

# STALLER CENTER FOR THE ARTS 30TH ANNUAL STALLE

JULY 17-26, 2025 | STONYBROOKFILMFESTIVAL.COM | (631) 632-ARTS

# **PASSHOLDER** PERKS ALL PASSHOLDERS RECEIVE:



Guaranteed

Priority



**Filmmakers** 



Choice





**Discounts** at Partner

Gift



# FRIENDS OF STALLER

Friends of Staller Members receive discounts on all passes and tickets. Learn more at stallercenter.com/membership

# **Choose the Pass** that's right for you!



# FLEX PASS | \$75

Includes passholder perks, plus:

 This Pass provides access to any 5 DAYS, which includes up to 10 Features and 10 Shorts (excludes Closing Night).

The perfect pass for those who cannot make it every night or for those new to the Film Fest experience.



## **REGULAR PASS | \$100**

Includes passholder perks, plus:

- · This Pass provides access to all 10 DAYS, which includes up to 18 Features and 18 Shorts
- · Awards Ceremony

Good for all 10 days, including Opening and Closing Night films.



# GOLD PASS | \$250

Includes passholder perks, plus:

- This Pass provides VIP access to all 10 DAYS, which includes up to 18 Features and 18 Shorts
- VIP Reserved Seating
- Awards Ceremony
- · VIP Gift



Opening Night Party at Elaine's. Closing Night Party at Curry Club at Sāghar. \*

**INDIVIDUAL** TICKETS | Available starting July 1. \$15/\$13.50 Senior Good for 1 film slot per night, which includes 1 Feature and 1 Short.

Behind the Scenes of La Gloria

<sup>\*</sup>Opening and Closing Night Parties are for Gold Passholders, Filmmakers & VIPs. Gold Passes are available for purchase at stonybrookfilmfestival.com/pass.

# **SCHEDULE JULY 17-26**



S) SHORT F) FEATURE PLEASE NOTE: Shorts play first at screening times. Running times are in parentheses.

Later movie start times are approximate as Q&A sessions may delay the start of the following films.

#### THUR 7/17

#### OPENING NIGHT

#### 7:00 PM

- S) Hearts of Stone (30)
- F) The Ties that Bind Us (106)



#### FRI 7/18

#### 7:00 PM

- S) Resaca (11)
- F) Mistura (96)

#### 9:30 PM

- S) Quick Fix (8)
- **F) Way Home** (98)

#### SAT 7/19

#### 7:00 PM

- S) A Guest in My Country (15)
- F) Westhampton (94)

#### 9:30 PM

- S) We Do Our Best (14)
- F) Long Story Short (107)

#### SUN 7/20

#### 7:00 PM

- S) Blackmoll (19)
- F) Never Alone (85)

#### 9:30 PM

- S) We Buy Houses (8)
- **F) La Gloria** (120)

#### MON 7/21

#### 7:00 PM

- S) Miracle (7)
- F) Nawi (103)

#### 9:30 PM

- **S)** The Traveler's Prayer (9)
- F) Real Estate (109)

#### TUES 7/22

#### 7:00 PM

- S) My name is Dania (22)
- F) Mazel Tov (97)

#### 9:30 PM

- S) Chatter (11)
- F) Midas Man (112)

#### WED 7/23

#### 7:00 PM

- **S)** Ebb & Flow (18)
- F) Ali Eats America (91)

#### 9:30 PM

- S) Crab Claw (8)
- F) A World Apart (113)

#### THUR 7/24

#### 7:00 PM

- **S)** 3 Minutos (5)
- F) The Umesh Chronicles (124)

#### 9:30 PM

- S) Wait to Tell Mother (12)
- **F) Animale** (98)

#### FRI 7/25

#### 7:00 PM

- **S)** Baquine Friends Forever (13)
- F) Mad Bills to Pay (101)

#### 9:30 PM

- S) Sweet Cesspool (6)
- F) Uncle Vanya Bubble Waltz (90)

#### SAT 7/26

#### **CLOSING NIGHT**

#### 7:00 PM

- S) Place Under the Sun (20)
- F) The Remnants of You (92)

Awards Ceremony immediately follows Closing Night film screening.



Many of these films have not yet been rated. All titles, dates, and times are subject to change. The Stony Brook Film Festival is produced by the Staller Center for the Arts at Stony Brook University.



