

AN ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT TO THE WASHINGTON POST



FILM FEST DC

WASHINGTON, DC INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

APRIL 25 – MAY 5, 2019

FILMFESTDC.ORG

WELCOME TO FILMFEST DC 2019!

Welcome to the 33rd annual Washington, DC International Film Festival
Come see great movies!

80 films • 45 countries • 11 days • 1 amazing festival



Photo: Chad Evans Wyatt

People like to go to the movies. Even with the ability to stream films at home, on computers, and on their phones, people like to sit with an audience and watch great cinema on the big screen. There is simply nothing like it. That's why festivals like Filmfest DC continue to grow and attract thousands of enthusiastic moviegoers every year. Great art is a unifying force.

We are thrilled to have you join us for these 11 days and we thank you for sharing your enthusiasm, curiosity, and passion for great movies. Filmfest DC has always championed diverse and new voices. Through cinema, we celebrate storytelling and varying ways of seeing the world. This year, we think we have gathered one of our most impressive programs.

Foodflix, a special section about creating and presenting great cuisine, introduces us to some of the world's most accomplished chefs, sommeliers, and the drama mixed in with the recipes. Although international in scope, Filmfest DC is also local in flavor. The premiere of **DC Noir**, the new film by Washington's own award-winning author George Pelecanos, is truly a festival highlight.

We thank our staff, dedicated volunteers, Board of Directors, donors, and partners for helping us meet our mission of enriching people's lives by presenting great cinema. We invite you to join us for this annual adventure and we bid you welcome.

Tony Gittens

Founder and Director
Washington, DC International Film Festival

Tony Gittens, Festival Director, and Shirin Ghareeb, Deputy Director

Theatre Locations

AMC Mazza Gallerie

5300 Wisconsin Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20015

Take Metro Red Line to Friendship Heights.
\$2 for 3 hours or \$5 for 4 hours of reduced-rate parking available in garage with validation.

Landmark's E Street Cinema

555 11th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20004

Take Metro Red, Orange, or Blue Line to Metro Center. Theatre entrance is on E Street between 10th and 11th Streets. Three hours of reduced-rate parking available in adjacent garage with validation Monday – Friday after 6 p.m. and anytime on weekends.

Other Locations

Ben's Chili Bowl

1213 U Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20009

Take Metro Green Line to U Street/ African-American Civil War Memorial/Cardozo.

Embassy of France

4101 Reservoir Road N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

Street parking available.

Lincoln Theatre

1215 U Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20009

Take Metro Green Line to U Street/ African-American Civil War Memorial/Cardozo.

National Gallery of Art

East Building Auditorium
4th Street & Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20565

Take Metro Green or Yellow Line to National Archives/Navy Memorial.

TICKET INFORMATION

General admission is \$14 unless otherwise noted.

ADVANCE SALES

General admission via advance sales is \$14 and is subject to a \$1.75 per ticket convenience fee. Online sales available until noon on the day of the show.

Advance sales will also be available at the theatre starting one hour before the venue's first screening of the day (convenience fee applies).

Online: filmfestdc.org

DAY-OF SALES

Tickets can be purchased at the theatre on the day of the show. Box office opens one hour before the venue's first screening of the day. Tickets will also be available online until noon on the day of the show.

DISCOUNT PACKAGES

Packages offered through advance sales only unless otherwise noted. Packages include \$14 screenings only.

Director's Package:

10 tickets for \$100 (\$140 value) plus \$6.00 convenience fee.

Weekday Package:

4 tickets for \$45 (\$56 value) plus \$3.00 convenience fee. Valid for screenings Monday through Thursday.

Student Discount:

1 ticket for \$10 (\$14 value) available day of showing only at festival box office. Valid with proper student ID. Applies to \$14 screenings only.

filmfestdc

Washington, DC International Film Festival

Information: filmfestdc.org • 202-234-FILM

Connect with us! @filmfestDC on

OPENING NIGHT

LADIES IN BLACK

Bruce Beresford

Australia, 2018, 109 minutes

Set in Sydney in 1959, Oscar®-nominated writer-director Bruce Beresford (*Driving Miss Daisy; Tender Mercies; Breaker Morant*) takes us back to the heyday of glamorous upscale department stores, when a concierge met you at the door and clerks wore gloves. The story centers on 16-year-old, bookish, naive Lisa (Angourie Rice), who takes a job in a store at Christmastime and finds herself under the management and tutelage of Magda (Julia Ormond), a sophisticated postwar European immigrant who begins to have a profound influence on Lisa's world view. Beautifully shot (and a fashion lover's delight), the film weaves in integration of immigrants and women's changing societal roles that remain timely today. Filled with equal parts emotional drama and observational humor, Beresford brings us into a world where we can delight in the company of smart, sassy, and relatable women.—*Palm Springs International Film Festival*

Thursday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.

AMC Mazza Gallerie, followed by a reception, \$35.00



Sponsored by:



Embassy of Australia
Washington, D.C.

CLOSING NIGHT



C'EST LA VIE!

Olivier Nakache and Éric Toledano

France, 2017, 117 minutes

From the directors of international sensation *The Intouchables* (Closing Night, FFDC 2012) comes the biggest party of the year. Max Angely (Jean-Pierre Bacri, *The Taste of Others*) is an aging, beleaguered caterer who hopes to sell his business any day now. But first he has to get through one last minefield of a dinner party, a high-profile wedding at a seventeenth-century French chateau just outside of Paris. And if anything can go wrong, everything will go wrong: The photographer yells at any guest who dares to use a cameraphone in his space; the hastily-hired DJ keeps making up lyrics to very popular songs; the waiters refuse to wear their ridiculous, period-piece valet costumes and unhygienic powdered wigs; and somebody may be trying to sabotage the meat. On top of everything, Max is navigating a romantic relationship with one of his employees even though he has yet to leave his estranged wife. As a hectic day moves into a treacherous night, Max must do his best to keep everything "sober, chic, and elegant" while the specter of an audit looms over his less-than-legal business practices. Not content with being solely a

slapstick ensemble comedy, *C'est la vie!* dips into themes of class, race, and capitalism with skill, cleverly whipping it all up into an irresistible confection.

—*Seattle International Film Festival*

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, May 5

Embassy of France, \$25.00

1st Screening: 3:00 p.m., followed by a reception 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

2nd Screening: 7:30 p.m., preceded by a reception from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

For security reasons, film tickets at the Embassy of France must be purchased in advance.

Sponsored by the Office of
Cable Television, Film, Music
& Entertainment and the
Embassy of France





Threesome

THE LIGHTER SIDE International Comedies

A good laugh is a universal pastime and if the language of cinema is universal, then laughter is our common vocabulary.

- *C'est la vie!* (France)
- *Champions* (Spain)
- *Hopelessly Devout* (Spain)
- *Magical Nights* (Italy)
- *Simple Wedding* (USA)
- *Sink or Swim* (France)
- *Tel Aviv on Fire* (Luxembourg/France/Israel/Belgium)
- *Threesome* (Canada)



The Spy Gone North

TRUST NO ONE Espionage, Crime, and Thrillers

Good guys vs. bad guys (or girls)...Will she escape?...Who done it?...The heist... Mystery...Suspense...Conspiracy... Betrayal. It's probably best to trust no one. This is edge-of-your-seat movie fun.

Films selected for this year's *Trust No One* series include:

- *The Accused* (Argentina/Mexico)
- *Balloon* (Germany)
- *DC Noir* (USA)
- *Hidden Man* (China)
- *Mothers' Instinct* (Belgium)
- *One Last Deal* (Finland)
- *Profile* (USA)
- *The Purity of Vengeance* (Denmark)
- *The Realm* (Spain)
- *The Spy Gone North* (South Korea)



Funke

FOODFLIX Hungry for Some Great New Films?

While watching good food on the movie screen won't make you fat, you might want to make a reservation at your favorite restaurant for after the show.

- *The Best Sommelier in the World* (Argentina)
- *Constructing Albert* (Spain)
- *Cuban Food Stories* (Cuba/USA)
- *Funke* (USA)
- *Michelin Stars: Tales From the Kitchen* (Denmark)
- *Tazzeqa* (France/Morocco)



Hugh Hefner's After Dark: Speaking Out in America

GLOBAL RHYTHMS Films on International Music

The collaboration of music and film often serves to illuminate both art forms.

Films selected for this year's *Global Rhythms* include:

- *Hugh Hefner's After Dark: Speaking Out in America* (Canada)
- *Impulso* (Spain)
- *It Must Swing! The Blue Note Story* (Germany)
- *Le Grand Bal* (France)
- *Paris Song* (Kazakhstan)
- *Piazzolla, the Years of the Shark* (Argentina/France/Japan)
- *Yuli* (Spain)

Media Sponsors:



This event is part of the Smithsonian Year of Music. For more information, visit <https://music.si.edu/>

HIGHLIGHTS

JUSTICE MATTERS

When an individual or group has experienced an injustice, filmmakers use their talents and craft to make us aware and hence call us to take action.

We want to thank the CrossCurrents Foundation for their support in helping to make this series possible.

Films selected for this year's *Justice Matters* series include:

- **The Corporate Coup d'État** (Canada)
- **Dear Walmart** (USA)
- **Las Sandinistas!** (Nicaragua/USA)
- **Rafiki** (Kenya)
- **The Sweet Requiem** (India/USA)
- **A Tramway in Jerusalem** (Israel/France)
shown with the short film **A Letter to a Friend in Gaza** (Israel)

The Award Jury consists of:

Conrad Martin

Executive Director, Stewart R. Mott Foundation and Executive Director of the Fund for Constitutional Government

Heidi Nel

Principal, The Raben Group

Kathryn Washington

Director of Diversity and Innovation, Corporation for Public Broadcasting



IMPACT PROJECT

Many independent filmmakers passionately focus on telling stories that spotlight issues of social justice. In recognition of their creators' commitment to share these important themes with the broadest possible segment of the public, the social justice films in Filmfest DC will be the focus of a special initiative to bring these works to a wider audience in our area.

In addition to the films' festival screenings, the project includes a series of programs and presentations designed for students and community groups. The Filmfest DC website offers thought-provoking resources about the films and the issues they explore.

This project is conceived and directed by Linda Blackaby, Filmfest DC's senior programming consultant, and is supported by a grant from the Wyncote Foundation.



BE A PART OF
THE MOVIE BUZZ



Join the
Washington, DC
Film Society!

Go to dcfilmsociety.org
for more information



Catalog cover by Alexis Thornlow

CIRCLE AWARD

The *Circle Award* is a juried competition of selected films that deserve increased recognition. The *Circle Award* is named in honor of Ted and Jim Pedas, founders of Washington's Circle Theatres, which set the standard for innovative quality film programming in Washington, DC.

Films selected for this year's competition include:

- **The Accused** (Argentina/Mexico)
- **Hugh Hefner's After Dark: Speaking Out in America** (Canada)
- **Our Time** (Mexico)
- **Profile** (UK/USA/Cyprus/Russia)
- **Simple Wedding** (USA)
- **Tel Aviv on Fire** (Luxembourg/France/Israel/Belgium)

The Award Jury consists of:

Felix Angel

Former Curator, Inter-American Development Bank

Susan Barocas

Competition Coordinator, Writer/Producer

Manjula Kumar

President/Executive Director, Global Performing Arts

Gregory McGruder

National Geographic Society

Peggy Parsons

Head, Department of Film, National Gallery of Art

FIRST FEATURE AUDIENCE AWARD

One of the most important purposes of a film festival is to introduce new filmmakers to the world and to cultivate, showcase, and encourage these new talents. Filmfest DC is pleased to present the First Feature Audience Award for the best first films in the festival.

