



The  
Chicago  
International  
Film Festival

56th Chicago International Film Festival  
October 14-25, 2020

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## **THE 56<sup>TH</sup> CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION SELECTIONS**

***Celebrated Auteurs and Emerging Masters Make U.S., North American and World  
Premieres in Chicago, October 14-25, 2020***

CHICAGO - The 56<sup>th</sup> Chicago International Film Festival announced today its prestigious competitions line-up. As the longest running competitive film festival in North America, the Festival continues its tradition of showcasing bold and accomplished new films from around the globe in a program that represents a diversity of styles, stories, and national cinemas. With most of the films screening as North American and U.S. premieres, the Chicago International Film Festival is proud to introduce these movies to American audiences for the first time. This year, the competitions will include the following World premiere titles: *Of Fish and Men* (Switzerland), *The Special* (Venezuela), *Mama Gloria* (U.S) and *The Road Up* (U.S.).

#### **International Feature Competition**

***And Tomorrow the Entire World*** (Germany)

Dir. Julia von Heinz  
North American premiere

***Apples*** (Greece)

Dir. Christos Nikou

***Careless Crime*** (Iran)

Dir. Shahram Mokri  
North American premiere

***Dear Comrades!*** (Russia)

Dir. Andrei Konchalovskiy  
North American premiere

***I'm Your Woman*** (US)

Dir. Julia Hart

***Night of the Kings*** (Côte d'Ivoire, France, Canada, Senegal)  
Dir. Philippe Lacôte

***Padrenostro*** (Italy)  
Dir. Claudio Noce  
North American premiere

***Sweat*** (Poland/Sweden)  
Dir. Magnus van Horne  
North American premiere

***True Mothers*** (Japan)  
Dir. Naomi Kawase  
US premiere

***Under the Open Sky*** (Japan)  
Dir. Miwa Nishikawa  
US premiere

### **New Directors Competition**

***Any Crybabies Around?*** (Japan)  
Dir. Takuma Sato  
North American premiere

***Becoming Mona*** (The Netherlands)  
Dirs. Sabine Lubbe Bakker, Niels van Coevorden  
International premiere

***Gaza Mon Amour*** (Palestine, Germany, France, Portugal)  
Dirs. Tarzan and Arab Nasser  
US premiere

***Memory House*** (Brazil)  
Dir. João Paulo Miranda Maria  
US premiere

***Of Fish and Men*** (Switzerland)  
Dir. Stefanie Klemm  
World premiere

***Preparations to Be Together for an Unknown Period of Time*** (Hungary)  
Dir. Lili Horvath  
US premiere

***Schoolgirls*** (Spain)  
Dir. Pilar Palomero  
North American premiere

**Sleep** (Germany)  
Dir. Michael Venus  
US premiere

**The Special** (Venezuela)  
Dir. Ignacio Márquez  
World premiere

**Spring Blossom** (France)  
Dir. Suzanne Lindon  
US premiere

**Striding into the Wind** (China)  
Dir. Shujun Wei  
North American premiere

### **International Documentary Competition**

**Kubrick by Kubrick** (France)  
Dir. Gregory Monro  
North American premiere

**Little Girl** (France)  
Dir. Sébastien Lifshitz  
North American premiere

**MLK/FBI** (US)  
Dir. Sam Pollard

**Mama Gloria** (US)  
Dir. Luchina Fisher  
World premiere

**The Prophet and the Space Aliens** (Israel/Austria/South Africa)  
Dir. Yoav Shamir  
North American premiere

**The Road Up** (U.S.)  
Dirs. Jon Siskel, Greg Jacobs  
World premiere

**Things We Dare Not Do** (Mexico)  
Dir. Bruno Santamaría  
US premiere

**'Til Kingdom Come** (Israel)

Dir. Maya Zinshtein  
International premiere

**Transoceánicas** (Spain, Argentina)

Dirs. Lucía Vassallo, Meritxell Colell Aparicio  
North American premiere

### **Out-Look Competition**

**Ammonite** (U.K.)

Dir. Francis Lee  
Chicago premiere

**Days** (Taiwan)

Dir. Tsai Ming-Liang  
Chicago premiere

**Little Girl** (France)

Dir. Sébastien Lifshitz  
North America premiere

**Mama Gloria** (U.S.)

Dir. Luchina Fisher  
World premiere

**Summer of '85** (France)

Dir. Francois Ozon  
Chicago premiere

**Things We Dare Not Do** (Mexico)

Dir. Bruno Santamaría  
US premiere

**Twilight's Kiss** (Hong Kong)

Dir. Ray Yeung  
Chicago premiere

### **Animated Short Film Competition**

**The Chimney Swift** (Germany)

Dir. Frédéric Schuld

***The Ephemeral Orphanage*** (U.S.)

Dir. Lisa Barcy

***The Fabric of You*** (U.K.)

Dir. Josephine Lohar Self

***Homeless Home*** (Spain, France)

Dir. Alberto Vázquez

***The Last Day of Autumn*** (Switzerland, Belgium, France)

Dir. Marjolaine Perreten

***Melting Heart Cake*** (France)

Dir. Benoît Chieux

***My Exercise*** (Japan)

Dir. Atsushi Wada

***O Black Hole!*** (U.K.)

Dir. Renee Zhan

***One Stormy Night*** (Germany)

Dir. Gil Alkabetz

***Pilar*** (The Netherlands, Belgium)

Dirs. Yngwie Boley, J.J. Epping, Diana van Houten

***Souvenir*** (Spain)

Dirs. Vilches Estella, Paloma Canonica

***Step into the River*** (China, France)

Dir. Weijia Ma

***Tie*** (Portugal, France)

Dir. Alexandra Ramires

***To: Gerard*** (U.S)

Dir. Taylor Meacham

