

Gig Harbor Film Festival

SEPTEMBER 21-24, 2023

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Film Festival**

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PAMELA HOLT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello, Gig Harbor Film Festival Fans!

Welcome to the 2023 Gig Harbor Film Festival (GHFF)! We believe we have the best collection of films ever and can't wait to present them to you.

With nearly 65 independent films screening this year, we have something in the lineup to intrigue everyone. This curated collection will amuse, entertain, challenge and engage you. Some films may even leave you baffled . . . and we're ok with that.

You will be able to enjoy cinematic storytelling on the big screen along with film fans, filmmakers, and film crews from around the country. For VIP Passholders who signed up for the immersive, all-access experience, we have epic parties and events planned for you throughout the four days.

The GHFF is a "Filmmaker's Film Festival" and we love to cater to the creatives that bring us world-class content. We welcome back our revered alumni as well as new talent. Many of our artists are offering exclusive premiere screenings and Q&A sessions following their films — so check the schedule. And don't forget, all films are shown twice (with the exception of the Opening Night film.)

I'm excited to share that the GHFF remains ranked as one of the *Top 100 Best Reviewed Festivals* on FilmFreeway. This means that, in a pool of more than 12,000 festivals worldwide, the GHFF is in the top 1% — considered one of the best in the world!

Of course, this magic couldn't happen without a dedicated and loyal cast. Much applause goes to our generous sponsors, donors, VIPs, patrons, community, Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers. (And be sure to get next year's dates on your calendar now: September 26-29, 2024!)

So grab a snack, settle in to your luxurious Galaxy recliner, and enter the magical world of film. It's showtime!

Best,

Pam

Photo Credit: Amanda Howse

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2023 FESTIVAL ~ CELEBRATING THE *ART IN MOTION* ANNUAL AUCTION



Photo Credit: Tom Collins

Need a little more information on how it all works? Please read on!

Festival films are shown in “blocks.” A block consists of either a feature-length film or a series of short films. If filmmakers are present for screenings, there is usually a Q&A held in the theater immediately following the film presentation. The GHFF is fortunate to have filmmakers in attendance from all over the country and they often bring their crew (actors, producers, writers, etc.) This is a rare opportunity to connect with the talented artists that create our favorite films.

We are offering two options for our filmgoers this year:



VIP Pass

VIP Passes (\$375) provide full access to all films, parties and events for the four-day festival. **Priority seating is offered to VIP Passholders arriving 15 minutes prior to showtime.**

VIPs enjoy the Opening Night Film and Afterparties, Filmmakers Party at the stunning Morkill estate, Oktoberfest dinner on Saturday, and mimosa breakfast on Sunday before the Awards Ceremony. Your VIP Pass lets you relax and grab a snack between films in the fully-stocked Filmmaker and VIP Lounge hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Gig Harbor. 2023 Passholders receive first chance of renewal for 2024. *(Sorry, VIP passes are sold out for 2023; if you are interested for 2024, please let us know and we'll get you on the list.)*



General Admission Pass

Your collectible 2023 GHFF embossed wristband gets you into all of the films Friday through Sunday, and they are all shown twice, so you won't miss anything! Wristbands (with info card) are sold in-person at the Uptown Galaxy Theatres for \$50 and are on sale now. This is a great value for three days of films! *Seating is first-come, first-served.*

6:30pm Galaxy IMAX Theatre

OPENING NIGHT MOVIE

SPECIAL SCREENING:

