



2017
Blackbird
Film Festival

SUNY Cortland - Sperry Center
April 21st - 23rd, 2017

Welcome to the 2017 Blackbird Film Festival!

This year's festival features over 140 short films made by filmmakers from around the world with topics ranging from race and politics, life and death, space and time, and everything in between. Whether you love hilarious comedies, compelling documentaries, suspenseful thrillers, animated adventures, or just gritty indie films – Blackbird has it all!

Our 2017 festival line-up includes many wonderful films such as Jihad Khateeb's **A Town Called Theocracy** in which a religious mayor passes a movie restriction bill on a fictional town, as well as Jennifer Dean's comedic retelling of the Greek myth of Sybil titled **To Live Forever**. There's also Zach Daulton's film, **Mayfield** – a beautiful story about memory and those ephemeral moments in life and Alexandre Athané heartbreaking animation, **A Space in Time**, about a little girl and her grandfather's love of space. Natalie Joey Camou's film, **tereza**, tells the story of a little girl who must stand up to her abusive mother while Aditya Patwardhan's film **Rosethorn** focuses on a girl named Gabby who must look inward to overcome her dark past. Blackbird also presents Lisa Russell's poetic short **How It Sound-ed to Squish a Cockroach** as well as Jazmin Corchado's film **EST. 1896** – both that speak to issues of race in American. If you're looking for a laugh, be sure to check out Jason Gudasz's film, **Creator**, in which the creator of everything gets hung up on his conceptual work. Earth. There's also Micah Paisner's **You, Me & Me** in which Andy goes back in time to break up his current relationship. Ryan Brown's **Tom, the Knife Salesman** in which selling knives door-to-door becomes dangerous business. Joe Kowalski's short technological love story, **IRL**, and Jall Cowasji's visually smart **Mating Call**. If you're one for animations, make sure you see David Jarred's and Kenton Brett's **Riptide Rhapsody**, Benjamin T. Wilson's **Venture**, and Alba Enid Garcia's **Time Space Reflections**. Enjoy a good thriller? Don't miss Heather Taylor's **Stitched**. David E. Munz-Maire's **Chateau Sauvignon: terroir**, and Michael Panduro's **The Sunken Convent** - so long as you like a little creepy gore!

Blackbird also features a number of documentaries this season, such as Lars Fuchs' & Matthew Fleischmann's adventurous documentary, **Food City: Feast Of The Five Boroughs**, that chronicles an attempt at healthy eating in New York City. Jesseca Ynez Simmons' wonderful poetic retelling of Diane Wakoski's work titled **Emerald Ice**, as well as Gavin Hecker's short film **Lives of Liberty NYC** in which we see the busy tourist scene from a different perspective.

We are also pleased to highlight the many films made by local upstate and central New York artists such as **Resistance** by Jack Skylyer, Beth Konrad Brown, and Jon Russell Cring, **Thin Ice** by Nathaniel Silverman, **Lifeline** by Audrey Jordan, **The Love Song of the Drone** by Brian J. Larson. And don't miss the films made right here in Cortland, New York – **Solitude** by Amelia Ponirakis, **Flying Around** by Matthew Maniaci, **Das Licht** by Peter Hartsock as well as the many short films produced by SUNY Cortland students!

Blackbird's mission is simple – bring great films to good people. Our only hope is that you enjoy the weekend and I thank you for spending your time with us!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Avery', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Sam Avery
Festival Director

Blackbird is made possible by
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Convention & Visitors Bureau



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BLACKBIRD CONTRIBUTORS

Blackbird relies on support from individuals as well as local businesses to continue doing what we do. We would like to acknowledge the wonderful people who contributed this year and helped make not only Blackbird 2017 a reality but also Blackbird 2018.

DR. ERIK BITTERBAUM

JIM DEMPSEY

NATHAN LAFRANCE

DAVID MESSINEO

NANCY ENSMAN

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Become a contributor at www.Blackbirdfilmfest.com/donate



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INDUSTRY TALK BY **SCOTT WILLIAMS**

SUNY Cortland - Sperry Center RM 104
4:45pm, April 22nd

Scott Williams - Executive Producer and Writer for the hit CBS show, *NCIS*, visits Blackbird to give an industry talk reflecting on his career as a screenwriter for shows like *Third Watch*, *NYPD Blue*, *The District*, *Without a Trace*, and *NCIS* as well as his years as an Executive Producer for primetime shows like *Miami Medical*, *Castle*, and *Bones*. During this talk, Williams will share his personal journey into the television and film industry and discuss how he manages a life in the arts. Williams has produced over 250 episodes and is an Alumni of SUNY Cortland.

