

9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**OMAHA**  
FILM FESTIVAL  
MARCH 5-9, 2014



# FILM GUIDE



VILLAGE POINTE CINEMA  
304 NORTH 174<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
OMAHA, NE 68118

[OMAHAFILMFESTIVAL.ORG](http://OMAHAFILMFESTIVAL.ORG)



# CONTENTS

SCHEDULE	03
SPECIAL SCREENINGS	04
FEATURE FILMS	08
OFF THE EDGE FILMS	16
DOCUMENTARY FILMS	20
SHORT PROGRAMS	24



# SCHEDULE

<b>Wednesday March 5</b>	6:30pm	Obvious Child - Opening Night Film
	8:30pm	Stokes Opening Party
<b>Thursday March 6</b>	6:00pm	Short Film Block 1 - International
	6:15pm	Growing Cities
	6:25pm	Finding Neighbors
	6:35pm	Teddy Bears
	8:15pm	Uranium Drive-In
	8:30pm	Short Film Block 2 - Nebraska Documentaries
	8:40pm	Oltre il Guado (Across the River)
	8:45pm	BFFs
	9:00pm	Diamonds and Desserts Party at Gunderson's
<b>Friday March 7</b>	6:00pm	Short Film Block 3
	6:15pm	Enemy
	6:25pm	16 Acres
	6:35pm	The Gauntlet
	8:15pm	The Retrieval
	8:20pm	I Put a Hit on You
	8:30pm	Short Film Block 4 - Nebraska Dramas
	8:35pm	Favor
	10:30pm	Ring the Bell Party at Julio's West
<b>Saturday March 8</b>	9:00am	Writer's Theater - Shorts
	11:15am	Writer's Theater - Features
	12:00pm	Watcher's of the Sky
	12:15pm	Brahmin Bulls
	12:30pm	Crotty's Kids
	2:00pm	Tell Your Story with Leslie Dixon
	2:45pm	Druid Peak
	2:50pm	Little Hope Was Arson
	3:00pm	Short Film Block 5 - Animated
	3:15pm	Tell Your Story with Steve Faber
	5:00pm	Lion Ark
	5:15pm	The Odd Way Home
	5:25pm	A Birder's Guide to Everything
	5:30pm	Short Film Block 6 - Comedies
	7:30pm	Blood Punch
	7:45pm	Glitch
	8:00pm	Warren
	8:15pm	Short Film Block 7 - Nebraska Comedies
	10:00pm	Saturday Night OFFice Party at 2626 Harney
<b>Sunday March 9</b>	12:00pm	Short Film Block 8
	12:15pm	Rich Hill
	2:15pm	Trunk'd
	2:15pm	Sleeping with the Fishes
	4:30pm	Awards Ceremony
	5:00pm	Fading Gigolo - Closing Night Film
	7:30pm	Closing Night Party - Borgata



## SPECIAL SCREENINGS



### Obvious Child

Wednesday March 5 at 6:30pm  
USA - 83 minutes

Writer/Director: Gillian Robespierre  
Cast: Jenny Slate, Jake Lacy,  
Gaby Hoffmann, Gabe Liedman,  
David Cross, Polly Draper, Richard Kind  
[www.obviouschildmovie.com](http://www.obviouschildmovie.com)

*Obvious Child* is an honest comedy about what happens when Brooklyn comedian Donna Stern (Jenny Slate) gets dumped, fired and pregnant just in time for the worst/best Valentine's Day of her life.

Forever nudged by her parents to make better choices, Donna is forced to do just that when a one-night stand leads to a difficult decision that does and does not define the rest of her life.

Though confident in her choice, Donna must gain the confidence to believe in her talent, herself, and the best in those around her, especially one surprisingly decent guy who just might make this the worst/best Valentine's Day ever.



### Growing Cities

Thursday March 6 at 6:15pm  
USA - 59 minutes

Director: Dan Susman  
Producer: Andrew Monbouquette,  
Dana Altman, Dan Susman  
[www.growingcitiesmovie.com](http://www.growingcitiesmovie.com)

From rooftop farmers to backyard beekeepers, Americans are growing food like never before.

Created by Omaha filmmakers Dan Susman and Andrew Monbouquette, *Growing Cities* tells the inspiring stories of these intrepid urban farmers, innovators, and everyday city-dwellers, who are challenging the way this country grows and distributes its food. From those growing food in backyards to make ends meet, to educators teaching kids to eat healthier, viewers discover urban farmers are harvesting a whole lot more than simply good food.



### Enemy

Friday March 7 at 6:15pm  
USA - 90 minutes

Rated R for some strong sexual content,  
graphic nudity and language  
Director: Denis Villeneuve  
Writers: Javier Gullón

Cast: Jake Gyllenhaal, Mélanie Laurent,  
Mélanie Laurent, Sarah Gadon, Isabella  
Rossellini, Stephen R. Hart, Jane Moffat

A man seeks out his exact look-alike after spotting him in a movie.



### Crotty's Kids

Saturday March 8 at 12:30pm  
USA - 87 minutes

Writer/Director: James Crotty  
[www.crottyskids.com](http://www.crottyskids.com)

*Crotty's Kids* follows five Eagle Academy debaters as they evolve from content-light amateurs to critical thinking heavyweights. However, debate is only an ongoing McGuffin to the heart of the story; young men in search of an intellectual father figure.

Coach Crotty arrives in their lives with the clock running out. In two years, the young men of Eagle are likely to become grist for a staggering statistic; 60% of urban males never graduate high school. As Crotty's Kids grow in debate, we are pulled into the struggles of their personal lives: poverty, gang violence, and rape allegation.

We also come closer to the real Crotty. Between the polar extremes of his constructed coach persona, we find a softer side.

Our hearts break at the complete portrait of Crotty and his motives, when he openly admits to the camera, "I never had kids of my own; this is it, man."



# SPECIAL SCREENINGS



## Trunk'd

Sunday March 9 at 2:15pm  
USA - 72 minutes

Writer/Director: Jake Hull

Cast: Kevin Zaideman, Dan Cummins, Eddie Pepitone, Shang Forbes with James Adomian

*Trunk'd* is an unapologetic road trip comedy that involves four men driving from Nebraska to Texas to dispose of the body of a dead call girl whom they find unresponsive the morning after a bachelor party.