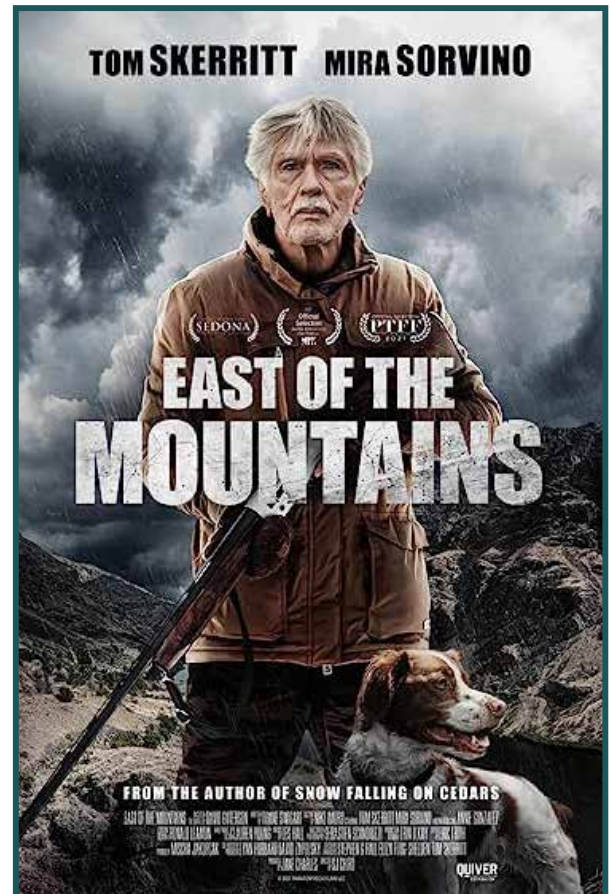
East of the Mountains

Directed by: S. J. Chiro

93 minutes

When retired heart surgeon Ben Givens learns that he has terminal cancer, he takes his beloved dog back to his boyhood home in Eastern Washington, determined to end his life on his own terms. Ben's journey, though, takes an unexpected turn, and soon becomes an adventure against which he pits himself with characteristic stoicism, wit, and determination. Based on the best-selling novel by David Guterson, *East of the Mountains* will be preceded by the **World Premiere** of *The Lost Angle* (11 mins). This short documentary is directed by local filmmaker Brandon Hendricks and produced by Heath Hollensbe.

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY



OPENING NIGHT AFTERPARTIES



Fondi Pizzeria

9:00pm

At local favorite Fondi's, hang out with VIP Passholders and filmmakers. Enjoy savory finger foods and light appetizers with beer and wine or a cocktail. Relax and linger fireside at Fondi's all-season outdoor dining patio and garden.

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

AFTERPARTY AT FONDI PIZZERIA | 4621 POINT FOSDICK DR STE 200, GIG HARBOR



O'Looney's Irish Pub

11:00pm

The party continues at O'Looney's (just up the street). Enjoy a pint on the house at Gig Harbor's best Irish pub!

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

AFTERPARTY AT O'LOONEY'S IRISH PUB | 3222 56TH ST, GIG HARBOR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 5pm | The Morkill Residence

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

MEET THE FILMMAKERS PARTY



After a full day of movie-watching, take this fun opportunity to meet the creative genius behind some of your new favorite films! Enjoy appetizers, libations, and the gracious hospitality of Board member Peter Morkill and his wife Liz at their waterfront home. A cherished GHFF tradition, this spectacular evening of great food, warm camaraderie, and stunning sunsets promises to be unforgettable.

Photo Credit: Greg Rowland

OKTOBERFEST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 5-9pm

SPONSORED BY KIWANIS



Outside IMAX Galaxy Theatres under the Covered Pavilion
4649 Point Fosdick Dr NW, Gig Harbor

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

Enjoy a variety of German sausages hot off the grill along with traditional side dishes. Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages will be available.

NEW for
Filmmakers Only

Join Hollywood screenwriter DC Rahe for an open discussion about screenwriting (10am) or how to create a movie pitch (7pm).

FILMMAKER WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 10am | Galaxy Theatres

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 7pm | O'Looney's Irish Pub

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, | 4649 Point Fosdick Dr NW, Gig Harbor

9:00am ~ Mimosa Breakfast IMAX Theatre Lobby

PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

9:45am ~ Awards Ceremony IMAX Theatre

OPEN TO VIPs, FILMMAKERS AND GENERAL ADMISSION PASSHOLDERS

IT'S A WRAP MIMOSA BREAKFAST & AWARDS CEREMONY

**Come Celebrate
the Winning Films
and Filmmakers!**

After you've seen all the films, you won't want to miss the juried filmmaker Awards Ceremony on Sunday at the Galaxy IMAX Theatre. A light breakfast with mimosas will be hosted by the GHFF Board and the Galaxy Theatres and served in the IMAX lobby starting at 9am.

Awards for 10 categories will begin promptly at 9:45am, so don't miss the excitement! The Director's Choice winners will be shown at 11:15am, 11:30am, 1:45pm and 2:00pm in case you missed them the first time around!

Photo Credit: Madeline Rennie



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

TIME IMAX THEATRE

6:30pm	East of the Mountains (93 mins) with the World Premiere of The Lost Angle (11 mins) PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 14 AND 22</small>
9:00pm	OPENING NIGHT AFTERPARTY AT FONDI PIZZERIA PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY
11:00pm	POST AFTERPARTY AT O'LOONEY'S IRISH PUB PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

