Keith Mehlinger, MFA Director, Screenwriting and Animation (SWAN) Program, Gilliam College of Liberal Arts at Morgan State University.

Panelists include George Pelecanos, Executive Producer & Writer; David Simon, Executive Producer & Writer; D. Watkins, Writer, Episode 103; Justin Fenton, Author of the book "We Own This City"; Darrell Britt-Gibson, cast member; Thea Washington, Casting Associate/ Community Consultant; and Reverend Dr. Alvin Hathaway, Beloved Community Services Corporation.



DIRECTOR:

Reinaldo Marcus Green

SCREENING:

Thu, Apr 28, 7:00PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

The background features a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping shapes and patterns. On the left, there are yellow and light green circular forms with a dotted texture. A prominent green shape with dark green diagonal stripes is positioned in the upper left. A large, solid dark teal shape is on the right. The bottom section is dominated by a dark teal horizontal band. The overall aesthetic is modern and graphic.

SHORT FILMS

OPENING NIGHT SHORTS

Wed, Apr 27, 7:00PM | SNF Parkway Theatre 1





OPENING NIGHT SHORTS

Wed, Apr 27, 7:00PM | SNF Parkway Theatre 1

This event is called a festival for a reason, and we are here to celebrate great moving image storytelling and our return to watching these wonderful films together on the big screen. We started devoting our Opening Night program to short work in 2002, because the short form is where most filmmakers get their start and establish their creative identity. Over the years, our opening night shorts block has featured such accomplished filmmakers as Angel Kristi Williams, Bob Odenkirk, Bill Plympton, Laura Wolkstein, David Lowery and Terence Nance, all of whom have gone on to create celebrated feature work.

We continue to support and advocate for short films and filmmakers throughout their careers and are thrilled to showcase the work of seven up and coming directors whose work delighted, moved and stunned us. This year's Opening Night program includes extraordinary narrative and documentary work, stellar, stirring performances, moments of hilarity, and a taste of Baltimore's unique charm.

OPENING NIGHT SHORTS

Wed, Apr 27, 7:00PM | SNF Parkway Theatre 1



ELEVATE

Director: Dylan Boom



J&S AUTO

Director: Grace Jung



SMILE LITTLE LADYBUG

Director: Laura Asherman



THE F-WORD

Directors: Alex Cannon, Paul Cannon



MASS AVE

Director: Omar S. Kamara



F^cK 'EM RIGHT B@cK

Director: Harris Doran

ALL AGES SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 11:00AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1





ALL AGES SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 11:00AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

MdFF's very own all ages show! This shorts program - which was approved by the 10 year olds on our selection committee - features something for the kid in all of us, from colorful cartoon animation to captivating nature documentary to therapeutic cosplay fantasy.

ALL AGES SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 11:00AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1



ALL THE MARBLES

Director: Melissa McClung



ON THE INSIDE

Director: Anna Luisa Schmid



THE NIGHT I LEFT AMERICA

Director: Laki Karavias



THE AMAZING AIRWALKER

Director: Steve McClean



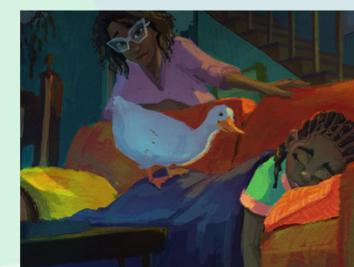
THE NEW NANNY

Director: Bridget Moloney



UMAH

Director: Shoayb Khattab



THE PARK BENCH

Director: Rob Edwards



AND BACK AGAIN

Directors: Lena Redford, Dylan Redford



DRESS A COW

Directors: Dawn Luebbe

ALTERED STATES SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 9:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

Sun, May 1, 4:20PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1





ALTERED STATES SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 9:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

Sun, May 1, 4:20PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

Our annual selection of mind-expanding short films is guaranteed to take you on a trip. Or something like that.

ALTERED STATES SHORTS



MAN OR TREE

In the wilderness, a tree begins to question whether it may actually be a man tripping on hallucinogens.



MIRAGE

A perfect life is not without cost. A woman receives a mysterious letter; the past seeping into her presence, as her choices haunt her.



