



For details, art or photos about FLICKERS media releases, contact Shawn Quirk (quirk@film-festival.org)

PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ITS 23rd SEASON WITH 317 FILMS

OPENING NIGHT TO BE HELD AT THE VETS, PROVIDENCE

Awards, Film Screenings and Gala Party to Commemorate the 37th Anniversary Year of Flickers and a Celebration of International Friendship

Written by: Shawn Quirk & Isabella DeLeo

ABSTRACT/CALENDAR LISTING:

FLICKERS presents the 23rd Annual Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF), which 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. RIIFF is widely recognized as a credentialed, industry-friendly launch pad for the work of exceptional emerging talent. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is also a qualifying festival for the **Live Action, Documentary and Animation Short Film Academy Awards** through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. It is also a **BAFTA** (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) and **Canadian Screen Awards** (Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television)-qualifying Festival. There are only **10 film festivals worldwide** that share this distinction. RIIFF is truly a place where the stars align! Aside from film screenings, the Flickers team has organized a number of events to encourage filmmakers and festival attendees to widen their knowledge of filmmaking as well as explore the incredible city of Providence that RIIFF is proud to call home.

For more information about the festival, please visit www.rifilmfest.org.

WHAT: 23rd Annual Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival

WHEN: August 6-11, 2019

WHERE: Providence, Warwick, Jamestown, Tiverton, Foster, Narragansett, North Scituate, East Greenwich, Woonsocket, Rhode Island – 22 locations in all

WHO: Flickers, Newport Film Society & Arts Collaborative, creator of the Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)

HOW MUCH: Tickets are \$10 general admission to all screenings, except \$15 for the opening night Gala; Senior, group and student discounts available with advance purchase.

To order call 401-861-4445 or purchase tickets at the door. Advance tickets can be purchased online at www.RIFilmFest.org.

The **23RD ANNUAL FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL** (RIIFF), a major destination on the Festival circuit and recognized by the Academy as a Qualifying Festival in all short film categories, welcomes stellar filmmaking talents from all over the world to beautiful Providence, Rhode Island—one of America's oldest and most beloved cities. RIIFF embraces both filmmakers and screenwriters with the sort of warm-hearted spirit that fosters long-lasting friendships, sparks exciting creative projects, and inspires artists to return again and again. The World Premiere of Chris Overton's "THE SILENT CHILD" took place at RIIFF two years ago on Opening Night, received the Festival's Grand Prize and Academy nomination, and went on to receive the coveted Oscar® (<https://vimeo.com/262490275>). It's little wonder that Chris Gore's Ultimate Film Festival Survival Guide praises RIIFF as "the kind of intimate festival experience that will change your life."

The Full Schedule and ticketing can be found at this URL: <http://prog.tsharp.xyz/en/riiff/37/>

This year's Festival is dedicated to the memories of two important individuals whose support and encouragement helped shape this organization: **Ross Feinberg** and **Diana Drywa**.

According to **George T. Marshall**, Flickers Executive Director, "Ross Feinberg was a champion of our PBS series, 'doubleFEATURE,' and father of **Steven Feinberg**, the Executive Director of the RI Film and Television Office. Diana Drywa was the mother of **Michael Drywa, Esq.** our Board President, and **Shawn Drywa**, the founder and returning director of our Vortex Festival. Both were educators. Both had a passion for life and learning that touched countless lives during the course of their careers.

"And, while our 2019 Festival will be dedicated to both Ross and Diane, we have established an annual \$2,000 scholarship in their name with a focus on those pursuing education. Along with the scholarship in the Film Arts named after **Dr. Winifred Brownell** and scholarship for studies in Journalism and Creative Writing, named after the late **James Seavor**, we have committed \$5,000 in college scholarship opportunities for 2019," Marshall added.

The Festival unofficially kicked off this year in July with a unique collaboration with the Art League of Rhode Island. Entitled "**Narrative and Illusion**," the Open Juried Exhibition features work in the visual arts that exemplify visual storytelling. The exhibit takes place at The Vets Gallery, One Avenue of the Arts, Providence. The Exhibition runs through September 6, 2019.

FLICKERS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization that supports and promotes the film arts in Rhode Island and throughout New England. Over the past two decades, its production, the Rhode Island International Film Festival, has screened **5,105** independent films and videos out of **61,296** entries, presented **1,229** World/North American premieres, featured over **1,000** entries that were locally produced, and hosted **4,568** filmmakers and crew. Since its inception, over **430,000** film lovers have enjoyed the Rhode Island International Film Festival and its programming, not including those in New England watching its weekly broadcast and cable programming series, **doubleFEATURE**.

