Twenty-five film festivals! As we celebrate this milestone, allow us a moment to acknowledge why our non-profit arts organization is both surviving and thriving. The Provincetown Film Society exists today because of the incredible support of our unique community situated at the edge of the world.

It all started with a cool idea—a group of local business leaders wanting to extend the summer season; a few film professionals securing first-rate films and inviting filmmakers for the original weekend festival in 1999; an engaged audience in a tiny, year-round arts community; Provincetown’s beloved resident artist John Waters as the first Filmmaker on the Edge; and voilà—a new festival was born. It’s always been a labor of love (and sweat and maybe even a few tears) and a quarter of a century later, PFS still flourishes!

We owe a giant debt of gratitude to the former longtime creative leaders of this organization: PJ Layng, Connie White, Christine Walker, and Gabby Hanna (now our fearless Board president). We are here because of their expertise and supreme dedication.

Today’s festival is still fueled by a very small, extremely talented and passionate staff alongside highly supportive volunteers, who work together to put on a world-class event in this enduring art colony. We salute our wildly talented filmmakers sharing their work and appreciate each of our filmgoers and their interest in seeing what’s on display. As the films unspool in our theaters, and lively conversations take place all over town, we open our eyes and engage our hearts. And that is what makes the Provincetown International Film Festival the place to be!
Helping generations achieve their goals.

Contact me today ➤

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**DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

**PROVINCETOWN FILM SOCIETY’S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION**

With its year-round film programming at the Waters Edge Cinema, and dedication to bringing film education, genre-specific festivals, and cultural partnerships to the Outer Cape, Provincetown Film Society is committed to expanding the ways we can offer a platform for and be inclusive of BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ voices, artists, and diverse points of view. Through our programming, we commit to representing diversity in race, ethnicity, gender identity, age, physical ability, and socio-economic background.

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Tom Romme
Evan Suk
Larry Young
ABOUT PROVINCETOWN FILM SOCIETY

Established in 2011, the Provincetown Film Society (PFS) is an advocate for diverse representation in film, providing year-round programming and platforms that allow voices of all kinds to be heard. Locally, PFS’s work positively impacts the cultural and economic vitality of Provincetown. Nationally, its work helps shape industry discussions around parity in film. Through PFS’s work, we have an ability to better understand and appreciate human struggles and triumphs, showcasing our similarities and differences in today’s diverse culture.

PROVINCETOWN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 25TH ANNIVERSARY
HOST COMMITTEE

Many thanks to these generous individuals who are committed to the advancement of the Provincetown Film Society and to expanding arts and culture in Provincetown.

Host Committee Co-chairs:
Alix Ritchie & Marty Davis
John Waters

Host Committee Members:
Christine Barker & Susanna Mitchell
Jill Botway & John Kramer
Michael Colford
Chapin & Deborah Cutler
Diane Dicarlo & Jeanne Leszczynski
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Julia King
Janet Kosloff & Melissa Moore
Terrence Meck
Kevin Moss & Claudio Gervasi
Blythe Robertson & Mary Perkins
Tatiana von Furstenberg
John Yingling
The **Provincetown Film Society** achieves its mission through three primary objectives:

The annual **Provincetown International Film Festival**, founded in 1999, which is dedicated to showcasing new achievements in independent film and honoring the work of emerging as well as acclaimed directors, producers, and actors.

The **Gabrielle A. Hanna Provincetown Film Institute**, which provides programs throughout the year including artist residencies, mini-festivals, and workshops addressing gender inequity in US media and entertainment.

The **Waters Edge Cinema**, a year-round movie theater in the heart of Provincetown that showcases newly released films, mini-festivals, special guest presentations, and virtual screenings.

The **Provincetown Film Society** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that relies on the support of our community, in addition to ticket sales, to operate. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support our organization at provincetownfilm.org/donate or by scanning the QR code!
2023 PIFF AUDIENCE AWARDS

Every year, PIFF audiences are encouraged to vote for their favorite feature films at the festival. Paper ballots are distributed at the theaters with a rating system of 1-4 (with 4 being the best) and collected after the screenings. We then tally the votes and present our Audience Awards at the conclusion of the festival.

The 2022 Audience Awards were awarded to GOOD LUCK TO YOU, LEO GRANDE, directed by Sophie Hyde, for Best Narrative Feature, and ESTHER NEWTON MADE ME GAY, directed by Jean Carlomusto, for Best Documentary Feature.

Watch a film and then cast your vote!

JOHN SCHLESINGER AWARDS
FIRST TIME DIRECTOR

Sponsored by Michael Childers

Each year, PIFF recognizes two first-time feature film directors whose work commemorates the legacy of one of our finest American directors. John Schlesinger (1926-2003) gave us such exemplary works as Midnight Cowboy, Marathon Man, The Day of the Locust, and Sunday Bloody Sunday. When asked to give advice to first-time directors, Schlesinger responded, "Never take 'no' for an answer. It's a long business getting something off the ground and it takes great determination." This award includes a $1000 cash prize generously provided by Michael Childers.

This year's Schlesinger jurors are Oscar, Peabody, and Grammy winning filmmakers Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman (Howl, Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice) and Sheryl Mousley, the Walker Art Center's Moving Image Senior Curator (1998-2020).
JURIED SHORTS AWARDS

New this year, the Provincetown International Film Festival is very proud to be an Academy-qualifying film festival in 3 short film categories: Narrative, Documentary, and Queer Short. Films awarded by our jury in those categories may qualify to enter the Academy Awards® race for the concurrent season.

The Provincetown International Film Festival offers 5 juried shorts awards: Best Narrative Short Film, Best Documentary Short Film, Best Animated Short Film, Best Queer Short Film, and Best New England Short Film.

Doing the honors in 2023 is a skilled group of film and arts professionals:

**Jude Dry** is a writer for *IndieWire* with an emphasis on LGBTQ+ film, representation, and sexuality. Jude is also an actor and filmmaker, and their debut short film *Monsieur Le Butch* won Best New England Short Film at PIFF 2022.

**Sharon Polli** is the Executive Director of the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown and has dedicated her professional career to advancing artistic voices and creating opportunities for emerging and mid-career artists, performers and media makers.

**PJ Raval** is a queer, first generation Filipinx American award-winning filmmaker whose work examines social justice issues through the voices of queer and marginalized subjects. Named one of *Out Magazine’s* “Out 100,” Raval’s feature credits include *Trinidad* and *Before You Know It*.

---

**JOHN WATERS BOOK SIGNING**

**LIARMOUTH: A FEEL-BAD ROMANCE**

Pop culture icon, *New York Times* best-selling author, and renowned filmmaker John Waters will be signing newly released paperback copies of his first novel *LIARMOUTH: A FEEL-BAD ROMANCE*.

Marsha Sprinkle: Suitcase thief. Scammer. Master of disguise. Dogs and children hate her. Her own family wants her dead. She’s smart, she’s desperate, she’s disturbed, and she’s on the run with a big chip on her shoulder. They call her “Liarmouth”—until one insane man makes her tell the truth.

**Thursday, June 15, 5-7pm**

**MAP**

188 Commercial St.

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**KYLE TURNER IN CONVERSATION WITH B. RUBY RICH**

**DISCUSSING THE QUEER FILM GUIDE**

Kyle Turner, a queer writer based in Brooklyn, NY, joins us for a conversation and book signing with his first book *The Queer Film Guide: 100 Films That Tell LGBTQIA+ Stories*. His writing about film, queerness, and culture has been featured in *W Magazine, The Village Voice, Slate, GQ* and *The New York Times*. Kyle will be in conversation with esteemed film scholar, critic, and writer B. Ruby Rich (*Chick Flicks*). Kyle is a former Provincetown Film Society employee and we’re excited to have him return to PIFF as an author!

**Friday, June 16, 2-3pm**

**The Library at Crown & Anchor**

247 Commercial St.
Evan Lawson Luncheon
Conversation with Fenton Bailey

Celebrating the power of diverse storytelling to make meaningful social change, the Evan Lawson Luncheon returns to PIFF this year with special guest Fenton Bailey.

Fenton Bailey co-founded World of Wonder (WOW) with his producing and directing partner Randy Barbato in 1991. WOW has introduced audiences to new worlds, talent and ideas; reshaping international pop culture, while earning 30 Emmys and inspiring Oscar®-winning performances, including "RuPaul's Drag Race", "Million Dollar Listing", "Monica in Black and White"; "Wishful Drinking"; "Inside Deep Throat"; "Party Monster" and more than 250 other projects.

A signed copy of Fenton Bailey's new book ScreenAge will be included with each ticket purchased. ScreenAge is a riotous tale of pop culture glamor, sex, heartbreak and triumph behind the scenes of history-making television and films; featuring a foreword by Graham Norton.

The Evan Lawson Luncheon is a fundraiser to support the Provincetown Film Society’s Gabrielle A. Hanna Film Institute, which provides artists programs throughout the year including residencies, film series and workshops.

