



Stony Brook Film Festival
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For additional photos:

[http://staller4.staller.sunysb.edu/2019 Stony Brook Film Festival/](http://staller4.staller.sunysb.edu/2019_Stony_Brook_Film_Festival/)

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For more information:

<https://stonybrookfilmfestival.com/press/index.php>

Festival Commercial:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRjFA7e1OrE&list=PLYK8UfYe35pFvxpNJvwJn4U9Ic4-7Rm5E>

24TH ANNUAL STONY BROOK FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY ISLAND FEDERAL, JULY 18-27 **FAMILY FORMS THE FOUNDATION AT THE 2019 STONY BROOK FILM FESTIVAL**

June 10, 2019, Stony Brook, NY – Staller Center turns into a movie lover's mecca when new independent films from nearly twenty countries screen at the Stony Brook Film Festival presented by Island Federal on evenings and weekends from Thursday, July 18 to Saturday, July 27. The popular Festival, now in its 24th year, brings a highly selective roster of diverse films, making it a favorite of moviegoers and filmmakers alike.

Produced by Staller Center for the Arts at Stony Brook University, the Festival pairs memorable short films with an array of features you won't see anywhere else. The Stony Brook Film Festival presented by Island Federal brings in filmmakers, cast, and crew who field questions after the screenings, adding a unique dimension to the experience.

The Festival lifts off with the New York premiere of [*Balloon*](#), a German film based on the true story of two families who escaped East Germany on their homemade hot air balloon and closes with another New York premiere of the French film *Lola & Her Brothers*.

There are many World, U.S., East Coast, and New York premieres in this year's Festival. Alan Inkles, Stony Brook Film Festival Founder and Director, notes "The quality and diversity in our dramas, comedies, and documentaries are extremely high and I expect our audience to be thoroughly entertained this summer." Several American indie films will have their World Premiere at the Stony Brook Film Festival, and many foreign films, including [*Yao*](#), [*Sweethearts*](#), [*Miamor perdido*](#), [*Lady Winsley*](#), and [*Made in China*](#) will have their U.S. premieres. American features include [*Them That Follow*](#), a tense drama featuring academy award winner Olivia Colman, the raucous comedy [*Babysplitters*](#), featuring Long Island native Eddie Alfano, and [*Guest Artist*](#), a stunning and humorous film written by and starring Jeff Daniels and directed by Timothy Busfield. *Them That Follow* was recently picked up by 1091 Media for distribution, and it is Inkles hope that many other Festival films will resonate with our audience and end up with U.S. theatrical, on-demand, or other platform releases.

Family Forms the Foundation at the 2019 Festival

The idea of family forms the foundation for many of the features and shorts at the 2019 Stony Brook Film Festival (SBFF). Whether they are by birth or by choice, flexible or dysfunctional, generational or newly formed, you will see families of all stripes in films that take place in nearly 20 countries, from Australia to Austria, India to Israel, and Spain to South Africa.

The families in the 24th annual Stony Brook Film Festival films are found in cold-war era East Germany and the political upheaval of 1980s Jerusalem. They brave the isolation of North Dakotan farmlands, experience drug-fueled head trips in the California desert, and solve idiosyncratic murders on a small Turkish island. They live in Paris's Chinatown as well as remote Himalayan villages, they travel the dusty roads of Senegal and the long highway from the south of England to the Isle of Skye, and they revel in the lush rainforest of Queensland and the wilds of Appalachia.

Many of this year's films showcase the strength of families through all the trials and tribulations they face. The opening night film, *Balloon*, tells the riveting story of two families trying to escape from East Berlin in a homemade hot air balloon during the Cold War, and the Festival closes with *Lola & Her Brothers*, a charming French comedy about three adult siblings who are still trying to look after one other after losing their parents.

Film passes are on sale for \$90, which includes admission to all twenty features and sixteen shorts over ten days. Passholder perks include VIP gifts, discounts to over a dozen area restaurants throughout the summer, guaranteed admission 15 minutes before each film, and the opportunity to purchase tickets for the Closing Night Awards reception. For \$250 you can buy a Gold Pass, and receive all the Regular Pass perks plus reserved seating with filmmakers and guests, as well as entry to the exclusive Opening Night party and the Closing Night Awards reception. The complete schedule is online at stonybrookfilmfestival.com. Single tickets for individual films are available for purchase on Monday, July 1, 2019. Visit our website (stonybrookfilmfestival.com) or call the Staller Center Box Office at (631) 632-ARTS to purchase tickets and passes.

Opening Night Party

Thursday, July 18, 10:30 pm,

Exclusive for Filmmakers, Directors, Actors, Gold Passholders, VIP, and Press.

Closing Night Awards Reception

Saturday, July 27, 10:30 pm

Tickets required for the closing night party. All Filmmakers, Directors, Actors, Gold Passholders, VIP, and Press, are invited to attend.