# **PASSES & TICKETS**

Order online stonybrookfilmfestival.com By phone (631) 632-ARTS [2787]

<sup>\*</sup>Opening and Closing Night Parties are for Gold Passholders, Filmmakers & VIPs. Gold Passes are available for purchase at stonybrookfilmfestival.com/pass.



The Stony Brook Film Festival has grown into a premier festival that continues to reshape the cultural landscape and has brought over 1200 independent films, foreign language gems, and emerging talent from across the globe to Long Island. The legacy of the Festival has survived many iterations, including the uphill battle in its return from a virtual platform during the Pandemic. The biggest competitors to our live performance season and the Film Festival are the ease and comfort that binge-watching your favorite films and shows at home brings you, but without fail, our supporters and festival-goers eagerly return year after year.

We always strive to inspire, enlighten, and entertain, introducing thought-provoking, innovative, and diverse independent films to as

many people as possible. With an emphasis on filmmaker hospitality and engagement, the Stony Brook Film Festival continues to foster the next generation of filmmakers.

In addition to our Sponsors, individual donors to the Producers Circle help fund vital projects and initiatives that go directly into the creation and development of the Stony Brook Film Festival.

Support the Stony Brook Film Festival or become a Friend of Staller Member and support the Festival while getting discounts year-round.

For membership information, visit stallercenter.com/membership

# ZUCCAIRE GALLERY

Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery Staller Center | First floor

Open every evening of the Film Festival FREE ADMISSION





Image: Kay Walkingstick, Nez Perce Crossing, 2008. © Kay Walkingstick. Tia Collection. James Hart Photography

#### Weaving Words, Weaving Worlds: The Power of Indigenous Language in Contemporary Art

Presenting over 20 artists bringing together the powerful connection between Indigenous language and art.

Reception: Sunday, July 20, 5-7 pm

Featuring a drum processional by Jeffrey Pegram and welcome by Jeremy Dennis, exhibition curator.

# **CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SUPPORT**

The Stony Brook Film Festival is independently funded through philanthropic support from individual donors, corporate partners, and Suffolk County. Our donors are the reason for our continued success, and we are extremely grateful for the impact they have made in the film industry and our community, both far and wide.

#### STONY BROOK FILM FESTIVAL SPONSORS











#### STALLER CENTER MAJOR SPONSORS





















#### MEDIA SPONSORS









#### **HOSPITALITY & COMMUNITY SPONSORS**



























Your Pass gets you discounts and promotions at sponsor locations, opening night through Labor Day. For details visit stonybrookfilmfestival.com/perks

Please visit the sponsor's website for details on hours and reservation policies. Stony Brook Film Festival passes must be shown at time of redemption.

# **ORDERING PASSES & TICKETS**

Order online stonybrookfilmfestival.com By phone (631) 632-ARTS [2787]





#### **SHORT HEARTS OF STONE**

**New York Premiere** Belgium, Croatia - 30 min A film by Tom Van Avermaet.

A city street artist who entertains people as a living statue keeps a watchful eye over Agatha, a real statue in the sculpture park she frequents.

# 7:00 PM OPENING NIGHT FEATURE THE TIES THAT BIND US

#### **East Coast Premiere**

France - 106 min

Directed by Carine Tardieu. Written by Agnès Feuvre, Raphaële Moussafir and Carine Tardieu.

With Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Pio Marmaï, Vimala Pons and Raphaël Quenard (Hard Shell, Soft Shell).

Valeria Bruni Tedeschi delivers a brilliantly lived-in performance as Sandra, a 50something, independent woman who works in a feminist bookstore, has no children by choice, and has carefully arranged her life to her liking. When Sandra first meets young Eliot, Eliot's father Alex—a neighbor she barely recognizes from the same apartment building—is foisting him upon her urgently as he races off with his very pregnant wife to the hospital. Little do any of them realize, this will be the beginning of a very unusual relationship that brings the question of what defines family to the foreground. Defying all the expected cliches, director Tardieu allows the story and the characters to instead remain very much in the realm of reality. This intimate, poignant, and ultimately joyous masterpiece should not be missed. A heart-warming and thought-provoking opening to our 30th anniversary.

In French and Romanian, with subtitles.

Produced by Fabrice Goldstein and Antoine Rein. Edited by Christel Dewynter. Director of Photography: Elin Kirschfink, Yann Maritaud, A Karé Productions, France 2 Cinéma, and Umedia production, a Studio Canal+ picture from Distrib Films US.