THE TIME TRAVELERS' DILEMMA

In a post apocalyptic future, two wanderers unearth a message bestowing upon them an opportunity to save their hopeless reality by changing the past.



BETTE

Bette gets a new job.



SWALLOW THE UNIVERSE

The saga of a young child lost deep in the jungle, creating anarchy in the fauna's primitive perfect world.



MAN CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT PHONE

Juxtaposing outdated technology with current social media, a man tries out a dating app and waits for the dopamine to hit.

ANIMATION SHORTS

Fri, Apr 29, 8:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3
Sun, May 1, 4:30PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall



ANIMATION SHORTS

Fri, Apr 29, 8:30PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3
Sun, May 1, 4:30PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

Powerful personal stories and whimsical worlds, the likes of which only can be crafted through animation. A treasure trove of visual treats created through stop-motion, hand drawn and computer animation techniques.



ANIMATION SHORTS



MORE THAN I REMEMBER

Mugeni's remarkable solo journey takes her across the globe, determined to reunite with her lost loved ones after fleeing conflict in southeastern Congo.



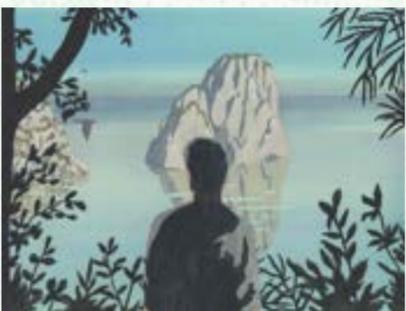
POTTERO

A scrolling story in black and white drawing tells a tale of family folklore and issues surrounding mental health, accessible healthcare, and social mobility.



CONDOLENCES FROM THE VULGAR TONGUE OR (BONER)

Huxley, a jaded dog and victim of the universe, shuts out his brother and chooses to burden himself with the responsibility of arranging his mother's funeral. Little does he know, by enlisting in a questionable marketing scheme as a door-to-door bone salesman, his success comes at a price.



NOIR-SOLEIL

After an earthquake in Naples bay, the body of a man is found. While Dino and his daughter, Victoria, travel to Italy for a DNA test, the past catches up with them.



LA GROGNE

A child tries to gain her father's affection, but the family dog proves to be a fierce rival in this disquieting and darkly humorous fable.



SHE DREAMS AT SUNRISE

An elderly woman escapes her mundane reality through her dreams, while her great-nephew helps reconnect her to what she's really missing.



KILL TIME

A haunting collage comprised of traces of bodies and faces, devouring, consuming and cutting up the world.



AU REVOIR, JÉRÔME

Having just arrived in paradise, Jerome sets out to find his wife Maryline. In the course of his search, he sinks into a surreal and colorful world in which no one seems to be able to help him.

BALTISHORTS SHORTS



Thu, Apr 28, 6:15PM @ MICA Bbox

Sun, May 1, 4:00PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1



BALTISHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 6:15PM @ MICA Bbox

Sun, May 1, 4:00PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

In 2019, to recognize and highlight the outstanding film work being developed in the greater Baltimore community by local creators, the Maryland Film Festival decided to create a distinct festival shorts block called BaltiShorts. This program has consistently been a huge audience favorite, and we don't expect this year to be any different. From heart wrenching narratives to kooky animation, culturally relevant docs and slices of life, this block has something for everyone, in true Baltimore fashion.

BALTISHORTS



BUCK

When his irresponsible father cancels on Noah's birthday plans, his mother decides to take him to his father's house, resulting a reckoning with reality.



OH CRAP...

Sometimes a post meal bowel movement can be more challenging than you anticipate.



HYPNOCIDE

Three cockroaches journey through a living room in search of food. Along the way, they are met with challenges and vices.



MINYAN DUTY

Hoping to say Kaddish, Leah and Ariel find themselves one person short of the quorum required, so they turn to an unconventional solution.



THE BLACK FOXES

International cyclist collective The Black Foxes gathered in 2021 to celebrate, reflect and envision the road ahead.



EYE HIGH: THE LIFE OF A ROCKETTE

Anne Berk recalls her early dancing years as a Rockette in the 1930's.