Films selected for this year's competition include:

- **The Extraordinary Journey of Celeste Garcia** (Cuba/Germany)
- **Fading Portraits** (Iran)
- **Funke** (USA)
- **Olympia** (USA)
- **The Third Wife** (Vietnam)
- **Traces of the Soul** (UK)

FILMFEST DC AUDIENCE AWARD

Filmfest DC will present three audience awards: one to the feature film, one to the documentary, and one to the First Feature voted the most popular by our audience. Ballots will be available after each screening. All award winners will be announced on Closing Night.

SIGNIS AWARD

The SIGNIS jury will present an award to the film judged by its jury to best illuminate and celebrate what it means to be human in a diverse and challenging world.



FILMFEST DC TRAILERS

This year's Filmfest DC trailers were created by two very talented film students at George Mason University, Rachel Barnes and Courtney James. Our trailers will be shown prior to festival screenings. Please enjoy!



CIRCLE AWARD
TRUST NO ONE

THE ACCUSED

Gonzalo Tobal

Argentina/Mexico, 2018, 108 minutes

Barely 20 years old, Dolores Dreier (Lali Espósito) has spent the last 2 years hiding from the outside world under the ever-watchful eyes of her parents. The last person to see her best friend alive before her brutal death, Dolores is the only suspect in her murder. Under intrusive media scrutiny and facing accusations from the general public and the speculation of friends and family, Dolores feels hollowed out and drained from the experience. When she finally acts on her frustration with the media attention and decides to directly challenge a famous talk-show host, she jeopardizes the careful plans her team of lawyers have put into place. Filled with understated tension and ambiguity, Gonzalo Tobal's film never ventures into the realm of culpability. Rather, it's our society's morbid fascination with crime that drives the story and the loss of self that those accused experience.—*Toronto International Film Festival*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Friday, May 3, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



BABYLON

Franco Rosso

UK, 1980, 95 minutes

Franco Rosso's incendiary *Babylon* premiered at Cannes in 1980 but went unreleased in the United States for "being too controversial and likely to incite racial tension" (Vivien Goldman, *Time Out*). Raw and smoldering, it follows a young dancehall DJ (Brinsley Forde, frontman of landmark British reggae group Aswad) in South London as he pursues his musical ambitions and battles fiercely against the racism and xenophobia of employers, neighbors, police, and the National Front. Written by Martin Stellman (*Quadrophenia*) and shot by two-time Oscar® winner Chris Menges (*The Killing Fields*) with beautifully smoky cinematography that has been compared to *Taxi Driver*, *Babylon* is fearless and unsentimental yet tempered by the hazy bliss of the dancehall set to a blistering soundtrack featuring Aswad, Johnny Clarke, Dennis Bovell, and more. You've seen *The Harder They Come*, and maybe you've seen *Rockers*, but you've never seen anything like *Babylon*.—*Kino Lorber, Inc.*

Sunday, April 28, 8:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Monday, April 29, 8:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



TRUST NO ONE

BALLOON

Michael Herbig

Germany, 2018, 125 minutes

Even if you already know the story of two East German families who built a hot-air balloon and flew it to safety in West Germany in 1979, you will still be transfixed by this taut thriller. Aided by a soaring score, *Balloon* keeps viewers on edge from beginning to end, recreating a time and place where everyone is watched, always, and the cost of keeping secrets can be fatal. And so we follow the Strelzyks (Friedrich Mücke and Karoline Schuch) as they make a desperate, failed attempt to escape. Leaving behind their homemade airship, they must return home, pretending that all is well while starting over. Meanwhile, Stasi chief Seidel (a chilling Thomas Kretschmann) brings the full weight of the government to bear in finding and punishing those who dream of freedom. When Seidel asks, "What would we be without borders? It defines us," *Balloon's* resonance becomes frighteningly clear.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:



Saturday, April 27, 8:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Monday, April 29, 8:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

THE BOSE FAMILY

Suman Ghosh

India, 2019, 110 minutes

Legendary figures of Indian cinema Aparna Sen (*Sonata*, FFDC 2018) and Soumitra Chatterjee head up the ensemble cast of this bittersweet tale of family ties and disillusionments. The elderly couple is celebrating their 50th anniversary, and family members gather at their once magnificent, now largely decrepit mansion, the place where they married. As relatives young and old arrive and reminisce about their lives, stories are exchanged about the great family's past. But it does not take long to see that reality is more complicated than family myth. Long-buried family secrets inevitably arise, secrets that may have been better kept locked away. To face the "fading pride of a nebulous past," family closeness is needed now more than ever. Suman Ghosh directs with a fine eye for the pretensions and wrongdoings of the upper middle class as well as its underlying strength and pain.—*Miguel Pendás*

IN BENGALI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 2:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Monday, April 29, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

FOODFLIX



NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

THE BEST SOMMELIER IN THE WORLD

Nicolás Carreras

Argentina, 2018, 80 minutes

Many of us picture a sommelier as someone who can take a sip of wine, knowing absolutely nothing about it, and miraculously guess which country it is from, the region, the grapes used to make it, and even the year it was made. This documentary about a competition with 60 countries represented to determine the Best Sommelier in the World, however, shows us that top sommeliers, for whom drinking wine is a blend of high-level knowledge and down-to-earth enjoyment, must also understand geography, biodiversity, climate, human society, pairing with food, event planning, food trends, and proper service. Taking place in Argentina, the 3-day contest progresses and as the field is reduced, the suspense builds for the final challenge among the three finalists. Wine lovers will revel in this film, but so will anyone who enjoys watching an intense competition among charismatic contestants.—*Miguel Pendas*

IN SPANISH, FRENCH, AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

★ **In Person: Lindsey Fern, Sommelier, The Inn at Little Washington for Monday, April 29 screening only.**

Thursday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Lindsey Fern

Lindsey Fern is a certified Sommelier at the renowned Inn at Little Washington. She offers diners advice and guidance on wine collections and food pairings and she helps wine lovers better acquaint themselves with wine. The Inn at Little Washington, which has become the DC area's first three-Michelin-starred restaurant, has a Wine Spectator Grand Award winning wine list (23 years and counting).



WORLD PREMIERE

THE CASE

Vera Krichevskaya and Ksenia Sobchak

Russia, 2018, 108 minutes

The Case is about the rise and fall of Anatoly Sobchak, the first mayor of Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) and the political mentor of Vladimir Putin. The documentary was made by Ksenia Sobchak, the daughter of Anatoly Sobchak, and the film director Vera Krichevskaya. Sobchak co-wrote the script and did most of the interviews, including those with her mother, Federation Council member (senator) Lyudmila Narusova, and President Vladimir Putin. Ksenia Sobchak is a protagonist in the documentary and describes the film as an attempt to reconstruct the events of the last 10 years of her father's life when she was just a child. She tries to explain why pro-democracy activist Sobchak brought Vladimir Putin, a KGB officer, into power and why Boris Yeltsin chose Putin as his successor. The film uncovers the events of the power succession, special agent Putin's operation, and Sobchak's pivotal role in it.—*Various sources*

IN RUSSIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Friday, April 26, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



THE LIGHTER SIDE

CHAMPIONS

Javier Fesser

Spain, 2018, 124 minutes

Skewering every politically correct cliché, *Champions* became the highest-grossing Spanish language film of 2018 in Spain and won three Goyas (Spain's Oscar®), including Best Film, before becoming Spain's entry in this year's Oscars® for Best Foreign Language Film. Just when you think you know where this comedy about an assistant coach in the professional Spanish basketball league is going, it presents a buzzer-beating surprise ending. Marco, a victim of his own ill temper, is fired from his team and after a brush with the law is sentenced to coaching a motley crew of people with disabilities, some of whom can't get a shoe on the right foot. In time, he learns that having a mental disability doesn't mean you aren't intelligent and that keeping your priorities straight is what really counts in life.—*Miguel Pendas*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Friday, April 26, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Tuesday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



COLD SWEAT

Soheil Beiraghi

Iran, 2018, 100 minutes

As the Iranian national women's futsal (indoor soccer) team gets ready to board a plane to compete in the Asia Cup in Malaysia, team captain Afrooz is stunned to learn that she cannot go because Yasser, her husband, has refused to give permission for her to leave the country. Her teammates are upset because Afrooz is not only the captain but also the star and heart of the team. Thus begins fiery Afrooz's tense and frustrating attempt to make it out in time. Afrooz uses every argument in front of a judge, but no amount of logic or appeals to patriotism change Yasser's mind. "I don't need a reason," he says, and he's right; the law is on his side. This timely, riveting story lays bare Iran's patriarchal legal system and the bitter struggle that women face to change it.—*Miguel Pendas*

IN FARSI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 3:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Saturday, May 4, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



FOODFLIX

CONSTRUCTING ALBERT

Laura Collado and Jim Loomis

Spain, 2018, 82 minutes

At the dawn of the twenty-first century, elBulli restaurant revolutionized the world of gastronomy, making chef Ferran Adrià the king of haute cuisine and catapulting him into the rarified space of global celebrity with the distinction of being the World's Greatest Chef. Behind such a success was an unrecognized creative genius: Ferran's younger brother, Albert, also known as the World's Most Underrated Chef. Laura Collado and Jim Loomis document the opening of Enigma, the crown of Albert's gastronomic empire, which had the clear goal of becoming one of the best restaurants in the world. The film chronicles Albert's attempt to escape the shadow of the legendary elBulli and enter the Pantheon of great chefs. Prepare to be dazzled by this no-holds-barred exploration of Albert Adrià's journey to articulate his paradigm-shifting culinary vision.—*Various sources*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Friday, April 26, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Monday, April 29, 8:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



AMERICAN PREMIERE
JUSTICE MATTERS

THE CORPORATE COUP D'ETAT

Fred Peabody

Canada/USA, 2018, 90 minutes

In 1995, philosopher John Ralston Saul argued that corporations were slowly taking over democracy. Today, Saul amends that statement, deleting the word "slowly." The coup has occurred: U.S. democracy has sold out its ideals to corporations and lobbyists whose goal it is to undermine the will of the people. From the makers of *All Governments Lie: Truth, Deception, and the Spirit of I.F. Stone* (FFDC 2017), this trenchant film takes us into "sacrifice zones" like Camden, New Jersey, and Youngstown, Ohio, to really listen to the people forgotten by corporatized infrastructure and NAFTA. It blends their insights with those of philosophers, writers, and journalists, from the passionate investigator Chris Hedges to the poetic historian Cornell West, to lay out a compelling case history dating to the early postwar years and continuing (not ending) with Donald Trump in the White House.—*Judy Bloch*

Friday, April 26, 6:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



FOODFLIX

CUBAN FOOD STORIES

Asori Soto

Cuba/USA, 2018, 82 minutes

Filmmaker Asori Soto returns to his native land of Cuba on a mission of "culinary diplomacy" to learn about the island's isolated pockets of regional cuisine. He finds that Cuba's culinary traditions are being updated to confront changing situations. Because of shortages and other privations, many Cubans turn to local resources. In the Escambray region, Soto meets a farming couple who believe that "love enters a home through the kitchen." They are locally renowned for the pork belly they prepare and sell. In one area accessible only by raft, the locals feast on river shrimp. In the historic city of Trinidad, an innkeeper goes shopping for squash, shrimp, lobster, and pineapple for his guests. Through the farmers, fishermen, street vendors, and restaurateurs Soto meets, *Cuban Food Stories* becomes an affectionate voyage of discovery about the ingenuity and optimism of the Cuban people.—*Miguel Pendas*

IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 8:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Tuesday, April 30, 8:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



DC NOIR

Gbenga Akinnagbe, Stephen Kinigopoulos, George Pelecanos, Nicholas Pelecanos

USA, 2019, 93 minutes

DC Noir is an anthology of four stories written by D.C. novelist George Pelecanos and set in the Washington neighborhoods Hollywood cameras never film. From the evocative title sequence, the film rewards viewers who have long put up with films supposedly set here but actually filmed elsewhere. Using an all-local crew, *DC Noir* proudly displays D.C.'s trademark row houses, local diners, and bookstores and showcases go-go superstars Backyard Band (Fugazi member Brendan Canty did the score). A writer-producer on HBO's "The Wire," Pelecanos brings some of that show's gritty realism to *DC Noir*, where even good decisions can have bad consequences. Pelecanos directs the first story, about a hit man falling in love. Pelecanos's son, Nicholas, shows great promise with the well-observed "Miss Mary's Room," following young kids drawn into the drug game. "The Wire's" Gbenga Akinnagbe and Baltimore's Stephen Kinigopoulos ably direct the other two stories.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

Saturday, May 4, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



In Person:
Director George Pelecanos, well known for his award-winning crime novels and work on acclaimed TV dramas *The Wire*, *Treme*, *The Deuce* and others.