International Films

Germany – *Balloon* 7.18; *Sweethearts* 7.20; *The Silent Revolution* 7.25

Spain – *Lost My Love* 7.19

Australia – *Celeste* 7.19

France/Senegal – *Yao* 7.20

Luxembourg – *Portraitist* (short) 7.20

Austria – *Percht* (short) 7.20

Israel – *Cause of Death* 7.21; *The Unorthodox* 7.21; *How to Swim* 7.21 (short) ; *The Youngest* (short) 7.23

United Kingdom – *Above the Clouds* 7.21

The Bicycle Thief (short) 7.22

Canada – *In God I Trust* 7.25;

Toke is Cheap (short) 7.21; *Newborn* (short) 7.23

India -*Chuskit* 7.23

France- *Made in China* 7.23; *Lola & Her Brothers* 7.27

France/Turkey/Belgium – Lady Winsley 7.22

Denmark/Norway/ Sweden/Belgium – Cold Case Hammarskjold 7.26

For the Stony Brook Film Festival schedule and descriptions of all films go to:

<https://stonybrookfilmfestival.com/films/>

24th Annual Stony Brook Film Festival Schedule

PLEASE NOTE: Shorts play first at screening times. Running times are in parentheses.

Later movie start times are approximate as question and answer sessions may delay the start of the second and third screening slots.

THURSDAY, JULY 18

OPENING NIGHT

8:00 pm

FEATURE

[Balloon \(120\)](#)

FRIDAY, JULY 19

7:00 pm

FEATURE

Miamor perdido (103)

SHORT:

[ASIA A \(20\)](#)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

[Celeste \(106\)](#)

SHORT:

[Intermedium \(21\)](#)

SATURDAY, JULY 20

4:00 pm

FEATURE

[Yao \(103\)](#)

SHORT:

The High Bridge (9)

7:00 pm

FEATURE

[Sweethearts \(107\)](#)

SHORT:

[Portraitist \(15\)](#)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

[Them That Follow \(98\)](#)

SHORT:

[Percht \(17\)](#)

SUNDAY, JULY 21

4:00 pm

FEATURE

[Cause of Death \(79\)](#)

SHORT:

[Sides of a Horn \(9\)](#)

7:00 pm

FEATURE

[The Unorthodox \(92\)](#)

SHORT:

How To Swim (15)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

[Above the Clouds \(87\)](#)

SHORT:

Toke Is Cheap (23)

MONDAY, JULY 22

7:00 pm

FEATURE

[Guest Artist \(74\)](#)

SHORT:

[Waiting Game \(24\)](#)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

[Who Killed Lady Winsley? \(106\)](#)

SHORT:

[The Bicycle Thief \(8\)](#)

TUESDAY, JULY 23

7:00 pm

FEATURE

[Chuskit \(90\)](#)

SHORT:

[The Youngest \(18\)](#)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

Made in China (87)

SHORT:

[Newborn \(6\)](#)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

7:00 pm

FEATURE

Babysplitters (115)

SHORT:

Homecoming (7)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

[A Scientist's Guide to Living and Dying \(75\)](#)

SHORT:

[Debbie & Doug Drop Acid in the Desert \(25\)](#)

THURSDAY, JULY 25

7:00 pm

FEATURE

[In God I Trust \(97\)](#)

SHORT:

[Jupiter \(14\)](#)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

[The Silent Revolution \(111\)](#)

SHORT:

[The Interview \(15\)](#)

FRIDAY, JULY 26

7:00 pm

FEATURE

[Cold Case Hammarskjöld \(128\)](#)

9:30 pm

FEATURE

The Parts You Lose (99)

SATURDAY, JULY 27

CLOSING NIGHT

8:00 pm

FEATURE

Lola & Her Brothers (105)

CLOSING NIGHT AWARDS RECEPTION

10:30 pm

stonybrookfilmfestival.com • (631) 632-ARTS [2787]

For directions to the Festival go to stonybrookfilmfestival.com/directions

Presenting sponsors this year are Altice; Campolo, Middleton, McCormick, LLC; HBO; Suffolk County; and

WLIW21.

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Friedrich Mücke in *Balloon*. Courtesy Staller Center for the Arts.



Karoline Herfurth (l) and Hannah Herzprung (r) in *Sweethearts*. Courtesy Staller Center for the Arts.



Daniels (l) and Thomas Macias (r) in *Guest Artist*. Courtesy Staller Center for the Arts. Jeff



Lady Winsley, directed by Hiner Saleem. Written by Thomas Bidegain, Hiner Saleem and Véronique Wüthrich, with Mehmet Kurtulus, Ergün Kuyucu, Ezgi Mola. Courtesy Staller Center for the Arts.



Yao, directed by Philippe Godeau, written by Philippe Godeau and Agnès de Sacy, featuring Omar Sy, Lionel Louis Basse, and Fatoumata Diawara. Courtesy Staller Center for the Arts.



The Unorthodox, written and directed by Eliran Malka, starring Shuli Rand (*Ushpizin*), Yacov Cohen and Yoav Levi. Courtesy Staller Center for the Arts.