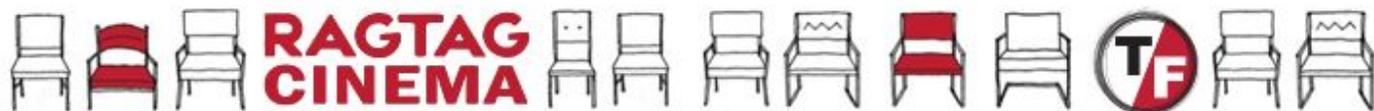


RAGTAG FILM SOCIETY



TRUE/FALSE FILM FEST 2019 FEATURE FILMS

Amazing Grace | 2019; 87 min.

At peak stardom, Aretha Franklin goes back to her family's gospel roots, live-recording at a Baptist church while backed by a famed community choir.

American Factory | Dir. Julia Reichert & Stephen Bognar; 2019; 115 min.

Dizzying, hilarious, and devastating, *American Factory* is a landmark story of globalization.

APOLLO 11 | Dir. Todd Douglas Miller; 2019; 93 min.

Our miraculous first trip to the moon is conjured through 70mm footage finally uncovered from the NASA vaults.
Presented by Veterans United Home Loans

Caballerango | Dir. Juan Pablo González; 2018; 60 min.

A haunted look into the soul of a rural Mexican town in the wake of the death of a horse wrangler.

Celebration | Dir. Olivier Meyrou; 2018; 73 min.

A disquieting peek behind the wardrobe of Yves Saint Laurent, the most distinguished couturier of the last century.
Supported by the Cultural Service at the Consulate General of France in Chicago

Chez Jolie Coiffure | Dir. Rosine Mbakam; 2018; 70 min.

Conversations intertwine with hair-braiding at a Brussels hair salon, which serves as a safe haven for African refugees.

Chinese Portrait | Dir. WANG Xiaoshuai; 2018; 79 min.

Over a decade, renowned director WANG Xiaoshuai records his country in upheaval.

Cold Case Hammarskjöld | Dir. Mads Brügger; 2019; 123 min.

This engrossing gonzo film starts as a hell-bent investigation of the death of the U.N. secretary-general in 1961 then takes on long-lingering mysteries on the African continent.

The Commons | Dir. Suki Hawley & Michael Galinsky; 2019; 71 min.

An intrepid film crew takes us inside an intense battle over a Confederate monument on UNC-Chapel Hill's public commons. Plays with "The Changing Same" (dirs. Michèle Stephenson & Joe Brewster; 2018; 21 min.)

Dark Suns | Dir. Julien Elie; 2018; 151 min.

A towering investigation into decades of the disappeared in Mexico. *Supported by the Consulate General of Canada, Chicago*

The Edge of Democracy | Dir. Petra Costa; 2019; 120 min.

Petra Costa's personal take on the coup that remade Brazil ignites a signal flare for those who live in so-called stable democracies. *Presented by The Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy*

Finding Frances | Dir. Nathan Fielder; 2017; 84 min.

Television host Nathan Fielder attempts to help an eccentric Bill Gates impersonator reunite with his long-lost love. *Supported by the Consulate General of Canada, Chicago*

The Game | Dir. Marine de Contes; 2018; 53 min.

Deep in the forests of southwest France, cult-like aficionados anticipate—and set traps for—the arrival of their quarry. Plays with "Crannog" (dir. Isa Rao; 2018; 15 min.) *Supported by the Cultural Service at the Consulate General of France in Chicago*

The Grand Bizarre | Dir. Jodie Mack; 2018; 61 min.

A colorful tour of the world's great textile traditions and a celebration of the pattern language of human inventiveness.

Home, Sweet Home | Dir. ISE Shinichi; 2018; 110 min.

A monumental achievement of long-term documentary filmmaking: 35 years in the life of Nao, whom doctors expected to die before she turned 20 years old. *Presented by Boone Supported Living*

The Hottest August | Dir. Brett Story; 2019; 92 min.

Brett Story's visionary look at New York City as it braces for an uncertain future. *Supported by the Consulate General of Canada, Chicago*

Island of the Hungry Ghosts | Dir. Gabrielle Brady; 2018; 98 min.

On far-off Christmas Island, therapist Poh Lin Lee counsels immigrants who are detained while millions of red crabs enjoy free rein during mating season.

Knock Down The House | Dir. Rachel Lears; 2019; 85 min.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez headlines a group of insurgent politicians and tireless activists taking on The Establishment.

Landless | Dir. Camila Freitas; 2019; 110 min.

Facing an uncaring legal labyrinth, rebellious farmers in rural Brazil commandeer corporate-owned land.

Let It Burn | Dir. Maíra Bühler; 2019; 82 min.

A gritty observation of precarious romance, debauchery, and heartbreak between addicts living in a São Paulo hotel.