A special Question and Answer session will follow Williams' talk. This event is free and open to the public. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to ensure you get a seat.

More information available at www.Blackbirdfilmfest.com



The Sociology and Anthropology Student Club

Presents a Special Screening on "Women and Gender" in Film

SUNY Cortland - Sperry Center RM 204

Thursday, April 20th from 5pm-7pm

Holly – Directed by Victoria Fayne

Heart Sisters – Directed by Anton and Kajsa Textur

Woman Inside – Directed by Concepción Huerta

I Don't Like Her – Directed by Javad Daraei

The Sociology and Anthropology club welcomes all those interested in learning about different types of social norms and cultures from all over the world. We encourage everyone interested, both majors and nonmajors, to stop by and participate in discussions and club events.

The logo for SUNY Cortland, featuring a stylized red 'C' followed by the text 'SUNY Cortland' in a serif font.

Briann Ricks - President
Renee Robinson - Vice President
Danaiya Byrams - Treasurer
Samantha Ponzo - Secretary
Deborah Warnock - Advisor

The Africana Studies Department Presents

Special Screening Event: Race and Politics in America PT.1

Wednesday, April 19th – 7:00pm to 8:45pm

Sperry Center RM 106

Raising Bertie

Directed by Margaret Byrne

Raising Bertie is a longitudinal documentary feature following three young African American boys over the course of six years as they grow into adulthood in Bertie County, a rural African American-led community in Eastern North Carolina. Through the intimate portrayal of these boys, this powerful vérité film offers a rare in-depth look at the issues facing America's rural youth and the complex relationships between generational poverty, educational equity, and race.

Special Screening Event: Race and Politics in America PT.2

Thursday, April 20th – 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Sperry Center RM 304

How It Sounded to Squish a Cockroach

Directed by Lisa Russell

A poetry video on police brutality featuring Youth Poet Nkosi Nkululeko.

Marquis

Directed by Maya Suchak and Darian Henry

The story of Marquis Dixon who was sentenced to 9 years in state prison for stealing a pair of sneakers, told through the perspective of his mother.

Guilt Trip

Directed by Majestic Tillman

Two teens make a difficult choice that could cost them their future.

EST. 1896

Directed by Jazmin Corchado

Duty, prejudice and fear collide to ask a simple question: why?

State of Fear: Murder and Memory on Black Wall Street

Directed by J.D. Thompson

State of Fear is the story of a community in the grip of powerful, corrupt and dangerous public officials and how black and white residents joined together to demand justice.



kitestring

BLACKBIRD KICKOFF PARTY

Performance by the band Kitestring

www.Kitestringband.com

Friday, April 21st

BRU 64

64 Main St. Cortland, NY

Doors Open at 8:30pm

10% Discounts on Food & Drink with Blackbird Ticket!

Any Advice for New Filmmakers?

#AskAFilmmaker

"Make mistakes! Which is to say, you will make mistakes, so learn to pay attention to and learn from them. Also, watch a lot of movies! Definitely the great ones but also pay attention to the also-rans and the films you don't like - especially the ones that you think bungle it. It's often easier to figure out what not to do than it is to divine the secrets of the greats."

- Lars Fuchs, *Honk! Honk!*



"Filmmaking is hard. Especially from the perspective of a writer. You can write something you really love, but then you need to figure out how to get it out there. I would say try to make something you can afford to do on your own and put it out there. You just have to try every possibility and believe in the work you're doing."

- Micah Paisner, *You, Me & Me*

"Take risks, big ones, even if they take seven years for seven minutes of content, who cares! And have fun, otherwise it's just another job. I also think it is worth investigating your role as a visual artist. Learn to draw; you don't have to become great necessarily but drawing is the foundation of all visual fields. Even if you don't end up using drawing in your production method it will train your eye and make you more observant."