Co-Directors:

Gbenga Akinnagbe was born in Washington, D.C. to Nigerian parents and grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland. He is currently making his Broadway debut as 'Tom Robinson' in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and can be seen as 'Larry Brown' on *The Deuce* on HBO.

Nick Pelecanos has worked extensively in the production end of the film and television industry, where he earned entry into the Directors Guild of America.

Stephen Kinigopoulos is an accomplished feature film and music videos director who is considered to be one of the most visionary young artists working today.



WORLD PREMIERE
JUSTICE MATTERS

DEAR WALMART

Kiley Kraskouskas and Michael Blain

USA, 2019, 62 minutes

Some workers love retail; it has its satisfactions. All they want is for retail to love them back in the form of a living wage, affordable healthcare, a safe workplace, and respect. OURWalmart (OUR, Organization United for Respect) was begun in 2011 by a few brave workers at the world's largest private employer, many of whose two million-strong "family" live near the poverty line. Alone at first, and ultimately with the help of established union veterans, they used word of mouth to gain hundreds of members and unite them in training sessions that double as morale boosters, all done in secret. *Dear Walmart* (not entirely ironically titled) is an ultimately upbeat story of their personal empowerment and their first victory, a \$9-per-hour minimum wage for some 500,000 people. But this win was followed by the retaliatory closure of five Walmart stores, a huge loss of jobs. Expect a sequel.—*Judy Bloch*

Friday, May 3, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema
Saturday, May 4, 4:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



FIRST FEATURE AWARD

THE EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY OF CELESTE GARCIA

Arturo Infante

Cuba/Germany, 2018, 92 minutes

A compassionate and candid woman with an endless curiosity for life, Celeste is a retired and widowed teacher living a tranquil, unadventurous existence in Havana. One day, the government announces the surprising news that aliens have been living on Earth and that these unusual guests are now returning the favor by inviting humans to their world. Celeste had always thought that her "Russian" neighbor, Pauline, was eccentric, and now she realizes her friend is truly from another planet. When people rush to put their names forward to be selected in an extraterrestrial lottery, Celeste discovers that Pauline has left her a personal invitation. To everyone's surprise, she agrees to accept. Thus begins the hilarious, tongue-in-cheek feature debut by Cuban filmmaker Arturo Infante. The film playfully reflects on contemporary Cuban society while it follows Celeste as she prepares for her intergalactic trip.—*Toronto International Film Festival*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Tuesday, April 30, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema
Saturday, May 4, 6:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

ECHO IN THE CANYON

Andrew Slater

USA, 2018, 85 minutes

Echo in the Canyon is a look at how The Byrds, The Beach Boys, Buffalo Springfield, and The Mamas and the Papas all birthed the beginnings of the Laurel Canyon music scene and how the echo of these artists' creations reverberated between each other and ultimately across the world with a timelessness that continues today.

Echo in the Canyon is directed by Andrew Slater and executive produced by Jakob Dylan. The songs from that era provide an entry point as Jakob Dylan and a new generation of artists reflect that pivotal time (Beck, Fiona Apple, Norah Jones, Regina Spektor, Cat Power and others), by paying homage to their authors and performing their songs.

Dylan journeys to those who wrote the songs and discovers why they were written and what life was like in Los Angeles' Laurel Canyon in the years before psychedelia and the birth of the singer/songwriter era. He uncovers never before heard personal details behind the recordings and those who made them popular.

Performing and or speaking in *Echo in the Canyon* are: Tom Petty, Brian Wilson, Eric Clapton, Ringo Starr, Stephen Stills, Roger McGuinn, Michelle Phillips, David Crosby, Graham Nash, Jackson Browne, John Sebastian and Lou Adler.—*Various sources*

Saturday, April 27, 8:00 p.m., Lincoln Theatre, \$25.00

Special Performance:

Following the screening there will be live performance by Jakob Dylan, Cat Power, Jade Castrinos and the Echo in the Canyon Band



EAST COAST PREMIERE
FIRST FEATURE AWARD

FADING PORTRAITS

Ali Shilandri

Iran, 2018, 55 minutes

What is the role of art in a repressive society and how can an artist survive? Renowned Iranian photographer Maryam Zandi calls herself a social documentary photographer. She is that and so much more: an uncompromising spirit. "To each her own weapon," she says. "I have my camera." Ali Shilandri follows Zandi at a turning point in her work, as she attempts to have her photos of the 1979 Revolution published uncensored. She has waited four decades for this; maybe it will be possible with a new president. Zandi is best known for her five published volumes of portraits of artists the Revolution blacklisted. Imagining so many silenced talents turns her melancholy, and in her poems she queries whether every photograph is a dying moment. Her persistence of vision prompts us, in turn, to ask whether photography captures the world or changes it.—*Judy Bloch*

IN FARSI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Thursday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Friday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



A FAITHFUL MAN

Louis Garrel

France, 2018, 75 minutes

Best known as one of France's finest young actors, Louis Garrel steps behind the camera for his second directorial feature, a buoyant romantic farce set in the City of Light. Garrel plays Abel, a sweetly passive Parisian buffeted by others' whims. His lover, Marianne (Laetitia Casta), dumps him for his friend Paul, only to pop back into his life years later with her son. Paul's winsome younger sister Eve (Lily-Rose Depp) also emerges into the picture and acts out on a years-in-the-making obsessive crush on Abel. There is a gentle French New Wave tone and feel to *A Faithful Man*. The contemporary Paris setting with its streets, cafés, and apartments appear almost changeless since the 1960s. But it is the youthful director's unique, carefully modulated, quizzically engaged touch that charms and engages as the love triangle plays itself out with gentle hilarity.—*Various Sources*

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Friday, April 26, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Tuesday, April 30, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

FOR THE ONES WE LOVED

Pascal Thomas

France, 2019, 100 minutes

At a beautiful wedding, the bride and groom exchange the vows they have written. Once outside the church, the newlyweds can't resist kissing each other as friends and family cheer them on. But there's a woman in a convertible idling at the end of the steps. Seeing her, the groom shrugs and then races to her and leaps into the car, which speeds away. The startled bride insists that the party continue, as the restaurant has already been paid. Thus, the reception becomes an opportunity for friends and relatives to share their own stories of comically doomed love and failed seductions. The tales begin with the groom's mother insisting that the shell-shocked bride should never have trusted her no-good son. The flashbacks are by turns witty, wise, and painfully funny—all on the theme of the eternal struggle of men and women to truly understand one another.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:



Sunday, April 28, 4:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Friday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Embassy of France

For security reasons, film tickets for the Friday, May 3 screening at the Embassy of France must be purchased in advance.



**FIRST FEATURE AWARD
FOODFLIX**

FUNKE

Gab Taraboulsy

USA, 2018, 89 minutes

"There are very few people who think about the shape of pasta like I do." So says chef Evan Funke at the beginning of this mouth-watering and fascinating documentary about Funke's attempt at kitchen redemption. Calling himself a "storyteller through food," Funke declares his intention "to create the most comprehensive pasta program in the United States." Funke co-founded a groundbreaking restaurant, Bucato, and then left amid financial scandal. "Failure gives you a very unique perspective," the chef admits. We watch him begin a seemingly impossible quest to open a new restaurant dedicated to hand-made pasta. Along the way, we follow Funke on a journey to Italy to revisit the masters he learned from, who are as close to machines as humans can get. Success is never assured, as plans continue to change, but what is assured is viewers' hunger after watching director Gab Taraboulsy's tantalizing film.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

Friday, May 3, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 6:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



GENERAL MAGIC

Sarah Kerruish and Matt Maude

UK/USA, 2018, 93 minutes

Before there was Mark Zuckerberg or Elon Musk, there was Marc Porat and his merry band of techies dedicating every waking hour to achieving the seemingly impossible. Created as an offshoot of Apple following the meteoric rise of the Macintosh, Porat's General Magic was tasked with changing the world—and the device to do it was a handheld, touch-screen computer that was always connected to a radical thing called the Internet. Sound familiar? This endearing documentary basks in unseen archival footage of a bygone era when idyllic coders voluntarily bunked in offices overnight. Yet, as the insurmountable hype built, *General Magic* faced unforeseen obstacles and the tragic truth that maybe it was ahead of its time. Featuring dozens of interviews with those who lived it, including Joanna Hoffman and Tony Fadell, *General Magic* is a delightful ode to the pioneers of our time.—*Palm Springs International Film Festival*

Sunday, April 28, 3:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



THE GOOD GIRLS

Alejandra Márquez Abella

Mexico, 2018, 93 minutes

With her perfectly coiffed hair, generously attentive husband, and beautifully appointed home in Mexico City's Polanco district, stunning Sofía lives a life that defines early 1980s luxury: one of spur-of-the-moment shopping trips to New York City and country club lunches peppered with effusive compliments and empty praise. Her biggest challenge is maintaining her queen bee status when a gaudy, nouveau riche newcomer enters her social circle. So when Mexican President José López Portillo announces serious economic trouble ahead, there's seemingly little cause for concern—until a major business deal put together by Sofía's husband falls through, her credit card starts being declined, and her loyal servants' paychecks start bouncing. Sofía soon is blindsided by the realization that her life is little more than a house of cards built on shaky credit in this engrossing, razor-sharp sophomore feature from writer-director Alejandra Márquez Abella.—*Palm Springs International Film Festival*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 8:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Wednesday, May 1, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



TRUST NO ONE

HIDDEN MAN

Jiang Wen

China, 2018, 137 minutes

Jiang Wen's latest film is an astonishing, bullet-fast action epic. *Hidden Man* is fueled by dazzling chase sequences, gorgeous visuals, and pure adrenaline. It's the final film in a 1930s-set trilogy, but it may leave you panting for more. In a tour-de-force opening sequence, a lethal attack upends a martial arts master's birthday party. One of his disciples, Zhu, had conspired with a Japanese agent, Nemoto, to betray the master. Only young Li Tianran escapes the ambush. Years later, Li has grown up in San Francisco and has received advanced training in both Chinese martial arts and American spycraft. He's sent back to China on a mission, but he's driven by his own urge to take revenge on Zhu and Nemoto, the men who killed his master. Jiang packs *Hidden Man* with a raft of film references, from Hong Kong actioners to Quentin Tarantino.—*Toronto International Film Festival*