Sunday, June 18, 1-3pm
Crown & Anchor

Alysia Abbott Book Signing
Fairyland, a Memoir of My Father


Sunday, June 18, 12-1pm
Provincetown Bookshop
229 Commercial St.

Michael Schulman Book Signing
Oscar Wars

The New Yorker’s Michael Schulman will be signing copies of his newest book OSCAR WARS: A History of Hollywood in Gold, Sweat, and Tears. Featuring accounts of some of the biggest Hollywood players of the last century, including Bette Davis, Steven Spielberg and Louis B. Mayer, Schulman also examines some of the most (in)famous Oscar moments including Shakespeare in Love vs. Saving Private Ryan, the plot against Citizen Kane, the Hollywood blacklist, #OscarsSoWhite and “the Slap.”

“This lively, gossip-rich account is ideal reading for cineastes.” — Library Journal (starred review)

Saturday, June 17, 3-4pm
East End Books
389 Commercial St.
ANCHOR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER
DAVID LUPONE

This year the PIFF Family lost one of our most dedicated volunteers. David Lupone passed away leaving big shoes to fill, not only at PIFF, but at the many local organizations where he volunteered. He was always offering his help and showed up right when you needed him. David worked with us for at least a decade in many different volunteer positions over the years. His favorite was working at the theaters wrangling our crowds with his big smile. We are happy to honor him and his many years with us!

PROVINCETOWN STORIES

An inaugural series of short films produced by The Provincetown Film Society in collaboration with The Commons and Provincetown Art Association and Museum.

Created by members of our newly formed Local Lens Outer Cape Filmmakers Group as part of the Provincetown Film Society’s initiative to incorporate the moving image arts into the Provincetown Art Colony legacy, these three shorts pay tribute to very special artists and activists of our community whom we lost in 2022.

THERE ARE THINGS TO DO
Directed by Mike Syers, Produced by Fermin Rojas
18 minutes

Urvashi Vaid, an outspoken immigrant, lesbian and woman of color, was an LGBTQ superhero who believed in human rights for all people and led the charge in shaping the modern day gay rights movement. Her life in Provincetown and decades-long relationship with partner Kate Clinton inspired her call to action to achieve equality by creating community.

Photo credit: © JEB (Joan E. Biren) from Making A Way: Lesbians Out Front
SAL
Directed by Amy Davies, Produced by Provincetown Art Association and Museum
15 minutes
Artist Sally Brophy’s genuine way of living inspired those around her to strive for authenticity in their own lives.

SHAWN NIGHTINGALE: AS COISAS DA VIDA
Directed and Produced by Julia King
13 minutes
As Coisas da Vida is a Portuguese phrase meaning, ‘The things of life between happiness and sorrow that have a certain majesty.’ Shawn Nightingale, businessman, producer and actor, in his own life embodied the things of life that were fabulous, just like his home of Provincetown.

LOCAL FILMMAKER OPEN HOUSE
Join us for a special Local Filmmaker Open House and step back in time while imagining the future at artist and filmmaker Jay Critchley’s unique backyard destination. This event celebrates a new year-round Provincetown Film Society program taking place monthly both virtually and in person at Waters Edge Cinema.

Local Lens: Outer Cape Filmmakers invites both Cape Cod-based and visiting visual storytellers to share works in progress, discuss upcoming projects, and offer feedback in a supportive environment. Guest speakers share their knowledge on a variety of creative and business topics. This initiative provides a space for connection and community building within this very special group of artists and film industry workers. Interested filmmakers of all stripes are encouraged to participate and can jump in anytime! Please email Managingdirector@ptownfilm.org for more information.

Saturday, June 17, 2-3pm
The Re-Rooters Resort Grotto @ Septic Space
7 Carnes Lane

Monday, June 19, 11am & 12:30pm
Waters Edge Cinema
SILVER ANNIVERSARY CLAMBAKE CELEBRATION

Celebrate the 25th Annual Provincetown International Film Festival with a spectacular sunset lobster dinner and delicious drinks at Herring Cove Beach!

This quintessential event features a classic Cape Cod clambake, prepared by Provincetown’s own Far Land Provisions, complete with a beach bonfire.

This one-of-a-kind evening supports the ongoing work of the Provincetown Film Society’s Filmmaker Residencies and Local Lens Outer Cape Filmmaker Initiative.

Friday, June 16, 6:30-8:30pm
The Pavilion at Herring Cove Beach
FILMMAKER ON THE EDGE

The Provincetown Film Festival’s signature award is presented to a film artist whose outstanding achievement, innovation, and vision continue to push the boundaries of the medium.


EXCELLENCE IN ACTING

Given annually since 2006, the Provincetown Film Festival’s Excellence in Acting Award is given to a film artist whose admirable body of work pushes the boundaries of the medium, demonstrating originality and innovation.


NEXT WAVE

Inaugurated in 2017, the Provincetown Film Festival’s newest award shines a light on someone who inspires the Festival’s Executive and Programming Staff with their exciting and distinctive voice, who takes artistic risks, and has a passionate commitment to independent film.

Bruce LaBruce
FILMMAKER ON THE EDGE

Bruce LaBruce is an award-winning filmmaker, photographer, writer, and artist whose work is known for pushing boundaries and blurring the lines between independent film and pornography. Along with numerous short films, he has written and directed fourteen feature films, including *Gerontophilia*, which won the Grand Prix at the Festival du Nouveau Cinema in Montreal in 2012. His feature film *L.A. Zombie* was notably banned in Australia.

His latest movie, *Saint-Narcisse*, was named one of the top ten films of 2021 by John Waters in *Artforum*. His most recent porn feature, *The Affairs of Lidia*, was released in 2022 and premiered at BAFICI in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He is currently working on an art/porn experimental film called *The Visitor* for the a/political gallery in London, UK. LaBruce has had three major film retrospectives, at the TIFF/Bell Lightbox in Toronto (2014), the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in NYC (2015), and currently at the Cinémathèque québécoise in Montreal.

Bruce LaBruce will be in conversation with filmmaker and icon John Waters

Saturday, June 17, 5pm, Town Hall

Billy Porter
EXCELLENCE IN ACTING

Billy Porter is a tremendously talented Emmy, Tony and Grammy-award winning actor, singer and director, and playwright. His cinematic performances include *80 for Brady*, *Cinderella*, *The Broken Hearts Club: A Romantic Comedy* and Bill Oliver's *OUR SON*, which is featured in this year's festival. He made his feature-film directorial debut with *Anything's Possible* in 2022.

Billy's work on FX's breakthrough series "Pose” electrified audiences and won universal acclaim. Billy has also appeared on "American Horror Story - Apocalypse" and "The Get Down", amongst many other television credits. His Tony-winning on-stage performance as Lola in the smash hit musical *Kinky Boots* is just one highlight of a celebrated career both on and off Broadway in such shows as *Shuffle Along*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, and *Angels in America*.

Billy Porter will be in conversation with author and film scholar B. Ruby Rich

Saturday, June 17, 5pm, Town Hall
Megan Stalter

NEXT WAVE AWARD

Sponsored by The George H Scanlon Foundation

Standout comedian and actress Megan Stalter is known for her hilarious breakout performance as Kayla in the Emmy Award winning series "Hacks" with Jean Smart. In 2020, The New York Times critic Jason Zinoman declared her "sketch comedy's newest star."

In addition to her current starring role in the PIFF 2023 Opening Night film CORA BORA, she appears in Rachel Lambert's film Sometimes I Think About Dying, and will star opposite Amanda Seyfried and Ariana DeBose in the upcoming My Ex-Friend's Wedding directed by Kay Cannon. Megan also appears in Julio Torres' debut feature PROBLEMISTA starring Tilda Swinton, which is screening in this year's festival.

Megan Stalter will be in conversation with fellow Next Wave honoree Julio Torres and comedian Judy Gold

Friday, June 16, 4pm, Crown & Anchor

Julio Torres

NEXT WAVE AWARD

Sponsored by The George H Scanlon Foundation

Julio Torres is an Emmy-nominated and WGA-winning writer. His work on “Saturday Night Live” garnered four Emmy nominations and he's performed stand up on “Late Night with Seth Meyers” as well as “The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.” In 2017, Julio headlined his first solo hour at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, “My Favorite Shapes: By Julio Torres” to rave reviews, and which became an hour-long HBO comedy special. Julio also starred in the HBO series “Los Espookys,” which he co-created with Fred Armisen and Ana Fabrega. Julio made his feature film directorial debut with A24’s PROBLEMISTA, which he wrote and stars in alongside Tilda Swinton. The film is screening at this year’s festival, and is produced by Emma Stone's Fruit Tree Films.