Over its six-day run, the Festival will screen 317 films that include 93 World/United States Premieres from 51 countries including Denmark, Israel, Bosnia, Albania, Hungary, Australia, Iceland, Iran, Spain, Mexico, India, Italy, France, Ecuador and 34 states in the US. Some of the talent connected to this year's Festival **Karen Allen** ("Animal House," "Raiders of the Lost Ark"), **Tony Romo** (American football television analyst and retired quarterback), **Richard Kind** ("Mad About You," "Spin City," "A Bug's Life," "Toy Story 3"), **Olympia Dukakis** ("Moonstruck," "Working Girl," "Steel Magnolias"), **Valerie Perrine** ("Superman The Movie," "Slaughterhouse-Five"), **Sherilyn Fenn** ("Twin Peaks"), **Franco Nero** ("Camelot," "Django"), Lance Guest ("The Last Starfighter"),

Justin Bartha ("National Treasure"), **Mandy Moore** ("Tangled," "A Walk to Remember"), **Robbie Fairchild** (Broadway actor/dancer, Tony Award Nomination for Best Lead Actor in a Musical), **Whoopi Goldberg** ("The Color Purple," "Sister Act," "The View"), **Laura Linney** ("Congo," "The Truman Show," "Mystic River"), **Austin Pendleton** ("Catch 22," "What's Up, Doc?" "Amistad"), **Tom Skerritt** ("Alien," "Top Gun," "Steel Magnolias"), **William Fichtner** ("Invasion," "Prison Break," "The Dark Knight," "Independence Day: Resurgence"), **Noam Chomsky** (American linguist, philosopher, cognitive scientist, historian, social critic, and political activist), **Tom Brokaw** (American television journalist and author, best known for being the anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News for 22 years), **Quincy Jones** (American record producer, multi-instrumentalist, singer, and film producer. His career spans over 60 years in the entertainment industry with a record 80 Grammy Award nominations), **Michael Keaton** ("Beetlejuice," "Tim Burton's Batman," "Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)"), **Angie Dickinson** ("Police Woman," "Rio Bravo," "Ocean's 11"), **David Arquette** ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer"), **Stacy Keach** ("The Heart is a Lonely Hunter," "Conduct Unbecoming," "The Bourne Legacy"), **Loni Anderson** ("WKRP in Cincinnati"), **Richard Donner** (Director of such films as "Superman," "The Omen," "The Goonies," "Lethal Weapon"), **Howard Hesseman** ("WKRP in Cincinnati"), **Chevy Chase** ("Saturday Night Live," "Fletch," "National Lampoon's Vacation"), **Blythe Danner** ("Meet the Parents," "Will and Grace," "1776"), **Dustin Hoffman** ("The Graduate," "Midnight Cowboy," "Little Big Man"), **Marlyn Mason** ("Longstreet," "The Trouble With Girls"), **Edward Asner** ("The Mary Tyler Moore Show," "Lou Grant"), **Diane Ladd** ("Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore," "Wild at Heart," "Primary Colors"), **Lainie Kazan** ("My Favorite Year," "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"), **Armistead Maupin** (author, "Tales of the City"), **Senta Berger** ("The Quiller Memorandum," "Cast a Giant Shadow," "The Victors"), **Jonas Mekas** (known as "the godfather of American avant-garde cinema"), **Andrew Van Wyngarden** (American musician. and lead vocalist, guitar player and songwriter for the band MGMT), **Malcolm Gladwell** (Canadian journalist, author, and public speaker), and **Cheri Oteri** ("Saturday Night Live"). The films for this year's Festival were selected from a record entry base of 6,941 submissions.

Steven Feinberg, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film & Television Office said, "My favorite week of the year has finally arrived. We salute Flickers and the prestigious Rhode Island International Film Festival for celebrating 37 years of excellence. Remarkably, it was only twelve months ago, on Opening Night at the glorious Providence Performing Arts Center when RIIFFF illuminated our minds to a spectacular line up of movies from across the globe. Nine films from last year's Festival – including three from Opening Night -- went on to be nominated for the elusive Academy Award! What an amazing journey!

"Annually we are treated by the quality of the various productions from around the globe, including many homegrown productions created right here in our very own Ocean State. This time around we will be watching premieres of local films such as Steve Luna's "*To Be Heard*," Bronte Stahl's "*Terril*," Bat-Sheva Guez's "*In This Life*," Nastasya Popov's "*Pickle Man*," Oscar D'Angeac's "*Providence Lost*," Dave Ricci's "*The Craft: Rhode Island*," Ali Migliore's "*Twist*," Natalie Shirinian's "*Interior Motives*," Michael Formanski's "*The Iron Wall*," Rich Allen's "*Home Cookin' - Over 100 Years in the Making*," Indy Dang's "*Influence*," Salvatore Mancini's "*Divine Providence: The Rebirth of an American City*," Joseph Lovett's "*Children of the Inquisition*" and many, many more.

