



 **Associated Bank** PROUDLY PRESENTS

MILWAUKEE FILM Festival '26

APRIL 16-30 /// INFO AT MKEFILM.ORG



LIGHTS! CAMERA! CHECKING? YOU GOT IT.



Bank smart, and back the local film scene with Milwaukee Film Checking.

Milwaukee Film Festival passes, discounts and even free popcorn! Show your support, and get the red-carpet treatment when you use your Milwaukee Film Checking debit card—exclusively from Associated Bank.



FREE POPCORN with the purchase of any drink—all year round!¹

AND ENJOY EVEN MORE CARDHOLDER BENEFITS...

15%

15% OFF
Milwaukee Film Merchandise.²



RECEIVE 2
(two) free Milwaukee Film Festival digital ticket vouchers.³

\$15

\$15 DISCOUNT
on a single or dual Milwaukee Film "Festival Fan" annual membership.⁴

5¢

GIVE BACK
5 cents from every transaction goes back to the nonprofit Milwaukee Film.⁵

1. Show your Milwaukee Film Debit Mastercard when making a purchase to receive a free small popcorn with purchase of any beverage. Valid for purchases at Oriental Theatre and Downer Theatre. (1325)

2. Show your Milwaukee Film Debit Mastercard when making a purchase. Exclusions may apply, please see a sales associate for details. Valid for purchases at Oriental Theatre and Downer Theatre. (1326)

3. To receive the Milwaukee Film Festival digital ticket vouchers customer must have a personal checking account with a Milwaukee Film Debit Mastercard. Digital ticket vouchers will be made available as an online redemption code, valid for regularly priced in-theater film screenings. To be eligible for the digital ticket vouchers, account must be open a minimum of 5 weeks prior to the current year's Milwaukee Film Festival. Primary owner on the account must be 18 years or older to qualify. This benefit is subject to change, at Associated Bank or Milwaukee Film's discretion, at any time without notice. Exclusions may apply. Once the vouchers are in customer's possession, Associated Bank and Milwaukee Film are not responsible if lost or stolen. (1162)

4. Memberships are valid for 12 months. Dual memberships are available only to members who reside at the same address. Discount is available for new membership or at time of renewal. Show your Milwaukee Film Debit Mastercard when making a purchase or call 414-755-1965 x204 for more information. All benefits are subject to change. See mkefilm.org for membership information. (1167)

5. 5¢ from every transaction (less returns) made with a Milwaukee Film Debit Card will be given back to Milwaukee Film, up to \$35,000 annually. (1166)

Mastercard is a registered trademark, and the circles design is a trademark of Mastercard International Incorporated. All trademarks, service marks and trade names referenced in this material are the property of their respective owners. Member FDIC. (2/26) W670000



Visit AssociatedBank.com/MKEFilm for details.



Contents



Welcome	5
Board of Directors	5
Sponsors	6
Supporters	8
Downer Theatre Capital Campaign	10
Venues & Parking	12
Ticket Info	14
Festival FAQs	15
Accessibility	17
Panels & Happy Hour	18
Where to Start	19
Film Programs	20
Feature Films	22
Short Films	50
Screening Schedule	56
About Milwaukee Film	66



LIGHTS, CAMERA, MILWAUKEE

From opening credits to the final scene, Michael Best is dedicated to supporting the artists and visionaries who produce Milwaukee's robust arts culture.



michaelbest.com

Alec Fraser

Michael Best Managing Partner,
Milwaukee Office

Welcome



Dear Friends in Film,

As the Milwaukee Film Festival turns 18, and we enter our second year of leadership, we look back with amazement and gratitude. Milwaukee Film's first year brought legend Martin Landau in to regale audiences with tales of 50+ years of Hollywood. Other early festivals welcomed legends like Susan Sarandon, Elaine Stritch, and Vilmos Zsigmond, building momentum and resilience. It feels like a lifetime ago. It feels like yesterday. Time is funny that way.

We're also thinking back on what it personally felt like to be 18. Eighteen was a year of change. Responsibilities hit differently because of the newly acquired title "adult." But being 18 also brought freedom. All the possibilities were ahead. The hard part was figuring out what to choose. Decisions remained tinged with magic, even if we were paying more of our own bills.

At eighteen, the Milwaukee Film Festival balances starry-eyed optimism with hard-earned pragmatism. That spirit led us to buy the Downer Theatre! Supporting this initiative is an investment in our future that preserves Wisconsin's oldest operating movie theater and allows Milwaukee Film to upgrade the Downer, helping it, like the Oriental, become the theater of our dreams. These theaters enhance the vibrancy of the Milwaukee arts scene while buoying economic stability within cherished historic neighborhoods.

Eighteen, and what a time it has been! Thank you for being here, supporting the arts, and participating in this shared experience. We hope the films you see inspire reflection and connection, and that you leave reminded that none of us are navigating this moment alone. In anticipation of the next 18 years, and full of gratitude, we welcome you to the 2026 Milwaukee Film Festival.

Cheers!

Susan Santha Kerns, Ph.D
Executive Director

Lacey Sadoff
Board Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lacey Sadoff
BOARD CHAIR

Jeffrey Kurz
BOARD CHAIR ELECT

Kimberly R. Walker
SECRETARY

Paul J. Jones
TREASURER

MEMBERS

Chris Abele
Donna Baumgartner
Michael Belot
Jeff Fitzsimmons
Alexander P. Fraser
Katie Heil
Matthew G. Helmerich
Patti Keating Kahn
Grant Killoran
Ken Krei
Steve Laughlin
Joan Lubar
Susan F. Mikulay
Heidi Evita Moore
Christopher M. Novoa
Mark T. Plichta
Barry Poltermann
Bevin Setliff
Dave Stamm
James E. Stoll, MD
Victoria Teerlink
Marilka Vález
Laurie Vielehr
Rubin Whitmore II
Gail Yabuki

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Jonathan Jackson

Sponsors

THANK YOU to our wonderful sponsors who have generously contributed financially and through in-kind services to support Milwaukee Film's mission.

PRESENTING



BANK OF  **MILWAUKEE FILM**

PREMIERE \$50,000+

eventive



OFFICIAL LAW FIRM



LEADING \$25,000+



DIRECTING \$20,000+



SUPPORTING \$15,000+



PROVIDING \$10,000+



SUSTAINING \$5,000+



CONTRIBUTING \$2,500+

amorphic beer.



MEDIA PARTNERS



Supporters

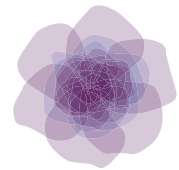
A huge THANK YOU to our members, individual donors, and philanthropic partners who have gone above and beyond in support of Milwaukee Film's mission.

\$100,000+

**Chris and
Jennifer Abele**

**Donald and Donna
Baumgartner**

**Herzfeld
Foundation**



LACEY SADOFF FOUNDATION

\$50,000+



Mary L. Nohl Fund



**HEIL FAMILY
FOUNDATION**



**David and
Julia Uihlein**

\$20,000+



BRICO FUND



**Joan Lubar and
John Crouch**

**MARIANNE AND
SHELDON LUBAR**

**Susan and
Robert Mikulay**



**Christine
Symchych
and
Jim McNulty**

**Tracey
Thomas**

**Laurie & Byron
Vielehr**

\$10,000+

**Linda and
Daniel Bader**



**Robb and
MP Fischer**

JUDE FORD

**Patti Keating Kahn &
Chuck Kahn**

Ken Krei

**Marge and
Steve Laughlin**

**Madeleine
and
David Lubar**

SUSAN A. LUBAR

**VICTORIA TEERLINK
AND JEFF DROPE**



\$5,000+

Sandi Anderson Adams and Joshua Adams | Brett Bellmore | Cheryl Brickman | Ericka and Mike Burzynski | David Cooley | Karen and Glen Scott Copper | Jean and John DiMotto | Mel Eslyn | Ralph Evinrude Foundation Inc | Keller and Jeff Fitzsimmons | Jennifer and Tom Florsheim Jr | Mark and Laurie Foote | Kristin and Alexander P Fraser | Lorna Granger and William Soderstrom | Matthew Helmerich and Jeffrey Harwell | Beth Jaworski and Mark Blumenberg | Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Richard M. Kaul LGBT Arts Endowment Fund | Carrie and Grant Killoran | Pamela and Bob Klein | Mary Ann and Charles LaBahn | Milwaukee Arts Board | Cheryl and Blake Moret | Kate and Ken Muth | Anne and Mark Plichta | Gene & Ruth Posner Foundation | Stephen and Susan Ragatz | Joan and Kevin Schultz | Carolyn and Jay Scott | Priyesh Shah | Leonard Sobczak and Dave Pionke | Dave Stamm | Bert L & Patricia S Steigleder Charitable Trust | Shannon and John Utz | Bernadette Vitola and Tom Kim | Ruthie and Kyle Weatherly | Wisconsin Arts Board | Maxine Wishner |

\$2,000+

Carmen Aguilar and Russell Cuhel | Peggy Ann | Gwen and Dan Armbrust | Mary and Tom Avery | Michael and Katie Belot | Cedar Street Charitable Foundation | Rita and Brian Clark | Carolyn Court | Joanne L Doehler | Al and Sally Ferguson | Mark Filla | Robert Gardenier and Lori Morse | Peter Goldberg | Eileen Gorman | Green Bay Packers Foundation | Lisa Groskopf-Gleason | Jill Haas | Leslie Hayes | Amy and Peter Hellman | Julia Ihlenfeldt | Sara and Jonathan Jackson | Tina and Paul Jones | Maja Jurisic and Don Fraker | Michele Kenner and Barb Schuetz | Deborah Kern | James and Santha Kerns | Margaret and Andrew Krei | Christie and Bill Krugler | Jeff Kurz and Jim Mortell | Suzanne LaFleur and Dan Sapiro | Dion and Jennifer Lewis | Danielle Mantyh and Jude Kizenkavich | Heidi Evita Moore and Yvonne Kennedy Harris | Rosie Neufeld and Thomas Bush | Christopher and Chandra Novoa | Anne and Christopher Noyes | Peck Foundation, Milwaukee LTD | Christine Prevetti | Charla Reetz | Sarah and Joseph Rock | Michael Rutkowski | Curt Sather | Janet and Gregory Schmeling | Gil Southwell and Tracy Luber | Mark and Wanda Staples | Cynthia and James E Stoll, MD | Richard Stone | Gloria Tracy and Susan Trubiano | Kyle Walker | Aliza and Nick Werner | Jonathan Wertz and Tam Miller | David Wiener and Jessica Swearingen

\$1,000+

Tracy Anello | Kathryn Bach and Eric Steele | Beth Bakkum and Bubba Nitz | Michael Baran and Lisa Fohey | Jennifer Barker | Paul Barribeau and Claude Mills | Stanley Bowles | Joan and Fred Brengel Family Foundation, Inc | James Bryce Jr. and Amy Williams | Dara Chappie and Robert Stockinger | Maria Cieslik and Bennett Choice | Sarah and Daniel Cohen | Mary and James Connelly | Catherine and Mario Costantini | William Curley | Amy Daniels | Heather Deaton | Margaret and Michael DeMichele | Jon and Suellen Domencich | Michael Drescher | Taylor Dutmer | Susan Ela | Emil Ewald Family Foundation | Moira Fitzgerald and Peter Kammer | Annie and Quentin Forrer | Julia and Joshua Gimbel | Mark Gold | Cecelia Gore and Randy Bryant | Jill Griffee Ross | Dennis Grzezinski and Jane Porath | Anne Hamilton and Fred Geilfuss | Susan Hansen and Jackie Pinkus | Graham and Marilyn Harrower | | Nicole and David Hartmann | Leslie Hauser and Karl Wuesthoff | Rik Helmerich | Jenny and Bob Hillis | Timothy Hoelter | Sarah Hoffmann and Michael Kroeker | Ralph Horner | Debra Johnson | Moshe and Debra Katz | Jennifer and Kevin Kloehn | Robert Koebert and Dona Hutson | Adel Korkor and Kathy Sampson | Mike Kotecki | Sue and Park Krausen | Anna and Corey Lardinois | Sue and Mark Lyday | Lisa and Steve Lyons | Cynthia and Thomas McLinn | Daniel and Susie Minahan | Sue Mrdjenovich | Janan Najeeb | Tim and Allison Nass | Linda Nelson | Zak Nelson | Ryan O'Desky | Jess and Sheldon Oppermann | Suzanne Osetek | Joseph R. Pabst Fund at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation | Clare M. Peters Charitable Trust | Angela Pinta and Kelly Cushion | Thomas Quadracci | Lorraine Radtke and Sam Cichanowicz | Sarah and David Ray | Catherine Reeves | David Roberts and Gary Kampe | Stephen and Elizabeth Rolfs | Claire Rutkoske and Jenny Roanhouse | Colleen Reilly and Dan Ryan | Nina Sarenac and Dominique Delugeau | John Schellinger | Thomas Schmit | Jan Serr and John Shannon | Rachel Stiles | Bevin and William Setliff | Margaret Singh and Nathan Schaefer | Stephanie and Christopher Skiba | Jane Somers and Richard Cayo | Lynn Sprangers and Mike Gousha | Jennifer Springer and Brendan Pruse | Sherry and Tyler Harvey Steward | Angela and Douglas Storm | Sheila Taphorn | Jennifer and Joe Teglia | Tracy Thomas and Ron Rodriguez | Connie Tresch and Kevin Dunn | Mary Tyrrell | Marilka Vélez and David Muehlbauer | Cynthia Vian and Kathie Eilers | Elizabeth Vogt | Laura and Scott Vuchetich | Joan Aguado Ware and Bruce Ware | Sue Weinlein and Burton Davis | Deborah Wente | David Wilson | Sharon Wolf | Carolyn Wood | Lindy Yeager and John Florsheim

Downer Theatre Capital Campaign

Thanks to the generous support of the following donors, Milwaukee Film has been able to advance this initiative.

Anchor Donors to Date:

\$250,000+

Heil Family Foundation
Petrovic Gubin Foundation

\$100,000+

Lacey Sadoff Foundation
The Helmerich Trust

\$50,000+

Bosley + Green Foundation
Susan F. and Robert L. Mikulay

\$25,000+

Thomas and Anne Reed

\$10,000+

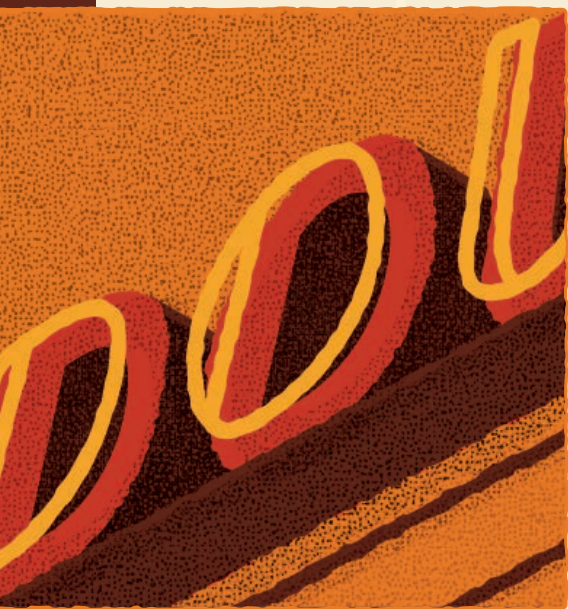
Kristin and Alec Fraser
Grant and Carrie Killoran
Anne and Mark Plichta
Andy Nunemaker
and Lee Weeks

\$1,000+

Mark Filla
Lisa Groskopf-Gleason
Leslie Hayes
Julia Ihlenfeldt

Additional Donors

Kathy Armbruster
Betsie Berrien
Dan Brinzac
Laura Cassidy
Elizabeth and Roger Clark
Meg Daly
Amy Taylor Diamond and Jason
Diamond
Noah and Rebecca Domnitz
John Eastberg
Leslie Fillingham
Cricket Harbeck
Amy and Jon Hopkins
Hal Horneffer
Janet Janisse
Patti Keating-Kahn
and Chuck Kahn
Elizabeth Kellin and Jason
Marshall
Bill and Cindy Kerlin
Jude Kizenkavich
Ken Krei
Margaret Krei
Marge Krupp
Jonathan Langan
Corey and Anna Lardinois
Laura and Eric Larson
Danielle Mantyh
Joe Olson
Matthew Peterson
David Rockwell
Marilyn Schrader
Jan Serr and John Shannon
Cheri and Andy Seter
Stephanie Seymour
John and Kristin Sheehan
Rebecca and Brad Simenz
Sheila Taphorn
Laurie and Byron Vielehr
Laura and Scott Vuchetich
Benjamin Wagner
Jenny Weiss
J Michael Wilson



JOIN MILWAUKEE FILM'S 2026

REEL IMPACT

Your support means everything to our work as an arts nonprofit organization. If you help us reach our \$100,000 goal, we can continue to invest in the power of film to entertain, educate, and inspire.

Be a part of Milwaukee Film's reel impact by becoming a member, bidding in our silent auction, or by donating online at mkefilm.org/impact.

Text REEL to 44321 to donate now!

**EVERY GIFT MAKES
A REEL IMPACT.**



Venues & Parking

CINEMAS

1. **ORIENTAL THEATRE**
2230 N. Farwell Ave.
2. **DOWNER THEATRE**
2589 N. Downer Ave.

EVENT VENUES (PANELS & LOUNGE)

3. **EAST LIBRARY**
2320 N. Cramer St.
4. **VIER NORTH**
1832 E. North Ave.
5. **WAYFINDER MKE**
2108 N. Farwell Ave.

PARKING

The below parking options are the most popular options available among festival goers. **REMINDER:** Please make sure to read all signage where you park to understand the time limits and price for parking.

6. **KENILWORTH LOWER LEVEL GARAGE**
2164 N. Farwell Ave.
PAID GARAGE south of the Oriental Theatre
7. **U.S. BANK FARWELL LOT**
2303 N. Farwell Ave.
PAID/METERED LOT a block north of the Oriental Theatre
8. **PROSPECT MEDICAL COMMONS**
2401 N. Maryland Ave
FREE PUBLIC PARKING
Mon. through Fri. from 5:00PM-6:30AM, and Sat. and Sun. from 3:00PM-6:30AM
Multi-level garage north of Whole Foods
9. **DOWNER GARAGE**
2584 N. Downer Ave.
PAID GARAGE across from the Downer Theatre
10. **PARK PLACE PUBLIC LOT**
2530 E. Park Pl.
METERED LOT two blocks north of the Downer Theatre

Looking for a clue? That's no moon.

1

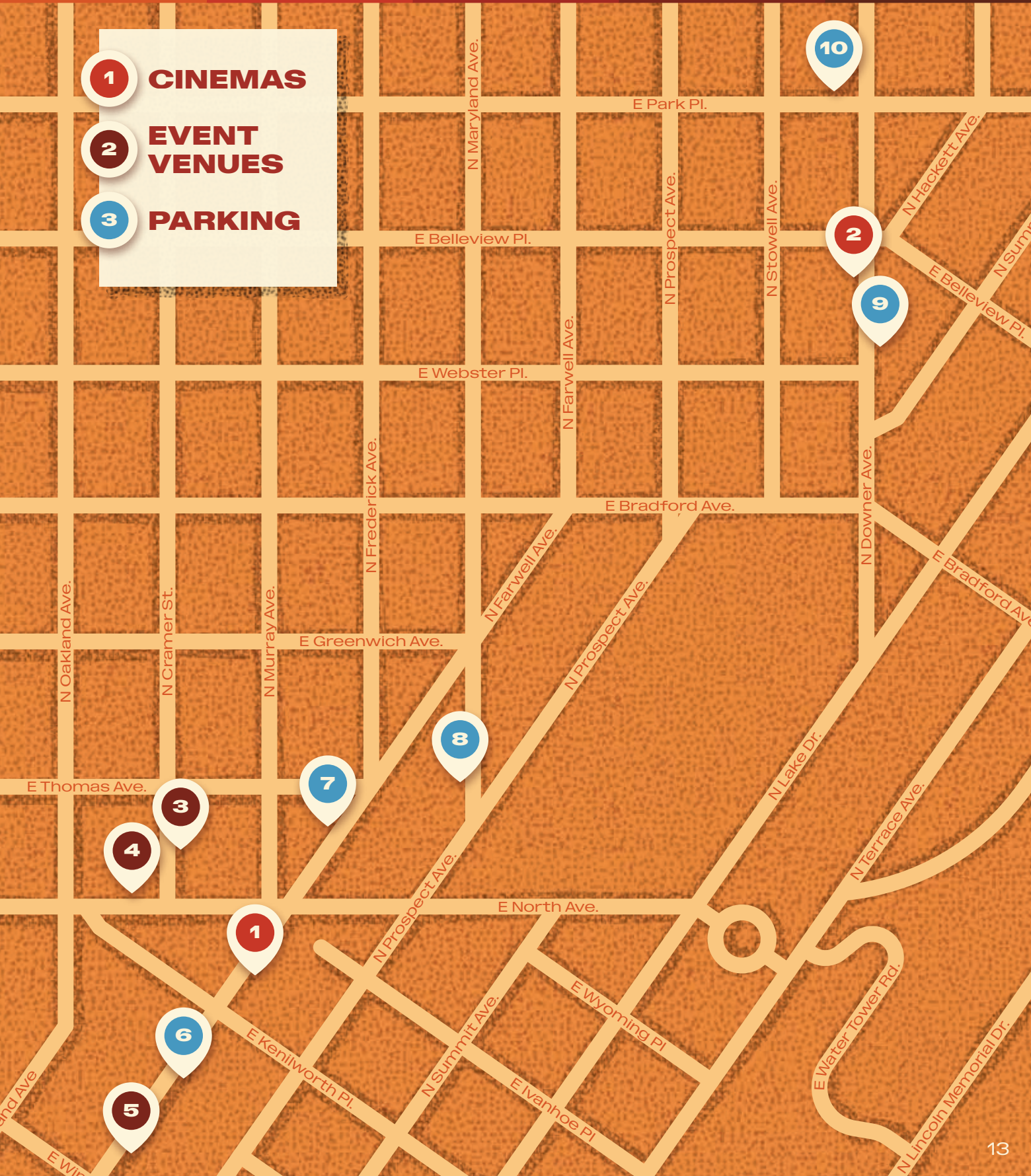
CINEMAS

2

EVENT VENUES

3

PARKING



Ticket Info

BUY TICKETS

ONLINE AT MKEFILM.ORG*

Opens April 6 online
(Milwaukee Film Members)

Opens April 8 online
(General Public)

All online sales end one hour before showtime, but tickets may still be purchased in person at our theatre box offices.