## Fading Gigolo

Sunday March 9 at 5:00pm  
USA - 98 minutes

Writer/Director: John Turturro

Cast: Sofia Vergara, Sharon Stone, Woody Allen, Liev Schreiber, Liev Schreiber

Fioravante decides to become a professional Don Juan as a way of making money to help his cash strapped friend, Murray. With Murray acting as his "manager," the duo quickly finds themselves caught up in the crosscurrents of love and money.



# FEATURE FILMS



## Finding Neighbors

Thursday March 6 at 6:25pm  
USA - 97 minutes

Writer/Director: Ron Judkins

Cast: Michael O'Keefe, Catherine Dent, Blake Bashoff, Julie Mond, Sean Patrick Thomas, Ryan Alosio, Mike Genovese

[www.findingneighborsmovie.com](http://www.findingneighborsmovie.com)

*Finding Neighbors* is a comedic drama about three sets of Los Angeles neighbors searching for true connection.

After his stellar early success and the subsequent failure of his last project, Sam (Michael O'Keefe) has become unable to move forward. Sherrie (Julie Mond), the provocative girl-next-door, offers him an easy and willing distraction. But it is Sam's budding friendship with another neighbor, Jeff (Blake Bashoff), which helps him begin to reconnect with his creative thread.

As Sam begins to recapture his creative fire, he may be losing the one thing he has never doubted; his marriage.



## Teddy Bears

Thursday March 6 at 6:35pm  
USA - 89 minutes

Director: Thomas Beatty, Rebecca Fishman

Cast: Gillian Jacobs, Zachary Knighton, David Krumholtz, Melanie Lynskey, Ahna O'Reilly, Jason Ritter, Dale Dickey, French Stewart, Ned Beatty

[www.teddybearsthemovie.com](http://www.teddybearsthemovie.com)

Andrew's mom has just died of horrible cancer. He's a mess.

His trusted friends take him on a week's escape to the Southern California desert in an effort to shake him out of his grief.

No one can hide in the desert. Whatever trouble you bring with you will be exposed to the sun.

Andrew wears his pain on his sleeve; everyone else thinks they can hide theirs under their clothes. But the desert won't have it, and neither will Andrew.



## BFFs

Thursday March 6 at 8:45pm  
USA - 95 minutes

Director: Andrew Putschoegl

Cast: Andrea Grano, Tara Karsian, Sean Maher, Sigrid Thornton, Russell Sams, Patrick O'Connor, Jenny O'Hara, Richard Moll, Larisa Oleynik, Jeffrey Vincent Parise, Molly Hagan, Dan Gauthier, Eric Lively, Pat Carroll, Kathy Grano

Kat and Samantha have been best friends for years.

Kat is given a couple's weekend workshop as a birthday gift by her mother. Samantha never seems to have a problem finding men to date, they just never seem to last.

Samantha convinces Kat to take advantage of the idyllic retreat by pretending to be lovers; how hard could it be? They expect some down time by the pool and maybe a few good stories to bring home with them.

What they don't expect is to get immersed in a world where they are surrounded by lovable couples fighting to keep their relationships strong, and by default, make Samantha and Kat face their own shortcomings.



## The Retrieval

Friday March 7 at 8:15pm  
USA - 94 minutes

Writer/Director: Chris Eska

Cast: Ashton Sanders, Tishuan Scott, Keston John

[www.theretrieval.com](http://www.theretrieval.com)

Set on the outskirts of the U.S. Civil War, *The Retrieval* follows a fatherless 13 year-old boy sent north by his bounty hunter gang on a dangerous mission to retrieve a wanted man.

During their journey towards the unwitting wanted man's reckoning, the initially distant pair develops unexpected emotional bonds. As his feelings grow, the boy is consumed by conflicting emotions and a gut-wrenching ultimate decision.





## I Put A Hit on You

Friday March 7 at 8:20pm

USA - 78 minutes

Writer/Director: Dane Clark &  
Linsey Stewart

Cast: Aaron Ashmore & Sara Canning  
[www.iputahitonyou.com](http://www.iputahitonyou.com)

A brokenhearted woman teams up with her ex-boyfriend to try and stop the hit man she accidentally hired to kill him.



## Brahmin Bulls

Saturday March 8 at 12:15pm

USA - 96 minutes

Director: Mahesh Pailoor

Cast: Sendhil Ramamurthy, Roshan Seth,  
Mary Steenburgen, Justin Bartha,  
Michael Lerner, Cassidy Freeman,  
Monica Raymund, George Newbern  
[www.brahminbulls.com](http://www.brahminbulls.com)

A disillusioned architect and his distant father come together after many years, but when a woman from the past resurfaces, old wounds threaten to break their new-found relationship.



## Druid Peak

Saturday March 8 at 2:45pm

USA - 111 minutes

Writer/Director: Marni Zelnick

Cast: Spencer Treat Clark, Andrew Wilson,  
Rachel Korine, Lana Joffrey  
[www.druidpeak.com](http://www.druidpeak.com)

*Druid Peak* is a coming of age story about a troubled teenage boy who finds a home tracking wolves in the wild lands of Wyoming.

Sixteen-year-old Owen isn't just rebellious, he's a bully with a mean streak.

Growing up in coal country West Virginia, he struggles against the claustrophobia of small town life, lashing out against school and family. But when his actions lead to the death of a friend, Owen is sent to live with his estranged father Everett, a biologist on Yellowstone's wolf reintroduction program.

When a change in government policy threatens the animals, Owen must decide how far he will go to protect the wolves, his father, and the place he has finally come to call home.



## The Odd Way Home

Saturday March 8 at 5:15pm

USA - 90 minutes

Director: Rajeev Nirmalakhandan

Cast: Chris Marquette, Rumer Willis,  
Brendan Sexton, Veronica Cartwright,  
Bruce Altman  
[www.theoddwayhome.com](http://www.theoddwayhome.com)

The oddest couple takes an unforgettable journey through the American Southwest, finding happiness in the unlikeliest of places, and seeing in each other what no one else has seen before.