TIME THEATRE 6

Sponsored By: HARBORNEST

TIME THEATRE 7

Sponsored By: Formosa and Tina Reeder/
Priority Home Lending

TIME THEATRE 8

Sponsored By: The Perfect Lawn

TIME THEATRE 10

Sponsored By: BBQ2U

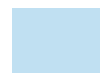
9:30am	Made in Washington Vol. 1 (98 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 21</small>	9:40am	Right Over The Edge (63 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	9:45am	Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty (78 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	9:35am	Shorts Vol. 1 (93 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 16</small>
11:45am	Shorts Vol. 2 (95 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 17</small>	11:20am	Interpreters Wanted (84 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	11:40am	Sam Now (87 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	11:50am	Shorts Vol. 3 (87 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 18</small>
1:55pm	Made in Washington Vol. 2 (96 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 22</small>	1:40pm	Shorts Vol. 4 (91 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 19</small>	1:45pm	The Call We Carry (67 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	2:00pm	The Strange Batch A collection of wonderfully weird short films (96 mins) <i>Rated R due to Mature Content; no minors admitted.</i> <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 20</small>
3:55pm	Mickey Hardaway (105 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	4:00pm	Hell Hath No Fury (75 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	3:30pm	Golden Delicious (120 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	4:05pm	Balloon Animal (88 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>
5:00pm	MEET THE FILMMAKERS PARTY @ MORKILL'S PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY						



Feature Film



Short Film Block



VIP and/or Filmmaker Event

FOR FILM DESCRIPTIONS, PLEASE SEE PAGES 14 THROUGH 22

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

TIME THEATRE 6

Sponsored By: HARBORNEST

TIME THEATRE 7

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Priority Home Lending

TIME THEATRE 8

Sponsored By: The Perfect Lawn

TIME THEATRE 10

Sponsored By: BBQ2U

10:00am DC Rahe Filmmaker Workshop @ Galaxy Theatres in Theatre #9 PRIVATE EVENT FOR FILMMAKERS ONLY							
10:15am	The Thief Collector (96 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	10:05am	The Dancing Monkey (73 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	10:00am	Balloon Animal (88 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	10:10am	Shorts Vol. 2 (95 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 17</small>
12:35pm	Made in Washington Vol. 1 (98 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 21</small>	12:00pm	Corky (85 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	12:15pm	Interpreters Wanted (84 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	12:25pm	Golden Delicious (120 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>
2:55pm	Shorts Vol. 3 (87 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 18</small>	2:10pm	Sam Now (87 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	2:20pm	Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty (78 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	3:10pm	Mickey Hardaway (105 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>
5:10pm	Made in Washington Vol. 2 (96 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 22</small>	4:25pm	The Call We Carry (67 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	4:25pm	Corky (85 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	5:30pm	Shorts Vol. 1 (93 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 16</small>
5-8pm	Oktoberfest in the covered pavilion PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY	6:10pm	The Thief Collector (96 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	6:40pm	The Dancing Monkey (73 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	7:00pm	DC Rahe Filmmaker Workshop PRIVATE EVENT FOR FILMMAKERS ONLY @ O'Looney's Irish Pub
7:30pm	Shorts Vol. 4 (91 mins) <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 19</small>	8:20pm	Right Over The Edge (63 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 14</small>	8:35pm	Hell Hath No Fury (75 mins) <small>DESCRIPTION OF THIS FILM ON PG 15</small>	7:45pm	The Strange Batch A collection of wonderfully weird short films (96 mins) <i>Rated R due to Mature Content; no minors admitted.</i> <small>DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FILMS ON PG 20</small>
9:00pm Afterparty @ O'Looney's Irish Pub PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY							

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

TIME IMAX

TIME THEATRE 6

Sponsored By: HARBORNEST

TIME THEATRE 10

Sponsored By: BBQ2U

9:00AM	'It's a Wrap' Mimosa Breakfast in the Galaxy IMAX Lobby hosted by the GHFF Board. PRIVATE EVENT FOR VIPs AND FILMMAKERS ONLY				
		11:30am	Director's Choice-Feature Film	11:15am	Director's Choice-Short Faves
9:45am	AWARDS CEREMONY OPEN TO ALL VIPs, FILMMAKERS, AND GENERAL ADMISSION PASSHOLDERS	2:00pm	Director's Choice-Short Faves	1:45pm	Director's Choice-Feature Film

Feature Film
 Short Film Block
 VIP and/or Filmmaker Event

FOR FILM DESCRIPTIONS, PLEASE SEE PAGES 14 THROUGH 22



FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

East of the Mountains

Directed by: S. J. Chiro

93 mins

THURS 6:30PM

When retired heart surgeon Ben Givens learns that he has terminal cancer, he takes his beloved dog back to his boyhood home in Eastern Washington, determined to end his life on his own terms. Ben's journey, though, takes an unexpected turn, and soon becomes an adventure against which he pits himself with characteristic stoicism, wit, and determination. Based on the best-selling novel by David Guterson.



FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE (SAT ONLY) - Q&A AFTER FILM

Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty

Directed by: John de Graaf

78 mins

FRI 9:45AM | SAT 2:20PM

A film biography of Stewart Udall, America's most famous Secretary of Interior, who was also a fighter for racial justice, peace, the arts, and environmental archival footage, and photos. Filled with fascinating history, remarkable archival footage and photos.



WORLD PREMIERE

Interpreters Wanted

Directed by: Robert Ham

84 mins

FRI 11:20AM | SAT 12:15PM

Saifullah Haqmal and his brother Ismail are educated Afghan men who choose to work with U.S. forces as interpreters, and Robert Ham is one of the soldiers they befriended over the years. As Robert's deployment comes to an end, Saifullah and Ismail's support to U.S. forces continue for years afterward – living in the combat zone of Afghanistan isn't a one-year tour for them, it's their day-to-day life. The Taliban threat to the Haqmal brothers' lives grows more urgent and their communication with their old friend Robert becomes more desperate, as they wait years for their Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) approval. With Afghanistan's elected government entering its final days, and the country crumbling around them, see the struggle one interpreter has to escape as the Taliban closes in.



FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Right Over The Edge: The Search for the North Pacific Right Whale

Directed by: Kevin Campion, Shawnecee Schneider, Lindsay Trex Walker

63 mins

FRI 9:40AM | SAT 8:20PM

A group of friends has fallen in love with North Pacific right whales, the world's rarest whale, after learning about a sighting near their Seattle home. Being sailors, they set out to sea to find one.

Right Over the Edge voyages with this crew out of the Salish Sea, through the North Pacific, and onward into the Bering Sea and way out of everyone's comfort zone. The more they learn about the North Pacific right whale's tragic history and present threats, the harder they search. They believe that finding one will bring the world's attention to a species of whale likely to go extinct if urgent action isn't taken to save them.



FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

SAM NOW

Directed by: Reed Harkness

87 mins

FRI 11:40AM | SAT 2:10PM

What do two film-obsessed brothers do to solve a family mystery? Using every video format imaginable, they make a movie as they travel thousands of miles looking for their missing mom. Stitching together 25 years of home videos and filling the gaps in the archive with play, SAM NOW is a mosaic of love, longing and loss, as well as an attempt to overcome intergenerational trauma.



The Call We Carry: Confronting PTSD In The Fire Service

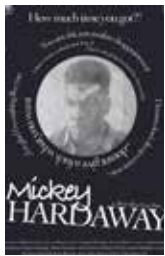
Directed by: Cody Shea

67 mins

FRI 1:45PM | SAT 4:25PM

In a profession that few ever see, and even fewer understand, a crisis is brewing amongst today's first responders. Over 37% meet clinical diagnosis for PTSD, and most go untreated and even unrecognized. In a culture where showing vulnerability means showing weakness, this groundbreaking documentary attempts to break down these barriers and smash the stigma of mental health in the fire service.

Follow the journeys of four Tacoma Firefighters as they share their stories of pain, sacrifice, and resiliency in the midst of an unprecedented call volume increase. The film provides an intimate glimpse into lives of those who put it all on the line everyday, in an effort to prove once and for all that NO ONE FIGHTS ALONE...



WA STATE PREMIERE

Mickey Hardaway

Directed by: Marcellus Cox

105 mins

FRI 3:55PM | SAT 3:10PM

A young sketch artist agrees to an in-home therapy session with a well-known psychiatrist as his life begins sprawling out of control. Years of physical and verbal abuse have finally taken a toll on him.



Golden Delicious

Directed by: Jason Karman

120 mins

FRI 3:30PM | SAT 12:25PM

When basketball-obsessed Aleks moves in across the street, Asian-Canadian teen Jake finds himself trying out for the basketball team to get his attention in this classic coming-of-age drama set in the digital age.



The Thief Collector

Directed by: Allison Otto

96 mins

SAT 10:15AM | SAT 6:10PM

In 1985, Willem de Kooning's "Woman-Ochre," one of the most valuable paintings of the 20th century, was cut from its frame at the University of Arizona Museum of Art. Thirty-two years later, the painting was found hanging in a New Mexico home.



FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Corky

Directed by: Christine Caruso

85 mins

SAT 12:00PM | SAT 4:25PM

The story of the world's longest-held captive orca, the changing sentiment about orcas in captivity, and the rise of sea sanctuaries.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Hell Hath No Fury

Directed by: Zachary Burns

75 mins

FRI 4:00PM | SAT 8:35PM

A husband and wife separately and unknowingly plot to murder each other on the same fateful night.



Balloon Animal

Directed by: Em Johnson

88 mins

FRI 4:05PM | SAT 10:00AM

A young circus performer, Poppy Valentine, is stuck under the harsh demands of her father and their community's expectations. But while on a quick night out to let loose and have some fun with her friends, she finds herself captivated by small-town America, which then forces her to question everything.