IN MANDARIN, ENGLISH, FRENCH, AND JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Monday, April 29, 8:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



THE LIGHTER SIDE

HOPELESSLY DEVOUT

Marta Díaz de Lope Díaz

Spain, 2018, 90 minutes

Carmen, an elderly church activist, is an admired member of the stodgy "brotherhood" that carries out a procession during one of Spain's legendary Holy Week pageants. But the women want to wear makeup and shorter skirts. Most of all, they want recognition of the women who are in reality playing a leading role. Even though Carmen has overwhelming support from both women and men, the parish priest announces that the election for society president goes to Ignacio, a smug male chauvinist. Carmen is livid and vows to fight back. There follows a frenetic series of nonstop flops, fumbles, and stumbles in this comedy of errors that mocks the old-fashioned world of Spanish religion. For director Marta Díaz de Lope Díaz, laughter is the weapon of choice in the fight for female empowerment. *Hopelessly Devout* won the Audience Award at Spain's Malaga Film Festival.—*Miguel Pendás*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Friday, May 3, 8:45 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



CIRCLE AWARD
GLOBAL RHYTHMS

HUGH HEFNER'S AFTER DARK: SPEAKING OUT IN AMERICA

Brigitte Berman

Canada, 2018, 98 minutes

From the opening image of Sarah Vaughan singing, Brigitte Berman's documentary entices viewers into a glamorous world long unseen. Featuring an endless stream of the famous and fabulous, the film is compiled from the TV shows "Playboy's Penthouse" (1959-1960, black-and-white) and "Playboy After Dark" (1968-1970, color). Berman lets the remarkable candid footage make the point that, in addition to his other interests, Hefner was a man intent on exploring ideas and breaking barriers racially and artistically. The shows were filled with black artists speaking candidly on topics rarely discussed in public at the time, much less on air. There are also many incredible performances by artists at their peak: Young Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder, Nina Simone, Ray Charles, Dick Gregory, Sammy Davis Jr., Moms Mabley, James Brown, Count Basie—too many to mention. This is one party you don't want to miss.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

Thursday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



GLOBAL RHYTHMS

IMPULSO

Emilio Belmonte

Spain/France, 2017, 87 minutes

In recent years, young Spanish dancer and choreographer Rocio Molina has become a sensation in flamenco and modern dance, known for her unconventional improvisations—"impulsos"—in routines. She goes to great lengths to push the boundaries of her creativity, selecting unusual venues such as prisons and museums to add more challenge and innovation to routines. *Impulso* documents the months leading up to the debut of her show in Paris as she and her musicians are deep in a demanding creative process. Rehearsals and performances alternate with interviews with family, friends, colleagues, and musicians. Molina exudes an utterly original creativity and infectious energy in her performances, giving full vent to the power of flamenco. In the words of director Emilio Belmonte, the film's purpose is "... for people [to] look back in 50 years [and] know who this woman was and what flamenco was at the beginning of the century."—*Various sources*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 6:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Wednesday, May 1, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



GLOBAL RHYTHMS

IT MUST SCHWING! THE BLUE NOTE STORY

Eric Friedler

Germany, 2018, 113 minutes

In 1939 New York City, two Jewish refugees from Berlin founded the most iconic jazz label in music history, Blue Note Records. Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Herbie Hancock, Thelonius Monk, Quincy Jones, and countless others came through Blue Note's doors to create indelible recordings that thrummed with improvisatory urgency. In an era when black musicians were subject to discrimination and segregation in NYC, Blue Note saw kindred spirits (having immigrated to escape such discrimination) and provided an outlet for their virtuosity. Relive this integral moment in music history, peppered throughout with an energetic soundtrack, artful animation, and interviews. Executive produced by Wim Wenders, *It Must Swing!* is a must-see for jazz aficionados.—*Atlanta Jewish Film Festival*

IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 3:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Tuesday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



JOEL

Carlos Sorín

Argentina, 2017, 99 minutes

In Tierra del Fuego, Cecilia, a piano teacher, and her husband, Diego, a forestry contractor, are recent transplants from the city. There's a lot to get used to in this community reaching toward middle class but still rural at the edges. The couple learns that the adoption they have applied for has come through. With the arrival of 9-year-old Joel, all other concerns pale. How do you suddenly become a family? Shy at home, at school Joel spins engaging fantasies of drugs and gangs gleaned from living with his uncle. When word of his tales gets out, the other parents are not as friendly to the newcomers. Veteran writer-director Carlos Sorín is a master of this kind of focused drama unfolding as what we used to call a "problem film." The folds are so small, the "problem" is revealed to be a delicate weave of attitudes and assumptions.—*Judy Bloch*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Tuesday, April 30, 8:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 6:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



JUSTICE MATTERS

LAS SANDINISTAS!

Jenny Murray

USA, 2018, 96 minutes

Las Sandinistas! tells of the women who led the FSLN revolution in Nicaragua in the 1970–80s. They were students, farmers, poets, lawyers, and mothers. They trained as guerrillas, led battalions, and many died. We get to know the living, active, still-fascinating protagonists of this history. If the FSLN's goal was to eradicate poverty and end the endless Somoza dictatorship, for the Sandinistas it was also to fully incorporate women into society. And briefly that happened as equality and literacy began to flourish between the Sandinista victory and the male-led, American-fed Contra war. You won't see any official monuments to the female fighters of the revolution

now. But if the arc of their narrative was left hanging in midair in the battle for nation, in today's Nicaragua the good and bad news is that many are still risking it all for the democracy of women's rights.—*Judy Bloch*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Thursday, May 2, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
GLOBAL RHYTHMS

LE GRAND BAL

Laetitia Carton

France, 2018, 89 minutes

At the annual Grand Bal de l'Europe, 2,000 people come together to celebrate the amazing richness, history, and nuance of dances from every region of France and the world in the best possible way: by dancing. Each summer for 8 days, on the grounds of an old farm near the village of Gennetines, people pitch their tents (though very little sleeping occurs) and, by day, learn the complex steps that all night long they will attempt to execute to the lively music of professional players and singers. Director Laetitia Carton explores a world within a world with a camera that is immersed in movement, music, and expression and in thoughtful interviews with those who return year after year. Dance lovers, if this film doesn't literally have you on your feet, you will at least be thinking fondly of "On y danse." They dance there.—*Judy Bloch*

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 7:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Tuesday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

FILMFEST DC 2019

THURSDAY, April 25

OPENING NIGHT



Ladies in Black

AMC Mazza Gallerie
THURSDAY, April 25 · 7:00 p.m.
Followed by a reception

FRIDAY, April 26

- 6:00 p.m. **Champions**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Constructing Albert**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **The Case**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Sprinter**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:15 p.m. **The Corporate Coup d'Etat**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **The Realm**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **A Faithful Man**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:45 p.m. **Mothers' Instinct**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:45 p.m. **Rafiki**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:45 p.m. **Short Cuts 1**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

SATURDAY, April 27

- 2:30 p.m. **A Translator**
National Gallery of Art, **FREE**
- 3:00 p.m. **Our Time**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 3:15 p.m. **Sir**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 3:30 p.m. **Cold Sweat**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 3:45 p.m. **LUNAFEST**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 4:00 p.m. **More Than Blue**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 4:00 p.m. **Tazzeka**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 5:30 p.m. **Screwdriver**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 5:30 p.m. **Short Cuts 2**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **The Accused**
AMC Mazza Gallerie

- 6:00 p.m. **The Case**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:30 p.m. **Impulso**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:30 p.m. **The Third Wife**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **Echo in the Canyon**
Lincoln Theater
- 8:30 p.m. **Magical Nights**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **The Purity of Vengeance**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **The Corporate Coup d'Etat**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Sprinter**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Supa Modo**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:45 p.m. **Balloon**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

SUNDAY, April 28

- 12:30 p.m. **A Translator**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 2:00-6:00 p.m. **Traveling While Black**
Ben's Chili Bowl, **FREE**
- 2:00 p.m. **A Tramway in Jerusalem**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 2:30 p.m. **The Bose Family**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 3:30 p.m. **General Magic**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 3:30 p.m. **It Must Schwing!
The Blue Note Story**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 4:00 p.m. **For the Ones We Loved**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 5:00 p.m. **MetroShorts**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 5:30 p.m. **Screwdriver**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 5:30 p.m. **Michelin Stars:
Tales From the Kitchen**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Hopelessly Devout**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Name of a Woman**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Supa Modo**
Landmark's E Street Cinema



For the Ones We Loved

- 7:45 p.m. **Le Grand Bal**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **The Good Girls**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:00 p.m. **Babylon**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **Cuban Food Stories**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:15 p.m. **One Last Deal**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:15 p.m. **Sink or Swim**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

MONDAY, April 29

- 12:00-2:00 p.m. **Traveling While Black**
Ben's Chili Bowl, **FREE**
- 5:00-8:00 p.m. **Traveling While Black**
Ben's Chili Bowl, **FREE**
- 6:00 p.m. **The Bose Family**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Photograph**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **LUNAFEST**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Yuli**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:15 p.m. **Name of a Woman**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **The Realm**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:15 p.m. **Balloon**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:15 p.m. **Constructing Albert**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:15 p.m. **Babylon**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:15 p.m. **Hidden Man**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

TUESDAY, April 30

- 6:00 p.m. **Champions**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Yuli**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **It Must Schwing!
The Blue Note Story**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Le Grand Bal**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Michelin Stars:
Tales From the Kitchen**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Tehran: City of Love**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **Cuban Food Stories**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **Joel**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **A Faithful Man**
AMC Mazza Gallerie

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

- 8:30 p.m. **The Spy Gone North**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **The Extraordinary Journey of Celeste Garcia**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Short Cuts 2**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

WEDNESDAY, May 1

- 6:00 p.m. **Simple Wedding**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Threesome**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **The Best Sommelier in the World**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **General Magic**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Las Sandinistas!**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Tazzeka**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:00 p.m. **More Than Blue**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:15 p.m. **The Purity of Vengeance**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **The Good Girls**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **One Last Deal**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **Impulso**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Sir**
Landmark's E Street Cinema



THURSDAY, May 2

- 6:00 p.m. **The Best Sommelier in the World**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Photograph**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Fading Portraits**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Hugh Hefner's After Dark: Speaking Out in America**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Olympia**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **The Sweet Requiem**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

- 8:00 p.m. **Traces of the Soul**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:15 p.m. **Piazzolla, the Years of the Shark**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:15 p.m. **Profile**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **Las Sandinistas!**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Paris Song**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Rafiki**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

FRIDAY, May 3

- 6:00 p.m. **Simple Wedding**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Tel Aviv on Fire**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Funke**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Olympia**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:30 p.m. **For the Ones We Loved**
Embassy of France
- 6:30 p.m. **Fading Portraits**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:30 p.m. **Paris Song**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **The Accused**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **Sink or Swim**
Embassy of France
- 8:30 p.m. **Dear Walmart**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Mothers' Instinct**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **The Spy Gone North**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Traces of the Soul**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:45 p.m. **Hopelessly Devout**
AMC Mazza Gallerie

SATURDAY, May 4

- 2:30 p.m. **Our Time**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 3:30 p.m. **Magical Nights**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 3:45 p.m. **Short Cuts 1**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 4:00 p.m. **Tehran: City of Love**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 4:15 p.m. **Dear Walmart**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 4:30 p.m. **The Third Wife**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:00 p.m. **Tel Aviv on Fire**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:00 p.m. **Hugh Hefner's After Dark: Speaking Out in America**
Landmark's E Street Cinema



- 6:15 p.m. **The Extraordinary Journey of Celeste Garcia**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 6:15 p.m. **Funke**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:15 p.m. **Joel**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 6:30 p.m. **Threesome**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:15 p.m. **Piazzolla, the Years of the Shark**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **DC Noir**
AMC Mazza Gallerie
- 8:30 p.m. **Cold Sweat**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:30 p.m. **Hidden Man**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:45 p.m. **Profile**
Landmark's E Street Cinema
- 8:45 p.m. **The Sweet Requiem**
Landmark's E Street Cinema

SUNDAY, May 5

CLOSING NIGHT



C'est la vie!

