# 2018 LA Film Festival Program Lineup Addendum September 6, 2018

## **CLOSING NIGHT FILM (1)**

Nomis – USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER David Raymond PRODUCERS David Raymond, Robert Barnum, Henry Cavill, Dany Garcia, Ben Blankenship CAST Henry Cavill, Sir Ben Kingsley, Alexandra Daddario, Stanley Tucci, Brendan Fletcher, Minka Kelly, Nathan Fillion) – When police trap online predator Simon Stulls, they soon realize that the extent of his crimes go far beyond that of his own psychological trauma. Nothing quite makes sense, that is until people involved in the case, on both sides of the law, start getting murdered...

## **GALA (1)**

Viper Club – USA (DIRECTOR Maryam Keshavarz WRITERS Maryam Keshavarz, Jonathan Mastro PRODUCERS Anna Gerb, Neal Dodson, J.C. Chandor CAST Susan Sarandon, Matt Bomer, Lola Kirke, Julian Morris, Sheila Vand, Adepero Oduye, Edie Falco) ER nurse Helen struggles to free her grown son, a journalist captured by terrorists in the Middle East. After hitting walls with the FBI and State agencies, she discovers a clandestine community of journalists, advocates, and philanthropists who might be able to help.

## RETROSPECTIVE (2)

- El Norte Mexico/USA (DIRECTOR Gregory Nava WRITERS Gregory Nava, Anna Thomas PRODUCER Anna Thomas CAST Zaide Silvia Gutierrez, David Villalpando, Lupe Ontiveros) – The Oscar-nominated classic film about the plight of the undocumented. Siblings, Rosa and Enrique flee persecution in Guatemala and journey to the promised land of "El Norte" only to encounter more injustice. 35th Anniversary Academy Restoration
- The Wedding Banquet Taiwan/USA (DIRECTOR Ang Lee WRITERS Ang Lee, Neil Peng, James Schamus PRODUCERS Ted Hope, Ang Lee, James Schamus CAST Winston Chao, May Chin, Ya-lei Kuei) A comedy about a Chinese Yuppie living in New York who decides that a marriage of convenience is the perfect way to prevent his parents back in Taiwan from discovering he is gay. But his plan backfires hilariously when his parents insist on coming to New York for the wedding. 25th Anniversary 35mm Presentation

## SERIES (2)

- Random Acts of Flyness USA (DIRECTORS Terence Nance, Frances Bodomo, Shaka King, Darius Clark Monroe, Naima Ramos-Chapman, Jamund Washington WRITERS Terence Nance, Jamund Washington, Frances Bodomo, Naima Ramos-Chapman, Nelson Nance, Shaka King EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS Tamir Muhammad, Terence Nance, Ravi Nandan, Kishori Rajan, Kelley Robins, Jamund Washington, John Hodges, Chanelle Aponte Pearson CAST Terence Nance, Anthony Chisholm, Dominique Fishback, Kelley Robins, Djoré Nance, Tonya Pinkins, Austin Smith) The show explores evergreen cultural idioms such as patriarchy, white supremacy and sensuality from a new, thought-provoking perspective.
- Post-Apocalypto USA (DIRECTOR: Tenacious D WRITERS/CAST Jack Black, Kyle Gass) Post-Apocalypto finds Tenacious D thrust into a world of complete and utter destruction following the drop of an atomic bomb. Surviving the attack in classic cinematic fashion (a good old imperishable 1950's refrigerator), the duo quickly learns that new forms of evil have spawned from the blast. One thing becomes apparent -- for humanity to prevail, Tenacious D must save the world.

## PODCAST (1)

 Welcome to the Clambake – USA (CREATORS/HOSTS Lindsay Stidham, Angela Gulner) – From Campfire Media, two hilarious women explore what it means to be a feminist in the current cultural climate.

## PANEL (1)

• The Future of Producing - Rebecca Green, producer of the indie horror sensation It Follows and Editor-in-Chief of DearProducer.com, brings together some of the industry's most talented producers in independent film to look ahead at what it will mean to be a producer in 2019, 2020 and beyond. Through candidly sharing their personal stories and transparent financing and distribution data, panelists will discuss how they are constantly evolving and adapting in a changing landscape in order to sustain a producing career. Panelists include Steven J. Berger (Lorena), Mel Jones (Dear White People), Lacey Leavitt (Sadie) and Avril Z. Speaks (Jinn).

## ---Already announced----

## The Portal (14)

- 1000 Cut Journey USA (DIRECTORS Courtney Cogburn, Elise Ogle) In this immersive virtual reality experience, in order to foster a greater understanding of the social realities of racism, you become Michael Sterling, a Black male, and encounter racism as a young child, an adolescent, and a young adult. LA Premiere
- Age of Sail USA (DIRECTORS John Kahrs) Set on the open ocean in 1900, this animated film tells the story of William Avery (voiced by lan McShane), an old sailor adrift and alone in the North Atlantic who finds redemption and hope in his darkest hours. North American Premiere
- Arden's Wake: Expanded USA (DIRECTOR Eugene Chung) The animated story of young woman who lives in a post-apocalyptic world with her father in a lighthouse perched atop an endless sea. Academy Awardwinner Alicia Vikander stars as the voice of Meena. US Premiere
- Awavena USA/Brazil/Australia (DIRECTOR Lynette Wallworth) This
  mixed-reality work is a tale of metamorphosis, and a collaboration
  between the Amazonian Yawanawa community and an artist that tells the
  story of a people ascending from the edge of extinction and the
  ascendance of their first female shaman. LA Premiere
- BattleScar USA/France (DIRECTORS Martín Allais and Nico Casavecchia) An animated coming of age story that follows a year in the life of Lupe, played by Rosario Dawson, living in late 1970's New York City as she discovers the Punk scene of the Bowery and the secret underworld of the Lower East Side. LA Premiere
- Biidaaban: First Light Canada (DIRECTOR Lisa Jackson) Set in a highly realistic future Toronto reclaimed by nature, where people commute by canoe, users engage with the written text of the Wendat, Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) and Anishinaabe (Ojibway) and gain insight into the complex thought systems of this land's first peoples. LA Premiere
- Crow: The Legend USA (DIRECTOR Eric Darnell) This animated story
  of a bird with a beautiful voice is inspired by Native American legend is
  executive produced by John Legend, and features the voices of Sarah
  Eagle Heart, Diego Luna Tye Sheridan, Oprah Winfrey and Constance
  Wu. North American Premiere