BY PHONE AT (414) 755-1965*

Opens April 14
(Milwaukee Film Members)

Opens April 16
(General Public)

IN PERSON AT FESTIVAL BOX OFFICES

Opens April 10

ORIENTAL THEATRE

Apr 10–14: 3:00 PM–7:00 PM daily

Apr 16–30: Box Office opens one hour before the first screening and closes 20 minutes after the last screening starts.

DOWNER THEATRE

Apr 17–30: Box Office opens one hour before the first screening and closes 20 minutes after the last screening starts.

CREDIT ONLY

Visa, Mastercard, American Express, and Discover accepted—no checks please.

*Tickets purchased online or by phone will be delivered by email and can be scanned at entry on your mobile device.

TICKET PRICES

OPENING NIGHT FILM—INCLUDES ADMISSION TO OPENING NIGHT PARTY

\$20 General Public

\$18 Seniors (60+), Students/Educators, and Military Members (with ID)

\$17 Milwaukee Film Members

PREMIUM SCREENINGS (MARKED WITH A)

\$20 General Public

\$18 Seniors (60+), Students/Educators, and Military Members (with ID)

\$17 Milwaukee Film Members

REGULAR SCREENINGS

\$16 Adults

\$15 Seniors (60+), Students/Educators, and Military Members (with ID)

\$14 Milwaukee Film Members

\$9 Children (12 and under)

FESTIVAL PASSES

An All-Access Festival Pass provides access to every festival film (including the Opening Night film and films on Standby) EXCEPT the Super Secret Members-Only Screening*. If you have an All-Access Festival Pass please arrive at the theater at least 30 minutes before showtime. You'll get to enter the theater without waiting in the ticket-holder line!

\$625 General Public

\$550 Milwaukee Film Members

*Super Secret Members-Only Screening is for current Milwaukee Film Members only. Tickets or passes do not apply. Registration is required!

IMPORTANT NOTE

To guarantee a seat for a screening, ticket and pass holders must arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to scheduled showtime.

Ticket and pass holders arriving less than 15 minutes prior to scheduled showtime cannot be guaranteed a seat and will be seated only as capacity allows and at the discretion of Festival staff. No refunds or exchanges are available to ticket and pass holders who are refused entry after this time.

Festival FAQs

WHEN SHOULD I BUY TICKETS?

You already know the answer to this one: as soon as possible! Many of our screenings sell out, leaving sad, ticket-less people. Don't be one of those. Buy your tickets early!

WHEN SHOULD I ARRIVE AT SCREENINGS?

If you have a ticket or a pass, we highly recommend you arrive a minimum of 30 minutes prior to showtime to secure your seat. All ticket and pass holders must arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled showtime to guarantee a seat. Beginning 15 minutes before the show, any empty seats will be sold to patrons in the Standby line (see below).

WHAT IF A SCREENING IS SOLD OUT?

If a film is listed online as "Standby Only," there's still hope! You can join the Standby line at the venue to buy an unclaimed seat. Standby tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis, so get in line early. There's also a chance the film will be screening again during the Festival! Check your program guide for dates, times, and locations.

WHAT ARE STANDBY TICKETS?

Standby tickets are last-minute tickets to screenings where all advance tickets have been sold. If available, Standby tickets are sold within 15 minutes of showtime. All Standby tickets are sold at full price and are not subject to discounts. Ticket package vouchers are not redeemable for Standby tickets.

HOW DO I KNOW WHICH SCREENINGS HAVE GONE TO STANDBY STATUS?

Every day at noon during the Festival, we update mkefilm.org/standby to let you know which screenings have gone to Standby Only status (and which screenings are selling quickly).

CAN I PURCHASE SAME-DAY TICKETS?

Absolutely! Same-day tickets are available at all box office locations, online, and over the phone, up until each film's showtime or until a film goes to standby.

HOW CAN I GET A MEMBER DISCOUNT?

Milwaukee Film Members pay less for tickets, passes, concessions, and merchandise during the Festival. Throughout the year, they also get to take advantage of many other great benefits, including year-round discounts on tickets and concessions at the Oriental and Downer Theatres. If you aren't a Member yet, sign up at mkefilm.org/membership or at any Festival box office to enjoy these discounts immediately!

CAN I BRING KIDS TO THE FILM FESTIVAL?

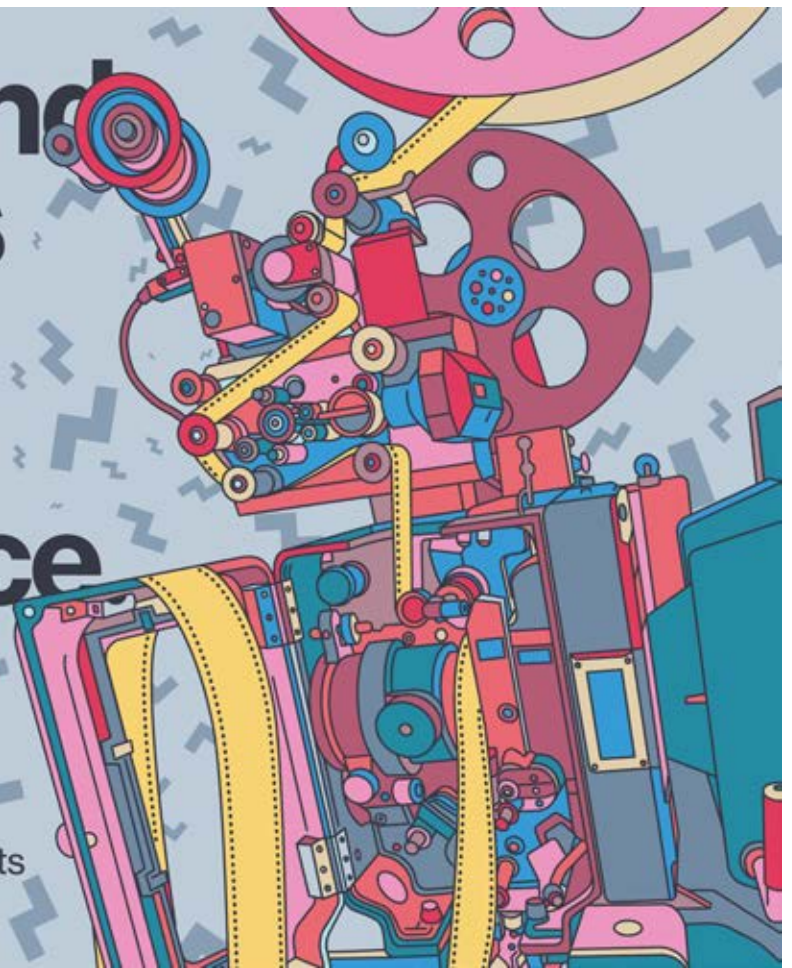
Certainly. We're a kid-friendly Festival! However, not all films have MPAA ratings. Some movies might contain material unsuitable for children, so please use discretion when selecting films for youths. Age-appropriate films with recommendations are available in the Rated K: For Kids program.

THE FINE PRINT NO REFUNDS. NO RESALES. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE: Tickets cannot be redeemed for attendees who are not present. To guarantee a seat for a film, ticket and pass holders must arrive no later than 15 minutes prior to scheduled showtime. Ticket and pass holders arriving after this time will be seated only as capacity allows and at the discretion of festival staff. No refunds or exchanges are available to ticket and pass holders who are refused entry after this time. Tickets and passes, and their associated privileges, may be revoked at any time, for any reason, without liability to Milwaukee Film. Film programs, special guests, events, venues, dates, and times are subject to change without notice. Unless noted, films are not rated; viewer discretion is advised. Patrons grant Milwaukee Film and its partners permission to use their images or likenesses in any reproduction of events. Patrons voluntarily assume all risks and dangers incidental to Festival events, whether occurring prior to, during, or after the event. Patrons voluntarily agree that Milwaukee Film and its facilities, sponsors, directors, officers, employees, volunteers, and respective agents are expressly released from any injuries or claims arising from any Festival event. By entering any Milwaukee Film-operated event or venue, all parties agree to adhere to our Code of Conduct to ensure Milwaukee Film spaces are spaces of community-building: mkefilm.org/conduct.

A thousand decisions for one magical experience



Northern Ground proudly supports the magic of Milwaukee Film.



RAISE
A
GLASS



ENJOY
THE
SHOW

The lights fade. The screen comes alive.
A cocktail, glass of wine, or non-alc sip in hand.
It's the magic of Milwaukee Film.
We're so proud to be a part of the experience.

Cheers!



BADGERliquor
wine and spirits

Accessibility

ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS:

HEARING IMPAIRED (HI)

For those with hearing impairment, we will be offering HI devices. These will work for all films at the Festival. These devices allow for the user to hear the Left, Center and Right channel more clearly.

We offer multiple devices for users to access HI devices: at the Oriental Theatre, we use hearing loops to transmit HI audio tracks which can be received by users with T-Coil devices (such as certain hearing aids) or with devices we supply in house that receive the signal via a headset.

At the Downer Theatre, we supply Fidelio devices and headsets which staff will program to receive the HI track transmitted from our projection equipment.

CLOSED CAPTIONING (CCAP)

Closed Captions will be offered whenever possible, dependent on their availability.

When Closed Captions are provided, the dialogue and audio of the film will be represented on text displays for individual users to read during the film. These small displays can be mounted by the user at their seat and positioned so that the captions can be read while watching the film.

Staff will need to program these devices for each film, and it should be noted that Closed Captions will only be available for the featured content (e.g. not on trailers).

Attendees should inquire with box office staff if a film will be offering Closed Captioning.

OPEN CAPTIONS (OCAP)

We will be offering open captions for two films: EL CANTO DE LOS MANOS (pg. 27) and THE WAY WE MOVE (pg. 46). For these screenings, the captions will be on the screen for everyone to see and no devices will be necessary.

VISUAL IMPAIRED (VI)

For those with visual impairments, we will be providing devices for VI tracks whenever they have been provided by the filmmaker or distributor. These audio tracks provide a narrated description of what is happening on the screen.

These audio tracks are transmitted to the user via a Fidelio receiver and headset which staff will program to receive the appropriate audio track. Attendees should inquire with box office staff if a film will be offering VI.

OPEN AUDIO DESCRIPTIONS (OAD)

The film JOYBUBBLES (pg.32) will be presented with Open Audio Description on April 19.



Panels & Happy Hours

The Festival doesn't stop when the credits roll—join us throughout MFF26's two weeks for various parties, panels, and events all over the East Side!

PANELS

MIDWEST DOCUMENTARY SUMMIT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICAN DOCUMENTARY AND KARTEMQUIN FILMS

FRIDAY APRIL 17 | 12 PM - 4 PM
EAST LIBRARY

This summit, which is free to attend and suitable for documentary and fiction filmmakers of all levels, will include discussions of filmmaking ethics, festival and distribution strategies, and the contemporary landscape of nonfiction media.

APPROPRIATED MEDIA

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 | 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM
EAST LIBRARY

A discussion about the use of appropriated media in film, featuring the director of PUBLIC ACCESS, David Shadrack Smith and local filmmaker and UWM professor, Jesse McLean.

WHY FESTIVALS MATTER

SATURDAY APRIL 18 | 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM
EAST LIBRARY

Join Eventive's co-founder and CEO, Iddo Patt, for a discussion about the role of film festivals in the independent media ecosystem.

And more panels and conversations to be announced as the Festival approaches - check our our schedule online for details.

HAPPY HOURS

Join us at Vier North (1832 E. North Ave.) every day of the festival (hours may vary) at our Festival Lounge presented by The Yabuki Family Foundation for a drink or a bite - many of our local and visiting filmmakers will be hanging here, how about you?

- **FRIDAY APRIL 17 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**
Hosted by Kartemquin Films and American Documentary
- **SATURDAY APRIL 18 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**
Hosted by Eventive
- **MONDAY, APRIL 20 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**
Hosted by Awen
- **TUESDAY APRIL 21 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**
Hosted by Imagine MKE, Action! Wisconsin, and Film Wisconsin
- **FRIDAY APRIL 24 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**
Hosted by Untitled Filmmaker
- **SATURDAY APRIL 25 | 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM**
Hosted by Motion Makers
- **MONDAY APRIL 27 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**
Hosted by North American Cinema
- **TUESDAY APRIL 28 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**
Hosted by Washington Park Media Center

Panels
Presented by:

eventive

Festival Lounge
Presented by:


**The
Yabuki
Family
Foundation**

Where to Start



We offer a LOT of stuff to see during the film festival. Whether it's your first time attending or you just need to know a few “can't miss” events, we recommend starting with these five. As always, make sure to check our socials and website to learn if guests will be in attendance!

OPENING NIGHT FILM: UECK PG. 46

THURSDAY, APRIL 16 | 7:00 PM | ORIENTAL THEATRE (ABELE CINEMA)

You can't get much more Milwaukee than an Opening Night world premiere about a true Milwaukee icon made by two Milwaukee filmmakers. UECK is a fantastic documentary celebrating the life of the legendary Bob Uecker, made by Milwaukee's own Michael T. Vollmann and Steve Farr.

THE GENERAL FEAT. ANVIL ORCHESTRA..... PG. 43

MONDAY, APRIL 20 | 6:00 PM | ORIENTAL THEATRE (ABELE CINEMA)

One of our favorite Milwaukee Film Festival traditions: Anvil Orchestra performing a live score to a classic silent film. This year, they're celebrating the 100th birthday of Buster Keaton's THE GENERAL—one of the most revered comedies of the silent era. Don't miss it!

CENTERPIECE FILM: THE BIG CHEESE PG. 42

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 | 7:00 PM | ORIENTAL THEATRE (ABELE CINEMA)

As if a film about Bob Uecker wasn't Milwaukee enough, allow us to introduce you to our very Milwaukee Centerpiece Film—a witty, entertaining documentary about cheese. (Talk about knowing your audience...) Sara Joe Wolansky's directorial debut will be right at home here in Wisconsin.

CINEBUDS LIVE: LABYRINTH PG. 27

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 | 3:30 PM | ORIENTAL THEATRE (ABELE CINEMA)

Our ongoing podcast partnership with Radio Milwaukee returns to the stage to celebrate the 40th anniversary of fantasy classic LABYRINTH! Check out the beautiful 4K restoration, then stick around for a live recording of everyone's favorite movie podcast.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM: POWER BALLAD PG. 38

THURSDAY, APRIL 30 | 7:30 PM | ORIENTAL THEATRE (ABELE CINEMA)

Paul Rudd as a past-his-prime wedding singer? Nick Jonas as a fading boy-band star? SIGN US UP. It's a feel-good story about music, self-respect, friendship, and the price of ambition. And a great way to close out our 18th Milwaukee Film Festival.

Film Programs

SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTED BY: DONALD AND DONNA BAUMGARTNER

SPONSORED BY: RADIO MILWAUKEE: 88NINE

Opening Night: UECK.....	pg. 46
Centerpiece: THE BIG CHEESE ...	pg. 42
Closing Night: POWER BALLAD ...	pg. 38
CINEBUDS LIVE - LABYRINTH.....	pg. 27
SEVERIN PRESENTS:	
A BAY OF BLOOD.....	pg. 40
STOP MAKING SENSE.....	pg. 41
THE GENERAL	
(feat. Anvil Orchestra).....	pg. 43

ART & ARTISTS

PRESENTED BY: HEIL FAMILY FOUNDATION

SPONSORED BY: MILWAUKEE MAGAZINE

BEYOND THE DUPLEX PLANET.....	pg. 25
PAINT ME A ROAD OUT OF HERE ...	pg. 37
PARALYZED BY HOPE:	
THE MARIA BAMFORD STORY ...	pg. 37
POWWOW PEOPLE.....	pg. 38
WELCOME POETS.....	pg. 47
YOU HAD TO BE THERE	pg. 48

BLACK LENS

SPONSORED BY: RADIO MILWAUKEE: HYFIN;

WNOV 860AM/106.5 FM "THE VOICE"

BLACK LENS DOC SHORTS:	
IT TAKES A VILLAGE	pg. 50
BLACK LENS FICTION SHORTS:	
FOR THE DREAMERS.....	pg. 50
BLACK ZOMBIE	pg. 25
MISAN HARRIMAN:	
SHOOT THE PEOPLE	pg. 35
THE FISHERMAN.....	pg. 43
THE TRAVEL COMPANION.....	pg. 45

CINE SIN FRONTERAS

SPONSORED BY: TELEMUNDO WISCONSIN

AMERICAN PACHUCO:	
THE LEGEND OF LUIS VALDEZ ...	pg. 24
CINE SIN FRONTERAS SHORTS....	pg. 51
EL CANTO DE LAS MANOS	pg. 27
JARIPEO	pg. 32
LA HIJA CONDOR.....	pg. 33
MAD BILLS TO PAY (OR DESTINY,	
DILE QUE NO SOY MALO)	pg. 34
THEYDREAM.....	pg. 46
TRACES OF HOME.....	pg. 46
VAINILLA	pg. 47

CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

SPONSORED BY: MILWAUKEE RECORD

A USEFUL GHOST.....	pg. 22
BURN	pg. 26
FLUSH.....	pg. 28
F*CKTOYS	pg. 29
HOKUM	pg. 30
MĀRAMA.....	pg. 35
OBSESSION	pg. 37
SACCHARINE.....	pg. 39

CREAM CITY CINEMA

PRESENTED BY: SUSAN AND ROBERT MIKULAY

SPONSORED BY: ONMILWAUKEE, URBAN MILWAUKEE,
VISIT MILWAUKEE

BEYOND	pg. 24
BRIGHT BEAUTIFUL WORLD:	
THE INFECTIOUS JOY	
OF PAT MCCURDY.....	pg. 26
FLYTRAPPER	pg. 28
INTOXICATED RAIN	pg. 31
IXONIA'S MILD KINGDOM	pg. 32
MAKIN' CAKE.....	pg. 35
NOW! MORE! YES!	pg. 36
THE MILWAUKEE MUSIC	
VIDEO SHOW.....	pg. 54
THE MILWAUKEE SHOW I.....	pg. 54
THE MILWAUKEE SHOW II	pg. 54
THE MILWAUKEE YOUTH SHOW....	pg. 54

DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

PRESENTED BY: CHRISTINE SYMCHYCH
AND JIM MCNULTY

SPONSORED BY: SHEPHERD EXPRESS

AANIKOOBIJIGAN [ANCESTOR/ GREAT-GRANDPARENT/ GREAT-GRANDCHILD]	pg. 23
ALL OF THE ABOVE	pg. 23
AMERICAN DOCTOR.....	pg. 23
ANDRE IS AN IDIOT	pg. 24
GASLIT.....	pg. 29
JOYBUBBLES.....	pg. 32
KEEP QUIET AND FORGIVE.....	pg. 32
KINGS OF VENICE	pg. 33
NUISANCE BEAR.....	pg. 36
SEIZED	pg. 40
THE A LIST: 15 STORIES FROM THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIASPORAS	pg. 42
THE DADS.....	pg. 42
THE DATING GAME	pg. 43
THE LAST SPY	pg. 44
THE LIFE WE LEAVE.....	pg. 44