"We welcome every one of the filmmakers and cinephiles alike to enjoy the very best of groundbreaking cinema, courtesy of the hard-working team that propels RIIFFF. We also hope you join us at the **Rhode Island Film Forum** where we will share in stimulating conversations with prolific actress, **Marlyn Mason**, whose career spans six decades. Marlyn is known for her role of Nikki Bell in the television series *Longstreet*, and has been in countless roles for such television shows as *Bonanza*, *Hogan's Hero's*, and *Gomer Pyle*. At 79 she is still active as in her career and will be in three films screening at the Festival this year. Have fun and make friends because that's

the beauty of movies. Lastly, thank you again to the Rhode Island International Film Festival for making dreams come true for so many of us!"

In 2019, the Festival will be presenting 317 films, representing work that was shot and produced in 48 countries. There will be a total of 94 World and US/North American Premieres. It is expected that over 300 filmmakers, producers, cast and crew will be in attendance. The event offers well rounded, and for many, career-establishing experiences. The programming includes the Rhode Island Film Forum, interviews on the Festival's weekly Rhode Island PBS series, "doubleFEATURE," ScriptBiz, The Future of Filmmaking Symposium, Directing actors workshop lead by actor, Michael Grando, Cinematography and Music composition workshop lead by filmmaker, Eric Latek, and composer, Mauro Colangelo. Youth Film Jury, Film Festival Programmers Forum, morning coffee talks, tributes, retrospectives, Red Carpet Gala premieres and Opening Night, workshops featuring accepted filmmakers, and an unforgettable Closing Night Party—RIIFF ensures each of its participating visitors is treated to an enriching, inspiring, and unpredictable festival experience.

RIIFF is proud to be one of 10 Festivals in the world that is an Academy Award qualifier in the Live Action, Animation and Documentary Short categories and a qualifier with the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). With vanguard programming that seeks to showcase new voices in independent filmmaking from across the globe, RIIFF serves as an exceptional platform from which to launch exciting careers for artists who deserve to be discovered. Ten films that have premiered at RIIFF have won Academy Awards with a total of 66 nominations, and many have gained distribution with the likes of HBO, Showtime, PBS, Netflix and IFC. A wide range of competitive categories—including Comedy, Drama, Horror, Children's, LGBTQ, Documentary, Webisodes, Music Videos, Science Fiction, and Animated films—RIIFF offers entrants and audience members a veritable buffet of great stories, surprises, and narrative formats. There's even a screenplay and teleplay competition, designed to give talented screenwriters some well-deserved industry credibility. At RIIFF, there's no shortage of ways to get noticed and participate.

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION:

The fun kicks-off at the Official Opening Night Gala Screening and Soirée on Tuesday, August 6th, 7:00 p.m. at The Vets, One Avenue of the Arts, Providence, RI., where co-hosts **Michael Drywa, Esq.**, RIIFF's Advisory Board President and **Steven Feinberg**, Executive Director of the RI Film & Television Office are joined by hundreds of filmmakers, cast and crew from across the globe.

The evening is presented by **IMCS** (Integrated Micro-Chromotography Systems).

AWARDS OF NOTE:

- **THE GEORGE D. GANNETT LGBTQ INSPIRATION AWARD** will be presented to the **Rev. Nancy H. Soukup**, RWU Multifaith Minister. The Award is presented annually in celebration of the LGBTQ community, recognizing excellence in writing, directing, acting, music, dance, design and creativity in the world of film arts. Named in honor of former Flickers' Board member, George Draper Gannett, who helped steer the organization towards its multi-tiered arts focus and community outreach.
- The **RIIFF SCREENPLAY COMPETITION AWARD** will be presented to **Rammy Park** from Brooklyn, NY for his screenplay "**MONITOR CITY**," a Greek tragedy in a futuristic sci-fi setting.
- The **2019 PRODUCER'S CIRCLE AWARDS** are presented annually to members of the community who have actively worked to support and promote the mission of the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival. This year's recipient:

- **Daniel Schwartz, General Manager, The Vets.**

THEN THE FESTIVAL KICKS OFF IN EARNEST WITH SEVEN (7) EXCEPTIONAL CINEMATIC GEMS ON TUESDAY NIGHT:

MY MOON

Directed by: Eusong Lee | 9 min. United States, 2018

A relationship between three celestial bodies; a romance between Earth, Moon, and Sun. Presenting "My Moon", a new short film directed by Eusong Lee, brought to you by King of Pine in collaboration with Chromosphere.

A SISTER

Directed by: Delphine Girard | 16 min. Belgium, 2019

A night. A car. A women in trouble. A call.

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT

Directed by: Bogdan Muresanu | 23 min. Romania, 2018

On the 20th of December, 1989, a few days after Ceausescu's bloody repression in Timisoara, a father's quiet evening turns to sheer ordeal as he finds out that his little son has mailed a wish letter to Santa. As the kid understood, his father's desire was to see Ceausescu dead.