The Magic Life of V | Dir. Tonislav Hristov; 2019; 85 min.

Veera becomes the hero of her own story by using LARPing (live-action role-playing) to escape and transcend her difficult everyday life.

Midnight in Paris | Dir. Roni Moore & James Blagden; 2019; 75 min.

The intense anticipation of prom week lights up this warmhearted, sometimes cheeky look at the teenagers of Flint, Michigan.

Midnight Traveler | Dir. Hassan Fazili; 2019; 87 min.

Armed only with cellphone cameras, Hassan Fazili and his family flee from the Taliban, capturing every step of their high-stakes search for a new home. 2019 True Life Fund Film. *Presented by The Crossing*

Mike Wallace is Here | Dir. Avi Belkin; 2019; 86 min.

The epitome of the brash, merciless investigative reporter, Mike Wallace ("60 Minutes") lived his life on air.

Mr. SOUL! | Dir. Melissa Haizlip & Sam Pollard; 2018; 115 min.

An electric exploration of "SOUL!"—the revolutionary unsung classic of American television that spotlighted soul legends and shattered conventions.

The Naked Room | Dir. Nuria Ibáñez Castañeda; 2013; 70 min.

This minimalist wonder from True Vision recipient Nuria Ibáñez Castañeda empathetically observes tormented children in therapy sessions.

N/N: Atman | Dir. Pirjo Honkasalo; 1997; 76 min.

A devout Hindu man whose legs have been paralyzed since childhood heads on a 3,000-mile pilgrimage up the Ganges river in honor of his recently deceased mother. *Screens for free as a part of the Neither/Nor Film Series. Neither/Nor is presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.*

N/N: Mysterion | Dir. Pirjo Honkasalo; 1991; 94 min.

Set in a polluted corner of Estonia, Pirjo Honkasalo's first documentary feature lovingly explores the lives of Russian Orthodox nuns who spend their days working the land and praying to the heavens. *Screens for free as a part of the Neither/Nor Film Series. Neither/Nor is presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.*

N/N: Tanjuska and the 7 Devils | Dir. Pirjo Honkasalo; 1993; 80 min.

When a 10-year-old girl stops speaking, her family desperately turns to an intimidating priest who claims she has seven demons inside her. *Screens for free as a part of the Neither/Nor Film Series. Neither/Nor is presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.*

No data plan | Dir. Miko Revereza; 2018; 70 min.

The American road movie is renewed by a director whose undocumented mom carries two phones, one solely for calls regarding immigration. Plays with "I Signed the Petition" (dir. Mahdi Fleifel; 2018; 10 min.).

'Now something is slowly changing' | Dir. mint film office; 2018; 105 min.

Spiritually adrift Dutch turn to therapy and coaches in this puckish, provocative look at self-help culture.

One Child Nation | Dir. Nanfu Wang & Jialing Zhang; 89 min.

Nanfu Wang uncovers her own revelatory history within China's far-reaching one-child policy.

Our Time (Nuestro Tiempo) | Dir. Carlos Reygadas; 2018; 177 min.

Maverick director Carlos Reygadas' latest, filmed at his Mexican ranch, offers an audacious fiction about an open marriage that goes sour.

Over the Rainbow | Dir. Jeffrey Peixoto; 2019; 71 min.

Director Jeffrey Peixoto meets active members of the Church of Scientology in a mesmerizing exploration of our attraction to radical religion.

Reason | Dir. Anand Patwardhan; 2018; 235 min.

Legendary director Anand Patwardhan puts his life on the line in this tenacious, incisive response to the rise of Hindu nationalism.

Segunda Vez | Dir. Dora García; 2018; 94 min.

This radical reimagining of the biopic re-enacts the "happenings" and "anti-happenings" of Argentinian psychoanalyst Oscar Masotta.

Shorts Program: Tea 65 | 65 min. various directors

Dark, private spaces are illuminated in these five standout films. *Supported by the Consulate General of Canada, Chicago*

Shorts Program: Tequila 62 | 62 min. various directors

Filmmakers repurpose archival remnants and interrogate social status in these four short films.

Shorts Program: & Tonic 67 | 67 min. various directors

The difference between what is seen and unseen drives these five films, from which our eyes will never recover.

The Tightrope | Dir. Nuria Ibáñez Castañeda; 2009; 80 min.

A bare-bones outfit of five family members tours Mexico in a ramshackle traveling circus. By 2019 True Vision Award recipient Nuria Ibáñez Castañeda.

Treasure Island | Dir. Guillaume Brac; 2018; 97 min.

Brimming with thrill-seeking discovery and nostalgia, this barmy delight captures all of the summer fun at a suburban Parisian water park. *Supported by the Cultural Service at the Consulate General of France in Chicago*

Untitled Amazing Johnathan Documentary | Dir. Ben Berman; 2019; 91 min.

