



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Sun Valley Film Festival Announces Additional Feature Films, Shorts, Student Films”

- **Full Festival Film Listings and Event Schedule now online**

SUN VALLEY, ID..... An eclectic assortment of additional feature films, short films and Future Filmmaker Forum student films have been selected for screening at the fifth annual [Sun Valley Film Festival](#), March 2-6, 2016, presented by Zions Bank. The three new features, 24 shorts and 11 student films will round out the outstanding lineup of films, events and programs to be presented throughout the five day festival.

Of the SVFF film slate, seven of the feature films and six of the short films are world premieres, and one is a US premiere. Idaho is well represented in the film selection as one of the feature films and six of the shorts were filmed in the state, and three of the student films were made by Idaho filmmakers.

The full 2016 Sun Valley Film Festival film and events schedule can be viewed at www.sunvalleyfilmfestival.org. Festival passes and tickets for select programs are available for sale online. Individual film tickets will be available for sale online soon.

In addition to screening over 60 cutting-edge films, the SVFF will offer engaging Coffee Talks with top industry insiders including legendary filmmaker Oliver Stone, (recipient of the 2016 SVFF Lifetime Vision Award), fabulous parties and panels, a Screenwriters Lab led by award-winning writers Mark Duplass and Nat Faxon, and the spectacular SVFF Awards Bash. The combination of cutting-edge programming and bona-fide insider access in a fun, relaxed atmosphere is making the Sun Valley Film Festival a rising star in the world of destination festivals. This coming March, filmmakers from around the world will bring their vision to the Sun Valley Film Festival, and movie lovers are invited to watch it come into focus. For Festival details, visit: www.sunvalleyfilmfestival.org. Get Festival updates on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

Destination Idaho - Documentary

Writer/Director: Karen Day

Editor: Jesse Cordtz

Executive Producer: Idaho Tourism, Airstream of Idaho

Director of Photography: Meredith Richardson

FX and Animation: Hiero Entertainment

Concept: Diane Norton

Narrator: Andy Lawless

What state contains the highest waterfall, the deepest canyon, the most rivers miles and most wilderness per capita in the lower forty-eight states? Generally people, residents and tourists alike, will not answer "Idaho." The film, Destination Idaho is a visual journey that will inform and inspire audiences to value and visit the great Gem State by presenting the best things people don't know about Idaho. This 63-minute film invites viewers to experience Idaho's stunning landscapes, rich historical background, unparalleled outdoor recreation, compelling people, and cultural attributes through a visual journey.

65 min/U.S.A.

*WORLD PREMIERE

*IDAHO FILM

MAD - Narrative Fiction

Writer/Director/Producer: Robert G. Putka

Producers: Mike Blanchard, Joe Battaglia, Jennifer LaFleur, Eilis Cahill

Executive Producer: Mark Reeb

Cast: Jennifer LaFleur, Maryann Plunkett, Eilis Cahill, Mark Reeb

A matriarch past the point of a nervous breakdown, her two daughters that don't give a damn, and the heat-seeking missiles of resentment they toss at each other create a lively backdrop for this dark and dramatic comedy.

83 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Reconquest of the Useless - Documentary

Directors: Sam Pressman, Luke Wigren, Harley Adams

Producer: Edward R Pressman

Editor: Lambis Haralambidis

Cinematographer: Carlos Pizarro

Narrator: Sam Pressman

Featuring: Werner Herzog, Walter Saxer, Huerequeque, Klaus Kinski, and Cesar Vivanco

RECONQUEST OF THE USELESS is a documentary film which follows the travails of three young men as they journey nearly 5000 miles through the Peruvian Amazon, searching for inspiration, adventure and the legacy of Werner Herzog's classic film FITZCARRALDO, thirty years after it was made.

Like Fitzcarraldo, who dreamed of building an opera house in the jungle, and Herzog himself, with his transcendent vision of Cinema, the creators of RECONQUEST OF THE USELESS also pursue quixotic dreams: to travel without being tourists and to have transformative experiences through exploring what is rarely sought after. Imbued with the spirit of FITZCARRALDO, the

ultimate film for impossible dreamers, RECONQUEST OF THE USELESS is about the quest for the ineffable and unknown, and where that path can take you.