- Kenton Brett and David Jarred, *Riptide Rhapsody*



"Find your voice and have something important to say. It doesn't have to be important to everyone, it just has to be important to you. Don't focus so much on the technical aspects and production values because even really bad movies can do those things great. Make films with purpose, perspective, and heart. Keep pushing forward (even when everyone tells you to get a real job) and never stop learning. Also, keep making films until you get all the bad ones out of your system. Not everything you make is going to be good and that's ok."

- Zach Daulton, *Mayfield*

What Inspires You?

#AskAFilmmaker

"Everything. But it's more important to learn how to work even when you're not inspired. You'll always get inspired by the end of the day if you really throw yourself at something. Second answer – Sometimes I'm really inspired by an interesting shooting location. Once I know the space where the story is going to happen, everything else pours out."

- Jason Gudasz, *Creator*



"In a broad way, I'm inspired by anything that feels authentic and real. It can be a feeling, a person or character, a story, an image... The older I get, I'm getting more and more interested in Angola's past and future. The stories of my people, the different social classes, the struggling of living in a modern city, of a so called third-world country. I'm also inspired by the immensity of the universe, technology and History."

- Ana Carvalho, *A Pedra (The Stone)*

"The social entrepreneurs and other luminaries I get to film I document inspire me. People who work hard to help others. People who live using very little of the earth's resources. People who create more than they consume."

- Gabriel Diamond, *The Slum Dwellers*



"People who seek the truth, as hard and ugly as the journey may be, inspire me; the people that stand up instead of lying down and accepting the hand that life has dealt them. No matter how bad it gets and how much you may feel like you're drowning, I believe there's always a way back up to the surface. You just have to want it bad enough. I'm inspired by the people that make that discovery and do something about it."

- Luke McKay, *Colt 13*

How did you become a Filmmaker?

#AskAFilmmaker

"I was pitching a new theatre show to a company about how, for someone who grew up in the Texas of Canada, I never embraced my inner cowboy. They off-handedly suggested that my story would make a good documentary. I agreed, found a great DP and made my first doc, *Wild West Dream*, about the first UK cowboy. And so I became a film storyteller and director!"

- Heather Taylor, *Stitched*



"I became a filmmaker in my mind when I first saw *The Fellowship of the Ring* but I also think the groundwork was laid by my grandfather, who took me to my first movie, *The Lion King*. I was five at the time. He also showed me *The Red Balloon*, which has shaped my filmmaking for years since."

- Ben Tobin, *The Sky on His Back*



"As a child I was obsessed with all mediums of art and creativity. When I randomly asked my father for a camcorder at the age of 10 I discovered filmmaking encompasses all my passions into one. From then on I'd create skits and short films with my family. I took a filmmaking class in senior year and discovered you can go to school and pursue this professionally which I never considered before that point."

- Bobby Huntley, *Louisiana 1961*



Honestly, I never thought I would be a filmmaker growing up... But then, one summer day, some friends were hanging out/bored and one of them pulled out a new DVC camcorder and we decided to make a monster movie. Super short... Just two kids running and screaming for a couple minutes. But then we got to thinking, why not develop this a bit more? So I wrote out a feature length script and decided to make it happen. And for the next three years (summers), we shot our feature. Even though we were just messing around, it was how we learned the language. Now both myself and my friend (Seth Donald) are employed full time in film.

- Jack Skyler, *Resistance*



BLACKBIRD FILM FEST 17

Schedule of Events

April 21st - 23rd, 2017

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

- 3:30pm** **NYS Loves Film Information Session**
Sperry Center, RM 304
Meet the NYS Governor's Office of Motion Picture and Television Development for a roundtable discussion of all things production in New York State - tax credits, location scouting, finding stages and crew, and more.
- 6:00pm** **Filmmaker Check-in**
Sperry Center, Atrium
- 6:30pm** **Welcome Ceremony**
Sperry Center, RM 105
- 7:00pm** **BLOCK A - PREMIERE SHORTS (PG)**
Sperry Center, RM 105
A Town Called Theocracy, Pint Puller, Everywhere I Go, Flat, Elemental: Water, Lifeline, Shining Eyes, Stay, Equipoise, Guilt Trip, Ughh ugh, Family Shadows, Flaws, The Perfumist, Rosethorn, Bloody Mary, To Those Who Doubt, Perched
- 8:30pm** **Kickoff Party / Performance by KITESTRING**
BRU 64 - 64 Main St. Cortland, NY
10% Discount on Food & Drink with Blackbird ticket!