## A Birder's Guide to Everything

Saturday March 8 at 5:25pm

USA - 90 minutes

Director: Rob Meyer

Cast: Kodi Smit-McPhee, Ben Kingsley, Alex Wolff, Michael Chen, Katherine Chang, James LeGros, Daniela Lavender

[www.abirdersguidetoeverything.com](http://www.abirdersguidetoeverything.com)

David Portnoy, a 15-year-old birding fanatic, thinks that he's made the discovery of a lifetime. On the eve of his father's remarriage, he escapes on an epic road trip with his best friends to solidify their place in birding history.

In an uncharacteristic lucky break, the pretty new girl in school winds up joining David and his posse as they steal a Cabriolet and set out on a trip of adventure and mishap.

Nerdy, naive, and totally un-equipped to handle the challenges of the real world, they persevere through car crashes, near-death experiences, and their own hilarious ineptitude.

Along the way, rival birders and Dr. Lawrence Konrad, a treacherous ornithologist idol, try to beat them to the punch. Yet the closer David gets to discovery, the more David grows up: leading his friends, winning the girl, and realizing that his obsession with birds may be pointing him in the wrong direction.



## Glitch

Saturday March 8 at 7:45pm

USA - 93 minutes

Director: Daniel Doherty II

Cast: Lucas Neff, Maiara Walsh, Blake Silver, Levi Fiehler, Lamorne Morris, Emily Wickersham

Will and Harper, indie game developers, have hit it big; they finally have a game climbing up the sales charts. However, a major game corporation has also taken notice, and has released almost an exact replica of their game.

The guys decide to take action and hire a lawyer to fight GameTekk on their behalf. The situation gets even more complicated when Sophie, a girl that Will has been interested in, is revealed to be his lawyer's serious girlfriend.

They are making gains in their lawsuit, and it's beginning to look like they might even have a chance at winning. Now Will has to make a choice; will he continue with the lawsuit, or will he pursue Sophie and risk losing his career, best friend, and business partner?



## Warren

Saturday March 8 at 8:00pm

USA - 84 minutes

Writer/Director: Alex Beh

Cast: Alex Beh, John Heard, Jean Smart, Austin Stowell, Spencer Curnett, Sarah Habel

[www.warrenthemovie.com](http://www.warrenthemovie.com)

After giving up on making it in the Chicago improv scene, a young comedian fatefully reconnects with the former love of his life while working at a coffee shop in his hometown.

Afraid of growing old and alone, like his divorced father, Warren must choose between winning her back or finding the courage to go after his dreams a second time.



"I have been using Gorilla since the beginning and have not used anything else since! As a filmmaker who has to wear a lot of hats, a program like Gorilla really lays it all out in a simple but professional way so that my crew and I always know where we are in the project.

We have used Gorilla on everything from feature films to commercials and budgets: from shoestring to substantial. I highly recommend this product to everyone from students up to working professionals.

Jungle Software listens to the users and are constantly are upgrading the product and adding the features that we ask for."

- Tony Mark, Emmy Award Winning Filmmaker/Editor





# BORGATA

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OFF THE EDGE FILMS



### Oltre il Guado (Across The River)

Thursday March 6 at 8:40pm

Italy - 102 minutes

Director: Lorenzo Bianchini

Cast: Marco Marchese

An ethnologist working in the remote woods traps animals and mounts cameras on them so he can monitor their behavior remotely. The resulting recordings lead him to a remote village, the site of an ancient curse, where he is trapped due to heavy rainfall raising the level of the river and flooding out the only access.



### The Gauntlet

Friday March 7 at 6:35pm

USA - 80 minutes

Director: Matt Eskandari

Cast: Warren Kole, Bai Ling, Jamie Ray Newman, Dustin Nguyen, Jude Ciccolella, Nick Lane, P. David Miller

In a sunken castle underneath the earth, six strangers awake. They have no food, no memory, and no water. And no way out.

These strangers are from every normal walk of life, yet they each have a secret. They don't know it yet, but they're capable of something they never imagined. They must organize and band together for the sinister adventure that awaits them.



### Favor

Friday March 7 at 8:35pm

USA - 103 minutes

Writer/Director: Paul Osborne

Tiffany J. Shuttleworth

Cast: Blayne Weaver, Patrick Day, Cheryl Nichols, Rosalie Ward, Christina Rose, Jeffrey Combs, Alison Martin  
[www.favormovie.com](http://www.favormovie.com)

"A friend helps you move. A good friend helps you move a body."

Kip Desmond has gotten everything he's ever wanted: a thriving career, a beautiful wife, and an affluent lifestyle; all of which is put in jeopardy when Abby, the waitress with whom he's having a casual fling, is accidentally killed.

Desperate, he ends up on the doorstep of a childhood friend, the unemployed and divorced Marvin Croat, and asks him for a huge favor; help get rid of the body.

This gruesome circumstance begins a series of events, which unravel Kip and Marvin's lifelong friendship, leading both men to murderous acts neither had ever suspected themselves capable of.



### Blood Punch

Saturday March 8 at 7:30pm

USA - 110 minutes

Director: Madellaine Paxson

Cast: Milo Cawthorne, Olivia Tennet, Ari Boyland, Adelaide Kane, Cohen Holloway

A mysterious bad girl checks herself into rehab to find someone to cook crystal meth for her. She recruits a young college aged man for her get-rich-quick drug score scheme, and breaks him out with the help of her abusive cop boyfriend.

But that young man finds himself in the midst of a love triangle full of betrayal and danger, and things go from bad to worse.

And they then do it all over again the next day.



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DOCUMENTARY FILMS



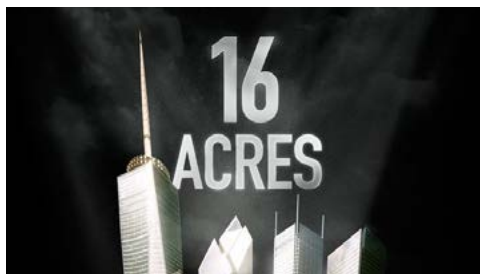
### Uranium Drive-In

Thursday March 6 at 8:15pm  
USA - 70 minutes

Director: Suzan Beraza and Casey Nay  
[www.uraniumdrivein.com](http://www.uraniumdrivein.com)

*Uranium Drive-In* is the story of an economically devastated rural mining community in southwestern Colorado that finds itself hopeful for the first time in decades. Their potential salvation? Returning to the "glory" days of the past, uranium mining and milling.