# PART

at Elaine's

#### **EXCLUSIVE ACCESS**

for Gold Passholders, Filmmakers and VIPs. Upgrade to a Gold Pass at stonybrookfilmfestival.com/pass.



# **MISTURA**

United States and Peru - 96 min Written and directed by Ricardo de Montreuil.

With Bárbara Mori, Pudy Ballumbrosio, Christian Meier, Stefano Meier, Juan Pablo Olyslager and Hermelinda Luján.

1960s Peru: Norma, a privileged French-Peruvian woman, watches her life quickly unravel after her husband's betrayal ostracizes her from elite society. Unsatisfied with the options she is given, she instead embarks on a daring culinary venture as she finds herself drawn to the people and communities she had been raised to disregard. Bárbara Mori brings amazing authenticity to the role of Norma, and Peruvian percussionist Pudy Ballumbrosio shines in his first feature role as Norma's butler, Oscar.

In Spanish, with subtitles.

Produced by Ivan Orlic. Edited by Luis Colina and Ricardo de Montreuil. Director of Photography: Nicolás Wong. A De Montreuil Entertainment, Oliverdog Entertainment and Seine Pictures production.



#### SHORT RESACA

United Kingdom - 11 min A film by Joe Borg.

A hungover man wakes up to a request for English lessons from someone he hopes will be a distraction, until reality knocks on his door.

In English and Spanish, with subtitles.



#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

# **WAY HOME**

Denmark - 98 min

Directed by Charlotte Sieling. Written by Jesper Fink, Nagieb Khaja and Charlotte Sieling.

With Nikolaj Lie Kaas, Albert Rudbeck Lindhardt (*Another Round*) and Arian Kashef.

Christian is a menacing figure who speaks Arabic, is a veteran of Afghanistan and Iraq, and has just been smuggled into Syria to fight. But it soon becomes evident that his real goal is to find his 17-year-old son Adam, who has been radicalized by ISIS, with the intention of bringing him home to Denmark. The harrowing journey through war-torn Syria tests Christian's physical abilities and personal beliefs, as he pushes the limits of parental love.

In Danish, English, and Arabic, with subtitles.

Produced by Signe Leick Jensen and Morten Kaufmann. Edited by Sverrir Kristjánsson. Director of Photography: Camilla Hjelm. A Hummelfilm, Tamtam Film, The Imaginarium Films and Toolbox Film production from LevelK.

#### **SHORT**

#### **QUICK FIX**

United States - 8 min A film by Will Smart.

A classic AutoZone-style commercial turns out to be a cover for a man who is trying to fix much more than just his car.





# 7:00 PM FEATURE WESTHAMPTON

United States - 94 min Written and directed by Christian Nilsson.

With Finn Wittrock (*The Big Short*), RJ Mitte (*Breaking Bad*), Jake Weary, Amy Forsyth, and Tovah Feldshuh.

Tom is a filmmaker perennially haunted by an accident he was involved in as a high school student in Westhampton, Long Island. Though he has made a moderately successful independent film about it, he believes both the film and himself to be a failure. When circumstances conspire, Tom must go back to the hometown he left years ago, forcing him to face old friends and a town he believes disdains him. But as present events are intercut with the B&W film Tom made, questions begin to arise about what really happened. Shot on location in Westhampton, filmmaker and Long Island native Christian Nilsson brings us this masterfully told tale about regret, forgiveness, and acceptance.

Produced by Dave Brick, Saraleah Cogan, Rob Hinderliter, Terence Krey, Christian Nilsson, Alex Robbins, and Eric Tabach. Edited by Terence Krey. Director of Photography: Dave Brick. A TXE production.

#### SHORT

# A GUEST IN MY COUNTRY

United States - 15 min A film by John Gray.

A film by John Gray.

As an immigrant Uber driver takes an upscale couple across town, unexpected answers to seemingly innocuous questions reveal a rift.





#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

# LONG STORY SHORT (FESTE & FREUNDE)

Germany - 107 min Directed by David Dietl. Written by Elena Senft.

With Laura Tonke (*The People vs. Fritz Bauer*), Jasmin Shakeri, Annette Frier (*My Brother Simple*), Nicholas Ofczarek (*Hanna's Journey*), Ronald Zehrfeld (*Sweethearts*), and Pegah Ferydoni (*A Dysfunctional Cat*).