- Dinner Party USA (DIRECTOR Angel Manuel Soto) Dinner Party is a short virtual reality thriller that dramatizes the incredible story of Betty and Barney Hill, who in the 1960s reported the first nationally known UFO abduction case in the United States. LA Premiere
- Geomancer UK (DIRECTOR Lawrence Lek) A computer-generated animation about the creative awakening of artificial intelligence set in Singapore 2065, that tells the story of an environmental satellite that wishes to become an artist. North American Premiere
- Queerskins USA (DIRECTORS Illya Szilak and Cyril Tsiboulski) A diary and a box of belongings offers a devoutly Catholic mother living in rural Missouri, USA in 1990 a second chance to know Sebastian, the estranged son she has lost to AIDS as they take a magic realist journey down a country road. LA Premiere
- Space Explorers: A New Dawn (Ep.1) and Taking Flight (Ep. 2) –
  Canada/USA (DIRECTORS Félix Lajeunesse and Paul Raphaël) A
  cinematic VR series narrated by Brie Larson about the new age of space
  exploration. Witness the lives of NASA astronauts as they navigate the
  trials and sacrifices of their training and missions.
- Terminal 3 USA (DIRECTOR Asad J. Malik) An interactive, augmentedreality documentary that explores contemporary Muslim identities in the U.S. through the lens of an airport interrogation using Microsoft's Hololens technology to interrogate the holograms of passengers. LA Premiere
- Vestige USA/UK/France (DIRECTOR Aaron Bradbury) Journey into the mind of Lisa as she remembers her lost love, Erik, through a series of fragmented memories that become entangled with a haunting vision triggering new memories and pathways as we navigate through the story. LA Premiere
- Zikr: A Sufi Revival USA (DIRECTOR Gabo Arora) Zikr: A Sufi Revival takes four participants on an interactive, virtual reality journey into a world of ritual, music and dance by opening up an experience to the Sufi practice of inclusion, acceptance, art, joy and understanding. LA Premiere

### 360 Documentary Cinema

• Free Solo – USA (DIRECTORS Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi and Jimmy Chin) Experience Alex Honnold's free solo climb up Yosemite's 3,000-foot high El Capitan wall with no ropes or safety gear in 360 VR. The full-length

documentary film version of *Free Solo* is playing in LA Film Festival's Gala section. *World Premiere* 

- Into the Now USA (DIRECTOR Michael Muller) An exploration of marine life and ocean conservation that follows director Michael Muller as he tackles his lifelong fear of sharks by learning to dive without protection and cage-free with great white sharks. LA Premiere
- Sun Ladies USA (DIRECTORS Christian Stephen and Celine Tricart)
   The story of a group of Yazidi women in Sinjar, Iraq who started a female-only fighting unit called the Sun Ladies to protect the honor and dignity of their people. This documentary features animation created by artist Wesley Allsbrook (Dear Angelica) and was produced and narrated by Maria Bello. LA Premiere
- This is Climate Change: Fire USA (DIRECTORS Danfung Dennis and Eric Strauss) In just the last three decades, changes in climate have doubled the amount of land burned by wildfires in the western United States. Follow the dedicated fighters - by air and on the ground - whose jobs have turned into year-round battles against these catastrophic blazes.

## Galas (4)

- All About Nina USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Eva Vives PRODUCERS Eric B. Fleischman, Sean Tabibian, Natalie Qasabian, Eva Vives CAST Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Common, Chace Crawford, Clea DuVall, Kate del Castillo, Beau Bridges) A young stand-up comedian flees to Los Angeles to escape her disastrous ex and prepare for a prospectively lifechanging audition.
- Free Solo USA (DIRECTORS Jimmy Chin, Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi PRODUCERS Jimmy Chin, Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi, Evan Hayes, Shannon Dill CAST Alex Honnold) A man sets out to become the first person ever to free solo climb Yosemite's 3,000 foot high El Capitan wall with no ropes or safety gear.
- The Happy Prince Germany/Belgium/Italy (DIRECTOR/WRITER Rupert Everett PRODUCERS Sébastien Delloye, Philipp Kreuzer, Jörg Schulze CAST Rupert Everett, Colin Firth, Emily Watson, Tom Wilkinson, Colin Morgan, Edwin Thomas) A poignant look at Oscar Wilde's final years in exile, following the humorist's heartbreak and imprisonment with a relentless guest for love.
- The Oath USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Ike Barinholtz PRODUCERS Ike Barinholtz, Raymond Mansfield, Sean McKittrick, Andrew C. Robinson,

David Stassen CAST Ike Barinholtz, Tiffany Haddish, John Cho, Carrie Brownstein, Billy Magnussen, Chris Ellis, Nora Dunn) In a politically divided America, a man struggles to make it through the Thanksgiving holiday without destroying his family.

## Special Screening (1)

 Maria by Callas – France (DIRECTOR/WRITER Tom Volf PRODUCERS Emmanuelle Lepers, Gael Leblang, Emmanuel Chain, Thierry Bizot, Tom Volf FEATURING Maria Callas with the voice of Joyce DiDonato) For the first time, 40 years after her death, the most famous opera singer ever tells her own story – in her own words.

## Buzz (13)

- Bethany Hamilton: Unstoppable USA (DIRECTOR Aaron Lieber WRITERS Aaron Lieber, Carol Martori PRODUCERS Aaron Lieber, Penny Edmiston, Jane Kelly Kosek) Following pro-surfer Bethany Hamilton over a four-year journey, from overcoming the loss of her arm to a tiger shark, to motherhood and surfing the most dangerous wave in the world, known as Jaws.
- Galveston USA (DIRECTOR Mélanie Laurent WRITERS Mélanie Laurent, Nic Pizzolatto (novel) PRODUCER Tyler Davidson CAST Ben Foster, Elle Fanning, Beau Bridges, Lili Reinhart) After escaping a set-up, a dying hitman returns to his hometown of Galveston where he plans his revenge.
- The Great Buster USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Peter Bogdanovich PRODUCERS Charles S. Cohen, Louise Stratten, Peter Bogdanovich, Roee Sharon Peled CAST Narrated by Peter Bogdanovich, Bob Borgen, Mel Brooks, James Curtis, Paul Dooley, Dick Van Dyke, Bill Hader, Werner Herzog, Bill Irwin, James Karen, Johnny Knoxville, Nick Kroll, Richard Lewis, Norman Lloyd, Leonard Maltin, Ben Mankiewicz, Carl Reiner, Cybill Shepherd, French Stewart, Quentin Tarantino, Patricia Eliot Tobias, Jon Watts) "The Great Stone Face" receives a loving documentary tribute to his body of work in the Silent Era. Brilliant as both an actor and a director, Buster Keaton's contributions to film are unmatched.
- Jonathan USA (DIRECTOR Bill Oliver WRITERS Gregory Davis, Peter Nickowitz, Bill Oliver PRODUCERS Randy Manis, Ricky Tollmann CAST Ansel Elgort, Patricia Clarkson, Suki Waterhouse, Matt Bomer, Douglas Hodge) Every day, a man leaves work at noon, goes home to sleep, and

wakes up to breakfast and a video telling him about the second part of his day.