The film follows three main characters: Tami Lowrance, Mayor of Naturita and strong proponent of the mill; Ayngel Overson, struggling mother of four who longs for the survival of her town but has mixed feelings about the mill; and Jennifer Thurston, an environmental activist fighting to stop the mill.



### 16 Acres

Friday March 7 at 6:25pm  
USA - 93 minutes

Director: Richard Hankin  
[www.16acresthemovie.com](http://www.16acresthemovie.com)

The rebuilding of the World Trade Center is the most architecturally, politically and emotionally complex urban renewal project in American history. From the beginning, the rebuilding effort has been fraught with controversy, drama, delays and politics. To date, the struggle has encompassed ten years, nineteen government agencies, a dozen projects, and over \$20 billion and counting.

As with all great urban projects, from the Pyramids to Rome's Colosseum to Rockefeller Center, a small group of powerful people will dictate the outcome. With inside access to the project and these key players, *16 Acres* tells the story behind the headlines.

Who are these men and women? What motivates them? How will their personalities shape the project? And, ultimately, will it succeed?



### Watchers of the Sky

Saturday March 8 at 12:00pm  
USA - 115 minutes

Director: Edet Belzberg  
[www.watchersofthesky.com](http://www.watchersofthesky.com)

Traversing time and continents *Watchers of the Sky* examines the cycle of violence, and the world's historical, psychological, political, legal, and experiential response from a variety of angles.

Inspired by Samantha Power's Pulitzer Prize winning book, "A Problem From Hell," director Edet Belzberg brings viewers into traditionally inaccessible places and introduces memorable characters, weaving together four modern stories while uncovering the forgotten life of Raphael Lemkin, the tenacious inventor of the word "genocide."

*Watchers of the Sky* takes you on a journey from Nuremberg to Rwanda, from Darfur to Syria, and from apathy to action.



### Little Hope Was Arson

Saturday March 8 at 2:50pm  
USA - 70 minutes

Director: Theo Love  
[www.littlehopewasarson.com](http://www.littlehopewasarson.com)

In the buckle of the Bible Belt, 10 churches were burned to the ground in five weeks, igniting the largest criminal investigation in East Texas history. No stone is left unturned and even Satan himself is considered a suspect in this gripping investigation of a community terrorized from the inside out. Families are torn apart and communities of faith struggle with forgiveness and justice in this incredible true story.

*Little Hope Was Arson* delivers edge-of-your-seat suspense and mystery while transcending into human conflicts of forgiveness, religion, and redefining the concepts of church, family and justice.

First time director, Theo Love delicately peels back the layers of East Texas culture to reveal a rarely seen vulnerability. While maintaining a refreshing objectivity, the filmmaker allows each character to express themselves organically while spinning a complicated web of moral conflict and internal struggles both for the subjects and the audience.



# DOCUMENTARY FILMS



## Lion Ark

Saturday March 8 at 5:00pm  
USA - 100 minutes  
Director: Tim Phillips  
[www.lionarkthemovie.com](http://www.lionarkthemovie.com)

More action adventure than traditional documentary, Lion Ark follows the world's most ambitious and daring animal rescue with a narrative meticulously compiled from film, interviews, conversations and the reactions of participants as events actually unfold.

A shocking undercover investigation leads to a ban on animal circuses in Bolivia. But the circuses defy the law.

The team behind the investigation returns, tracks down the illegal circuses, and saves every animal. The confrontations, heartache and incredible risks the rescue team face, are all captured before a joyous finale sees 25 lions airlifted to freedom in Colorado.

Lion Ark is an uplifting story of bravery, compassion, camaraderie and determination, and shows how a poor but proud country said "no" to cruelty, and how attitudes to animals were changed across an entire continent.



## Rich Hill

Sunday March 9 at 12:15pm  
USA - 93 minutes  
Director/Producer: Tracy Droz Tragos,  
Andrew Droz Palermo  
[www.richhillfilm.com](http://www.richhillfilm.com)

Once a thriving mining town, shortly after World War II, the coal was gone. Stores closed, people moved away, farms were sold. It's a story that could be told in hundreds of towns across America.

But people still live here; 1,393 of them at last count. Deep potholes line the gravel roads and property tax is almost nonexistent. The town center is littered with piles of bricks, and crumbling buildings are all that remain of the original bank, the corner pharmacy, and a cafe.

Yet there is still the dream of transformation on the horizon; if only the citizens could attract more business, Rich Hill could be home to an industry once again.



# SHORT PROGRAMS





## The Landing

USA - 18 minutes

Director: Josh Tanner

Writer: Josh Tanner, Jade van der Lei

[www.thelandingfilm.com](http://www.thelandingfilm.com)

A man returns to the Midwestern farm of his childhood on a desperate mission to unearth the horrifying truth of what landed there in the summer of 1960.



## Tuesday

Switzerland, USA - 6 minutes

Writer/ Director: Oscar Lalo

Tuesday is a poignant, thought-provoking story of how life can take unexpected turns. This is the story of a man struggling to keep all the pieces of his life together. Can he do it or will he lose heart?



## Hvalfjörður (Whale Valley)

Denmark, Iceland - 15 minutes

Writer/Director:

Guðmundur Arnar Guðmundsson

The film shows a strong bond between two brothers that live in a remote fjord with their parents.



## Nashorn im Galopp (Rhino Full Throttle)

Germany - 15 minutes

Director: Erik Schmitt

Bruno is making his way through the city searching for its soul. Driven by his curiosity, he is lifting the old dusty curtain on the city's trusted perception.



## Mi Ojo Derecho (My Right Eye)

Spain - 13 minutes

Writer/Director: Josecho De Linares

Zurdo maintained a special relationship with his grandmother. Since he went away to study, they have lost contact. On the last day of summer, Zurdo decides to visit her with the intuition that he might not see her again.

