



*We are on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish Peoples, whose tribal treaty rights we support, and for whose enduring care of the lands and waters we are deeply grateful.*



# CASCADIA INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL

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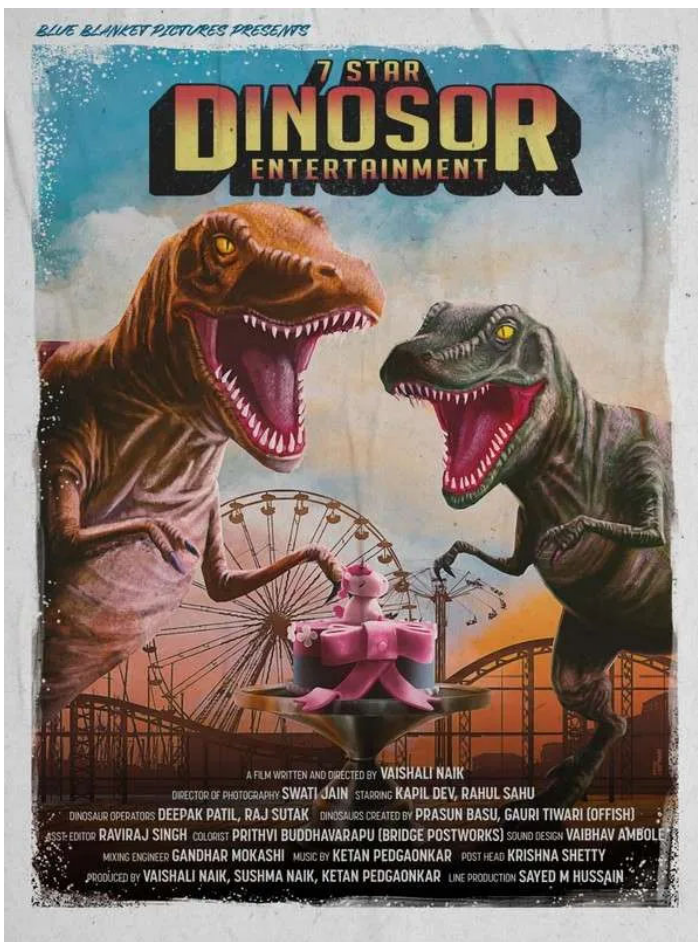
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**CASCADIA** International Women's Film Festival will present 33 exceptional films directed by women from around the world on May 12-15 2022 at the Pickford Film Center in Bellingham, WA.

# 2022 Festival Selections

## FESTIVAL SHORTS

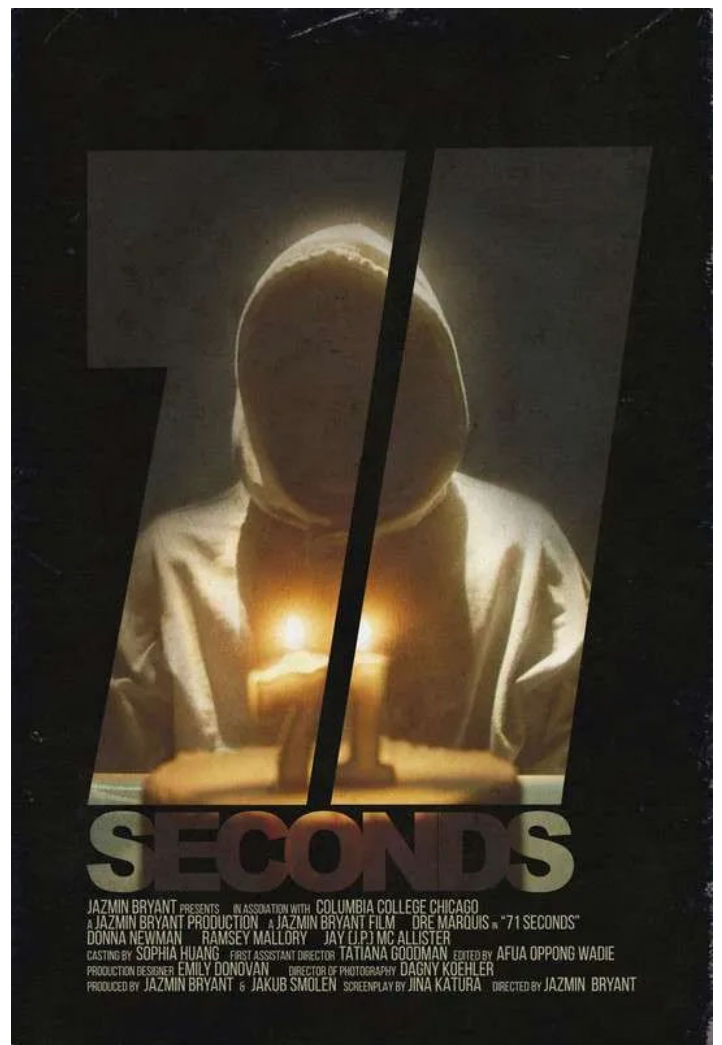


### 7 STAR DINOSOR ENTERTAINMENT

VAISHALI NAIK / INDIA

A few years back, Sudhir and Vinod- two brothers- put up a Business together, **"7 Star Dinosaur Entertainment."**

Dressed as giant dinosaurs they would dance to Bollywood



### 71 SECONDS

JAZMIN BRYANT / USA

**"71 Seconds"** follows Trayvon Martin's journey on the last page of his life written on February 26, 2012. This story highlights Martin's innocence, as well as typical teenage

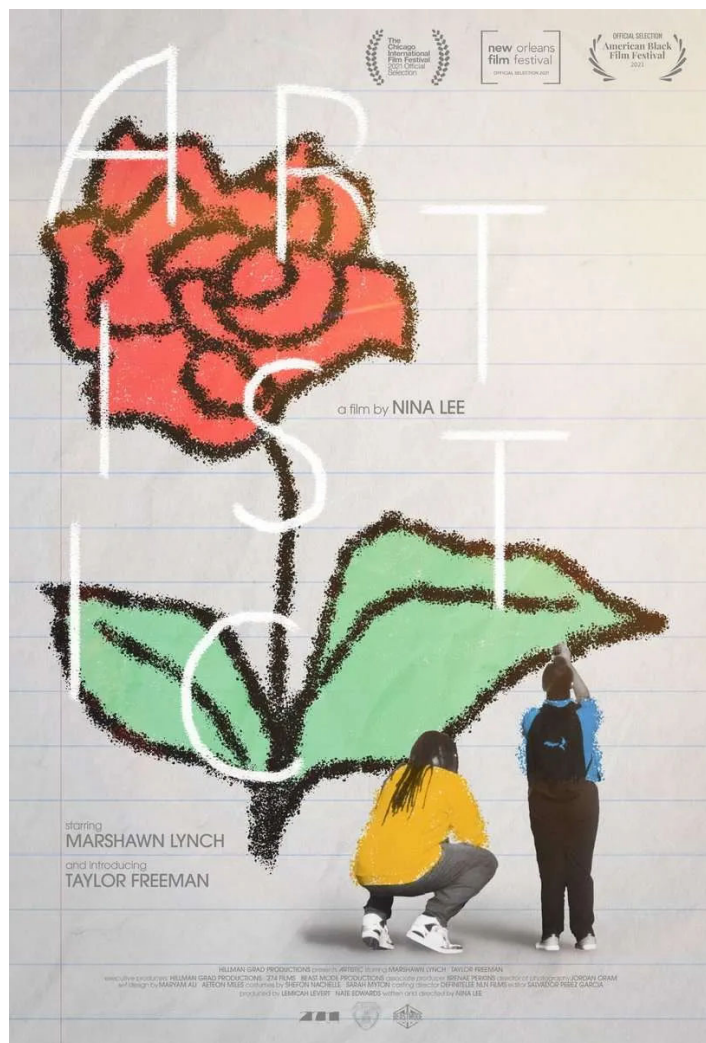
songs at weddings, birthday parties, and mall events. Life was good.

