TRUE/FALSE FILM FEST 2023 FEATURE FILMS

Anhell69 | Dir. Theo Montoya; 2022; 72 min.
Blurring the lines of reality, director Theo Montoya leads the viewer through a magical-realism journey to recover the memories of his friends and chosen family.

Art Talent Show | Dirs. Adéla Komriz & Tomáš Bojar; 2022; 102 min.
Through amusing and frustrating moments at a prestigious Czech art institute, professors set up an elaborate enrollment test for prospective students.

Bad Press | Dirs. Rebecca Landsberry-Baker & Joe Peeler; 2022; 98 min.
A fearless indigenous journalist fights for independent media and democracy in her community. Presented by Paytient

Bobi Wine: The People's President | Dirs. Christopher Sharp & Moses Bwayo; 2022; 114 min.
Activist-musician Bobi Wine runs for the presidency of Uganda daringly opposing a 35-year-long regime. Presented by Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy

Broca’s Aphasia | Dir. SU Ming-Yen; 2022; 85 min.
In a Taiwanese sex-doll hotel, glimpses of the workers’ lives and a haunting disembodied monologue reverberate.

Dogwatch | Dir. Gregoris Rentis; 2022; 78 min.
Armed guards, hired to protect ships from Somali pirates, restlessly live their everyday lives while constantly anticipating an attack.

Feet in Water, Head on Fire | Dir. Terra Long; 2023; 90 min.
In California’s Coachella Valley, miles of imported date palms, planted over generations, tell the story of a landscape and community in transition.

Forms of Forgetting | Dir. Burak Çevik; 2023; 70 min.
A couple meditate on their long-past relationship while delving deeply into the recesses of the decay of time and memory.

Gigi La Legge | Dir. Alessandro Comodin; 2022; 102 min.
Sleepy summer days unfold in this hybrid portrait of a gregarious local police officer on patrol through the Italian countryside.
Going To Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Project | Dirs. Michèle Stephenson & Joe Brewster; 2022; 102 min.
An Afrofuturist exploration of renowned poet Nikki Giovanni’s life, legacy, and hopes for the future.

Going Varsity In Mariachi | Dirs. Alejandra Vasquez & Sam Osborn; 2022; 104 min.
In Southern Texas, a group of talented young musicians and their formidable coach vie for a chance to win the state championship in mariachi.

Guapo’y | Dir. Sofia Paoli Thorne; 2022; 72 min.
Healing from the trauma of the Paraguayan dictatorship, Celsa uses herbs to mend deep wounds left from her imprisonment and torture.

How To Have An American Baby | Dir. Leslie Tai; 2023; 117 min.
A kaleidoscopic portrait of the birth tourism industry, following Chinese mothers in a Californian “maternity hotel”.

Hummingbirds | Dirs. Silvia Del Carmen Castaños & Estefanía “Beba” Contreras; 2023; 78 min.
Two filmmakers find healing in their everyday joyful antics on the streets of Laredo, Texas.

It Runs In The Family | Dir. Victoria Linares Villegas; 2022; 84 min.
A revelation about her family connection to an influential Dominican director from the 1940s sets a filmmaker on her own playful path of self-discovery.

Joonam | Dir. Sierra Urich; 2022; 103 min.
A filmmaker attempts to break down language barriers with her Iranian grandmother to finally understand her relationship to her heritage.

La Bonga | Dirs. Sebastián Pinzón Silva & Canela Reyes; 2022; 77 min.
Decades after they were forced to flee their village in the Colombian jungle, a community makes a poetically rendered return home.

Last Things | Dir. Deborah Stratman; 2023; 50 min.
An experimental, science fiction-meets-science fact meditation on the evolution and extinction of human life from the point of view of rocks.

Mafifa | Dir. Daniela Muñoz Barroso; 2021; 77 min.
In this verité search for a late, legendary female conga musician, a filmmaker with progressive hearing loss seeks to find traces of herself.

Man On Earth | Dir. Amiel Courtin-Wilson; 2022; 97 min.
Intimate observation and loving testimony are mixed with poetic moments in this thoughtful portrait of a terminally ill man who has scheduled his death.

