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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2017 SUN VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES FINALISTS AND FILM ADDITIONS

SVFF Announces Film Lab, High Scribe and Wild to Inspire Finalists Feature Addition and Short Film Line Up Also Announced

Sun Valley, Idaho... The 2017 Sun Valley Film Festival (SVFF), presented by Zions Bank, announced its Lab and Competition finalists, Feature Documentary film addition, and Short Film Lineup.

Finalists Announced Across Five Categories

The Festival revealed the finalists for five exciting Labs today with over \$40,000 annually given to independent filmmakers.

Oscar nominated Producer Chris Moore is the judge of this year's High Scribe Screenplay Competition and the finalists are SB Edwards, Hank Isaac, Peter Cambor and Hannah Pittar.

The Film Lab, hosted by Sundance's Director of Programming Trevor Groth, provides an opportunity for two work-in-progress films to compete for \$10,000 in finishing funds from Tito's Handmade Vodka. This year, narrative feature *Unloveable*, directed by Suzi Yoonessi, written by Sarah Adina Smith, Charlene deGuzman, Mark Duplass and produced by Jen Roskind, goes head-to-head against Suzannah Herbert and Lauren Belfer's documentary, *Break the Hold*.

Nat Geo WILD's Wild to Inspire short film competition offers the winner a coveted prize: an apprenticeship in Africa with a world-renowned National Geographic wildlife cinematographer. The finalists, Jacob Scoville @jacob_scoville, Zach Voss @retroscope, and Anai Colyer @anai.colyer, submitted their work via Instagram.

Michael Tully hosts this year's Short Film Lab, judged by Focus Features' Jim Burke. The winner of this short screenplay competition receives a \$10,000 cash prize furnished by Tito's Handmade Vodka to bring their short film to life. This year's finalists are Talia Zucker, Aina Dumlao and Bru Muller, and Mylissa Fitzsimmons.

Matthew Wade and Sarah Lynch, Samantha Silva, Emma Arnold, Scott Grady and April Matson, and Jaffe Zinn are this year's 1 Potato finalists. The winner will receive \$5,000 to produce their short film in the state of Idaho.

Added Feature Documentary

TAKE EVERY WAVE: THE LIFE OF LAIRD HAMILTON

Director: Rory Kennedy

Producers: Rory Kennedy, Paul Speaker, Mark Bailey, Jack Youngelson

Featuring: Laird Hamilton

“It was the unrideable wave and we rode it.” Rory Kennedy’s *TAKE EVERY WAVE* captures the remarkable and unconventional life of legendary big wave surfer Laird Hamilton. Sweeping cinematography positions us in the lineup with a master playing the sea.

Short Film Line Up

ASPHYXIA

Writer/Director: Will Lowell

Producers: Katherine Lodge, Natalie Qasabian, Tim Smith

BUTTERCUP

Writer/Director: Megan Brotherton

Producers: Elizabeth Bates, Megan Brotherton

CUL-DE-SAC

Director: Damon Russell

Writer: Shawn Christensen

Producers: Brenden Hubbard, Matt Raffa

KAREN.

Writer/Director: Aqsa Altaf

Producer: Alvin Joo

KENDALL GOT A ROSE

Writer/Director: Luke Haskard

Cast: Chantal Nchako, Pedro Patricio

MISSED CONNECTIONS

Director: Zach Voss

Writer: Nicholas Paul Garcia

Producers: Zach Voss, Ron Torres

MUSCLE

Director: Heidi Miami Marshall

Writer: Tom Wilton

Producers: Johnny Sanchez, Fiona Graham, Tom Wilton

NEON IDAHO

Director: Will von Tagen

Writers: Drake Shannon, Chris Pinkalla

OFF GRID

Directors: Andrew Garcia, Nathan Garcia

Writers: Andrew Garcia, Nathan Garcia, Nicholas Paul Garcia

ONCE UPON A LINE

Writer/Director: Alicja Jasina

RITA

Director: Ron Torres

Producer: Jason Caldwell

RE/COLLECTION (1 POTATO GRANT WINNER)

Directors: Eva Konstantopoulos, Deborah Correa

Writer: Eva Konstantopoulos

Producers: Bryan Murphy, Michael Kelly Tetro

SEE YOURSELF OUT (1 POTATO GRANT WINNER)

Writer/Director: Kevin Nielsen

Cast: Nicholas Paul Garcia, Aaron M. Kiefer

STRAYS

Director: Lance Edmands

Writers: Lance Edmands, Sarah Tihany

Producers: Kyle Martin, Craig Butta

SURROGATE

Writer/Director: Olivia Hamilton

Producers: Olivia Hamilton, Damien Chazelle, Lovell Holder, Stephanie Turner

THAT PARTY THAT ONE NIGHT

Writer/Director: Mylissa Fitzsimmons

Executive Producers: Allen Murray, Bureau of Creative Works

THE DETAILS

Writer/Director: Peter Cambor

Executive Producers: J. Andrew Keegan, Clyde Broom

THE PRIVATES

Writer/Director: Dylan Allen

Producer: Eddy Vallante

THREE WOMEN

Director: Alex Beh

Writers: Alex Beh, Tomas Pais

Producers: Doug Miller, John Michaels

THRESHER

Writer/Director: Alex Clark

Producer: Chris Luckhardt

WADE

Writer/Director: Devereux Milburn

Producer: Devereux Milburn

Passes and Individual Tickets Available Now

Passes, individual film and panel tickets are all now available online at sunvalleyfilmfestival.org

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About the 2017 Sun Valley Film Festival

The Sixth Annual Sun Valley Film Festival, presented by Zions Bank, will run March 15-19, 2017, and will feature a curated slate of more than 60 cutting-edge films and TV premieres, engaging Talks with top industry insiders,, fabulous parties and panels, a Screenwriters Lab led by award-winning writers – host Charles Randolph and judge Chris Moore - and the spectacular SVFF/Stella Artois Awards Bash featuring The Lemon Twigs. The combination of cutting-edge programming and intimate insider access in a fun, relaxed atmosphere is bringing Sun Valley Film Festival to the forefront of boutique festivals. This coming spring, 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 Sun Valley Film Festival details and tickets, visit: www.sunvalleyfilmfestival.org.

Get Festival updates on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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Images available for download at <http://sunvalleyfilmfestival.org/media/>