



26TH ANNUAL STONY BROOK FILM FESTIVAL presented by Island Federal OFFERS BOTH LIVE IN-PERSON FESTIVAL & VIRTUAL ENCORE SCREENING

June 9, 2021, Stony Brook, NY -- The [Stony Brook Film Festival](#) presented by Island Federal is back! Festival Director, Alan Inkles, is proud to announce that the Staller Center for the Arts at Stony Brook University is **the only Film Festival offering both a live in-person Festival and a Virtual Festival, and it's one of the first Festivals to announce its return.** The Live Festival will be July 22-31, and the Virtual Festival will be an encore screening, available on IndieFlix Festivals, August 5-30. For film and pass information, visit stonybrookfilmfestival.com

Following the last year and a half of uncertainty and disconnection we have all experienced, it is appropriate that many of the films this year revolve around the theme of second chances. "Though we never choose films with an overall theme in mind, a theme always seems to emerge, and this year is no exception," says Festival co-programmer Kent Marks. So many of this year's films tell the story of people trying to get their lives back, stories about reviving lost relationships, renewing lost dreams, rescuing lost causes, or finding a way to escape a seemingly hopeless situation.

The 2021 [Festival lineup](#) boasts 35 films from over 15 countries and includes never-before-seen features from around the globe. The Festival kicks off with the world premiere of ***The 5th Man***, a documentary on Paul Limmer, a former track coach at Bellmore's Mepham High School. During his 50-year career there, Limmer racked up hundreds of wins, though director Trey Nelson focuses on the story of all the other kids – the ones who never felt “seen” – until Paul Limmer came into their lives. The film will be preceded by [Feeling Through](#), an Oscar-nominated short featuring deaf-blind actor Robert Tarango of Selden.

Other must-see features include Yamina Benguigui's [Sisters](#), starring Isabelle Adjani and Maïwenn, a finely crafted reflection on memory and belonging to two worlds. The Hungarian [As Far As I Know](#) is an uncompromising film that wrestles with questions of perspective and victimhood. Milcho Manchevski's newest masterpiece ***Willow*** is resplendent in unforgettable images and unconventional narrative. Closing out the 2021 Festival is the intense and complexly drawn sports drama [Final Set](#).

Two Stony Brook Film Festival alumni return to this year's Festival as well. Writer/director Ajitpal Singh of 2018's ***Rammat Gammat*** brings us the stunning [Fire in the Mountains](#), a searing portrait of the power dynamics at play between tradition and modernity in one family's foundation, and Toby Woskow of 2019's ***Sides of a Horn*** is back with [This Uncertain Moment](#), a thought-provoking short film about the struggle of maintaining a long-distance relationship, a film inspired by actual events during the pandemic lockdowns.

Independent films certainly met a challenge during the pandemic, and we have three outstanding features that wrestled with that reality. The eerily atmospheric [Everything in the End](#) imagines the world facing a quiet, contemplative extinction as people search for meaningful connections. Two brothers attempt to drive a trunk full of opioids from Florida to Alaska to cash in big in the world premiere of the hilarious, poignant, and terrifying [Anchorage](#), acted brilliantly

by director Scott Monahan and screenwriter Dakota Loesch. And finally, the suspenseful and moody [Red River Road](#), shot entirely under Covid-19 lockdown by one family serving as the entire cast and crew; a film destined to be one of our time's classic independent horror films.

In its 26-year-tenure, the Stony Brook Film Festival has hosted 514 filmmakers from 77 different countries, featured nearly 55 World Premieres and over 75 US premieres, and screened almost 1100 independent films from all over the world. The Festival typically kicks off with an Opening Night Party and closes with an Awards Ceremony and Closing Night Party. This year, to comply with Covid regulations and ensure the safety of patrons and staff, the Stony Brook Film Festival will host their Live Awards Ceremony, open to all passholders from the stage following the Closing Night Film.

Whether you are eager to return to the theater, prefer to watch from home, or a combination of both, the Stony Brook Film Festival offers a pass option for you. [Passes for the Stony Brook Film Festival](#) are now on sale. The Festival is offering a Gold Pass, Festival Pass, or Virtual Pass option for patrons.