The thrill of early love, the awkwardness of a divorce, the wonder of childbirth, the soberness of a serious illness, and the challenges of parenthood all take a front row in this charming and witty drama. Join five long-time friends and their significant others as they come together for various gatherings—a New Year's Eve party, a birthday celebration, a wedding, a baptism, even a funeral—over a particularly active three-year period. This perfect cast, filled with SBFF familiar faces, is sure to warm your heart and tickle your funny bone.

In German, with subtitles.

Produced by Laura Mihajlovic, Quirin Berg, and Max Wiedemann. Edited by Simon Gstöttmayr. Director of Photography: Holly Fink. A Wiedemann & Berg Film production, from Beta Cinema.

#### **SHORT**

#### WE DO OUR BEST

United States - 14 min A film by Hannah Rose Ammon.

Looking for a temporary escape from real life, a mom and her

teenage daughter duck into a cocktail lounge.





# **NEVER ALONE**

Finland - 85 min

Directed by Klaus Härö. Written by Klaus Härö and Jimmy Karlsson.

With Ville Virtanen, Naemi Latzer, Rony Herman, Kari Hietalahti, Nina Hukkinen. Hannu-Pekka Björkman.

With World War II's shadow looming over Central Europe, a group of Jewish refugees seeking to escape oppression arrive in Finland, hoping for a new beginning. But when Finland's alliance with the Nazi's threatens their sanctuary, Abraham Stiller, a prominent Finnish-Jewish businessman risks everything to protect the refugee community. From the celebrated director Klaus Härö of SBFF favorites *The Fencer and My Sailor, My Love* comes this powerful true story of resilience and defiance.

In Swedish, Yiddish, Russian, Hebrew, English, Finnish, and German, with subtitles.

Produced by Ilkka Matila. Edited by Tambet Tasuja. Director of Photography: Robert Nordström. A Matila Röhr Productions production, from Menemsha Films.



#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

# LA GLORIA

United States - 120 min

Directed by Joseph Todd Walker. Written by Joseph Todd Walker and Christopher Carl Young.

With David Morse (The Green Mile, The Hurt Locker), Jaklyn Bejarano, and Bill Heck (The Ballad of Buster Scruggs).

Carson Tidwell is a 70-year-old, isolated widower who lives on his ranch near the border. After fearfully firing his rifle into the dark to scare off an unseen trespasser, Carson realizes that he wounded a young El Salvadorian woman as she was trying to cross his land. Now he must decide how much he is willing to help her, knowing he risks being discovered by his son, who is a U.S. Border Patrol agent. Director JT Walker has created a very personal and thought-provoking film that seeks no easy answers, featuring superb performances from David Morse and Jaklyn Bejarano.

In Spanish and English.

Produced by Sharri Hefner, Houston Hill, and Ty Roberts. Edited by Brent Joseph. Director of Photography: Sara Purgatorio.

#### **SHORT**

#### **BLACKMOLL**

Germany - 19 min A film by Alessia Mandanici.

A creative seven-year-old girl sets out to justify the

mysterious world of her dementia-suffering grandmother.

In German, with subtitles.

#### **SHORT**

#### **WE BUY HOUSES**

United States - 8 min A film by Scott Burkhardt.

A house flipper encounters an unexpected challenge at one of

his properties, forcing him to reconsider his role in his community.





# **NAWI**

Germany, Kenya - 103 min Directed by Toby Schmutzler, Kevin Schmutzler, Apuu Mourine and Vallentine Chelluget. Written by Milcah Cherotich, Kevin Schmutzler and Toby Schmutzler.

With Michelle Lemuya Ikeny, Joel Liwan, Ochungo Benson, Ben Tekee and Michelle Tiren.

Living in rural Kenya, Nawi's aspirations of attending high school are shattered when she learns that her father has reluctantly agreed to marry her off for a substantial herd of livestock. Instead of obeying tradition, Nawi chooses to fight her impending marriage in any way she can think of. Though quite serious in theme, this film remains surprisingly hopeful, due in no small part to the spectacular performance of Michelle Lemuya Ikeny as Nawi.

In Swahili and English, with subtitles.

Produced by Lydia Wrensch, Caroline Heim, and Brizan Were. Edited by Toby Schmutzler. Director of Photography: Klaus Kneist, Mwende Renata. A FilmCrew Media, Learning Lions, and Baobab Pictures production from The Festival Agency.



