

Stony Brook Film Festival goes digital

July 17, 2013 by RAFER GUZMÁN / rafer.guzman@newsday.com

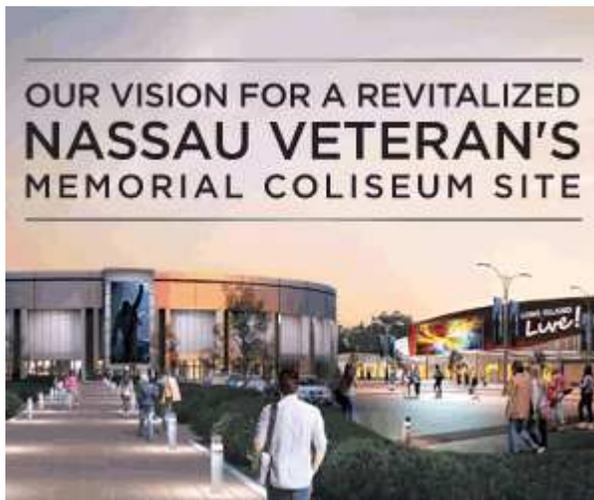


This year's Stony Brook Film Festival will have no films.

There will be movies, of course -- 33 in all, including features, documentaries and shorts from around the world. None, however, will be on the celluloid material known as film. The festival, now in its 18th year, will be the first all-digital edition, thanks to a \$140,000 system installed earlier this year in Staller Center for the Arts, the festival's longtime home.

"We could not have put this festival on without it," says Alan Inkles, director of both the festival

and Staller Center. The opening and closing night pictures, he says, were available only on DCP, or digital cinema package, a capability Staller Center did not have until recently. The no-film approach also has helped shrink labor and shipping costs by as much as \$20,000.



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Granted, it's a somewhat sad day for celluloid purists. "We are crying as we remove the two 35mm projectors," says Inkles. "The reality is, this is how everyone is doing it. We're able to keep afloat, and festivals that can't do this are going to go by the wayside."

Here are a few highlights from the festival.

Zaytoun(8 tonight)

The opening night selection stars Stephen Dorff ("Somewhere") as an Israeli pilot captured by Palestinian refugees during the 1982 Lebanese War. Directed by Eran Riklis. In English, Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles.

TWA Flight 800(3 p.m. Saturday)

Kristina Borjesson's documentary re-examines the possible cause of the 1996 plane crash on the South Shore -- still a subject of controversy -- and includes interviews with former investigators. Borjesson and independent expert Tom Stalcup will appear in person.

Everything Went Down (9:30 p.m. Sunday)

Seattle-based singer-songwriter Kate Tucker plays a version of herself in this indie drama about a struggling musician who befriends a grieving young college professor. It's Tucker's first starring role.

Allez, Eddy!(7 p.m. Monday)

A Belgian comedy about an 11-year-old cycling enthusiast who sees an opportunity when his small village sponsors a race. In Dutch and French with English subtitles.

The Weekend(9:15 p.m. Tuesday)

A former RAF terrorist emerges from prison to spend time with old friends, among them a former lover and her new husband. Based on the novel by Bernhard Schlink ("The Reader"). In German with English subtitles.

Muscle Shoals(9:15 p.m. July 25)

A documentary about FAME Studios, which in the late 1950s began bringing black and white musicians together and helped establish the famous "Muscle Shoals sound," named after the venue's Alabama town. With Aretha Franklin, Mick Jagger and Gregg Allman.

Deep Powder(7 p.m. July 26)

Haley Bennet and Shiloh Fernandez play teens from opposite sides of the tracks who make a drug run to Ecuador. Produced by Christine Vachon, of the indie studio Killer Films, who recently joined the Stony Brook Southampton Arts faculty and will be honored with a Career Achievement Award before the screening.

Two Lives(8:30 p.m. July 27)

The closing-night selection is a drama-mystery about a woman looking for clues to her identity as a "war child" -- the product of a Norwegian woman and a German soldier during World War II. With Julian Köhler and Liv Ullmann. In Norwegian, German and English with English subtitles.

Stony Brook Film Festival

WHEN|WHERE Thursday-July 27 at [Staller Center for the Arts](#) on the Stony Brook University campus

INFO 631-632-2787, stonybrookfilmfestival.com

ADMISSION \$9 a film (\$80-\$225 festival pass) \$20-\$25 opening night reception and closing night awards ceremony