But today we find them two years deep into the pandemic. No public functions are allowed anymore. We find the brothers jobless and hungry. The giant dinosaurs cramped with them in a single tiny room of the shoddy tenement.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)

angst. After making a stop at a convenience store, Martin is followed by the neighborhood watch member, George Zimmerman. After a brief and violent altercation, Zimmerman fatally shot and killed Trayvon Martin. This film is an exploration of the 71 seconds that are unaccounted for in the report of the altercation.

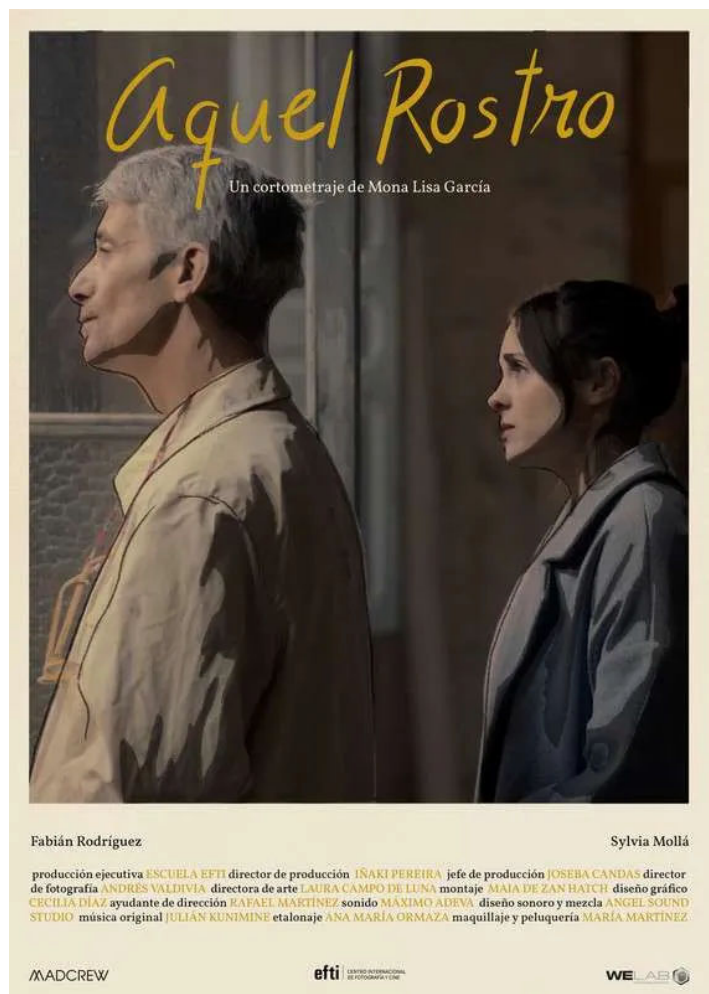
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## ARTISTIC

NINA LEE / USA

A little girl with Down syndrome befriends a neighborhood drug dealer. Billie Thomas is a lonely teenage artist. Longing for a friend she finds one in an unlikely person. Former SeaHawks football running back Marshawn Lynch plays a leading role in a touching performance.



## AQUEL ROSTRO

MONA LISA GARCIA / SPAIN

“Aquel Rostro” explores a painter’s loneliness, solitude, and emotional barriers. One morning, Fabian receives Sylvia’s unexpected visit. After not seeing her for a long time, her visit will reveal Fabian’s inability to show himself vulnerable and his longing for healing old wounds.

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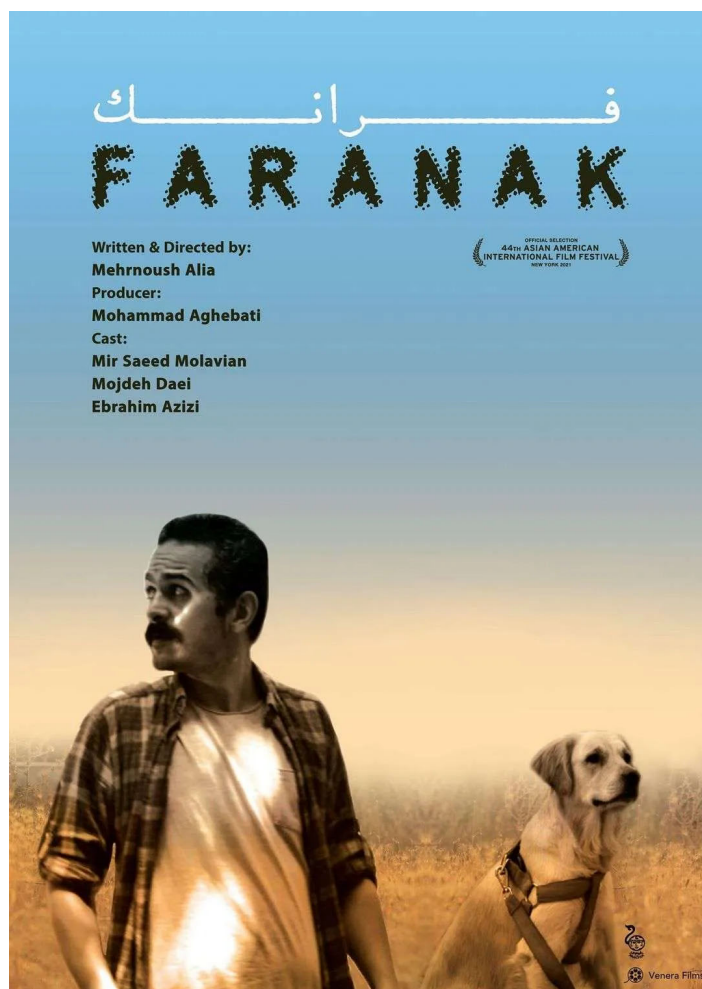


## EL CONQUISTADOR

MATHILDE BAYLE / FRANCE

Fanny has become infatuated with the handsome, womanizing Diego, for whom her heart aches. One evening, at a party, she tries to make him jealous by letting a random man hit on her... It works. But this "random man," Victorino, a Peruvian photographer, has no intention of giving up that easily.