Milisuthando | Dir. Milisuthando Bongela; 2023; 128 min.
Interrogations of the past fuse profoundly with investment in the future in this kaleidoscopic look at apartheid through its victims and the filmmaker’s own self.
A Moment Of Innocence | Dir. Mohsen Makhmalbaf; 1996; 78 min.
An Iranian filmmaker seeks to reconcile through recreating the moment when he stabbed a police officer during a political rally. *Curated by Victoria Linares Villegas as part of the True Vision retrospective program.*

Moosa Lane | Dir. Anita Mathal Hopland; 2022; 87 min.
A biracial director meditates on identity, relationships, and home in this striking personal portrait shot over 15 years between Denmark and Pakistan.

Natalia | Dir. Elizabeth Mirzaei; 2023; 76 min.
A young woman pursues her faith, in the face of societal pressures, to become a nun.

Our Body | Dir. Claire Simon; 2022; 168 min.
Director Claire Simon follows doctors and patients at a gynecology ward in France. *Presented by Flow’s Pharmacy*

Paradise | Dir. Alexander Abaturov; 2022; 89 min.
A Siberian village fights apocalyptic wildfires without help from Moscow. Institutional neglect vies with mythic elemental forces in this intimate portrait of a community.

R 21 aka Restoring Solidarity | Dir. Mohanad Yaqubi; 2022; 71 min.
Films about the Palestinian liberation struggle—housed in a Japanese archive—are interwoven to create an essay on transnational solidarity and cinema as propaganda.

Ramona | Dir. Victoria Linares Villegas; 2023; 83 min.
An actress interviews several pregnant teenage girls in preparation for playing a fictional film character, which raises questions over her suitability for the role. *Presented by Restoration Eye Care*

Red Herring | Dir. Kit Vincent; 2023; 94 min.
Diagnosed with a terminal illness, a filmmaker documents the power of family and friendship in the face of adversity.

The Stroll | Dirs. Kristen Lovell & Zackary Drucker; 2023; 85 min.
A filmmaker documents their personal connection to the rich history of the trans community in New York City's Meatpacking District.

The Taste Of Mango | Dir. Chloe Abrahams; 2023; 75 min.
In an attempt to salvage the long-strained relationship between her mother and grandmother, a filmmaker confronts traumatic family secrets with her camera.

Tavuri | Dir. Dervis Zaim; 2022; 93 min.
In this imaginative verité film an infamous scam artist, who is suffering with diabetes, is released from prison and given a last chance at redemption.

Three Women | Dir. Maksym Melnyk; 2022; 85 min.
As he documents life in a rural region of Ukraine, a filmmaker becomes part of village life himself. *Presented by Show Me Quality Consulting*
Time Bomb Y2K | Dirs. Brian Becker & Marley McDonald; 2023; 80 min.
An immersive, all-archival retelling of the “Y2K” millennium bug and the mass hysteria that changed the fabric of modern society. Presented by Van Matre Law Firm

Xaraasi Xanne (Crossing Voices) | Dirs. Raphaël Grisey & Bouba Touré; 2022; 122 min.
A textured range of archive material and testimony interwoven in this evocation of Somankidi Coura, an anti-colonial farming collective in Mali.

TRUE/FALSE FILM FEST 2023 SHORT FILMS

Alpha Kings | Dirs. Faye Tsakas & Enrique Pedráza-Botero; 2022; 14 min.
Through intimate, observational moments, Alpha Kings follows a group of young men seeking quick wealth on OnlyFans. (Plays Before: Broca’s Aphasia)

Anima | Dir. Manuel Mateo; 2022; 19 min.
Striking images of the lives and deaths of captive animals loom in the background of everyday humanity. (Plays in Shorts: Galileo)

Aqueronte | Dir. Manuel Muñoz Rivas; 2023; 26 min.
An eavesdropping observation through the mundanity, humor, and boredom of passengers on a ferry. (Plays in Shorts: Angiogram)

Aralkum | Dirs. Daniel Asadi Faezi & Mila Zhluktenko; 2022; 14 min.
As seen through haunting cinematography, a former fisherman sets sail on the barren Aral Desert, which was once a lush sea. (Plays in Shorts: Galileo)

Away | Dir. Ruslan Fedotov; 2022; 28 min.
Talented teenage Ukrainian refugees use art to create powerful statement pieces on the streets of Budapest. (Plays in Shorts: Angiogram)

Before It Breaks | Dir. Swetha Regunathan; 2022; 7min.
The dance and alchemy between the choreography of glassblowing and the connection to the human form. (Plays in Shorts: Angiogram)