The Dancing Monkey

Directed by: Chandler Wild

73 mins

SAT 10:05AM | SAT 6:40PM

The Dancing Monkey is a new film adapted from Eugene O'Neill's classic groundbreaking play, 'The Hairy Ape.' Set in the present, the film follows Wayne, a factory worker with an important decision to make. After being compared to a dancing monkey by one of the factory owners, Wayne sets out to find an answer to a question that will decide his fate and those around him.



Nakam

Directed by: Andreas Kessler

Twelve-year-old violin player Mitka is supposed to execute an attack on several SS officers in the name of a Ukrainian partisan movement. But this attempt will also put his only friend in life danger.



Call Button

Directed by: Rhona Rees

A distant daughter must confront the reality of her mother's MS and life in elder care when a photo app magically body swaps them.



**WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM**

Resurgence

Directed by: Krushan Naik

Ryan De Vries, a professional canyoneer, encounters a near-death experience in the canyons of Southern Utah. After the accident, his friends and family witness a changed person as Ryan battles with himself due to the trauma caused by it - crippling his everyday life. The documentary highlights Ryan's struggles after losing his identity, along with the disparity in his journey of physical recovery, mental healing, and emotional resurgence, and how they affect one another.

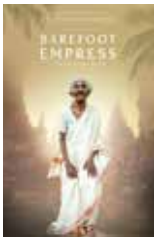


**WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM**

The Night Before The Morning After

Directed by: David L. Bradburn

Unaware of her past, Anne's friends do their best to help her get over a failed relationship. When the pressure becomes too much, Anne's repressed traumas explode in a cathartic moment where she makes a choice that is both horrific and heroic.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Barefoot Empress

Directed by: Vikas Khanna

In a Kerala village, a 96-year-old woman pursues her dream of going to school, joining a first grade class.



FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Splinter

Directed by: Marc Bernardin

Young Benjamin (Brooks Firestone) has spent most of his ten years on an airplane that almost never lands, because when his feet touch the ground, rage spreads like a virus. But when a mid-air collision forces the plane out of the sky, it falls to his caretaker Morgan (Yetide Badaki) and Chris (Moon

Bloodgood) to deal with the explosive fallout.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

A Thousand Times A Day

Directed by: Chantelle James

A Thousand Times A Day is a story of loss and forgiveness. Natasha loses her four-year-old son to drowning and blames her alcoholic brother, Jeremy, who was taking care of him on the night of the tragedy. Both of their lives are irrevocably ruined by

the boy's death. After hitting rock bottom, they both learn that, as hard as it might be, their only chance of survival lies in forgiveness and in choosing to let go.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Good Grief

Directed by: Ash Blodgett

In search of closure, a young woman attempts to spread her father's ashes on a remote sea cliff but an unexpected encounter leads her to the only person who might just understand her grief.



WORLD PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Kids For Kidnapping

Directed by: Justin Zimmerman, Torrance Maurer

Kids for Kidnapping is a young brother and sister's journey into a dark and seedy adult world.



WA STATE PREMIERE

Rest Stop

Directed by: Noah Sellman

In the near future, where automated and electric vehicles dominate the highways, a young auto mechanic struggles to keep his family's roadside rest stop afloat and find his place in a newly mechanized world.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Mayfly

Directed by: Keith Andreen

Best-selling self-help author Aaron Driscoll may look like a successful motivational speaker on the outside, but inside, he hides a dark secret that he thought would remain buried deep in his past. After a long day of talk shows, book signings,

and motivational speaking, he returns home to his mansion and passes out, only to be startled awake by what initially appears to be an obsessed fan holding him at gunpoint, demanding the truth about his shameful past, and forcing him into a painful reckoning that will either kill him or be his salvation.



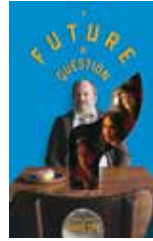
Social Anxiety

Directed by: Jason C. Brown

Everyone loves a party.

For Annie, a social gathering is an opportunity to live out every worst-case scenario before stepping foot through the door.

Really, what's the worst that could happen?



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

A Future in Question

Directed by: Chris Wilson Orr

A man questions his partner's future on a romantic first date but soon realizes his future is the one in question.



WA STATE PREMIERE

"High" Sierras

Directed by: Nathan Keowen

A plane full of weed crashes in the High Country of Yosemite National Park -- chaos ensues.



The Mall Man

Directed by: Dustin Morrow

"Death of a Salesman" goes to the mall in this darkly comic satire of American consumerism and the fading status of shopping malls in contemporary society. In "The Mall Man", a shopping mall manager undertakes a marathon session of wheeling-and-dealing in a last-ditch effort to bring life back to his failing mall.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Hitbaby

Directed by: Abigail Breslin

A skilled but suicidal hitman begrudgingly trains a bumbling computer hacker to be an assassin. Hilarity ensues as they attempt to thwart XYZ agency's plans to dominate the world.