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## FARANAK

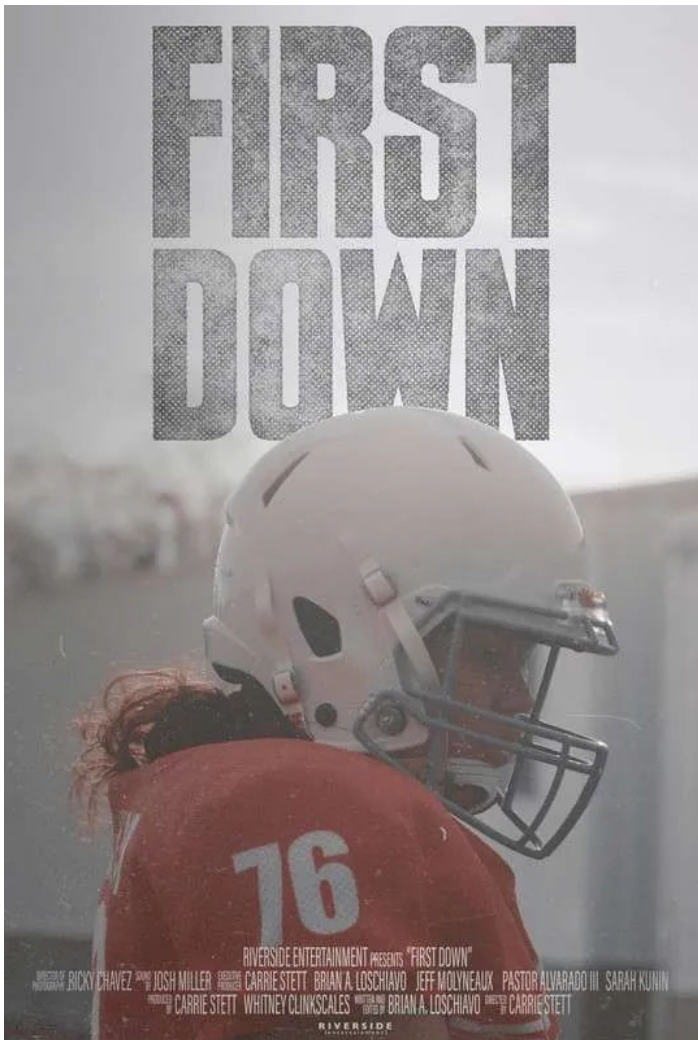
MEHRNOUSH ALIA / IRAN

*Farsi with English subtitles*

A new driver at a ride-hailing company has hit the rock bottom; he was fired from his job, his wife has left him, and he is behind on rent. On his third day on the job, he receives a request from a woman to deliver a dog. Knowing too well that having a dog in the car is against the Islamic law of the land, he is reluctant to accept the ride but is convinced after the woman claims that the dog belongs to a blind man. Several ordeals follow until they finally arrive at their destination, where the driver realizes the dog is actually stuck in the middle of a divorce and is unwanted by the couple who previously owned him. Angry with the situation he is dragged into, he also abandons the dog.

What ensues changes his perception of himself and his place in the world.

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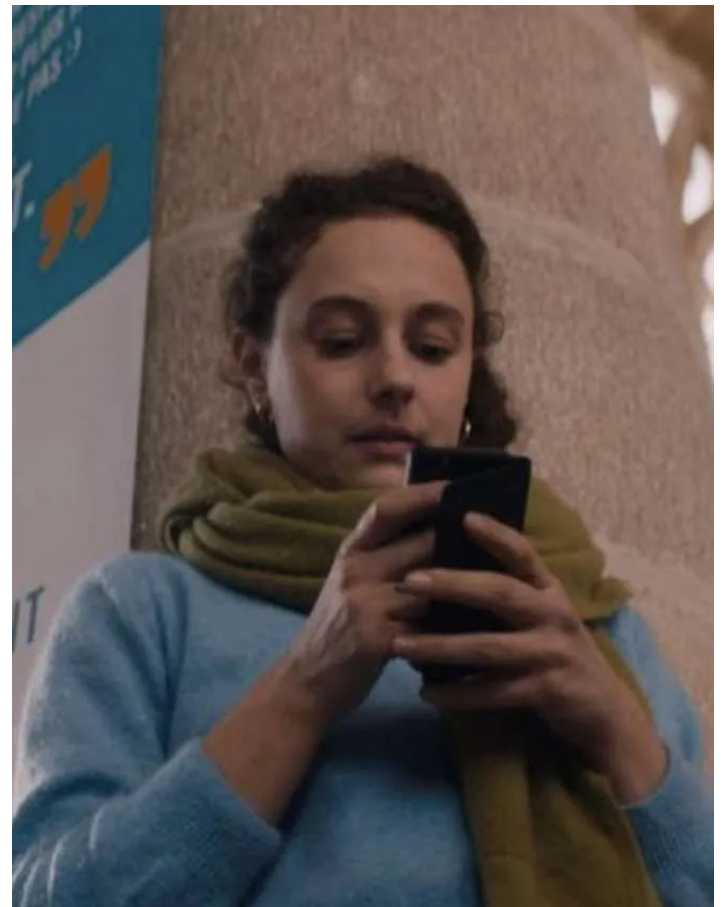


## FIRST DOWN

CARRIE STETT / USA

A gripping documentary that profiles an underdog team in America's first all-girls tackle football league. This band of misfits and outcasts compete for the title while tackling their struggles both on and off the field.

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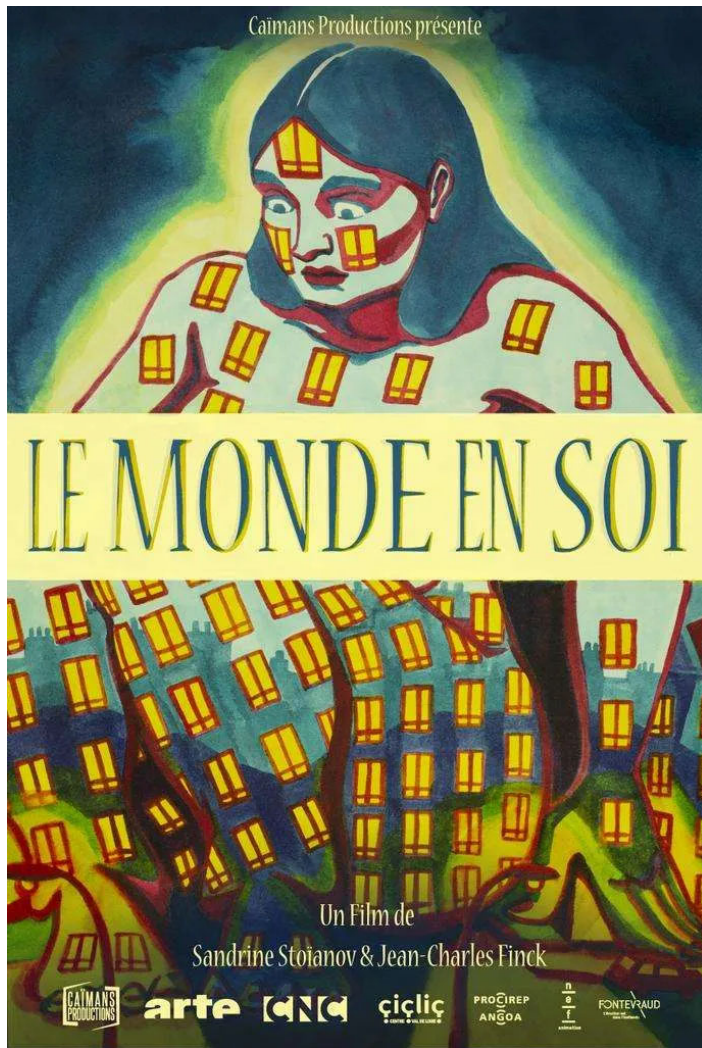
## JÉSUS 2020

AUDE THURIES / FRANCE

*French with English subtitles*

Claire is given a mission that no one wants by her advertising agency: to dust off the communication of a small parish, Notre-Dame du Saint-Esprit. Initially unmotivated, she ends up putting her heart into the work, won by the enthusiasm of the young and dynamic father Vianney. The campaign she launched on social media then works beyond her expectations: Jesus seems to respond to it, via a Twitter account...