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

- 9:00am** **Filmmaker Breakfast**
Sperry Center, Atrium
- 10:00am** **BLOCK B - FAMILY FRIENDLY SHORTS (PG)**
Sperry Center, RM 106
*Design-A-Human, Inside Job, The Moment, Midnight Elevator
A Bone to Pick, The Sky On His Back, Unmasked, Solo,
The Bitters Truth, Cacophony, Mahal*
- 11:30am** **BLOCK C - DOCUMENTARY (PG)**
Sperry Center, RM 307
*Andy at Night, Thin Ice, Lives of Liberty NYC, Listen To My Voice,
Life of Being Wild, Emerald Ice*
- 1:00pm** **Lunch Break**
- 1:45pm** **BLOCK D - FAMILY FRIENDLY SHORTS (PG)**
Sperry Center, RM 307
*Love Song of a Drone, The Most Beautiful Thing I've Ever Seen,
Venture, Moving Out, Misjudged, Riptide Rhapsody, Solitude,
Warm Feet, The Hindu Thread, Flying Around, Dust Bunnies,
Picnic, Papaunderwater, Hot Chocolate, True Colors,
A Space in Time*
- 3:15pm** **BLOCK E - SHORTS (PG-13)**
Sperry Center, RM 105
*A Gift, Two Landscapes, Body of Christ, Das Licht, Mating Call,
Honk! Honk!, Happy Birthday Kevin, The Sucker*
- 4:45pm** **INDUSTRY TALK WITH SCOTT WILLIAMS**
Sperry Center, RM 104
- 6:00pm** **Dinner Break**
- 7:00pm** **BLOCK F - SHORTS (R)**
Sperry Center, RM 105
Colt 13, Swipe, Lily, Tom, the Knife Salesman, Viking
- 9:00pm** **BLOCK G - HORROR SHORTS (R)**
Sperry Center, RM 105
*What Goes Up, The Blackout, Resistance, Hidden, Conspiracices
Stitched, Chateau Sauvignon: terrior, Black Out, Shades,*

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

9:00am **Filmmaker Breakfast**
Sperry Center, Atrium

9:30am **BLOCK H - DOCUMENTARY (PG-13)**
Sperry Center, RM 307
Trust, Make It Float, Green Grass, The Slum Dwellers, Magic Cobra Tattoo, Food City: Feast of the Five Boroughs

11:00am **BLOCK I - ANIMATION (PG-13)**
Sperry Center, RM 106
Luscious, Detach, BrotherHood, Lucy, Rod Zegwi Dan Pikan, Forest of Berries, Mittashane, Hollow, Pokey Pokey, The Trophy Man, Time Space Reflections

12:30pm **BLOCK J - DRAMATIC SHORTS (PG-13)**
Sperry Center, RM 105
Concurrence, tereza, Pangaea, Kiss Me Goodbye, Mother's Cry, How It Sounded To Squish a Cockroach, EST. 1896, The Stone

1:45pm **Lunch Break**

2:30pm **BLOCK K - COMEDIC SHORTS (R)**
Sperry Center, RM 105
Sipped, Montréal Caché, Darts, Marissa at Brunch, IRL, Creator, You, Me & Me, To Live Forever, Mission Accomplished

4:00pm **BLOCK L - DRAMATIC SHORTS (PG-13)**
Sperry Center, RM 105
Not So Loud, Uncle Buzzy's House, The Sad Sea, Herb & I, Dear, I'm Beautiful, Louisiana 1961, Manhunt, Mayfield

6:00pm **Award Ceremony Dinner**
Cortland Repertory Theater
Located at 24 Port Watson St, Cortland, NY
Awards will be announced during the dinner event.
This dinner is only for Filmmakers and their guests.

2017 Blackbird Film Directory

A Bone to Pick

Directed by Kim DeJohn

BLOCK B

A disgruntled T-rex skeleton reclaims his stolen bones from Neanderthals.

A Gift

Directed by Yiqiong Li

BLOCK E

When Jack, a young man, burglarizes an old woman's house, he gets more than he bargains for.

A Space in Time

Directed by Alexandre Athané

BLOCK D

"A Space in Time" took two years of my life sitting at my desk, drawing, coloring animating and bringing it to life.

A Town Called Theocracy

Directed by Jihad N. Al-Khateeb

BLOCK A

In a fictional town called Theocracy, a religious mayor passes a movie restriction bill.

