



**PARKWAY**  
HOME OF THE MARYLAND FILM FEST

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**For Immediate Release**

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**MdFF Virtual Announces Short Films Lineup with 32 Premieres;  
Presents Nearly 170 Screenings Across 15 Categories  
Including LGBTQ, Animated, Baltimore-Made and Others  
During Virtual Festival Held June 12-21, 2020**

***Press Registration Open***

BALTIMORE – SNF Parkway, home of the Maryland Film Festival (MdFF), announced today that the annual festival will present nearly 170 short films, including 15 U.S. and North America premieres and 17 world premieres, from June 12-21, 2020.

This is the first time in the history of the festival that it has offered a streaming platform for film enthusiasts. Touching almost every genre imaginable, MdFF Virtual unveils the 2020 selections of short films throughout its upcoming festival. The following short film premieres and genres will be presented:

*Animated Shorts:* A rich collection of animated shorts produced using a broad range of techniques, from the painstakingly handmade to the meticulously digital. These films bring visual pleasures and splendors unique to their respective mediums.

**BHOY| Antoni Sendra | U.S. Premiere**  
**MEAN SCREEN| Will Bryson | World Premiere**  
**SIX TO SIX| Neta Cohen | North American Premiere**  
**STAR CROSSED| Jon Frier | World Premiere**

*Balti-Shorts:* Comprised of six incredible Baltimore-made films, this program aims to present films in conversation with one another about our beloved city.

**MIRROR| Greg Lewis | U.S. Premiere**  
**WELCOME HOME| Nicholas Kovacic | U.S. Premiere**

*Character Study Shorts:* This captivating assortment of shorts focuses on incisive, character-driven narratives, showcasing an array of personalities and varied lives on screen.

**TRAMMEL| Christopher Bell | World Premiere**  
**VIEWING ROOM| Julian Turner | World Premiere**

*Charged Spaces Shorts:* These dramatic gems envelop characters within contentious and powerfully resonant scenes. In them, figures combat physical threats, rehashed memories, and awkward exchanges. Punctuated by dashes of laughter, this category is high on drama but also vibrantly human.

**LESSONS| Ida Yazdi | World Premiere**

*Comedy Shorts:* After the laughter comes tears. Sometimes those tears are from laughing so hard you cry, and sometimes they're from crying so hard you eventually have to laugh. These shorts explore the chuckles found in the absurd or the painful truths hidden in dark humor.

**DUEL| Danielle Criqui | World Premiere**  
**EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN| Dylan Redford | U.S. Premiere**  
**TOMMY JOHN| Alex Goldberg | World Premiere**

*Diverging Forms Shorts:* A progressive program of short films that boldly eschew the traditions of form, time and content. These shorts push the boundaries of cinematic creativity into breathtaking new directions.

**WIND HONEY| Steph Mantis, Bruce Willen | World Premiere**

*Documentary Shorts:* An eclectic array of short-form non-fiction films.

*Exits & Entrances Shorts:* A powerful collection of dramatic shorts centered around themes of coming and going, leaving and staying, exits and entrances. As future looms, pairs of characters navigate unexpected circumstances, new relationships, or potent memories.

**GOSSAMER| Charlie Schmidlin | World Premiere**  
**LAST DAY| Szu-Wei Chen | World Premiere**

*Genre Shorts:* An exciting assortment of short-form genre films, featuring psychological twists, turns and thrills.

**DIABLA| Ashley George | North American Premiere**  
**SHROOM| Gilsub Choi | North American Premiere**  
**TORI| Eric Cotton | World Premiere**

*LGBTQ Pride Shorts:* An urgent collection of LGBTQ shorts to celebrate Pride month.

*Narrative Frontiers Shorts:* This dynamic, globetrotting collection of shorts offers an array of films that push against the boundaries of narrative form, while also offering supremely enjoyable episodes of storytelling.

**GROVE| Paul Thomas Shkordoff | World Premiere**  
**JAMESTOWNE| Nick Grau | North American Premiere**

*Portraits in Place Shorts:* An arresting meditation on rural life and the ways in which place is a force that can shape human life.

THE MARSH GUARDIAN| Arnas Pigulevicius | World Premiere  
THIS LAND, OUR VOICES| Julia Thompson, Kevin Bay | U.S. Premiere

*Unorthodox Shorts*: This innovative collection plays in the grays, showcasing works on the cusp of multiple genres. Beyond mere documentary, these works astutely blend aspects of narrative, animation, comedy, or the avant-garde into markedly nontraditional frameworks.

**STEVE IS UNDOCUMENTED| Michael Barth, Kauai Moliterno | North American Premiere**

*The Last Temptation of WTF Shorts*: Hilarious, perplexing, and boldly transgressive in equal measure, MdFF's signature WTF (Wild! Transgressive! Fun!) Shorts offer a uniquely invigorating ride that won't easily be forgotten.

**CAROL WRIGHT CATALOG| Grace Sloan | World Premiere**  
**HEATSTROKE| Edgar Morais | U.S. Premiere**  
**MIDNIGHT COFFEE| Jaime Levinas | North American Premiere**  
**VAPORWAVE| Jonathan Firman, Matt Firman | World Premiere**

In addition to one of the largest short film offerings to take place at a film festival, MdFF Virtual will offer 15 feature film screenings, with daily live filmmaker interactive events.

For a complete lineup of our MdFF Virtual screenings, upcoming virtual events and announcements associated with the festival, please visit <https://mdfilmfest.com/virtual-fest/>.

Press interested in covering MdFF Virtual should submit their application [here](#). Access to screening and live events will be made available for registered press only.

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**About the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Parkway –**

At the SNF Parkway Theatre, home of the annual Maryland Film Festival (MdFF), we are committed to serving and growing our community of independent filmmakers, audiences, and partners across Baltimore, Maryland, and beyond. MdFF typically takes place over five days and attracts talented filmmakers from all over the world but will present its virtual festival in 2020 due to the pandemic. As Baltimore's only non-profit cinema and film organization, we offer unique and innovative programs that provide students, university partners and local filmmakers with the education, community network and opportunities that lend a pathway to thought provoking storytelling. Our theatre and programming reflect the creative vigor of Baltimore's arts community, while participating in the film and cultural dialogue across the country and the world. More information about the Parkway and MdFF is available at [www.mdfilmfest.com](http://www.mdfilmfest.com).