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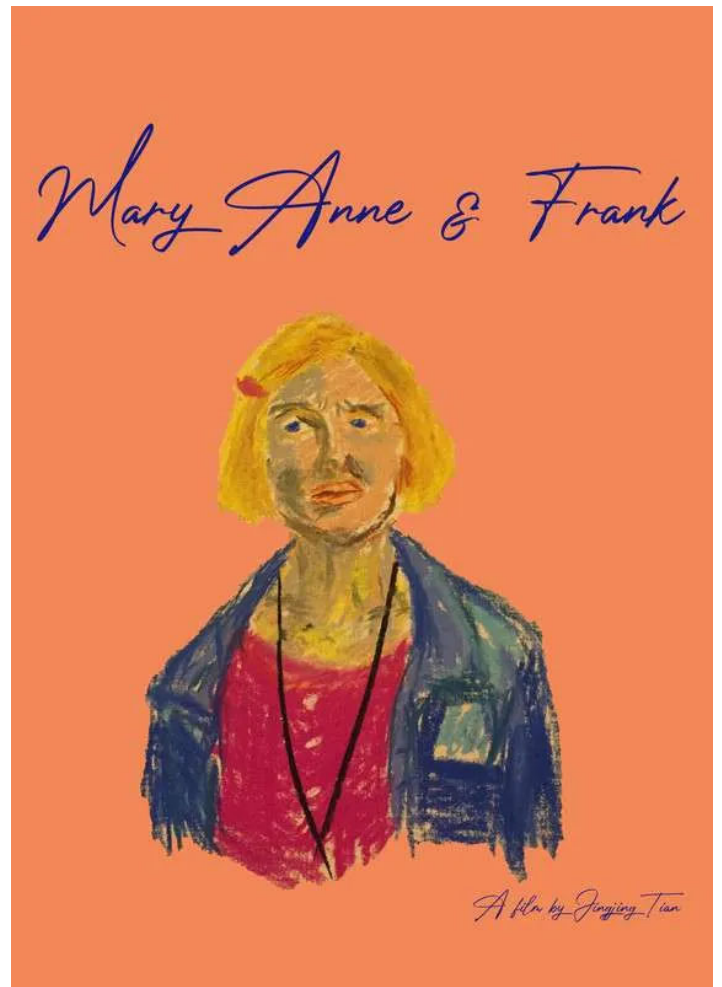


## LE MONDE EN SOI

JEAN CHARLES FINCK & SANDRINE STOÏANOV / FRANCE

While preparing for her first exhibition, a young painter commits so passionately to her creations that she loses touch with reality and descends into hallucinatory chaos. Confined in a clinic, she progressively rebuilds herself through painting and the daily observation of a squirrel under her wind.

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## MARY ANNE & FRANK

JINGJING TIAN / USA

A reclusive senior citizen seeks a release from the struggles of life as she struggles to say goodbye to a loved one.

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AN OVERNIGHT SUCCESS  
80 YEARS IN THE MAKING

# Miss Alma Thomas

— A LIFE IN COLOR —



BEEL PLAN IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE TRAVELING MUSEUM EXHIBITION  
"EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL"  
PRESENTS A CHERIE GAULKE FILM

USA FARRINGTON, MELISSA HO, AARON PAYNE,  
JONATHAN WALTZ, SETH FEMAN, MELANIE HARVEY,  
DEYAN E. BARBER, CHARLES THOMAS LEWIS,  
AND ALFRE WOODARD AS THE VOICE OF ALMA THOMAS

PRODUCER JONATHAN GANN ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS KIA BASKERVILLE,  
JACQUELINE SAGE BENNETT DIRECTOR, WRITER & EDITOR CHERIE GAULKE  
CO WRITER SUE MABERRY CINEMATOGRAPHY TIM WILSON CAMERA DEBEC ALLEN  
SOUND KELLEY BAKER, MARC ROSE ORIGINAL MUSIC CHARI ELIOGIVAS-SMITH  
GRAPHICS GENE CONNAN ANIMATIONS JASHEL BEAN  
CO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DEBEC FERHOUJOUR, JAMES HALL, DARRIN BIRNIE,  
AARON PAYNE, TROM PEGG AND THE FRIENDS OF ALMA THOMAS

MISSALMATHOMAS.COM

## MISS ALMA THOMAS: A LIFE IN COLOR

CHERIE GAULKE / USA

Alma W. Thomas broke color barriers on and off the canvas, yet did not receive national attention until she was 80. Born a generation after slavery, Alma Woodsey Thomas grew up in the South, in a home where education was a priority. **"Miss Alma Thomas"** is the first documentary film that explores Thomas' incredible life through the lens of curators, art specialists, scholars, and her family, and features award-winning actress Alfre Woodard as the voice of Alma Thomas.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)



## MY GRANDMOTHER IS AN EGG

WU-CHING CHANG / TAIWAN

As a child, my grandmother was given to another family to be raised as a future daughter-in-law in productive roles. Through representing the unjust tradition in the long past, the film aims to reflect women's oppression and struggles for freedom. Egg is life per se. Eggs are fragile, but at the same time tough. My grandmother is an egg.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)



## MY SOUL TO TAKE

LAURA VANDERVOORT / CANADA

Quinn (30's) suffers from what many of us do: she has become accustomed to relying on technology for all of her needs. Her social life, her entertainment, and her validation. And it's killing her.