THE OLDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD	pg. 44
THE PYTHON HUNT	pg. 45
THE SIX BILLION DOLLAR MAN.....	pg. 45
#WHILEBLACK.....	pg. 48
YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE	pg. 48

GENREQUEER

SPONSORED BY: GREATER MILWAUKEE
FOUNDATION'S RICHARD M. KAUL LGBT ARTS
ENDOWMENT FUND

ADAM'S APPLE.....	pg. 23
BARBARA FOREVER.....	pg. 24
BOUCHRA	pg. 25
GENREQUEER SHORTS	pg. 51
LOVE LETTERS	pg. 34
MADDIE'S SECRET.....	pg. 34
MY BROTHER'S KILLER.....	pg. 35
PUBLIC ACCESS.....	pg. 39
SHE'S THE HE.....	pg. 40

NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

SPONSORED BY: WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO

BLUE HERON	pg. 25
CAROLINA CAROLINE	pg. 26
I WANT YOUR SEX.....	pg. 31
IF I GO WILL THEY MISS ME.....	pg. 31
LATE FAME.....	pg. 33
LUCKY LU	pg. 34

RATED K: FOR KIDS

PRESENTED BY: MARIANNE & SHELDON LUBAR
SPONSORED BY: MILWAUKEE WITH KIDS

COOKIE QUEENS.....	pg. 27
FUTURE COUNCIL.....	pg. 29
KIDS SHORTS: SIZE SMALL.....	pg. 51
KIDS SHORTS: SIZE MEDIUM	pg. 51
KIDS SHORTS: SIZE LARGE.....	pg. 52
SCHOOL OF ROCK	pg. 39
SPACE CADET	pg. 41

SHORTER IS BETTER

SPONSORED BY: WUWM 89.7 FM – MILWAUKEE'S NPR

SHORTS: DATE NIGHT	pg. 52
SHORTS: LET'S GET ANIMATED	pg. 52
SHORTS: MOST DRAMATIC.....	pg. 52
SHORTS: OUT OF THIS WORLD	pg. 53
SHORTS: STRANGER THAN FICTION.....	pg. 53
SHORTS: SURPRISE, SURPRISE....	pg. 53
SHORTS: THE BEST DAMN F*#@ING MIDNIGHT PROGRAM EVER. SHIT.	pg. 53

SOUND VISION

PRESENTED BY: LACEY SADOFF FOUNDATION
SPONSORED BY: WMSE 91.7 FM

BROKEN ENGLISH.....	pg. 26
IF THESE WALLS COULD ROCK	pg. 31
NEWPORT AND THE GREAT FOLK DREAM.....	pg. 36
PETER ASHER: EVERYWHERE MAN	pg. 38
SUMMER TOUR	pg. 41
THE LAST CRITIC	pg. 43
THE REED SISTERS: AN AMERICAN STORY.....	pg. 45
THE WAY WE MOVE.....	pg. 46
WE ARE FUGAZI FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.....	pg. 47

WORLDVIEWS

PRESENTED BY: JOAN LUBAR AND JOHN CROUCH

A SAD AND BEAUTIFUL WORLD	pg. 22
CHRISTY	pg. 27
ERUPCJA	pg. 28
FILIPINANA.....	pg. 28
HAPPY BIRTHDAY.....	pg. 29
HEN	pg. 30
HOLD ONTO ME	pg. 30
I SWEAR.....	pg. 30
LAUNDRY	pg. 33
NINO	pg. 36
PALESTINE 36	pg. 37
PERLA.....	pg. 38
ROMERIA.....	pg. 39
SILENT FRIEND	pg. 40
SILENT REBELLION.....	pg. 41
THE BLUE TRAIL	pg. 42
THE LAST ONE FOR THE ROAD.....	pg. 44
WHAT DOES THAT NATURE SAY TO YOU.....	pg. 47
YES.....	pg. 48



Feature Films



WORLDVIEWS

A SAD AND BEAUTIFUL WORLD

LEBANON, GERMANY, UNITED STATES, SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR / 2025 / 110 MIN / ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Across three decades of passion, loss, and hope, Nino and Yasmina are bound by a magnetic relationship. Torn between love and survival, they must decide whether to build a family and seek happiness in Lebanon, or leave their home, amid the country's unfolding tragedies. Director Cyril Aris describes that he sees "how humor and love become shields against darkness. [The film] embraces that uniquely Lebanese humor while exploring deeper themes of parenthood and legacy."

DIR Cyril Aris

PROD Jennifer Goyné Blake, Georg Neubert, Georges Schoucair, April Shih

SCR Cyril Aris

Saturday, Apr 25 | 11:45 AM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 3:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE, GENREQUEER

A USEFUL GHOST

THAILAND, FRANCE, SINGAPORE, GERMANY / 2025 / 130 MIN / THAI, ENGLISH, LAO WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

March is mourning his wife Nat who has recently passed away due to dust pollution. He discovers her spirit has returned by possessing a vacuum cleaner. This film smartly plays with tones and social comments while revisiting classism and oppression throughout Thailand's history. From ambitious and creative newcomer Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke comes a genre-smashing amalgamation of fantasy, horror, romance, comedy, art house and everything in between.

DIR Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke

PROD Cattleya Paosrijeroen, Soros Sukhum

SCR Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke

Friday, Apr 17 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 19 | 6:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 6:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

AANIKOBIJIGAN [ANCESTOR/GREAT-GRANDPARENT/ GREAT-GRANDCHILD]

UNITED STATES, DENMARK / 2026 / 85 MIN / ENGLISH, ANISHINAABEMOWIN
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

History, spirituality, and the law collide as Michigan tribal repatriation specialists fight to return and rebury Indigenous human remains trapped in museums. Featuring interviews with repatriation specialists, historians, and museum workers, this innovative documentary outlines the history of Indigenous burial ground desecration and pays tribute to the work of people bringing Ancestors home.

DIR Adam Khalil, Zack Khalil

PROD Steve Holmgren, Adam Khalil, Zack Khalil, Grace Remington, Jacque Clark, Franny Alfano

Saturday, Apr 25 | 12:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 4:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



GENREQUEER, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

ADAM'S APPLE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 97 MIN / ENGLISH

Centered on the life of Adam, a transgender teen, as seen through the lens of his mother, filmmaker Amy Jenkins, ADAM'S APPLE chronicles two decades of adolescence, transition, and parenthood. Adam's journey balances the milestones of gender transition with the rhythms of adolescence. Every coming-of-age milestone (first love, an emerging personality, teenage rebellion) unfolds with intimacy and grace. It's a celebration of courage, love, allyship, and the thrill of becoming who you are meant to be.

DIR Amy Jenkins

PROD Brit Fryer

SCR Adam Sieswerda

Monday, Apr 20 | 6:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 1:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

ALL OF THE ABOVE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 85 MIN / ENGLISH

Students from different faith backgrounds come together for an epic World Religions class in a public Illinois high school. Through the work of a challenging yet compassionate teacher, the community as a whole is asked to confront preconceived notions of faith and belonging—religious literacy, as he terms it. With a deft hand, director Allison Walsh (an alum of the course) opens up access to these questions for viewers of all ages, faith backgrounds, and ideologies.

DIR Allison Walsh

PROD Lily Qi

SCR Allison Walsh, Lily Qi, Alanna Schmelter

Friday, Apr 17 | 6:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 18 | 10:00 AM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

AMERICAN DOCTOR

UNITED STATES, PALESTINE, MALAYSIA, QATAR, DENMARK / 2026 / 91 MIN /
ENGLISH, ARABIC, HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

When three American doctors—Palestinian, Jewish, and Zoroastrian—enter Gaza with a shared oath to save lives that unites them beyond their differences, they find themselves caught between medicine and politics, risking everything to expose the truth. Filmed in unfolding, on-the-ground scenes, this unflinching vérité documentary follows these three colleagues from a Gazan hospital under siege to the halls of Congress, serving as a testament to those who remain brave in the face of atrocity.

DIR Poh Si Teng

PROD Kirstine Barfod, Reem Haddad

Monday, Apr 20 | 1:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 3:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

AMERICAN PACHUCO: THE LEGEND OF LUIS VALDEZ

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 92 MIN / ENGLISH, SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

AMERICAN PACHUCO: THE LEGEND OF LUIS VALDEZ celebrates the life and legacy of the Chicano playwright, from his work creating theater shows for migrant food workers to studio films like LA BAMBA and ZOOT SUIT. This Sundance Film Festival Audience Award winner features interviews with legends like Edward James Olmos and Lou Diamond Phillips, who recognize the resounding legacy of Luis Valdez, whose influential work continues to reflect the struggles and triumphs of the Mexican-American community.

DIR David Alvarado

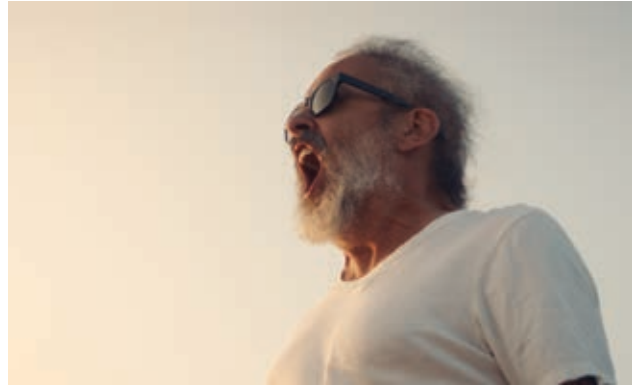
PROD David Alvarado, Lauren DeFilippo, Everett Katigbak, Amanda Pollak

SCR David Alvarado

Saturday, Apr 18 | 10:45 AM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 9:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 5:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

ANDRÉ IS AN IDIOT

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 87 MIN / ENGLISH

André, a brilliant idiot, is dying because he didn't get a colonoscopy. His sobering diagnosis, complete irreverence, and insatiable curiosity, send him on an unexpected journey learning how to die happily and ridiculously without losing his sense of humor. This Sundance Film Festival Audience Award winning documentary is at once a hilarious portrait of an engaging character and a sobering reminder to us all about the importance of preventive medicine.

DIR Tony Benna

PROD André Ricciardi, Tory Tunnell, Stelio Kitrilakis, Joshua Altman, Ben Cotner

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 4:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 3:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



GENREQUEER, ART & ARTISTS

BARBARA FOREVER

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 102 MIN / ENGLISH

An intimate, dream-like, and masterfully crafted look at the iconic life, work, and legacy of the pioneering feminist experimental filmmaker responsible for some of the most prominent early works in lesbian cinema. Expanded from her 2022 award-winning short LOVE, BARBARA, Brydie O'Connor traces Hammer's prolific canon alongside never-before-seen documentations of her life, revealing her unconventional attempts to live on forever—especially through extensive archival efforts. Fans and newcomers alike: immerse yourselves fully in Hammer's legacy of Dyketactics.

DIR Brydie O'Connor

PROD Elijah Stevens, Brydie O'Connor, Claire Edelman

Sunday, Apr 19 | 1:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Monday, Apr 20 | 12:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 1:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

BEYOND

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 89 MIN / ENGLISH

A group of incarcerated men prepare for a TED-style event at Sing Sing prison that showcases their personal narratives along with ideas for changing the prison system and healing their communities. With unprecedented access, the film follows the speakers' journeys from audition to their climactic moment on stage, highlighting themes of vulnerability, healing, and redemption, while showcasing the power of performance and storytelling in and outside of the carceral justice system.

DIR Michael Kleiman, Asia Johnson

PROD Michael Kleiman, Asia Johnson

Saturday, Apr 18 | 6:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 5:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



ART & ARTISTS

BEYOND THE DUPLEX PLANET

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 93 MIN / ENGLISH

Artist David Greenberger's projects, from his early 'zine THE DUPLEX PLANET to his recent work in spoken word shows and recordings, have charted a career that honors humor, warmth, and sincerity. Long exploring notions of aging through art and community practice (including here in Milwaukee with our very own Paul Cebar), this documentary offers a metareflection on the life of an artist devoted to documenting the elderly who is himself in his senior years.

DIR Beth Harrington

PROD Beth Harrington

SCR Beth Harrington

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 9:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



BLACK LENS, CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

BLACK ZOMBIE

CANADA / 2026 / 90 MIN / CREOLE, FRENCH, ENGLISH, HAITIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

From the flickering screens of Hollywood horror, to the haunted cane fields of colonial Haiti, BLACK ZOMBIE unearths the buried origins of the zombie, reclaiming it as a symbol of survival and spiritual resistance. This documentary is for all walks of life, horror fans or not, as it digs into common misconceptions around one of fiction's most popular tropes and leaves you with a firm grasp on what "zombies" are and represent outside of fiction.

DIR Maya Annik Bedward

PROD Maya Annik Bedward, Hannah Donegan, Kate Fraser

SCR Maya Annik Bedward

Saturday, Apr 18 | 8:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 6:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 9:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

BLUE HERON

CANADA, HUNGARY / 2025 / 90 MIN / ENGLISH, HUNGARIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

MFF2018 alum Sophy Romvari's feature debut opens on a Hungarian-Canadian family of six as they adapt to a new home on Vancouver Island in the late 1990s. Seen from the perspective of the youngest daughter Sasha, events range from the comfortably quotidian—family beach days and park outings, summer afternoon fun with trampolines and garden hoses—to those that take on a darker cast as the extent of the issues concerning one family member become clear.

DIR Sophy Romvari

PROD Ryan Bobkin, Gábor Osváth, Sophy Romvari, Sara Wylie

SCR Sophy Romvari

Saturday, Apr 18 | 12:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 7:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



GENREQUEER, CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

BOUCHRA

ITALY, MOROCCO, UNITED STATES / 2025 / 83 MIN / ENGLISH, ARABIC, FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Nine years removed from coming out as queer, Bouchra (who, yes, is a coyote) navigates the concrete jungle of New York City in search of inspiration, while also navigating a long distance relationship with her mother. Using vivid 3D animation and adapted from real phone calls made by the filmmaker's families, this singular, autobiographical debut blends documentary techniques with inventive narrative play.

DIR Orian Barki, Meriem Bennani

PROD Filippo Fante

SCR Orian Barki, Meriem Bennani, Ayla Mrabet

Sunday, Apr 26 | 7:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 9:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 11:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA, SOUND VISION

FILM SPONSOR

BRIGHT BEAUTIFUL WORLD: THE INFECTIOUS JOY OF PAT MCCURDY



UNITED STATES / 2026 / 94 MIN / ENGLISH

Over more than 50 years and 12,000 performances in Milwaukee and beyond, Pat McCurdy has cultivated a fiercely loyal fan base and a reputation for spreading infectious joy. He may not be a household name, but to those who know him, Pat is unforgettable. BRIGHT BEAUTIFUL WORLD is an uplifting portrait of an artist who found success on his own terms—and of the deep, decades-long love affair between a musician and the fans who keep showing up.

DIR Peter Matsoukas, Benny Kaplan

PROD Peter Matsoukas, Benny Kaplan, David Spies

Saturday, Apr 25 | 6:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 11:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SOUND VISION

FILM SPONSOR

BROKEN ENGLISH



UNITED KINGDOM / 2025 / 96 MIN / ENGLISH

BROKEN ENGLISH is a hybrid, genre-bending portrait of the inimitable singer, songwriter, and icon Marianne Faithfull. Co-directors Iain Forsyth and Jane Pollard introduce us to the Ministry of Not Forgetting, a fictitious research facility where Tilda Swinton and George MacKay delve into Marianne Faithfull's life and career. Faithfull's dynamic presence is complemented by rich archival footage and performances by the singer herself, as well as Beth Orton, Courtney Love, Nick Cave, and Suki Waterhouse.

DIR Jane Pollard, Iain Forsyth

PROD Beth Earl

SCR Iain Forsyth, Ian Martin, Jane Pollard

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 8:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 4:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE, WORLDVIEWS

BURN

JAPAN / 2025 / 103 MIN / JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

When runaway teen Ju-Ju is embraced by a tribe of misfit youths in Kabukicho, she finds belonging for the first time—until betrayal and despair twist her haven into a prison, and she's left with one way to take back control. "While it contains some harsh, bleak truths, there's an empathy for these kids that's palpable, and it's the sense that Nagahisa cares about Ju-Ju that makes it work." (Brian Tallerico, RogerEbert.com)

DIR Makoto Nagahisa

PROD Takeyasu Koganezawa, Kazunori Seki, Yasuo Suzuki

SCR Makoto Nagahisa

Friday, Apr 17 | 10:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Monday, Apr 20 | 9:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 9:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

CAROLINA CAROLINE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 105 MIN / ENGLISH

MFF2020 alum Adam Rehmeier tells the story of Caroline (Samara Weaving) who joins a charming con man (Kyle Gallner) on the run, leaving a trail of crime and passion as they search for her estranged mother. "With what can at times be a ravishing romance, a clever con comedy, or a taut heist movie from scene to scene, it constantly diverts your attention, you only realize after how it's run away with your heart." (Stephen Saito, Moveable Feast)

DIR Adam Rehmeier

PROD Chris Abernathy, Stephen Braun, Eric B. Fleischman, Chris Ward, Tim White, Trevor White

SCR Tom Dean

Friday, Apr 17 | 12:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Monday, Apr 20 | 7:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 7:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

CHRISTY

IRELAND, UNITED KINGDOM / 2025 / 94 MIN / ENGLISH

17-year-old Christy is at a crossroads. Kicked out of his suburban foster home, he moves in with his estranged older brother Shane. As far as Shane is concerned this is a temporary arrangement, but Christy begins to feel at home on Cork's working-class Northside. As the brothers look to reconcile their turbulent past, their family and the community around them offer hope for Christy's future in this heartfelt and lightly humorous drama.

DIR Brendan Canty

PROD Marina Brackenbury, Meredith Duff, Rory Gilmartin

SCR Alan O'Gorman, Brendan Canty

Thursday, Apr 23 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS

CINEBUDS LIVE: LABYRINTH

UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES /

1986 / 101 MIN / ENGLISH

Milwaukee Film and Radio Milwaukee are bringing the Cinebuds BACK to celebrate the 40th anniversary of fantasy classic LABYRINTH! Check out the beautiful 4K restoration and then enjoy a post-sceneing recording of everyone's favorite movie podcast. Whether you are coming to bask in the nostalgia from your youth or are bringing the children in your life to experience the magic themselves, this is a screening that is not to be missed.

DIR Jim Henson

PROD Eric Rattray

SCR Jim Henson, Dennis Lee, Terry Jones

Sunday, Apr 26 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

FILM SPONSOR



RATED K: FOR KIDS, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

COOKIE QUEENS

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 91 MIN / ENGLISH

It's cookie season, and pressure is rising as four tenacious Girl Scouts strive not only to be top-sellers in their troops, but to simply get through the thousands of dollars of cookies that they've pledged to sell. Deadlines approaching, trophies on the line, TV appearances, questions of capitalism, no sugar-free cookies?! Doc Queen Alysa Nahmias crafts a sweetly profound documentary navigating the \$800 million business in which girlhood and ambition collide. **AGES 8+**

DIR Alysa Nahmias

PROD Michael Dweck, Gregory Kershaw, Alysa Nahmias, Jennifer Sims

Sunday, Apr 19 | 3:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 12:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

FILM SPONSOR



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, SOUND VISION

EL CANTO DE LAS MANOS (SONG OF THE HANDS)

VENEZUELA / 2025 / 91 MIN / SPANISH, ENGLISH, SIGN LANGUAGE WITH

ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Renowned conductor Gustavo Dudamel partners with Coro de Manos Blancas, a choir of deaf performers in Venezuela, to stage Beethoven's opera FIDELIO. As the choir prepares for their innovative performance, the film follows them through auditions, rehearsals, and personal stories of resilience in the face of anti-deaf discrimination. With music expressed through sign language, this film celebrates the transformative power of art, inclusion, and self-expression.

DIR María Valverde

PROD Cristina Oliva, María Valverde, Martí Font Isern, Gustavo Dudamel

Friday, Apr 17 | 5:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 4:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 9:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS, NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

ERUPCJA

UNITED STATES, POLAND / 2025 / 71 MIN / ENGLISH, POLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

While on vacation in Poland, Bethany (Charli XCX) breaks away from a romantic itinerary planned by her doting boyfriend, Rob, fearing that a marriage proposal is imminent. Reuniting instead with an old friend, Nel, the two women rekindle a uniquely combustible and volcanic chemistry over the course of a few days in a chaste but burning tryst predicated on sapphic synchronicity and a mutual penchant for poetry.