Andy at Night

Directed by Stephen Takashima

BLOCK C

A quirky mini-doc about thrash metal and cubicles. Made with blood, sweat, metal and salt granules.

Black Out

Directed by Angie Zambrano

BLOCK G

After waking up from a blackout a man is concerned about a dead body found in his apartment.

Bloody Mary

Directed by Travis Misenti

BLOCK A

A young nun attempts to conquer her sense of fear by way of the Bloody Mary urban legend.

Body of Christ

Directed by Amy-Joyce Hastings

BLOCK E

A look through the imagination of a child at the 'magic' of the Eucharist.

Cacophony

Directed by AiHsuan Shih

BLOCK B

Don't lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever find the balance in life and just move on!

Chateau Sauvignon: terroir

Directed by David E. Munz-Maire

BLOCK G

A gruesome coming of age story about a vintner son's disobedience and desire to care for his ailing mother.

Colt 13

Directed by Luke McKay

BLOCK F

A former sports phenom looks to settle a score with the man he believes is responsible for destroying his life.

Concurrence

Directed by Tom Cassese

BLOCK J

In the final moments before an apocalyptic catastrophe, six people come to terms with their impending doom.

Conspiracies

Directed by Victor Buitrago

BLOCK G

A man becomes too obsessed with what he finds on the internet.

Creator

Directed by Jason Gudasz

BLOCK K

The Creator of Everything suffers a nervous breakdown when he gets hung up on his conceptual work: Earth.

Darts

Directed by Peter Faint

BLOCK K

A struggling darts player meets an old friend to discuss an oddity in his life, as it spills into their afternoon.

Das Licht

Directed by Peter Hartsock

BLOCK E

A man in the dark.

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Design-A-Human

Directed by Jeeyoon Lee

BLOCK B

A mysterious interface allows its user to design a human.

Detach

Directed by Khairul Rahimi

BLOCK I

"Detach" imagines the transcendental journey of a lost soul into the afterlife.

Dust Bunnies

Directed by Beth Tomashek and Sam

Wade

BLOCK D

Dust Buddies is a story about two dust bunnies, Fuzz and Lint who must defeat an evil maid trying to clean them up.

Elemental: Water

Directed by Simone LeClaire

BLOCK A

An eldritch woman finds her way home.

Emerald Ice

Directed by Jesseca Ynez Simmons

BLOCK C

Emerald Ice takes the viewer on a journey of the imagination to explore the work of the American poet Diane Wakoski.

Equipoise

Directed by Gung-Kai Koo

BLOCK A

Equipoise is a film about positiveness and negativity, showing how they reach the balance instead of dominance.

EST. 1896

Directed by Jazmin Corchado

BLOCK J

Duty, prejudice and fear collide to ask a simple question: why?

Everywhere I Go

Directed by Chris Hanna

BLOCK A

A tale of life itself, and how far will we go in search of a feeling.

Flat

Directed by Michael Finn

BLOCK A

A flat tire is the least of the problems in this short thriller.

Flaws

Directed by Anthony Bradley

BLOCK A

A woman and a man reveal their insecurities after their first time sleeping together.

Flying Around

Directed by Matthew Maniaci

BLOCK D

I wanted to make a video that shows a drone flying around to see all the stuff that I do around CNY!

Food City: Feast Of The Five Boroughs

Directed by Matthew Fleischmann & Lars Fuchs

BLOCK H

Can one serve a 4-course meal for 8 people using only ingredients farmed, fished, or foraged from within New York City?

Forest of Berries

Directed by Alanna Nikol

BLOCK I

A young child escapes into a forest after being confined to a house for their whole life by their overprotective father.

Green Grass

Directed by Steve Summers

BLOCK H

A meditation on the relationship between marriage loyalty and lawn care.

Guilt Trip

Directed by Majestic Tillman

BLOCK A

Shot in one single take, Guilt Trip is the story of two cousins dealing with the aftermath of a crime gone wrong.

Happy Birthday Kevin

Directed by John Psathas

BLOCK E

At 15, Kevin risks it all for a shot at greatness.

2017 Blackbird Film Directory

Hidden

Directed by Sean Colby

BLOCK G

A teenager is being held captive in a man's basement while he is tested on for super-powers.