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## NIGHT HIKE

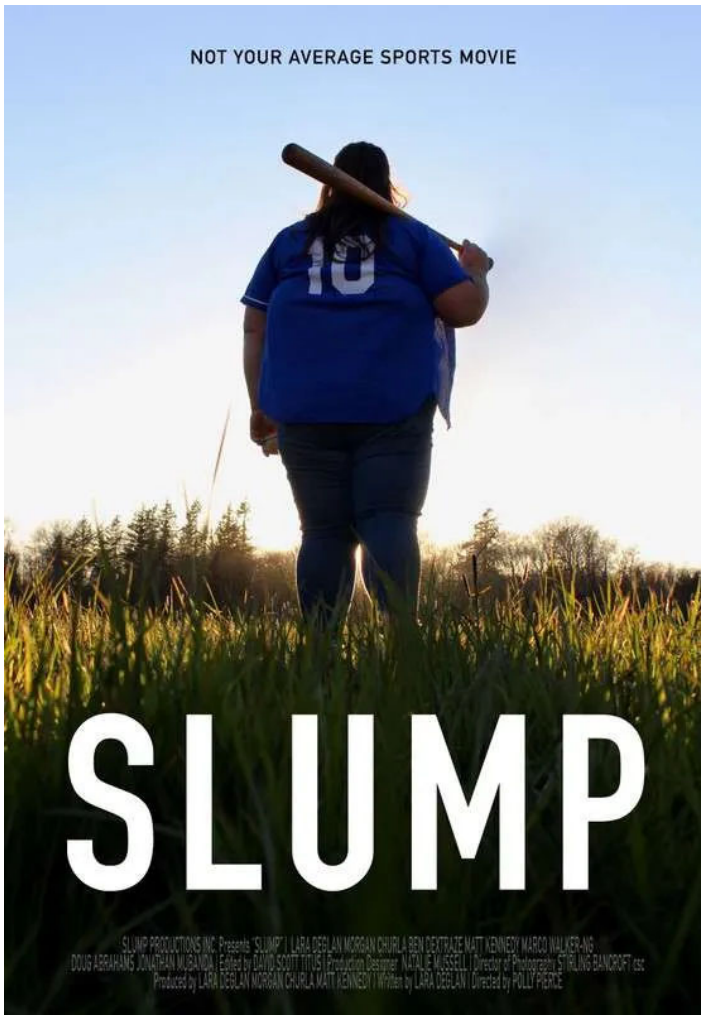
TEMPE HALE / USA

"**Night Hike**" is a film noir-inspired experimental short constructed almost entirely from still photographs. A woman grappling with a recent loss goes for an evening walk. Coyotes howl and shadows play tricks on the eyes as she wanders deeper into the wilderness after dark. In this self-help thriller, touches of hard-boiled crime and dreamlike imagery reveal the woman's authentic self in a most unexpected way.

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NOT YOUR AVERAGE SPORTS MOVIE



# SLUMP

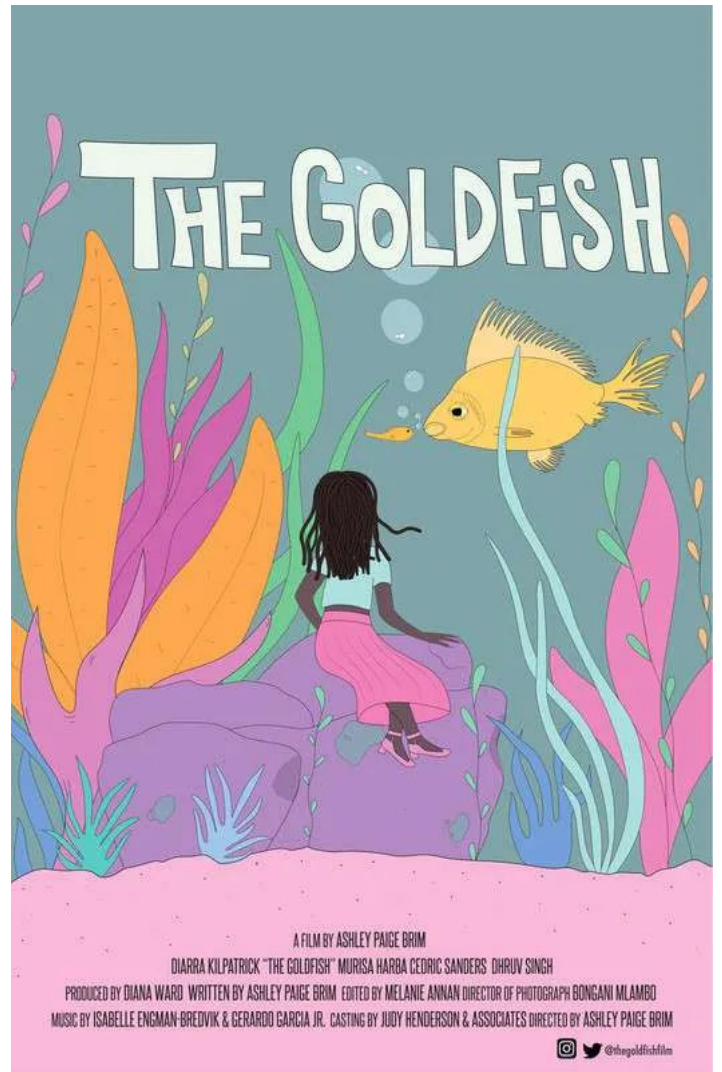
SLUMP PRODUCTIONS INC. Presents "SLUMP" | LARA DEBLAN MORGAN CHURLA BEN CEKTRAZE MATT KENNEDY MARCO WALKER-NG  
DOUG ABRAHAMS JONATHAN MUSAVONA | Edited by DAVID SCOTT TITUS | Production Designer: NATALIE MASSELL | Director of Photography: STIRLING BANCROFT csc  
Produced by LARA DEBLAN MORGAN CHURLA MATT KENNEDY | Written by LARA DEBLAN | Directed by POLLY PIERCE

## SLUMP

POLLY PIERCE / USA

After her comedy video with the school baseball team goes viral, a plus-size broadcasting student discovers that locker room talk is not just talk.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)



A FILM BY ASHLEY PAIGE BRIM

DIARBA KILPATRICK "THE GOLDFISH" MURISA HARBA CEDRIC SANDERS DIRUV SINGH

PRODUCED BY DIANA WARD WRITTEN BY ASHLEY PAIGE BRIM EDITED BY MELANIE ANNAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPH BONGANI MLAMBO  
MUSIC BY ISABELLE ENGMAN-BREDVIK & GERARDO GARCIA JR. CASTING BY JUDY HENDERSON & ASSOCIATES DIRECTED BY ASHLEY PAIGE BRIM

  @thegoldfishfilm

## THE GOLDFISH

ASHLEY BRIM / USA

An adopted woman is forced to confront her darkest fear about motherhood at her sister's baby shower.

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## THE TRACKER

SARAH MENZIES / USA (FERNDALE)

### LOCAL DIRECTOR

Mutinda was on Kenya's most wanted list in the 80s and 90s. He was single handedly decimating the wildlife population in the Amboseli region, and Kenya Wildlife Service had a warrant out for his arrest, or possibly death. His wife told him she was leaving him if he couldn't find another job because she was scared he would be killed, and she couldn't stick around to watch any longer. But this was all Mutinda knew. His father was a poacher and taught him everything he knew. Mutinda had a family to provide for, and felt that poaching was his only option for work. 18 years ago, he was presented with another option that would allow him to use his tracking skills for good.