All passholders will get to hear from filmmakers throughout the Festival and have the opportunity to rate and vote on favorite films to help choose the winners of this year's Festival. Gold Passholders receive a Stony Brook Film Festival swag bag and commemorative gift, discounts at Hospitality Sponsor Restaurants & Businesses, VIP reserved seating, access to the Closing Night Awards Ceremony and full access to both the Live Festival and the Virtual Festival. Festival Passholders receive entry to all live films and guaranteed seating for sold-out films, access to the Closing Night Awards Ceremony, discounts at Hospitality Sponsor restaurants and businesses, and a Stony Brook Film Festival commemorative gift. Virtual Passholders are guaranteed access to all virtual films for the entire household and recorded filmmaker discussions.

Visit stonybrookfilmfestival.com for more information.

[Click here for the Live Festival Schedule.](#)
[Click here for the Virtual Festival Schedule.](#)
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LIVE FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

OPENING NIGHT

Thursday, July 22

8:00 pm

Feature: The 5th Man, 71 min, United States

Short: Feeling Through, 18 min, United States

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Friday, July 23

7:00 pm

Feature: Risks & Side Effects, 88 min, Germany

Short: David, 12 min, United States

9:15 pm

Feature: Red River Road, 90 min, United States

Short: The Following Year, 22 min, Spain

Saturday, July 24

7:00 pm

Feature: Sisters, 90 min, France

Short: Girls Are Strong Here, 16 min, United States

9:15 pm

Feature: Games People Play, 117 min, Finland

Short: Off Duty, 10 min, United States

Sunday, July 25

7:00 pm

Feature: Persona Non Grata, 91 min, Denmark

Short: On the Sidewalk, at Night, 9 min, United States

9:15 pm

Feature: Anchorage, 82 min, United States

Short: The Saverini Widow, 19 min, France

Monday, July 26

7:00 pm

Feature: As Far As I Know, 77 min, Hungary

Short: DA YIE, 20 min, Ghana

9:15 pm

Feature: Willow, 101 min, Republic of Northern Macedonia, Hungary, Belgium

Short: The Night I Left America, 12 min, United States

Tuesday, July 27

7:00 pm

Feature: Fire in the Mountains, 84 min, India

Short: The Music Video, 14 min, Canada

9:15 pm

Feature: Everything in the End, 80 min, United States

Short: Max is Bleeding, 8 min, United States

Wednesday, July 28

7:00 pm

Feature: Sun Children, 99 min, Iran

Short: Noisy, 10 min, United States

9:15 pm

Feature: The Castle, 91 min, Lithuania, Ireland

Short: Inverno (Timo's Winter), 17 min, Italy

Thursday, July 29

7:00 pm

Feature: Murder at Cinema North, 83 min, Israel

Short: Devek, 14 min, Israel

9:15 pm

Feature: How to Stop a Recurring Dream, 83 min, United Kingdom

Short: This Uncertain Moment, 15 min, United States

Friday, July 30

7:00 pm

Feature: Lorelei, 111 min, United States

Short: Swipe, 5 min, United States

9:15 pm

Feature: Perfumes, 80 min, France

Short: Ganef, 14 min, United Kingdom

CLOSING NIGHT

Saturday, July 31

8:00 pm

Feature: Final Set, 105 min, France

CLOSING NIGHT AWARDS

10:30 pm

VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE | August 5 - 9

Feature: The 5th Man | Short: Feeling Through

Feature: Risks & Side Effects | Short: David

Feature: Red River Road | Short: The Following Year

Feature: Sisters | Short: Girls Are Strong Here

Feature: Games People Play | Short: Off Duty

WEEK TWO | August 12 - 16

Feature: Persona Non Grata | Short: On the Sidewalk

Feature: Anchorage | Short: The Saverini Widow

Feature: As Far As I Know | Short: DA YIE

Feature: Willow | Short: The Night I Left America

WEEK THREE | August 19 - August 23

Feature: Fire in the Mountains | Short: The Music Video

Feature: Everything in the End | Short: Max is Bleeding

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Feature: Sun Children | Short: Noisy
Feature: The Castle, 91 min | Short: Inverno

WEEK FOUR | August 26 - August 30

Feature: Murder at Cinema North | Short: Devek
Feature: How to Stop a Recurring Dream | Short: This Uncertain Moment
Feature: Lorelei | Short: Swipe
Feature: Perfumes | Short: Ganef
Feature: Final Set

For the Virtual Festival, all movies will be available on their release date starting at 7:00 pm through the following Monday at 11:59 pm. Passholders will be able to watch films multiple times and will have access to the films the entire weekend. Pre-recorded discussions with filmmakers, directors, cast and crew will be included with the Virtual Festival Pass.

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CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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