- Little Woods USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Nia DaCosta PRODUCERS Rachael Fung, Gabrielle Nadig, Tim Headington CAST Tessa Thompson, Lily James, Luke Kirby, James Badge Dale, Lance Reddick) A young woman scraping to get by in a North Dakota oil boomtown risks it all in response to a desperate plea for help from her sister.
- Mr. Soul! USA (DIRECTORS Melissa Haizlip, Samuel Pollard PRODUCERS Melissa Haizlip CAST Blair Underwood, Sidney Poitier, Harry Belafonte, James Baldwin, Stevie Wonder, Patti LaBelle, Maya Angelou, Gladys Knight, Bill Withers) An exploration of the groundbreaking PBS television series SOUL!, the first nationally televised all-black variety show to be produced and hosted by an openly gay African-American.
- Museo Mexico (DIRECTOR Alonso Ruizpalacios WRITERS Manuel Alcalá, Alonso Ruizpalacios PRODUCERS Manuel Alcalá, Gerardo Gatica, Alberto Muffelmann, Ramiro Ruiz CAST Gael García Bernal, Leonardo Ortizgris, Simon Russell Beale, Lynn Gilmartin, Ilse Salas) Two veterinary-school dropouts commit Mexico's most improbable heist only to discover that the invaluable treasure is an inescapable curse that is impossible to fence.
- The New Romantic USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Carly Stone PRODUCERS Kyle Mann, Michael Risley, Jason Jallet, Jonathan Bronfman CAST Jessica Barden, Hayley Law, Brett Dier, Timm Sharp, Avan Jogia, Camila Mendes) A sex columnist at a sleepy university attempts to win a journalism prize by seeking out a "sugar baby" relationship for herself.
- Sadie USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Megan Griffiths PRODUCERS Lacey Leavitt, Jennessa West CAST Melanie Lynskey, John Gallagher Jr., Sophia Mitri Schloss, Danielle Brooks, Tee Denard, Tony Hale, Keith L. Williams) While her father is away serving in the military, a teenage girl battles to preserve his place on the home front when her mother takes interest in a new man.
- Song of Back and Neck USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Paul Lieberstein PRODUCERS Paul Lieberstein, Kim Leadford, Jennifer Prediger CAST Paul Lieberstein, Rosemarie DeWitt, Robert Pine, Brian d'Arcy James, Clark Duke, Sam Anderson) A man resigned to a life of suffering seeks relief in an accidental romance and finding the root of his possibly psychologically caused back pain.

- Unlovable USA (DIRECTOR Suzi Yoonessi WRITERS Charlene deGuzman, Sarah Adina Smith, Mark Duplass PRODUCER Jen Roskind CAST Charlene deGuzman, John Hawks, Melissa Leo, Paul James, Ellen Geer) A 20-something lost soul seeks help for sex and love addiction, ending up with a secret friendship and a bandmate.
- Viper Club USA (DIRECTOR Maryam Keshavarz WRITERS Maryam Keshavarz, Jonathan Mastro PRODUCERS J. C. Chandor, Neal Dodson, Anna Gerb CAST Susan Sarandon, Edie Falco, Matt Bomer, Lola Kirke, Julian Morris, Amir Malaklou, Adepero Oduye) When a war correspondent is taken hostage on while on assignment, his mother grows impatient with the government's lack of concern and takes matters into her own hands.
- You Can Choose Your Family USA (DIRECTOR Miranda Bailey WRITER Glenn Lakin PRODUCERS Miranda Bailey, Amanda Marshall, Karen Kehela Sherwood CAST Jim Gaffigan, Logan Miller, Alex Karpovsky, Anna Gunn, Samantha Mathis) A 17-year-old boy blackmails his father after discovering his secret second family.

#### Series (2)

- America To Me USA (DIRECTOR Steve James, PRODUCERS John Condne, Rise Sanders-Weir EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS Steve James, Justine Nagan, Gordon Quinn, Betsy Steinberg) Poignant and funny, epic and intimate, America to Me spends an academic year at Chicagoland's elite Oak Park and River Forest High School (OPRF), allowing its students, families, faculty and administration to tell stories of the pressures and challenges teens face today in their own words.
- The Body USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Paul Davis WRITER Paul Fisher PRODUCERS Tevin Adelman, Jason Blum, Eben Davidson, Alexa Faigen, Alexander Koehne, Jeanine Rohn, Sahar Vahedi) A cocky hitman who decides to take advantage of Halloween by transporting his latest victim in plain sight, correctly assuming that self-absorbed LA partiers will simply be enamored with his elaborate costume.

#### Podcasts (4)

 Don't @ Me with Justin Simien - USA (CREATOR/HOST Justin Simien PRODUCER Gina Delvac) Beyond the knee-jerk reactions and Twitter hot takes, Justin Simien and his guests get real about a variety of topics. Don't like what you hear? Don't @ Me.

- The Dream USA (CREATORS/HOSTS/PRODUCERS Jane Marie, Dann Gallucci, MacKenzie Kassab, Lyra Smith) The Dream goes in-depth into the world of pyramid schemes and the consequences of those involved.
- Hollywood & Crime USA (CREATOR/HOST Tracy Pattin HOST Larry Brand) A look inside the most infamous murders in Hollywood history.
- Welcome to L.A. USA (CREATOR/HOST David Weinberg) David Weinberg explores a few of the many L.A.s that exist between the Pacific and the Mojave, introducing us to a lot of fascinating characters along the way.

## Opening Night Film

• Echo in the Canyon – USA (DIRECTOR Andrew Slater PRODUCER Eric Barrett, Andrew Slater CAST Jakob Dylan, Beck, Fiona Apple, Cat Power, David Crosby, Michelle Phillips, Brian Wilson, Roger McGuinn) – Echo In The Canyon is a look at how The Byrds, The Beach Boys, Buffalo Springfield, The Mama's and the Papa's birthed the beginnings of the Laurel Canyon music scene and how the echo of these artists' creations reverberated between each other and ultimately across the world with a timelessness that continues today. With appearances by Tom Petty, Brian Wilson, Stephen Stills, David Crosby, Graham Nash, Michelle Phillips, Jackson Browne, Ringo Starr, Eric Clapton, Roger McGuinn, John Sebastian, Lou Adler, Jakob Dylan, Norah Jones, Beck, Regina Spektor, Cat Power, and others. The film was executive produced by Jakob Dylan. World Premiere

## Premieres (10)

- American Dreamer USA (DIRECTOR Derrick Borte WRITERS Derrick Borte, Daniel Forte PRODUCER Scott Floyd Lochmus CAST Jim Gaffigan, Robbie Jones, Isabel Arraiza, Tammy Blanchard) – A down-on-his-luck rideshare driver, who makes extra cash chauffeuring a low-level drug dealer, finds himself in a serious bind and decides to kidnap the dealer's child. World Premiere
- Ashes in the Snow USA (DIRECTOR Marius Markevicius WRITER Ben York Jones, Ruta Sepetys (novel) PRODUCERS Marius Markevicius, Zilvinas Naujokas, Chris Coen, Prithvi Chavan CAST Bel Powley, Martin Wallstrom, Lisa Loven-Kongsli, Jonah Hauer-King, Peter Franzen, Sophie Cookson) – In 1941, a teenage aspiring artist and her family are deported to Siberia amidst Stalin's brutal dismantling of the Baltic region. World Premiere