Julio Torres will be in conversation with fellow Next Wave honoree Megan Stalter and comedian Judy Gold

Friday, June 16, 4pm, Crown & Anchor
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OPENING NIGHT FILM
CORA BORA
2023, USA, 92 minutes
Directed by Hannah Pearl Utt
Cast: Megan Stalter, Jojo T. Gibbs, Manny Jacinto, Ayden Mayeri, Thomas Mann, Margaret Cho

While trying to move her career forward in Los Angeles, struggling musician and messy millennial Cora senses her open relationship with her girlfriend back home in Portland is on the rocks. When she goes home to Portland to save her relationship, she quickly realizes it’s much more than her love life that needs salvaging. Director Hannah Pearl Utt (Before You Know It) returns to PIFF with her second feature film, anchored by a tour de force performance by “Hacks” breakout star (and PIFF 2023 Next Wave honoree) Megan Stalter.

“...a clever and genuinely touching twist on the rom-com trope of a grand romantic gesture.” –The Hollywood Reporter

Wednesday, June 14, 7pm, Town Hall
Friday, June 16, 8:30pm, Art House 2
CLOSING NIGHT FILM
THEATER CAMP
2022, USA, 94 minutes
Directed by Molly Gordon, Nick Lieberman
Cast: Ben Platt, Molly Gordon, Noah Galvin, Jimmy Tatro, Amy Sedaris

THEATER CAMP is a laugh-out-loud mockumentary that follows the eccentric staff (led by Ben Platt and Molly Gordon) at a scrappy musical theater camp in upstate New York. After the camp’s beloved founder, played by Amy Sedaris, falls into a coma just before the summer season, they must quickly change gears to keep the camp afloat. The former campers turned codependent theater directors make use of their well honed skills amidst auditions, rehearsals, and the big performance. First-time directorial duo Molly Gordon and Nick Lieberman bring insider knowledge, and the result is a comedy filled with heart and verve and plenty of song and dance!

Winner of a Special Jury Prize for Ensemble Acting at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival

Sunday, June 18, 5pm, Town Hall

THURSDAY SPOTLIGHT
MUTT
2023, USA, 87 minutes
Directed by Vuk Lungulov-Klotz
Cast: Lio Mehiel, Cole Doman, Mimi Ryder, Alejandro Goic

Over the course of a single hectic day in New York City, three key people from Feña’s past are thrust back into his life and emotions are charged. Having lost touch since transitioning from female to male, he navigates the new dynamics of old relationships with his father, his ex-boyfriend, and his younger half-sister all while tackling the day-to-day challenges of living life in between. MUTT is a striking and immersive debut feature about gender identity and queer lifestyles filled with honest writing and powerhouse performances from Lio Mehiel and the entire cast.

“...depicted with honesty, tenderness and wit...” – The Hollywood Reporter

Winner of a Special Jury Prize for Acting at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival

Thursday, June 15, 6:30pm, Waters Edge 1
Friday, June 16, 9pm, Art House 1
FRIDAY SPOTLIGHT
TAYLOR MAC’S 24-DECADE HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC
2023, USA, 116 minutes
Directed by Rob Epstein & Jeffery Friedman

Directors Rob Epstein and Jeffery Friedman return to PIFF with TAYLOR MAC’S 24-DECADE HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC, a concert documentary of MacArthur “Genius” Award-winner Taylor Mac’s audacious and emotional performance piece of the same name. Over an emotionally and physically exhausting 24 hours, Taylor and a huge supporting cast chart a subversive history of the United States through a unique mash-up of music, history, performance, and art that were popular throughout the country from 1776 to the present day. Epstein and Friedman expertly distill this down to a brisk 116 minutes while capturing the full scope and pageantry of the landmark production.

Friday, June 16, 8:30pm, Town Hall
Sunday, June 18, 3:30pm, Art House 2

SATURDAY SPOTLIGHT
PROBLEMISTA
2023, USA, 98 minutes
Directed by Julio Torres
Cast: Julio Torres, Tilda Swinton, RZA, Isabella Rossellini, Larry Owens, Catalina Saavedra, Greta Lee

Sponsored by Coolidge Corner Theatre

Alejandro (Julio Torres) is an aspiring toy designer from El Salvador, struggling to bring his unusual ideas to life in New York City. As time on his work visa runs out, a job assisting an erratic art-world outcast (Tilda Swinton) becomes his only hope to stay in the country and realize his dream. From the singular vision of writer/director (and PIFF 2023 Next Wave Award honoree) Julio Torres comes a surreal and comic adventure through the equally treacherous worlds of New York City and the U.S. Immigration system.

“An imaginative, impressive, not to mention hilarious debut...” - Slate

Saturday, June 17, 7:30pm, Town Hall
Somerset House Inn is a historical guesthouse built in 1840 and is centrally located in the heart of Provincetown at 378 Commercial Street, facing the beautiful Provincetown Harbor with views of Cape Cod Bay. A spacious patio, garden sitting area, and newly designed parlor are the perfect settings for a memorable experience while staying in Provincetown.

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ART THIEF
2023, USA, 93 minutes
Directed by Arthur Egeli
Cast: Max Deacon, Jackie Emerson, Lenny Clarke

Kevin aspires to escape his South Boston background and be accepted by the more affluent people he works with volunteering for a local political campaign. He finds that impersonating a Kennedy helps him with donors, but eventually lands him in prison. Already dabbling in art theft, Kevin realizes he can use his new criminal connections along with his own art expertise to facilitate a massive, life-changing heist at the Isabella Stewart Gardner museum. Filmmaker Arthur Egeli’s latest film imagines a lively, surprising backstory to one of Massachusetts’ most fascinating true crimes in a twist-filled dramatic caper.

Thursday, June 15, 1:30pm, Town Hall
AUGUST AT TWENTY-TWO
2022, USA, 86 minutes
Directed by Sophia Castuera
Cast: Ali Edwards, Lilli Kay, Jorge Felipe Guevara

Actress Cal, floundering post-college, is thrown to discover that her childhood soulmate Jacob, has a serious girlfriend, Em. Failing to reconnect with Jacob, Cal unexpectedly finds a new bond with Em. As Cal gets swept up in her exciting new social life, she begins neglecting her loyal best friend Bobby, their friendship disintegrating just as her relationship with Em develops in unexpected and incendiary ways. AUGUST AT TWENTY-TWO is an evocative, deeply felt portrait of young artists struggling to find their way in their craft and their lives.

Thursday, June 15, 1:30pm, Waters Edge 1
Saturday, June 17, 8:30pm, Waters Edge 2

BIG BOYS
2023, USA, 90 minutes
Directed by Corey Sherman
Cast: Isaac Krasner, David Johnson III, Dora Madison, Taj Cross, Emily Deschanel

Jamie is a chubby, gay 14-year-old confused about his sexuality and uncomfortable in his own body. But all that changes when his cousin brings her new boyfriend, Dan, on a family camping trip. Dan is a beefy, charming “bear” of a man who ignites feelings in Jamie that he had previously repressed, proving to him that big men can be sexy too. BIG BOYS is a coming-of-age comedy about the turning point in a queer person’s life—before they come out to the world, they have to first come out to themselves.

Thursday, June 15, 6:30pm, Town Hall
Sunday, June 18, 6:30pm, Art House 1
NARRATIVE FILMS

BLUE JEAN
2023, UK, 97 minutes
Directed by Georgia Oakley
Cast: Rosy McEwen, Kerrie Hayes, Lucy Halliday

It's 1988 England and Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government is about to pass a law stigmatizing gays and lesbians, forcing Jean (Rosy McEwen, in a powerhouse performance), a closeted gym teacher, to live a double life. Needing to keep her girlfriend a secret in order to preserve her job, Jean is hyper aware of the stakes. As pressure mounts from all sides, the arrival of a new student who threatens to expose Jean catalyzes a crisis that will challenge Jean to her core. Georgia Oakley’s stunning directorial debut is a riveting drama about hidden love and the desire to keep one's work and private life intact.

Winner of Venice Film Festival’s People’s Choice Award

Thursday, June 15, 3:30pm, Art House 2
Sunday, June 18, 6pm, Waters Edge 2

BOTTOMS
2023, USA, 92 minutes
Directed by Emma Seligman
Cast: Ayo Edebiri, Rachel Sennott, Ruby Cruz, Havana Rose Liu, Marshawn Lynch

BOTTOMS is a refreshingly unique and raunchy queer comedy, focusing on two high school girls, PJ (Rachel Sennott) and Josie (Ayo Edebiri), who start a fight club as a way to lose their virginities to cheerleaders. Their bizarre plan works. The fight club gains traction and soon the most popular girls in school are beating each other up in the name of self-defense. But PJ and Josie find themselves in over their heads and in need of a way out before their plan is exposed. Written by the talented Emma Seligman (Shiva Baby) and Rachel Sennott, this is a righteously subversive story filled with genuine humanity.