AYANEH

Directed by: Nicolas Greinacher | 14 min. Switzerland, 2019

Set in Switzerland, our story follows Ayaneh, a young refugee from Afghanistan. One day at a public swimming pool she meets Anna and instantly feels attracted to her. As the relationship between the two women develops, Ayaneh is confronted with growing resistance from her religious family.

TURKEY'S DONE

Directed by: Monique Impagliazzo, Jennifer Tini | 18 min. United States, 2018

Turkey's Done is a short comedic film revolving around Peaches Bracco (Cheri Oteri), a South Philly housewife, who is impatiently waiting for her cheating husband to come home for a Thanksgiving he'll never forget. With support from her neighbors (some of them begrudgingly) Peaches finally has the chance to walk away from the man who has strayed one too many times after remaining by his side for years during his incarceration.

STORM

Directed by: Will Kindrick | 11 min. United States, 2019

A government enforced dating app malfunctions sending an unexpected user through a series of splash portals determined to seal his fate.

STAND UP

Directed by: Pierre Le Gall, Sarah Malléon | 20 min. France, 2018

Martinique Island. Joseph, 8, refuses to accept the departure of his older brother to the mainland France. Influenced by the traditional stories of his grandfather, he is convinced that Lentikri, an ancient martinican monster, prowls around the house to attack his family. Joseph decides to confront it.

Following the film screening, audience members are invited to a **37th Anniversary Celebration Gala & Soirée** on The Vet's Stage. The "Taste of Rhode Island" features mouthwatering desserts from *Knead Doughnuts*, *Scialo Bros.*, *Seven Stars Bakery*, *Central Avenue Bakery*, *Sugar Mama's Sweets and Treats*, *Augusta St. Kitchen*, and *Sweet Althea's* plus exquisite food samplers provided by *Geoff's Superlative Sandwiches*, *Not Your Average Joe's*, *The Greatfull Bread*

Sandwich Shop, Narragansett Creamery, Not Just Snacks, Ocean State Sandwich Company, and Blount Clam Shack and beverages from Hartford Flavor Co., Vineyard Road Wines, Mendon Wines & More, Newport Vineyards and Winery, The Rhode Island Brewer's Guild, Narragansett Beer, Beer on Earth, Revival Brew Co., Whaler's Brewery, Willie's Superbrew, New Harvest Coffee, Granny Squibs Iced Tea , Empire Soda and special support by the Rooftop of the Providence G.

Special thanks to **Ellen Loconto** and *Just Ellen's Catering & Event Planning*, **Daniel Schwartz**, General Manager and **Doreen Vitale**, Office Manager of The Vets.

Tickets for the screening only are \$15. Tickets for the combined Opening Night Screening and Celebration Gala are \$50. Purchase tickets online at www.rifilmfest.org to avoid long lines. Tickets are also available for purchase at the door for the screening. The Box Office will open at 5:30 p.m. before the show. Doors will open at 6:30 PM.

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK THERE WILL BE WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

A number of events that RIFFF will hold during the week are targeted toward helping novice and professional filmmakers improve and refine their skills. One of the most popular events is the annual **RHODE ISLAND FILM FORUM**, to be held on Thursday, August 8, at the **Hotel Providence Ballroom** in collaboration with the RI Film & Television Office, Johnson and Wales University, and Providence College.

This year's special guest is actress, writer, and producer, **Marlyn Mason** (IMDB: https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0556848/?ref=fn_al_nm_1.)

BACKGROUND

Marlyn Mason (born August 7, 1940 in San Fernando, California)^[1] is an American actress, producer, and screenwriter. Mason played the role of Nikki Bell in the television series Longstreet (1971-1972), which starred James Franciscus,^[2] her other acting credits include roles in My Three Sons, Burke's Law, The Invaders, Kentucky Jones, Bonanza, Ben Casey, Dr. Kildare (in a recurring role), Laredo, Occasional Wife, The Big Valley, The Man from U.N.C.L.E., I Spy, Laredo, Hogan's Heroes, The F.B.I., Mission Impossible, The Fugitive, Mannix, The Invaders, The Odd Couple, Love, American Style, Marcus Welby, M.D., Barnaby Jones, Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C., Boone, The Bronx Zoo, Charles in Charge, Ironsides, and Jake and the Fatman, and in the episode "The Mask of Adonis" from the 1977 series Quinn Martin's Tales of the Unexpected (known in the United Kingdom as Twist in the Tale).^[3] She guest-starred on the final Perry Mason episode, "The Case of the Final Fadeout," portraying Erna Landry, a 'nice-girl' actress of a television show, she played Sgt. Margo Demarest in Twelve O'Clock High Season 3, Episode 9 "The Fighter Pilot"^[4] Mason played a principal role in the original 1967-68 Broadway production of How Now, Dow Jones.^[5]

Mason also appeared in the films Because They're Young (her film debut, in an uncredited role), The Trouble with Girls, Making It and Christina, and the television movies Brigadoon, Carousel, A Storm in Summer, Escape, That Certain Summer, Outrage, Attack on Terror: The FBI vs. the Ku Klux Klan, Last of the Good Guys, The New Adventures of Heidi, and My Wicked, Wicked Ways: The Legend of Errol Flynn.