79 min./U.S.A./Peru/Brazil

*IDAHO PREMIERE

EPISODIC SERIES

Ex Best

Director: Barbara Stepansky

Writers: Diana Gettinger, Monica Hewes

Producers: Diana Gettinger, Monica Hewes, George Ducker

Director of Photography: Aymae Sulick

Cast: George Ducker, Elimu Nelson, Anna Margaret Hollyman, Kristin Slaysman, Keiko Agena

EX-BEST is a comedic web-series about two women having to forge their individual identities after their friend "break-up" leaves them adrift in the adult world. With thirteen 4-minute episodes, Ex-Best uses the short form to tell a series narrative that shines a different light on female friendship. It's funny, awkward, and a little sad. Ex-Best is a show about the friend you thought you had.

58 min./U.S.A.

Witnesses

Director: David Eisenberg

Writers/Producers: David Eisenberg, Jon Higgins

Director of Photography: Jason Berman

Cast: Ronan Babbitt, Will Mobley, Jonathan Smoots, Marcus Truschinshki

Two young thieves scout their next target by posing as missionaries, but when they knock on the wrong door they discover a shocking crime that has vast repercussions for the local police, a circuit judge, and the small Wisconsin town where the crimes are being committed.

19 min./U.S.A.

SHORT FILMS

Belladonna

Writer/Director: Dubravka Turić

Producer: Zdenka Gold

Director of Photography: Branko Linta, HFC

Editor: Dubravka Turić

Belladonna is a film about seeing. In the waiting room of an ophthalmologist's office, a city girl avoids looking at two older women from the countryside, because she does not want to allow for even the most superficial connection. She prefers to remain by herself, behind a shield that protects her from the rest of the world - its banalities and horrors. Belladonna is a film about compassion. When suddenly, in the course of a small talk, a horrific event from a distant past is mentioned, the girl's shield cracks; now all she wants is to see the woman blinded by the horror she had witnessed. In the end, Belladonna is a film about beauty. Because it is only through compassion that we can experience true beauty.

18 min./Croatia

Body Team 12

Director: David Darg

Executive Producer: Paul G. Allen

Co-Executive Produces: Olivia Wilde, Carole Tomko

Produced: David Darg, Bryn Mooser

Associate Producers: Martha Rogers, Gareth Seltzer, Bill Horan

Coordinating Producers: Jannat Gargi, Molly DeWolf Swenson

Production Assistant: Hayley Pappas

BODY TEAM 12 is tasked with collecting the victims at the height of the Ebola outbreak. These body collectors have arguably the most dangerous and gruesome job in the world. Yet despite the strain they emerge as heroes while the film explores their philosophy and strength. The story is told on the ground in Monrovia, Liberia through the eyes of the only female member of the team, who reveals the heartbreaking, lifesaving work of removing bodies from loved ones in order to halt the transmission of the disease.

13 min./U.S.A.

Carbon

Writer/Director: Christian Lybrook

Producer: Laura Mehlhaff, Christian Lybrook

Cinematographer: Gregory Bayne

Executive Producers: Pattie Frandson, Dan Frandson

Score: Patrick Benolkin

Associate Producers: Travis Swartz, Mary Clare Griffin, The Modern Hotel & Bar, Kylie MacEntee

Cast: Jennifer Lafleur, Michael Val

A sheep rancher's carefully constructed life begins to unravel when she discovers strange happenings on her ranch.

13 min./U.S.A.

*WORLD PREMIERE

*IDAHO FILM

*2015 One Potato Grant Winner

Doghouse

Director: Joshua Butler

Writer: Gina Lucita Monreal

Producer: Michael Maize, Liz Levine, Adrian Salpeter

Executive Producer: Jonathan McCoy

Director of Photography: Akis Konstantakopoulos

Production Designer: Gabor Norman

Cast: Erin Daniels, Michael Maize

Two estranged siblings suffer lifelong oppression at the hands of their now dying mother. Called to her death bed, a gruesome discovery is made. Mark and Beth must now reconcile their bad blood in order to unearth a plan for mom's quietly cooling corpse.