- Brian Banks USA (DIRECTOR Tom Shadyac WRITER Doug Atchison PRODUCERS Amy Baer, Monica Levinson, Shivani Rawat CAST Aldis Hodge, Greg Kinnear, Sherri Shepherd, Tiffany Dupont, Xosha Roquemore) – Based on a true story, a young football player's dreams to play in the NFL are halted when he is falsely accused of rape and sent to prison. World Premiere
- The Chaperone USA (DIRECTOR Michael Engler WRITER Julian Fellowes, Laura Moriarty (novel) PRODUCERS Kelly Carmichael, Greg Clark, Rose Ganguzza, Victoria Hill, Elizabeth McGovern, Luca Scalisi CAST Haley Lu Richardson, Elizabeth McGovern, Miranda Otto, Blythe Danner, Campbell Scott, <u>Géza Röhrig</u>) – In the early 1920s, a Kansas woman finds her life forever changed when she accompanies a young Louise Brooks to New York City for the summer. World Premiere
- The Clovehitch Killer USA (DIRECTOR Duncan Skiles WRITER Christopher Ford PRODUCERS Andrew Kortschak, Walter Kortschak, Cody Ryder CAST Charlie Plummer, Dylan McDermott, Samantha Mathis, Madisen Beaty) – A teenage boy starts to suspect that his wholesome, all-American dad is actually the serial killer terrorizing their small town. World Premiere
- Kate Nash: Underestimate the Girl USA (DIRECTOR Amy Goldstein PRODUCERS Anounchka van Riel, Amy Goldstein CAST Kate Nash, Alicia Warrington, Emma Hughes, Linda Buratto, Kate Craig, Marie Nash) Unfiltered access to musician/actress Kate Nash as she navigates the finer points of going on tour, setting up house, songwriting, coping with betrayal, being a woman in the industry and owning her voice. World Premiere
- Good Girls Get High USA (DIRECTOR Laura Terruso WRITER
  Jennifer Nashorn Blankenship PRODUCERS Elysa Koplovitz Dutton,
  Leslie Morgenstein CAST Stefanie Scott, Abby Quinn, Isabelle Fuhrman,
  Lauren Lapkus, Matt Besser) Two overachieving good girls become
  frustrated with their social standing in the high school hierarchy and get
  stoned on their last night of senior year. World Premiere
- Ride USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Jeremy Ungar PRODUCERS Sefton Fincham, Tyler Jackson, Keith Kjarval CAST Bella Thorne, Jessie T. Usher, Will Brill, Todd Bridges) A charming rideshare driver and his flirtatious passenger pick up a charismatic but manipulative new fare, turning a normal night out into a psychological war for survival. World Premiere

- Tea With the Dames United Kingdom (DIRECTOR Roger Michell PRODUCER Karen Steyn CAST Eileen Atkins, Judi Dench, Joan Plowright, Maggie Smith) – Friends for more than half a century with the inside jokes to prove it, four acting greats discuss their careers and recollect their humble beginnings in the theater. US Premiere
- We Have Always Lived in the Castle USA (DIRECTOR Stacie Passon WRITER Mark Kruger, Shirley Jackson (novel) PRODUCERS Jared Ian Goldman, Robert Mitas, Kieran Corrigan CAST Taissa Farmiga, Alexandra Daddario, Sebastian Stan, Crispin Glover) Three members of the Blackwood family live in isolation after experiencing a tragedy six years earlier. Cousin Charles arrives to steal the family fortune and threatens a dark secret they've been hiding. US Premiere

## Music Videos (21)

- Apartment USA (DIRECTOR Ellis Bahl) A sultry performance inside an infinity tunnel composed of black and white televisions.
- Art in Motion USA (DIRECTOR Hayk Matevosyan) Six paintings are recreated in this visually stunning work. World Premiere
- Bones USA (DIRECTOR Hunter Brumfield) In a health spa for the older crowd, two women leave their 'sitzercise' group to be with one another.
- Camisa Al Reves USA (DIRECTOR Andrew Vasquez) A VHS tape, an early 90's quinceañera, a wrestling match, and a Mexican Banda music video equal a lot of nostalgia.
- Clutch USA (DIRECTOR Christopher Ripley) A professional athlete's rise and fall from grace.
- **Dis Generation** USA (DIRECTOR Hiro Murai) Black and white visuals set the scene for this A Tribe Called Quest tune.
- Dreams USA (DIRECTOR Elliott Sellers & Erik Ferguson) Naked bodies gyrate and collide in a rave-like setting.
- **Found** USA (DIRECTOR rubber.band) On the verge of death, a man goes back to see the woman he loves.

- Half a Million USA (DIRECTOR Lamar + Nik) Created with 5,566 stickers and hand cut from the 4,868 frames, The Shins turn up in the most unexpected places are all over the city.
- *Hard World* USA (DIRECTOR Mike Hollingsworth) Happy Foot/Sad Foot, the iconic Silverlake duo, get the movie treatment as we follow them through a day in their lives.
- Heart Attack USA (DIRECTOR Mimi Cave) With paper bags over their heads, a group of people move almost uncontrollably through various locations.
- Indie USA (DIRECTOR Angel Kristi Williams) Baltimore sets the scene for this ode to black women and black men.
- I Want You USA (DIRECTOR NORTON) As a coroner works the night shift at a morgue, the beat of the music makes dead bodies erupt in dance.
- Land of the Fairies Israel (DIRECTOR Amiel Kestenbaum) In a magical handcrafted world, we follow a young boy's enchanted journey after a fairy who leads him from one extraordinary world to the next.
- Lost Angeles USA (DIRECTOR Evanston Moore) A man is transported all over Los Angeles while singing about trying to find his place in the big city.
- **Loving is Easy** United Kingdom (DIRECTOR Chris Ullens) Miniature Rex and Benny chill and perform together in stop-motion in their dreamy living room that comes to life to the sound of their lovely tune.
- My Way USA (DIRECTOR WATTS) A battle between the pink posse and the gang of blue happens at a dinner party.
- Pleader United Kingdom (DIRECTOR Isaiah Seret) Doom is on the horizon in this Welsh mining village but the birth of a child could save their valley from destruction.
- Side by Side Czech Republic (DIRECTOR Bohdan Zajcenko) A man drives into the forest and pulls his bride out of the trunk. What happens next is anyone's guess.

- Terraform Spain (DIRECTOR Sil van der Woerd & Jorik Dozy) The true story of the hardships and sacrifices that sulphur miners make in order to provide for their families in Kawah Ijen, Indonesia.
- *True Love Waits* Israel (DIRECTOR Adi Halfin) A poignant tale of loss and loneliness through dance.

## Future Filmmakers (15)

- The Backstage South Korea (DIRECTORS Nyeonho Song and Yejin Uhm) With only five minutes left until the play starts, the director is struggling to fix all the problems.
- Dieu Merci: The Story of Michele Rodri USA (DIRECTORS Fiona Fortunato, Grace Ma, Idalis McZeal, Xenia Bernal, Ziggy Hicks) Jeweltoned and hand-painted animation illustrate the personal testimony of a child survivor of the Holocaust.
- *Flare Out* USA (DIRECTOR Monica Menor) A young girl with a strange addiction to fire quickly develops a crush on a boy.
- Goodbye Sam USA (DIRECTOR Theo Taplitz) A boy and his posse say goodbye to a beloved friend.
- *In or Out* USA (DIRECTOR Lex Torrington) A young man wrestles with the risks of an extreme activity.
- Just Stories Singapore (DIRECTOR Ishan Modi) A senior couple experiences the isolation and uncertainty of old age.
- Marmalade Melancholy USA (DIRECTOR Joji Baratelli) A man stuck in the monotony of life is surprised when the absurd becomes reality.
- Plan A Plan B Mexico/USA (DIRECTOR Kimberly Moreno Chavez) A
  documentary highlighting the stories of Haitian immigrants who were
  unable to cross to the United States, but who instead found successful
  lives in Tijuana, Mexico.