DIR Pete Ohs

PROD Luke Arreguin, Josh Godfrey, Jeremy O. Harris, Pete Ohs, Charli XCX

SCR Pete Ohs, Charli XCX, Lena Góra, Jeremy O. Harris, Will Madden

Friday, Apr 17 | 9:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 7:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

FILIPINANA

SINGAPORE, UNITED KINGDOM, PHILIPPINES, FRANCE, NETHERLANDS / 2026 / 100 MIN / FILIPINO, ENGLISH, TAGALOG WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

At a pristine resort on the outskirts of Manila, 17-year-old tee-girl Isabel tries to return a mislaid golf club to the club president, discovering sinister revelations about her workplace, its elite members, and her own past. Winner of the World Cinema Dramatic Jury Award for Creative Vision at Sundance this year, *FILIPINANA* is “An incisive, slow-burning satire of capitalism and powerful men with far too much hubris—basically, a story for our times.” (Aisha Harris, NPR)

DIR Rafael Manuel

PROD Bianca Balbuena, Jeremy Chua, Omar El Kadi, Bradley Liew, Rafael Manuel, Alex Polunin, Nadia Turincev

SCR Rafael Manuel

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 9:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

FLUSH

FRANCE, UNITED KINGDOM / 2025 / 70 MIN / FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

When middle-aged coke fiend Luc goes to confront his ex at the club where she works, determined to win back her love, he somehow finds himself wedged firmly in a toilet, effectively trapping him in a bathroom stall—not to mention the heap of coke that he stole from the bar’s resident dealer. When he’s found, it sets off an increasingly crazy series of circumstances that veer from the hilarious to the intensely grotesque.

DIR Grégory Morin

PROD Kieran Clemow, Thomas Letierrier, Jean-Michel Tari

SCR David Neiss

Saturday, Apr 18 | 11:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 11:59 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 10:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA, CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

FLYTRAPPER

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 74 MIN / ENGLISH

Crystal’s life of extremely aggressive rap music, jet-skiing, and nefarious activities in the lush Northwoods is upended by a visit from her estranged best friend, Melonie, who is digging into the past. But even as the situation becomes increasingly unstable, she can’t help but stay as the two rekindle their friendship. Featuring a crew of MFF alums, this world premiere showcases writer/star Georgia Lee King as one to watch.

DIR Drew Britton

PROD Drew Britton

SCR Drew Britton, Georgia Lee King

Thursday, Apr 23 | 8:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE, GENREQUEER

F*CKTOYS

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 107 MIN / ENGLISH

Part-time sex worker, full-time chaos magnet, AP is convinced the universe has it out for her... and she might be right. In F*CKTOYS—the wild, unfiltered debut from writer/director/star Annapurna Sriram—AP seeks a cosmic reset after a swampy tarot reading (courtesy of NOLA bounce icon Big Freedia) tells her she needs \$1,000 and a lamb sacrifice to lift her curse. Armed with neither, she sets off on a bizarre quest with her ex-turned-bestie Danni (SPOILER ALERT's Sadie Scott) through Trashtown, USA—a dystopian, neon-drenched sprawl of assorted oddballs, bondage cops, and strip clubs galore.

DIR Annapurna Sriram

PROD Timothy Petryni

SCR Annapurna Sriram

Saturday, Apr 18 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 7:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



RATED K: FOR KIDS, WORLDVIEWS

FUTURE COUNCIL

AUSTRALIA / 2024 / 82 MIN / ENGLISH

Seeking solutions for a greener world, documentarian Damon Gameau assembles a group of the world's most innovative thinkers—who also happen to be kids. Brilliantly flipping climate anxiety into tear-jerking heaps of hope, FUTURE COUNCIL chronicles eight middle-school activists on the ultimate field trip: traversing Europe in a yellow school bus to visit the natural wonders they aim to save, learn from each other, and challenge real world leaders to fight for their future. **AGES 10+**

DIR Damon Gameau

PROD Damon Gameau, Anna Kaplan, Quintin Baker

SCR Damon Gameau, Jimmi James Wright

Saturday, Apr 18 | 10:30 AM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 10:30 AM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

GASLIT

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 111 MIN / ENGLISH

In GASLIT, actor and activist Jane Fonda embarks on a road trip through Texas oil fields and Gulf Coast communities, meeting the people who are fighting back against the oil and gas extraction boom. Kenosha native Katie Camosy deftly shares the stories of the cattle ranchers, former oil workers, families, community organizers, self-described “reluctant activists” and people across political and cultural spectrums who have come together in defense of the communities and coastlines they love.

DIR Katie Camosy

PROD Katie Camosy, Jane Fonda

SCR Katie Camosy

Friday, Apr 17 | 12:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 18 | 2:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 12:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

EGYPT / 2025 / 95 MIN / ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

In this poignant debut feature, eight-year-old Toha works as a child maid for a wealthy Cairo family and forms a special bond with her employer's daughter, Nelly. Having never celebrated her own birthday, Toha becomes determined to ensure Nelly has a perfect party. As Toha's relationship with Nelly's mother, Laila, begins to transcend typical employer-servant boundaries, deep-rooted social hierarchies are threatened, forcing the young girl to confront harsh realities of class division in modern Egypt.

DIR Sarah Goher

PROD Ahmed El Desouky, Ahmed Abbas, Ahmed Badawy,

Jamie Foxx, Datari Turner

SCR Mohamed Diab, Sarah Goher

Friday, Apr 17 | 2:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 2:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

HEN

GREECE, GERMANY, HUNGARY / 2025 / 96 MIN / GREEK WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Following his cult films TAXIDERMIA and FREE FALL, György Pálfi is back with a tragicomic tale full of heart and feathers. Escaping from a chicken farm, our hen heroine finds refuge in the courtyard of a crumbling restaurant. There, she discovers love, confronts the pecking order, and fights to protect her eggs from a greedy owner. Her droll yet touching quest for motherhood mirrors the messy compromises and silent struggles of human lives.

DIR György Pálfi

PROD Thanassis Karathanos, Martin Hampel, Costas Lambropoulos, Giorgos Kiriakos

SCR György Pálfi, Zsófia Ruttkay

Friday, Apr 17 | 9:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Monday, Apr 20 | 10:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 7:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

HOKUM

UNITED STATES, IRELAND / 2026 / 101 MIN / ENGLISH

When novelist Ohm Bauman (Adam Scott) retreats to a remote inn to scatter his parents' ashes, he is consumed by tales of a witch haunting the honeymoon suite. Disturbing visions and a shocking disappearance forces him to confront dark corners of his past. An homage to THE SHINING with an Irish lilt, Damien McCarthy's follow up to ODDITY cements him as a fresh new voice in the horror landscape.

DIR Damian McCarthy

PROD Derek Dauchy, Mairtín de Barra, Julianne Forde, Roy Lee, Steven Schneider, Ruth Treacy

SCR Damian McCarthy

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 11:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 11:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

HOLD ONTO ME (Κράτα Με)

CYPRUS, DENMARK, GREECE / 2025 / 102 MIN / GREEK WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

11-year-old Iris learns her estranged father, Aris, is back in town for his own father's funeral. Determined to know him, Iris tracks him down to a dilapidated shipyard, where he's been keeping to himself. What begins as a stubborn attempt to reconnect slowly unfolds into a fragile bond. Winner of the Sundance Film Festival World Cinema Dramatic Audience Award, director Myrsini Aristidou's feature debut is a touching and poignant family tale.

DIR Myrsini Aristidou

PROD Myrsini Aristidou, Monica Nicolaidou

SCR Myrsini Aristidou

Friday, Apr 17 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 10:00 AM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

I SWEAR

UNITED KINGDOM / 2025 / 121 MIN / ENGLISH

I SWEAR tells the life story of Tourette Syndrome campaigner John Davidson, MBE. Set within 1980s Britain, the story follows him throughout his troubled teens and early adulthood, and explores this little known and entirely misunderstood condition, along with his attempts to live a "normal" life against the odds. The film is led by a tour-de-force performance from actor Robert Aramayo, who won a BAFTA for the role.

DIR Kirk Jones

PROD Piers Tempest, Kirk Jones, Georgia Bayliff

SCR Kirk Jones

Sunday, Apr 19 | 12:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 1:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

I WANT YOUR SEX

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 90 MIN / ENGLISH

When fresh-faced Elliot (Cooper Hoffman) lands a job with artist and provocateur Erika Tracy (Olivia Wilde), his fantasies come true as she taps him to become her sexual muse. Elliot finds himself out of his depth as Erika takes him on a journey into a world of sex, obsession, power, betrayal, and murder. Director Gregg Araki captured the voice of a generation in the 90s and he's using it to beg Gen Z to change their puritanical ways.

DIR Gregg Araki

PROD Gregg Araki, Seth Caplan, Michael Heimler, Teddy Schwarzman, Karley Sciortino

SCR Gregg Araki, Karley Sciortino

Saturday, Apr 18 | 9:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 11:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

IF I GO WILL THEY MISS ME

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 95 MIN / ENGLISH

Twelve-year-old Lil Ant struggles to connect with his father when he begins to see surreal, almost spectral visions of boys drifting around his neighborhood. Their presence reveals a link between father and son, laying bare the threads that bind family, legacy, and place. Featuring stellar performances from Danielle Brooks, J. Alphonse Nicholson, Bodhi Dell as well as from fellow supporting characters, this film illustrates the beauty and turmoil of when myth and reality collide.

DIR Walter Thompson-Hernández

PROD Josh Peters, Saba Zerehi, Ben Stillman

SCR Walter Thompson-Hernández

Sunday, Apr 26 | 10:30 AM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 6:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SOUND VISION, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

FILM SPONSOR

IF THESE WALLS COULD ROCK

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 93 MIN / ENGLISH

Multi-MFF alum Tyler Measom returns to the Festival with IF THESE WALLS COULD ROCK—the untold story of the Sunset Marquis—the legendary West Hollywood hideaway where rock stars checked in, passed out, and made history. Featuring a Hall of Fame lineup including Ringo Starr, Cyndi Lauper, Morrissey, and Dave Grohl, the film dives deep into the debauchery, music, and magic that made the Marquis the heartbeat of rock 'n' roll for over six decades.

DIR Tyler Measom, Craig Williams

PROD Robert Friedman, Mike Powers, Tyler Measom, Craig Williams

Friday, Apr 17 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 8:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

vonBriesen
von Briesen & Roper, s.c. | Attorneys at Law



CREAM CITY CINEMA

INTOXICATED RAIN

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 87 MIN / ENGLISH

Along the Western shores of Lake Michigan, just north of Milwaukee, lies the small town of Port Washington, WI. When two old fishermen recover the curious isolated remains of a human face, the town is unsettled but carries on. Against this backdrop we meet Jaden Sobczak, a biracial young man coming of age while feeling caught between places, cultures, and family members in this heartfelt film, produced by talented local cast and crew.

DIR Miles O'Neil

PROD Maureen McCourt Boylan, Tom Didier, Tate Bunker

SCR Nikita Bleu

Sunday, Apr 19 | 4:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA

IXONIA'S MILD KINGDOM

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 26 MIN / ENGLISH

Meet self-proclaimed "wildlife expert" Merlin Porkins. The latest from BEAVIS AND BUTTHEAD writer Kristofor Brown, this pilot for a new episodic project follows Porkins and his sidekicks as they encounter local wildlife in the small town of Ixonia, WI. Using Monty Python-esque storytelling, unforgettable characters, and a local touch, this show is truly like no other. This screening will be followed by an extended Q&A with Brown featuring career highlights and some surprises.

DIR Kristofor Brown, Kevin Pehler

PROD Kristofor Brown, Kevin Pehler

SCR Kristofor Brown

Friday, Apr 24 | 9:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, GENREQUEER

JARIPEO

MEXICO, UNITED STATES, FRANCE / 2026 / 70 MIN / ENGLISH, SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

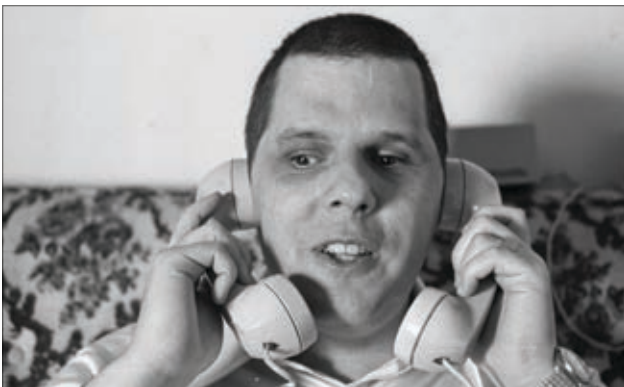
In a hypermasculine terrain, one artist takes audiences to the queer communities that embrace jaripeos, a Mexican style of rodeo. Through co-director Efraín Mojica's narrations, this poetic and personal debut documentary unpacks what it means to be queer in Michoacán's jaripeo spaces, and asks what lies beneath the performance of machismo. Mojica reckons with the wounds and beauty of the homelands he has left behind, and what desire looks like against the mountainous landscape.

DIR Efraín Mojica, Rebecca Zweig

PROD Sarah Strunin

Thursday, Apr 23 | 12:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

JOYBUBBLES

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 79 MIN / ENGLISH

Born blind and yearning for connection, Joybubbles discovers he can manipulate the telephone system by whistling a magic tone, unwittingly laying the groundwork for a hacking subculture that shapes the future of technology. A film as uplifting as its protagonist's chosen name, Rachael J. Morrison brings that same sense of delight to her feature debut, creatively employing playful archival material to illustrate Joybubbles' unforgettable story, presented with open audio description during screening April 19 to create paths for access to many audiences.

DIR Rachael J. Morrison

PROD Sarah Winshall, Will Butler, Annie Marr

Sunday, Apr 19 | 2:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema) AD

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 4:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

KEEP QUIET AND FORGIVE

UNITED STATES / 2024 / 90 MIN / ENGLISH

Based on groundbreaking reporting with access to one of the world's most secretive communities, KEEP QUIET AND FORGIVE follows the courageous journey of Lizzie, a former Amish woman who breaks her silence about sexual abuse and ignites a nationwide movement of Amish survivors. With Lizzie as our guide, this film, shot over five years across several states (including Wisconsin) testifies to the transformative power of a survivor's movement that reverberates beyond the Amish community.

DIR Sarah McClure

PROD Sarah McClure, Jessie Deeter, Joseph Terranova, Jamie Boyle

Sunday, Apr 19 | 12:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Monday, Apr 20 | 3:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

KINGS OF VENICE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 95 MIN / ENGLISH

With the rise of pickleball as the trendiest sport on the block, committed members of Venice Beach's long-standing paddle tennis community fight to maintain their status. When the pickleballers threaten to push them off the beach, a group of ragtag characters band together to present a tournament to end all tournaments and prove that paddle tennis still holds a spot. This spirited sports doc serves an underdog story you can't miss.

DIR Sveinn Ingimundarson, S.D. Saltarelli

PROD Sveinn Ingimundarson, S.D. Saltarelli

Saturday, Apr 18 | 4:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 5:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, WORLDVIEWS

LA HIJA CÓNDOR (THE CONDOR DAUGHTER)

BOLIVIA, PERU, URUGUAY / 2025 / 109 MIN / QUECHUA, SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

In this enthralling story of tradition, ambition, and carving your own destiny, Clara and her adoptive mother Ana are midwives to a remote indigenous community in the Bolivian Andes. Clara dreams of becoming a singer, but remains bound to the confines of her community and duties. Tempted by outside forces, she runs off to the city in pursuit of her aspirations, unwittingly leaving a dark void in her wake.

DIR Álvaro Olmos Torrico

PROD Álvaro Olmos Torrico, Cecilia Sueiro Mosquera, Diego Sarmiento Pagán, Federico Moreira, Federico Moreira, Iris Sigalit Ocampo Gil

Sunday, Apr 26 | 6:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 4:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

LATE FAME

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 96 MIN / ENGLISH

In Kent Jones' marvelously witty second feature, a once-upon-a-time New York poet (Willem Dafoe) gets an ego boost when he is welcomed into the world of an emerging literary salon, but must reckon with the authenticity of his newfound circle of twentysomething admirers. "The classic theatricality of its characters juxtaposed with the modern world gives LATE FAME the feeling of a eulogy for an artistic world that young idealists desperately want to revive." (Jourdain Searles, RogerEbert.com)

DIR Kent Jones

PROD Pamela Koffler, Jackie Langelier, Ethan Lazar, H.S. Naji, Mason Plotts, Danny Roberts, Taylor Shung, Christine Vachon

SCR Sammy Burch

Friday, Apr 17 | 1:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 1:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

LAUNDRY

SWITZERLAND, SOUTH AFRICA / 2025 / 106 MIN / ZULU WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Johannesburg, 1968. Khuthala hates his father's laundromat and doesn't want to take over the family business, but the apartheid government is cracking down on Black business ownership. Khuthala is torn between pursuing his own dreams of becoming a musician and fighting against the injustice that threatens the business, his only means of subsistence and the glue that holds their family together.

DIR Zamo Mkhwanazi

PROD Philippe Coeytaux, Zamo Mkhwanazi, Jim Stark, Nicolas Wadimoff

SCR Zamo Mkhwanazi

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 12:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 12:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



GENREQUEER, WORLDVIEWS

LOVE LETTERS

FRANCE / 2025 / 97 MIN / FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Paris, 2014. Céline is expecting her firstborn. But she's not the one who's pregnant. In three months, her wife, Nadia, will give birth to their daughter; however, under French law, Céline must secure testimonies from her friends, her mother, and others from her past to adopt the child carried by her wife. This stunning feature debut frames love as radiant armor against life's thorniest trials.

DIR Alice Douard

PROD Marine Arrighi de Casanova, Marie Boitard

SCR Alice Douard

Friday, Apr 17 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 1:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

LUCKY LU

UNITED STATES, CANADA / 2025 / 103 MIN / ENGLISH, MANDARIN CHINESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Reminiscent of Vittorio De Sica's BICYCLE THIEVES, LUCKY LU trades Rome for New York City and the European post-WWII depression for our modern gig economy. MFF2024 alum Lloyd Lee Choi's riveting feature debut encompasses the hardships faced by thousands of working-class immigrants by focusing on 48 nerve-racking hours in the life of a single desperate man.

DIR Lloyd Lee Choi

PROD Destin Daniel Cretton, Nina Yang Bongiovi, Asher Goldstein, Tony Yang, Ron Najor, Jeyun Munford

SCR Lloyd Lee Choi

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 5:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 8:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

MAD BILLS TO PAY (OR DESTINY, DILE QUE NO SOY MALO)

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 101 MIN / ENGLISH, SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

MAD BILLS TO PAY (OR DESTINY DILES QUE NO SOY MALO) chronicles young Rico's summer of selling "Nuttys" on the NYC boardwalk, reckoning with becoming a parent alongside his teenage girlfriend, and ideas of what adulthood should look like. Writer-director Joel Alfonso Vargas turns the Bronx into a living, breathing backdrop for a story about young love and the fragile space between boyhood and adulthood.

DIR Joel Alfonso Vargas

PROD Paolo Maria Pedullà

SCR Joel Alfonso Vargas

Friday, Apr 24 | 4:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 6:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



GENREQUEER, NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

MADDIE'S SECRET

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 98 MIN / ENGLISH

Preceded by ROACH TRIP | Dir. Clare McNulty

MADDIE'S SECRET is the year's smartest comedy-melodrama featuring your favorite alternative millennial comedians, including: John Early, Kate Berlant, Vanessa Bayer, and Conner O'Malley. Early stars as Maddie, a charming food influencer whose online rise collides with a hidden struggle with bulimia. Blending sharp satire of social media culture with genuine emotional depth, this festival gem is a heartfelt combination of the filmmaking energies of John Waters and Todd Haynes.

DIR John Early

PROD John Early, Luca Intili, Harris Mayersohn

SCR John Early

Monday, Apr 20 | 7:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 6:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA

MAKIN' CAKE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 70 MIN / ENGLISH

MAKIN' CAKE is a story of access and privilege in America told through the histories of baking and cake. Join multi-hyphenate artist and Milwaukeean, Dasha Kelly, as she travels the country talking to bakers, scientists, and historians, witness her nationally touring stage show of the same name, and maybe learn a few things about baking along the way. This doc is one part Food Network, one part history lesson, and 100% Dasha.

DIR Dasha Kelly
PROD Dasha Kelly
SCR Dasha Kelly

Friday, Apr 24 | 1:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)
Sunday, Apr 26 | 1:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE, WORLDVIEWS

MĀRAMA

NEW ZEALAND / 2025 / 84 MIN / ENGLISH, MAORI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

1859, North Yorkshire. When young Māori woman Mary arrives from New Zealand, she's trapped as governess to a wealthy whaler's granddaughter. Living among her ancestors' stolen artifacts, she uncovers Sir Cole's horrific crimes. Embracing her Matakite powers, Mary becomes Mārama and must save Anne and avenge her family by destroying him. Taratoa Stappard's feature debut brings gothic vibes rivaling Robert Eggers' NOSFERATU infused with a dark history more frightening than any jump-scare.