Her more recent appearances have been in the television movie Fifteen and Pregnant and the 2008 film Model Rules, directed by Ray Nomoto Robison which reopened the doors to her career and she has been performing steadily since. This year, she will appear in three films at the Festival.

The **SCRIPTBIZ SCREENPLAY PITCH SEMINAR** returns on Friday, August 9 for its 20th edition, showcasing this year's Grand Prize Screenplay Competition winner "**MONITOR CITY,**" by **Rammy Park** from Brooklyn, NY. The SCRIPTBIZ workshop is a great place for aspiring screenwriters looking to make an impact with their work by receiving constructive critique and advice from people with experience in the field. The director of the program, **Andrew Lund, Esq.** filmmaker and entertainment lawyer, is an Associate Professor and Director of the Integrated Media Arts MFA Program in the Film & Media Department at Hunter College of the City University of New York. The extensive list of panelists will include writer **Chris Sparling**, actor/director, Tribeca Film Festival Program Director, **Sharon Badal**; writer/director, **Alfred Catalfo**, writer/director **Jamaicanoproblem**, and writer/director **Vlad Kozlov**.

This year, the Festival will re-launch its popular **Morning "Coffee Talks"** entitled "**Life After RIFF**" with leading directors, actors, writers, composers and members of the industry who have featured past work with the festival and have gone on to have distinguished careers within the industry. The discussion will take place at the Hotel Providence. Audience members, and, up-and-coming filmmakers attending the Festival would have the opportunity to learn about the process and journey filmmakers have taken to make it in the industry and the growing importance of the international box office.

Additionally, prior to the Festival launch on **Thursday, August 1st** at 8:00 p.m. (and repeated the following week at 10:00 p.m.) Flickers' acclaimed television series "**doubleFEATURE,**" will provide highlights of this year's Festival. **Steven Feinberg** and RIFF Program Director, **Shawn Quirk** will share with audiences some of this year's highlights and must-see films. Now in its third year, the anthology series is produced by Flickers in partnership with RI PBS and the Rhode Island Film and Television Office.

[A SAMPLER OF MUST-SEE FILMS:](#)

A SON OF MAN

Directed by: Jamaicanoproblem | 90 min. Ecuador, France, USA, 2018

A grandfather, a son, a grandson and a search for lost Incan treasure... Some quests begin in gold and end in the heart.

AUGGIE

Directed by: Matt Kane | 80 min. United States, 2018

Starring Richard Kind and Susan Blackwell

Forced into early retirement, Felix Greystone falls in love with an augmented reality companion, to the detriment of his relationship with his wife and daughter.

CHILDREN OF THE INQUISITION

Directed by: Joseph Lovett | 120 min. Brazil, Spain, United States, 2018

Children of the Inquisition is a two hour documentary film, immersive website, and educational outreach project that unearths 500 years of hidden history. The project looks at what happened to the families forced to convert to Catholicism or flee during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions through the eyes of their contemporary descendants, many of whom are just discovering their often nuanced Jewish roots. Our storytellers uncover the connections between their families' journeys and this buried history. The discoveries of these flights to safety allow our characters access to a fuller understanding of how their lives were shaped by a perilous history.

After 6 years of shooting in 12 cities spanning 4 continents, Children of the Inquisition is more than just a film. It's an opportunity to better understand our complex world and identities.

COLD BROOK

Directed by: William Fichtner | 101 min. United States, 2018

Featuring William Fichtner and Kim Coates

COLD BROOK is the story of Ted & Hilde, two ordinary men who share an extraordinary experience, where helping a stranger find home places their own homes and everything they take for granted at risk.

COLEWELL

Directed by: Tom Quinn | 78 min. United States, 2018

Featuring Karen Allen, Hannah Gross and Kevin J. O'Connor

For thirty-five years, Nora Pancowski (Karen Allen) has been the postmaster of Colewell, Pennsylvania. She runs the office out of her home and has become the center of this community, which has no other common space. When Nora receives word that her office will be closed, she must decide whether to relocate and take a new job or face retirement in Colewell.

DAVE GRUSIN: NOT ENOUGH TIME

Directed by: Barbara Bentree | 87 min. United States, 2019

Millions of people all over the world love the music of Dave Grusin. "Dave Grusin: Not Enough Time," is a full-length documentary about the legendary award-winning music producer, composer and pianist. Grusin's work during his extensive six-decade career has resulted in some of the most moving and memorable music for iconic films and television shows including "Tootsie," "The Firm," "On Golden Pond," "The Fabulous Baker Boys," and "Three Days of the Condor" to name just a few. The film is being produced with the full participation from Dave Grusin and his family.