Embassy of France

SUNDAY, May 5

1st Screening

3:00 p.m., followed by a reception
from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

2nd Screening

7:30 p.m., preceded by a reception
from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.



THE LIGHTER SIDE

MAGICAL NIGHTS

Paolo Virzi

Italy, 2018, 126 minutes

In Rome in 1990, *La Dolce Vita* isn't so sweet anymore. Soccer and TV have supplanted cinema in the public's affection, yet the old film directors are still in play, "worn out but with ironclad contracts," including the revered Fellini. Enter three fresh young faces, finalists for a screenwriting contest, each naive in a different way: Sicilian art nerd Antonino; Tuscan working-class lothario Luciano; and pill-popping, lonely heiress Eugenia. After a night on the town with a famous producer who winds up dead, the three find themselves in front of a realist (if not neorealist) carabinieri captain on possible murder charges. For aficionados of Italian cinema, this breakneck comedy offers an impossibly head-spinning array of references; cinephilia itself is on the satiric chopping block. To appreciate the cleverness and wistfulness of *Magical Nights* you need only know that in comedy as in soccer, it's all about the penalty kick.—*Judy Bloch*

IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:



Saturday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Saturday, May 4, 3:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



MORE THAN BLUE

Gavin Lin

Taiwan, 2019, 105 minutes

It seemed like fate when isolated student Zhang Zhe-kai met a rebellious girl named Song Yuan-yuan. These two lonely high school classmates become inseparably close when they both lose their families. Song names Zhang "K" and decides to call herself "Cream." The two students live together, go to college together, and eventually get jobs together at the same record company. Things come to a standstill when K is unexpectedly diagnosed with leukemia. He becomes concerned about Cream and preoccupied with ensuring her happiness by helping her find love before his time runs out. Little does he realize she may have already found it. This glossy remake of a 2009 Korean film of the same name proves to be a real tearjerker thanks to the performances of actors Jasper Liu and Ivy Yi-Han Chen, who really sell the story of fidelity and timeless love.—*Osaka Asian Film Festival*

IN MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:



Saturday, April 27, 4:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Wednesday, May 1, 8:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

FOODFLIX MICHELIN STARS: TALES FROM THE KITCHEN



Rasmus Dinesen

Denmark, 2017, 83 minutes

All chefs dream of the distinction of receiving the coveted Michelin star, but who decides this peculiar rating and what are the criteria for obtaining one? This beautifully filmed documentary takes us into some of the most stunning restaurants serving the most exquisite cuisines. Director Rasmus Dinesen serves up an in-depth and honest look into the world of Michelin chefs and explores the significance and flaws of the *Michelin Guide*, founded over 115 years ago as a road guide for travel enthusiasts to find the best dining and lodging. It is now the barometer for the most passionate of the culinary craft. *Michelin Stars* illuminates the motivation, elation, and agony of those who spend their lives searching, evolving, and replicating their emotions on a plate to maintain their stars and their devotees.—*Various sources*

IN FRENCH, SPANISH, DANISH, JAPANESE, AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 5:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Tuesday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Sunday, April 28 screening

★ In Person: Aaron Silverman, Chef and restaurateur of the Michelin-starred restaurants Rose's Luxury and Pineapple and Pearls.

Aaron Silverman

Chef and restaurateur Aaron Silverman is known for his Michelin-starred restaurants Rose's Luxury and Pineapple and Pearls.



Tuesday, April 30 screening

★ In Person: Jorge Hernandez, Head Chef of ThinkFoodGroup's two Michelin-starred minibar

Chef Jorge Hernandez

Chef Jorge Hernandez is Head Chef of ThinkFoodGroup's two Michelin-starred minibar.





TRUST NO ONE

MOTHERS' INSTINCT

Olivier Masset-Depasse

France/Belgium, 2018, 97 minutes

In the soft-focus French suburbs of the 1950s, comfortably bourgeois neighbors Alice and Céline (Veerle Baetens and Anne Coesens, respectively) are best friends. Their families live in the same impressive duplex building, and even their sons are friends. It's an idyllic world of surprise parties and happy small talk—until Céline's son, Maxime (Luan Adam), falls out of an upstairs window and dies. So begins director Olivier Masset-Depasse's intense, Hitchcockian psychological thriller. Alice, increasingly overcome by guilt because she imagines Céline holds her responsible for the child's death, struggles to get through her days. And when Céline takes a curious interest in Alice's son—himself prone to allergies that can be life-threatening—the mood turns progressively more oppressive and claustrophobic. But as the deep freeze begins to thaw, the film takes shocking turns that call everything into question.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Friday, April 26, 8:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Friday, May 3, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



NAME OF A WOMAN

Marco Tullio Giordana

Italy, 2018, 92 minutes

Nina is a single mother who finds a job at a nursing home for the elderly in Lombardy. She initially settles in well, but one night she is called into her supervisor's office and the man jumps on her. Nina rebuffs his advances but when she resolves to report her boss, she finds that no one is willing to support her; not her colleagues, not her boyfriend, and certainly not her employers. Marco Tullio Giordana, who began working on this film long before the Harvey Weinstein scandal broke, has fashioned a very timely drama exploring the courage it takes to stand up for your rights, the vastly different attitudes toward rampant chauvinism that are to be found among Italian women, and the due process of the law. This is a deliberately stoic movie that measures its points carefully and makes them count.—*Vancouver International Film Festival*

IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:



Sunday, April 28, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Monday, April 29, 6:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



FIRST FEATURE AWARD

OLYMPIA

Gregory Dixon

USA, 2018, 93 minutes

Written by its star, the talented McKenzie Chinn, and directed as an MFA thesis film by Gregory Dixon, *Olympia* is a loving picture of Chicago's black artist community and a personal drama of a woman caught at an unforgiving crossroads: she's turning 30, her mother is dying, and she's stuck in a dead-end job. An art-school graduate, Olympia has beautiful dreams of success and, to judge by her portraits, the talent to attain it. What is stopping her? Meanwhile, her musician boyfriend, Felix (Charles Andrew Gardner), thinks he knows what holds him back: money. He's taken a job with a tech startup heading to Silicon Valley. With a visual design that incorporates animation, *Olympia* the film explores Olympia the character's artistic thesis that everything is constantly changing. *Olympia* is also a visual love letter to ever-vibrant Chicago, making Felix's impending move to Cupertino, California, an inside joke.—*Judy Bloch*

Thursday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Friday, May 3, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



TRUST NO ONE

ONE LAST DEAL

Klaus Härö

Finland, 2018, 95 minutes

Olavi (Heikki Nousiainen) has spent his life in the rarefied world of art dealers, auction houses, and fine-art galleries. The many small paintings, prints, and objets d'art that clutter his cramped gallery tell the story of a man who is more interested in quiet intellectual pursuits than messy human interactions. It is the latter situation that arises when Olavi's estranged grandson, Otto (Amos Brotherus), arrives looking for a job. Again, Olavi can't be bothered, as he has spotted what he thinks is a rare and valuable Renaissance portrait up for auction and is desperate to grab it. Pushed to achieve recognition and reward that has always eluded him, Olavi finds that the youngster's Google skills come in handy, and the pair set off on a mission. The trip raises suspicions with Otto's mother (Pirjo Lonka), who remains angry at her father's treatment of his family.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

IN FINNISH AND SWEDISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 8:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Wednesday, May 1, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



CIRCLE AWARD

OUR TIME

Carlos Reygadas

Mexico, 2018, 173 minutes

Mexico's most daring filmmaker, Carlos Reygadas (*Japón*, *Silent Light*) creates layered, complex films in which even seemingly minor actions become revelations about human relationships. Here, he takes on the charged topic of love and sex in the lives of Juan and Ester, an educated, internet-savvy, artistic couple (played by Reygadas and his real-life spouse Natalia López) who raise fighting bulls. The human ecosystem of their ranch—extended family, servants, and ranch hands—is absorbingly rendered in Reygadas's rich and innovative cinematic language. Juan favors open marriage and encourages his wife to have other relationships. But, when she begins an affair with the ranch's American horse trainer, Juan feels a jealousy he never anticipated. What begins as sex can turn into something more, an unintended consequence of Juan's libertinism. *Our Time* shows that love can be a form of possessiveness.—*Miguel Pendás*

IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 3:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 2:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



GLOBAL RHYTHMS

PARIS SONG

Jeff Vespa

Kazakhstan/Latvia/USA, 2018, 90 minutes

Paris Song recreates the amazing but true story of Amre Kashaubayev, a young musician from the bleak steppes of Kazakhstan who found himself competing at the 1925 Paris Expo. Sanjar Madi is completely convincing as Amre, wide-eyed at being dropped out of nowhere into the modern world. With his haunting singing and mastery of the traditional two-string dombra, Amre captivates the international sophisticates, including George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Josephine Baker, and photographer Lee Abbott. Set against Stalin's brutal regime, which seeks to crush the fledgling Kazakh independence movement, Amre is threatened by Soviet officials who have their own singer in the competition. He is also exhorted by the exiled leader of the Kazakh resistance, also in Paris, who sees hope in the young man's triumph. The many musical numbers are exquisitely performed, especially the energetic jams between Amre and Gershwin, musical worlds colliding wonderfully.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

Thursday, May 2, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Friday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



PHOTOGRAPH

Ritesh Batra

Germany/India/USA, 2019, 110 minutes

Ritesh Batra (*The Lunchbox*) returns with a delicate tale of quiet romance that finds the beauty in fleeting moments of connection amidst the chaos of an increasingly stratified city. Rafi works as a street photographer in frenzied Mumbai, snapping portraits for tourists at the city's landmarks. When his ailing grandmother—who always wanted Rafi to start a family—comes to visit, he scrambles to appease her. A chance encounter with kind-hearted Miloni offers the perfect opportunity, since she is happy to play along as Rafi's pretend companion. As the scheme throws into sharp relief the class differences and obstacles that stand in the way of such a union, the line between hypothetical and real affections grows ever hazier. Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Sanya Malhotra bring warmth and vulnerability to Rafi and Miloni's bittersweet coupling as Batra masterfully reminds us of the joy of sharing life's small pleasures.—*Sundance Film Festival*

IN HINDI, GUJARATI, AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Monday, April 29, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Thursday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