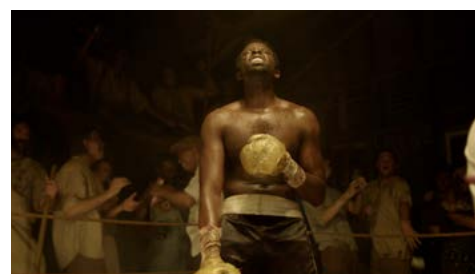


## Drone Strike

United Kingdom - 20 minutes

Director: Chris Richmond

Flying a UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) over Afghanistan from a base in Lincolnshire means Will Brydon (Mark Bazeley) gets to live at home, and even drop his son off at school on his way to work. But in return, he has to deal with the warped reality of firing Hellfire missiles 4,000 miles away for a day job. *Drone Strike* tells the story of how one fateful decision shatters his conviction, and the effects on a family in Afghanistan's Helmand Province.



## His New Hands

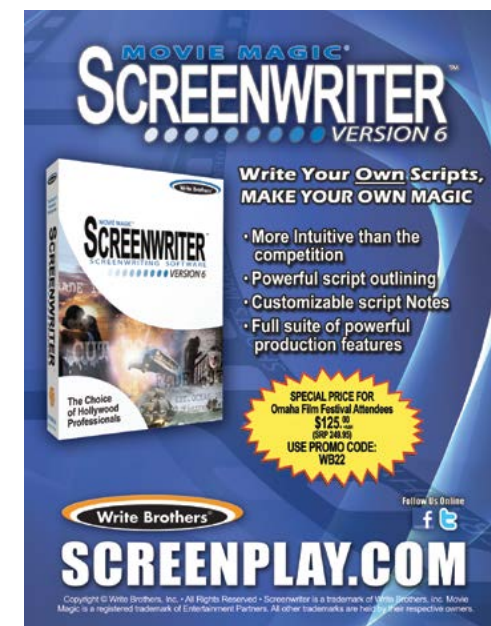
India, Hong Kong, USA - 15 minutes

Writer/Director: Sudhanshu Saria

[www.hisnewhands.com](http://www.hisnewhands.com)

After looking for his younger brother all day, Charlie finds him sulking in a tree, demanding to know the truth about their father and why he doesn't live with them. Charlie decides to tell his brother a tall tale about their father, the invincible boxer and how he obtained his golden gloves.

*His New Hands* is a Faustian fable about the choices one makes when pursuing a dream.







## Dive In Fearlessly

USA - 28 minutes  
Director: John Dowd

*Dive In Fearlessly* follows Mid-western musician, Jake Duncan, as he pursues his dream of professional musicianship while trying to stay afloat financially.



## A Goldfish Documentary

USA - 8 minutes  
Writer/Director: Steve Snell,  
Elizabeth Stehling

*A Goldfish Documentary* tells the story of Noodles and Tony P, two small goldfish from the Great Plains of Nebraska, and their transformative journey to the small hamlet of Wassauc, New York.

Bowl-bound meets highway-bound in this autobiographical true story.



## Master Debaters

USA - 26 minutes  
Writer/Director: James Crotty

*Master Debaters* introduces us to the compelling subculture of high-speed high school policy debate, its key players, ancestry, odd habits and lingo.

This is fast paced theater; a sport featuring academic athletes from all walks of life and a bulwark of the Western tradition. And it happens every week-end under our noses in mostly empty classrooms across the USA.

*Master Debaters* also introduces us to a series of Black and Hispanic Urban Debate League superstars, two of whom defy all odds to defeat the top debate team in the country at the National Forensic League Nationals in Salt Lake City.

But *Master Debaters* is not just a feel-good story of triumph over adversity. Debate is a game; the same game played by CEOs, trial lawyers, and political candidates who will trade in what they believe for what they know will win.

*Master Debaters* asks us to examine what kind of people debaters become when they are asked to defend positions that are at best preposterous, and, at worst, morally reprehensible.



## Tokimane

USA - 27 minutes  
Director: John O'Keefe

*Tokimane* is a documentary film about a trip that a team from Creighton University took to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in January, 2013.

The film profiles the Catholic diocese of Tshumbe and the efforts of some remarkable people to rebuild after catastrophic war.

Among those profiled are Nicolas Djomo, the charismatic bishop of the diocese, a religious woman trying to build a new university, and a young female doctor who cares for the sick in the midst of extreme poverty.



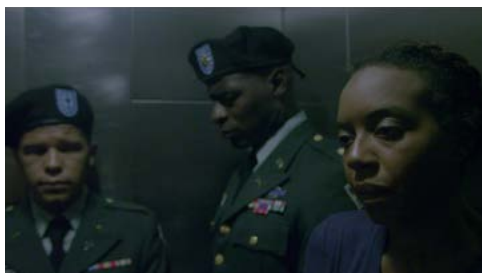
## Backstage Confidential

USA - 13 minutes  
Director: Dave Weiss

Go backstage with Bill Reid, promoter and manager of the small music venue ranked #1 in the U.S. in 2013 by Rolling Stones magazine, for a glimpse into the business side of rock and roll.

*Backstage Confidential* not only chronicles Bill Reid's journey to becoming a promoter, sparked by a chance encounter with Alice Cooper, but gives viewers an all access pass to two of Reid's music venues, The NorVa and The National.

In the process, he takes us behind the scenes to see both the glamorous and not so glamorous sides of the music industry, and ultimately, what makes Reid so passionate about putting on shows.



## The Bravest, the Boldest

USA - 17 minutes  
Director: Moon Molson

On the way back up to her apartment from the basement laundry, Sayeeda discovers that two Army Notification Officers are going to her same floor. She knows they can only be bearing the news that her son is either seriously injured or dead.



## I Do

USA - 6 minutes  
Director: Patrick Rea

A little girl robbed of her future chooses one last wish to be fulfilled by her loving parents. The family embraces one pure moment of innocence before time runs out.



## Pop Tarts

USA - 10:32 minutes  
Writer/Director: Kendal Sinn

A widower invites in a stranger for one last breakfast.



## Good Conduct

USA - 8 minutes  
Director: Patrick Rea

A young man visits his father in prison the day before his parole.



## The Other Sister

USA - 16 minutes  
Writer/Director: Nicholas Bouier  
[www.theothersisterfilm.com/en](http://www.theothersisterfilm.com/en)

Jean, a recent parolee, tries to lead an honorable life by running her mother's convenience store. On one fateful day, Jean is visited by a loan shark who has come to collect a debt owed by her "straight A" sister, Sarah.