- *Play The Game* USA (DIRECTORS Austin Ramey, Roberto Pino, Declan Kramer, and Diego Dominguez) A talented young man has to beat his tough competition in the final round of a bowling tournament.
- Queery USA (DIRECTOR Milo Ferguson) With their faces hidden behind animations, young members of the LGBTQ+ community are interviewed about their identity, struggles and advice.
- **Smile, You're on Camera** USA (DIRECTOR Tomas Carrasco) A young man can't seem to escape the spotlight as he is followed by cunning camera men.
- **Sona** USA (DIRECTOR Adrian Pacini) An elf child, ill from headaches and surviving with her mother in a dangerous land, discovers that special powers may provide freedom.
- **Stupidly Happy** USA (DIRECTOR Jonathan Rome) A heartbroken man seeks happiness through a balloon.
- Weight of the Whale on Her Shoulders USA (DIRECTOR Lola Kenet)
   A young artist feels suffocated by the success of those around her and struggles to find worth in herself and her art.
- You Look Nothing Like Your Mother Canada (DIRECTOR Ava Young)
   A personal documentary exploring the meaning of family through the director's relationship with her adoptive mother.

#### Indie Pilots (3)

- 2 Kawaii 4 Comfort USA (DIRECTORS/PRODUCERS Luke Palmer,
  John Bickerstaff WRITER Luke Palmer) A near-fatal car crash on a trip to an
  anime convention causes four hyper-dysfunctional fans to confront everything
  they were hiding from at the one place they go to escape reality, Kotakon 2015.
  West Coast Premiere
- 40 and Single Ghana (DIRECTOR/WRITER Leila Djansi PRODUCER Lauren Addy, Amanda Marshall, Leon Robinson) A single, bisexual, mixed

race bridal fashion designer maneuvers life and business in post-colonial Africa. *World Premiere* 

 Mulligan – USA (DIRECTOR Steve Parys PRODUCERS Caroline Collins, Laury Christensen) Upon release from prison, a former US Amateur Champion, returns home to work at his brother's driving range and miniature golf course. World Premiere

## US Fiction (7)

- Banana Split USA (DIRECTOR Benjamin Francis Kasulke WRITERS Hannah Marks, Joey Power PRODUCERS Jeremy Garelick, Mickey Liddell, Pete Shilaimon, Will Phelps, Glen Trotiner, Sam Slater CAST Hannah Marks, Dylan Sprouse, Liana Liberato, Luke Spencer Roberts, Haley Ramm, Meagan Kimberly Smith, Addison Riecke) Over the course of a summer, two teenage girls develop the perfect kindred spirit friendship, with one big problem: one of them is dating the other's ex. World Premiere
- In Reality USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Ann Lupo CO-DIRECTOR/CO-WRITER Esteban Pedraza & Aaron Pryka PRODUCERS Ann Lupo, Nadine Martinez, Holly Meehl CAST Ann Lupo, Miles G. Jackson, Kimiko Glenn, Jill Eikenberry, Olivia Washington, Esteban Pedraza, Lauren E. Banks) A young woman takes a journey through her own fantastic mind as she investigates her relationship to unrequited love. California Premiere
- Olympia USA (DIRECTOR Gregory Dixon WRITER McKenzie Chinn PRODUCERS Gregory Dixon, McKenzie Chinn, Elliott Lonsdale, Lucy Lola Manda, Sarah Sharp CAST McKenzie Chinn, Charles Andrew Gardner, Ericka Ratcliff, LaNisa Renee Frederick, Penelope Walker, Sadieh Rifai) – A struggling Chicago artist finds herself at a crossroads in life, overwhelmed by changes and needing to make a critical decision in her relationship. World Premiere
- Simple Wedding USA (DIRECTOR Sara Zandieh WRITERS Sara Zandieh, Stephanie Wu PRODUCERS Ray Moheet, Norman Aladjem, Sara Zandieh CAST Tara Grammy, Christopher O'Shea, Shohreh Aghdashloo, Rita Wilson, Maz Jobrani, Houshang Touzie, Jaleh Modjallal, Peter Mackenzie, James Eckhouse, Rebecca Henderson, Aleque Reid) – A romantic comedy about a young Iranian-American woman and the

lengths she goes to in order to appease her parents and their need to see her settled down. *World Premiere* 

- Softness of Bodies USA/Germany (DIRECTOR/WRITER Jordan Blady PRODUCERS Jordan Blady, Catherine Morawitz CAST Dasha Nekrasova, Morgan Krantz) – An American poet living in Berlin hopes to win a prestigious grant while dealing with her former relationships, a rival poet and her own penchant for stealing things. World Premiere
- This Teacher USA (DIRECTOR Mark Jackson WRITERS Mark Jackson, Dana Thompson PRODUCERS Mark Jackson, Dana Thompson, Gigi Graff, Josh Mandel, Javier Gonzalez CAST Hafsia Herzi, Sarah Kazemy, Lucy Walters, Kevin Kane, Lev Gorn) – A young Arab-French woman on an introspective journey visits her childhood friend in New York City before heading to the woods upstate. World Premiere
- The Wrong Todd USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Rob Schulbaum PRODUCERS Ric Murray, Anthony Ambrosino CAST Jesse Rosen, Anna Rizzo, Sean Carmichael, Derek K. Moore, Erin Rose) – A sci-fi comedy about a man who gets caught up in extraordinary events, and the bizarre lengths he goes through to get back to his reality. World Premiere

## **Documentary Competition (10)**

- **Behind the Curve** USA (DIRECTOR Daniel J. Clark PRODUCERS Caroline Clark, Nick Andert, Daniel J. Clark) The internet breathed new life into an old conspiracy theory: that the earth is flat instead of spherical. America's flat-Earth movement appears to be growing, in spite of its detractors in the scientific community. *US Premiere*
- Facing the Dragon USA/Afghanistan (DIRECTOR Sedika Mojadidi PRODUCER Jenny Raskin) – After international withdrawal from Afghanistan, two remarkable Afghan women working within the government and media struggle to maintain their hard-won rights while balancing what's best for their families. West Coast Premiere
- False Confessions Denmark (DIRECTOR Katrine Philp PRODUCER Katrine A. Sahlstrøm) – "Would you confess to a crime you did not commit?" A defense attorney fights against the complex and manipulative tactics of US police interrogations, focusing on victims of coerced confessions as she helps exonerate her incarcerated clients. North American Premiere

- hillbilly USA (DIRECTORS/PRODUCERS Sally Rubin, Ashley York) –
  Two filmmakers visit rural Kentucky, one returning home to Appalachia, to
  unpack the stereotype of "hillbilly" and explore the personal and painful
  experiences fueling our polarizing political climate. LA Premiere
- Mamacita Germany/Mexico (DIRECTOR José Pablo Estrada
   Torrescano PRODUCERS José Pablo Estrada Torrescano, Arne