GLOBAL RHYTHMS

PIAZZOLLA, THE YEARS OF THE SHARK

Daniel Rosenfeld

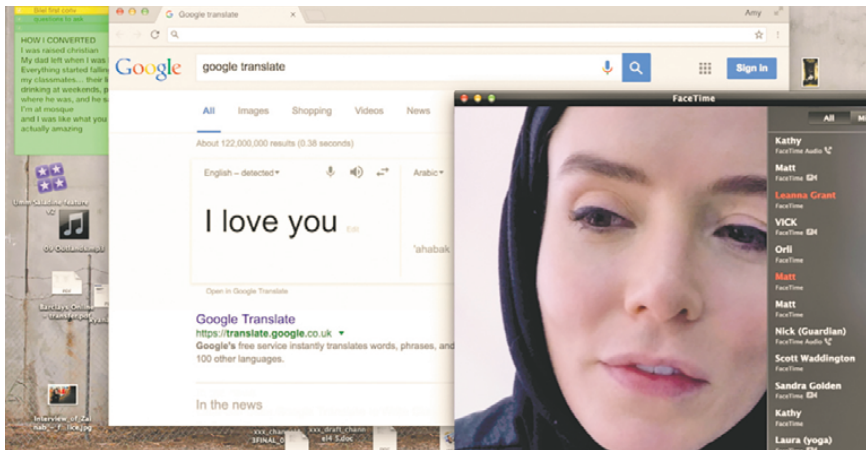
Argentina/France/Japan, 2018, 90 minutes

For the first time ever, the hidden archives of revolutionary Argentine bandoneon player Astor Piazzolla are opened by his son and daughter, Daniel and Diana, in this cinematic portrait of the worldwide legendary composer whose new approach to tango changed the genre indefinitely. His nuevo tango, with its jazz and classical influences, made him a controversial figure in his native country both musically and politically, as his revolutionary ideas clashed with traditional practice. *Piazzolla, the Years of the Shark* provides rare insight into intimate aspects of Piazzolla's life and career through never-before-seen footage of family films combined with archival material to paint a vivid portrait of the elusive Piazzolla: self-assured, obstinate, passionate, and a true virtuoso. Composed of a juxtaposition of images from public and private spheres, this portrait allows the viewer to get to know the mind of a musical genius.—*Various sources*

IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

Thursday, May 2, 8:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Saturday, May 4, 8:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



CIRCLE AWARD
TRUST NO ONE

PROFILE

Timur Bekmambetov

USA, 2018, 105 minutes

Posing as a disaffected Muslim convert named Melody who's flirting with the idea of turning teen jihadi war bride, a struggling British journalist named Amy uses social media and Skype to entrap an ISIS recruiter in hopes of securing a lucrative exposé that can help launch her career. Instead, she finds that the need to constantly evolve her cover story and improvise on the fly has debilitating effects on her own self-image, which grows increasingly amorphous. With a laptop screen serving as the sole claustrophobic stage for this high-stakes masquerade and ensuing game of catfish and mouse, Timur Bekmambetov transforms innocuous search engines and chat windows into the stuff of nerve-fraying suspense. And while no one expects a precise, Fincher-like procedural from the director of *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter*, *Profile* demonstrates unsettling verisimilitude as it investigates the perils that lay in wait only a click away.—*Vancouver International Film Festival*

IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

Thursday, May 2, 8:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Saturday, May 4, 8:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



TRUST NO ONE

THE PURITY OF VENGEANCE

Christoffer Boe

Denmark, 2018, 118 minutes

While rehabbing an apartment building, some Copenhagen construction workers uncover a hidden room containing the mummified remains of three people sitting around a dinner table with an empty fourth chair. The discovery marks another mystery to be solved by Department Q, the surprisingly effective cold-case unit run by stubborn, traumatized detective Carl Mørck (Nikolaj Lie Kaas) and his personable assistants Assad (Fares Fares) and Rose. Audiences loved the first in the series of Danish crime writer Jussi Adler-Olsen's work adapted to film (*The Keeper of Lost Causes*, FFDC 2014). *The Purity of Vengeance* is the fourth entry, also a standalone, and like the others, it journeys deep into the undercurrents of abuse and malice lurking beneath the polished surface of Scandinavia. Here, the mystery harks back to a reform school for girls on a remote island, where the young inhabitants were sterilized without their consent.—*Palm Springs International Film Festival*

IN DANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

Saturday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Wednesday, May 1, 8:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



JUSTICE MATTERS

RAFIKI

Wanuri Kahiu

Kenya, 2018, 83 minutes

In a lively Nairobi housing estate where everyone knows everyone and there are no secrets, two girls share one. Kena (Samantha Mugatsia), soccer-playing, studious, and poor, and Ziki (Sheila Muniyiva), bold and flighty, colorful, and rich, have fallen in love. That their fathers are rivals in a bitter campaign for local office becomes the least of their problems when word of their romance gets out and neighbors and even family turn vicious. "Good Kenyan girls" don't do this, but they do. Wanuri Kahiu has filmed *Rafiki* on location with a precise imagistic poetry that plays against the vividness of the life portrayed: The camera often stops to ponder what is happening. Based on a short story by Monica Arac de Nyeko, invited to Cannes (and festivals worldwide) but initially banned in Kenya, this fiercely beautiful film introduces two courageous young actors and a director with a keen eye.—*Judy Bloch*

IN ENGLISH AND SWAHILI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:



Friday, April 26, 8:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema
Thursday, May 2, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



In Person: Wanuri Kahiu at April 26 show.



TRUST NO ONE

THE REALM

Rodrigo Sorogoyen

Spain/France, 2018, 132 minutes

Director Rodrigo Sorogoyen's pulse-pounding political thriller is beyond fast-paced. Political fixer Manuel tries to quash a political scandal that threatens to bring down the Spanish government, but each fire he thinks he has put out just throws sparks in other directions. Every secret revealed leads to more questions being asked that no one wants to answer. Based on true events, *The Realm* might be mistaken for one of the *Mission Impossible* films, although the daring-do here is Manuel's ability to stay one step ahead of the press, other party officials, and his own friends. Make that former friends, because the cat-and-mouse games are really rat-and-rat as we discover that we've been rooting for people who believe that party matters more than justice or truth. With a truly shattering ending, the film will linger in the minds of viewers who might mistake it for the nightly news.—*Dave Nattycombe*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Friday, April 26, 8:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Monday, April 29, 8:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



SCREWDRIVER

Bassam Jarbawi

Palestine/USA/Qatar, 2018, 108 minutes

After more than a decade in an Israeli jail, newly released Ziad doesn't recognize the world around him. He is a free man but his friends have moved on, technology has changed, and dating seems impossible. Although he's hailed as a hero for his involvement in a failed attack on a settler, the act that led to his imprisonment, the young Palestinian man has doubts about whether his actions had any real meaning. Now living back at home in Ramallah, Ziad's attempts to adjust to life on the outside prove to be frustratingly slow: he has no education, no trade, and he's weighed down by an incredible sadness as he tries to live what feels like an already lost life.—*Toronto International Film Festival*

IN ARABIC AND HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 5:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Sunday, April 28, 5:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



**CIRCLE AWARD
THE LIGHTER SIDE**

SIMPLE WEDDING

Sara Zandieh

USA, 2018, 88 minutes

Produced by and co-starring Rita Wilson (*My Big Fat Greek Wedding*), this uproarious, fresh debut feature from Sara Zandieh presents an authentic and diverse look at finding love in this day and age and all the complications that come with it. After successfully sabotaging another of her parents' arranged marriage setups, the ever-charming and rebellious Nousha seems destined for singledom. Even the constant barrage of questionably sexy photos of bachelor sons from her mother's friends doesn't seem to do the trick. But Cupid's arrow is waiting in the wings when Nousha meets the artsy Alex at a feminist protest. Their secret tryst and cohabitation can be kept under wraps for only so long before Nousha's parents call for wedding bells to ring. As two very different cultures and families collide, Nousha and Alex quickly learn that this wedding will be anything but simple.—*Palm Springs International Film Festival*

Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Friday, May 3, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



THE LIGHTER SIDE

SINK OR SWIM

Gilles Lellouche

Belgium/France, 2018, 122 minutes

Gilles Lellouche's warm and amusing film poses this question: Can a loose collection of mismatched oddballs come together to find success as a male synchronized-swimming team? The absurdity of the premise is matched by the sincere commitment of a group of barely athletic men bonding over this seemingly impossible task. After all, their coach (Virginie Efira) spends practice time reading the great works of poetry and literature to them while they thrash about in the water. When the team discovers that there is a world championship men's synchronized swimming competition taking place in Norway and no team from France has signed up yet, dreams kick into high gear in a fevered quest for glory.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

IN SINHALESE AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:

Sunday, April 28, 8:15 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Friday, May 3, 8:30 p.m., Embassy of France



FRENCH EMBASSY
IN THE UNITED STATES

HIGHER EDUCATION,
ARTS, FRENCH LANGUAGE

**For security reasons, film tickets for the
Friday, May 3 screening at the Embassy of France
must be purchased in advance.**



SIR

Rohena Gera

India/France, 2018, 96 minutes

When her wealthy employer's wedding is abruptly called off, Ratna, a maid with ambitions to break free of domestic work and become a high-end tailor, returns to her boss's high-rise Mumbai apartment. As she dutifully tends to Ashwin (whom she may only call "Sir"), the two gradually discover an unexpected spark between them. However, in an Indian society intent on upholding rigid class divisions, Ratna stands to lose everything if news of the forbidden romance were ever made public. Director-writer Rohena Gera's debut feature wisely acknowledges the realities of what's possible within these social structures, but Ratna's desire for more is deeply felt. That's thanks in no small part to a luminous lead performance by the magnificent Tillotama Shome.—*AFI, Los Angeles*

IN HINDI AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 3:15 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Wednesday, May 1, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



SPRINTER

Storm Saulter

USA/Jamaica, 2018, 114 minutes

Winner of a number of awards and executive-produced by Will and Jada Pinkett Smith, *Sprinter* takes viewers into the fields and countryside of Jamaica. Akeem Sharp (Dale Elliott) has grown up idolizing his older brother, Germaine (Kadeem Wilson), a star high school runner, and pining for his mother, who left the family for greater opportunities in America. Though she was to return after 2 years, a decade has passed and the young boy has grown into the “Rasta Rocket,” lionized for his exploits on the running track. Despite the careful attention of his coach (David Alan Grier), Akeem begins to drift, drawn into his brother’s dangerous underworld life. “No man can outrun the choices he makes,” says Akeem’s concerned girlfriend, Kerry (Shantol Jackson), and even Usain Bolt offers help. But is it enough to get Akeem to the championships in Los Angeles and reconnect him with his mother? —*Dave Nuttycombe*

Friday, April 26, 6:00 p.m., Landmark’s E Street Cinema

Saturday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., Landmark’s E Street Cinema



SUPA MODO

Likarion Wainaina

Kenya/Germany, 2018, 74 minutes

In this touching story told with disarming naiveté, 9-year-old Jo imagines herself a comic book superhero, Supa Moda, with amazing powers. Her mother brings her home from the hospital to their tiny village in Kenya to the loving company of family and villagers. Jo has a terminal disease, but her mother and sister enlist the villagers to make a movie in which she uses her kinetic superpowers to fight evildoers. They let her think her fantasy world is real to spare her the anguish of reality. *Supa Modo* was produced as part of a German-based project that gives African filmmakers the opportunity to create their stories for an international audience. It had its world premiere at the Berlin Film Festival and was Kenya’s official submission for Best Foreign Language Film for this year’s Oscars®.—*Miguel Pendas*