EVA

Directed by: Ted Green & Mika Brown | 118 min. Germany, Israel, Poland, Romania, USA, United Kingdom, 2018

As a 10-year-old 'Mengele Twin,' Eva Kor suffered the worst of the Holocaust: being experimented on by the Auschwitz 'Angel of Death.' At 50, she launched the biggest international manhunt in history. Now 84, she urgently circles the globe in failing health to promote the controversial lesson her journey has taught: healing through forgiveness. "Eva" tells the full, unvarnished story of this historic figure for the first time. Narrated by Hollywood icon Ed Asner, it features spectacular new footage from Auschwitz, from the Transylvanian hamlet from which Eva's family was carted off to slaughter, and on a boat off Israel where she first tasted freedom. Interviews include Holocaust experts, celebrities she's moved (Elliott Gould, Wolf Blitzer, Ray Allen), fellow survivors she's enraged, and myriad young people whose lives she's changed - - in many cases saved. Eva Kor has emerged as a worldwide spokeswoman for peace — a recent BuzzFeed video has 187 million views — and 'Eva' will be her legacy.

GENERAL MAGIC

Directed by: Sarah KERRUISH and Matt Maude | 92 min. United States, 2018

The side of Silicon Valley you never see, General Magic, the multi-award winning documentary, is a tale of how a great vision, a grave betrayal and an epic failure changed the world.

Spun out from Apple in 1990 to create the 'next big thing', General Magic shipped the first handheld wireless personal communicator in 1994.

From the first smartphones to social media, e-commerce and even emoji, the ideas that now dominate the tech industry and our day-to-day lives were born at General Magic.

But this was before the Web, before 3G, before Google, before everyone had a mobile phone in their pocket. The world was not ready in 1994 to hold the world in its hands. And though General Magic died, those concepts and the people who pioneered them went on to change almost everything.

GOING ATTRACTIONS: THE DEFINITIVE STORY OF THE MOVIE PALACES

Directed by: April Wright | 90 min. Australia, United States, 2018

The evolution of the movie business over the past century, from penny arcades and nickelodeons, to the grand movie palaces built by the studios, and what happened over the years as they were challenged by television, decaying downtowns, multiplexes and cell-phone cinema.

HAVANA, FROM ON HIGH

Directed by: Pedro Ruiz | 80 min. Canada / Cuba, 2018

The chronic shortage of housing in Central Havana has pushed the city upwards, where life spills out onto the rooftops. Resilient and remarkable, these rooftop dwellers have a privileged point of view on a society in the process of major transformation.

HOW TO BEE

Directed by: Naomi Mark | 82 min. Canada, 2018

When filmmaker Naomi Mark found her dad needed help with his honeybees after being diagnosed with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) she asked him to start a project with her, she asked him to teach her about bees. How To Bee follows the journey of a father and daughter over three beekeeping seasons as he passes his knowledge on to her and they come to terms with his changing health.

How To Bee is a celebration of life in all stages set against the unique backdrop of Canada's North.

INTERIOR MOTIVES

Directed by: Natalie Shirinian | 37 min. United States, 2019

today's most influential figures in fashion and design as they candidly speak about why fashion and interior design need each other to thrive, why lifestyle design is important, and why people feel the need to curate their lives around tactile and material glamour.

International industry leaders filmed include: Tommy Hilfiger, Rick Owens, Maria Cornejo, Ryan Korban (Alexander Wang), Miles Redd (Oscar De La Renta), T Magazine Editors, Hearst Magazine editors, TV Star/Interior Designer Mary McDonald, Industry darlings Apparatus and many more.

Why are so many more fashion designers launching home collections? Why is it so relevant in today's society? Donna Karan, Calvin Klein, ACNE, Marni, Gucci, Ralph Lauren, Raf Simmons, Loewe, Rick Owens and so many more all have home collections. The trend is catching fire melding the industries of fashion and design into one core expression. Is this just cross marketing opportunities? Is it another channel for self-expression? Is it merchandising? Is it global domination? Is fashion out and interiors in? Into today's hyper-brand, collaboration obsessed world: Can one exist without the other?

INTERIOR MOTIVES aims to tap the pulse of today's fashion and design headlines to bring an insider look at these highly exclusive industries to streaming viewers worldwide.

MY BEAUTIFUL STUTTER

Directed by: Ryan Gielen | 90 min. United States, 2018

Five kids ages 9 to 18, from all over the United States enter experimental, interactive and arts-based programs at SAY, The Stuttering Association for the Young, based in New York City. After a lifetime of bullying and stigmatization, some have found themselves close to suicide, others enter withdrawn and fearful, exhausted and defeated from fluency training and the pressure to not stutter or remain silent. Over the course of a year of SAY events, workshops and camp, we witness firsthand the incredible transformation that happens when these young people of wildly different backgrounds experience for the first time the revolutionary idea at the heart of SAY: it's okay to stutter.