#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

## **REAL ESTATE**

Israel - 109 min Written and directed by Anat Malz.

With Victoria Rosovsky, Leib Levin, and Sarit Vino-Elad.

Tamara and Adam are about to become parents, and their life is a mess. Facing evacuation from their apartment in Tel Aviv, Tamara decides to search for their new home in Adam's hometown of Haifa. During one unforgettable day of apartment hunting, their search for a home becomes a tour of their passionate, impossible relationship. Rosovsky and Levin give subtle performances as opposites who both frustrate and love each other madly.

In Hebrew, with subtitles.

Produced by Alexis Dantec, Ami Livne, and Itai Tamir. Edited by Anat Malz. Director of Photography: Omri Aloni. A Laila Films and The French Connection production, from Go2Films.

## <u>ANIMATED SHORT</u>

## **MIRACLE**

Russia - 7 min A film by Ilia Ivanov.

In a locked basement, an autonomous robotic vacuum

cleaner plays the unwitting hero as it pursues a rogue feather.



#### **SHORT**

# THE TRAVELER'S PRAYER

United Kingdom - 9 min A film by Elkie Leonie Hershberg.

A mother who is new to the Ultra-Orthodox Jewish world makes

her way to the front of a gender-segregated bus to protect her son.

In Hebrew and Yiddish, with subtitles.





# **MAZEL TOV**

Argentina - 97 min Directed by Adrián Suar. Written by Pablo Solarz.

With Adrián Suar, Gabriel Roitman, Natalie Pérez and Benjamín Rojas.

Living in the United States and estranged from his father and brothers, Darío travels home to Argentina to attend his sister's wedding and niece's Bat Mitzvah. But his real goal of mending his broken family relationships is thrown into chaos by an unexpected and life-altering event. This hilarious, fast-paced dramedy races through themes of sibling rivalries, family expectations, pregnancies, weddings, and traditions. And at its center is the quick-talking and slightly neurotic Darío, who is trying desperately—and unsuccessfully—to keep his big mouth shut.

In Spanish, with subtitles.

Produced by Adrián Suar, Diego Andrasnik and Juan Lovece. Edited by Alejandro Parysow. Director of Photography: Guillermo Nieto. A Preludio Producciones and Tolmur production, from Menemsha Films.



#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

## **MIDAS MAN**

United Kingdom - 112 min Directed by Joe Stephenson. Written by Brigit Grant and Jonathan Wakeham.

With Jacob Fortune-Lloyd, Emily Watson (*The Book Thief*), Eddie Marsan (*War Horse*), and Ed Speleers.

On Thursday, November 9th, 1961, a well-dressed businessman descended the stairs to the Cavern Club in Liverpool and changed the world forever. Thus begins the tale of Brian Epstein, the man who 'discovered' The Beatles and quickly became their manager, despite having no experience whatsoever. Epstein's rise from obscurity to global success is seen through the lens of his close-knit family, faithful friends, and a lifelong search for love. An amazing, true story about the ultimate outsider that reframes the story we all thought we knew.

Produced by Trevor Beattie, Jeremy Chatterton, Tom Reeve, and Perry Trevers. Edited by Joe Stephenson. Director of Photography: Birgit Dierken. A StudioPow, Trevor Beattie Films, Fourth Culture, and Piccadilly Pictures production from Menemsha Films.

# SHORT MY NAME IS DANIA

Israel - 22 min A film by Lev Brodinsky.

Dania good-naturedly strives to connect with his father, who

lives in public housing for immigrants and suffers from Alzheimer's.

In Hebrew and Russian, with subtitles.



United States - 11 min A film by Jessica Sherif.

As Samia and Charlie's chance encounter turns into

an all-day first date, their inner voices threaten to derail the spark.

In Arabic, English, French and Tagalog, with subtitles.





# 7:00 PM DOCUMENTARY FEATURE,

## **ALI EATS AMERICA**

United States - 91 min Written and directed by Roush Niaghi and Greg Morris.

With Ali Allouche and Jennifer Danko.