***Umbrella*** (Brazil)

Dirs. Helena Hilario and Mario Pece

***Why Slugs Have No Legs*** (Switzerland)

Dir. Aline Höchli

## **Documentary Short Film Competition**

***A Mystery to Me*** (U.S.)

Dir. Ben Strang

***Comrades*** (Hong Kong)

Dir. Kanas Liu

***Ethereality*** (Switzerland)

Dir. Kantarama Gahigiri

***How to Disappear*** (Austria)

Dirs. Robin Klengel, Leonhard Müllner, Michael Stumpf

***Huntsville Station*** (U.S.)

Dirs. Jamie Meltzer, Chris Filippone

***Radia*** (Morocco, U.K.)

Dir. Erica Beebe

***The Reversal*** (U.S.)

Dir. Jennifer Boles

***Sacred Brick Technology*** (U.S.)

Dir. Ian Bertorelli

***We Have One Heart*** (Poland)

Dir. Katarzyna Warzecha

***When I Write It*** (U.S.)

Dirs. Nico Opper, Shannon St. Aubin

***When Two or Three*** (U.S.)

Dir. Carmine Grimaldi

## **Live Action Short Film Competition**

***Bella*** (Greece)

Dir. Thelyia Petraki

**Blocks** (U.S.)  
Dir. Bridget Moloney

**Buzzkill** (U.S.)  
Dir. Kathy E. Mitrani

**David** (U.S.)  
Dir. Zach Woods

**The Doe** (France)  
Dir. Jennifer Lumbroso

**The End of Suffering (a proposal)** (Greece)  
Dir. Jacqueline Lentzou

**Flick** (U.S.)  
Dir. Ariel Zengotita

**Gramercy** (U.S.)  
Drs. Jamil McGinnis, Pat Heywood

**Grizzlies** (U.S.)  
Dir. Alex Heller

**Heaven Reaches Down to Earth** (South Africa)  
Dir. Tebogo Malebogo

**Laura Hasn't Slept** (U.S.)  
Dir. Parker Finn

**Listening In** (Israel)  
Dir. Omer Sterenberg

**Look Then Below** (U.S.)  
Dir. Ben Rivers

**Nightingale** (The Netherlands)  
Dir. Jasper de Bruin

**Patois** (U.S.)  
Drs. Andre Muir, Danielle Alston

**Pegasus** (U.S.)  
Dir. Orlando Leroi

***Play Schengen*** (Norway)

Dir. Gunhild Enger

***The Price of Cheap Rent*** (U.S.)

Dirs. Amina Sutton, Maya Tanaka

***Regret*** (Canada)

Dir. Santiago Menghini

***-Ship: A Visual Poem*** (U.S.)

Dir. Terrance Daye

***Somewhere in Time*** (UAE)

Dir. Nawaf Al Janahi

***Spotted Yellow*** (Iran)

Dir. Baran Sarmad

***Sticker*** (Macedonia)

Dir. Georgi M. Unkovski

***Stump the Guesser*** (Canada)

Dirs. Guy Maddin, Evan Johnson, Galen Johnson

***Sun Dog*** (Belgium/Russia)

Dir. Dorian Jaspers

***Swipe Up, Vivian!*** (U.S.)

Dir. Hannah Welever

***They Salivate*** (France)

Dir. Ariane Boukerche

***The Unseen River*** (Vietnam, Laos)

Dir. Phạm Ngọc Lân

***Virago*** (Estonia)

Dir. Kerli Kirch Schneider

### **About the Chicago International Film Festival**

Celebrating its 56<sup>th</sup> edition October 14-25, 2020, the Chicago International Film Festival is North America's longest-running competitive film festival. Showcasing the best in international and



independent films from around the world, the 56th edition will be virtual and present more than 50 feature films and nine short film programs from around the world, bringing audiences together through virtual screenings, one-night-only live events, virtual tribute events with directors and actors, as well as movie club-style gatherings for audiences. From dramas and thrillers to documentaries and comedies, the Festival presents a vast diversity of offerings, including numerous competitive categories and several highlight programs such as Black Perspectives, Cinemas of the Americas, International Comedy, Women in Cinema, Out-Look, After Dark and the City & State program (showcasing films made in Chicago and from across Illinois.)

### **Festival Sponsors and Partners**

The 56<sup>th</sup> Chicago International Film Festival's sponsors include Major Festival Sponsor: Goldman Sachs, Xfinity; Festival Sponsors: Aberlour, Baker Tilly, Gamechanger Films, William Blair; Official Agency: Ogilvy; Festival Supporters: National Endowment for the Arts, Illinois Arts Council Agency, Chicago Film Office, Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; Media Partners: CHIRP Radio 107.1 FM, WBBM, WTTW; Cultural Partners: Consulate General of Italy in Chicago, Italian Cultural Institute in Chicago, Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest, Goethe-Institut. With additional support from the John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum Family Foundation, Robert and Leslie Zentner, Paul and Ellen Gignilliat, The Byron Pollock Trust.

### **About Cinema/Chicago**

Cinema/Chicago, the presenting organization of the Chicago International Film Festival, is a year-round nonprofit arts and education organization dedicated to fostering better communication between people of diverse cultures through the art of film and the moving image. Cinema/Chicago's programs include the [Chicago International Film Festival](#), [Summer Screenings Program](#), [CineYouth Festival](#), and year-round [Education Program](#). For more information, please visit [www.chicagofilmfestival.com](http://www.chicagofilmfestival.com) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#).

More information can be found at <https://www.chicagofilmfestival.com/>.

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