“...nothing less than a Heathers for this generation...” – Rolling Stone

Saturday, June 17, 1pm, Town Hall
**EGOIST**

*2022, Japan, 120 minutes*

Directed by Daishi Matsunaga

Cast: Ryohei Suzuki, Hio Miyazawa, Sawako Agawa

Kosuke, a wealthy fashion magazine editor, finds himself falling for his new personal trainer, Ryuta, a financially strapped high-school dropout who struggles to support his single mother, Taeko. As Kosuke and Ryuta’s relationship develops, it slowly grows to include Taeko, whose maternal attention fills a void for Kosuke, who lost his mother as a teenager. As these relationships deepen and become more serious, a secret is revealed that could change everything. EGOIST is a lyrical love story with delicate performances, based on Takayama Makoto’s autobiographical novel.

“...a satisfyingly textured, bittersweet character study infused with warmth and energy.” - *Screen Daily*

In Japanese with English subtitles

**Thursday, June 15, 1:30pm, Art House 1**

**Saturday, June 17, 10:30am, Art House 2**

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**EARTH MAMA**

*2022, USA, 97 minutes*

Directed by Savanah Leaf

Cast: Tia Nomore, Erika Alexander

With her son and daughter already in foster care, Gia struggles to work enough hours to get by as she takes court-mandated classes in hopes of regaining her children and holding on to her unborn baby. Savanah Leaf’s stunning feature debut is an intimate, authentic character study, denying easy answers as it honors the deeply complicated nature of a mother’s love. EARTH MAMA is an intimate, unorthodox coming of age story centered on a pregnant single mother who embraces her Bay Area community as she determines the fate of her family.

“Leaf, through her film, has modeled what caring looks like” - *The Hollywood Reporter*

**Thursday, June 15, 4pm, Waters Edge 1**
**FAIRYLAND**
2022, USA, 114 minutes
Directed by Andrew Durham
Cast: Emilia Jones, Scoot McNairy, Geena Davis, Cody Fern, Adam Lambert, Maria Bakalova

Following her mother’s death in a car accident in 1973, young Alysia and her father Steve (Scoot McNairy) move to San Francisco to start anew. Steve begins to openly date men and his bohemian lifestyle clashes with societal expectations of parenting. As Alysia (Emilia Jones) grows up within a loving, but unconventional setting, their relationship evolves and is tested in numerous ways. Based on Alysia Abbott’s best-selling memoir, the powerfully acted and directed FAIRYLAND pays tribute to familial love and resilience in the face of adversity and tragedy.

Friday, June 16, 1pm, Art House 2
Sunday, June 18, 1:30pm, Town Hall

**HANGDOG**
2023, USA, 92 minutes
Directed by Matt Cascella
Cast: Desmin Borges, Kelly O’Sullivan, Barbara Rosenblat, Steve Coulter, Catherine Curtin

Anxiety-riddled Walt (Desmin Borges, FX’s *You’re the Worst*) embarks on a comic odyssey through Portland, Maine to retrieve his stolen dog before his girlfriend, Wendy (Kelly O’Sullivan, *Saint Frances*), returns from her business trip, or risk losing them both. Along the way, his encounters with eccentric locals Marianne (Barbara Rosenblat, *Orange is the New Black*) and Brent (Steve Coulter, *She-Hulk*) force him to confront his insecurities and embrace human connection. First-time filmmakers Matt Cascella and Jen Cordery tackle unexpected life changes with humor, heart, and one incredibly adorable dog!

Thursday, June 15, 6pm, Art House 2
Friday, June 16, 1pm, Waters Edge 2
JOY RIDE
2023, USA/China, 92 minutes
Directed by Adele Lim
Cast: Ashley Park, Sherry Cola, Stephanie Hsu, Sabrina Wu

Four Asian-American friends bond and discover just what it means to know and love who you are while they travel through Asia in search of one of their birth mothers in this raucous, hilarious celebration of friendship and self-acceptance. As their girl trip spirals into a no-holds-barred sex and drug fueled adventure, rising stars Ashley Park, Sherry Cola, Stephanie Hsu (an Academy Award nominee for Everything Everywhere All at Once) and breakout discovery Sabrina Wu’s (in their film debut) dynamic chemistry forges JOY RIDE into a wild, epic, new comedy classic.

“JOY RIDE is easily the golden standard for progressive, raunchy comedy and the need for more diverse stories being told on screen.” - Indiewire

Saturday, June 17, 9:30pm, Town Hall

THE LESSON
2023, UK/Germany, 102 minutes
Directed by Alice Troughton
Cast: Richard E Grant, Julie Delpy, Daryl McCormack

A young novelist eager to make a name for himself begins tutoring the son of one of the most influential writers in the world. Soon, darker motivations surface and the lines of master and protégé are blurred – as the writer’s loyal wife (Julie Delpy) forms a bond of her own with her family’s handsome new houseguest. It soon becomes clear that each is guarding their own secrets in this tight, engaging literary thriller featuring a terrific cast including emerging star Daryl McCormack (Good Luck to You, Leo Grande).

Saturday, June 17, 11am, Art House 1
Sunday, June 18, 11am, Town Hall
A LITTLE PRAYER
2023, USA, 91 minutes
Directed by Angus MacLachlan
Cast: David Strathairn, Jane Levy, Dascha Polanco, Will Pullen, Celia Weston, Anna Camp

This lyrical Southern family melodrama infused with humor comes from the writer of Junebug (PIFF 2005). A reserved father (David Strathairn) tries to protect his daughter-in-law after discovering his son is having an affair, and finds himself in uncharted territory. A LITTLE PRAYER touches upon a variety of issues including a woman’s volition over her own body, war veterans grappling with PTSD, and the limits of patriarchal interference within a changing modern South. Writer-director Angus MacLachlan has crafted an involving tale of complex family dynamics with a real sense of place.

"...a series of quiet epiphanies, well observed and elegant..." – The Hollywood Reporter

Thursday, June 15, 11am, Town Hall
Saturday, June 17, 9pm, Art House 1

MAMACRUZ
2022, Spain, 83 minutes
Directed by Patricia Ortega
Cast: Kiti Mánver

When a single errant click exposes devoutly religious grandma Cruz to online pornography, she’s mortified, but suddenly reminded of her own desires. Initially unsure of where to aim her newly rediscovered sensuality, Cruz fruitlessly looks to her beloved Catholic church and befuddled husband for satisfaction before finding solace in the sisterhood she finds at a women’s sex therapy group and beginning a tentative journey toward self-love in this warm, spirited satire. Legendary Spanish actress Kiti Mánver embodies Cruz with tremendous openness, sweeping us up in the character’s transformation in a film that is as funny as it is moving.

“A simple yet masterful feat all around.” - Huffington Post

In Spanish with English subtitles

Wednesday, June 14, 8:30pm, Waters Edge 1
Thursday, June 15, 1pm, Art House 2
Saturday, June 17, 11am, Waters Edge 1
OUR SON
2023, USA, 104 minutes
Directed by Bill Oliver
Cast: Luke Evans, Billy Porter, Andrew Rannells

As long-time spouses Gabriel and Nicky embark on a messy divorce, the focus of their separation quickly turns to a battle over custody of their precocious young son Owen. Both workaholic breadwinner Nicky and former actor/devoted stay-at-home dad Gabriel feel entitled to full custody, as the former partners struggle to redefine their lives post-separation and continue to support the son they love. Grounded, emotional performances by Luke Evans and Billy Porter make OUR SON a wrenching domestic drama reflecting the complexities of modern-day parenting.

Friday, June 16, 6pm, Town Hall

PASSAGES
2022, France, 91 minutes
Directed by Ira Sachs
Cast: Franz Rogowski, Adèle Exarchopoulos, Ben Whishaw

In contemporary Paris, filmmaker Tomas (Franz Rogowski - Great Freedom) begins a torrid love affair with Agathe (Adèle Exarchopoulos - Blue is the Warmest Colour), an impulse that blurs the lines defining his relationship with his husband, Martin (Ben Whishaw - Lilting). Veteran filmmaker Ira Sachs (Keep the Lights On, Love is Strange) returns to PIFF with an intense, intimate new film portraying this unusual, destructive love triangle. With powerful performances by its starry international cast, PASSAGES in a truly unique examination of the human experience and the nature of attraction.

In English and French with English subtitles

Saturday, June 17, 3:30pm, Art House 2
Sunday, June 18, 7:30pm, Town Hall
PLAYLAND
2023, USA, 72 minutes
Directed by Georden West
Cast: Danielle Cooper, Lady Bunny, Aidan Dick, Constance Cooper, José Lapaz-Rodríguez

An experimental work of queer fantasy and history, PLAYLAND conjures a time-bending night in Boston’s oldest and most notorious gay bar with an ensemble of queer performers including Lady Bunny and Danielle Cooper. The Playland Café (1937-1998) was a critical part of many queer histories—a safe space at a time when violence and oppression of queer bodies was both common and prolific. PLAYLAND moves freely across time and across form, utilizing theater and opera, dance and archival footage. Artist-filmmaker Georden West, a former Fine Arts Work Center Fellow, returns to Provincetown to showcase this finished work of stepping into Boston’s lost queer haven.