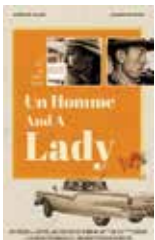


FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Beat

Directed by: Mike Hayhurst

Taking "self-destructive behavior" to a whole new level.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Un Homme and a Lady

Directed by: Mitch Yapko

Un Homme and a Lady is a comedic homage to love in the French New Wave.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Yellowstone 88 - Song of Fire

Directed by: Jerry van de Beek, Betsy De Fries

In the summer of 1988, dry lightning sparked a fire in the parched and drought ridden landscape of Yellowstone Park, igniting a blaze that would scorch over 1.5 million perimeter acres of the park.

Song of Fire, a narrative poem, guides the animation of YELLOWSTONE 88 telling the story of this conflagration that raged unabated for months until a snow of such intense severity extinguished the flames. That winter, surviving fauna exhausted from fire and weakened by hunger, die in greater numbers than those claimed by the fire. The cosmos turns from one season to another and another and life in the park begins anew.



WA STATE PREMIERE

**Invisible Wounds:
 The Story of Matthew Fast**

Directed by: Jon Michael Shink, Michael Skinner

Matthew Fast always wanted to be a soldier. He served tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. Once he was back home, his wife, Jessica, discovered his service had a hidden affect on him.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Hedgehog

Directed by: D. Mityr

As the war starts in Ukraine, six-year-old Nina is sent to her grandma's remote village. In the shack outside, Nina discovers a badly wounded Russian soldier.



A Boat for my Brother

Directed by: Matthew Boyd

After the tragic death of his little brother, Johnnie Oberg sets out to put on a Viking funeral in his honor, an ode to their late father's Scandinavian heritage. A custom-built boat, handmade flaming arrows, and a California lake steeped in childhood memories sets the stage to make this wistful last wish a reality.



WA STATE PREMIERE

The Last Wild River

Directed by: Isaac Dudley

An optimistic conservationist teams up with a jaded record holder to tell the story of the Verde River in Arizona, one of the state's last free flowing rivers. Over the course of six months, the duo paddled the entirety of the Verde in an attempt to capture its beauty, its threats and challenges, as well as what is being done to save it.



Infraction

Directed by: Timothy Blackwood

When a prison guard is murdered on the job, his replacement and an inmate form an unlikely relationship with life-altering ramifications.

This film is based on the real life story of Philadelphia native Terrance Lewis who served 21 years in prison for a murder he did not commit.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

A Mind Cannot Touch

Directed by: Geoffrey Prather

A Mind Cannot Touch is a short film about loss and how one grieving mother will go to any lengths to bring her daughter back from the dead. The film asks, "What if you could bring a loved one back after their physical body has died?" and explores the moral

implications of this hypothetical situation.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM
SHARPS
 Directed by: Chris Sexton Fletcher

When a down-on-her-luck woman discovers a wad of one-hundred-dollar bills stuffed in a medical sharps disposal container, she decides to take matters into her own hands.



Guts
 Directed by: Chris McInroy

A guy with his guts on the outside of his body really wants a promotion.



Meat Friend
 Directed by: Izzy Lee

An ex-con, sentient pile of hamburger meat teaches after-school lessons to a child.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Nightcap
 Directed by: Corey Benson Powers

After meeting on a dating app, Jeffrey and Kira end their first date by going to his place for one last drink. Jeffrey claims that he has to keep his aggressive dog locked up in his office. But as the night goes on, Kira begins to wonder what exactly is on the other side of the door...



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM
When the Clock Strikes
 Directed by: Andrew Littlefield

When The Clock Strikes is a short film dark comedy that digs into dating apps and the peculiarity of people. Perplexed yet intrigued by her unusual home, Tim can't figure out Veronica's intentions with him. Who (or what) will make the next move?



WA STATE PREMIERE
Candor
 Directed by: Timothy Troy

A young woman says thank you to her date for the evening.



WORLD PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM
One Last Drink
 Directed by: Derek Schneider

A man meets with his ex-wife seeking forgiveness and to say "I'll see you soon".



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM
Shop at the Edge of Town
 Directed by: Cailin Tamplin

Trapped in eternal night, a shopkeeper tries to close when a man enters; a supernatural presence follows him.