## CROSSING LINES

SHIR ELDAD / ISRAEL

Aya, a social worker in her twenties, volunteers at an "at-risk" teenage mobile unit in the city center. One night, she accidentally gets drawn into a gang of youths and their night time activities.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)

## **LE BAIN / THE BATH**

ANISSA DAOUD / FRANCE

Due to his wife's business trip, Imed, a young father, finds himself alone for a few days for the first time with his five-year-old son and must confront his deepest fears.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)

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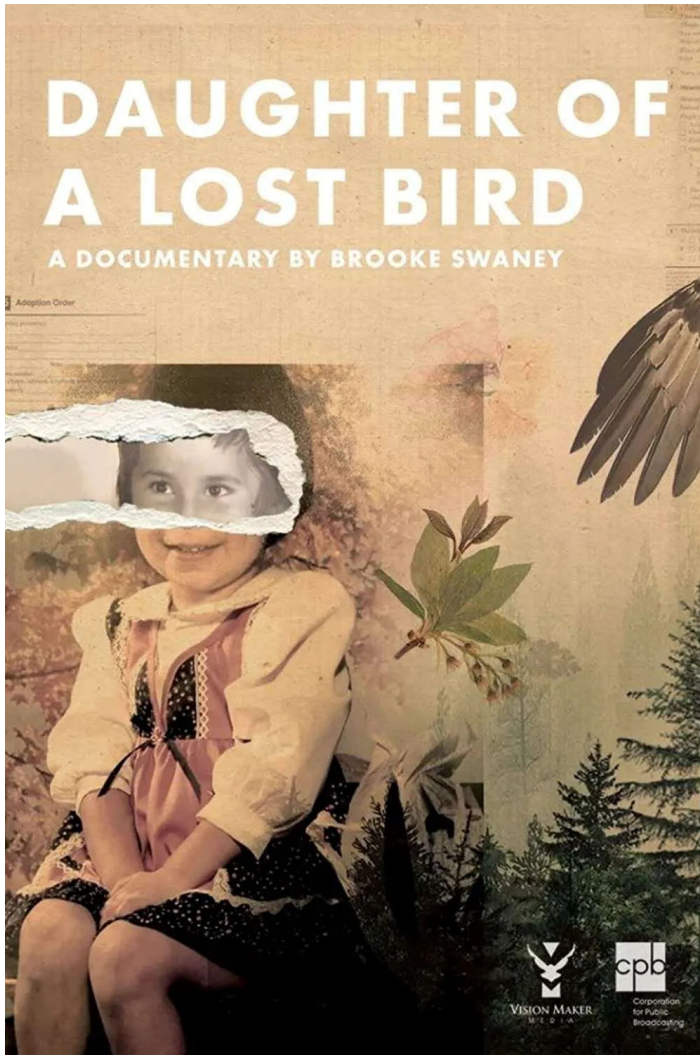
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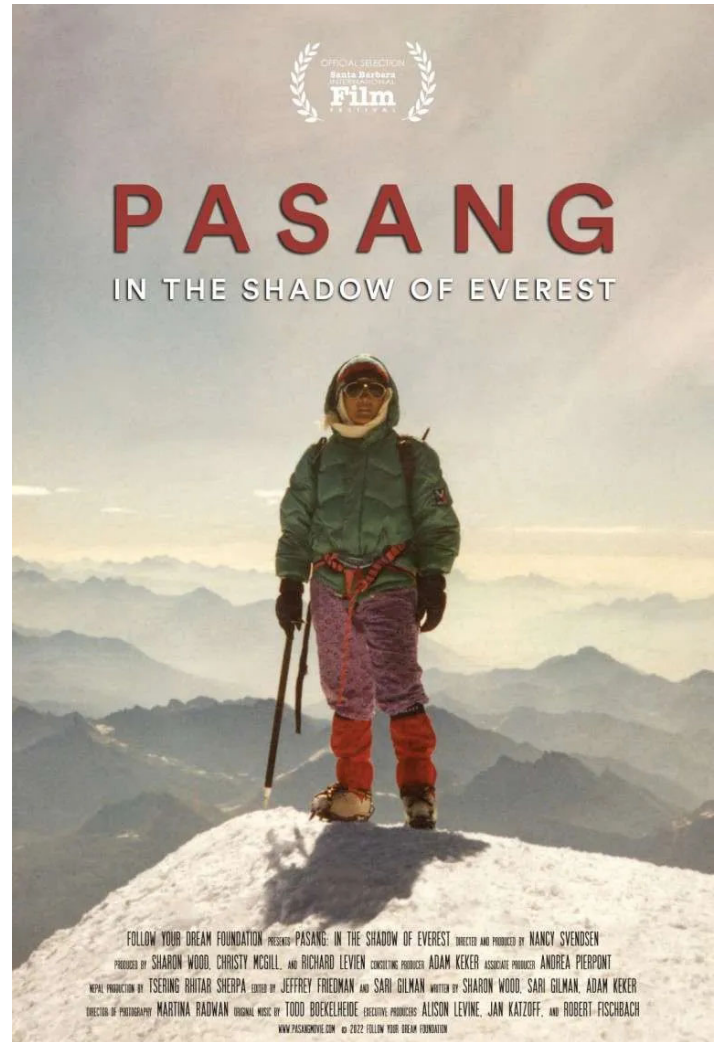
## FEATURE FILMS



### DAUGHTER OF A LOST BIRD

BROOKE SWANEY / USA

“Lost birds” is a term for Native children adopted out of their tribal communities. Right after the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 became the law of the land, Kendra Mylnechuk Potter was adopted into a white family and raised with no knowledge of her Native parentage. “Daughter Of A Lost Bird” is a beautiful and intimate film



### PASANG: IN THE SHADOW OF EVEREST

NANCY SVENDSEN / USA

“Pasang: In the Shadow of Everest” chronicles Pasang Lhamu Sherpa’s tragic and inspiring journey to become the first Nepali woman to summit Everest in 1993. As an uneducated, indigenous woman and a Buddhist in a Hindu kingdom, Pasang’s dream to scale the legendary mountain pits her against family, foreign climbers, her own

that follows Kendra on her journey to find her birth mother April, also a Native adoptee, and return to her Lummi homelands in Washington State. With a sensitive yet unflinching lens, director Brooke Swaney (#Blackfeet /#Salish) documents Kendra and April as they connect with relatives and navigate what it means to be Native, and to belong to a tribe from the outside looking in. Along the way, Kendra uncovers generations of emotional and spiritual beauty and pain and comes to the startling realization that she is a living legacy of U. S. assimilationist policy. By sharing a deeply personal experience of inherited cultural trauma, the film opens the door to broader and more complicated conversations about the erasure of Native culture and questions of identity surrounding adoption.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)