TEN DEGREES OF STRANGE

Taking inspiration from The Epic of Gilgamesh, an ancient story written on clay tablets, and responding to the strangeness of the global pandemic, this story of loss and hope in nature is told

BODIES IN MOTION SHORTS

Sun, May 1, 4:00PM @ MICA Bbox





BODIES IN MOTION

Sun, May 1, 4:00PM @ MICA Bbox

There's one now! A body, in motion. Through contemporary dance and other forms of movement, these non-traditional works draw inspiration from visual arts, anxiety, nature, pregnancy, queerness, Blackness, assimilation, and memory. The body is non-verbal and shown as a tool, as something alien, something divine, as a means of love and a house of strength and power.

BODIES IN MOTION



LANDFALL

Directors: Kate Weare , Jack Flame Sorokin



FREE NOIR PAPILLON

Director: Lev Omelchenko



QINGREN (LOVER)

Director: Sean Patrick Higgins



WAVES

Director: Nat Gee



FLY AS A FLOWER (REPRISE)

Director: Jeremy Collins



HIDE AND SEE

Directors: Sam B. Jones & Mimi Bai



IN BEAUTY IT IS UNFINISHED

Directors: Greko Slavounos

DIVERGING FORMS SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 1:30PM @ MICA Bbox





DIVERGING FORMS SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 1:30PM @ MICA Bbox

A progressive program of short films that boldly eschew traditions of form, time and content. Diverging Forms Shorts push the boundaries of cinematic creativity into breathtaking new directions, all the while paying homage to legacies, visual and otherwise.

DIVERGING FORMS SHORTS



DEVOUR

Director: Kate Raney



KICKING THE CLOUDS

Director: Sky Hopinka



TLALOC ORBIS TERTIUS HLAER-TO-JANGR

Directors: Kirsten D'Andrea Hollander, Justin Foreman, Eduardo TLaloC Corral



OUR ARK

Directors: Deniz Tortum
Kathryn Hamilton



STILL LIFE

Director: Diana Ali Chire



LETTER FROM YOUR FAR-OFF COUNTRY

Director: Suneil Sanzgiri



NEW BEGINNINGS AND FALSE STARTS

Director: Mark Street



THE UNVEILING OF GOD / A LOVE LETTER TO MY FOREFATHERS

Directors: Nia June
Nate "APoetNamedNate" Anderson

HEARTBEATS SHORTS

Fri, Apr 29, 11:15 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2
Sun, May 1, 11:15 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2





HEARTBEATS SHORTS

Fri, Apr 29, 11:15 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Sun, May 1, 11:15 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Love is all there is. At the crux of these short films is emotion shown through the prism of the heart. Be it sexy, difficult, inspiring, goofy, devastating or reflective, nothing gets to us like a great romantic story.

HEARTBEATS SHORTS



NOT THE 80S (NICHT DIE 80ER)

Director: Marleen Valien



SOFT ANIMALS

Director: Renee Zhan



THE MAN OF MY DREAMS

Directors: Tristan Scott-Behrends



ELLA'S SUITE

Director: Josh Greenwood



MERCY

Director: Andrew Fuchs



CHILLY AND MILLY

Director: William David Caballero



LOVE, BARBARA

Director: Byrdie O'Conner

LATE NIGHT WITH MDFF

Fri, Apr 29, 10:15 PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall

Sat, Apr 30, 11:15 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2





LATE NIGHT WITH MDFF

Fri, Apr 29, 10:15 PM @ MICA Brown Falvey Hall
Sat, Apr 30, 11:15 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

It's Late Night at the Maryland Film Festival! Hilarious, perplexing and terrifying in equal measure, these shorts offer a uniquely invigorating ride that won't be easily forgotten.



HEARTBEATS SHORTS



THE DIAMOND

Director: Vedran Rupic



RUBY

Director: Chester Toyne



THE LIVING

Directors: Cleo Handler



TRICHOTILLOMANIA!

Director: Kelly Schiesswohl



SURVIVERS

Director: Carlos Gómez-Trigo



GREED

Director: Amber Danger Johnson



OST.