DIR Taratoa Stappard
PROD Sharlene George, Paraone Gloyne, Rouzie Hassanova, RickyLee Waipuka-Russell
SCR Taratoa Stappard

Saturday, Apr 25 | 8:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)
Wednesday, Apr 29 | 9:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



BLACK LENS, ART & ARTISTS

MISAN HARRIMAN: SHOOT THE PEOPLE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 86 MIN / ENGLISH

Featuring conversations with Rep. Ilhan Omar and Martin Luther King III, this urgent and compelling documentary follows Nigerian-born British image-maker Misan Harriman, best known for his powerful photographs of grassroots protests against climate change inaction, Gaza atrocities, George Floyd's murder, and more. However, even as his images provoke palpable reactions, as a self-described person of privilege, Harriman shares his doubts about his work's effectiveness while reflecting on his life's work.

DIR Andy Mundy-Castle
PROD Wyn Baptiste

Friday, Apr 17 | 12:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)
Tuesday, Apr 21 | 8:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)
Monday, Apr 27 | 3:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



GENREQUEER, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

MY BROTHER'S KILLER

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 95 MIN / ENGLISH

The unsolved WeHo murder of Billy London, a gay adult film performer who grew up in rural Wisconsin, lingered as an urban legend for 33 years. What begins as a documentary tribute to Billy's life evolves into a gripping investigation as community members uncover overlooked clues and pursue long-delayed justice. Drawing from a trove of personal footage, MY BROTHER'S KILLER exposes eerie connections between Billy and several suspects filmed in the narrow window surrounding his death.

DIR Rachel Mason
PROD Dion Labriola

Saturday, Apr 18 | 4:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)
Wednesday, Apr 22 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SOUND VISION, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

NEWPORT & THE GREAT FOLK DREAM

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 99 MIN / ENGLISH

Before Coachella and Woodstock, there was Newport. From 1963 to 1966, the famed Newport Folk Festival brought together the likes of Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Johnny Cash, Pete Seeger, and more. Rare and previously unseen archival footage captures this charged moment when freedom songs met work songs, tradition met innovation, and the spirit of protest filled the air. This earnest documentary filled with poignant melodies reveals how music can illuminate struggle, inspire courage, and keep democracy alive.

DIR Robert Gordon

PROD Robert Gordon, Kim Bledsoe-Lloyd, Laura Jean Hocking, Joe Lauro

Friday, Apr 17 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 12:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

NINO

FRANCE / 2025 / 97 MIN / FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A sudden diagnosis leaves Nino, a young man in his late 20s, facing mortality with grace, quiet humor, and the company of family and friends over the course of his birthday weekend, all anchored by Quebec actor and multi-MFF alum Théodore Pellerin's soulful performance. "Loquès' tender debut feels connected to a tradition of French cinema that includes Agnes Varda's CLEO FROM 5 TO 7 and Francois Ozon's TIME TO LEAVE." (Allan Hunter, Screen Daily)

DIR Pauline Loquès

PROD Sandra da Fonseca

Sunday, Apr 19 | 5:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 4:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA

NOW! MORE! YES!

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 75 MIN / ENGLISH

Milwaukee-based artist Max Hey started recording his landlord, TW Hansen, a blind picture car wrangler, after witnessing him purchase an ambulance with no keys on an auction website. When a sudden job loss leads TW into a spiral of despair, his resilience is tested in ways that push him to the edge. NOW! MORE! YES! is a celebration of the human spirit, the power of relationships, and the unexpected ways life can turn around.

DIR Max Hey

PROD Chris James Thompson, Frankie Latina, Andrew Swant

Saturday, Apr 18 | 12:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 10:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

FILM SPONSOR

NUISANCE BEAR

Otis McNulty

UNITED STATES, CANADA, UNITED KINGDOM /

2026 / 90 MIN / ENGLISH, INUKTITUT WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

An expansion of the celebrated MFF2023 short of the same name, a polar bear is forced to navigate a human world of tourists, wildlife officers, and hunters as its ancient migration collides with modern life. When a sacred predator is branded a nuisance, it becomes unclear who truly belongs in this shared landscape. Conflict is sparked between human interests and wild nature in this winner of the 2026 Sundance Film Festival's Grand Jury Prize Documentary.

DIR Gabriela Osio Vanden, Jack Weisman

PROD Michael Code, Will N. Miller, Teddy Leifer

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 12:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

OBSESSION

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 108 MIN / ENGLISH

After breaking the mysterious “One Wish Willow” to win his crush’s heart, a hopeless romantic finds himself getting exactly what he asked for, but soon discovers that some desires come at a dark, sinister price. “A simple, well-trodden concept transforms into a shocking and unsettling descent into abject horror in Barker’s capable hands, ensuring that his latest is destined to become horror’s latest, well, obsession.” (Meagan Navarro, Bloody Disgusting)

DIR Curry Barker

PROD James Harris, Haley Nicole Johnson, Christian Mercuri

SCR Curry Barker

Thursday, Apr 23 | 9:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



ART & ARTISTS

PAINT ME A ROAD OUT OF HERE

UNITED STATES / 2024 / 90 MIN / ENGLISH

In 1971, artist Faith Ringgold made a monumental painting for the women incarcerated at Rikers Island. Fifty years later, formerly incarcerated artist Mary Enoch Elizabeth Baxter bands together with Ringgold plus an eccentric bunch of activists, politicians, artists, and corrections officers to free the painting with the ultimate goal of freeing the women. MFF alum Catherine Gund chronicles the painting’s whitewashed journey and the two artists who challenge the same oppressive and persistent institutions, a half century apart.

DIR Catherine Gund

PROD Catherine Gund, Tanya Selvaratnam

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 4:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 4:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

PALESTINE 36

PALESTINE, UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE, DENMARK, NORWAY, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, JORDAN / 2025 / 119 MIN / ENGLISH, ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Annemarie Jacir returns to the fest with her follow up to MFF2018 selection WAJIB. In PALESTINE 36, rising numbers of Jewish immigrants are arriving to escape persecution in Europe just as Palestinian villages are uniting in the largest and longest uprising against Britain’s 30-year colonial rule. The region is reaching a breaking point, spiraling toward an inevitable collision that will be a decisive turning point for the British Empire and the future of the land.

DIR Annemarie Jacir

PROD Ossama Bawardi

SCR Annemarie Jacir

Monday, Apr 20 | 6:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 4:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



ART & ARTISTS, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

PARALYZED BY HOPE: THE MARIA BAMFORD STORY

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 116 MIN / ENGLISH

Blurring the line between performance and personal crisis, comedian Maria Bamford turns her mental health journey into material that’s riotously funny and ultimately inspiring. Amid hilarious moments from her stand-up specials and fellow comedians weighing in on what makes her so funny, Bamford lays bare the anxiety and persistence underpinning her career. Whether you’re a fan or a newcomer, this film feels like laughing with a friend who speaks with a fearless intimacy and joy.

DIR Neil Berkeley, Judd Apatow

PROD Judd Apatow, Neil Berkeley, Amanda Rohlke, David Heiman

Saturday, Apr 18 | 6:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 19 | 10:30 AM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

PERLA

AUSTRIA, SLOVAKIA / 2025 / 108 MIN / GERMAN, SLOVAK, RUSSIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

In 1981 Vienna, Perla, a dissident artist and single mother, struggles to build a stable life for her daughter Julia, a gifted young pianist. But when Julia's estranged father reappears after years of absence, claiming to be gravely ill, Perla is forced to make a dangerous journey back to communist Czechoslovakia. This perilous return compels her to confront a past she thought she had left behind, jeopardizing her present to protect her future.

DIR Alexandra Makarová

PROD Sabine Gruber, Arash T. Riahi

SCR Alexandra Makarová

Saturday, Apr 25 | 11:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 1:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



SOUND VISION, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

PETER ASHER: EVERYWHERE MAN

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 117 MIN / ENGLISH

Blending documentary and musical memoir, this film tells the extraordinary life story of Peter Asher—pop star, producer, manager, and confidant to legends from Paul McCartney to James Taylor, Linda Ronstadt, Carole King, and more—across six decades at the heart of rock and roll history. Featuring rare archival footage, intimate interviews, and never-before-heard stories, the film offers an illuminating portrait of a man who helped shape the soundtrack of multiple generations.

DIR Dan Geller, Dayna Goldfine

PROD Dayna Goldfine, Dan Geller

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 1:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 4:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 6:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS, WORLDVIEWS

POWER BALLAD

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 98 MIN / ENGLISH

When Rick (Paul Rudd), a past-his-prime wedding singer, meets fading boy-band star Danny (Nick Jonas) during a gig, the two bond over music and a late-night jam session. But when Danny turns one of Rick's songs into the hit that reignites his career, Rick sets out to reclaim the recognition he believes he deserves. From writer-director John Carney (SING STREET, ONCE), POWER BALLAD is a feel-good story about music, self-respect, friendship, and the price of ambition.

DIR John Carney

PROD Anthony Bregman, John Carney, Peter Cron, Rebecca O'Flanagan, Robert Walpole

SCR John Carney, Peter McDonald

Thursday, Apr 30 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema) 🍷



ART & ARTISTS, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

POWOW PEOPLE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 88 MIN / ENGLISH

A celebration of the overlapping arts of music, dance, food, and dress packed into the cultural tradition of the powwow, vérité-style documentary directed by MFF and UWM alum Sky Hopinka, POWWOW PEOPLE is grounded in the rhythms, relationships, and lived experience of a contemporary Native gathering. Rather than entering as outside observers, the filmmakers organized the powwow itself, inviting dancers, singers, vendors, and community members to participate in the making of this film.

DIR Sky Hopinka

PROD John Cardellino, Adam Piron

Saturday, Apr 25 | 4:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 1:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 4:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



GENREQUEER, ART & ARTISTS, SOUND VISION

PUBLIC ACCESS

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 107 MIN / ENGLISH

An unprecedented look inside one of the greatest media experiments to hijack American screens. Rare archives from New York's underground capture a world of creators who transformed our TVs into groundbreaking spaces for self-expression that continue to shape debates around platforms, power, and free speech. **PUBLIC ACCESS** is the untold story of the channels that shattered norms, subverted media, defied censors, and provoked battles over free speech fortelling our world today.

DIR David Shadrack Smith

PROD Sara Crow, Anne-Marcelle Ngabirano

Friday, Apr 17 | 8:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 18 | 12:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 9:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

ROMERÍA

SPAIN, GERMANY / 2025 / 115 MIN / SPANISH, CATALAN, GALICIAN, FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Orphaned at a young age, 18-year-old Marina must travel to Spain's Atlantic coast to obtain a signature for a scholarship application from the paternal grandparents she has never met. She navigates a sea of new family members, uncertain whether she will be embraced or met with resistance. Stirring long-buried emotions, reviving tenderness, and uncovering unspoken wounds tied to the past, Marina pieces together the fragmented and often contradictory memories of the parents she barely remembers.

DIR Carla Simón

PROD María Zamora

SCR Carla Simón

Sunday, Apr 26 | 10:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 5:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



CINEMA HOOLIGANTE, GENREQUEER

SACCHARINE

AUSTRALIA / 2025 / 112 MIN / ENGLISH

Preceded by A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING AND EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE | Dir. Sophia Stezala

Lovelorn medical student Hana joins an obscure weight-loss craze (eating human ashes), but her desperate pursuit of control unleashes a haunting force tied to the dead she devours. As physical transformation dances with supernatural terror, this eerie Australian horror interrogates body image, compulsion, and the dark cost of getting what you want fast.

DIR Natalie Erika James

PROD Natalie Erika James, Anna McLeish, Sarah Shaw

SCR Natalie Erika James

Saturday, Apr 18 | 9:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 10:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 10:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



RATED K: FOR KIDS

SCHOOL OF ROCK

UNITED STATES / 2003 / 108 MIN / ENGLISH

I pledge allegiance... to the band... and to the cult classic that raised a generation of stick-it-to-the-Man cinephiles. After being kicked out of his heavy metal band, Dewey Finn maneuvers into a gig as a substitute teacher at an uptight private elementary school—only to try and turn his class into anarchist rock stars. It's time for the next generation to learn a life lesson: You're not hardcore unless you live hardcore. **AGES 12+**

DIR Richard Linklater

PROD Scott Rudin

SCR Mike White

Saturday, Apr 25 | 3:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

SEIZED

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 90 MIN / ENGLISH

When the small town of Marion, KS, is thrust into the international spotlight after a police raid on the Marion County Record and the death of its 98-year-old co-owner, a fierce debate ignites about the abuse of power, journalistic ethics, local journalism, and the United States Constitution. This taut documentary reveals the power and pressures of ethics and freedom of speech and the press that pervade our times, even in rural Kansas.

DIR Sharon Liese

PROD Sharon Liese, Sasha Alpert, Paul Matyasovsky

Sunday, Apr 19 | 5:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Monday, Apr 20 | 1:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 2:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

FILM SPONSOR

WEYCOGROUP
FLORSHEIM • STACY ADAMS • NUNN BUSH • BOGS



SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS, CINEMA HOOLIGANTE

SEVERIN PRESENTS: A BAY OF BLOOD

ITALY / 1971 / 85 MIN / ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A wealthy countess is murdered for her bayfront real estate, leading to the systematic slaughter of ruthless developers, greedy heirs, and bad neighbors. After he established the giallo genre with BLOOD AND BLACK LACE, Mario Bava once again forever altered the horror landscape with A BAY OF BLOOD, bursting onto the scene as the first slasher film. Arrive early for the Severin Films blu-ray booth and get a free, branded barf bag for the screening (while supplies last).

DIR Mario Bava

PROD Guiseppe Zaccariello, Alfredo Bini

SCR Mario Bava, Guiseppe Zaccariello, Filippo Ottoni, Gene Luotto

Friday, Apr 17 | 11:59 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



GENREQUEER, NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

SHE'S THE HE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 81 MIN / ENGLISH

Before high school graduation, Ethan and Alex pose as trans women in a last ditch effort to squash gay rumors. It's all a joke and a cringy dance of lies until Ethan (Misha Osherovich, in an Independent Spirit Award nominated performance) realizes a deeper truth: She really is trans. The two must reckon with their changing friendship, coming out, and coming-of-age in this over-the-top comedy destined to become a queer classic.

DIR Siobhan McCarthy

PROD Halley Albert, Vic Brandt, Shuli Harel

SCR Siobhan McCarthy

Friday, Apr 24 | 6:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 9:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

SILENT FRIEND

GERMANY, FRANCE, HUNGARY / 2025 / 147 MIN / ENGLISH, GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A majestic ginkgo tree in the heart of a medieval German university town stands witness to three human lives. 2020, a neuroscientist from Hong Kong begins an unexpected experiment with the old tree. 1972, a young student is profoundly changed by observing and connecting with a geranium. 1908, the university's first female student discovers sacred patterns of the universe hidden within the humblest of plants.

DIR Ildikó Enyedi

PROD Reinhard Brundig, Nicolas Elghozi, Mónika Mécs, Morgane Olivier

SCR Ildikó Enyedi

Saturday, Apr 18 | 7:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 2:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

SILENT REBELLION

BELGIUM, FRANCE, SWITZERLAND / 2025 / 98 MIN / FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A virtuous teen in a repressive rural Protestant community in 1943 Switzerland questions her village's morality as they turn away Jewish refugees. After a personal trauma upends her life, she must find the courage to forge her own path against social expectations. Director Marie-Elsa Sgualdo's feature debut explores the consequences of neutrality in the face of oppression, relevant now as much as it was then.

DIR Marie-Elsa Sgualdo

PROD Fabrice Preel-Cleach, Emmanuelle Latourrette

SCR Marie-Elsa Sgualdo

Monday, Apr 20 | 4:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 4:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



RATED K: FOR KIDS, NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

SPACE CADET

CANADA / 2025 / 86 MIN / NO DIALOGUE

Young astronaut Celeste knows that her calling is in outer space. But when she gets the invitation to finally make her dream a reality, she realizes that she must leave her guardian robot grounded on Earth. With zero dialogue but boundless heart, *SPACE CADET* (beautifully stop-motion animated, and soundtracked by Karen O) takes us on a futuristic adventure through not just space but also the unspoken intricacies of human existence. **AGES 6+**

DIR Kid Koala

PROD Ginette Petit, Nathalie Bissonnette, Michel Pradier

SCR Mylène Chollet

Sunday, Apr 26 | 11:00 AM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS, SOUND VISION

STOP MAKING SENSE

UNITED STATES / 1984 / 88 MIN / ENGLISH

One of our most sacred MFF traditions returns! Make sure all aisles are clear for dancing as Jonathan Demme's essential concert documentary chronicling multiple nights of propulsive performance from the iconic Talking Heads (including magnetic frontman David Byrne and Milwaukee's own Jerry Harrison) is sure to burn down the house once again. A24's new restoration of this iconic film gains momentum like a runaway freight train, the show (and Byrne's iconic suit) only gets bigger as it rolls along.

DIR Jonathan Demme

PROD Gary Goetzman, Gary Kurfirst

SCR Jonathan Demme, Talking Heads

Saturday, Apr 25 | 9:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

FILM SPONSOR



SOUND VISION

SUMMER TOUR

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 82 MIN / ENGLISH

Few American demographics are more easily caricatured than Deadheads, those swirling, dosing, hippie-dressed vagabonds. But in his infinitely sweet and wise documentary, director Mischa Richter offers us the Deadheads as complex, self-aware, and resourceful members of a wandering commune, one that's admirable for its kindness and care. *SUMMER TOUR* flows along like a Dead song, riffing and jamming along the way. The film presents a certain irresistible logic to the Deadhead way of life.

DIR Mischa Richter

PROD Chloë Sevigny, Pete Shilaimon, Mickey Liddell, Michael Glassman

Monday, Apr 20 | 8:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

THE A LIST: 15 STORIES FROM ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIASPORAS

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 84 MIN / ENGLISH

APA, APIDA, AAPI, AANHPI. The acronyms are as unwieldy as the assortment of countries, territories, and lands whose people have been grouped under these letters. But what do they share, if anything at all? With artfully used archival footage and heartfelt original interviews, MFF2022 alum Eugene Yi deftly interrogates these questions across fifteen profiles of nationally recognized names and more homegrown heroes, ultimately finding common threads of humanity amidst vast difference.

DIR Eugene Yi

PROD Jada Yuan, Tina Nguyen, Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, Chad Thompson

Saturday, Apr 18 | 7:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 19 | 4:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

FILM SPONSOR

THE BIG CHEESE

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 87 MIN /

ENGLISH, FRENCH, JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

In the high-pressure world of international cheesemongering, Adam Moskowitz aims to send the first American to claim the top prize at the Mondial du Fromage competition in France. While the European model for this “sommelier of cheese” profession eclipses its stateside counterpart in societal support, Moskowitz—and his alter-ego, Mr. Moo—believe scrappy American ingenuity can take the wheel. Sara Joe Wolansky’s supremely witty and entertaining directorial debut is an instant artisanal classic.

DIR Sarah Joe Wolansky

PROD Sarah Joe Wolansky, James A. Smith

Friday, Apr 24 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 10:00 AM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 3:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS, CINE SIN FRONTERAS

THE BLUE TRAIL (O ÚLTIMO AZUL)

BRAZIL, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, CHILE / 2025 / 86 MIN / PORTUGUESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

To maximize economic productivity, the government orders the elderly to relocate to distant housing colonies. Tereza, 77, refuses, instead embarking on a journey through the Amazon that will change her destiny forever. Winner of the Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize at the 75th Berlin International Film Festival, the latest from director Gabriel Mascaro (DIVINE LOVE, MFF2019) is an inspiring reminder that it’s never too late to take flight.

DIR Gabriel Mascaro

PROD Rachel Daisy Ellis, Sandino Saravia Vinay, Giancarlo Nasi, Marleen Slot

SCR Gabriel Mascaro, Tibério Azul

Sunday, Apr 19 | 10:45 AM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 4:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES, GENREQUEER

THE DADS

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 72 MIN / ENGLISH

Expanded from MFF alum Luchina Fisher’s award winning short documentary of the same name, THE DADS follows fathers of trans and nonbinary children as they confront attacks from a newly empowered right-wing administration and conservative Supreme Court. Fathers from across the county (including Wisconsin!) gather together for a retreat, gain healing and respite in nature, and reveal fatherhood as an act of profound, radical resistance.

DIR Luchina Fisher

PROD Luchina Fisher

Friday, Apr 17 | 4:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 4:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

THE DATING GAME

UNITED STATES, UNITED KINGDOM, NORWAY, CHINA / 2025 / 90 MIN / MANDARIN CHINESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

The aftermath of China's one-child policy is a lopsided gender ratio. In a society with more men than women, a male loneliness epidemic looms as men struggle to find wives in a cutthroat dating market. Men hire dating coaches who, through their parroting of patriarchal clichés, may just be making things a lot worse. **THE DATING GAME** is an entertaining, at times absurd, yet always heartfelt story about love and gender roles in modern China.