WA STATE PREMIERE
FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM
Between The Trees
 Directed by: Kelli Horan

Darcy is on a journey of grief and healing as she hikes through various trails throughout the US. A recently deceased loved one left her rolls of 35mm film – she's on the last roll and the last stop of her trip. Her road trip takes her past a broken down car with a man, Adam, waiting outside. She doesn't stop to help. However, Jessica, in the car behind her does. She pulls over to give him a ride – a decision that proves fatal. Darcy and Adam collide in the forest, where, unbeknownst to either of them, a mythical creature roams between the trees as a protective and vengeful apparition.



WA STATE PREMIERE
Trapped
 Directed by: Semyon Voinov

Days turn into a desperate struggle for survival for a scientist trapped inside a laboratory during a zombie outbreak. With limited resources and no escape in sight, he faces his biggest challenge yet when he discovers a rogue lab rat raiding his dwindling food supplies.



The Invasion
 Directed by: Matthew Rush

A woman is home alone, or so she thinks until an extraterrestrial presence makes itself known.



FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Kola

Directed by: Kit Wilson

Native Secrets from the Past.
Broken Lives Healed.



FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

From The Depths

Directed by: Justin Robert Vinal

Ethan is despondent. He has tried shaking off his depression but, like a thunderstorm, it grows stronger and louder. His girlfriend, Jennifer, takes him to a lake house for a much-needed vacation. While there, Jennifer recognizes that her attempts at making Ethan feel better are draining, and she starts to spiral as well. It isn't until one night that an alluring song cuts through the rumblings in Ethan's mind. It's so crystal clear...and it lures him to the dock where he finds a Siren waiting for him, tempting him to jump into the water to join her. This invitation only accelerates Ethan's downward spiral as the Siren's seductive whisperings follow him, promising him that serenity may be his only way out.



WA STATE PREMIERE

The Ossan

Directed by: Venita Ozols-Graham

After her wealthy new husband dies unexpectedly, a young widow contacts a mystical Ossan to protect her from the teenaged stepsons hell-bent on eliminating her to regain control of the estate.



WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Wrap Me In A Sheet

Directed by: Britt Harris, Molly Muse

Two sisters travel to the Washington coast to unearth a dark family secret.



FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Mike Sizzer | a Chair Wrestling Documentary

Directed by: David Over

Meet Mike. He wrestles chairs. And yeah, he's pretty dang good at it.



The Kite

Directed by: Matthew Grant Benson

A story of childhood, parenthood, and asking for help. Set in the 1930s, Robert, a young boy, wants nothing more than a brand-new kite, but what will his dad say about it?



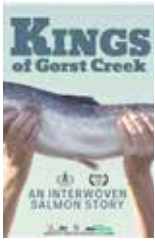
WA STATE PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Pinwheel Horizon

Directed by: Ian Ebright

On a barren planet, three elite warriors learn their final confrontation - a gang of 40 - is waiting for them nearby.



FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Kings of Gorst Creek

Directed by: Andrew Wright

Kings of Gorst Creek is a documentary short that seeks to answer a question. Each summer as you drive along the waterfront between Orchard and Bremerton, you see a string of floats bobbing in the waves, the telltale sign of tribal gill nets filling with king salmon. TV news stations and local papers routinely cover the dwindling salmon populations and its effect on orca whales and other sea life. So, if salmon are on the decline, then why are there gill nets harvesting fish before they have a chance to spawn in Gorst Creek?

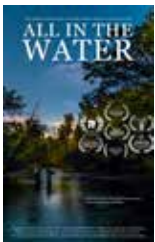


FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Never Land

Directed by: Brett Smith

Never Land tells the story of an inner-city foster boy who has nothing in this world but his own strength and imagination. His only escape is through his dreams, transporting him to Neverland, where all Lost Children without parents go to fit in and be loved.

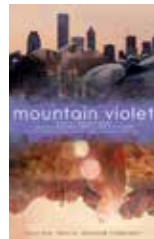


FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

All In The Water

Directed by: Judy Larson

Set in Texas, Michigan, and Oregon, All in the Water raises the volume on the stories shared by people of color who are not only passionate about fly fishing, but passionate about opening up the outdoors and more specifically, the fly fishing world, to people of color so that everyone can find their way to the water to cast to a rising fish.



FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

Mountain Violet

Directed by: Amanda Ebert, Nathan Hamer

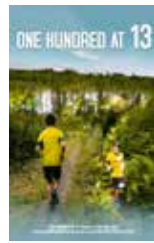
After the mysterious loss of a woman she loves, Violet escapes her city life to a remote cabin in the mountains. Guided by whispers from the past and the voice of a know-it-all motivational speaker, Violet is forced to confront all that was, accept all that is, and embrace whatever comes next.



Into The Stillaguamish

Directed by: Jennifer Moslemi, Marita Davison

In Western Washington State, the Stillaguamish River ties together people, cultures and livelihoods, all of which depend on the health of the river. Into the Stillaguamish shows how one river can touch the lives of people from disparate walks of life, who are brought together in their shared interest to improve the river's integrity.