Director: Abhichoke Chandrasen



CELEBRITAS EX MACHINA

Director: Joseph Nicolosi



LEGACIES SHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 6:15 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

Sat, Apr 30, 4:30 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

A close-up photograph of a man with a mustache, looking slightly to the side with a thoughtful expression. He is wearing a light-colored shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus outdoor setting.

LEGACIES SHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 6:15 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

Sat, Apr 30, 4:30 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Welcome to an emotional rollercoaster of familial bonds, between parents and children and siblings. In these seven exciting narratives, relationships are pondered and reevaluated, difficult realities are faced and old wounds are healed - or left to fester. Regardless the approach, the storytelling of these legacies is absolutely captivating.

LEGACIES SHORTS



WILDCAT

Director: Cat Dale



DESMOND'S NOT HERE ANYMORE

Director: Mmabatho Montsho



IN A BAD WAY

Director: Kyle Taubken



KIM'S

Director: Mijin Han



CHARLOTTE

Directors: Zach Dorn



MARKED

Director: Matthew Avery Berg



BLIND SPOTS

Director: Danny McCrea

LIKE A MOTHER SHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 8:30 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Sat, Apr 30, 1:45 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2





LIKE A MOTHER SHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 8:30 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2
Sat, Apr 30, 1:45 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

No one ever said that being a mother is easy, and this program packs a punch, right to the heart. Nothing is sugar coated in these stories - being a mother is the toughest job in the world. Nobody hurts like a mother. And some of the festival's best films are also the most gut wrenching.

LIKE A MOTHER SHORTS



CHICKEN SKIN

Director: Hadi Kouhbor



YOU GO GIRL!

Director: Courtney Williams



SINCE YOU ARRIVED, MY HEART STOPPED BELONGING TO ME

Director: Erin Semine Kökdil



LILI ALONE

Directors: Zou Jing



WOMAN OF STEEL

Director: Obada Jarbi

OH, THE HORROR! SHORTS

Fri, Apr 29, 8:45 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Sat, Apr 30, 7:00 PM @ MICA BBox





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Sat, Apr 30, 7:00 PM @ MICA BBox

Since the invention of cinema, one of the cornerstones of horror films has been the ability of the filmmaker to put the viewer in the mindset of the lead character and elicit the “fight or flight” reaction from the audience. Each of these films turns on that moment.

OH, THE HORROR! SHORTS



PILL

Director: Steven Belcher



VERAL

Director: Erin Harper



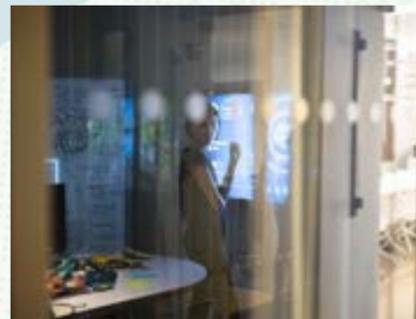
OKAY+

Director: Neil Blakemore



REBECCA

Director: Carlton Daniel Jr.



USER ZERO

Directors: Ria Tobaccowala



DELIVER

Director: Hannah Dweck

PANDEMIC THERAPY SHORTS

Sun, May 1, 1:30 PM @ MICA BBox



PANDEMIC THERAPY SHORTS

Sun, May 1, 1:30 PM @ MICA BBox

Over the span of our last two virtual festivals we have been intensely curious to see how filmmakers would deal with creating work in lockdown, engaging with pandemic material, and finding inspiration and tenderness in the hopelessness of Covid-19. This year we started to see more of the cinematic products of this unprecedented situation, and we have been surprised, delighted and impressed with what filmmakers all over the world have created. Whether therapeutic through form or in content, these shorts show the humor, challenges and profundity of our common experience from March 2020 till now.