Hollow

Directed by Olivia Pecini

BLOCK I

After a crippling dust storm, a child and her pet rooster grapple with starvation.

Honk! Honk!

Directed by Lars Fuchs

BLOCK E

A director discovers that facing his worst critic - himself - can be harder than facing an uncoming truck.

Hot Chocolate

Directed by Thu Vu Kim Nguyen

BLOCK D

A girl recently moved to a foreign country and had to adjust to her new life.

How It Sounded to Squish a Cockroach

Directed by Lisa Russell

BLOCK J

Using the power of the spoken word, HISTSAC compares the killing of cockroaches to victims of police brutality.

I'm Beautiful

Directed by Noah Lalonde

BLOCK L

A short film about the standards of beauty in the 21st century with a much more darker perception on issue.

Inside Job

Directed by Qi DENG

BLOCK B

Machines have taken over so many human jobs. The main character wants to take some of those jobs back.

IRL

Directed by Joe Kowalski

BLOCK K

His best friend was a mouse cursor until she came along.

Life of Being Wild

Directed by Qihui Wu

BLOCK C

A young woman memories of a surreal and emotionally traumatic encounter with a monkey as a child.

Lifeline

Directed by Audrey Jordan

BLOCK A

Lifeline explores the idea of life is short but how long we truly live is up to us.

Lily

Directed by Paris Grigorakis

BLOCK F

Lily's loneliness is often interrupted by a man. Her secret lust grows so much that one day she can't restrain herself.

Listen To My Voice

Directed by Andrew Cheng

BLOCK C

Paul explains the application of hypnosis in the real world, and dispels one of the most common myths about it.

Lives of Liberty NYC

Directed by Gavin Hecker

BLOCK C

This film highlights New York's immigrants who adorn the robe of our beloved statue, and pose for photos with tourists

Louisiana 1961

Directed by Bobby Huntley

BLOCK L

A rousing love story set against a backwoods honky tonk blues performance.

Love Song of a Drone

Directed by Brian J. Larson

BLOCK D

An animated story about the life (and love) cycles of a drone bee.

Lucy

Directed by Elisa Chee

BLOCK I

An animated short about an unhappily domesticated chimpanzee, and the extreme sacrifices one woman made to set her free.

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Magic Cobra Tattoo

Directed by Adrian Alonso Cordoni
BLOCK H

The owner of a tattoo shop opens the doors of his shop in the heart of Brooklyn, New York.

Mahal

Directed by Jay Español
BLOCK B

Arthur uses an old music box to trigger his Alzheimer's-stricken wife's memory and discovers an unsettling truth.

Make It Float

Directed by Aden Suchak
BLOCK H

"Make it Float" shares artist Taofeek Abijako's story and how he intends to leave his mark on the world.

Manhunt

Directed by Michael Mejia & Marissa Lachica
BLOCK L

After his mother dies, Josh is relentlessly bullied till he reaches a breaking point.

Marisa at Brunch

Directed by Jonathan Smith
BLOCK K

Surrounded by the obnoxious Valley Girls at a wedding brunch, Marisa needs a date to the wedding.

Mating Call

Directed by Jall Cowasji
BLOCK E

A woman attempts to seduce a man with yoga

Mayfield

Directed by Zach Daulton
BLOCK L

James Mayfield has spent the last decade performing a show from his youth attempting to trigger forgotten memories.

Midnight Elevator

Directed by Henry Liu
BLOCK B

A dancer's midnight fantasy...

Mission Accomplished

Directed by Claus Martin
BLOCK K

Two gangsters have completed their job. Now they are waiting for their boss. Everything seems fine. But suddenly ...

Mittashane

Directed by Jeremy Speed Schwartz
BLOCK I

Corporate Fish build a giant sun-devouring robot. Made by SUNY Alfred students and the Tokyo-based band Castro House.

Montréal Caché

Directed by Max Machado
BLOCK K

Montréal Caché is a trailer for a fake TV show that reveals "The secrets of Montreal that they don't want you to know".

Mother's Cry

Directed by Lisa Russell
BLOCK J

A poetry-based video on climate change by Emmy-winning filmmaker, Lisa Russell featuring youth poet, Savon Bartley.

Moving Out

Directed by SeoHee Choi and John Han
BLOCK D

A teenage loads heavy luggage onto a car because she's gotta start somewhere.