Ali Allouche spent his junior year of high school in chemotherapy. Tired of hospital food, Ali and his mom, Lt. Col. Jennifer Danko, became obsessed with food shows and documentaries, eventually plotting out a map of all the restaurants across the United States they want to visit. To turn this dream into a reality, Jen launched a successful GoFundMe campaign, meeting their initial goal when the final \$3600 was donated by Anthony Bourdain. This buoyant documentary travels from hospitals to greasy spoons, pizzerias, five-star restaurants, and back. An honest, heartfelt film about living with and beyond a cancer diagnosis.

Produced by Eva Longoria, Cris Abrego, Rachelle Mendez, Roush Niaghi, Greg Morris, Scott Sheppard, and Celia Aniskovich. Edited by Scott Sheppard. Director of Photography: Roush Niaghi and Greg Morris. A PopGun POV production, from WME.



#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

## A WORLD APART

Italy - 113 min
Written and directed by Riccardo Milani.

With Antonio Albanese (Manual of Love 2), Virginia Raffaele and Alessandra Barbonetti.

After one too many years of teaching the undisciplined children in Rome, Michele needs a break. He gets himself relocated to a remote village called Rupe, in the heart of the Abruzzo National Park. Looking forward to a peaceful existence, he finds he is faced with a completely different set of challenges, including scant resources, inappropriate clothing for mountain weather, and an attractive vice principal who does not believe he will last longer than a week. This hilarious comedy will keep you laughing from beginning to end.

In Italian, with subtitles.

Produced by Lorenzo Gangarossa and Mario Gianani. Edited by Patrizia Ceresani and Francesco Renda. Director of Photography: Saverio Guarna. Wildside and Medusa Film production from Distrib Films.

#### SHORT

#### **EBB & FLOW**

Lebanon - 18 min A film by Nay Tabbara.

A high school student living in Beirut, navigating a world of bombings and political violence, is determined to have her first kiss.

In Arabic, with subtitles.



#### **SHORT**

#### **CRAB CLAW**

United States - 8 min A film by Steve Sanders.

When their relationship hits rock bottom, a couple seeks therapy to discover what exactly has come between them.





# 7:00 PM FEATURE THE UMESH CHRONICLES

India - 124 min Written and directed by Pooja Kaul.

With Aiza Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Kriti Pant, Vivek Gomber, and Zayn Marie Khan.

Surrounded by books and music, the privileged young Radha has little contact with Sundar, the uneducated boy who lives with her family as a servant. And when Sundar unexpectedly runs away, she and her family simply move on with their lives. But when Radha runs into him years later, she wonders if Sundar is actually freer than she is. Featuring India's most famous actor, Amitabh Bachchan, this gorgeously filmed portrait of middle-class India is filled with unforgettable images that haunt the imagination.

In English, Hindi, and Kashmiri, with subtitles.

Produced by Sheel Kumar, Ronnie Lahiri, and Shoojit Sircar. Edited by Helle le Fevre, Anna Løvlund and Giusy Naitana. Director of Photography: Jakob Ihre. A Kino Works and Rising Sun Films production.



#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

# **ANIMALE**

France - 98 min

Directed by Emma Benestan. Written by Emma Benestan and Julie Debiton.

With Oulaya Amamra (Divertimento and Hard Shell, Soft Shell), Damien Rebattel, Vivien Rodriguez.

Nejma works as a waitress in the South of France, but her passion is bull racing, a sport where the contestant must remove a trinket from a bull's horn—hopefully without getting gored. Though she behaves like she is one of the boys, she is only reluctantly given respect by her colleagues. After being injured following a celebration, Nejma notices disturbing changes occurring around her, as young men begin mysteriously dying. SBFF favorite Oulaya Amamra stars in this wildly unique film that is equal parts western, horror, and mystery. A must-see for the adventurous.

In French with subtitles.

Produced by Julie Billy and Naomi Denamur. Edited by Clémence Diard. Director of Photography: Ruben Impens. A June Films production, from Film Movement.

#### **SHORT**

#### **3 MINUTOS**

United States - 5 min A film by Douglas Ryan.

Waiting for the results of a test, a young couple is compelled to take a quick but meaningful look at their relationship.

In Spanish, with subtitles.



#### **SHORT**

#### WAIT TO TELL MOTHER

United States - 12 min
A film by Emma Elizabeth Steiger.

A surprise pregnancy forces a woman to make a difficult decision alone, triggering

memories of the one person she could always turn to—her father.





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

United States - 101 min Written and directed by Joel Alfonso Vargas.

With Juan Collado, Destiny Checo, Yohanna Florentino and Nathaly Navarro.