   Birkenstock) A filmmaker fulfills his promise to make a film about his 95 year-old grandmother, showcasing her big personality and along the way
   uncovering the source of deep familial wounds. US Premiere
- Moroni for President USA (DIRECTORS Saila Huusko, Jasper Rischen PRODUCERS Saila Huusko, Jasper Rischen, Sara Goldblatt) – Determined to shake up the status quo and bring positive change to his people, a young, gay college professor begins a grass-roots campaign to become the next President of the Navajo Nation. LA Premiere
- Same God USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCER Linda Midgett) It started out simply: a demonstration of solidarity. What followed? Lifechanging events violating university and ethical codes and a public attack on a tenured professor's ideals, faith, racial and religious identity. World Premiere
- The Silence of Others USA/Spain (DIRECTORS/PRODUCERS
   Almudena Carracedo, Robert Bahar) In a country with streets that still
   bear his name, a group of resolute Spanish citizens seeks justice for
   crimes committed during the brutal dictatorship of Francisco Franco by
   organizing a groundbreaking international lawsuit. West Coast Premiere
- Stammering Ballad China (DIRECTOR/WRITER Nan Zhang PRODUCERS Ruby Chen, Yong Zhang, Sinae Ha) – The visual and musical journey of a Chinese folk musician torn between his desire for fame and his love for singing rural folk songs that are on the verge of being lost. North American Premiere
- Wrestling Ghosts USA (DIRECTOR Ana Joanes PRODUCERS Ana Joanes, Toni Nagy) — Unable to understand why parenting seems like a constant uphill battle, an emotionally exhausted mother who can't connect with her two young sons courageously confronts the events of her own traumatic childhood. World Premiere

World Fiction (7)

- Border Sweden (DIRECTOR Ali Abbasi WRITERS Ali Abbasi, Isabella Eklöf, John Ajvide Lindqvist PRODUCERS Nina Bisgaard, Peter Gustafsson, Petra Jönsson CAST Eva Melander, Eero Milonoff, Jörgen Thorsson) – Despite having the remarkable gift of being able to smell emotions, a border agent leads a mundane existence until she meets a stranger who shares her unique abilities and upends her life. California Premiere
- The Cotton Wool War Brazil (DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCERS Cláudio Marques, Marilia Hughes CAST Dora Goritzki, Thaia Perez, Thaila Lima) – Dora is a German-raised teenager visiting her enigmatic Brazilian grandmother for the first time. While trying to return to Germany at all costs, she discovers the incredible history behind the women of her family. US Premiere
- The Day I Lost My Shadow France/Lebanon/Qatar/Syrian Arab Republic (DIRECTOR/WRITER Soudade Kaadan PRODUCER Amira Kaadan CAST Sawsan Arshid, Reham Al Kasar, Samer Ismail, Ahmad Ali)
   In the midst of a gas crisis during the early days of the Syrian Arab Spring, a young mother takes the day off work and strays far from home with only one objective in mind: finding a working cylinder so that she may cook a meal for her son. US Premiere
- Heaven Without People Lebanon (DIRECTOR/WRITER Lucien Bourjeily PRODUCERS Lucien Bourjeily, Farah Shaer CAST Ghassan Chemali, Hussein Hijazi, Jean Paul Hage, Jenny Gebara, Laeticia Semaan, Nadim Abou Samra, Samira Sarkis) – When a large family comes together for the first time in two years over Easter lunch, tensions bubble to the surface in surprising ways as they navigate an unforeseen conflict that threatens to derail their reunion. LA Premiere
- Microhabitat South Korea (DIRECTOR/WRITER Jeon Go-Woon PRODUCER Kim Soon-Mo CAST Som Lee, Jae-hong Ahn) – An increase in the price of cigarettes destabilizes the economy of Miso, a young housekeeper who prefers to stop paying the rent rather than give up on the little pleasures of life. While she enjoys her smokes, Miso starts a couch-surfing journey that reconnects her with family and friends. West Coast Premiere
- Socrates Brazil (DIRECTOR Alex Moratto WRITERS Alex Moratto, Thayná Mantesso PRODUCERS Tammy Weiss, Ramin Bahrani, Alex Moratto, Jefferson Paulino CAST Christian Malheiros, Tales Ordakji, Rosane Paulo, Caio Martinez Pacheco, Jayme Rodrigues) – A 15-year-old boy in São Paulo is forced to live on his own after his mother's death. The

- search for a job, and dealing with his own sexual awakening, proves to be a lot to handle. *World Premiere*
- Tower. A Bright Day. Poland/Czech Republic (DIRECTOR/WRITER Jagoda Szelc PRODUCERS Marcin Malatyński, Agata Golanska, Agnieszka Janowska, Kacper Habisiak, Andrzej Jędrzejewski, Maciej Ostoja-Chyżyński, Rafał Bubnicki CAST Anna Krotoska, Małgorzata Szczerbowska, Rafał Cieluch, Dorota Łukasiewicz-Kwietniewska, Laila Hennessy) A protective mother has taken care of her young niece for years, raising her in the countryside as her own daughter. Her sister's sudden return triggers a sense that she may be back to reclaim her offspring or to implement even more ominous plans. LA Premiere

## Nightfall (6)

- The Dead Center USA (DIRECTOR Billy Senese WRITER Billy Senese PRODUCERS Billy Senese, Denis Deck, Jonathan Rogers, Shane Carruth CAST Shane Carruth, Poorna Jagannathan, Jeremy Childs, Bill Feehely) When a mysterious John Doe wakes up in a morgue and wanders into a psychiatric ward, a devoted doctor and curious medical examiner must slowly uncover dark and sinister secrets about the man that reveal a more horrifying truth than they could have ever imagined. World Premiere
- Deep Murder USA (DIRECTOR Nick Corirossi WRITERS Josh Margolin, Quinn Beswick, Benjamin Smolen, Nikolai von Keller PRODUCERS Eric B. Fleischman, Andrew Swett, Drew Foster, Jesse Berger, Brent Johnson, Pat McErlean CAST Quinn Beswick, Katie Aselton, Christopher McDonald, Jerry O'Connell, Jessica Kennedy, Chris Redd, Stephanie Drake, Josh Margolin) – Set in an alternate reality in which everyone is a cliché from a tacky soft-core porn film, a group of increasingly self-aware stock characters are up against a mysterious killer offing them one by one. World Premiere
- Ghost Light USA (DIRECTOR John Stimpson WRITERS/PRODUCERS Geoffrey Taylor, John Stimpson CAST Roger Bart, Tom Riley, Shannyn Sossamon, Danielle Campbell, Carol Kane, Cary Elwes) – The story of an unfortunate Shakespearean acting troupe that unleashes the infamous curse of Macbeth with horrifying results. World Premiere
- Head Count USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Elle Callahan WRITER Michael Nader PRODUCERS Samuel Sandweiss, Brandon Somerhalder CAST Isaac W. Jay, Ashleigh Morghan, Bevin Bru, Billy Meade, Hunter Peterson, Chelcie May, Tory Freeth, Michael Herman, Amaka Obiechie, Sam Marra, Cooper Rowe) – During a weekend getaway to Joshua Tree,

a group of teenagers find themselves under mental and physical assault from a supernatural entity that mimics their appearances as it completes an ancient ritual. *World Premiere* 