Caballo de Espuma | Dir. Juanjo Rueda; 2022; 20 min.
Assembling the filmmaker’s writing, storyboards, family archives, and haunting outdoor shots, Caballo de Espuma leads to an exploration of memory that blends the lines of reality. (Plays Before: Mafifa)

Echo | Dir. Ross McClean; 2023; 13min.
In Northern Ireland, an older man with damaged vocal chords seeks out connections over the radio airwaves. (Plays in Shorts: Galileo)

The Empty Sphere | Dir. Stéphanie Roland; 2022; 19min.
Through starkly beautiful black and white images, the viewer journeys from the depths of space to the core of the earth. (Plays in Shorts: Galileo)
Example # 35 | Dirs. Lucía Malandro & Daniel D. Saucedo; 2022; 6 min.
Footage from Cuba’s judicial archives weaves an untold perspective of the nonconformists. (Plays in Shorts: Serotonin)

The Feeling of Being Close to You | Dir. Ash Goh Hua; 2022; 12 min.
Through a lyrical combination of archival footage and phone calls, director Ash Goh Hua depicts the tense relationship between them and their mother. (Plays Before: The Taste of Mango)

I was born in 1988 | Dir. Yasaman Baghban; 2022; 9 min.
An Iranian filmmaker is haunted by the fact that they were born at the same time that massacres of political prisoners began in Iran. (Plays Before: Guapo’y)

Jill, Uncredited | Dir. Anthony Ing; 2022; 18 min.
A lively investigation into British background actor Jill Goldston’s prolific filmography. (Plays in Shorts: Angiogram)

Language Unknown | Dir. Janelle VanderKelen; 2022; 6 min.
In this animated experimental film, plants blossom through the foundation of a home and overtake human spaces. (Plays in Shorts: Galileo)

love at first byte | Dirs. Felizitas Hoffmann & Theresa Hoffmann; 2022; 6 min.
With security camera footage obtained via data request, this short distorts reality to embody a missed connection for a lovelorn surveillance machine. (Plays in Shorts: Serotonin)

Margie Soudek’s Salt and Pepper Shakers | Dir. Meredith Moore; 2022; 12 min.
A filmmaker and VFX instructor uses footage of her grandmother’s intricate and unique collection of salt and pepper shakers in a film that bends time and space. (Plays in Shorts: Angiogram)

Moomin | Dir. Zach Dorn; 2022; 5 min.
A filmmaker’s lovesick voiceover narrates a cellphone journey to reconnect with a distant love over an online claw machine game. (Plays in Shorts: Serotonin)

Moune Ô | Dir. Maxime Jean-Baptiste; 2022; 17 min.
Dissecting footage of his father in Alain Maline’s Jean Galmot, Aventurier, Maxime Jean-Baptiste breaks down the colonial gaze. (Plays Before: La Bonga)

No Elements | Dir. Barbara Vojtašáková; 2022; 25 min.
A former couple reflects on 16mm film footage they shot together revealing the intricacy and challenges of their relationship. (Plays in Shorts: Serotonin)

Tension Envelopes | Dir. Robert Greene; 2023; 9 min.
A voiceless narrator imagines life inside the walls of an envelope factory. (Plays Before: Forms of Forgetting)

That Day on the River | Dir. Lei Lei; 2023; 39 min.
An intimate conversation between father and son paired with archival footage offers a glimpse into childhood memories of home. (Plays Before: Last Things)
Tierra de Leche | Dirs. Milton Guillén & Fiona Hall; 2022; 12 min.
An interrogation of capitalism and the American dream through migrant labor, GPS, and dairy cows. (Plays in Shorts: Galileo)

Visão do Paraíso | Dir. Leonardo Pirondi; 2022; 16 min.
Bridging colonialism and modern machinery, Visão do Paraíso offers a stark critique of the evolution of technology. (Plays in Shorts: Galileo)

While the Night Falls/Mientras Anochece | Dir. Amir Aether Valen; 2023; 18 min.
With stunning black and white cinematography, an elderly couple living on an isolated rural farm move through their daily routines. (Plays in Shorts: Serotonin)

You Are Not Here | Dir. Nastia Korkia; 2022; 16 min.
The chapters of a Russian funeral procession offer a meditation on ritual and loss. (Plays in Shorts: Serotonin)