Not So Loud

Directed by Orkhan Abbasoff
BLOCK L

A dependent man gets a chance to escape the prison where he put himself. But is it too late to change the dance partner?

Pangaea

Directed by Olivia Peace
BLOCK J

A lonely girl on a rooftop tries to return her life to a state of equilibrium after being separated from her family.

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Papaunderwater

Directed by Welf Reinhart
BLOCK D

To save his best friend's life Manuel has to find out that he and his father are fish.

Picnic

Directed by Cara Hagan
BLOCK D

A sunny day and a disappearing woman.

Pint Puller

Directed by Jake Balfour-Lynn
BLOCK A

A man walks into a bar...

Pokey Pokey

Directed by Junjie "Jake" Zhang
BLOCK I

A father attempts to figure out the best way to protect his son from seeing filthiness of the crime-ridden city.

Resistance

Directed by Jack Skytyler, Beth Konrad Brown, Jon Russell Cring
BLOCK G

An insect virus spread through the human population turning them into drones. 2 classes now exist: Humans & Drones.

Riptide Rhapsody

Directed by David Jarred and Kenton Brett
BLOCK D

Riptide Rhapsody is the story of five friends battling floods, robots and mutants. The film is animated by hand.

Rod Zegwi Dan Pikan

Directed by Azim Moollan
BLOCK I

An introspection into the memories of a woman; her struggles, her relationship with her daughter.

Rosethorn

Directed by Aditya Patwardhan
BLOCK A

Gabby trusts no one except one individual who teaches her that the path to overcome her dark past is within herself.

Shades

Directed by Chaaritha Dheerasinghe
BLOCK G

An anti-social driver who believes people talk too much -- drives to the desert to have peace and quite.

Sipped

Directed by Freddie Connor
BLOCK K

A dark comedy about a downtrodden man with no prospects, who discovers power within his coffee cup, one sip at a time!

Solitude

Directed by Amelia Ponirakis
BLOCK D

"Solitude" is a self directed short experimental film that follows a teenage girl who explores spaces of isolation.

Solo

Directed by Brendan Kirschbaum
BLOCK B

Backstage, a nervous elephant prepares for his trumpet solo.

Stay

Directed by Andrés Gallegos
BLOCK A

Driven to reconstitute his past, an aging man searches for his most precious memory.

Stitched

Directed by Heather Taylor
BLOCK G

A sheltered woman, reeling from the death of her mother, shows her sister how far she will go to be heard.

Swipe

Directed by Steven Tanenbaum
BLOCK F

A young woman turns a one night stand into a thrilling cat and mouse chase across Brooklyn.

tereza

Directed by Natalie Joey Camou
BLOCK J

A little girl must find the courage to stand up to her abusive mother.

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The Bitters Truth

Directed by Trey Huguley, Andrew Porter
BLOCK B

Citified author Charlie comes home to his quirky country family to uncover mamma's final gift for he and his siblings.

The Hindu Thread

Directed by Jennifer Higgins
BLOCK D

The Hindu Thread is the Hindu creation myth, told in stop-motion animation.

The Moment

Directed by Karis Oh
BLOCK B

A story about an artist who learns about the importance of the things unseen as she gets to draw a stranger's portrait.

The Most Beautiful thing I've ever seen

Directed by Javier F. Espadas
BLOCK D

The mother's love always sees more

The Perfumist

Directed by Yukari Akaba-Rockmuller
BLOCK A

"The Perfumist" is a dramatic story highlighting the battle of Machine-Equipped Man against Cosmic Nature.

The Sad Sea

Directed by Javier Rodes Sillué
BLOCK L

A natural and sober visual description about one of the most inspiring and enigmatic landscapes of the Earth.

The Sky On His Back

Directed by Ben Tobin
BLOCK B

An isolated boy, in mourning for his father, learns how to fly with the help of a storyteller.

The Slum Dwellers

Directed by Gabriel Diamond
BLOCK H

It's like a union for Slum Dwellers. Now they are in over 30 countries. Here's how it looks in Kenya.

The Stone

Directed by Ana Lúcia Carvalho
BLOCK J

A story about the memories of war and its perpetual waste. An adaptation of the short tale The Dragonfly, by Ondjaki.

The Sunken Convent

Directed by Michael Panduro
BLOCK G

A man wakes up, he goes to work, he eats in, he does a bit of home surgery, he drives to the woods.