IN SWAHILI, KIKUYU, AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., Landmark’s E Street Cinema

Sunday, April 28, 6:00 p.m., Landmark’s E Street Cinema



TRUST NO ONE

THE SPY GONE NORTH

Jong-bin Yoon

South Korea, 2018, 137 minutes

With recent events involving the Korean peninsula, this film could not be more timely. It is based on the true story of “Black Venus,” a South Korean intelligence agent who infiltrated the very top of North Korea’s political regime in the 1990s to spy on illegal nuclear activity. When rising military officer Park Suk-young is tasked with this dangerous mission, his first order is to ruin his reputation. He becomes a drunk and a gambler and gets kicked out of the service. When he appears in the Beijing offices of North Korean officials as an anything-goes businessman, they fall for his ploy. Ultimately, his plan hinges on convincing dictator Kim Jong-il to create television advertising campaigns, which would provide cover for increasing North Korea’s nuclear production. But the tale also involves election meddling, pre-arranged armed provocations to sway public opinion, and duplicity on both sides of the border.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

IN KOREAN, MANDARIN, AND JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Tuesday, April 30, 8:30 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Friday, May 3, 8:30 p.m., Landmark’s E Street Cinema



JUSTICE MATTERS

THE SWEET REQUIEM

Ritu Sarin and Tenzing Sonam

India/USA, 2018, 91 minutes

In a Tibetan refugee enclave in Delhi, Dolkar’s concerns are those of any Indian her age—find a good job, look cool, go dancing at night—plus hide new refugees from the Chinese authorities and deal with living apart from family in Lhasa, who gave you up. Dolkar arrived 18 years ago; she barely remembers the journey that got her here. But something haunts her. With the arrival in Delhi of Gompo, details of that long-ago, ill-fated trek over the Himalayas begin to come back to Dolkar. The mountain pass, frozen, dangerous ... Dolkar carried on her father’s back, until her father was no more. Ritu Sarin and Tenzing Sonam, an Indian-Tibetan couple whose memorable films include *The Sun Behind the Clouds* (FFDC 2010) and *Dreaming Lhasa*, have here created a narrative of karmic balance between the claustrophobic present and the treacherously open past.—*Judy Bloch*

IN TIBETAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Thursday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., Landmark’s E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 8:45 p.m., Landmark’s E Street Cinema



FOODFLIX

TAZZEKA

Jean-Philippe Gaud

France/Morocco, 2018, 95 minutes

Young Elias is raised in a Moroccan village by his grandmother, Malika, and is surrounded by a beautiful mountainous landscape. By the age of 6, he has already developed a penchant for cookbooks and has memorized the names of the dishes and ingredients contained within. Later in life, at a job in one of the village's restaurants, Elias has the opportunity to meet a top Paris chef who inspires him to leave home. In Paris, Elias faces unstable work as an undocumented immigrant, but he also finds friendship with Souleymane, who helps revive his love for cooking and passion for fragrances, colors, and an array of sumptuous, spicy flavors. Jean-Philippe Gaud, in his first feature film, visualizes this journey with comedic as well as melodramatic elements and powerful scenes full of inner and outer drama.

—Various sources

IN ARABIC AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 4:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



TEHRAN: CITY OF LOVE

Ali Jaberansari

Iran/UK/Netherlands, 2018, 102 minutes

Three people disenchanted with love navigate Tehran's appearances-obsessed singles landscape: Mina, an overweight receptionist at a beauty clinic; Vahid, a sad-sack singer for strangers' funerals; and Hessam, a tattooed but gentle bodybuilder. No spoilers here, but suffice to say that in this city everyone has an "uncle" pulling or jerking strings and everyone has a secret compulsion. This quirky film's dry, sometimes laugh-out-loud humor is enhanced by its striking visuals, especially the precise horizontality of its framing and the on-the-beat cutting that lets the joke (sometimes the pathos) sink in. Running gags—like the one about a famous French actor no one in Tehran has heard of—and chance encounters link the three character studies. There is magic here in the tender empathy we come to have for these lonely individuals. Look for an appearance by superstar Behnaz Jafari, whom everyone in Tehran has heard of.—Judy Bloch

IN FARSI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Tuesday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 4:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



CIRCLE AWARD
THE LIGHTER SIDE

TEL AVIV ON FIRE

Sameh Zoabi

Luxembourg/France/Israel/Belgium, 2018, 97 minutes

One of the most irreverent cinematic spins on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the latest film from writer-director Sameh Zoabi follows a fledgling soap-opera screenwriter charged with concocting plot twists to suit viewers on both sides. Salam (Kais Nashif) begins working on "Tel Aviv on Fire," a popular Palestinian evening soap for which his uncle is showrunner. Just as Salam's prospects rise after receiving a promotion, he has a fateful encounter with Assi, an Israeli military officer, during his daily commute at the Ramallah checkpoint. Assi sees an opportunity to influence the show, which he thinks is far too unflattering to its Israeli characters. Salam has just begun life as a writer and he's already forced to compromise his integrity—while the entire country watches flabbergasted. Zoabi's satire exudes a deadpan audacity that's hard to resist while Nashif's outwardly unflappable middleman grounds this battle of ideologies in comic pragmatism.—*Toronto International Film Festival*

IN ARABIC AND HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Friday, May 3, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

Saturday, May 4, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie



FIRST FEATURE AWARD

THE THIRD WIFE

Ash Mayfair

Vietnam, 2018, 96 minutes

Though only 14 years old, May is selected to be the third wife of a wealthy landowner. Her new home feels idyllic, her husband favors her, and she quickly becomes pregnant with what she is certain will be the desired male progeny. But trouble is quietly brewing. May's accelerated journey from childhood to motherhood prompts her to question the supposed natural order of things. May initially seems to be a lucky beneficiary of her patriarchal culture, but time proves that forces such as romantic love, sexual taboo, and female independence will find their expression in even the most repressive of circumstances. Set in late nineteenth-century Vietnam, this jewel-like debut feature from writer-director Ash Mayfair is at once seductive and harrowing, transporting us to a time and place in which women are expected to stifle their longings while performing duties for the men who possess them.—*Toronto International Film Festival*

IN VIETNAMESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 6:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Saturday, May 4, 4:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



THE LIGHTER SIDE

THREESOME

Nicolas Monette

Canada, 2017, 91 minutes

We are familiar with the French sex farce, but here comes a worthy French Canadian sex farce. Set in Montreal, *Threesome* introduces us to Estelle (Mélissa Désormeaux-Poulin), an overworked, unsatisfied mother and wife about to turn 35. Beset by home renovations taking forever and demoralizing developments at work, Estelle turns to her posse of gal pals for support. The bawdy trio (Bénédicte Décar, Geneviève Schmidt, and Anne-Élisabeth Bossé) encourage her to loosen up, finally deciding that the solution is a close encounter of the three-way kind. Because Estelle is a financial analyst, she takes an analytical approach, creating elaborate spreadsheets and strategic plans for finding the perfect third person. Of course, the plans quickly go very far astray. The shenanigans—or attempts at shenanigans—are played lightly, and if you have any affection for Bonnie Tyler's song "Total Eclipse of the Heart," you are in for a treat.—*Dave Nuttycombe*

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Co-presented with:



Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

followed by a reception sponsored by the Quebec Government Office in Washington

Saturday, May 4, 6:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE FIRST FEATURE AWARD TRACES OF THE SOUL

Martin Cooper

UK, 2018, 86 minutes

Calligraphy is an art, a philosophy, and, for its practitioners, a way of life rooted in ancient tradition. So it is surprising to learn how very contemporary calligraphy can be in the hands of 12 international artists profiled in *Traces of the Soul*. In an era when cultures worldwide are united by the habit of speed-sending billions of texts a day, handwriting in any alphabet, be it Arabic, Japanese, Chinese, or English, speaks to something truly universal: our humanity. As one artist notes, script "reaches the soul before it reaches the eye." Calligraphy becomes a physical meditation when performed on a floor canvas; becomes calligraffiti, changing lives, when it goes urban; and becomes a protest or a prayer when drawn for children caught up in wars. Calligraphy is not based on nature; it is nature. That's something to ponder while letting this beautiful film speak to you.—*Judy Bloch*

Thursday, May 2, 8:00 p.m.,
Landmark's E Street Cinema
Friday, May 3, 8:30 p.m.,
Landmark's E Street Cinema



AMOS GITAI: TWO NEW FILMS AND AN INTERVIEW VIA SKYPE



JUSTICE MATTERS

A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM

Amos Gitai

Israel, 2018, 94 minutes

One of Israel's greatest directors, Amos Gitai (*Rabin's Last Day*, FFDC 2016) turns his documentarist's eye to fiction. In a series of vignettes, we meet various passengers in a Jerusalem tramcar. A picture of a people emerges, at turns comical, political, and transcendent. Women and Palestinians are routinely if differently harassed; others are "harassed by holiness." Readers read (aloud) and rappers rap. A couple is turned on by military pride, and another couple will divorce over a wartime betrayal. A Frenchman sees Israel through Flaubert's eyes, and a mother sees its dim future in her schlemiel son. Streetcar as metaphor is not new; it travels as *Illusion* in cinema (Luis Buñuel) and as *Desire* in theater (Tennessee Williams). That's how Gitai's tram works on us; eventually we guess it's enacted, yet we pay our way and ride along, each time anew, to travel with a trusted conductor.—*Judy Bloch*

IN HEBREW, ARABIC, YIDDISH, FRENCH, AND OTHER LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SHOWN WITH:

AMERICAN PREMIERE

A LETTER TO A FRIEND IN GAZA

Amos Gitai

Israel, 2018, 35 minutes

Inspired by Albert Camus's early 1940s "letters" to an imaginary friend in Germany, Gitai turns to the written word as worth a thousand images in evoking the protracted conflict at the Israel-Gaza border. Actors read poems and essays by Hebrew and Palestinian writers that can be summed up in the opening line: Think of the Other.

IN HEBREW AND ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Sunday, April 28, 2:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

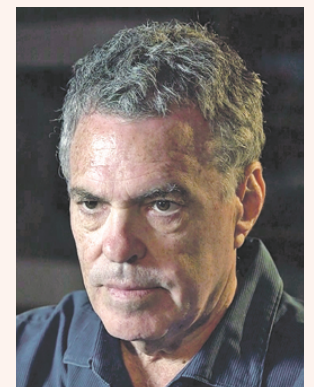
Skype interview to take place between Director Amos Gitai and Laurence Kardish, Senior Curator, Department of Film, Museum of Modern Art, NYC, retired.

Amos Gitai

A filmmaker who was trained as an architect, Amos Gitai has directed an extensive kaleidoscope of films observing the Middle East and the Israeli society. Among them are feature films as well as documentaries, installations, and performances. He was awarded the Rossellini and the Robert Bresson Prizes as well as the Legion d'Honneur.

Gitai's work was presented in several major retrospectives in Pompidou Center Paris, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) New York, the Lincoln Center New York, and the British Film Institute London.

To date, Amos Gitai has created over 90 works of art. Between 1999 and 2017, 10 of his films entered the main competition of the Cannes Film Festival as well as the Venice Film Festival.