PANDEMIC THERAPY SHORTS



SIRENS

Director: Richard Joneleit



WORKING FROM HOME

Director: Toryn Westcott



SAME/DIFFERENT/BOTH/NEITHER

Directors: Adriana Barbosa
Fernanda Pessoa



I THINK I'M DYING

Director: Paavo Hanninen



CAN'T GO OUT TONIGHT

Directors: Chang-geun Cho



ALL OF THIS IS SOMEHOW TRUE

Director: Joseph Kraemer

Q+ SHORTS

Fri, Apr 29, 8:15 PM @ MICA BBox

Sat, Apr 30, 6:45 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3



Q+ SHORTS

Fri, Apr 29, 8:15 PM @ MICA BBox

Sat, Apr 30, 6:45 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

The common thread through these stories of acceptance and defiance are bold characters and identity defining moments. These tales of romance, reconciliation, and revenge showcase a variety of non-heterosexual voices running the gamut of human emotions.



Q+ SHORTS



JOYCHILD

Director: Aurora Brachman



MASQUERADE (EGÚNGÚN)

Director: Olive Nwosu



THE THIRD SOLAR TERM

Directors: Zhanfei Song



FIVE SONG TOUR

Director: Chloe Jury-Fogel



PIERCE ME.

Director: John E. Kilberg



MONSIEUR LE BUTCH

Director: Jude Dry



STARFUCKERS

Director: Antonio Marziale Antonio Marziale



QUIRKS & CHARMS SHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 8:45 PM @ MICA BBox

Fri, Apr 29 5:30 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2



QUIRKS & CHARMS SHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 8:45 PM @ MICA BBox

Fri, Apr 29 5:30 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Humans. They're just like us! These quirky and charming narrative shorts draw attention to the peculiarities of wedding planning, dating/mating rituals, and other social interactions gone awry. These are stories of characters with extreme personalities, uncommon jobs and in playful competition.

QUIRKS & CHARMS SHORTS



NEVER THE BRIDE

Director: Alex Heller



SOUVENIRS

Director: Andrew Theodore Balasia



LOVER'S LEAP

Directors: Ethan Romaine



GRRRRL GUTS

Director:
Emily Cohn



EBONIS

Director: TT The Artist



LOVE YA LIKE POISON!

