## THE 54<sup>TH</sup> HUMBOLDT INT'L FILM FESTIVAL



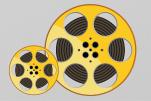


# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Electron and the second s
People's Choice Awardpg. 3
Message from the Co-Directorspg. 4
Best of Fest Filmspg. 5
Best of Fest: Honorable Mention - Parts Per Millionpg. 5
Best of Fest: In Solidarity with Black Lives Matter and Social Justice Issues - Spear Avenuepg. 6
Best of Fest: Self-Care and Wellness During COVID - A Year in Exilepg. 7
Best of Fest: Environmental- Ecocidepg. 8
Pablo Koontz Award - So Many Ideas Impossible to Do Allpg. 9
Ledo Matteoli Award - My Grandfather the Storytellerpg. 10
Best of Fest: Documentary - From Trash to Treasurepg. 12
Best of Fest: Experimental - The Pleasure of Killing Bugspg. 13
Best of Fest: Narrative - God's Daughter Dancespg. 14
Best of Fest: Animation - Kapaemahupg. 15
The Best of Fest - Alinapg. 16
A Moment to Say Thank Youpg. 17

LM FEST





# PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

### Hey....DID YOU VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE FILMS?



People's Choice Award Winners will be available on Friday, April 23rd.

Vote now by visiting: https://m360.us/1df3d

Let your voice be heard on your favorite picks for each category.

#### **A Message From the Co-Directors**

First off, WOW! We cannot believe the Film Festival is here. We started planning this last August and at that point we were focused on putting together a Virtual Film Festival with the uncertainty of what was to come with the COVID-19 pandemic. However, as the year went on there were glimmers of hope that gave light to the possibility of a limited face to face showing of some of the finalist films at the historic Minor Theatre. While that was a possibility that was on the horizon there was still the task at hand of screening all of 182 entries, we received this year from countries all around the world. We received films from South Korea, Iran, Myanmar, Egypt, Russia, Germany, France, Kazakhstan, Italy, Australia, to name a few. While it is always a difficult task to narrow them down to the finalist that would appear in Film Festival, we were blown away by the quality of films that were submitted this year. Also, a big shoutout to the Film 260 Film Festival students in both the Fall and Spring that helped screen each of the films. We could not have done it without you!

So, after many, many Zoom meetings and hours of planning, organizing, and collaborating we are finally ready to show our community, the filmmakers, our supporters all the hard work we put into this year's Fest. We hope the films that you see over the next week will bring you joy, open your eyes, give you perspective, and perhaps open your mind to what's going on in the world that surrounds us. In the words of Mohsen Makhmalbaf, "We can love each other more through/of cinema." These resonate what the Humboldt Int'l Film Festival stands for and will continue to carry forward for years to come.

Thank you all for the support this year, being patient as we built out this year's fest and we hope it's one of the best ones yet. Enjoy Fest week and happy viewing!

-Kylie Holub and Matt Brown, Co-Directors of the 54th Humboldt Int'l Film Festival.

# BEST OF FEST FILMS

This years Best of Fest consists of 11 Films picked by our team of judges. It includes films from all categories which includes narrative, documentary, experimental, and animation. Also, this year we have included additional categories that include Best In Solidarity with Black Lives Matter & Social Justice Issues and Self-Care and Wellness During COVID. Finally, we have our specialty awards which includes Best Environmental, the Ledo Matteoli Award: Best Immigrant Theme Film, and finally the Pablo Koontz Award for Best Experimental Technique. Enjoy the program and happy viewing.



#### **BEST OF FEST: HONORABLE MENTION**

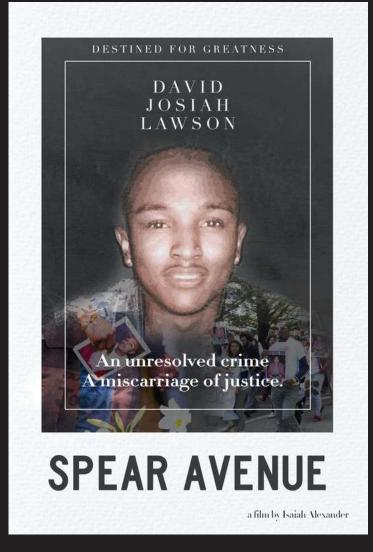
**<u>PARTS PER MILLION:</u>** Parts Per Million uses microscopic imagery to contemplate the effects of climate change from a hidden perspective.