DIR Violet Du Feng

PROD Violet Du Feng, Joanna Natasegara, James Costa, Mette Cheng Munthe-Kaas

Monday, Apr 27 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 1:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



BLACK LENS, WORLDVIEWS

THE FISHERMAN

GHANA / 2024 / 106 MIN / ENGLISH

Atta Oko is a retired traditional fisherman from Ghana whose life takes a whimsical turn when he is forced into retirement and acquires a talking fish with a bougie attitude, leading him on an adventure to Accra. Joined by his three quirky "associates" with a dream of owning a boat, they navigate the chaos of the modern world. Filled with laughter, magic, and vibrant Ghanaian culture, this feature is sure to make you laugh, cry, or both.

DIR Zoey Martinson

PROD Korey Jackson, Kofi Owusu-Afriyie

SCR Zoey Martinson

Monday, Apr 20 | 9:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 6:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS

FILM SPONSOR

THE GENERAL FEAT. ANVIL ORCHESTRA

UNITED STATES / 1926 / 75 MIN / SILENT WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A beloved MFF tradition, Anvil Orchestra returns to the Oriental Theatre to celebrate the 100th birthday of Buster Keaton's **THE GENERAL** with live orchestra accompaniment. One of the most revered comedies of the silent era, this one-night-only musical screening is not to be missed.

DIR Buster Keaton, Claude Bruckman

SCR Clyde Bruckman, Buster Keaton

Monday, Apr 20 | 6:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema) 🎪



SOUND VISION, ART & ARTISTS

THE LAST CRITIC

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 82 MIN / ENGLISH

Sixty years and a million records ago, Robert Christgau invented Rock music criticism. Now in his eighties, Bob is still at it—amazingly with the same vigor, wit, and masterful craft that has defined his expansive and trailblazing career. But in a world where albums are increasingly irrelevant, print is dead, and algorithms have eclipsed critics, this playful documentary asks: What happens next—for Bob, but also for music criticism as a whole?

DIR Matty Wishnow

PROD Paul Lovelace, Ben Wu

Saturday, Apr 18 | 1:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 19 | 11:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

THE LAST ONE FOR THE ROAD

ITALY, GERMANY / 2025 / 100 MIN /
ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Carlobianchi and Doriano, two broke fiftysomethings with a “never skip the last drink” philosophy, meet Giulio, a shy architecture student adrift in life. What starts as a chance encounter turns into a chaotic road trip through the Venetian plains. THE LAST ONE FOR THE ROAD is “a pleasant Italian gem on drinking buddies, aging and wistful flavors of life.” (Tomris Laffly, Variety)

DIR Francesco Sossai

PROD Marta Donzelli, Philipp Kreuzer, Gregorio Paonessa, Cecilia Trautvetter

SCR Adriano Candiago, Francesco Sossai

Thursday, Apr 23 | 4:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 4:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

FILM SPONSOR



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

THE LAST SPY

GERMANY, UNITED STATES / 2025 / 106 MIN / ENGLISH, GERMAN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

From escaping Nazi Germany as a Jewish refugee to becoming the first CIA Station chief in post-war Berlin and a key player in Cold War espionage, THE LAST SPY is a riveting documentary honoring the life of 100-year-old CIA spymaster Peter Sichel. Sichel’s story inspires while also providing insights to late 20th century geopolitics and espionage that go beyond what’s typically depicted onscreen.

DIR Katharina Otto-Bernstein

PROD Kathrin Lohmann, Katharina Otto-Bernstein, Sabine Schenk

SCR Katharina Otto-Bernstein

Friday, Apr 17 | 4:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 7:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 1:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

THE LIFE WE LEAVE

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 87 MIN / ENGLISH

When Washington state legalized human composting as a form of interment, entrepreneur Micah Truman risks it all to build the world’s first large-scale terramation facility. But when the conventional deathcare industry resists, he is forced to pivot, and must learn to care for the grieving while transforming his business. Alongside two experienced funeral directors who yearn to transform deathcare, he finds that what started as an ambitious venture becomes deeply personal, reimagining human connection, ritual, and legacy.

DIR JJ Gerber

PROD Clementine Briand, Ann Rogers, Melanie Miller, JJ Gerber

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 1:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 6:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

THE OLDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 87 MIN / ENGLISH

A decade-long global journey from MFF alum Sam Green (32 SOUNDS) chronicles the ever-changing record holders of the title of oldest person alive. What begins as a portrait of longevity becomes a meditation on the passage of time, the randomness of fate, and the joy and profoundly human experience of being alive.

DIR Sam Green

PROD Alison Byrne Fields, Josh Penn

Friday, Apr 24 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 26 | 5:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

THE PYTHON HUNT

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 91 MIN / ENGLISH

Every year, the Florida government calls upon the general public to compete in an invasive python removal contest in the Everglades in an attempt to save the threatened ecosystem. For ten grueling nights, an eclectic group of amateur hunters confront the dangerous terrain, nocturnal creatures, and their own tiny demons. Meanwhile, one professional hunter leads the charge to undermine the competition, questioning what hides beneath the python mania gripping the 'glades.

DIR Xander Robin

PROD Lauren Cioffi, Lance Oppenheim, Melissa Oppenheim, Xander Robin

Sunday, Apr 19 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SOUND VISION

THE REED SISTERS: AN AMERICAN STORY

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 95 MIN / ENGLISH

THE REED SISTERS: AN AMERICAN STORY traces the life and times of the legendary Reed Sisters. Spanning nearly fifty years, this "From the Vaults" style doc blends candid interviews with the sisters, friends, and fans, handmade dioramas, and a treasure trove of unforgettable archival footage from their iconic DIY variety show. A fun and fascinating dive into the wonders of 1970s public access TV with some surprising—sometimes unsettling—twists and turns.

DIR Rachel Nanstad

PROD Rachel Nanstad

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 4:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Friday, Apr 24 | 1:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

THE SIX BILLION DOLLAR MAN

UNITED STATES, GERMANY, FRANCE / 2025 / 126 MIN / ENGLISH

Journalism has never been as dangerous as it is today, a world where the defense of truth is under attack. The latest documentary from MFF alum Eugene Jarecki traces the saga of Julian Assange, a contemporary icon of the right to information, whose recent release from prison has reignited the global debate on press freedom. Thanks to privileged access to Wikileaks archives and never-before-seen evidence, this documentary takes the form of a high-tech international thriller.

DIR Eugene Jarecki

PROD Kathleen Fournier, Eugene Jarecki

Monday, Apr 20 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 9:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 3:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



BLACK LENS, NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

THE TRAVEL COMPANION

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 91 MIN / ENGLISH

Struggling documentarian Simon (Tristan Turner) relies on the unique perk of his roommate and best friend Bruce's (Anthony Oberbeck) airline job: free flights as his travel companion, which he indulges in frequently to shoot footage for his films. When Beatrice (Naomi Asa), a charming fellow up-and-coming filmmaker, enters their lives and starts to date Bruce, Simon fears his one advantage in the harsh world of the film industry may disappear before his eyes.

DIR Travis Wood, Alex Mallis

PROD Weston Auburn, Travis Wood, Alex Mallis

SCR Alex Mallis, Travis Wood, Weston Auburn

Friday, Apr 24 | 6:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SOUND VISION, ART & ARTISTS

THE WAY WE MOVE

FRANCE / 2026 / 95 MIN / ENGLISH, AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES 

Amber Galloway is a star ASL (American Sign Language) interpreter who specializes in live music interpretations. Amber teaches her art to share her life's mission: making music accessible to the Deaf community. As the film unfolds, we learn about Amber's painful past and the lives of her students, as they come together and forge life-long bonds. **THE WAY WE MOVE** is a powerful film about music, Deaf culture, connection, and resilience.

DIR Vanessa Dumont, Nicolas Davenel

PROD Matthieu Belghiti, Hubert Cornet, Eleonore Dailly, Edouard de Lachomette, Arnaud Le Guilcher

SCR Vanessa Dumont, Nicolas Davenel

Sunday, Apr 19 | 8:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 2:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 4:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, GENREQUEER

THEYDREAM

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 89 MIN / ENGLISH

After twenty years of chronicling his Puerto Rican family's life and devastating losses, MFF alum William David Caballero and his mother craft animations that mirror scenes from their lives, expanding on the multiple shorts he has created about his family, through laughter and tears. Winner of the NEXT Special Jury Award for Creative Expression at Sundance Film Festival, this autobiographical documentary is proof that every act of creation is also an act of letting go.

DIR William David Caballero

PROD William David Caballero, Brad Jones, Erin Ploss-Campoamor, Elaine Del Valle

SCR William David Caballero, Erin Ploss-Campoamor, Elaine Del Valle

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 7:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 1:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

TRACES OF HOME

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 90 MIN / ARABIC, ENGLISH, SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Filmmaker Colette Ghunim follows her family through the complex histories of her Mexican mother and Palestinian father's journeys to the US and return to their homelands. Colette's initial desire to heal her disconnect from her cultures and her parents reveals an internal quest to discover home within herself. This highly reflective and personal documentary doubles as a meditation on loss and grief relieved, ultimately, through reconciliation.

DIR Colette Ghunim

PROD Kartemquin Films, Capella Fahoome, Dan Rybicky, Sara Elyssa Maamouri

SCR Sara Maamouri, Colette Ghunim

Saturday, Apr 18 | 3:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Sunday, Apr 19 | 10:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 1:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS, CREAM CITY CINEMA

FILM SPONSOR

UECK



UNITED STATES / 2026 / 94 MIN / ENGLISH

Milwaukee legend, Bob Uecker, the former Major League baseball player, Hall of Fame sportscaster, comedian, and actor has seen it all and made us laugh along the way. Though **UECK** passed away in January 2025, this documentary from Milwaukee-based filmmakers Michael T. Vollmann and Steve Farr persists as a testament to his legacy, giving audiences intimate access to his life, work, family, and friends, amplifying his humor and heart for future generations.

DIR Steve Farr, Michael T. Vollmann

PROD Jeremy Coon, Barry Poltermann

Thursday, Apr 16 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema) 



CINE SIN FRONTERAS, NORTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS

VAINILLA (VANILLA)

MEXICO / 2025 / 99 MIN / SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Weaving in and out of rooms, one family of seven bold women find their own way out of the looming inevitability of home foreclosure. Through the lens of 8-year-old Roberta, we see their relationship in the most dynamic and intimate of ways. Set in 1980s Mexico, this directorial debut explores the complexities of multi-generational relationships in a household with diverse feminine influences.

DIR Mayra Hermsillo

PROD Karla Luna Cantu, Stacy Perskie, Paloma Petra, Andrea Porras Madero

SCR Mayra Hermsillo

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 1:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 7:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



SOUND VISION

WE ARE FUGAZI FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.

UNITED STATES / 2024 / 96 MIN / ENGLISH

WE ARE FUGAZI FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. is a collection of crowd-sourced, fan-recorded live shows, and rare archival footage that pays tribute to Fugazi's prowess as a live act—for old fans to remember and for a new generation to discover what they missed. From the director of HEAVY METAL PARKING LOT, this film celebrates the fans and their cameras, as much as the band itself—a collision/collusion of the ephemeral moment on stage and the moments captured on camera.

DIR Jeff Krulik, Joseph Pattisall, Joe Gross

Saturday, Apr 18 | 10:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 9:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



ART & ARTISTS, CREAM CITY CINEMA

WELCOME POETS

UNITED STATES / 2025 / 53 MIN / ENGLISH

A poetically structured documentary that follows 2023-24 Wisconsin Poet Laureate, Nicholas Gulig, as he returns to his home state of Wisconsin after nearly two decades away, following five years teaching in Thailand, joins UW-Whitewater as a poetry professor, and moves to Fort Atkinson. Feeling estranged from the state, and in a divided political climate, Gulig finds a steadying presence in the region's ties to lauded 20th century Wisconsin poet Lorine Niedecker.

DIR Colin Crowley

PROD Colin Crowley, Nicholas Gulig

SCR Nicholas Gulig

Sunday, Apr 19 | 4:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 4:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

WHAT DOES THAT NATURE SAY TO YOU

SOUTH KOREA / 2025 / 108 MIN / KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A young poet drops his girlfriend off at her parents' house and is amazed by its grandeur. He bumps into her father, meets her mother and sister, and they all end up spending a long day together; fueled by conversation, food, and libations. In his 33rd feature, multi-MFF alum Hong Sang-soo spins a bitterly comic fable on the trials of living simply and righteously in our world.

DIR Hong Sang-soo

PROD Hong Sang-soo

SCR Hong Sang-soo

Sunday, Apr 26 | 6:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 4:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES, BLACK LENS

#WHILEBLACK

UNITED STATES, CANADA / 2026 / 84 MIN / ENGLISH

#WHILEBLACK is a powerful documentary that centers on one of the most viral videos of our time: George Floyd's murder, seen 1.4 billion times in 12 days, sparking protests in over 2,000 cities worldwide. Darnella Frazier and others like Diamond Reynolds, who livestreamed Philando Castile's killing, reveal how social platforms and corporations profit from viral Black trauma, while survivors endure lasting psychological and physical danger. A necessary meditation on modern witnessing, exposing the human cost of viral footage.

DIR Sidney Fussell, Jennifer Holness

PROD Mariam Bastani, Ann Shin

SCR Sidney Fussell, Jennifer Holness, Ann Shin

Sunday, Apr 26 | 4:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 4:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



WORLDVIEWS

YES

FRANCE, ISRAEL, CYPRUS, GERMANY / 2025 / 150 MIN / HEBREW, ENGLISH, RUSSIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

In YES, Director Nadav Lapid (MFF2019) once again takes vigorous critical aim at the Israeli government with a new approach: submission. In the days following October 7, Y., a jazz musician, and his wife Yasmin, a dancer, resolve to say yes to everything. They surrender themselves and their art to Israel's social, political, and military elite. Soon, Y. is entrusted with a mission of the utmost importance: to compose the music for a rousing, ruthless new national anthem.

DIR Nadav Lapid

PROD Antoine Lafon, Judith Lou Lévy, Hugo Sélignac

SCR Nadav Lapid

Sunday, Apr 19 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 5:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



ART & ARTISTS, SOUND VISION

YOU HAD TO BE THERE

CANADA, UNITED STATES / 2025 / 98 MIN / ENGLISH

The 1972 Toronto production of GODSPELL is legendary for launching many illustrious careers including Martin Short, Eugene Levy, Gilda Radner and more, and ignited a comedy revolution. With its deft mix of engaging interviews, animated recreations, and other inventive means of compensating for the scarcity of original archival materials, YOU HAD TO BE THERE brings this special time back into the present with an irreplaceable sense of joy.

DIR Nick Davis

PROD Bonnie Comley, Nick Davis, Stewart F. Lane, Tom Powers, Sue Turley

Thursday, Apr 23 | 6:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Monday, Apr 27 | 12:15 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL FAVORITES

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

UNITED STATES / 2026 / 98 MIN / ENGLISH

A new generation of parents, teens, and reformers are fighting back against Big Tech's agenda to define the future of human connection. Blending intimate human stories with insights from leading experts in tech reform and digital wellbeing, YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE reveals how deeply the attention economy is reshaping us while asking some of the most urgent questions of our time. A must watch for anyone with an online presence, which, in 2026, is most of us.

DIR Sara Robin

PROD Dan Kennedy, Sara Robin

SCR Jack LeMay

Saturday, Apr 18 | 1:15 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 23 | 4:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

FILM SPONSOR



SUPER SECRET

MEMBERS-ONLY SCREENING

Catch this screening if you can — it's hiding in plain sight!

April 29, 2026 • 4 & 7 PM • Oriental Theatre

Must be a Member & registered. Pass alone won't get you in.

MEMBERS GET MORE

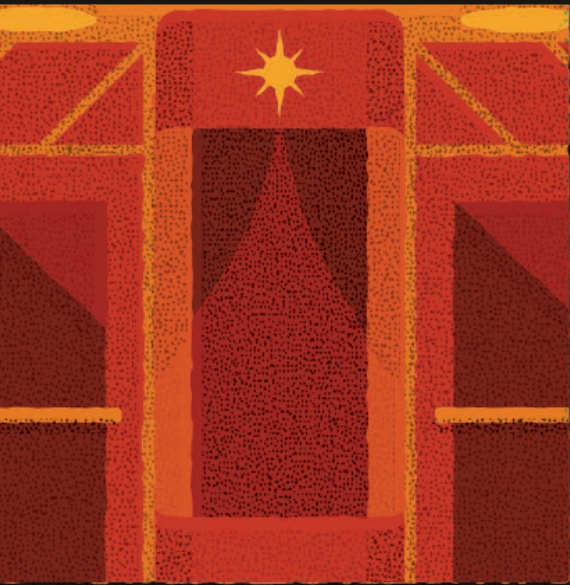
- **FREE** monthly screenings
- **Festival and YEAR-ROUND** discounts
- **EARLY** access

Become a Member during the Festival and enjoy instant access to discounts on tickets and concessions!

Visit mkefilm.org/membership or sign up at our box office today



Short Films



BLACK LENS

FILM SPONSOR

BLACK LENS DOC SHORTS: IT TAKES A VILLAGE | 55 MIN

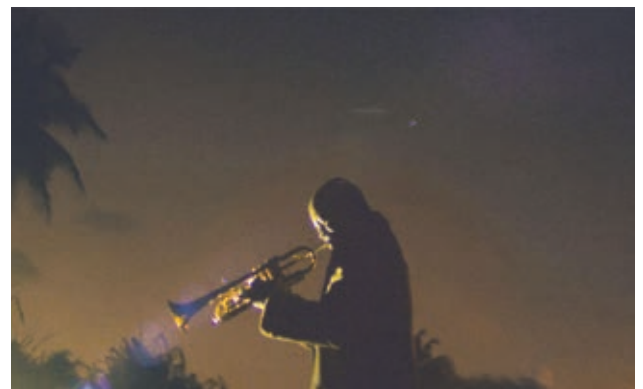


This collection of non-fiction shorts depicts a powerful and grounding look at the real world. From forests filled with camping teenagers and vital bee-keeping lessons, to a drive-thru in Gainesville FL, these films offer sincere bite-sized looks at some of the many realities and lived experiences that come with being Black in America.

One Last Order
Sam Soko, Lauren DeFilippo
The Boys and the Bees
Arielle Knight

They Put Us in The Woods
Cristin Stephens

Saturday, Apr 18 | 3:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)
Monday, Apr 27 | 5:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



BLACK LENS

FILM SPONSOR

BLACK LENS FICTION SHORTS: FOR THE DREAMERS | 78 MIN

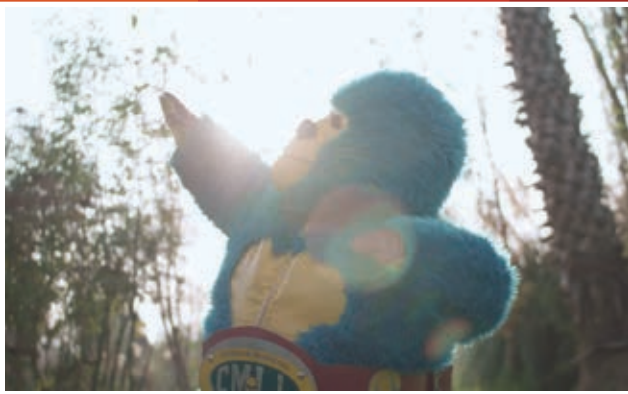


This program of short fiction films created by exemplary Black filmmakers offers a look into the many emotions that encapsulate the Black experience by utilizing the framework of fictional storytelling. Featuring dreamy landscapes and frantic struggles, this program oozes with depictions of yearning and what it really means to "dream."

Bailey's Blues
Shiloh Tumo Washington
Birdie
Praise Odigie Paige
Firecracker
Jovan Brooks

Jazz Infernal
Will Niava
Trife
Christian Yosef

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 6:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)
Wednesday, Apr 29 | 4:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



CINE SIN FRONTERAS

CINE SIN FRONTERAS SHORTS | 63 MIN

From documentaries to animation, the four films in the CINE SIN FRONTERAS SHORTS program explore physicality, grief, reflection, and transformation. Guaranteed to take you on a journey of emotions and experiences, these films bring us into the realities of a beloved Luchador, body dysmorphia, unexpected surprises, and unpacking loss.