DirectorS: Rosie Yadid, Max Azulay



SOMETHING YOU'VE NEVER TOLD ME

Director: Katie Colosimo

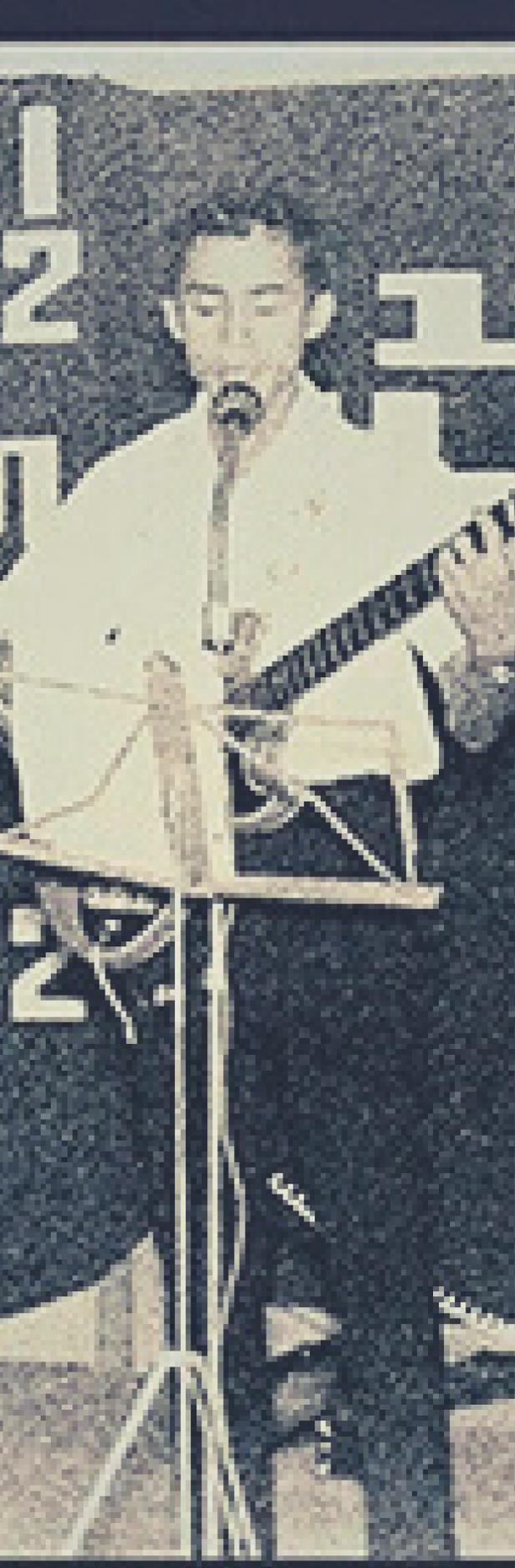


TRUE STORIES SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 7:00 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

Sun, May 1, 11:00 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1





TRUE STORIES SHORTS

Sat, Apr 30, 7:00 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2
Sun, May 1, 11:00 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 1

At the forefront of this uplifting array of personal portraits is love of family, art, tradition and community, heartwarming accounts of remarkable individuals who reject the status quo and carve out their own paths in life. From war-torn Laos and Ethiopia of the 1970's to small-town Alabama, from Morocco to Haiti and all the way back to Pikesville, Maryland, each of these passionate stories is a tale of individual dedication that is a triumph and an inspiration.

TRUE STORIES SHORTS



THE PANOLA PROJECT

Directors: Rachael Decruz, Jeremy S. Levine



THE GIRL WITH THE ACCENT

Director: Nadia Durry



THE BARDIA

Director: Gabriella Garcia-Pardo



TIME AND TEMPERATURE

Directors Justin Foreman



ELVIS OF LAOS

Directors: Van Ditthavong



JUNIOR

Director: AJ Wilhelm

UNORTHODOCS SHORTS



Thu, Apr 28, 8:45 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3

Sat, Apr 30, 11:15 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2



UNORTHODOCS SHORTS

Thu, Apr 28, 8:45 PM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 3
Sat, Apr 30, 11:15 AM @ SNF Parkway Theatre 2

This innovative collection of shorts showcases non-fiction work that is on the cusp of multiple genres. Beyond mere documentary, these works astutely blend aspects of narrative, animation, comedy and the avant-garde into markedly non-traditional frameworks.



UNORTHODOCS



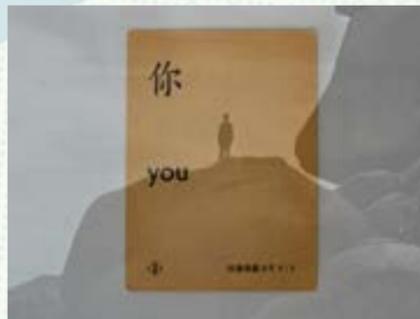
STRANGER THAN ROTTERDAM WITH SARA DRIVER

Directors: Lewie Kloster, Noah Kloster



SEEING WOMEN

Director: Amy Oden



EMPIRE OF MY MELODIOUS MIND

Directors: Jeannette Louie



SPONTANEOUS

Director: Lori Felker



\$75,000

Director: Moïse Togo



THE BODY IS A HOUSE OF FAMILIAR ROOMS

Directors: Eloise Sherrie, Lauryn Welch



REARRANGING SKIN

Director: Elizabeth Myer



MARIANNE'S ONION

Directors: Sarah Olmsted Thomas, Alex Vernon



The background features a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping shapes and patterns. On the left, there are yellow and light green circular forms with a dotted texture. A prominent green shape with diagonal stripes is positioned in the upper left. A large, solid dark teal shape is on the right. The bottom section is dominated by a dark teal horizontal band. The overall aesthetic is modern and graphic.