Thursday, June 15, 11am, Waters Edge 1
Saturday, June 17, 8:30pm, Art House 2

THE POD GENERATION
2022, Belgium/France/UK, 109 minutes
Directed by Sophie Barthes
Cast: Emilia Clarke, Chiwetel Ejiofor

A New York couple, Rachel (Emilia Clarke) and Alvy (Chiwetel Ejiofor) live in a not-so-distant future where technology provides evermore convenient living. When Rachel lands a coveted spot at the Womb Center, which offers couples a convenient (and shareable) maternity by way of detachable artificial wombs, botanist Alvy is skeptical. As the pair attempts to navigate the brave new world of technology-enhanced parenthood, Sophie Barthes’ funny, philosophical film deftly satirizes our world’s increasing reliance on tech in the name of convenience. At the film’s center, Clarke and Ejiofor imbue Rachel and Alvy with an indelible warmth and romance.

“An elegant satire on the rise of AI, the dehumanization of life and the thorny issues of reproductive rights” – The Wrap

Friday, June 16, 6:30pm, Art House 1
Sunday, June 18, 6pm, Art House 2
NARRATIVE FILMS

ROTTING IN THE SUN
2022, USA, 109 minutes
Directed by Sebastian Silva
Cast: Sebastian Silva, Jordan Firstman, Catalina Saavedra

Audacious auteur Sebastian Silva (Crystal Fairy, Nasty Baby) returns to Provincetown with his darkly funny, sexy and clever new film. Starring as himself, Silva’s a depressed filmmaker in Mexico City palling around with social media influencer Jordan Firstman (also playing himself), doing drugs and hanging out at a nude gay beach. After a twist too clever to spoil, the film quickly shifts gears, becoming a lively battle of wits between Firstman and Sebastian’s harried housekeeper Vero (played by Catalina Saavedra, star of Silva’s The Maid) over the now-missing Sebastian’s whereabouts.

“...an outrageous (and sex-fueled) romp…” - Variety

In English and Spanish with English subtitles

Thursday, June 15, 9pm, Town Hall
Sunday, June 18, 1pm, Art House 2

SCRAPPER
2022, UK, 84 minutes
Directed by Charlotte Regan
Cast: Harris Dickinson, Lola Campbell

After her mother’s death, spunky, sassy 12-year-old Georgie continues to live alone in her London-outskirts flat, getting by stealing bikes with her best friend Ali and bamboozling the social workers managing her case. She’s extremely unimpressed when her long-absent father Jason (Harris Dickinson) returns to her life, hoping to reconnect, and vows not to give in to his attempts to restart their family leading to a spirited battle of wills in this funny, inventive family drama. The spirited, imaginative SCRAPPER marks a sparkling feature debut for promising young filmmaker Charlotte Regan.

Winner of the World Cinema Dramatic Grand Jury Prize at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival

Thursday, June 15, 9pm, Art House 1
Saturday, June 17, 11am, Town Hall
SUMMER SOLSTICE
2023, USA, 81 minutes
Directed by Noah Schamus
Cast: Bobbi Salvör Menuez, Marianne Rendón

Leo, a trans man, and his cis and straight friend, Eleanor, go away for an impromptu weekend trip, during which they uncover old secrets, new challenges, and find the answer to the age-old question: can bad sex and good friends mix? Writer-director Noah Schamus’s funny, melancholic feature debut celebrates and tests Leo and Eleanor’s bond in equal measure. Rising stars Bobbi Salvör Menuez (Adam) and Marianne Rendón (Mapplethorpe) give carefully calibrated performances that illustrate both the lasting love and growing frustration at the heart of the pair’s changing relationship.

Friday, June 16, 6pm, Art House 2
Sunday, June 18, 3:30pm, Waters Edge 2

WILL-O’-THE-WISP (FOGO-FATUO)
2022, Portugal, 67 minutes
Directed by João Pedro Rodrigues
Cast: Mauro Costa, André Cabral, Joel Branco, Claudia Jardim

Come see the film that made John Waters’ Top 10 List for 2022. On his deathbed, his royal highness Alfredo, king without a crown, is taken back to distant youth memories and the time he dreamt of becoming a fireman. The encounter with hunky instructor Afonso from the fire brigade opens a new chapter in the life of two young men immersed in love and desire, and the will to change the status quo.

“A raunchy Portuguese musical about class and pyromania that will light you on fire. Facials! Fake dicks! A real arty head-scratcher of a film that makes Titane seem tame.” - John Waters

Friday, June 16, 9pm, Waters Edge 1
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AFTER THE BITE
2023, USA, 88 minutes
Directed by Ivy Meeropol

When a young man is killed by a shark at a popular beach on Cape Cod, the local community of lifeguards, fishermen, surfers, scientists, and citizen activists are forced to confront dramatic changes to their environment and way of life. AFTER THE BITE is a thoughtful exploration of how the Cape’s coastal community is renegotiating its relationship with the marine environment to consider the larger question that has plagued the human race since the industrial revolution: how far can we push nature before it bites back? Award-winning filmmaker Ivy Meeropol crafts an immersive story with multiple viewpoints with a focus on local voices.

Thursday, June 15, 4pm, Town Hall
THE BUSING BATTLEGROUND
2023, USA, 109 minutes
Directed by Sharon Grimberg and Cyndee Readdean

In 1974, after a decades-long battle by Black parents in Boston working for equal education, a local judge mandated the desegregation of the public schools. Cross-town busing led to an eruption of explosive racial violence that tore the city apart, setting a tragic course for Boston’s children that still reverberates today. Told through rare archival footage and first person interviews with community leaders and students who took part in the busing plan, THE BUSING BATTLEGROUND is a definitive reexamination of a tumultuous piece of Boston’s racial history.

Friday, June 16, 4pm, Waters Edge 1
Sunday, June 18, 1:30pm, Waters Edge 1

CHASING CHASING AMY
2023, USA, 85 minutes
Directed by Sav Rodgers
Cast: Kevin Smith, Joey Lauren Adams, Guinevere Turner

This personal, surprising documentary examines the complex legacy of Kevin Smith’s Chasing Amy within the LGBTQ+ community while simultaneously illustrating the film’s life-saving impact on director Sav Rodgers. Through candid interviews with Smith and star Adams, Sav learns their personal stories of the film’s emotional production, balanced against firsthand accounts from other indie film players of the time that further reveal the film’s complicated origin story. CHASING CHASING AMY is a trans coming-of-age love story, nestled within a behind the scenes look at an indie film phenom that continues to provoke heated debate decades later.

Friday, June 16, 6pm, Waters Edge 2
Saturday, June 17, 1pm, Waters Edge 2
THE DEEPEST BREATH
2022, UK/Ireland, 108 minutes
Directed by Laura McGann

Freediving is one of the world's most extreme sports and training to be the best in the world requires physical strength, mental determination and an unwavering trust in the people who support you along the way. THE DEEPEST BREATH tells the heart-stopping story of a champion diver training to break a world record with the help of an expert safety diver. In the process, the pair form a bond that feels like fate, sharing the mutual high of chasing their dreams in the darkest, most dangerous depths of the ocean.

Friday, June 16, 8:30pm, Waters Edge 2

DESPERATE SOULS, DARK CITY AND THE LEGEND OF MIDNIGHT COWBOY
2022, USA, 101 minutes
Directed by Nancy Buirski

A half century after its release, Midnight Cowboy remains one of the most original and groundbreaking movies of the modern era. With beguiling performances from Jon Voight and Dustin Hoffman, Waldo Salt’s brilliant screenplay, and John Schlesinger’s fearless direction, the 1969 film became the only X-rated film to ever win the Academy Award for Best Picture. DESPERATE SOULS is about the deeply gifted and flawed people behind this dark and difficult masterpiece. Featuring extensive archival material and compelling new interviews, director Nancy Buirski illuminates how one film captured the essence of a time and a place, reflecting a rapidly changing society with striking clarity.

Thursday, June 15, 10:30am, Art House 2
THE DISAPPEARANCE OF SHERE HITE
2022, USA, 118 minutes
Directed by Nicole Newnham

Filmmaker Nicole Newnham (*Crip Camp*) transports viewers back to the revelatory period of the 1970s and 80s when the US was gripped by the provocative, groundbreaking work of feminist sex researcher Shere Hite. Newnham’s carefully crafted rediscovery of this fascinating cultural figure and her unmistakable influence on current conversations about gender, sexuality, and bodily autonomy also acts as a cautionary tale about our society’s continual eagerness to suppress truly revolutionary, progressive voices. A love letter to its protagonist, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF SHERE HITE is also a stirring call to action for its audience.