13 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Glimpse of Greg

Writer/Director: Jeffrey Scott Collins

Producer: Jeffrey Scott Collins

Director of Photography: Phil Sebal

Editor: Jeffrey Scott Collins

Cast: Graham Sibley, Laura Seay, Paulina Michaels

Greg poetically reminisces about the source of his heartache.

5 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Hero

Directors: Andrew Garcia, Nathan Garcia

Director of Photography: Andrew Garcia

Key Grip: Jordan Davis

Boom Operator: Garrett McFarland

Cast: Jessica Giese, Nathan Garcia, Grady McFerrin, Mae Strand

Joe Granger, a boy with a wild imagination, embarks on his biggest adventure yet: girls.

4 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO FILM

Just a Song

Director: Gina Hirsch

Writer: Greg Felden

Director of Photography: Daniel Herman

Editor: Gina Hirsch

Cast: Greg Felden, Phoebe Neidhardt, Bill Watterson

When a songwriter shares a new song with his girlfriend, things get a little weird.

5 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Lancaster Sound (Tallurutiup Tariunga)

Directors: Trevor Gill, Christopher Paetkau

Producers: Carlyle Paetkau, Chris Debicki

Writer: Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory

Sound Mix: Patrick Wade

Narrator: Jeanie Arreak-Kullualik

Tallurutiup Tariunga, the Inuktitut name for Lancaster Sound, is one of the Arctic's richest marine habitats, an area of stunning beauty and deep cultural significance. Located at the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage, Lancaster Sound's abundance has sustained Inuit communities for centuries. The video is based on a poem written by Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory, an artist who lives in Iqaluit, Nunavut.

4min./Canada

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Maggie (At the Border)

Director/Writer/Producer: Taylor Lamothe

Cinematographer: Bryan Wilkat

Original Music: Black Cannons

Cast: Karine Lespérance, Erik Grou

With little education, a dead-end job and struggling to put food on the table, Maggie is forced to choose between the only family she has left and a better life for herself and her daughter.
9 min./U.S.A., Canada

Mercury

Directors: Zach Voss, Cody Gittings

Writers: Zach Voss, Dusty Aunan, Cody Gittings,

Director of Photography: Cody Gittings

Cast: Annie Bulow, Ryan Hondo, Dusty Aunan, Ashley Dowden

In the late 1980's, a group of enthusiastic yet naive friends attempt to 'change the world' by protesting the largest nuclear weapons testing facility in the country. Based on a true story.
13 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO FILM

Mercy

Writer/Director: Mylissa Fitzsimmons

Executive Producer: Todd Slawsby

Producers: Mylissa Fitzsimmons, Quinn Haberman

Editor: Nicole McClure

Director of Photography: Pedro Avila

Cast: Essa O'Shea, Daniel Ahearn

Mercy has decided it's time to lose her virginity. There's only one problem, she's an agoraphobic who hasn't left her house in 5 years.

18 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Night of the Slasher

Writer/Director: Shant Hamassian

Producer: Adam Leser, Eve Constance

Cast: Lily Berlina, Scott Javore, Adam Leser

A 'shot-in-one-take' slasher film about a teenage girl who must commit horror movie sins by drinking alcohol, doing drugs, and having sex in order to lure a masked killer and exact revenge.
11 min./U.S.A.

Oh, Sandy

Director/Cinematographer: Cody Gittings

Writers: Dusty Aunan, Ryan Hondo

Editor: Cody Gittings

Assistant Editor: Gray Battson

Production Assistant: Brooke Burton

Cast: Dusty Aunan, Ryan Hondo, Ashley Dowden

A man's insecurities get the best of him as he agonizes over the crucial first text message he plans to send to the girl of his dreams,
6 min./U.S.A.

*SVFF i48 AWARD WINNER

*IDAHO FILM

Out of the Village

Writer/Director/Producer: Jonathan Stein

Executive Producer: Bryan Singer

Cast: Abraham Attah

An inspirational story of an orphaned boy and his sister who defy all odds after their West African village is ravaged by disease.

17 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

People of Delta

Director: Joey L.

