



For details, art or photos about FLICKERS media releases, contact Sara Osborne, [sosborne151@g.rwu.edu](mailto:sosborne151@g.rwu.edu)

PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST:

## THE 2020 ROVING EYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL GOES ONLINE & VIRTUAL

*INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL ENTERS 15TH YEAR IN COLLABORATION WITH ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY AND CURATED BY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL CELEBRATES THE POWER OF ART AND CULTURE IN AFFECTING POSITIVE CHANGE*

(BRISTOL, RI:) The **15th Annual Roving Eye International Film Festival** at **Roger Williams University**, presented in collaboration with the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival**, kicks off **April 27th** and runs through **May 3rd** for the first time ever as an online program. It can be found at [www.rifilmfest.org](http://www.rifilmfest.org) or <http://www.film-festival.org/RovingEye.php> starting next Monday with all programming **free** to viewers.

The Festival theme this year is "**Heighten Your Perception**," and celebrates the power of art and culture in affecting positive change.

This year's programming features over 60 films from across the world including numerous World and US Premieres; virtual panel discussions/symposia; Filmmaker Q&A's, and student film showcases. Virtual guests at this year's event have been curated from interviews undertaken by **Steven Feinberg**, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film and Television Office, for the television series, "doubleFEATURE," produced by Flickers on Rhode Island PBS.

This year's guests include: director, **Tommy DeNucci**; Screenwriter, **Chris Sparling**; director, **Kevin Lima**; actor, **Robert Capron**; costume designer, **Deborah Newhall**; director/cinematographer, **Eric Latek**; and actor, **Duncan Putney**.

The event will conclude with the **Spring 2020 Soforenko Foundation Film Series On The Jewish Experience**.

The Festival's annual **Edwin S. Soforenko Foundation Film Series On The Jewish Experience** explores representations of the Jewish experience in Israel, across the globe and the Holocaust through 11 premiere films. This includes sneak peeks of films that will play at the Rhode Island International Film Festival in August. The event takes place **April 28, 29 & May 3rd**.

Students at the University, with the guidance of Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival, create the Roving Eye International Film Festival through the Film Minor senior-level course, *Curation and Film Festival Production*. Flickers' Executive Director and RWU Professor, **George T. Marshall**, teaches the class.

This year, 23 students spent the first part of the spring semester reviewing more than 800 films provided by Flickers and from there went on to create the entire Roving Eye Festival. The students developed active marketing and PR strategies, including the planning for events throughout the week.

With the emergence of the novel coronavirus COVID-19, plans shifted quickly to ensure that the Festival took place. Students have met numerous times weekly on the Zoom platform to plan out the Festival, reach out to filmmakers, and work on marketing and promotional collateral, including a new logo design, posters and promotional videos. To gain a better understanding of the importance of curation, the class has been assisted by RIFF's program director, **Shawn Quirk**.

Students in the Curation and Film Production class include: **Elias Bakas, Samuel Bartoes, Owen Bearer, Cameron Bortolussi, Luke Brennan, Sarah Coleman, Benjamin, Crawley, Matthew Fernandes, Williams Guido, Jordan Hawkes, Robert Libertini, Chloe Noyes, Gavin Okun, Molly Ortiz, Sara Osborne, Tyler Porter, Mariah Richards, Makenzie Rose, Paul Schnadig, Leia Stone, Jordan Sweeney, Angeli Tillet and Cullen Zurcher.**

The 2020 Roving Eye International Film Festival is sponsored by *The RI Film & the Television Office; Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival; WSBE Rhode Island PBS; Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia, Edge Media Network, the Edwin S. Soforenko Foundation, RWU School of Humanities, Arts and Education, Dean Cynthia Scheinberg, RWU Department of Communication, Graphic Design and Web Development, Dr. Robert Cole, Department Chair, RWU Hillel, THE RWU HAWK'S HERALD, and WQRI Radio at Roger Williams University.*

To see a listing of this year's programming and to learn more about the Roving Eye Festival, go to: [www.rifilmfest.org](http://www.rifilmfest.org) or <http://www.film-festival.org/RovingEye.php>

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#### **ABOUT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY:**

**Roger Williams University**, located on the coast of Bristol, R.I., is a forward-thinking private university with 45 undergraduate majors spanning the liberal arts and the professions, where students become community-minded citizens through project-based, experiential learning. With small classes, direct access to faculty and boundless opportunity for real-world projects, RWU students develop the ability to think critically while simultaneously building the practical skills that today's employers demand. In addition to its 4,000 undergraduates, RWU is home to more than a dozen graduate programs, a thriving School of Continuing Studies based in Providence as well as Rhode Island's only law school. For more information, go to: [www.rwu.edu](http://www.rwu.edu).

#### **ABOUT FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:**

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is a qualifying festival for the Live Action, Documentary and Animation Short Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the Canadian Screen Awards and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). There are only 10 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August.

To learn more about the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival** visit [www.RIFilmFest.org](http://www.RIFilmFest.org) or call **401.861.4445**. The next Festival will take place **August 4-9, 2020** at The Vets, One Avenue of the Arts, Providence, locations across the state of Rhode Island and online.

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