“...an astonishing, beautifully made corrective to the cultural amnesia that has for decades surrounded Hite.” – Variety

Thursday, June 15, 6:30pm, Art House 1
Saturday, June 17, 9pm, Waters Edge 1

HIDDEN MASTER:
THE LEGACY OF GEORGE PLATT LYNES
2022, USA, 95 minutes
Directed by Sam Shahid

George Platt Lynes is best remembered for his dazzling celebrity and fashion photographs. However, Lynes’ passion, and arguably his greatest talents, lay in his work with the male nude. This work, sensuous and radically explicit for its time, was kept hidden by Lynes and has only recently begun to be fully discovered and appreciated. Director Sam Shahid uncovers the life and work Lynes was forced to keep hidden from the public, helping to reclaim this gifted artist’s full legacy and lasting influence as one of the first openly gay American artists.

Friday, June 16, 11am, Art House 1
Sunday, June 18, 10:30am, Art House 2
INVISIBLE BEAUTY
2022, USA, 115 minutes
Directed by Bethann Hardison and Frédéric Tcheng

Working alongside veteran documentarian Frédéric Tcheng (*Halston, Dior and I*), fashion pioneer Bethann Hardison crafts a compelling, personal and utterly captivating depiction of her own fascinating journey from model to fashion power agent and mentor to some of modeling’s biggest names to activist. A totally candid and often audacious accounting of her personal history and unique approach to life, the film also chronicles Hardison’s ongoing persistence in her commitment to catalyzing change within the systemically undiverse fashion world. The intoxicating INVISIBLE BEAUTY beautifully embodies Bethann’s audacious, revolutionary spirit.

“...an illuminating and sturdy paean to an influential industry leader...” – *The Hollywood Reporter*

Friday, June 16, 4pm, Art House 1
Saturday, June 17, 4pm, Art House 1

IT’S BASIC
2023, USA, 76 minutes
Directed by Marc Levin

IT’S BASIC explores several pilot programs across the US that test the effects of giving everyday people an extra $500 to $1,000 monthly, with no strings attached. Presenting the benefits, criticisms, and outcomes of giving unconditional money to people in need and examining whether Basic Income pilot programs eradicate child poverty and level the racial playing field through community-centric solutions is the desired goal. With commentary by Michael Tubbs, the founder of Mayors for Guaranteed Income, and interviews with program recipients and participating mayors across the country, the real-life challenges of trying to get by on a daily basis are at the heart of this moving story.

Saturday, June 17, 6:30pm, Waters Edge 1
IT’S ONLY LIFE AFTER ALL
2022, USA, 123 minutes
Directed by Alexandria Bombach

IT’S ONLY LIFE AFTER ALL offers a rousing musical celebration of the life and work of the much-beloved folk rock duo, the Indigo Girls. Featuring extensive interviews with Amy Ray and Emily Saliers about their experiences, motivations, and the lessons they’ve learned along the way, the film includes a treasure trove of archival footage, some from Ray’s own personal collection of camcorder and audio recordings. Director Alexandria Bombach crafts an intimate and exuberant portrait of the Girls’ decades-long journey, taking special care in depicting their dedication to political activism, particularly the ongoing fight for LGBTQ+ rights.

Friday, June 16, 11am, Town Hall

KOKOMO CITY
2022, USA, 73 minutes
Directed by D. Smith

A stunning depiction of four Black transgender sex workers from New York and Georgia exploring the dichotomy between the Black community and themselves. Delving into long avoided issues, these transgender women candidly discuss taboos, realities of their work, and society’s portrayal of their livelihood and identity. Grammy-winning producer and first-time director D. Smith has crafted a vibrant and humanizing piece of filmmaking utilizing luminous black and white photography. KOKOMO CITY is a raw, edgy and rare look that exquisitely captures the private lives of Black transgender women on their own terms.

Winner of the NEXT Innovator and Audience Awards at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival

Friday, June 16, 3:30pm, Waters Edge 2
Sunday, June 18, 10:30am, Waters Edge 2
LAKOTA NATION VS. UNITED STATES
2022, USA, 120 minutes
Directed by Jesse Short Bull and Laura Tomaselli

LAKOTA NATION VS. UNITED STATES chronicles the Lakota Indians’ century-long quest to reclaim the Black Hills, sacred land that was stolen in violation of treaty agreements. This searing and timely portrait of resistance explores the ways America has ignored its debt to indigenous communities, and ponders what might be done today to repair the wrongs of the past. Filmmakers Jesse Short Bull and Laura Tomaselli weave potent interviews with classic old Hollywood films and TV clips that reinforced stereotypes and propelled long standing bias. This visually stunning chronicle reminds viewers to both reflect and then strive to enact meaningful social change.

“...offers a sense of optimism and underscores the resilience of the Lakotas...” – The Hollywood Reporter

Sunday, June 18, 1pm, Waters Edge 2

QUEENDOM
2023, France/USA, 98 minutes
Directed by Agniia Galdanova

Gena, a queer artist from a small town in Russia, dresses in otherworldly costumes made from junk and tape, and protests the government on the streets of Moscow. Her performances—often dark, strange, and intentionally provocative—are both self-expressive acts of a performance artist and defiant protestations of Russia’s harassment of the LGBTQ+ community. With beautiful style and arresting visuals, director Agniia Galdanova shows us a brave and talented artist who refuses to be silenced—come what may.

In English and Russian with English subtitles

Friday, June 16, 10:30am, Art House 2
Saturday, June 17, 6pm, Art House 2
ROCK HUDSON: ALL THAT HEAVEN ALLOWED
2023, USA, 105 minutes
Directed by Stephen Kijak

An intimate portrait of Rock Hudson, an icon of Hollywood’s Golden Age, whose death from AIDS in 1985 shocked the world and forced a shift in public perception of the pandemic. Director and PIFF alum Stephen Kijak (Scott Walker: 30 Century Man, Cinemania) examines not only Hudson’s cinematic and cultural legacy, but takes a rare and sometimes heartbreaking look at his private life through interviews with friends and former lovers. ROCK HUDSON: ALL THAT HEAVEN ALLOWED provides a fresh and timely new take on a life that shaped and changed American culture.

Friday, June 16, 1:30pm, Art House 1
Sunday, June 18, 11am, Art House 1

THE SPACE RACE
2023, USA, 91 minutes
Directed by Lisa Cortés and Diego Hurtado de Mendoza

THE SPACE RACE weaves together the stories of Black astronauts seeking to break the bonds of social injustice to reach for the stars, including Guion Bluford, Ed Dwight and Charles Bolden among many others. Directors Lisa Cortés and Diego Hurtado de Mendoza address the racial injustice within NASA across several decades following pioneers who fought to overcome not just the obstacles of their astronaut training, but also the challenges that stemmed from the racial prejudice and discrimination present at the time. THE SPACE RACE highlights how their perseverance challenged the definition of “the right stuff,” even when their stories were omitted from the history books.

Thursday, June 15, 8:30pm, Waters Edge 2
Saturday, June 17, 1pm, Art House 2
THE STROLL
2022, USA, 84 minutes
Directed by Kristen Lovell and Zackary Drucker

THE STROLL creates a cinematic ode to the history of New York City’s meatpacking district, told by the transgender women of color who lived and worked there before and during its identity-transforming gentrification. Shepherded with affection and joy by co-directors Kristen Lovell and Zackary Drucker (Transparent), the film allows its subjects to tell their complicated stories on their own terms, creating a historical document that unflinchingly recalls ugly truths about racism and policing, but never allows them to overshadow the stirring declaration of self-affirmation of the women who worked the stroll.

Winner of a Special Jury Prize for Clarity of Vision at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival

Thursday, June 15, 8:30pm, Art House 2
Saturday, June 17, 3:30pm, Waters Edge 2

SUNDAY BEST
2023, USA, 87 minutes
Directed by Sacha Jenkins

Ed Sullivan reigned as TV’s kingmaker, though his most significant legacy is largely unknown: a radical dedication to diversity and representation that would break open the conversation about race in America. SUNDAY BEST traces the rise of the greatest names in music through the barrier-breaking host that introduced them to the world, featuring some of the rarest, first-ever TV performances from artists like Stevie Wonder, The Supremes, James Brown, The Jackson 5, Nat King Cole, and more. Brimming with edge, energy, and an exuberant soundtrack, the film sheds new light on one of the most transformative periods in television history.

Sunday, June 18, 11am, Waters Edge 1
**(WE WILL SPEAK)**

2023, USA, 94 minutes  
Directed by Schon Duncan and Michael McDermitt

While there are 430,000 Cherokee citizens in the three federally recognized tribes, fewer than an estimated 2,000 fluent speakers remain—the majority of whom are elderly. And the covid pandemic has only hastened this decline. Language activists, artists, and the youth must now lead the charge of urgent radical revitalization efforts to help save the language from the brink of extinction. Through intimate interviews, vérité footage of community gatherings, and extensive archival materials, *(WE WILL SPEAK)* explores the nuanced ways the Cherokee language is vital to maintaining a unique cultural identity and relationship with the world.