Cinematographer: Sean Stiegemeier

Writer: Joey L., Charity Paniamogan, Uri Muda Wado

Producer: Dawit Shimelis, Blue Media PLC, Anteneh Endale Mamo, Susie Hayasaka

Editor: Stavros Stavropoulos

Original Score: Tony Anderson

Audio and Mix: Jeff Pace

Cast: Uri Muda Wado, Argilieb Tuchamoi, Poshi Mayto Woroo, Hassan Yiergilieb, Ente Algo Aska

For centuries, Ethiopia's Lower Omo Valley has been a crossroads for many distinct tribes. During times of drought, natural resources become scarce, escalating clashes between groups. In an ever-changing landscape, young men and women come of age in an unfamiliar time.

The story is narrated from two unique perspectives. Uri- a young boy from the Hamar tribe who becomes a man during his rite of passage ceremony, and Segelgwo- an elder chief of the Daasanach, who reflects on his community's uncertain future.

29 min./Ethiopia

Plena Stellarum

Writer/Director: Matt Wade

Producer: Matt Wade/ Sara Lynch

Animator/ Editor: Matt Wade

Sound Design: Jacob Kinch

Neon ghosts dreaming in dead landscapes.

12 min./U.S.A.

*WORLD PREMIERE

*IDAHO FILM

Prettyface

Writer/Director: Jessica Janos

Executive Producer: Caspar von Winterfeldt

Producer: Jessica Janos, Fred Roos, Shayna Weber

Cast: Karsen Liotta, Annalise Basso, Patrick Schwarzenegger, Ryan Dorsey, Whit Hertford

Chatsworth, CA. Summer of 1969. Two teen girls, Jenna and Marlena, encounter a family living on a movie ranch. Street-smart Jenna is not fooled by their talk of peace, love, and living free, but the naive and very square Marlena is gradually seduced. The situation gets dangerous. This isn't just any family. It's the Manson family.

15 min./U.S.A.

*WORLD PREMIERE

RPG

Writer/Director: Sadie Rogers

Producer: Shane Simmons

Director of Photography: Eon Mora

Cast: Sadie Rogers, Shane Simmons, Danny Rhodes, Maggie Suma, Robert Kruse

Six friends meet up for their usual D&D game. Someone dies, someone falls in love, the others keep playing...

12 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Sketch

Writer/Director: Stephen T. Barton

Producer: Petur Sigurdsson, Matt Tauber

Cinematographer: Marcin Kapron

Cast: Kwesi Boyake, Joe Forbrich, Anthony Chisholm, Zlatko Krickic

A 12 year-old boy on the Autistic spectrum uses his special talents to survive on his own in an impoverished and dangerous neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York.

22 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO PREMIERE

Smoke

Directors/Producers: Cody Gittings, Stephen Heleker

Executive Producer: Alan Healthcock

Cinematographer: Andy Rydzewski

Editor: Cody Gittings

Writers: Cody Gittings, Stephen Heleker

Based on the story "Smoke" by Alan Healthcock

Cast: Joel Nagle, Amadeus Serafini, Nick Garcia, Jodi Dominick

Idaho, 1947. A young man is awakened by his father and dragged into a day of startling confrontations. Confronting the sturdiness of his father's mind, troublesome matters of faith, and the tenuous nature of peace, *Smoke* is a thoughtful and provocative examination of a young man's indoctrination into the profound revelations of violence.

43 min./U.S.A.

*WORLD PREMIERE

*IDAHO FILM

Stingrays

Director/Producer: Heath Franklin

Writer/Producer: Fiona Domenica

Director of Photography: Brannigan Carter

Cast: Fiona Domenica, Jesse C. Boyd

Stingrays is the story of two friends who suffered at the hands of child abuse, and are trying to find happiness in a world that won't let them forget their past. Amber is beaten and neglected by her mother, while Charlie's abuse stays hidden behind closed doors. With no one to turn to, Amber becomes close to Charlie and Charlie becomes her protector. While growing up Charlie and Amber try to find happiness amongst drugs, sex and violence. Over time their feelings for each other change and their friendship develops into a complex tragedy. As their paths diverge, Charlie finds acceptance while Amber struggles to find self worth.