NOW OR NEVER: A TONY ROMO STORY

Directed by: Chris Hanna | 95 min. United States, 2019

This is the true story of Tony Romo, a kid from Burlington, WI who became one of the most prolific quarterbacks to play for the Dallas Cowboys. Though he never won a Superbowl, his community describes a man whose passion for the game continues to inspire his fans, community, family and friends.

Through the eyes of people close to Tony Romo, as well as Tony Romo himself, "Now or Never" follows his life through his high school, college and NFL career to tell the story of how Tony Romo became the quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys.

Tony's community describes the impact Tony has on them by returning each year. His father gives insight into the origins of Tony's passion for sports. Tony's grandparents describe their own journey from Mexico, and how their dreams of success transferred to Tony. His coaches and former teammates detail how Tony found his passion for football in high school and went on to receive a scholarship from Eastern Illinois to play as their quarterback.

They explain the ups and downs of his career as a Dallas Cowboy, how the wins, losses, injuries and ultimate retirement affected them and the community. Leaving on a good note, we learn how despite the fact that Tony never won a Superbowl, Tony has still made a wonderful impact on Burlington by proving that if you dream big, you can accomplish anything.

OLYMPIA

Directed by: Harry Charalambos Mavromichalis | 103 min. Canada, Cyprus, Greece, United States, 2018

"Olympia" the film takes us on a poetic journey in search of one's place in the world. This revealing and unfiltered documentary follows the life and career of Academy Award-winning actress, Olympia Dukakis. Starting on the day she turns eighty and continuing for three years, this film deals with the struggles and pains surrounding identity and the roles placed on us by society. It is a deeply moving narrative that explores not only Olympia's rich and storied career, but also her struggle to find a sense of belonging due to her ethnic roots and the dichotomy she has always felt between her American values and the values of her immigrant parents.

PAJU -- THE INNER DIVISION

Directed by: Susanne Mi-Son Quester | 78 min. Germany / South Korea, 2018

A German-Korean filmmaker travels to the border between North and South Korea, to the town of Paju, where she encounters its residents, and their various attitudes toward the

division of their country. In these meetings, an inner division also emerges – between the generations, their experiences and wishes for the future.

PARADISE HOTEL

Directed by: Daniel Rehder Normand | 93 min. Peru, 2019

A coming-of-age story about family, first love and restoring self-esteem. When Guillermo, a pre-adolescent introvert, arrives with his family at the wonderful HOTEL PARAÍSO (Paradise Hotel) for summer vacations, he will not only have days full of activities and colorful entertainers, but he will also run into Andrea, a beautiful and curious girl from his school with whom he regularly fantasizes. Unfortunately for him, Nahel, the popular and heartthrob boy, who often bullies his classmates, is also staying in the hotel and seeks to make Andrea fall in love with him. With the help of unexpected allies and family members, Guillermo will have to confront his insecurities and participate in different hotel activities to win the weekend's real big prize: Andrea's heart.

THE CRAFT: RHODE ISLAND

Directed by: Dave Ricci | 65 min. United States, 2019

The Craft documents the booming Rhode Island craft beer scene. Utilizing interviews from both RI's earlier craft brewers as well as the more recent ones, the story combines entrepreneurship, beer, history, travel, and advocacy all in one

THE DEPORTED

Directed by: Pat McGee | 90 min. Guatemala, United States, 2019

The Deported is a raw unfiltered look at four families facing deportation. The film includes activist Rosario Dawson and access to ICE.

TREASURE TROUBLE

Directed by: Dan Erickson | 78 min. United States, 2019

After finding a gun on the beach, a young woman is caught up in a night of cascading misadventures as she teams up with her rich ex-boyfriend and his fiancée to return the gun to the Russian mob in exchange for her kidnapped dog.

VALERIE

Directed by: Stacey Souther | 36 min. United States, 2019

VALERIE is a documentary about legendary actress Valerie Perrine. From her Academy Award Nominated and Cannes winning role as 'Honey Bruce' in the film LENNY, to her iconic role as 'Eve Teschmacher' in the original SUPERMAN - Valerie has been an inspiration for women, fellow actors and the public at large. This film sets out to explore Valerie's amazing career and personal life, and offer an intimate look behind the curtain of one of our generations most respected and epochal actresses.

VANILLA

Directed by: Will Dennis | 87 min. United States, 2018

A freewheeling comedian determined to save her family business invites an uptight entrepreneur on a road trip to sell a van with a complicated history. Romance ignites on their three day trip south, but is tested as they discover each other's secrets. When the van sale deteriorates, they must decide if their very new connection is worth more than a very old van.

ONCE IN A HUNDRED YEARS: THE LIFE & LEGACY OF MARIAN ANDERSON

Directed by: Bill Nicoletti | 40 min. United States, 2019

“Once in a Hundred Years” shares the story of Marian Anderson, a young girl from South Philadelphia who fought, armed with only a voice, to break down one of the most daunting barriers closed to black Americans in the 1930s—the classical...