Director: Jesseca Ynez Simmons

United States - Total Run Time: 4:54

(only playing at the Minor Theatre events)

#### BEST OF FEST: IN SOLIDARITY WITH BLACK LIVES MATTERAND SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

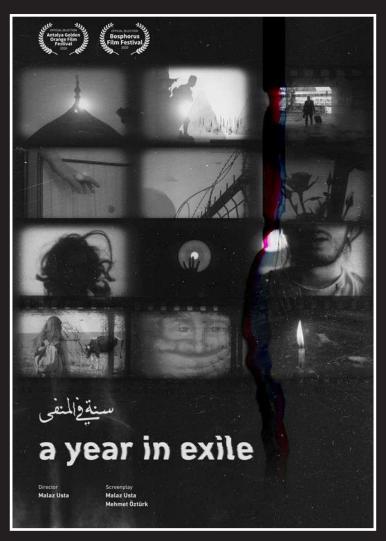


**SPEAR AVENUE:** When the slaying of a Black university student sparks unrest in Humboldt County, California, community members question police procedures during the ongoing criminal investigation.

Director: Isaiah Alexander

United States - Total Run Time: 18:00

#### **BEST OF FEST: SELF-CARE AND WELLNESS DURING COVID**

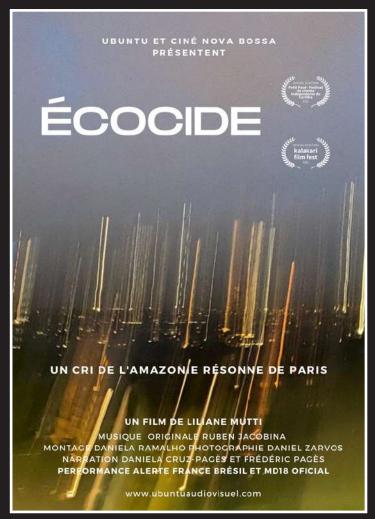


**AYEAR IN EXILE:** An immigrant's first year in a metropolitan city outside his small country. Through a collection of moving images and sounds the film exhibits what he faces, the pictures that he sees, the crowded thoughts in his head, and the state of emotional shock that he lives throughout the year.

Director: Malaz Usta

Turkey - Total Run Time: 19:00

#### **BEST OF FEST: ENVIRONMENTAL** presented by the humboldt del-note film commission



**ECOCIDE:** Paris, October 2020. Dozens of Brazilians and Frenchmen gather at the foot of the Sacré Cœur Basilica, in Montmartre, to hold a vigil against the ecocide underway in Brazil. Dressed in black and carrying candles, they denounce the continuing arson in the Amazon, the Pantanal and the Cerrado and the denial of the Brazilian extreme right government.

Director: Liliane Mutti

France - Total Run Time: 11:29

#### BEST EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUE PABLO KOONTZ AWARD

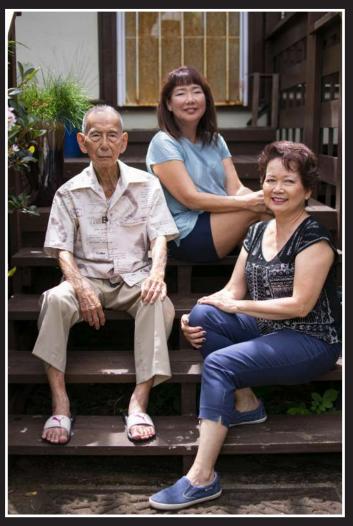


**SO MANY IDEAS IMPOSSIBLE TO DO ALL:** A year before her death, Barbara Hammer asked me to work on a project she'd envisioned based on her correspondence (1973-85) with Jane Brakhage. She also gave me outtakes from her 1974 film "Jane Brakhage" and told me to let the project take me wherever it led. What emerges is a portrait of Barbara as a brave and vibrant artist and a complex and nuanced long distance friendship.

Director: Mark Street and Barbara Hammer

United States- Total Run Time: 11:00

#### **LEDO MATTEOLI AWARD: BEST IMMIGRANT FILM PRESENTED BY THE MATTEOLI FAMILY**



**MYGRANDFATHER THE STORYTELLER:** My grandfather was just 19 years old when he witnessed a war that divided him between the country that he loved and the country whose blood ran through his veins. This is his story of pain, pride and patriotism.

Director: Madison Kaisan

United States- Total Run Time: 7:45





#### **15-minute intermission**\* \*Only at the in-person event at The Minor Theatre

#### OUR MISSION

To create a space for independent filmmakers to express themselves, free from the censorship of mainstream media. The Humboldt International Film Festival is particularly aware of the power of short, independent film, and we seek those which inspire social and environmental change.