TRAVELING WHILE BLACK



Roger Ross Williams
USA, 2018, 21 minutes

Traveling While Black is a 20-minute 3D, 360-degree virtual reality documentary that immerses the viewer in the long history of restricted movement for black Americans and the black community's creation of safe spaces as they traveled about the country. First published in 1936, the *Green Book* was a survival guide that black travelers relied on to avoid brutal discrimination. It listed safe places that would fulfill their basic needs. In 1958, Ben and Virginia Ali's new restaurant, Ben's Chili Bowl, joined the list. Directed by Academy Award® winner Roger Ross Williams and executive produced by Bonnie Nelson Schwartz, a series based on *Traveling While Black* is being planned. The film invites viewers into an emotionally moving experience about race and restricted movement in America while sitting in an intimate booth at Ben's Chili Bowl.

Admission is **FREE**, but you must make a reservation. To make a reservation, please visit the Traveling While Black film page at filmfestdc.org.

Location
Ben's Chili Bowl
1213 U Street, N.W.
Washington, DC

Dates and Times

- Sunday, April 28
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. **FREE**
- Panel Discussion
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **FREE**
- Monday, April 29
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. **FREE**
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **FREE**

Co-presented with:



A TRANSLATOR
Rodrigo Barriuso and Sebastián Barriuso
Cuba/Canada, 2018, 107 minutes

★ **In Person: Directors Rodrigo Barriuso and Sebastián Barriuso for post-screening discussion**

Set in Havana in the late 1980s, *A Translator's* central character, a professor of Russian literature, is assigned out of the blue to work in a hospital as translator for a group of young radiation victims from Chernobyl. His new role not only complicates his emotional life, it also destabilizes his relationships with friends and family. Mixing documentary elements with a fictional tale, the film catches a critical historical moment when Cuba's economy was failing, unemployment was rife, and the country's citizens were beginning to feel more insulated than ever. The Barriusos' film addresses a specific set of events, but as it unfolds at the intersection of socialist ideals, economic realities, and personal ambitions, it's a timeless portrait of what it means to be a cog in the wheel of a single-party regime.—*Sheri Linden*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Saturday, April 27, 2:30 p.m., National Gallery of Art, East Building Auditorium, **FREE**
Sunday, April 28, 12:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



YULI
Iciar Bollain
Spain/UK/Germany, 2018, 115 minutes

Based on his autobiography, *Yuli* portrays Carlos Acosta's life of resistance and affirmation as a rising arc with jagged edges, full of explosive emotions, love/hate relationships, and, underscoring it all, lush music and elegant, physical dance. In his peak years, Acosta was called the greatest ballet dancer in the world. This charismatic black Cuban was a principal dancer with ballet companies in Havana, London, New York, and Houston. He has since become a choreographer, founded a dance company in Cuba, and been appointed director of the Birmingham, England, ballet. Acosta grew up in an impoverished area near Havana, where his father Pedro taught him to be proud of his slave ancestors. The relentless Pedro pushed Carlos into ballet, which he resisted mightily. He wanted to breakdance and moonwalk and play soccer. Fortunately, ballet school teachers saw in the raw kid a generational talent.—*Miguel Pendás*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Monday, April 29, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema
Tuesday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., AMC Mazza Gallerie

LUNA FEST

LUNAFEST: SHORTS BY, FOR, AND ABOUT WOMEN

Total running time: 77 minutes

Lunafest has been showcasing the work of talented women directors from all over the world since 2000. Discover this year's collection of groundbreaking women who are changing the industry.

MY IMMIGRANT STORY

Yuriko Gamo Romer
USA, 3 minutes

The hot-button issue of immigration inspired the director to reflect on her own path to American citizenship.

FLIP THE RECORD

Marie Jamora
USA, 15 minutes

In this 1980s coming-of-age story set to pulsing hip-hop music, a Filipino-American teen discovers her identity through a budding talent for turntablism.

DRUMMER GIRL

Sophie Hexter
Australia, 7 minutes

A woman's life changed in the blink of an eye. Music sets her free.

THE FINAL SHOW

Dana Nachman
USA, 10 minutes

A woman who has lived a long life full of love and loss has to decide, based on all that she has learned, whom to take along to eternity.

ARE WE GOOD PARENTS?

Bola Ogun
USA, 9 minutes

When a couple's 14-year-old daughter says she's going to her first dance with her classmate, they question their preconceived notions of her sexuality and their openness as parents.

WAR PAINT

Katrelle Kindred
USA, 17 minutes

A young black girl in South Los Angeles experiences a series of events that intersect racism and sexism during the Fourth of July holiday.

TODAY, TOMORROW, YESTERDAY

Jackie Files
USA, 6 minutes

A young woman finds her old diaries while moving out of her childhood bedroom and learns to make peace with herself.

UR DEAD TO ME

Yonoko Li
New Zealand, 10 minutes

A dried-flower delivery woman gets a glimpse into the cycles of love and loss.

Saturday, April 27, 3:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema
Monday, April 29, 6:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



War Paint

METRO SHORTS

Total running time: 93 minutes

AURELIUS BATTAGLIA: HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Michael T. Miller
USA, 2018, 3 minutes, documentary

A newly restored mural in Washington bears joyful witness to the boundless creative energy of D.C. native Aurelius Battaglia, an illustrator and animator of early Disney films.

PALEONAUT

Eric McEver
China/Japan/USA/Singapore, 2017, 16 minutes, narrative

A paleontologist is hired to prepare the first human time traveler for a journey into pre-history and falls in love with her subject. The film was shot by D.C.-based cinematographer Emilie Silvestri.

PARANORMAL GIRLFRIEND

Jeanne Hospod
USA, 2018, 3 minutes, animation

In a story inspired by Jim White vs. The Packway Handle Band's song of the same name, mysterious forces of attraction inspire quantum-level romance.

BOYS IN THE BOAT

Nive Das and Ted Hornick
USA, 2018, 17 minutes, documentary

A crew of young rowers with intellectual disabilities train to compete in a prestigious regatta.

THE BIRTH OF AFROBEAT

Opiyo Okeyo
USA, 2018, 7 minutes, documentary

A tribute to drum legend Tony Allen's contributions to the birth of Africa's most exported music genre, Afrobeat.

JOHN MENDEZ—THE BRIDGE

Mike Kuba
USA, 2018, 15 minutes, documentary

Dedicated to ending homelessness, a social worker in Montgomery County, Md., is driven to find a home for every person living on the streets.

THE PICK UP

Giovanna Chesler
USA, 2018, 10 minutes, narrative

When her mother picks up a mysterious jogger, sullen teen Melanie's unexpected trip home from swim practice takes her on a bumpy ride facing adulthood.

SPACE TO EXPLORE

Katherine DuBois
USA, 2018, 14 minutes, documentary

Against the arches and spires of the Utah desert, aerospace engineer Natalie Panek reconciles life's challenges in her pursuit of space travel.

WE ARE NOW

Kevin Akakpo, Carlos Escobar, Kim Gonzalez-Ramirez, Verite Igiraneza, Merry Hailegeorgies, Yohannes Gezahegn, Gabe Hoekman, Juliet Marschall
USA, 2018, 8 minutes, documentary

Produced by eight high school students from Gandhi Brigade Youth Media, "We Are Now" showcases the wave of youth-led activism sweeping the country.

Sunday, April 28, 5:00 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



We Are Now

SHORT CUTS 1

Total running time: 100 minutes

SPREADING THE SEED

Ana Cerar

Slovenia, 2018, 12 minutes, documentary

The tiny farming village of Raka, Slovenia, once home to the family of FLOTUS, has experienced a surge of attention ever since the 2016 U.S. election. It is also known for its unique and beloved purple-skinned onions.

ALL INCLUSIVE

Corina Schwingruber Ilić

Switzerland, 2018, 10 minutes, documentary

The camera offers quiet commentary on entertainment, luxury, excess, and what some people consider fun.

MASKS

Mahaliyah Ayla O

USA, 2018, 23 minutes, narrative

A closeted medical student risks being outed to her family the same evening a masked gunman opens fire at a gay nightclub.

SISTER

Siqi Song

China/USA, 2018, 8 minutes, animation

A man reflects on his childhood memory of growing up with an annoying little sister in 1990s China. How would his life have been if things had gone differently?

EDGECOMBE

Crystal Kayiza

USA, 2018, 15 minutes, documentary

Revealing the deeply personal truths of three residents of Edgecombe County, North Carolina, this observational mosaic explores the ways trauma repeats and reinvents itself in rural black communities, exhuming a long lineage of survival.

SWEETHEART DANCERS

Ben-Alex Dupris

USA, 2019, 13 minutes, documentary

A story about Sean and Adrian, a Two-Spirit couple determined to rewrite the rules of Native American culture through their participation in a powwow dance competition that has defined a couple as a man and a woman, until now.

LIFE IN MINIATURE

Ellen Evans

UK, 2018, 5 minutes, documentary

In the precious world of miniatures, Kath Holden serves as a rare documentarian of daily life in the modern world.

AVEC THELMA

Ann Sirot and Raphaël Balboni

Belgium, 2017, 14 minutes, narrative

When an Icelandic volcano halts air traffic, Jean and Vincent find themselves hosting an unexpected guest.

Friday, April 26, 8:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema
Saturday, May 4, 3:45 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



Avec Thelma

SHORT CUTS 2

Total running time: 108 minutes

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pedram Samadi

Iran, 2018, 9 minutes, narrative

After an afternoon of childish fun on the way home from school, Pasha and Mortenza face a loss of innocence.

DIVISION AVE

Tamar Glezerman

USA, 2019, 15 minutes, narrative

A Jewish housewife and a young Mexican day worker forge an unlikely bond during Passover preparations in Hasidic Brooklyn.

4 CORNERS

Andre Muir

USA, 2018, 16 minutes, narrative

Five affecting vignettes are each loosely based on gang killings committed in a four-block radius in Chicago's East Rogers Park neighborhood. Together, they offer a critique on this nation's gun violence and a plea to change the vicious tit-for-tat cycle.

THROAT SINGING IN KANGIRSUK

Eva Kaukai and Manon Chamberland

Canada, 2018, 4 minutes, documentary

Through the changing seasons in their small Arctic village, Eva Kaukai and Manon Chamberland practice the joyful and mesmerizing art of Inuit throat singing.

UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE GUANCARI

BAJO LA SOMBRA DEL GUACARÍ

Greg Méndez López

Colombia, 2018, 15 minutes, narrative

In the midst of a remote wetland, the town crier brings news of death and Abraham embarks on a journey to fulfill a promise marked by weeping and traditional singing.

SOLAR WALK

Réka Bucsi

Denmark, 2018, 21 minutes, animation

Chaos and beauty weave a seamless tapestry as individuals and the cosmos contemplate one another in the brilliantly imaginative world of animator Réka Bucsi.

TO PLANT A FLAG

Bobbie Peers

Norway, 2018, 15 minutes, 2018

Jake Johnson and Jason Schwartzman, two NASA astronauts training for the lunar landscape of the moon, soon discover what obstacles one can encounter when facing an Icelandic sheep farmer.

Filmfest DC thanks the Smithsonian Theaters for making this film available.

WELCOME TO THE BALL

Adam Vincent Wright

USA, 2019, 5 minutes, narrative

Two kids connect with an eye toward happiness and a disregard for gender roles.

THE ELEPHANT'S SONG

Lynn Tomlinson

USA, 2018, 8 minutes, animation

An old farm dog sings the true and tragic tale of Old Bet, the first circus elephant in America. Clay-on-glass frame-by-frame animation creates images like a moving finger painting.

Saturday, April 27, 5:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema

Tuesday, April 30, 8:30 p.m., Landmark's E Street Cinema



Throat Singing in Kangirsuk



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