Now Jean must choose between her hard-won freedom and committing one last crime to help her sister.



## Afronauts

USA - 14:05 minutes  
Writer/Director: Frances Bodomo  
[www.afronautsfilm.com](http://www.afronautsfilm.com)

July 1969. It's the night of the moon landing, and a ragtag group of Zambian exiles are trying to beat America to the moon.



## Paper People

USA - 16 minutes  
Writer/Director: Andrew Kightlinger

Akin to *Crash*, the lives of a suicidal U.S. Marine, a single mother, and her precocious daughter collide with incendiary results.



## The Hero Pose

USA - 13 minutes  
Writer/Director: Mischa Jakupcak  
[www.theheropose.com](http://www.theheropose.com)

The Hero Pose is a short film about Mia, an eight-year-old girl and her father, Joe, who is trying to sell a car. As the afternoon progresses, Mia and Joe uncover a lot about their relationship and end up connecting with one another in an unusual way.





## Sandbox Memories

USA - 15 minutes

Director: Travis Enck, Alexis Dvorak

28 year-old Jack takes us through an exciting, emotional journey back through his childhood days where we discover how he has gotten to where he is today.

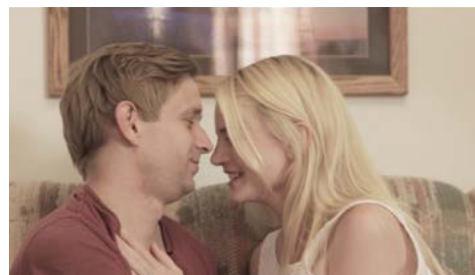


## Black Lines

USA - 13 minutes

Writer/Director: Mike Johnson

After a shocking accident involving his lover, drag performer Lee Harris is haunted by dark visions that threaten to push him past the line of sanity.



## For Worse

USA - 15 minutes

Writer/Director: Jake Rains

Newlyweds Holly and Mitchell spend their honeymoon at a romantic and secluded house on the lake. A fatal accident occurs, making the night one they truly will never forget. The couple has to then decide if they will commit to their vows... for better or for worse.



## The Pursuit of Happiness

USA - 8 minutes

Writer/Director: Aliza Brugger

A series of people unsuccessfully attempt to obtain happiness.

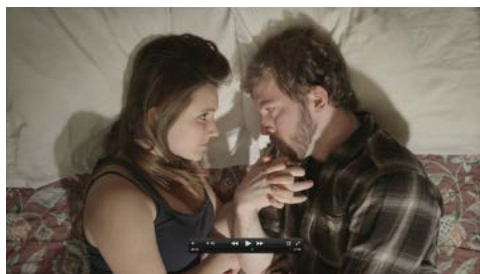


## Mens Rea

USA - 15 minutes

Director: Kreg Gilson

Marcus and Nia see and live life differently; their two worlds collide. They take matters into their hands trying to change things for the better; unfortunately these two are not on the same page.



## Slipaway

USA - 15 minutes

Writer/Director: Kevin Burns

A young man takes to the road after the death of a love one. The farther he travels, the less he resembles the man he once was.



## Listen

USA - 8:34 minutes

Director: Elias Ginsberg, Costen Bishop

A young man discovers a talent that lies deep inside him. Will it be enough to keep his world from falling apart?

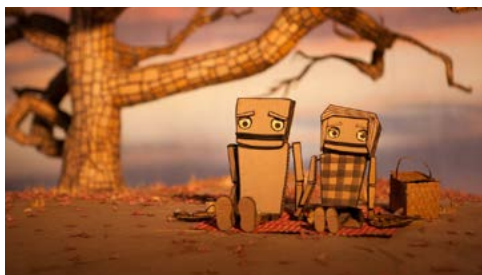


## Hedron

USA - 7 minutes

Writer/Director: Connor Huggett

Jim discovers a mysterious object while cleaning out his grandfather's barn, and as he battles its powerful effects, he struggles to hold on to his relationships as well as his own sanity.



## Me + Her

USA - 10 minutes

Writer/Director: Joseph Oxford

[www.cardboardfilm.com](http://www.cardboardfilm.com)

When Jack and Jill of Cardboard City are separated by Jill's torrid illness, Jack must think outside the box to assure they will be together again.



## Luminaris

Argentina - 6 minutes

Director: Juan Pablo Zaramella

In a world controlled and timed by light, an ordinary man has a plan that could change the natural order of things.

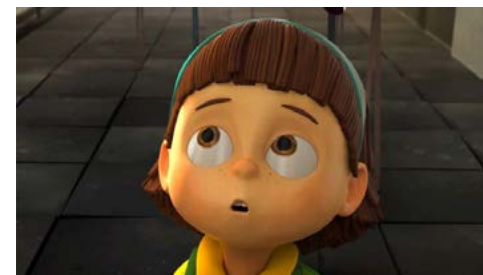


## Sleight of Hand

Australia - 10 minutes

Writer/Director: Michael Cusack

A man yearns to know his place in the world and how he fits in, when sometimes it's better not to know.



## Mia

Belgium, The Netherlands - 9:03 minutes

Director: Wouter Bongaerts

7 year-old Mia tries to liberate her overworked mother from the clutches of an overpopulated metropolis. In her quest, she unlocks the hidden secrets that make the world turn.



## The Gallant Captain

Australia - 8:09 minutes

Director: Katrina Mathers & Graeme Base

[www.thegallantcaptain.com](http://www.thegallantcaptain.com)

When Will discovers a box of memories in his father's wardrobe, he embarks on a fantastic seafaring voyage. With his cat bravely in tow, Will learns that only when you truly let go do you become The Gallant Captain. Inspired by the picture book *The Legend of the Golden Snail*.



## Blue

USA - 8:27 minutes

Director: Katelyn Bianchini, Rena Cheng, Asia Lancaster

A fearful balloon must learn to put his fragile life in the hands of an unlikely friend.



## Woody

Australia - 9:55 minutes

Writer/Director: Stuart Bowen

[www.woodyshortfilm.com](http://www.woodyshortfilm.com)

Ever since he was a kid, Woody has dreamt of playing the piano.