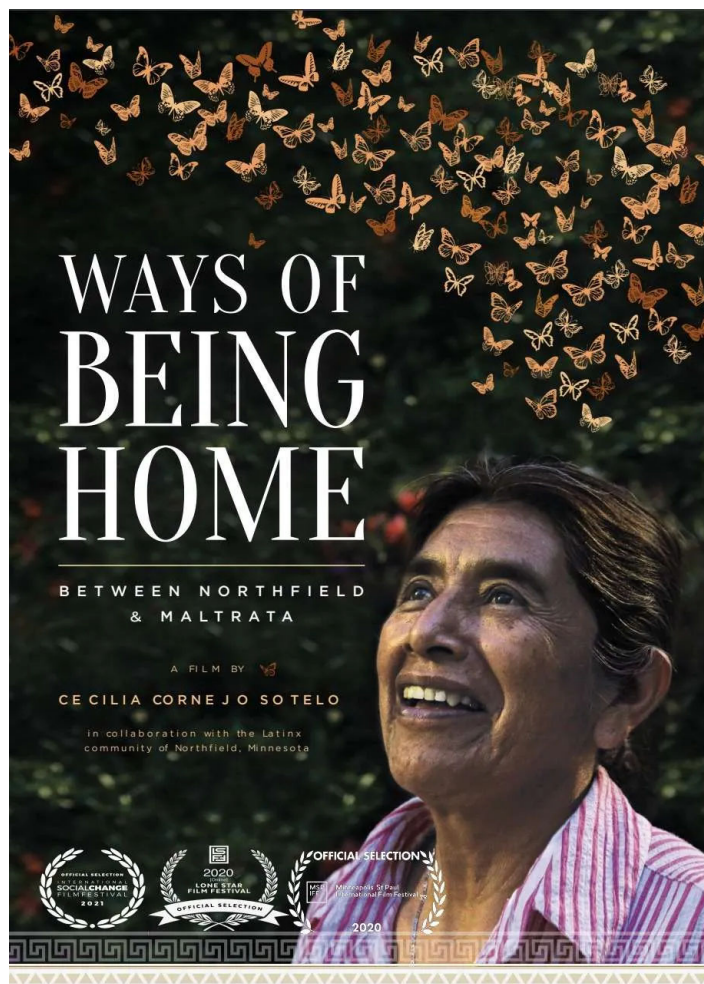
government, and nature itself. Her determined pursuit of Everest plays out within the context of her nation's quest for democracy and the emergence of the commercial climbing industry. As told by the Nepalis who knew her, by some of the world's most notable alpinists, and by Pasang herself, "Pasang: In the Shadow of Everest," documents her historic quest that would transfix her country and uplift a new generation's belief in its possibilities.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)



## LA PLACE D'UNE AUTRE (SECRET NAME)

AURIÉLIA GEORGES / FRANCE



## WAYS OF BEING HOME

CECILIA CORNEJO SOTELO / USA



Nelie escaped a miserable existence by becoming a frontline nurse in 1914. One day, she takes the identity of Rose, a young woman from a good family, who dies in front of her. She presents herself in her place at Madame de Lengwil's house, to become the reader of this wealthy woman. The lie works beyond her expectations.

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This intimate cinematic portrait of two small towns—one in Mexico and one in Minnesota—is an evocative audiovisual meditation on the experience of Mexican immigrants living and working in rural America. Vivid cinematography, richly layered soundscapes, short animated sequences, and a constellation of testimonies introduce audiences to Maltrata, an agricultural town nestled in the mountains of Veracruz, Mexico, and to Northfield, a college town in southern Minnesota where many Maltratans have immigrated and settled. By means of a nonlinear narrative and a camera that thoughtfully yet viscerally meanders between everyday scenes in both towns, Chilean-American director Cecilia Cornejo Sotelo shows the complexities of, and contrasts between, these places.

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TRINIDAD LAMETHA  
FESTIVAL 2019

WORLD  
OF  
FESTIVAL

EnergiaCAMERIMAGE  
OFFICIAL SELECTION 2019

WORLD  
OF  
FESTIVAL  
2020

# *I'll Find You*

directed by MARTHA COOLIDGE

ADELAIDE CLEMENS LEO SUTER URSULA PARKER SEBASTIAN CROFT  
STEPHEN DORFF with CONNIE NIELSEN and STELLAN SKARSGÅRD

screenplay by DAVID S. WARD and BOZENNA INTRATOR produced by FRED ROOS ZBIGNIEW JOHN & LUKAS RACZYNSKI BOZENNA INTRATOR  
executive producer ALEXANDER ROOS line producer RICHARD SCHLESINGER director of photography ALEKSANDER GRUSZYNSKI ASC  
production designer MAREK DOBROWOLSKI costume designer ELZBIETA RADKE editing by ERIC SEARS ACE RICHARD CHEW ACE PAUL SEYDOR ACE  
music by JAN A. P. KACZMAREK

## **I'LL FIND YOU**

MARTHA COOLIDGE / USA

**2022 CASCADIA HONORED GUEST**

*\*Not available for online festival*

Shakespeare's classic paradigm finds contemporaneity in **"I'll Find You,"** a new film directed by Martha Coolidge. Instead of Romeo and Juliet in Renaissance Verona, we find Robert and Rachel in mid-20th Century Europe – ensnared by the tumult of World War II. Robert, a catholic opera singer and Rachel, a Jewish violin virtuoso, dream of one day performing together at legendary Carnegie Hall. When they're torn apart by the German invasion of Poland, Robert vows to find Rachel, no matter what... Inspired by stories of Polish musicians from the 1930s/40s "I'll Find You" was directed by Martha Coolidge, admired for the portrayals of young people in such lauded films as Valley Girl, Rambling Rose and Real Genius. Coolidge has also directed adult fare (Introducing Dorothy Dandridge, Angie, Lost in Yonkers) and is the only woman to serve as president of the Directors Guild of America. "It's not much of a spoiler to say that this World War II drama is also an unabashedly old-fashioned romance. But it's nice to be able to add that thanks to the expertise of director Martha Coolidge it's a particularly polished one." Elizabeth Weitzman, film critic, The Wrap.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)

# VALLEY GIRL

She's cool.  
He's hot.  
She's from the Valley.  
He's not.



VALLEY GIRL WITH NICOLAS CAGE, DEBORAH FOREMAN, ELIZABETH DAILY, CAMERON DYE, MICHELLE MEYRINK, AND STARRING LEE PURCELL, RICHARD SANDERS, COLLEEN CAMP AND FREDERIC FORREST.  
WRITTEN BY ANDREW LANE AND WAYNE CRAWFORD. DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY FREDERICK ELMES. SPECIAL MUSICAL APPEARANCES BY "JOSIE COTTON" AND THE "PLIMSOLS."  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS THOMAS COLEMAN AND MICHAEL ROSENBLATT. PRODUCED BY WAYNE CRAWFORD AND ANDREW LANE. DIRECTED BY MARTHA COOLIDGE.  
SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON EPIC RECORDS AND TAPES. © 1983 VALLEY GIRL PRODUCTIONS, INC. FROM ATLANTIC RELEASING CORP. R