21 min./U.S.A.
*WORLD PREMIERE

The Barry & Ro Show

Director: Jordan Liebowitz
Writer: Michael Snyder, Mike Olson
Executive Producer: Todd Slawsby
Producers: Michael Snyder, Mike Olson
Cinematographer: Ryan Heraly
1st Assistant Director: Mylissa Fitzsimmons
Composer: Erik Desiderio
Cast: Jeff Richards, Whitney Rice

Married TV stars, Barry and Ro, try to shoot a promo for their 1970's variety show.

5 min./U.S.A.
*IDAHO PREMIERE

The Deal

Writer/Director: Daniel Sol Kaminsky
Producer: Michael Klein, Brett Young-Fountain
Executive Producer: Joss Whedon
Cinematographer: Adam Bricker
Music by: Deborah Lurie
Cast: Jake Weary, Alexandra Shipp, Daniel Amerman

The Deal is a psychological thriller about unexpected change. The fat girl's skinny. The stoner's a success. And the nerd who did magic tricks is now the life of the party. But for Bryce, the promising-quarterback, change isn't good, especially when what's left of his life vanishes before his eyes.

16 min./U.S.A.
*WORLD PREMIERE

Too Legit

Director/Writer: Frankie Shaw
Producer: Liz Destro, Frankie Shaw, Josh Bachove
Editor: Peggy Eghbalian
Cast: Zoë Kravitz, Teresa Palmer, Nick Corrdry, Clark Gregg

After becoming pregnant from sexual assault on campus, a young woman goes on a journey to find out if the rape was "legitimate." Inspired by the statements of Senate Candidate Todd Akin.

17 min./U.S.A.
*IDAHO PREMIERE

FUTURE FILMMAKER FORUM STUDENT FILMS

A Letter

In Spring 2015, middle school students from Wide Angle's Baltimore Speaks Out! program at the Herring Run branch of The Enoch Pratt Library System explored the importance of security for youth across the nation.

7 min./U.S.A.

A Teen's Dream

Ricardo Amparo, a senior in Baltimore City and Youth Producer for our Mentoring Video Project, shares his views for a healthier, happier city for young people in Baltimore. Made in partnership with DB Productions and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for a workshop at TED2015. 2 min./U.S.A.

Always With You

A boy, getting ready for his father's funeral, recalls some of his recalls with his now deceased father. 4 min./U.S.A.

Deja View

I'm stuck. I can see my past, my future, and my present happening all at once. It feels like déjà vu, but I know déjà vu. This....this is different. 6 min./U.S.A.
*IDAHO FILM

Embargo On Love

For forty years, Cuban families have been separated by water and politics, but the desire to connect remains strong. A teen filmmaker uses her camera to deliver a familial message of love to the once forbidden island. 7 min./U.S.A.

Summer Sulk

Information coming soon
2 min./U.S.A.
*IDAHO FILM

The Never Ending Day

A teen story involving one mistake that changes the way a family lives, leaving an impact on this young kid's life forever. 5 min./U.S.A.

The Story of Three Rings: A Memoir of Dana Schwartz

Powerful animation and personal testimonial bring to the screen Dana Schwartz' story of survival during the Holocaust. It was produced by students in the Righteous Conversations Digital Storytelling Workshop during Harvard-Westlake Summer Film 2015. The Righteous Conversations Project is a program of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust. 8 min./U.S.A.

The Tipping Scale: The Story of Lisa Jura

As the Nazis moved into Vienna, young Lisa Jura's life hung in the balance. Her life changed forever when her parents put her on a Kindertransport to England. This is a story of survival and the power of music evocatively told through animation. It was produced by students in the Righteous Conversations Digital Storytelling Workshop during Harvard-Westlake Summer Film 2015. The Righteous Conversations Project is a program of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust. 6 min./U.S.A.

The Virus

On a road trip to San Diego, a family panics after hearing a radio-play about a virus, thinking it is a newscast and that their lives are at risk.

8 min./U.S.A.

Two Runs

A short narrative documentary following Alvaro Jiraldo and his thoughts on his progression and involvement with competition freestyle skiing. The documentary portion of the film follows with a short skiing edit of Alvaro.

6 min./U.S.A.

*IDAHO FILMS

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SVFF Media Contacts:

Steven Wilson B|W|R Public Relations, Steven.wilson@bwr-pr.com 212-901-3920

Carol Waller, CW Communications, carol@cw-communications.com, 208-720-3965