The problem is that he only has wooden paddles for hands. Stuck in a job he doesn't care about, he fills the hours dreaming of being a concert pianist. His dreams are big, but they're about to get out of hand.



## Foxed!

Canada - 4:37 minutes

Director: James Stewart, Nev Bezaire

Writer: Nev Bezaire

[www.foxedmovie.com](http://www.foxedmovie.com)

*Foxed!* opens with tween Emily locked deep in the mines beneath her house, pick axe in hand, forced to work by patrolling foxes. Her daring attempt at escape is met by a stunning encounter on the surface that leaves Emily lost and confused.





## The Centipede and the Toad

France - 10 minutes

Director: Anna Khmelevskaya

In a faraway forest, the gracious, lissome Centipede is admired by all the other creatures. Except for an old Toad, haughty and jealous, who hates him. One day, he decides to get rid of the Centipede.



## Icarus Falls

USA - 3 minutes

Writer/Director: Jesse O'Brien

A young boy yearns to fly. He builds flying machines, each one more elaborate and dangerous than the last, but each one fails. In the end he achieves his dream of flying, though not quite in the way he had planned.



## Mr Hublot

France, Luxembourg - 12 minutes

Director: Laurent Witz & Alexandre Espigares

[mrhublot.zeit.com](http://mrhublot.zeit.com)

A withdrawn, idiosyncratic character with OCD, Mr Hublot is scared of change and the outside world. His solution; he doesn't step foot outside his apartment! The arrival of the dog Robot Pet will turn his life upside down: he has to share his home with this very invasive companion.



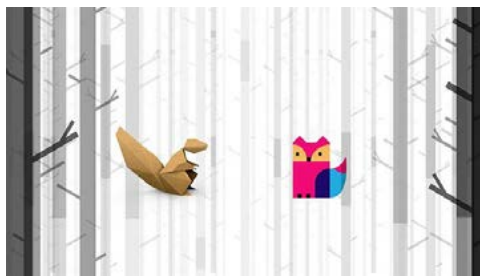
## Eideann

Spain - 5 minutes

Writer/Director: Álvaro Granados

[www.eideann.com](http://www.eideann.com)

Set in the XIV Century, Eideann is the story of how a courageous shepherd from the Highland of Scotland and one of the sheep of his flock become the pioneers of one of the most popular entertainments of our days.



## The Missing Scarf

Ireland - 7 minutes

Writer/Director: Eoin Duffy

[www.themissingscarf.com](http://www.themissingscarf.com)

Albert the Squirrel makes a startling discovery; an empty space where once his favourite scarf lay.

He heads off into the forest only to find everyone else is preoccupied with worries of their own. He helps who he can before moving on, but never seems to get any closer to his goal.

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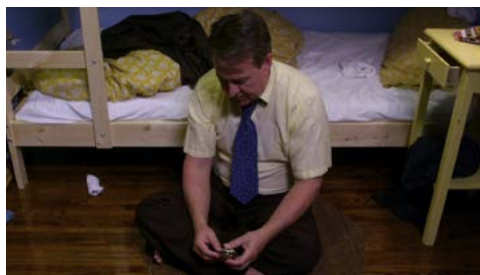


## Relax, I'm From The Future

Canada - 5 minutes

Writer/Director: Luke Higginson

Percy Sullivan's suicide attempt gets interrupted by a man claiming to be from the future.



## Nice is Cool

Canada - 17 minutes

Writer/Director: Ben Petrie

Charles shares the story of his childhood experiences through a crude puppet who supplies fatherly machismo, a school dance organized by a malevolent elementary school teacher, and a moment with his mom that will mark his life forever.



## Funnel

USA - 8 minutes

Writer/Director: Andre Hyland

When a man's car breaks down, it sends him on a quest across town that slowly turns into the most fantastic mundane adventure.



## There Is No God And We All Die Alone

USA - 21 minutes

Writer/Director: Harrison Givens

[www.thereisnogodfilm.com](http://www.thereisnogodfilm.com)

After the death of his father, Henry Fleetwood embarks on a whimsical journey to find the meaning of life and conquer his fear of death.



## Anxious Oswald Greene

Canada - 15 minutes

Writer/Director: Marshall Axani

[www.cureoswald.com](http://www.cureoswald.com)

Anxious Oswald Greene centers around a man who visits a deteriorating doctor's office to find the cure for his crippling anxiety.

In order to take back control of his life, Oswald must put his trust in either a blind nurse, a talking fly, or a flamboyant doctor. But who is friend and who is foe?



## Man Up, Little Boy

USA - 8 minutes

Director: Jeffrey Williams

Writer: Dan Greenberger

Meet Walter, (Bradley Whitford) a man who refuses to step blithely into old age, but rather, fights it with everything he's got.



## Fool's Day

USA - 20 minutes

Director: Cody Blue Snider

[www.foolsdaymovie.com](http://www.foolsdaymovie.com)

Fool's Day is a dark comedy about a 4th grade class that pulls an innocent April Fool's prank on their teacher that accidentally kills her.

Panicked and convinced they will go to prison, the blood splattered classmates try to cover up the murder and dispose of the body before their D.A.R.E. officer shows up for his weekly lesson.



## Anniversario

USA - 12 minutes

Writer/Director: Jeffrey DeChausse

[www.anniversariomovie.com](http://www.anniversariomovie.com)

Carmela visits the beauty salon in preparation for an evening out on her 45th wedding anniversary. She's greeted by her two favorite hairdressers, Chu Chi and Pepe. But in a tragic twist, Carmela becomes the most important makeover of their lives.



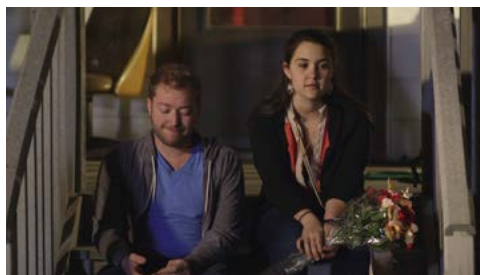


## Same Time Same Place

USA - 19 minutes

Writer/Director: Matt Gengel

After having his heart broken, Jack spends thirty years building a time machine in order to travel to 1971 to make sure he never meets his one and only love.