## VALLEY GIRL

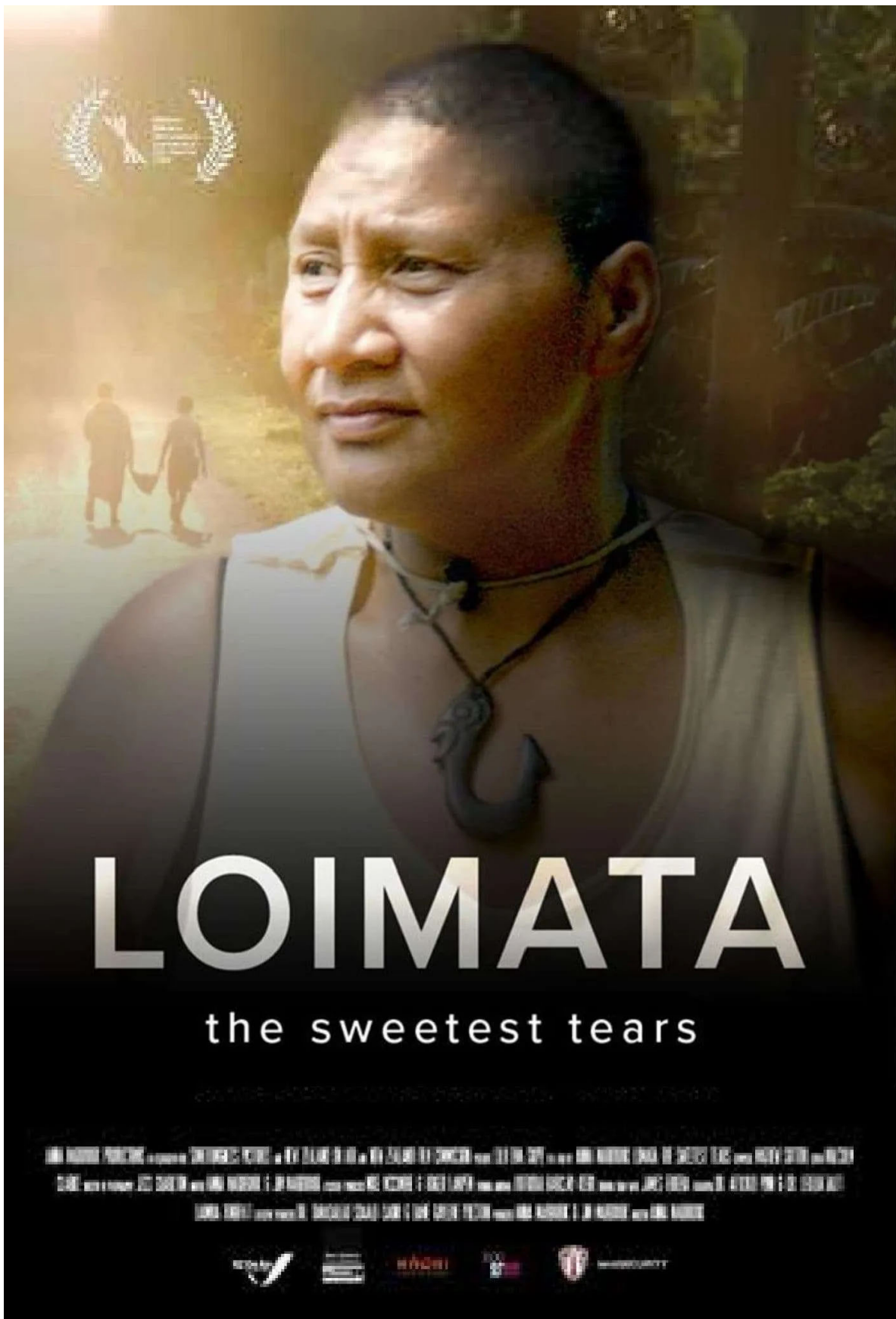
MARTHA COOLIDGE / USA

2022 CASCADIA HONORED GUEST

*\*Not available for online festival*

She's cool. He's hot. She's from the Valley. He's not. Nicolas Cage and Deborah Foreman star in the totally awesome comedy "**Valley Girl!**" When Julie (Foreman, April Fool's Day, My Chauffeur) dumps her preppy boyfriend, the last thing she expects is to find love with the rockin' Randy (Cage). The future's open wide for Julie ... but when her disapproving friends (E.G. Daily, Heidi Holicker, Michelle Meyrink) find Randy to be grody to the max, she is caught up in a culture clash between her Valley lifestyle and her Hollywood punk. Featuring a so-bitchin' soundtrack packed with New Wave hits, Valley Girl is a sweetly romantic slice of 80s nostalgia from director Martha Coolidge. Are you going to love it? We're, like, so sure! The film is being shown as part of CASCADIA's tribute to Honored Guest Martha Coolidge. This was her first commercial feature and was wildly successful both culturally and commercially. It gave Nicolas Cage his first starring role (is still one of his favorites) and remains a 'cult classic', kind of like the "Licorice Pizza" of its day.

[VIEW TRAILER](#)



**LOIMATA: THE SWEETEST TEARS**

ANNA MARBROOK / NEW ZEALAND

## WASHINGTON STATE PREMIERE

The redemptive tale of waka builder and captain Lilo Ema Siope's final years, the stunning **"LOIMATA: The Sweetest Tears"** is a chronicle of journeys. Confronting intergenerational trauma head-on, the Siope family returns to their homeland of Sāmoa. For Ema's father, this is his first time back to his birthplace since leaving in 1959. The result is a poignant yet tender story of a family's unconditional love for each other, and a commitment to becoming whole again.

*\*Available during online festival only.*

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## CASCADIA'S RETROACTIVE FILM SHORTS

**AJO**

MORE RAÇA / KOSOVO (2019)

## #3 NORMANDY LANE

BRENDA STRONG / USA (2020)

Army wife and young mother Sarah Winston's life is inextricably altered when a series of visitors arrive on her doorstep. The short film "**#3 Normandy Lane**" is written by John Farmanesh-Bocca and is the directorial debut of Brenda Strong, whose acting credits include "Desperate Housewives," "Supergirl," "Seinfeld," and "13 Reasons Why."

To escape an early marriage arranged by her father, Zana has to make a courageous decision. "**Ajo**" was considered for 2019 Oscar nomination in the short film category, Foreign Films.

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## GRACELAND

BONNIE DISCEPOLO / USA (2020)

Anna Camp stars as a Southern mom whose life is "all shook up" when her 4th-grade daughter claims to be reincarnation of the "King of Rock 'n Roll."

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## OCHISKWACHO

JULES KOOSTACHIN / CANADA (2019)

**OChiSkwaCho** is a sacred being, known to many Indigenous people as a spiritual messenger. Kokoom, an elderly (spiritually ailing) two-spirit woman has to decide whether to stay with her grandchildren or follow the **OChiSkwaCho**.



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## **RICCARDO THAT BOUNCED ON TO THE STARS**

Thursday, May 12, 7 p.m

**LANA VLADY / ITALY (2020)**

Because of Riccardo, Lisa's chick decided to take a flight from the fourth floor. Now Marianna will have to explain to her 7-year-old daughter that there is something in the world called "death."

## **THE DOOR**

REEM MORSI / CANADA (2018)

When a Syrian refugee family is forcefully confronted with grief, they attempt to face an overwhelming loss in unexpected ways.

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## UNSPOKEN CODE

JENNIFER SCHWERIN / USA & CHINA (2019)

A female Artificial Intelligence robot finds herself caught between developing her own AI to its full potential and her coding, which programs her to please, with devastating consequences. Designed for sophisticated tasks, she aspires to develop past expectations, but is thwarted by her human host, who pushes her buttons.

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## SHORT DROP

MAYA COZIER / TRINIDAD & TOBAGO (2017)

A lonely, elderly man gets mistaken for a taxi driver while on a morning drive through the busy streets of Port-of-Spain. What follows is a long day of reckoning with memories, friendships, and revelations. **“Short Drop”** is an official selection of the 2017 CASCADIA International Women’s Film Festival each May online.

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