

For Immediate Release Staller Center for the Arts, Stony Brook University Contact: Samantha Clink | Samantha.Clink@stonybrook.edu | (631) 632-7233 PHOTOS: https://we.tl/t-vTB2XuEyqW Photo Credit Line: Photos Courtesy Staller Center for the Arts COMMERCIAL: https://youtu.be/2tV3sdJZyOg For more information: stonybrookfilmfestival.com

THE STONY BROOK FILM FESTIVAL GOES VIRTUAL

(July 26, 2020) Stony Brook, NY – The <u>Stony Brook Film Festival</u>, presented by Island Federal, is proud to announce that this year's Festival will be offered virtually, in partnership with <u>IndieFlix Festivals</u>. The Festival will run from September 10, 2020 through December 15, 2020.

WHAT: This year's Stony Brook Film Festival features 24 new and independent films, all available to view online. From new American Independent premieres to the best foreign films from a dozen countries, this year's Festival schedule offers exciting and powerful films from around the world. The lineup will delight, enchant, challenge, and entertain. The Stony Brook Film Festival will take you back in time with shorts and dramatic features, make you smile with romances and comedies, and push you to the edge with dramas and documentaries that address current social issues. These thought-provoking, powerful, moving, and exciting films have been chosen exclusively for our audience and cannot be seen anywhere else. Ticketholders and passholders will get to hear directly from filmmakers, and cast and crew throughout the Festival, and have the opportunity to rate and vote on their favorite films and help choose the winners of this year's Festival.

WHEN: The Festival will run from September 10, 2020 through December 15, 2020. New Films will be released weekly on Thursdays, and access to the films will be available through the following Sunday at midnight, allowing passholders to watch and rewatch those films as much as they'd like in that 72-hour period. Single tickets grant access to the weekly short and feature film for a 24-hour period after the ticket code is activated.

HOW: Attendees can choose to buy a **Pass** or **Single Tickets** at <u>stonybrookfilmfestival.com</u>. The reasonably-priced **Pass** is good for the entire three-month festival and allows 72 hours every weekend to watch and rewatch the weekly lineup. The Pass also includes access to extended filmmaker interviews and a Virtual Goodie Bag, updated weekly and loaded with extras. The **single-ticket** option is a weekly purchase, and once the single-ticket code is activated, the viewer has 24-hours to view that week's films.

ABOUT: The Festival kicks off with the American premiere of *Dreamfactory*, on Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 pm. *Dreamfactory* tells the romantic story between two movie extras, who are torn apart when East Germany closes its border and erects the Berlin Wall, an epic tale told against the backdrop of

history, this film is part comedy, part musical, part romance, and a pure joy from beginning to end. <u>Dreamfactory</u> was recently picked up by Capelight/MPI for U.S. distribution, but you can see it first at the Stony Brook Film Festival.

Many of this year's films revolve around the theme of having one's life interrupted. Whether it is interrupted by war, violence, substance abuse, sexual abuse, birth, death - or even just really bad traffic - this universal experience of having to put one's plans on hold weaves its way through our series this year. It simultaneously takes us back to a time before Covid19 while also mirroring many of the struggles many of us are currently dealing with, sometimes with tears, but often through love and humor. "In these very uncertain and precarious times we find ourselves in", Festival Director Alan Inkles states, "we hope the mix of these socially conscience films balanced with uplifting, often fun and joyous stories, with spectacular performances, will provide the stimulation and entertainment we are all so desperately craving".

American features, include <u>The Subject</u>, a story about a documentary filmmaker (Jason Biggs) who finds himself haunted by his last film, which captured the murder of one of his subjects; <u>Higher Love</u>, a harrowing and unblinking documentary about lives affected by crack and heroin, shown with honesty, compassion, and hope; and the Festival closes with <u>A Billion Dollar Power Station</u>, an epic documentary that tells the story of how NYC's Power Station became the most prolific recording studio in the world.

Closing Night Awards – LIVE

Tuesday, December 15, 7:00 pm Festival passholders will also have the opportunity to view the Live Virtual Awards Ceremony to close the festival on Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm. <u>Click here to purchase your pass</u>.

For the schedule and descriptions of all films click here.

Stony Brook Film Festival Schedule

PLEASE NOTE: Shorts precede features. All films are available at 7:00 pm on Thursday, and will be available until the following Sunday at midnight. Running times are in parentheses.

September 10, 2020

FEATURE: <u>Dreamfactory</u> (Germany) SHORT: <u>Extra Innings</u> (United States)

September 17, 2020 FEATURE: <u>The Subject</u> (United States) SHORT: <u>Corners</u> (United States)

September 24, 2020 FEATURE: <u>Those Who Remained</u> (Hungary) SHORT: <u>Sticker</u> (Macedonia)

OCTOBER 1, 2020 FEATURE: <u>Of Love and Lies</u> (France/Belgium) SHORT: <u>Generation Lockdown</u> (United States)

October 8, 2020 FEATURE: <u>When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit</u> (Germany/Switzerland) SHORT: <u>Walk a Mile</u> (New Zealand)

October 15, 2020 FEATURE: <u>The Art of Waiting</u> (Israel) SHORT: <u>Waterproof</u> (United States)

October 22, 2020 FEATURE: <u>Higher Love</u> (United States) SHORT: <u>A Simple F*cking Gesture</u> (Canada)

November 5, 2020 FEATURE: <u>Long Time, No See</u> (France) SHORT: <u>Touch</u> (Israel)

November 12, 2020 FEATURE: <u>Submission</u> (Portugal) SHORT: <u>They Won't Last</u> (United States)

November 19, 2020 FEATURE: <u>Relativity</u> (Germany) SHORT: <u>Forêt Noire</u> (France/Canada)

December 3, 2020 FEATURE: <u>On the Quiet</u> (Hungary) SHORT: <u>Jane</u> (United States)

December 10, 2020 FEATURE: <u>A Billion Dollar Power Station</u> (United States) SHORT: <u>Maradona's Legs</u> (Germany/Palenstine)

December 15, 2020 7:00 PM CLOSING NIGHT AWARDS CEREMONY LIVE

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Presenting sponsors this year are Island Federal; Altice; Campolo, Middleton, McCormick, LLC; WarnerMedia; Suffolk County; and WLIW21.

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