Kemonito: La Ultima Caida
Teresa de Miguel

Marga en el DF
Gabriela Ortega

La Pena No Duerme De Noche
Josefina Montino Cabrera,
Martín André

Una Vez En Un Cuerpo
María Cristina Pérez González

Monday, Apr 20 | 3:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)
Friday, Apr 24 | 7:15 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



GENREQUEER

GENREQUEER SHORTS | 102 MIN

From tender (BAFTA Award-winning!) animation to laugh out loud comedies, GENREQUEER SHORTS continues Milwaukee Film's year-round celebration of queer cinema. Join us for an evening that showcases the unique histories, complexities, and joys of the LGBTQ+ experience.

AutoErotica: We Buy Gay Stuff
Jeremy von Stilb

Poreless
Harris Doran

Betty St. Clair
Kyle Casey Chu, Syra McCarthy

Rainbow Girls
Nana Duffuor

Butt/Stuff
Ricki Romano

The Motive
Jorge Molina

In the Flesh
Emily Frances Kaplan

Two Black Boys in Paradise
Baz Sells

Monday, Apr 20 | 4:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)
Thursday, Apr 23 | 7:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



RATED K: FOR KIDS

KIDS SHORTS: SIZE SMALL | 47 MIN

Packed to its teeny-tiny brim with stories sure to inspire wonder in our teeniest-tiniest audiences (maybe even for their first time in-theater!), this collection of shorts will have our littlest ones experiencing the awe of cinema in a kaleidoscope of dancing, early life lessons, and an Evel Knievel weevil. **AGES 3+**

Baião D'intérieurs
Héloïse Dorsan-Rachet

Meevil the Weevil: Breakfast of Champions
Kyle Arneson

Cloud Fish
Noé Garcia

Piccolo Piccolo
Marta Gennari

Dancing in the Rain
Chao-chun Yeh

Sketches on Ice
Marion Auvin

Kukeleku
Jelle Janssen

The Naughty Seat
David Johnson

My Neighbor
Dominic M. Carola

Saturday, Apr 18 | 10:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)
Saturday, Apr 25 | 10:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



RATED K: FOR KIDS

KIDS SHORTS: SIZE MEDIUM | 67 MIN

As our youngest move into the next phase of their childhood, these films similarly start to expand in story, style, and heart: a lonely polar bear making a new friend out of snow, a young gamer learning to love his indigenous culture, and, of course, garden gnomes. **AGES 6+**

Cardboard
J.P. Vine

Pow!
Joey Clift

First Winter
Schantelle Alonzo

Snow Bear
Aaron Blaise

Forever
Théo Djekou, Pierre Ferrari,
Cyrine Jouini, Pauline Philippart,
Anissa Terrier

Solstice
Luke Angus
The Princess is Missing!
Kabir Kukathas

Forevergreen
Nathan Engelhardt, Jeremy Spears

Sunday, Apr 19 | 10:00 AM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)
Saturday, Apr 25 | 1:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



RATED K: FOR KIDS

KIDS SHORTS: SIZE LARGE | 74 MIN

Between the smallest warrior finding big hope for peace, a boy saving his Nainai's dumpling shop, and a sparrow NOT looking up to an ostrich, these shorts for big kids will take them around the world to see how others are stepping into tween-dom with wisdom, bravery, and laughter. **AGES 10+**

Éiru Giovanna Ferrari	Ostrich Marie Kenov
Lakay Amarise DeFranco	Push Oana Lacroix
Mountain Roots Carrie McCarthy, Mark Pedri	The Legend of the Hummingbird Morgan Devos
Nainai's Recipe Daya Lee	Wednesdays with Gramps Chris Copeland, Justin Copeland

Saturday, Apr 18 | 11:00 AM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)
Sunday, Apr 26 | 1:45 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



SHORTER IS BETTER

SHORTS: DATE NIGHT | 94 MIN

Your 2026 Milwaukee Film Festival isn't complete without a Date Night. Fall in love with these ten tales full of heartwarming meet-cutes, steamy encounters, hilarious hurdles, and the secrets to making it all last.

Chappell Roan - "The Subway" Amber Grace Johnson	HUGS Nicolas Fong
DISC Blake Winston Rice	Ivar Markus Tangre
Divine Intervention Ravenna Tran	Narrated By Khaya Fraités
Forcefield of Love Liz Moskowitz, Riley Engemoen	The Second Time Around Jack Howard
Houston, We Have a Crush Omer Ben Shachar	Two Ships McKinley Benson

Friday, Apr 17 | 6:30 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)
Tuesday, Apr 21 | 10:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)
Friday, Apr 24 | 9:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



SHORTER IS BETTER

SHORTS: LET'S GET ANIMATED | 92 MIN

Take the inventive, dazzling energy of our Rated K: For Kids shorts and turn it toward the messy, complicated side of being all grown up. From bizarre misadventures to a singular new creation from two-time Oscar-nominee Don Hertzfeldt, these darkly funny, poignant, and visually stunning animated shorts prove that "cartoons" are more than just child's play. **AGES 13+**

1981 Andy London, Carolyn London	Mangittatuarjuk (The Gnawer of Rocks) Louise Flaherty
9 Million Colors Bára Anna	Ovary-Acting Ida Melum
Brain Space Laura Tofarides	Paper Trail Don Hertzfeldt
Busy Bodies Kate Renshaw-Lewis	Water Girl Sandra Desmazières

Friday, Apr 17 | 4:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)
Thursday, Apr 23 | 6:45 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



SHORTER IS BETTER

SHORTS: MOST DRAMATIC | 88 MIN

A Sundance Jury Award winner, messages from beyond the grave, and a major Hollywood callback for one partner but not the other, are just a few of juicy dramas in this new Shorter Is Better program. It's everything you love about film festival dramas—but six for the price of one!

Albatross Amandine Thomas	Nervous Energy Eve Liu
Callback Matthew Puccini	Take Care Brittany Ashley
Crisis Actor Lily Platt	The Oracle JJ Adler

Friday, Apr 24 | 10:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)
Saturday, Apr 25 | 3:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



SHORTER IS BETTER

SHORTS: OUT OF THIS WORLD | 90 MIN

Enter this portal into strange worlds, haunting folklore, and uncover a sure fire way to defeat AI in this collection of sci-fi, fantasy, and genre shorts. Brace yourself for adrenaline-pumping stories that will leave you on the edge of your seat.

Em & Selma Go Griffin Hunting

Alexander Thompson

Overgrown

Nathan Ginter

Spanked by a Ghost

Katelyn Douglass

Taga

Jill Marie Sachs

Talk Me

Joeear Hanna-Zhang

We Were Here

Pranav Bhasin

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 10:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 10:00 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Thursday, Apr 30 | 7:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Lubar Cinema)



SHORTER IS BETTER

SHORTS: STRANGER THAN FICTION | 100 MIN

An explosive moment with a beached whale, a world record attempt, and the origins of an iconic 80's tune—you'll find all this and so much more in our annual parade of documentary shorts that have to be seen to be believed.

Coming Home

Joanna Rudnick

Eruption

Victoria Trow

Luigi

Liza Mandelup

Oh Whale

Winslow Crane-Murdoch

OH YEAH!

Nick Canfield

The Baker's Hotline

Emily Schuman, Dave Schuman

We Were The Scenery

Christopher Radcliff

Sunday, Apr 19 | 1:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 1:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 3:45 PM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)



SHORTER IS BETTER

SHORTS: SURPRISE, SURPRISE | 94 MIN

It's no surprise why this comedy shorts program has become a Festival favorite. 94 minutes bursting with creativity, hilarious reveals, and jaw-dropping twists, SHORTS: SURPRISE SURPRISE is the perfect pick-me-up for your MFF experience. I would tell you more, but that would ruin the surprise!

A Very Normal Seeming Man

Allamaprabhu Pattanashetty

Baa-baa!

Teresa Juksaar

Balloon Animals

Anna Baumgarten

Candy Bar

Nash Edgerton

Halfway Haunted

Sam Rudykoff

Passarinho

Natalia García Agraz

Replay

Phil Mazo

She Raised Me

Ben Lewis

The Weird Guy

Sandy Honig

Saturday, Apr 18 | 6:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)

Monday, Apr 20 | 10:30 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



SHORTER IS BETTER

SHORTS: THE BEST DAMN F*#@ING MIDNIGHT PROGRAM EVER. SHIT. | 87 MIN

Enter a f*#@ed up world of chaos, creeps, and gallonsssss of pus. <3 From late-night humor to surreal transformations, these eight films push boundaries, dare discomfort, and guarantee you'll leave the theater wide awake. **AGES 18+**.

Channelvue

Brandon Tauszik

Homemade Gatorade

Carter Amelia Davis

Imago

Ariel Zengotita

MAN EATING PUSSY

Emily Lawson

Réel

Rodrigue Huart

Tongue

Lim Da seul

Tuna Tartare

Lena Greene

Wax

Alexandre Forgues

Saturday, Apr 18 | 11:59 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)

Saturday, Apr 25 | 9:00 PM | Oriental Theatre (Herzfeld Cinema)

Wednesday, Apr 29 | 10:00 PM | Downer Theatre (South Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA

THE MILWAUKEE MUSIC VIDEO SHOW | 67 MIN

This showcase of locally-made music videos runs the genre gamut while also showcasing the diversity within the music video format.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Autumn Maria Reed - "Little Heart Warrior" Alex Boyes | Mie - "Freakshow" Mie None |
| Caley Conway - "Singing Never" Josh Evert | Mol Sullivan - "Dog" Mol Sullivan |
| Creature Weather - "Phantom Face" Nels Lindquist | Noah David Eckstein - "Cladosporium Coke Dial" Noah David Eckstein |
| Fuzzysurf - "Don't Go Overboard" Tommy Simms | oak you - "pangea pt. 3 (hibernation)" Cole Quamme |
| Health Club - "Banjo Song" Ryan Nels Pontillo | Seances - "Forgiveness" Eric Arsnow |
| Hughes Family Band - "I Don't Mind" Ryan Thomas Reeve | Sex Scenes - "Want & Need / Nothing" Victor Buell, Harrison Colby |
| Jondo Jordan - "Delusions" Jonathan Turner | The Taxmen - "Without You" Peter Borowski |
| | Traore - "Africa Enough is Enough" English Absolute, Tate Bunker |

Tuesday, Apr 28 | 6:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA

FILM SPONSOR

THE MILWAUKEE SHOW I | 86 MIN



Each year THE MILWAUKEE SHOW is one of the hottest tickets of the festival—a rare chance to see work from our local best and brightest in the gloriously opulent setting of our beloved Oriental Theatre's Abele Cinema. This collection of stunning shorts allows you to watch locally, yet think globally.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Frayed Flags Khaula Kai Mahmood | Romeo's Burden Adam Morris |
| Fred's Basement Bijou Michael T. Vollmann | Sherman Park Paulina Lule Bugembe-Kuwahara |
| Las Animas Matt Feldman | Sometimes They Knock Matt Binetti |
| Learning from Learning from Las Vegas Gillian Waldo, Sam Taffel | |

Tuesday, Apr 21 | 6:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA

FILM SPONSOR

THE MILWAUKEE SHOW II | 91 MIN



The shorts program is so nice, we have to do it twice! THE MILWAUKEE SHOW II brings you EVEN MORE fantastic films courtesy of our thriving local artistic community. There's simply too much quality to be contained by a single screening, so settle in for another collection of shorts with a diversity of styles and perspectives.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Aroma-Vision Shun Powell | Never Lost (결코 잃지 않았다) Li Chiao-Ping |
| 甜膩膩 Thick & Sweet Yinan Wang | Placeholder Jesse McLean |
| Floodgates Eric Engelbart | Where It Started Vianca Fuster |
| In Shelter of Birds Lajwanti Pershad Waghay | |

Monday, Apr 27 | 7:30 PM | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema)



CREAM CITY CINEMA

FILM SPONSOR

THE MILWAUKEE YOUTH SHOW | 64 MIN



The next generation of artists in our community are showing that they have the stuff to tell their stories, make people laugh, and enact change. This showcase of Milwaukee's young filmmakers proves that they are carrying the torch to bring light to our city. **AGES 12+**

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Alive and Fine Diego Villafuerte | Nannerl's Kügel Lola Milanovic |
| Facade Sam Slowik | The Web Erin Browning |
| GRAVEDIGGER Joseph Tzougros, Anika Oakland, Zoe Oakland | Too Many Anikas Zoe Oakland |
| Hold Close Milwaukee Visionaries Project participants | Who Are You Katie Hyde |

Saturday, Apr 25 | 10:45 AM | Downer Theatre (North Cinema)

Discover
Milwaukee's
Favorite
Hidden Gem




THE PLAZA | CAFÉ AT THE PLAZA
HOTEL


1007 N. CASS STREET, MILWAUKEE
PLAZAHOTELMILWAUKEE.COM
(414) 276-2101




Milwaukee's best kept secret.

located somewhere in black cat alley

 shanghai_mke

 shanghaimke

 Shanghai MKE

414.316.9930

<https://shanghaimke.my.canva.site/>

Screening Schedule


Thursday, April 16: OPENING NIGHT!
The world premiere of

UECK

7:00 PM | 94 MIN | Oriental Theatre (Abele Cinema) 

After the film, celebrate with us at
a variety of nearby venues!

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE			Carolina Caroline 12:30 PM 105 MIN			If These Walls Could Rock 3:30 PM 93 MIN			All of the Above 6:30 PM 85 MIN			Erupcja 9:30 PM 71 MIN			Severin Presents: A Bay of Blood 11:59 PM 85 MIN
	LUBAR				HOLD ONTO ME 1:30 PM 102 MIN			The Last Spy 4:30 PM 106 MIN			Newport & the Great Folk Dream 7:30 PM 99 MIN			BURN 10:30 PM 103 MIN		
	HERZFELD				Late Fame 1:00 PM 96 MIN			Shorts: Let's Get Animated 4:00 PM 93 MIN			Love Letters 7:00 PM 97 MIN			A Useful Ghost 10:00 PM 130 MIN		
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH			Gaslit 12:45 PM 111 MIN			The Dads 4:00 PM 72 MIN			Shorts: Date Night 6:30 PM 94 MIN			Hen 9:15 PM 96 MIN			
	SOUTH			Misan Harriman: Shoot the People 12:00 PM 86 MIN		Happy Birthday 2:30 PM 95 MIN			El Canto De Las Manos 5:30 PM 91 MIN 			Public Access 8:15 PM 107 MIN				

Running times for programs includes film content only.

Grid end times do not include introductions or Q&As, and are subject to change.



SATURDAY, APRIL 18

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELLE	Kids Shorts: Size Small 10:00 AM 48 MIN		Now! More! Yes! 12:00 PM 75 MIN		Gaslit 2:30 PM 111 MIN				Paralyzed by Hope: The Maria Bamford Story 6:00 PM 116 MIN			I Want Your Sex 9:15 PM 90 MIN			Shorts: The Best Damn Midnight... 11:59 PM 88 MIN
	LUBAR		Kids Shorts: Size Large 11:00 AM 74 MIN		Your Attention Please 1:15 PM 98 MIN			My Brother's Killer 4:15 PM 95 MIN			Silent Friend 7:15 PM 147 MIN			We Are Fugazi... 10:45 PM 96 MIN		
	HERZFELD	Future Council 10:30 AM 82 MIN		Public Access 12:45 PM 107 MIN			Traces of Home 3:45 PM 90 MIN			Beyond 6:30 PM 89 MIN				F*cktoys 10:00 PM 107 MIN		
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH		...The Legend of Luis Valdez 10:45 AM 92 MIN		The Last Critic 1:30 PM 82 MIN			Kings of Venice 4:15 PM 95 MIN			The A List: 15 Stories... 7:00 PM 84 MIN			Saccharine 9:45 PM 115 MIN		
	SOUTH	All of the Above 10:00 AM 85 MIN		Blue Heron 12:45 PM 90 MIN			Black Lens Doc Shorts... 3:30 PM 55 MIN			Shorts: Surprise, Surprise 6:00 PM 94 MIN			Black Zombie 8:45 PM 90 MIN			Flush 11:30 PM 70 MIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELLE	Traces of Home 10:00 AM 90 MIN		I Swear 12:45 PM 121 MIN				Intoxicated Rain 4:00 PM 87 MIN			The Python Hunt 7:00 PM 91 MIN					
	LUBAR		The Last Critic 11:00 AM 82 MIN			Joybubbles 2:15 PM 79 MIN AD)))			Nino 5:15 PM 97 MIN			The Way We Move 8:00 PM 95 MIN OC				
	HERZFELD	Paralyzed by Hope: The Maria Bamford Story 10:30 AM 116 MIN			Barbara Forever 1:45 PM 102 MIN			The A List: 15 Stories... 4:45 PM 84 MIN				Yes 7:30 PM 150 MIN				
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH	Kids Shorts: Size Medium 10:00 AM 67 MIN		Keep Quiet and Forgive 12:15 PM 90 MIN			Cookie Queens 3:00 PM 91 MIN			Seized 5:30 PM 90 MIN						
	SOUTH		The Blue Trail 10:45 AM 86 MIN			Shorts: Stranger Than Fiction 1:30 PM 100 MIN			Welcome Poets 4:15 PM 53 MIN			A Useful Ghost 6:30 PM 130 MIN				

Running times for programs includes film content only.

Grid end times do not include introductions or Q&As, and are subject to change.



MONDAY, APRIL 20

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE									The General Feat. Anvil Orchestra 6:00 PM 75 MIN		Summer Tour 8:30 PM 82 MIN				
	LUBAR				The Six Billion Dollar Man 1:30 PM 126 MIN			SILENT REBELLION 4:45 PM 98 MIN			Maddie's Secret 7:15 PM 110 MIN			Hen 10:15 PM 96 MIN		
	HERZFELD				Seized 1:00 PM 90 MIN			Keep Quiet and Forgive 3:45 PM 90 MIN			Palestine 36 6:30 PM 119 MIN			The Fisherman 9:30 PM 106 MIN		
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH			Barbara Forever 12:45 PM 102 MIN			CSF Shorts 3:45 PM 63 MIN			Adam's Apple 6:00 PM 97 MIN			BURN 9:00 PM 103 MIN			
	SOUTH				American Doctor 1:45 PM 91 MIN			GenreQueer Shorts 4:45 PM 103 MIN			Carolina Caroline 7:30 PM 105 MIN			Shorts: Surprise, Surprise 10:30 PM 94 MIN		

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE				Peter Asher : Everywhere Man 1:00 PM 117 MIN			Welcome Poets 4:00 PM 53 MIN			The Milwaukee Show I 6:30 PM 86 MIN			Erupcja 10:00 PM 71 MIN		
	LUBAR					The Way We Move 2:00 PM 95 MIN			Lucky Lu 5:00 PM 103 MIN			Misan Harriman: Shoot the People 8:00 PM 86 MIN			Bouchra 11:00 PM 83 MIN	
	HERZFELD				Traces of Home 1:30 PM 90 MIN			Joybubbles 4:30 PM 79 MIN				Nuisance Bear 7:30 PM 90 MIN			Shorts: Date Night 10:30 PM 94 MIN	
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH				I Swear 1:45 PM 121 MIN			André is an Idiot 4:45 PM 87 MIN			TheyDream 7:30 PM 89 MIN			Saccharine 10:15 PM 115 MIN		
	SOUTH				Shorts: Stranger Than Fiction 1:00 PM 100 MIN			The Reed Sisters: An American Story 4:00 PM 95 MIN			Black Lens Fiction Shorts 6:30 PM 78 MIN			Beyond the Duplex Planet 9:15 PM 93 MIN		

Running times for programs includes film content only.

Grid end times do not include introductions or Q&As, and are subject to change.



PREMIUM
SCREENING



LAST/ONLY
SCREENING



SUPER SECRET
MEMBERS-ONLY SCREENING



PRESENTED WITH
OPEN CAPTIONS (OCAP)



PRESENTED WITH OPEN
AUDIO DESCRIPTIONS (OAD)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE					Joybubbles 2:00 PM 79 MIN		Paint me a Road Out of Here 4:45 PM 90 MIN			Beyond the Duplex Planet 7:30 PM 93 MIN				Now! More! Yes! 10:30 PM 75 MIN	
	LUBAR				Adam's Apple 1:15 PM 97 MIN			Palestine 36 4:15 PM 119 MIN				Broken English 8:00 PM 99 MIN			Hokum 11:00 PM 101 MIN	
	HERZFELD				Laundry 12:45 PM 106 MIN			My Brother's Killer 3:30 PM 95 MIN								
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH				TheyDream 1:00 PM 89 MIN			Shorts: Stranger Than Fiction 3:45 PM 100 MIN			Black Zombie 6:30 PM 90 MIN		Filipiñana 9:00 PM 100 MIN			
	SOUTH					The Life We Leave 1:45 PM 87 MIN			El Canto De Las Manos 4:30 PM 91 MIN		Blue Heron 7:15 PM 90 MIN			Shorts: Out of this World 10:00 PM 90 MIN		

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE				Jaripeo 12:45 PM 70 MIN		André is an Idiot 3:00 PM 87 MIN			You Had To Be There 6:00 PM 98 MIN			Obsession 9:00 PM 108 MIN			
	LUBAR				The Last Critic 1:30 PM 82 MIN			The Last One For the Road 4:00 PM 100 MIN			Shorts: Let's Get Animated 6:45 PM 93 MIN		BURN 9:30 PM 103 MIN			
	HERZFELD					Christy 2:00 PM 94 MIN			Peter Asher: Everywhere Man 4:30 PM 117 MIN			American Doctor 7:30 PM 91 MIN		If These Walls Could Rock 10:00 PM 93 MIN		
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH				Late Fame 1:30 PM 96 MIN			Your Attention Please 4:00 PM 98 MIN			GenreQueer Shorts 7:00 PM 103 MIN			Public Access 9:45 PM 107 MIN		
	SOUTH					Silent Friend 2:15 PM 147 MIN				Beyond 5:45 PM 89 MIN			Flytrapper 8:30 PM 74 MIN			

Running times for programs includes film content only.