INSTALLATIONS



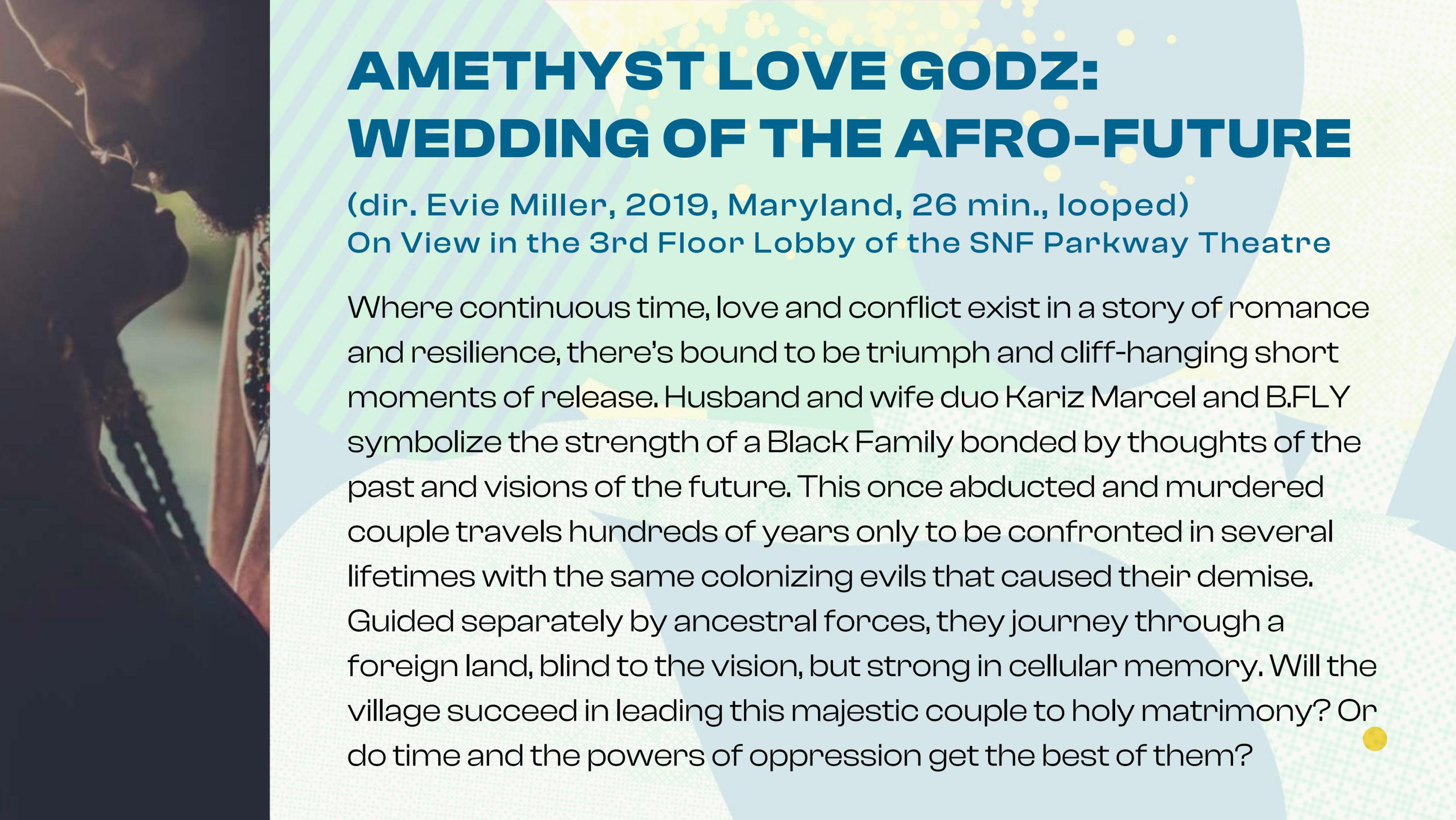
FIELD COMPANION

(Nadia Hironaka & Matthew Suib, 2021, Maryland, 20 min., looped)
On View in the 2nd Floor Lobby of the SNF Parkway Theatre

Set in a microcosmic forest, Field Companion is based loosely on the pine barrens that dot Southern New Jersey near the home of Hironaka & Suib. Like many, the duo found refuge and solace throughout the COVID-19 pandemic hiking and foraging in these remote, natural landscapes. As America's social fabric frayed deeply over recent years, they considered forest ecosystems in terms of symbiotic and collaborative relationships that sustain coexistence and community.