A magician's final tour triggers a twisty-turny, cat-and-mouse, hall-of-mirrors, inside-out, funhouse game between subject and filmmaker.

Up The Mountain | Dir. ZHANG Yang; 2018; 126 min.

The charismatic painter Shen Jianhua's remote mountain studio hosts a group of unconventional students, eager to learn more about his eye-popping, hyperreal approach to art and life.

A Wild Stream | Dir. Nuria Ibáñez Castañeda; 72 min.

Two fishermen eking out a living on the Sea of Cortez form an ambiguously close relationship in this majestic work from the 2019 True Vision Award recipient Nuria Ibáñez Castañeda. *Presented by Restoration Eyecare*

SHORT FILMS

Black 14 | Dir. Darius Clark Monroe; 2018; 14min

An archival sociological study examining media coverage of a 1969 racial protest by members of the University of Wyoming football team. *(Plays in Tequila 62)*

The Changing Same | Dirs. Michèle Stephenson & Joe Brewster; 2018; 21 min.

Every year in the Florida Panhandle, Lamar Wilson runs 13 miles retracing the terror of the 1934 lynching of Claude Neal. *(Plays before The Commons)*

Crannog | Dir. Isa Rao; 2018; 15 min.

Alexis Fleming tends to all creatures great and small in a storybook sanctuary, an animal hospice two hours south of Glasgow. *(Plays before The Game)*

Djo | Dir. Laura Henno; 2019; 12 min.

A man named Smogi professes his profound love for a wild dog. *(Plays in Tea 65)*

Dramatic and Mild | Dir. Nastia Korkia; 2018; 6 min.

After waiting in a long line to get into the the exhibition of a Kandinsky painting that has finally been returned to Moscow, would-be viewers are surprised by a peculiar security guard. *(Plays in & Tonic 67)*

Due | Dir. Riccardo Giacconi; 2017; 17 min.

A nightmarish exploration of Milano Two, a “ghetto for the rich” created by disgraced former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi as an early experiment in mind control. *(Plays in & Tonic 67)*

every dog has its day | Dir. Alison Nguyen; 2019; 6 min.

Cult-produced media and religious iconography crash in this heterogenous essay film. *(Plays in Tequila 62)*

Fainting Spells | Dir. Sky Hopinka; 2018; 11 min.

The ethnopoetic journey of an imagined myth for the Indian Pipe Plant used by the Ho-Chunk to revive those who have fainted. *(Plays before a TBA audio documentary)*

Ghosts of Sugar Land | Dir. Bassam Tariq, 2019; 21 min.

A group of Southeast Asian Muslim friends from Sugar Land, TX, outside of Houston, gets rocked by a young convert named Mark. *(Plays in Tea 65)*

Goodbye Thelma | Dir. Jessica Bardsley, 2019; 14 min.

A chilling stunner about the fear of men and the outdoors, transforming the 1991 movie *Thelma & Louise* for its own purposes. *(Plays in Tea 65)*

The Harvesters | Dir. Derek Howard; 2017; 6 min.

Three Maasi men from Kenya show us how to stage and harvest honey from a tall tree in this collaborative ethnography. *(Plays in Tea 65)*

I Signed the Petition | Dir. Mahdi Fleifel; 2018; 10 min.

After agonizing over his act of signing a petition asking Radiohead not to play in Tel Aviv in support of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement against Israel, the director calls an acerbic and honest friend for advice. *(Plays before No data plan)*

Lasting Marks | Dir. Charlie Lyne, 2018; 14 min.

A group of gay men and their consensual acts in an abandoned watch tower become a cause celebre in 1980s England. *(Plays in Tequila 62)*

The Lost Head and the Bird | Dir. Sohrab Hura; 2018; 10 min.

Celebrated photographer Sohrab Hura combines a uncanny short story with an ingeniously paced edit of his own photographs and salvaged images of India's rising violence. *(Plays in & Tonic 67)*

The Men Behind the Wall | Dir. Ines Moldavsky; 2018; 28 min.

A surprising series of portraits of Palestinian men from an Israeli director who found her subjects through Tinder. *(Plays in Tequila 62)*

Vesuvius at Home | Dir. Christin Turner; 2018; 14 min.

A fantastical spiral of time from the filmmaker's re-enactment of a false Pompeii, from her twenty five year fascination. *(Plays in & Tonic 67)*

Vever (for Barbara) | Dir. Deborah Stratman; 2018; 12 min.

Pioneering woman filmmaker Maya Deren's voice, texts, and thoughts merge with an unfinished film from Barbara Hammer, through the hand of Deborah Stratman. *(Plays in Tea 65)*

Walled/Unwalled | Dir. Lawrence Abu Hamdan; 2018; 20 min.

A piercing performance that takes down the impenetrability of walls and borders through sound. *(Plays in & Tonic 67)*