FOLLOW US AND KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH ALL THINGS HUMBOLDT INT'L FILM FESTIVAL.



Humboldt International Film Festival

@hsufilmfest



@humbltfilmfest

Big shoutout to the Spring Film 260 students for helping design this years Program.

## **BESTOFFEST: DOCUMENTARY**

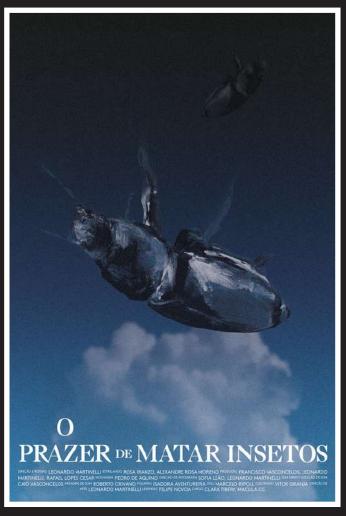


**FROM TRASH TO TREASURE:** From erosion to overgrazing to enduring poverty, the people of Lesotho—a highland country surrounded by South Africa—face a variety of difficult challenges. Yet grassroots communities in the country also exhibit tremendous resourcefulness and creativity.

Director: Iara Lee

United States- Total Run Time: 24:30

## **BESTOFFEST: EXPERIMENTAL**



**THE PLEASURE OF KILLING BUGS** In the near future, the climate crisis reaches an irreversible point. A nun and a priest meet to talk about the disappearance of insects.

Director: Leonardo Martinelli

Brazil - Total Run Time: 20:00

## **BESTOFFEST:** NARRATIVE



**GOD'S DAUGHTER DANCES:** A transgender female dancer, Shin-mi, gets a call from the Military Manpower Administration, to attend for the Military Service Examination. Shin-mi, with everything in readiness, takes her steps to the Military Manpower Administration.

Director: Sungbin Byun

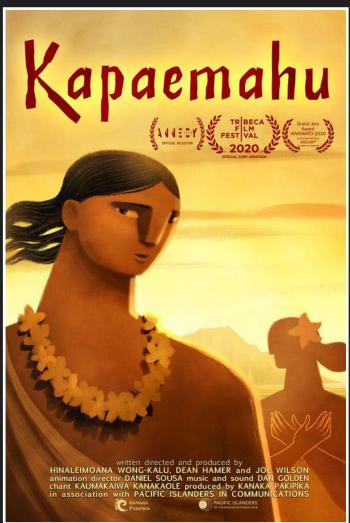
South Korea - Total Run Time: 24:53

Want to help the Humboldt Int'l Film Festival and keep this historic event going strong for years to come? Scan the link below to donate to the festival now! Your donation helps us award our filmmakers, future proof the festival, and much more. We couldn't do it without the support of our community.

Thank you for your donation and continued support!



## **BESTOFFEST: ANIMATION**



**<u>KAPAEMAHU</u>**: Kapaemahu reveals the healing power of four mysterious stones on Waikiki Beach – and the legendary dual male and female spirits within them.

Director: Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, Dean Hamer, and Joe WIlson

United States- Total Run Time: 8:25

## THE BEST OF THE FEST



**ALINA:** As Nazis separate children from their parents in the Warsaw Ghetto, a gang of women risks everything to smuggle their friend's three-month-old baby to safety. Inspired by true events.

Director: Rami Kodeih

United States- Total Run Time: 24:51

#### A moment to say thank you...

The Co-Directors and Faculty Advisor of the 54th Humboldt Int'l Film Festival wanted to extend a huge THANK YOU to all of the people, organizations that made this year possible. Through your support and efforts this year's fest is incredibly special.

Dr. Jason Meriwether

**Travis Williams** 

Dean Dr. Eboni Ford Turnbow

Dr. Tom Jackson

**Kevin Furtado** 

**Margueritte Powers** 

**FILM 260 Students** 

**HSUTFD Department** 

**Susan Abbey** 

**Ann Alter** 

**David Scheerer** 

**Dave Jannetta** 

Montel VanderHorck III

**Debra Ryerson** 

**Brec Ronis** 

Jyll Jackson

Sandy Wieckowski

Sandra Harpe

Gina Yap

**Peter Blickensderfer** 

Kat Lundahl

Norbert Rodriguez

Pablo Koontz & his family

Maria Matteoli & the Matteoli family

**Cassandra** Hesseltine

Humboldt-Del Norte Film Commission

Josh Neff, and The Minor Theatre Staff

**Our Judges:** 

**Mo-Desir Harper** 

**Isley Reust** 

Woodrow Hunt