- Spell USA (DIRECTOR Brendan Walter WRITER Barak Hardley PRODUCERS Brendan Walter, Jon Lullo, Barak Hardley, Katy Stoll, Eleanor Wilson CAST Barak Hardley, Jackie Tohn, Magnús Jónsson, Birna Rún Eiriksdóttir, Tom Wright, Stacey Moseley, Michael Nanfria, Michole Briana White, Bryndís Haraldsdóttir) Following the unexpected death of his fiancé, an American illustrator travels to the Icelandic countryside to seek solace. What he finds instead is a blurred line between reality and fantasy as magical things begin to shake his very foundation—unless it's all in his head. World Premiere
- Thriller USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Dallas Jackson PRODUCERS Greg Gilreath, Adam Hendricks, John Lang, Dallas Jackson CAST Mykelti Williamson, RZA, Jessica Allain, Luke Tennie, Tequan Richmond, Paige Hurd, Chelsea Rendon, Mitchell Edwards, Pepi Sonuga, Jason Woods, Maestro Harrell, Michael Ocampo) – Years after a childhood prank goes horribly wrong, a clique of South Central LA teens find themselves terrorized during Homecoming weekend by a killer hell-bent on revenge. World Premiere

## LA Muse (10)

- The Advocates USA (DIRECTOR Rémi Kessler PRODUCERS Rémi Kessler, Robert McFalls) – A sweeping look at the homeless crisis in Los Angeles and an intimate view of the tireless advocates who strive to create better lives for their clients. World Premiere
- El Chicano USA (DIRECTOR Ben Hernandez Bray WRITERS Ben Hernandez Bray, Joe Carnahan PRODUCERS Joe Carnahan, Lorenzo di Bonaventura, Frank Grillo CAST Raúl Castillo, George Lopez, Aimee Garcia, Emilio Rivera, David Castañeda, Marlene Forte, Jose Pablo Cantillo, Sal Lopez) – A cop is drawn into his ex-con brother's death while investigating the crime-fighting exploits of a mysterious vigilante known as "El Chicano." World Premiere
- Fire on the Hill (DIRECTOR/WRITER Brett Fallentine PRODUCERS
  Brett Fallentine, Jordana Glick-Franzheim, Steven Amato) Three Black
  cowboys in South Central share their stories following a mysterious fire
  that burnt down the community's stables, leaving the fate of the culture in
  question. World Premiere

- Funke (DIRECTOR Gabriel Taraboulsy PRODUCERS Gabriel
  Taraboulsy, Alex Emanuele, Jay Holzer, Cecile Murias) A prodigious
  chef mounts his culinary comeback, eyeing the most competitive street in
  America as a stage for his ode to the dying art of handmade pasta. World
  Premiere
- Making Montgomery Clift (DIRECTORS/WRITERS/PRODUCERS Robert A. Clift, Hillary Demmon) – Classic film star Montgomery Clift's legacy has been a story of tragedy and self-destruction, but a more complicated picture emerges when his nephew dives into the family archives. World Premiere
- Saint Judy USA (DIRECTOR Sean Hanish WRITER Dmitry Portnoy PRODUCERS Sean Hanish, Paul Jaconi-Biery CAST Michelle Monaghan, Leem Lubany, Common, Alfred Molina, Alfre Woodard, Mykelti Williamson) – The true story of LA immigration attorney Judy Wood, who single-handedly changed the United States Law of Asylum, saving countless lives in the process. World Premiere
- Solace USA (DIRECTOR/WRITER Tchaiko Omawale PRODUCERS
   Tchaiko Omawale, Maya Emelle, Hope Olaide Wilson, Sabine Hoffman,
   Sascha Brown Rice CAST Hope Olaide Wilson, Lynn Whitfield, Chelsea
   Tavares, Glynn Turman, Luke Rampersad, Sydney Bennett) A teenage
   orphan moves to LA to live with her estranged grandmother and works to
   win a performance art grant while secretly struggling with binge eating.
   World Premiere
- Staycation USA (DIRECTOR Tanuj Chopra WRITERS Tanuj Chopra, Anthony Ma, Grace Su PRODUCER Lalithra Fernando CAST Anthony Ma, Grace Su) – A modern millennial codependent couple in DTLA have their relationship thrown for a loop when he discovers a photo from an ex on her phone. World Premiere
- Stuntman USA (DIRECTOR Kurt Mattila PRODUCERS Steven Golebiowski, Kurt Mattila, Eddie Braun) – A veteran stuntman sets out to complete the jump that bested his idol Evel Knievel: clearing the Snake River Canyon in a rocket-powered craft. World Premiere
- We the Coyotes USA (DIRECTORS/WRITERS Hanna Ladoul, Marco La Via PRODUCERS Raphael Gindre, Kevin Van Der Meiren, Julius Schultheib CAST Morgan Saylor, McCaul Lombardi, Betsy Brandt, Khleo Thomas, Lorelei Linklater) – A young couple moves to LA from the Midwest to start a new life together, but things don't go exactly as planned. North American Premiere

## Shorts (41)

- Agua Viva USA (DIRECTOR Alexa Lim Haas) A Chinese manicurist in Miami attempts to describe feelings she doesn't have the words for.
- Audition USA (DIRECTOR Richard Van) Unable to find a sitter, an aspiring actress has no choice but to drag her three-year-old son to her audition.
- Beastly Things USA (DIRECTOR Zev Chevat) A young artist encounters a vicious group of local schoolchildren and learns what beastly behavior truly means.
- Black 14 USA (DIRECTOR Darius Clark Monroe) An archival social study examining the media coverage of a 1969 racial protest at the University of Wyoming.
- Burn Bridge USA/England (DIRECTOR Rhys Jones) Hopelessly infatuated with his clueless best friend, an adolescent boy in North Yorkshire explores his sexuality and acts out with destructive behavior.
- Caroline USA (DIRECTORS Celine Held, Logan George) A
  precocious six-year-old is faced with a big responsibility on a hot Texas
  day.
- Cheer Up, Baby USA (DIRECTOR Adinah Dancyger) A young woman who has been sexually assaulted by a stranger on the subway is rendered with psychological menace and sensory dislocation in this elliptical tale.
- Counterfeit Kunkoo India (DIRECTOR Reema Sengupta) In a city that houses millions, Smita fights a stubborn cultural bias while trying to rent a house in middle-class Mumbai.
- Coyote Switzerland (DIRECTOR Lorenz Wunderle) After wolves attack his family, a coyote goes on a vision quest of revenge.
- Cross My Heart Jamaica/USA (DIRECTOR Sontenish Myers) An American teenage girl visits her family in Jamaica and uncovers a secret that changes the way she sees the people she loves.
- Delay Iran/Italy (DIRECTOR Ali Asgari) A man and his two children miss their flight and while waiting for the next flight, undergo a transformative moment.