One Hundred at 13

Directed by: Joel C. Ballezza

Lured by adventure and inspired by his father, 13-year-old Caden Ragsdale has quickly become a seasoned trail runner, completing 50K and 50-Mile distances. Caden hopes to expand his horizons even further by toeing the line at the Lumberjack 100-Mile race in Port Gamble, Washington. Will his youth be his hubris as he battles rain, mud and terrain for 100 miles?



WORLD PREMIERE

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE - Q&A AFTER FILM

The Lost Angle

Directed by: Brandon Hendricks

After 80 years, never-before-seen footage of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge Collapse has been found at a local estate sale. This is the release of that footage and the story that accompanies it.



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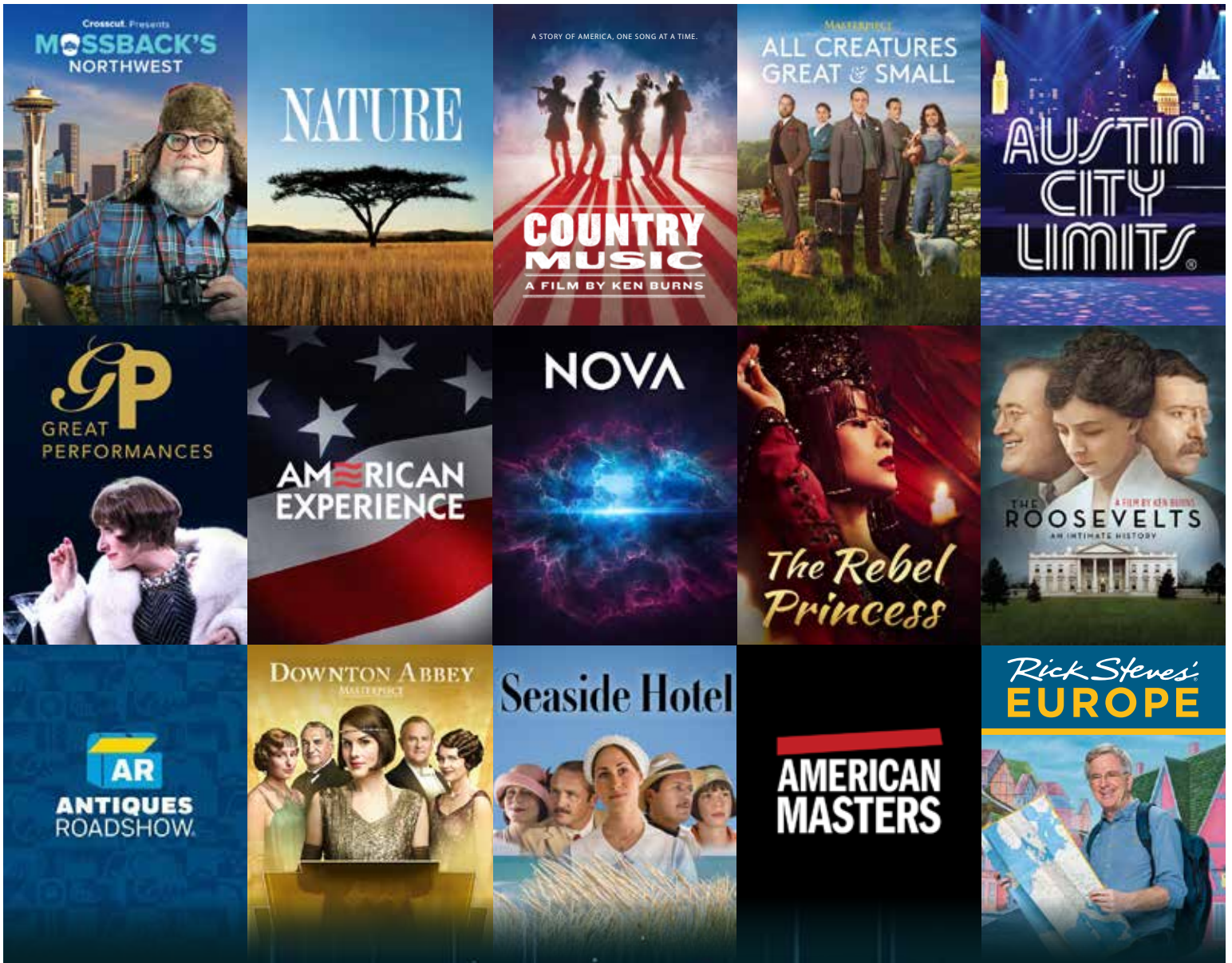


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