In Field Companion, the forest has been condensed and transplanted to a terrarium in the artists' studio. Twelve cubic feet of pines, shrubs, ferns, moss, fungus and carnivorous plants are reflected infinitely in the terrarium's mirrored walls and captured with a motion-controlled camera and specialized macro lens that dramatically shift the scale and perspective of this miniature landscape.

Living dwellers—snails, slugs, and insects inhabit the miniature ecosystem, accompanied by digitally rendered part-animal, part-human creatures. Through their conversations and interactions, they look forward, investigating progressive methods of sustainability. The film also touches upon the notion of forest-bathing, the Japanese practice of exploring the natural environment through our senses.



AMETHYST LOVE GODZ: WEDDING OF THE AFRO-FUTURE

(dir. Evie Miller, 2019, Maryland, 26 min., looped)

On View in the 3rd Floor Lobby of the SNF Parkway Theatre

Where continuous time, love and conflict exist in a story of romance and resilience, there's bound to be triumph and cliff-hanging short moments of release. Husband and wife duo Kariz Marcel and B.FLY symbolize the strength of a Black Family bonded by thoughts of the past and visions of the future. This once abducted and murdered couple travels hundreds of years only to be confronted in several lifetimes with the same colonizing evils that caused their demise. Guided separately by ancestral forces, they journey through a foreign land, blind to the vision, but strong in cellular memory. Will the village succeed in leading this majestic couple to holy matrimony? Or do time and the powers of oppression get the best of them?



SCREENING COMMITTEE



2022 MDFF SCREENING COMMITTEE

Sumaiya Ananna

Leesa Ashley

Alexander Atienza

DT Bullock

Mike Burke

Camille Blake Fall

Evan Bowen

Wendy Callier

Winona Caesar

Eric Cotten

Bree Crossland

Lucas Cullen

Skizz Cyzyk

Lucas De Britto

Camila Franco Ribeiro Gomide

Amy Grace

Deva Holub

Chung-Wei Huang

Julia Keller

Alice May

Merle McCann

KJ Mohr

Amy Oden

Miceál O'Donnell

Paul Oh

Gleb Osatinski

Courtney Pranti

Tammi Rodgers

Dean Radcliffe-Lynes

Tammi Rodgers

Sylvia Savadjian

Edmund Savage

Jonathan Schonfeld

Lauren Scott

Shannon J Shird

Garrett Stralnic

Tayree

Joe Tropea

Travis Whitworth James

Wiley

Dionne Wilkins

Elayne Williams

Kristin Young

The background features a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping shapes and patterns. On the left, there are yellow and light green areas with a dotted texture. Moving right, there are sections with dark green diagonal stripes, a solid dark green area with small yellow dots, and a light green area with a fine grid pattern. A large, solid dark teal shape is prominent on the right side. The overall aesthetic is modern and energetic.

AFTER PARTIES

FADENSONNEN

OPENING NIGHT AFTER DARK PARTY

W/ CHRIS BROOKS

Wed, Apr 27, 9:00PM



3 West 23rd Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21218



<https://www.fadensonnen.com/>



CURRENT SPACE

AFTER DARK PARTY

W/ ACOUSTIC SET FROM: WAR ON WOMEN

& DJ SET BY: CHRIS BROOKS

Thurs, Apr 28, 9:00PM



421 N Howard St
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



<https://www.currentspace.com/>

CURRENT SPACE

AFTER DARK PARTY
W/ DJ CHRIS BROOKS

Sat, Apr 30, 9:00PM



421 N Howard St
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



<https://www.currentspace.com/>

METRO GALLERY

CLOSING NIGHT AFTER DARK PARTY

W/DJ JAMES NASTY

Sun, May 1, 9:00PM

**METRO
BALTIMORE**

📍 1700 N Charles St,
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

🌐 <https://themetrogallery.net/>



AFTER DARK PARTY SPONSOR:

**HJM HARRIS JONES
& MALONE**

The background features a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping shapes and patterns. On the left, there are yellow and light green circular forms with a dotted texture. A prominent green shape with diagonal stripes is positioned in the upper left. The center and right are dominated by large, dark teal and blue shapes, some with a fine grid or dotted pattern. The overall aesthetic is modern and energetic.

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