- **The Earth is Humming** USA (DIRECTOR Garrett Bradley) In Japan earthquake preparedness is a way of life, and a full-blown industry.
- Falling France (DIRECTOR Benjamin Vu) In 1994 France, a clever, gay, much-bullied young esthete and his naïve, athletic classmate develop an unexpected intimacy when they're paired up for a high school presentation.
- Hair Wolf USA (DIRECTOR Mariama Diallo) In a black hair salon in gentrifying Brooklyn, the residents fend off a strange new horror: white women sucking the lifeblood from black culture.
- *Hierophany* USA (DIRECTOR Kevin Contento) A Florida boy comes in contact with the sacred while living in the margins of the South.
- Intercourse Sweden (DIRECTOR Jonatan Etzan) A passing joke between a couple blurs the lines and brings them to terms with how it has changed their relationship.
- Jeom USA (DIRECTOR Kangmin Kim) A father and son, who share the same big birthmark on their butt wage war against this genetic blemish.
- *Kevlar* Sweden (DIRECTOR Tuna Özer) A young man from the projects outside of Stockholm borrows his friend's jacket to impress a hip city girl and winds up at a party in a strange land.
- Ladders USA (DIRECTOR Andrew Stephen Lee) The bright future facing a smart, ambitious Dominican teen becomes clouded with doubt following a pointed interaction at a fundraising gala.
- Libre USA (DIRECTOR Anna Barsan) Undocumented immigrants forced to spend months in detention turn to private companies to secure their release on bond in this gripping documentary.
- Lotus Iran (DIRECTOR Mohammadreza Vatandoust) After a
  controlled flood an old woman is left to gaze from her window at the island
  she's forbidden to visit, longing for the object of her affection.
- **Mud** USA (DIRECTOR Shaandiin Tome) On her last day of life, a woman faces the inescapable remnants of alcoholism, family and culture.

- Nevada USA (DIRECTOR Emily Ann Hoffman) A young couple's romantic weekend getaway is interrupted by a birth control mishap in this stop-motion animated comedy.
- One Leg In, One Leg Out Canada (DIRECTOR Lisa Rideout) A lively, strong-willed sex worker struggles to move from the streets and into a career as a social worker, hoping to help fellow trans sex workers find acceptance.
- The Passage USA (DIRECTOR Kitao Sakurai) Fleeing a pair of mysterious agents sends a dim-witted mute on a series of absurd misadventures.
- Room 140 USA (DIRECTOR Priscilla Gonzalez Sainz) Immigrants just released from detention centers spend their first night in Oakland at a motel paid for by a local pastor.
- Roya USA (DIRECTOR Shaina Pakravan) On the night of a relative's engagement party, an image conscious Iranian-American mother clashes with her free-spirited teenage daughter.
- Scratch Spain (DIRECTOR David Valero) A young DJ with a cognitive disability has trouble understanding the violent word around him; his actions subvert societal concepts of perpetrator and victim, apology and forgiveness.
- Shadow Animals Sweden (DIRECTOR Jerry Carlsson) A young girl follows her parents to a party where the adults' behavior becomes increasingly strange.
- **The Shift** USA (DIRECTOR Elivia Genny Shaw) For San Francisco's 911 dispatchers, the city is hard to escape.
- Sin Cielo USA (DIRECTOR Jianna Maarten) Two teenagers pursue young love in the borderlands where life under cartel violence may be inescapable.
- Skip Day USA (DIRECTORS Ivete Lucas, Patrick Bresnan) With graduation approaching, a group of high school seniors take a day at the beach to revel in the joys of being young in an increasingly unsteady world.

- Swedi Sweden (DIRECTOR Sosi Chamoun) A woman in a grocery store contends with a clerk who won't leave her alone in this one-take shot.
- This Magnificent Cake! Belgium/France/Netherlands (DIRECTORS Emma De Swaef, Marc James Roels) – Set in colonial Africa in the late 19th century, this breathtaking stop-motion epic examines colonialism through five different stories.
- This, My Favorite Mural USA (DIRECTOR Michael Arcos) The Latinx immigrant experience in Louisiana is explored through the eyes of a German woman who becomes obsessed with finding the artist who painted a tire shop mural.
- The Things You Think I'm Thinking Canada (DIRECTOR Sherren Lee) – On his first date since a devastating accident, a burn victim throws himself back into the world of relationships and the fear of allowing love back into his life.
- True Love in Pueblo Textil USA (DIRECTOR Horatio Baltz) A young girl living in the Cuban countryside describes how it feels to be stricken with the world's oldest infliction: love.
- War Paint USA (DIRECTOR Katrelle Kindred) For a bright South LA teen, what should be a happy 4th of July weekend becomes an unexpected lesson in the stark realities of power and racism.
- Weekends USA (DIRECTOR Trevor Jimenez) A young boy shuffles between the homes of his recently divorced parents in this surreal handanimated film set in 1980s Toronto.
- While I Yet Live USA (DIRECTOR Maris Curran) African-American quilters from Alabama talk about love, religion and the fight for civil rights as they continue the tradition of quilting that originally brought them together.
- Wild Wild West: A Beautiful Rant By Mark Bradford USA
   (DIRECTOR Dime Davis) The origin of artists is explored through paper,
   percussion and one provocative creative.

- Avant-Guardians USA (DIRECTOR Clarence Williams IV) A
  woke(ish) guardian angel to the third Black President goes a little off her
  rocker and is mandated by God to see a therapist angel.
- Flatbush Misdemeanors USA (DIRECTORS Dan Perlman, Kevin Iso)

   Two longtime friends adjust to their new surroundings in the brash environment of Flatbush, Brooklyn. Against a quickly ticking clock, they hilariously scramble to right a mistake that could end them both.
- Fresh Australia (DIRECTOR Grant Scicluna) A diverse range of characters make their living in an open Australian market. Their differences pull them apart and draw them together.
- Kiki And Kitty Australia (DIRECTOR Catriona Mackenzie) The adventures of a young, Native Aboriginal woman in a big, white world where her vagina is a big, Native woman and her best friend!
- Otis USA (DIRECTOR Alexander Etseyatse) A young, mentally unstable man attempts to win back the affection of his ex-fiancée and daughter.
- Pedal & Paint USA (DIRECTOR Bradley Smith) Illustrator and host Mike Dutton hops on his bike and meets up with fellow illustrator Sophia Foster-Dimino to find inspiration, adventure and new perspectives.
- Psusy New Zealand (DIRECTOR Anna Duckworth) Two close friends drag us through their controversial, inappropriate, but always playfully feminist world.
- Tracy Buckles USA (DIRECTOR Robin Nystrom) A young woman becomes the victim of a despicable curse that prevents other people from hearing her voice. She joins forces with a down-and-out vagabond and a bumbling wizard in order to break free from the evil sorcery.
- Revenge Tour USA (DIRECTOR Andrew Carter) He's been cheated on, living in a friend's living room and stuck at a dead-end job. But one night he finds an unlikely stress-reliever—rapping.
- Robits USA (DIRECTOR Christopher Parks) This series follows the funny and nonsensical misgivings of three robots living in a post-A.I. world.