Grid end times do not include introductions or Q&As, and are subject to change.



PREMIUM
SCREENING



LAST/ONLY
SCREENING



SUPER SECRET
MEMBERS-ONLY SCREENING



PRESENTED WITH
OPEN CAPTIONS (OCAP)



PRESENTED WITH OPEN
AUDIO DESCRIPTIONS (OAD)

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE				The Last One For the Road 1:30 PM 100 MIN			Broken English 4:00 PM 99 MIN			The Big Cheese 7:00 PM 87 MIN			Saccharine 10:00 PM 115 MIN		
	LUBAR				Love Letters 1:00 PM 97 MIN		Intoxicated Rain 3:30 PM 87 MIN			The Travel Companion 6:15 PM 91 MIN			Ixonia's Mild Kingdom 9:00 PM 25 MIN			Flush 11:59 PM 70 MIN
	HERZFELD				The Oldest Person in the World 2:00 PM 87 MIN			Mad Bills to Pay (or Destiny, dile que...) 4:30 PM 101 MIN			I Want Your Sex 7:30 PM 90 MIN				Shorts: Most Dramatic 10:30 PM 88 MIN	
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH				Makin' Cake 1:00 PM 70 MIN		American Doctor 3:30 PM 91 MIN			She's The He 6:15 PM 81 MIN			Shorts: Date Night 9:00 PM 94 MIN			
	SOUTH				The Reed Sisters: An American Story 1:45 PM 95 MIN			Nino 4:15 PM 97 MIN			CSF Shorts 7:15 PM 63 MIN			Black Zombie 9:45 PM 90 MIN		

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE	Kids Shorts: Size Small 10:00 AM 48 MIN		A Sad and Beautiful World 11:45 AM 110 MIN			School of Rock 3:00 PM 108 MIN			...The Infectious Joy of Pat McCurdy 6:30 PM 94 MIN				Stop Making Sense 9:30 PM 88 MIN		
	LUBAR		Perla 11:00 AM 108 MIN			The Reed Sisters: An American Story 2:00 PM 95 MIN		The Dads 4:30 PM 72 MIN			We Are Fugazi... 7:00 PM 96 MIN			Maddie's Secret 10:00 PM 110 MIN		
	HERZFELD	Future Council 10:30 AM 82 MIN		Aanikoobijigan 12:45 PM 85 MIN			Christy 3:30 PM 94 MIN			The Life We Leave 6:00 PM 87 MIN			Shorts: The Best Damn Midnight... 9:00 PM 88 MIN			Hokum 11:30 PM 101 MIN
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH		Milwaukee Youth Show 10:45 AM 64 MIN		Kids Shorts: Size Medium 1:45 PM 67 MIN			Powwow People 4:15 PM 88 MIN			Erupcja 7:00 PM 71 MIN			The Six Billion Dollar Man 9:30 PM 126 MIN		
	SOUTH	HOLD ONTO ME 10:00 AM 102 MIN			Cookie Queens 12:45 PM 91 MIN			Shorts: Most Dramatic 3:30 PM 88 MIN		The Fisherman 6:00 PM 106 MIN			Marama 8:45 PM 84 MIN			I Want Your Sex 11:30 PM 90 MIN

Running times for programs includes film content only.

Grid end times do not include introductions or Q&As, and are subject to change.



PREMIUM SCREENING



LAST/ONLY SCREENING



SUPER SECRET MEMBERS-ONLY SCREENING



PRESENTED WITH OPEN CAPTIONS (OCAP)



PRESENTED WITH OPEN AUDIO DESCRIPTIONS (OAD)

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELLE	Romeria 10:00 AM 115 MIN			Makin' Cake 1:00 PM 70 MIN		Cinebuds LIVE: Labyrinth 3:30 PM 101 MIN				Bouchra 7:15 PM 83 MIN					
	LUBAR	If I Go Will They Miss Me 10:30 AM 95 MIN			Broken English 1:30 PM 99 MIN			Paint Me A Road Out of Here 4:15 PM 90 MIN			What Does that Nature Say to You 6:45 PM 108 MIN					
	HERZFELD		...The Infectious Joy of Pat McCurdy 11:00 AM 94 MIN			Jaripeo 2:00 PM 70 MIN			The Last One For the Road 4:45 PM 100 MIN			F*cktoys 7:45 PM 107 MIN				
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH	The Big Cheese 10:00 AM 87 MIN			Gaslit 12:45 PM 111 MIN			#WHILEBLACK 4:00 PM 84 MIN			La Hija Condor 6:45 PM 109 MIN					
	SOUTH		Space Cadet 11:00 AM 86 MIN			Kids Shorts: Size Large 1:45 PM 74 MIN			The Oldest Person in the World 5:00 PM 87 MIN			Hen 7:30 PM 96 MIN				

MONDAY, APRIL 27

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELLE			Newport & the Great Folk Dream 12:00 PM 99 MIN			Misan Harriman: Shoot the People 3:00 PM 86 MIN			Black Lens Doc Shorts 5:30 PM 55 MIN		The Milwaukee Show II 7:30 PM 91 MIN				
	LUBAR			Nuisance Bear 12:30 PM 90 MIN			The Python Hunt 3:30 PM 91 MIN			Peter Asher: Everywhere Man 6:00 PM 117 MIN			...The Legend of Luis Valdez 9:00 PM 92 MIN			
	HERZFELD				The Travel Companion 1:30 PM 91 MIN			The Blue Trail 4:30 PM 86 MIN			The Dating Game 7:00 PM 90 MIN		El Canto De Las Manos 9:30 PM 91 MIN			
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH			You Had To Be There 12:15 PM 98 MIN			A Sad and Beautiful World 3:00 PM 110 MIN			Mad Bills to Pay (or Destiny, dile que...) 6:00 PM 101 MIN		She's The He 9:00 PM 81 MIN				
	SOUTH				Perla 1:00 PM 108 MIN				Yes 5:15 PM 150 MIN			Bouchra 9:45 PM 83 MIN				

Running times for programs includes film content only.

Grid end times do not include introductions or Q&As, and are subject to change.



PREMIUM
SCREENING



LAST/ONLY
SCREENING



SUPER SECRET
MEMBERS-ONLY SCREENING



PRESENTED WITH
OPEN CAPTIONS (OCAP)



PRESENTED WITH OPEN
AUDIO DESCRIPTIONS (OAD)

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT	
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE				Powwow People 1:00 PM 88 MIN			Newport & the Great Folk Dream 3:30 PM 99 MIN			MKE Music Video Show 6:30 PM 68 MIN			We Are Fugazi... 9:30 PM 96 MIN			
	LUBAR				SILENT REBELLION 1:30 PM 98 MIN			Aanikoobjigan 4:00 PM 85 MIN			Late Fame 7:00 PM 96 MIN			F*cktoys 10:00 PM 107 MIN			
	HERZFELD					HOLD ONTO ME 2:00 PM 102 MIN			...The Legend of Luis Valdez 5:00 PM 92 MIN			Filipiñana 7:30 PM 100 MIN					
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH				Vainilla 1:00 PM 99 MIN			#WHILEBLACK 4:00 PM 84 MIN			The Last Spy 7:00 PM 106 MIN			Shorts: Out of this World 10:00 PM 90 MIN			
	SOUTH					Seized 2:00 PM 90 MIN			Romeria 5:00 PM 115 MIN			Lucky Lu 8:00 PM 103 MIN					

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT	
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE				The Last Spy 1:00 PM 106 MIN			Super Secret Member Screening 4:00 PM 120 MIN			Super Secret Member Screening 7:00 PM 120 MIN			Flush 10:30 PM 70 MIN			
	LUBAR				Silent Friend 1:30 PM 147 MIN			Kings of Venice 5:00 PM 95 MIN			If These Walls Could Rock 8:00 PM 93 MIN						
	HERZFELD					The Python Hunt 2:00 PM 91 MIN		What Does that Nature Say to You 4:30 PM 108 MIN			Space Cadet 7:30 PM 86 MIN			Flytrapper 10:00 PM 74 MIN			
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH				Barbara Forever 1:00 PM 102 MIN			The Big Cheese 3:45 PM 87 MIN			Maddie's Secret 6:15 PM 110 MIN			Marama 9:15 PM 84 MIN			
	SOUTH					Happy Birthday 2:00 PM 95 MIN		Black Lens Fiction Shorts 4:30 PM 78 MIN			Vainilla 7:00 PM 99 MIN			Shorts: The Best Damn Midnight... 10:00 PM 88 MIN			

Running times for programs includes film content only.

Grid end times do not include introductions or Q&As, and are subject to change.



PREMIUM SCREENING



LAST/ONLY SCREENING



SUPER SECRET MEMBERS-ONLY SCREENING



PRESENTED WITH OPEN CAPTIONS (OCAP)



PRESENTED WITH OPEN AUDIO DESCRIPTIONS (OAD)

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

		10 AM	11 AM	NOON	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	MIDNIGHT
ORIENTAL THEATRE	ABELE					Nuisance Bear 2:00 PM 90 MIN		The Way We Move 4:45 PM 95 MIN			Power Ballad 7:30 PM 98 MIN					
	LUBAR				Laundry 12:45 PM 106 MIN		The Six Billion Dollar Man 3:30 PM 126 MIN				Shorts: Out of this World 7:00 PM 90 MIN					
	HERZFELD				Beyond the Duplex Planet 1:30 PM 93 MIN		Powwow People 4:00 PM 88 MIN			If I Go Will They Miss Me 6:30 PM 95 MIN						
DOWNER THEATRE	NORTH				The Dating Game 1:45 PM 90 MIN			SILENT REBELLION 4:45 PM 98 MIN			Carolina Caroline 7:30 PM 105 MIN					
	SOUTH							La Hija Cónдор 4:00 PM 109 MIN			A Useful Ghost 6:45 PM 130 MIN					



Wisconsin's go-to attorney for technology licensing, corporate branding, advertising and entertainment legal issues.

With over 25 years of experience, Dan Kattman works with businesses on a wide range of intellectual property legal matters.

BizTimes Notable IP Attorney

Contact Dan at
414.298.8185

Reinhart
reinhartlaw.com



WISCONSIN NOW HAS FILM INCENTIVES!



NORTH AMERICAN CAMERA

**PROFESSIONAL CAMERA EQUIPMENT
FOR A STATE IN PRODUCTION**

Call 414-765-1111 | www.nacamera.com

**SINCE 1993, FILM & VIDEO
PRODUCTION IN WISCONSIN
ORBITS AROUND
THE ELECTRIC SUN**



The
ELECTRIC SUN
Corporation

GRIP & ELECTRIC RENTAL
ELECTRICSUNCORP.COM | 414-228-9190



FILM FÊTE | **Milwaukee
Film's** Fall
Fundraising
Event **2026**

Save the Date 10•8•26

Event Co-Chairs:

Tina & Paul J Jones, Bevin &
Will Setliff, and Chandra &
Christopher M Novoa

LIVE LIKE THE MAIN CHARACTER.

NOVA APARTMENTS



(414) 850-6682



www.novamke.com



[novamke](https://www.instagram.com/novamke)

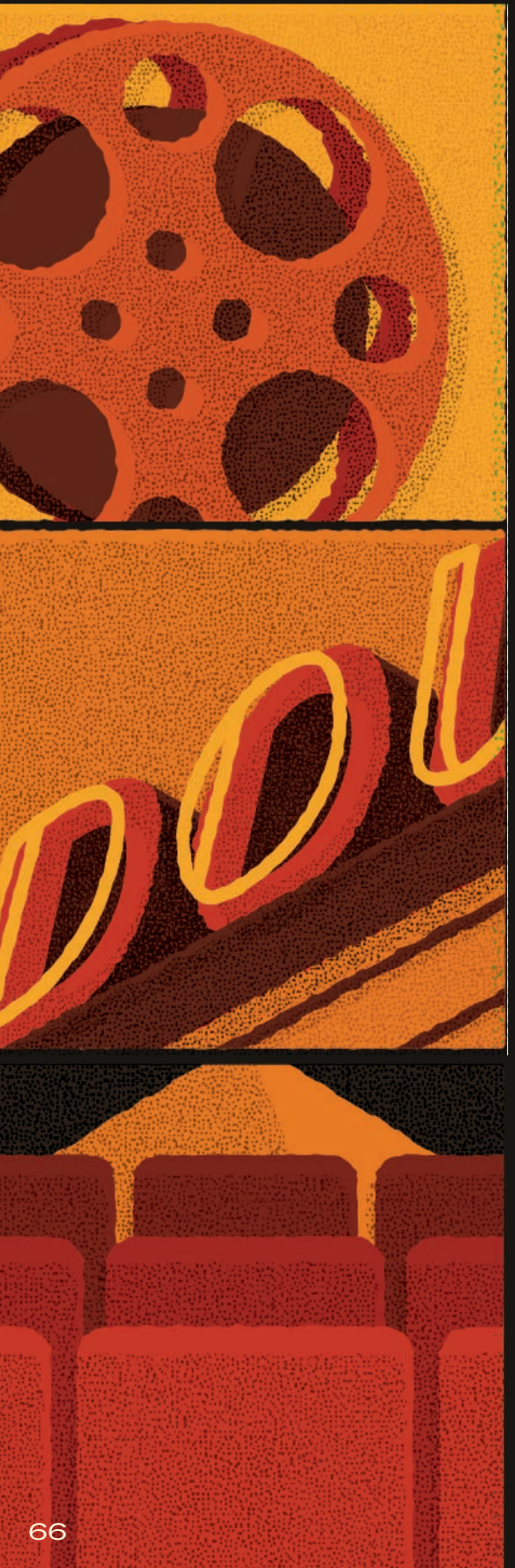


DIALOGUES DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL



9.24-27.2026 MKEFILM.ORG/DDF

About Milwaukee Film



Milwaukee Film is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to celebrating the magic and power of cinema 365 days a year. Listed below are a handful of ways we put our mission to work for the city we love.

MILWAUKEE FILM FESTIVAL (MFF)

Now in its 18th year, the annual Milwaukee Film Festival is not only one of the largest film festivals in the country, but was also recognized by *Moviemaker Magazine* as one of the “Coolest Film Festivals in the World.”

DIALOGUES DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

Our newest annual event, this mini-festival celebrates the inspiring, impactful documentary film format. This year’s Dialogues Documentary Festival takes place September 24-27. Join us for four days of film, conversation, and special guests.

ORIENTAL THEATRE

Since 2018, Milwaukee Film has provided year-round movie screenings as tenant-operators of the historic Oriental Theatre, a magnificent movie palace recognized on the National Register of Historic Places. In the eight years since, we’ve made major (and award-winning) upgrades to this stunning movie palace, including improved sound and lighting, the addition of Hearing Loop technology, and expanded projection capabilities making us one of less than 20 cinemas in the world that can project films in 70mm format.

DOWNER THEATRE

In early 2026, two years after taking over as tenant-operator, Milwaukee Film purchased the iconic Downer Theatre. Plans are currently underway to make some much-needed upgrades to Wisconsin’s oldest still-operating movie theatre, including improved seating, Hearing Loop technology, 35mm projection capabilities, and more. To learn about our plans and participate in our capital campaign, visit mkefilm.org/savethedowner

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSE VOICES

Across all of our program areas, we endeavor to center the voices and representations of those who have historically been marginalized. Our programmers carefully select films in programs such as *Black Lens*, *Cine Sin Fronteras*, and *GenreQueer* that offer year-round examples of that work whether during our Festivals, commemorative months, or general cinema programming. But this does not end with the named programs; seeking out the stories that matter to Milwaukee and inspiring important conversations through the power of film is at the heart of all of our work.

Staff

LEADERSHIP

Susan Kerns, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Kristen C. Heller
Managing Director

Cara Ogburn, Ph.D.
Artistic Director

Rachel Vander Weit
Development Director

Milan Zori
Marketing Director

Ryan O'Desky
Fractional CFO

DEVELOPMENT

Kristopher Pollard
Membership & Giving
Director

Dewey Miller
Database Specialist

Tristan Adams
Grants & Special
Projects Coordinator

Annabelle Hershelman
Sophia Stezala
Development Interns

Akila Ingvoldstad
Festival Guest
Relations Assistant

FINANCE

Jonathan Demers
Controller

Adam Mallen
Accounting
Coordinator

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Ryan Ziegler
Creative Services
Manager

Robyn Ehrlich-Mai
Communications
& Public Relations
Coordinator

Jolee Mallmann
Social Media & Digital
Marketing Coordinator

PROGRAMMING

Kerstin Larson
Programming Director

Abbie Esterline
Programming
Coordinator

Jack Feria
GenreQueer and
Shorts Programmer

Ty Williams
Black Lens
Programmer

Ian Cessna
Rated K: For Kids
Programmer

Paula Lovo
Cine Sin Fronteras
Programmer

Justin Hamilton
Festival Hospitality
Coordinator

Piper Harried
Lauren Kelly
Madeline McGuire
Programming Interns

OPERATIONS

Kevin Rice
Technology Director

Petey Balestrieri
Cinema Operations
Director

Ryan Putskey
Facilities Manager

Ani Injasoulian
Ticketing & Customer
Service Manager

Kelsey Parks
Technical Manager &
Festival Projectionist

Brett Smith
IT Technician

Malik Riddle
Cinema Operations
Manager

Zac Higgins
Event & Guest
Relations Manager

ASSISTANT FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGERS

Aneesh Beahlen
Vale Schroeder

ASSISTANT CINEMA MANAGERS

Ella Freigang
Deiva Motley
Ty Williams

CINEMA TEAM

Allux Arellano-Metoxen

Alex Badtke

Giuseppe Balestrieri

Molly Beardsley

Lulu Braun

Sharon Burt

Rose Callahan

Dara Carneol

Zack Cowell

Joseph Cullen

Ren Gresbach

Ducky Griesemer

Matthew Henderson

Maddie Hogue

Jamie Lee Jackson

Celia Jewell

Jonathan Joseph

DeAndre Lewis

Tyrone Lewis

Maxwell Lyon

Dara Madson

Theo Odegaard

Ramona Peetz

Grace Roberts

Hannah Starck

Ivy Schafer

Carrie Van Gorder

Jada Wegner

Ian Wilkinson

Jake Whelan

Julian White

Kami Yelk

Marlo Yelk

FESTIVAL OPERATIONS

Amelia Bursi
Festival Logistics
Manager

Curt Heiner
Festival Technical
Coordinator

Brian Hupke
Festival Engineer

Bella Ortiz
Festival Sales
Coordinator

FESTIVAL REVISIONISTS

Nicole Diroff

Jonathan Foster

FESTIVAL THEATER MANAGERS

Anthony Fiorenzo

Michael Kirby

Gene Lee

Ben Post

Emily Tayler

FESTIVAL PROJECTIONISTS

Gini Connell

Sam La Strapes

Hasti Soltani

Spencer Tye

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE MANAGERS

Amy Currul

Kevin Hanrahan

Seth Schuster

FESTIVAL ASSISTANT THEATER MANAGERS

Savannah Bishop

Jon Bruning

Karen Duerr

Britany Gunderson

Sierra Irwin

Carrie O'Connell

FESTIVAL TICKET SELLERS

Tanya Dhein

Josh Jommen

Bekah Kalb

Courtney King

Erin Siettmann

FESTIVAL CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

Porscha Burks

Amy De Simone

Carrie Gray

MERCHANDISE SALES ASSOCIATES

Kailynn Wettberg

Eliza Gray



DOWNER

WE'LL SEE YOU SOON!
LOVE,
MILWAUKEE FILM

LET'S SAVE THE DOWNER TOGETHER!

Wisconsin's oldest operating cinema is a charmer at 110 years old, and we think she deserves a little zhuzh. With your help, this beauty can become an upscale cinema that retains its historic character.

Help us preserve this iconic neighborhood cinema for generations to come.

 **Help out at mkefilm.org/savethedowner**