The Trophy Man.

Directed by Nick Nason
BLOCK I

A trophy hunter boasts to his friends about his latest kill. Little does he know that his victims are still watching.

Thin Ice

Directed by Nathaniel Silverman
BLOCK C

Thin Ice follows Darren & Jack Zyra's journey through the sport of sled hockey as they try to start a team in Rochester.

Time Space Reflections

Directed by Alba Enid Garcia
BLOCK I

An inventor in the future loses her twin sister tragically. To cope with her grief she creates a Time/Space Portal.

To Live Forever

Directed by Jennifer Dean
BLOCK K

To Live Forever - a modern adaptation of the Greek myth of Sybil the prophetess who sleeps with Apollo for eternal life.

To Those Who Doubt

Directed by Joel & Jesse Edwards
BLOCK A

Directed by Joel & Jesse Edwards, the short film explores a question many people ask of themselves; "Am I enough?"

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Tom, The Knife Salesman

Directed by Ryan Brown
BLOCK F

A door to door knife salesman is kidnapped by a deranged burglar. To escape, he'll need to be sharper than a knife!

True Colors

Directed by Nicole Morciniec
BLOCK D

A small sparrow falls in love with a beautiful bird..

Two Landscapes

Directed by Neil Needleman
BLOCK E

A clash between the landscape the eye sees and the one the mind remembers.

Ughh ugh

Directed by Yajun Shi
BLOCK A

The piece shows the inter relation between the city and the holder of the city.

Uncle Buzzy's House

Directed by Kristine Niven & Christina Vinsick
BLOCK L

Taken in by a loving uncle, three disparate "cousins" challenge the line between blood and chosen family.

Unmasked

Directed by Alice Gavish
BLOCK B

A young boy embarks on a journey after the sudden loss of his father.

Venture

Directed by Benjamin T. Wilson
BLOCK D

A lonely astronaut learns that in space, it's hard to find friends.

Viking

Directed by Sam Callis & Ben Callis
BLOCK F

Like life, Viking is an absurd journey between comedy and tragedy.

Warm Feet

Directed by Ali Nidzgorski
BLOCK D

A young girl waiting for her doctor's appointment tries to convince a stranger the floor is lava.

What Goes Up

Directed by Brian Naughton
BLOCK G

When a man wakes up in a mysterious place, he is forced to face his demons.

SPRING BREAK VIDEO CONTEST

(SUNY Cortland Students Only)

Couple's Miami 2k17

Directed by Douglas Iadanza
BLOCK E

Are We There Yet?

Directed by Brock Ward
BLOCK E

Miami 2017

Stephanie Carrier
BLOCK F

Spring Break 2017

Suzy Lasagne
BLOCK J

Spring Break Cancun 2017

Gina Castellano
BLOCK K

Cruise 2017

Megan O'Brien
BLOCK K

Spring Break 2017

Sarah Zielstorf
BLOCK L

Meet the Crew

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Director of Programming | Sam Avery |
| Director of Festival Relations | Julie Ficarra |
| Event Operations Manager | Mitchell Ensman |

EVENT COORDINATORS

| | |
|---|--|
| Special Programming | Kiani Alvarez Jillian Hughes Nick Martinez |
| Marketing and Social Media | Audra Hopkins Joel Nuñez |
| Festival Outreach and Media Relations | Emma Calva Stephanie Carrier Lauryn Gillis Paige Hammond |
| Fundraising, Sponsorship and Community Relations | Justin Mazzarisi Nicole Connell Patrick Arellano Navita Ramprasad Alyssa Marley Owen Parseghian Melissa Wasiak |

AWARD COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Don Downie | Joseph Bellavia |
| Jonathan Chekroune | Stacie Capone |
| Yasmin Mistry | Caley MacLennan Bradley Silvius |

FESTIVAL JUDGES

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Alexander Stearns | Jeremy Dunn | Mitchell Ensman |
| Vincent Romeo | Matthew Gordon | Nathan LaFrance |
| Matthew Castoral | Callie Gill | Katie Kellas |
| Nicole McReynolds | Christopher Cataldo | James Foit |
| Griffin Constant | Robert Sager | Trevor Boyd |
| Scott Clifford | Shakima Coffee | Matthew Croak |

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