In English and Cherokee with English subtitles

Thursday, June 15, 3:30pm, Waters Edge 2  
Saturday, June 17, 6pm, Waters Edge 2

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**WHO I AM NOT**

2023, Canada/Romania, 102 minutes  
Directed by Tünde Skovrán

To be intersex is to exist outside long-established social constructs that demand a binary definition of sexual identity: that a person is born either male and female. But up to 1.7% of the population is born with intersex traits—traits that many doctors and families look to “correct.” *WHO I AM NOT* follows a beauty queen and a male-presenting activist as they come to terms with the choices that others made for them and carve out their own authentic identities in a world that too often seems unable or unwilling to recognize them.

In English and Pedi, Xosha, Tswana with English subtitles

Thursday, June 15, 10:30am, Waters Edge 2  
Saturday, June 17, 10:30am, Waters Edge 2
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### QUEER SHORTS 1

**THE DALLES**  
2022, USA, 12 minutes  
Directed by Angalis Field  
Cam meets a handsome cyclist at his family cherry stand who asks for directions to a local cruising site.

**FANATIC**  
2022, USA, 16 minutes  
Directed by Taran Killam  
Charlie and Gerald reunite their failed 2000’s boy band for a competition.

**AIKÅNE**  
2023, USA, 14 minutes  
Directed by Daniel Sousa, Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson  
A valiant Island warrior, wounded in battle against foreign invaders, falls into a mysterious underwater world.

**FAMILY AFFAIR**  
2023, USA, 15 minutes  
Directed by Julio Dowansigh  
A young adult’s secret relationship puts him at odds with his friends and mother.

**MNM**  
2023, USA, 16 minutes  
Directed by Twiggy Pucci Garcon  
Two emerging divas in the drag ballroom community celebrate their unapologetic personas.

**TOE TAG**  
2023, USA, 19 minutes  
A Film by Michael Fisher  
Based on a true story of a gay man in his 50’s who discovers a toe tag in the dunes of Fire Island.

**MY DEAR BOY**  
2022, USA, 5 minutes  
Directed by Leaf Lieber  
A celebration of opening your heart up and being brave enough to feel it all.

**Program Run Time:** 97 minutes

**Thursday, June 15, 4pm, Art House 1**  
Saturday, June 17, 1:30pm, Waters Edge 1
HONEY TO THE MOON
2023, Mexico, 7 minutes
Directed by Robert Woodcox, Eduardo Cifuentes
A journey of love between two lovers connected in nature.

INSTA GAY
2023, Canada, 12 minutes
Directed by Simon Paluck
A millennial Torontonian reels after breaking-up with a popular influencer.

BI THE WAY
2022, USA, 15 minutes
Directed by Amir Ovadia Steklov
This funny and intimate animated story highlights Amir’s struggle to fit into binary culture.

MY DEAR MR. WHITMAN
2022, USA, 2 minutes
Directed by Jeremiah Dickey
An 1872 letter of adoration sent to American poet Walt Whitman by British writer Bram Stoker.

SAFE WORD
2022, USA, 15 minutes
Directed by Christopher Cunetto
Cesar confronts his self-loathing after his dom, Bear, reinterprets the rules of their game.

EMpress NICOLE THE GREAT
2022, USA, 15 minutes
Directed by Dara Bratt
Empress Nicole the Great, a champion of LGBTQ rights, reflects on her legacy.

CAMPFIRE
2023, USA, 17 minutes
Directed by Austin Lee Bunn
A married dairy farmer travels to a gay campground in rural NE Pennsylvania to search for the man he fell in love with 30 years before.

Myn Deyer Mr. Whitman
2022, USA, 2 minutes
Directed by Jeremiah Dickey
An 1872 letter of adoration sent to American poet Walt Whitman by British writer Bram Stoker.

Program Run Time: 83 minutes

I (HEART) JACK LALANNE: A CARTOON MEMOIR
2022, USA, 14 minutes
Directed by LeAnn Erickson
A filmmaker shares her coming out story with the help of exercise guru Jack LaLanne.

KNOW YOU TWICE
2022, USA, 12 minutes
Directed by Andrew Chan Gladstone
Paloma takes radical action to hold onto her love and live after she learns she could be deported.

CUXBALL
2022, USA, 12 minutes
Directed by Dave Paige
Sam finds something in the dirt.

LESBIANS ON THE LOOSE
2022, Australia, 13 minutes
Directed by Steph Jowett, Tilly Robba
The story of Australia’s longest lived lesbian magazine.

Program Run Time: 82 minutes

Friday, June 16, 11am, Waters Edge 1
Sunday, June 18, 1:30pm, Art House 1

Thursday, June 15, 6pm, Waters Edge 2
Saturday, June 17, 4pm, Waters Edge 1
SHORTS 4:
NEW ENGLAND - CLOSE TO HOME

FOOT PRINT SHOP
2022, USA, 4 minutes
Directed by Gina Kamentsky
The filmmakers and her mom discuss feet using collage and stop-motion.

READ ‘EM AND WEEP
2022, USA, 16 minutes
Directed by Jeffery Hoyt
In a quaint Vermont town, the local paper boy makes his rounds.

A CALL TO ACTION: THE FREEDOM BUDGET OF 1966
2022, USA, 8 minutes
Directed by Jenny Alexander
Tells the story of a little-known grassroots push for guaranteed income during the civil rights movement.

EVERY OTHER KID
2022, USA, 12 minutes
Directed by Patrick Godino
The story of three high school students as they deal with their mental and emotional struggles.

DAUGHTER OF RUBENS
2022, USA, 18 minutes
Directed by Sarah Hachey
Nancy Ellen Craig was a Truro based artist from the 70’s until her death.

Program Run Time: 76 minutes

Thursday, June 15, 11am, Art House 1
Sunday, June 18, 4pm, Waters Edge 1

SHORTS 5:
NEW ENGLAND - LOCAL LENS

GRASS-FED CAPITALISM – DEF-SSARG MSILATIPAC
2023, USA, 5 minutes
Directed by Jay Critchley

PAINTING TIME ... AND THE TOWN
2023, USA, 18 minutes
Directed by Lise Balk King
Artist Esteban Del Valle paints a visual treat in the middle of town and expresses the wildness of Provincetown.

AFTER CLOSING
2022, USA, 8 minutes
Directed by Carley Byers
A waitress is stuck with a house full of eccentric customers after the diner’s scheduled closing time.

BREATHE
2023, USA, 5 minutes
Directed by Loi Huynh, Jordan Waterworth
When a loud and energetic boy spends a day at a quiet Buddhist temple, he crosses paths with a fiery friend that leads him on a spiritual adventure.

Program Run Time: 62 minutes

Friday, June 16, 4pm, Town Hall
Saturday, June 17, 6:30pm, Art House 1
SHORTS 6: CHANGEMAKERS

JACK AND SAM
2023, USA, 20 minutes
Directed by Jordan Matthew Horowitz
Two Holocaust survivors were miraculously reunited after 80 years, and are spending what precious time they have left rekindling their friendship.

AMERICAN SANTA
2023, USA, 24 minutes
Directed by Avi Zev Weider
Black Santas, in their red cloaks and white beards, capture joyful moments with children and parents. Yet, lurking beneath the surface is the chilling reality of American racism.

GUERRILLA HABEAS
2022, USA, 40 minutes
Directed by Emma Wall, Betsy Hershey
An intimate view into the work of two intrepid lawyers fighting to restore the human rights and dignity of immigrant populations in the United States.

Program Run Time: 84 minutes

Friday, June 16, 6:30pm, Waters Edge 1

SHORTS 7: DIGITAL CLOSENESS

THIRSTYGIRL
2023, USA, 10 minutes
Directed by Alexandra Qin
On a road trip with her younger sister, Charlie struggles to hide a secret sex addiction.

MOLES
2021, USA, 15 minutes
Directed by Vanja Victor Kabir Tognola
When a family can’t afford a fancy trip, social pressure makes them fake it.

GORKA
2023, UK, 18 minutes
Directed by Joe Weiland
A French exchange student named Gorka visits England for the first time and stays with a British family.

SWIPE NYC
2023, USA, 29 minutes
directed by Sue Zarco Kramer
Newly divorced Syd throws herself into the big wide world of online dating.

Program Run Time: 87 minutes

Friday, June 16, 1:30pm, Waters Edge 1
Saturday, June 17, 1:30pm, Art House 1
SHORTS PROGRAMS

SHORTS 8: THE SHAPE OF FAMILY

PARKER
2023, USA, 12 minutes
Directed by Catherine Hoffman, Sharon Liese
A decision delayed for decades allows three generations of a Kansas City family to finally unify under one name.

MOTHERLAND
2022, USA, 18 minutes
Directed by Christina Yoon
Leah, a Korean adoptee raised in America, returns to Korea to search for her birth mother.

REGULAR RABBIT
2022, Ireland, 8 minutes
Directed by Eoin Duffy
Regular Rabbit battles a comically absurd onslaught of disinformation.