Rico, 19, lives with his no-nonsense mother and sassy sister Sally in a modest Bronx apartment in the heart of the Dominican-American community. Rico's version of having a job is selling homemade cocktails out of a cooler on Orchard Beach while trying to evade local authorities. He squabbles with Sally, gets reprimanded by his mom, parties with his clients, and flirts with the local girls. But his endless summer life comes crashing down when his newly pregnant 16-year-old girlfriend Destiny, moves in after being kicked out by her parents. Vargas creates a work of art, telling a compelling story while eliciting amazing performances from his cast. You do not want to miss this film.

In English and Spanish, with subtitles.

Produced by Paolo Maria Pedullà. Edited by Irfan van Tuijl. Director of Photography: Rufai Ajala. A Killer Films, Perpetuum Films, Spark Features, and Watermark Media production, from Salaud Morisset.

#### SHORT

#### **BAQUINE FRIENDS FOREVER**

United States - 13 min A film by Jose Acevedo.

After their relationship changes

forever, Gary wanders through Brooklyn, deciding whether or not to attend his friend Carmen's party.





#### 9:30 PM FEATURE

# **UNCLE VANYA - BUBBLE WALTZ**

Hungary - 90 min

Directed by Péter Fazakas. Written by Anikó Kun Béres and György Somogyi.

With László Görög, Tibor Szervét, Julianna Czakó, and Gyözö Szabó.

A modern retelling of Anton Chekhov's play *Uncle Vanya*, set in the 1990s. Iván - aka Vanya - breeds cattle with his sister Mária and 18-year-old niece Szonja on an estate in the middle of nowhere, when their boring, peaceful life is turned upside down by the arrival of Iván's arrogant brother-in-law, Jakab, and his young and flirtatious second wife, Léna. Following the outlines of Chekhov's story, this delightful feature has an imaginative take all its own.

In Hungarian, with subtitles.

Produced by Dorottya Helmeczy and Gábor Kálomista. Edited by Zoltán Kovács. Director of Photography: Zoltán Dévényi. A Megafilm Service production, from the National Film Institute of Hungary.

# **SHORT**

## SWEET CESSPOOL

United States - 6 min A film by Daniel Paredes.

A ghostwriter in serious need of cash begins to have second thoughts about the suicide letter she was paid to write.





# 7:00 PM CLOSING NIGHT FEATURE THE REMNANTS OF YOU

U.S. Premiere Spain - 92 minutes Written and directed by Gala Gracia.

With Laia Manzanares, Ángela Cervantes, Rui de Carvalho, Anna Tenta (Fanny's Journey).

After four years living in New York, Sara puts her budding career as a jazz pianist on hold following the sudden death of her father. Back in her childhood home—a sheep farm in the Pyrenees of Spain—Sara finds herself reunited with her older sister Elena, who now manages a livestock farm of her own. When the sisters inherit their father's farm and flock. Elena is ready to sell, but Sara finds herself unable to move on. After visiting her grandfather, Sara postpones her upcoming concert and starts working on her father's farm alone, as she desperately tries to hang onto his legacy. Actress Laia Manzanares gives an amazingly subtle yet powerful performance as Sara, and the evocative, melancholy solo piano score by Filipe Raposo beautifully ties together Sara's jazz with the old farm home she finds herself back in. This masterful first film from writer and director Gala Gracia feels both deeply

personal and strikingly universal at the same time.

In Spanish, with subtitles.

Produced by Carlo D'Ursi. Edited by Julia Juaniz and Irene Vecchio. Director of Photography: Michele Paradisi. A Potenza Producciones production, from Beta Cinema.

#### **SHORT**

#### **PLACE UNDER** THE SUN

U.S. Premiere Moldova - 20 min A film by Vlad Bolgarin.



A talented musician and his 8-year-old son struggle to find a place to sell vegetables at the biggest market in Moldova.

In Romanian, with subtitles.

# CLOSING NIGHT **AWARDS CEREMONY**

**Awards Ceremony immediately follows** Closing Night film screening.

Staller Center Main Stage.



at Curry Club at Saghar.

**EXCLUSIVE ACCESS** for Gold Passholders, Filmmakers and VIPs.

Upgrade to a Gold Pass at stonybrookfilmfestival.com/pass.





Staller Center for the Arts Stony Brook, NY 11794-5425



JULY 17-26, 2025