## Plus One

USA - 12 minutes

Director: Neil Larson

Jeff receives an unexpected phone call that brings about the end of the world as he knows it. When friends, family, and past love fails him, Jeff's only hope seems to be in the hands of his helpless, bubbly new neighbor.



## The Cursed Columnist

USA - 5 minutes

Writer/Director: Drew Conley

A newspaper columnist, who is clearly distracted by his comic book, trips and hits his head. When he wakes up, he begins to hear music that seems to change with every move he makes.

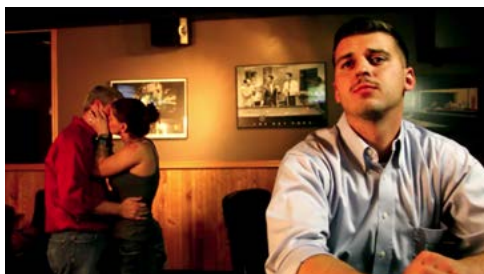


## Clique

USA - 9:30 minutes

Director: James Brian Strathman

A group of friends begin using a social networking website to their advantage.



## Pity Kiss

USA - 13 minutes

Writer/Director: Kreg Gilson

Two friends will go to every measure to win a bet. The bets are simple and so are the payoffs; but the over the top execution is really what they're after.



## Clocked

USA - 6 minutes

Writer/Director: Nathan Hansen

After completing his lifelong dream of inventing a time machine, a scientist learns through a series of interactions with himself that his machine will cause irreparable harm to the past, present, and future, if he uses it.

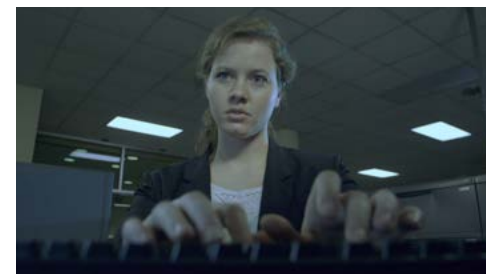


## Applesauce

USA - 11 minutes

Director: Nathan Hansen

A man thinks he has found true happiness, but he quickly learns that it comes with a price.



## Cubical Life

USA - 6 minutes

Director: Joshua Waterstone

Hearing a computer keystroke that goes against the methodical rhythm of the "cubical life," a female office drone searches for the cause of the sound that dares to go against the group.



**Syndicated**

USA - 7 minutes

Director: Dominic Ciofalo

Down on his luck actor Arthur Powell gets hired for the role of a lifetime in the first radio production of *Dracula*.



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## Lay Over

Canada - 13 minutes

Writer/Director: Jordan Hayes

A girl meets a boy on an eight hour lay-over.



## Emit

USA - 10 minutes

Writer/Director: JS Mayank

[www.emittheshort.weebly.com](http://www.emittheshort.weebly.com)

In a world where time flows backwards, an old man eagerly awaits meeting his wife for the first time as she comes to life, while his 7-year old granddaughter contemplates her upcoming mortality.



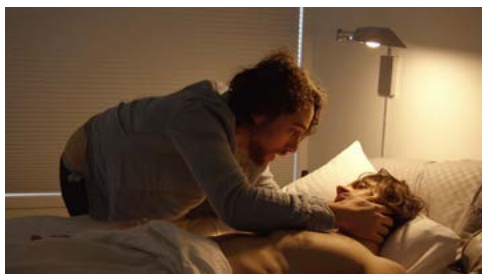
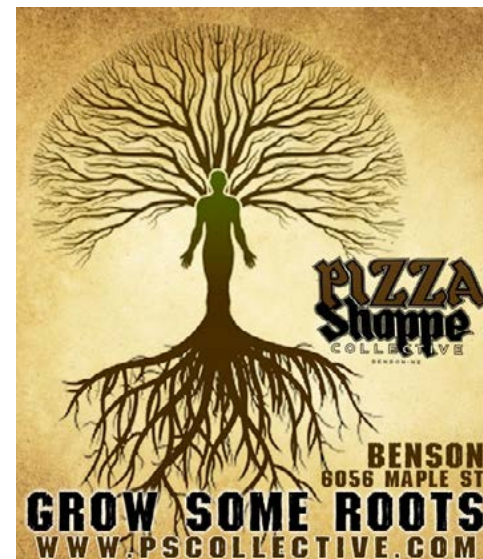
## Mr. Invisible

United Kingdom - 14 minutes

Director: Greg Ash

A lonely disregarded old man seems invisible to the world around him.

But when he journeys to the heart of London, being "invisible" proves to be his greatest weapon.



## Pillowcase

USA - 15:42 minutes

Director: David Lombroso

[www.pillowcasefilm.com](http://www.pillowcasefilm.com)

Last night's party, this morning's problem.



## The Immaculate Reception

USA - 17 minutes

Writer/Director: Charlotte Glynn

It's 1972 in the hardworking steel town of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Sixteen-year-old Joey has the chance to prove himself when his crush ends up at his house to watch the infamous football game between the Steelers and the Raiders.

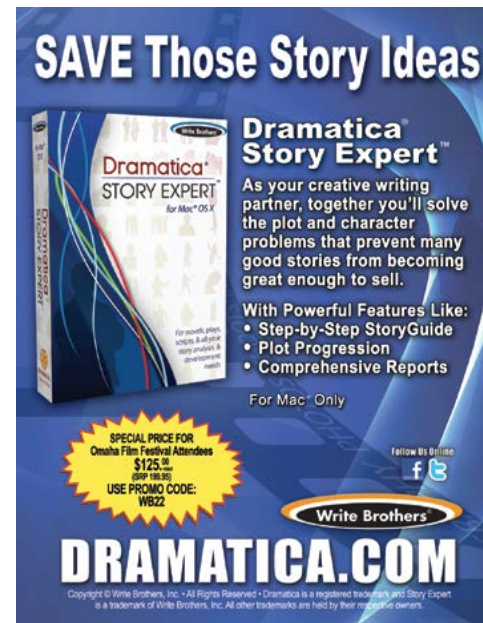


## Distance

USA - 25 minutes

Director: Aimee Long

In the year 2038 a man is about to embark on a journey of reconciliation with his daughter when a natural disaster hurls his plans off course.





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