SAFE AS HOUSES
2022, Ireland, 16 minutes
Directed by Mia Mullarkey
Aggie, a woman with Down Syndrome, offers shelter to a young girl when her home is not so welcoming.

A REAL ONE
2022, USA, 15 minutes
Directed by McKenzie Chinn
Lauren and Keisha’s friendship is tested when Lauren reveals a tightly-held secret.

THE SCRIPT
2022, USA, 14 minutes
Directed by Brit Fryer, Noah Schamus
Explores the complicated relationship between trans and nonbinary communities and medical providers regarding gender affirming care.

BLUEBERRY
2023, USA, 5 minutes
Directed by Stephanie Glover
A determined, practical boy has a change of heart when his favorite food comes to life.

Program Run Time: 89 minutes

CHEERS!
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109 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657
JOHN WATERS PRESENTS: ANTICHRIST
2009, Denmark/Germany/France/Sweden/Italy/Poland,
108 minutes
Directed by Lars von Trier
Cast: Willem Dafoe, Charlotte Gainsbourg

A grieving couple (Willem Dafoe & Charlotte Gainsbourg) retreat to ‘Eden’, their isolated cabin in the woods, where they hope to repair their broken hearts and troubled marriage. But nature takes its course and things go from bad to worse. It’s perhaps no surprise that this year’s “John Waters Presents” selection is a film that scandalized the Cannes Film Festival and prompted headlines like “a work of genius or the sickest film in the history of cinema?” The jury’s still out. Come see for yourself!

Sunday, June 18, 4pm, Art House 1
I AM A TOWN
2019, USA, 83 minutes
Directed by Mischa Richter

Join us for a very special hometown screening of artist and Provincetown resident Mischa Richter’s (whose photograph of Amy Winehouse graced the cover of her album Back to Black before making its way into London’s National Portrait Gallery) documentary debut feature. A poetic meditation on his native Provincetown—the free-spirited community his artist family has called home for nearly 100 years—through conversations with its resilient and at times eccentric inhabitants, from pilgrims and fishermen to drag queens and spirit guides in an attempt to discover what freedom means in America today.

Wednesday, June 14, 4pm, Town Hall

IN THE WHALE
2023, USA, 71 minutes
Directed by David Abel

Arguably one of the greatest fish stories ever told is one that also happens to be true: the story of a man who was swallowed by a whale off the shore of Provincetown and lived to tell the tale. Director David Abel dives into Michael Packard’s now famous story and its aftermath. Featuring interviews with Michael, the extended Packard family, coworkers, and friends, IN THE WHALE uses this fantastic event to tell a larger story of a man, his family, and community—and how a few short minutes can change a life.

Friday, June 16, 2pm, Town Hall
NEVER LET HIM GO
2023, USA, 104 minutes
Directed by Jeff Dupre, Jacob Hickey

Join us for a special advance screening of the first two episodes of an upcoming 4-part true-crime series for Hulu. In 1988, the body of Scott Johnson, a 27-year-old gay, American doctoral student, was found sprawled below a cliff on a rugged beach in Sydney, Australia. Since then, his older brother Steve has been doggedly searching for answers to how Scott died. He could never have imagined the tinderbox he would crack open—a wave of anti-gay violence and the murders of dozens of gay men—as Australia’s citizens grapple with their country’s history of endemic corruption and senseless homophobia.

Friday, June 16, 3:30pm, Art House 2
FIRST STOP.
LAST STOP.
BEST STOP.

PHOTO BY JOE NAVAS

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* All screenings require a ticket. Passholders must reserve tickets in advance.

WHERE TO BUY TICKETS & PASSES

ONLINE (BEGINNING MAY 26)
General Information: provincetownfilm.org/festival
Passes: provincetownfilm.org/festival/passes/
FAQ: provincetownfilm.org/about/faq/

IN PERSON
@ WATERS EDGE CINEMA (May 26 - June 8):
Whalers Wharf, 3rd Floor
237 Commercial Street

IN PERSON
@ THE FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE (June 8 - 18):
229 Commercial St, Provincetown, MA 02657

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE HOURS
Thursday 6/8 - 12pm - 6pm
Friday 6/9 - 12pm - 6pm
Saturday 6/10 - 12pm - 6pm
Sunday 6/11 - 12pm - 4pm
Monday 6/12 - 12pm - 6pm
Tuesday 6/13 - 12pm - 6pm
Wednesday 6/14 - 10am - 8pm
Thursday 6/15 - 10am - 8pm
Friday 6/16 - 10am - 8pm
Saturday 6/17 - 10am - 8pm
Sunday 6/18 - 10am - 6pm

TICKET & EVENT PRICES
Virtual Screenings - $15
Regular Screenings - $20
Opening Night Film & Party - $35
Closing Night Film & Party - $35
Conversations with Honorees - $30

Provincetown Film Society Members receive $5 off all tickets! Join today at provincetownfilm.org/support/become-a-member/
Cape Cod Locals, Seniors and Students enjoy $3 off all regular screening tickets! (In person at the Festival Box Office only, with valid ID)

Festival 6-Ticket Package - $110
$85 for PFS Members. $100 for Cape Codders, Seniors and Students (In person at the Festival Box Office only, with valid ID)

*Tickets purchased online are subject to a $1.50 fee per ticket.

FESTIVAL POLICIES

- All screenings require a ticket reserved in advance. All passholders are required to present a ticket with their pass (either a physical ticket, or one that has been added to your pass for scanning).
- No refunds for passes or tickets.
- Please note that tickets are sold at the Festival Box Office and online up to 1 hour before screening start times. Within one hour of a screening, rush tickets may be available for purchase at the venue.
- Venue doors open 30 minutes prior to each screening. Ticket and passholders must be in line 15 MINUTES prior to showtime or your seat may be released to others.
- All passes are non-transferrable and are redeemable for SINGLE entry.
- Saving seats or saving places in line is not permitted.
- No recording equipment is permitted in any screening or conversation venue, and all electronics must be shut off during a film presentation.
- No large bags are allowed inside PIFF venues.
- No outside food or drinks are allowed in the venues.
- PIFF screenings are not suitable for children. Each person regardless of age must have a ticket.
- These films have not yet been rated - viewer discretion is advised.

PIFF reserves the right to refuse service to anyone for any reason. We enforce this policy to ensure a safe, professional, and enjoyable environment for all of our customers, filmmakers, and employees.

SOLD OUT? NOPE - RUSH LINE!
Five minutes before each screening, any remaining seats are sold to the rush line. Your odds of getting in can be based on event popularity, venue capacity, and/or your place in line. No guarantees - but there's always a chance! Rush lines begin to form at the venue as early as 30 minutes prior to the scheduled screening.

MERCHANDISE
Festival and Film Society merchandise is available for purchase at the Festival Box Office.

ABOUT PIFF PASSES
Make your festival experience even more enjoyable by purchasing a festival pass! Passes provide easy access to events and flexibility along with exclusive access to reserve tickets to your choice of screenings prior to public sale. Learn more at the Festival Box Office, or by visiting www.provincetownfilm.org/festival/passes.

PASS PICK-UP begins June 10th at 12 p.m. at the Festival Box Office at 229 Commercial St.
SPECIAL THANKS

Thelma Adams
Vanessa Bendetti
Neal Block
Tom Boland
Erik Borg
John Braden
Brian Brooks
Mike Brown
Justin Capraro-Gentusco
Lisa Cortês
Matt Cowal
Abby Cummings
Tom Curitore
Cara Cusumano
Julian Cyr
John Derian
Ben DeRuyter
Peter Donnelly
George Avery Downing
Jim Farley
Linda Fiorello
Danielle Freiberg
Ken Fulk
Melody Gilbert
Marita Gomsrud
Catherine Graciano
Mark Hanson
Jonathan Hawkins
Laura Heberton
Emily Henderson
Stephan Hengst
Eugene Hernandez
Timothy Hess
Amy Hobby
Tim Horsburgh
Marcus Hu
Carolyne Jurriaans
Howard Karren
Lisa Kennedy
Adam Kersh
Keith Macdonald
Ryan Landry
Janet Lesniak
Liza Lott
Erin Lowrey
Billy Luther
Allegra Madsen
Maria Maggenti
Daniel Marandola
Scott Martino
Danielle McCarthy-Boles
Derek McCormack
Mike Miller
John Cameron Mitchell
Alex Mitow
Tim Molloy
Kristin Montalbano
Mike Mosbrooker
Daniel Mosman
Markus Mosman
Rick Murray
Karen Nash
Adam Peck
Trevor Pittinger
Parker Posey
Lisa Richie
Juan Romero
Rajendra Roy
Gail Strickland
Kathy Susca
David Sunderland
Gene Tartaglia
Katie Trainer
Matt Ullian
Christine Vachon
Vanessa Vartabedian
Elisabeth Verde
Stephanie Viva
Gui Yingling
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### NOTES

**Provincetown International Film Festival 2023**

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