WBCN AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Directed by: Bill Lichtenstein | 120 min. United States, 2019

“WBCN and The American Revolution” is a landmark, feature-length documentary that tells the previously untold story of the early days of the radical, underground radio station, WBCN, set against the dazzling and profound social, political, and cultural changes that took place in Boston and nationally during the late-1960s and early-70s.

It's the incredible, true story of how a radio station, politics and rock and roll changed everything. The film is produced by the Peabody Award-winning independent production company, Lichtenstein Creative Media.

Ty Burr, the Pulitzer-prize nominated film critic for the Boston Sunday Globe wrote: "I watched the movie with awe," and the film won "Best Documentary" at the 2019 DC Independent Film Festival and was the "Centerpiece: Documentary Spotlight" at the 2019 Independent Film Festival of Boston, where it sold out a 900-seat screening.

These dramatic and compelling stories in “WBCN and The American Revolution” are expertly and powerfully interwoven with the original sights and sounds of the critical events of the era, through the more than 100,000 audio and visual items shared by the public for the film in an unprecedented archives search. The film tells a story that is timely and relevant, especially to young people, who are seeking to use media to create social change.

Director and producer Bill Lichtenstein worked at WBCN starting at age 14 as a volunteer on the station's Listener Line and later as a newscaster and announcer with his own weekly show. Bill's last film, “West 47th Street,” won Special Jury Award for Documentary at the Atlanta Film Festival; Audience Award for Best Documentary at the DC Independent Film Festival; and Honorable Mention at the Woodstock Film Festival. It later aired on PBS's P.O.V. and was called “must see” by Newsweek and “remarkable” by the Washington Post.

On Saturday, August 11th at 12:15, Metcalf Auditorium, RISD Museum, the Festival presents a powerful, thought-provoking and inspiring program entitled: **THE POWER OF FILM: Can a Film Change the World?** This special showcase centers on films that show how very brave people confront the challenges we all face in just living our lives. Discover how these challenges can push all boundaries. Learn how the power of our shared humanity - the daily struggles and fights we all have - can ultimately lead to a new and more empowering future.

The focal point of the event is a presentation of the documentary film: the feature **“How to Bee”** and the documentary short, **“Pickle Man.”**

How to Bee is a documentary film that focuses on filmmaker Naomi Mark and her father, who has been diagnosed with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease). When Naomi found her father needs help with his honeybees after his diagnosis, she asked him to start a project with her, she asked him to teach her about bees. How to Bee follows the journey of a father and daughter over three beekeeping seasons as he passes his knowledge on to her and they come to terms with his changing health.

How to Bee is a celebration of life in all stages set against the unique backdrop of Canada's North.

Pickle Man serves as an oddball rumination on life and death and follows photographer turned local legend, Arthur Cohen, a proud Rhode Island native who, when faced with certain death by ALS, decides to leave a legacy of pickles. A story of the human will, although he can no longer walk or talk, Arthur runs the pickling non-profit "PickALS" to raise over a quarter of a million dollars for ALS research and somehow manages to live up to his ambitious motto, "until further notice, celebrate everything."

PLUS THERE IS MORE...

Additionally, Interactive networking events will be held nightly during the span of the six-day festival including the annual **Animated Funk** after-party at the Rooftop of the Providence G on Wednesday and closing party at The Stable on Saturday night. Last year's festival drew in over 2,000 participants for these networking events, making the week of the Festival an unparalleled Celebration of Film, Arts and Culture.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

RIFFF offers a variety of prestigious awards to some of the most talented artists in (and soon to be in) the business. The festival's Gilbert Stuart Artistic Vision Lifetime Achievement Award has been bestowed upon Academy Award-winning actors Ernest Borgnine and Patricia Neal, Oscar-nominated actors Seymour Cassel and Cicely Tyson, acclaimed actors of stage and screen, Paul Sorvino and Theo Bikel, director Blake Edwards, special effects icon, Douglas Trumbull and production design legend, Joseph Alves. The festival's Creative Vision and Crystal Image Awards recognizing outstanding directors, actors, writers, film talent, have been awarded to such talents as Karen Allen, Zach Braff, Blythe Danner, Ioan Gruffudd, Rosa von Praunheim, Michael Showalter, composer Klaus Badelt, and children's book author Sandra Boynton. More than simply a film festival, RIFFF champions artistic vision in any form and is dedicated to sharing that vision with a diverse and enthusiastic audience that hungers for great storytelling.

More information on the Festival, including advance ticket sales for screenings or special events, plus student, group, and senior discounts, can be found at www.RIFilmFest.org. You can also write to RIFFF, 83 Park Street, Suite 5, Providence, RI 02903; call 401- 861-4445; email: info@film-festival.org.

###