

BATES FILM FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 6-10, 2019



BATES COLLEGE

LEWISTON - MAINE
www.bates.edu/bff

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2019 Bates Film Festival Mission Statement

The Bates Film Festival is a collaborative experience between Bates College undergraduates and the College's faculty, staff, alumni/ae, parents, and friends. Students are involved in every aspect of the festival's organization, planning, and execution. Together, we foster an appreciation for the artistry of screen media and present work that cultivates productive discussions of topical social and political issues.

Through film and television, we advance the College's mission by engaging "the transformative power of our differences." We work for equity and justice by welcoming a variety of viewpoints, seeking out partnerships with local communities, recognizing structural inequalities, and advocating for individuals from diverse backgrounds. We connect filmmakers with scholars and students and early career filmmakers with established professionals.

The Bates Film Festival would not be possible without the assistance and expertise of numerous Bates College staff members. Collectively, they have helped us to secure screening rooms; arrange travel accommodations for visiting filmmakers; negotiate and secure film permissions; cater various events and arrange necessary technology; advise on video formatting issues and projection capabilities; build a website; guide and assist in promotional efforts; raise funds; create a people's choice voting system, update and manage the BFF budget; format documents to the correct specifications; and so much more.

Our sincere thanks to:

Cynthia Jalbert and the Bates Academic Administrative Assistants

Chris Schiff, Carole Parker, and their staff in the Ladd Library

Christine Schwartz, Brenda Pelletier, and their staff in Dining Services

Michael Hanrahan, Shauna'h Feugen, Branden Rush, Cori Hoover, Colin Kelley, the Digital Media Studies, and the VizLab

Patricia Schoknecht

Ben Lizzotte and Ben Pinkham

Sean Findlen, Doug Hubley, David Ernst, Phyllis Graber-Jensen, and everyone in the Bates Communication Office

Cary Gemmer, Erin Brown, Heather Corbett, and the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement

Sue Dionne and our experts in Accounting

Laurie Henderson, Laurie Hiscock, and their entire team at Post and Print

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	Wednesday, November 6	Thursday, November 7	Friday, November 8	Saturday, November 9	Sunday, November 10	
10:00AM						10:00AM
			Olin 104 10am-12pm	Olin 104 10am-12pm		
11:00AM						11:00AM
12:00PM						12:00PM
1:00PM		A Shared Space: Lewiston - VR (with Q&A) Chase Hall Little Room - B18 1-3pm				1:00PM
2:00PM				Narrative and Animated Shorts Block (with Q&A) Olin 104 1:30-3:45pm		2:00PM
3:00PM			Olin 104 1:30-3:30		Olin 104 1:30-3:30 (Q&A)	3:00PM
4:00PM	Bates Shorts Block (with Q&A) Olin 104 4:4-4:45pm	Documentary Shorts Block Olin 104 4-6pm	Panel: Borders and Boundaries Olin 104 4-5pm	Panel: Representing Difference Olin 104 3:45-4:30pm		4:00PM
5:00PM	Panel: A Historical View of Film Study at Bates Olin 104 4:45-5:30pm					5:00PM
6:00PM						6:00PM
7:00PM			Olin 104 5:15-7:15	Olin 104 5-7:30pm (Q&A)	201 Muskie 5:30-7:30pm (Dinner)	7:00PM
8:00PM	Olin 104 7-9pm (Q&A)					8:00PM
9:00PM		Schaeffer Theatre 8-10:30pm	Olin 104 7:30-9:30			9:00PM
10:00PM						10:00PM

Bates

Department of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies

November 2019

On behalf of the Board of Directors, welcome to the 2019 Bates Film Festival! We're back and better than ever! The BFF is organized by students in "Film Festival Studies," a seminar taught in the Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies Department here at Bates. This is what makes our festival unique. Students are involved in every aspect of the festival's planning and execution. They have tweaked last year's mission statement, raised a record amount of funds, screened films, programmed a schedule, worked with industry professionals and faculty members (both at Bates and other colleges) to explore programming options, updated our website and social media accounts, produced most of the events that will take place over the next five days, and worked with community partners to guide their programming choices and advertising efforts. They have also written most of the text that appears in this program. And they have done it all in 9 weeks, an insanely short period of time for any festival, but especially for first-time festival organizers.

Over the next five days, the Bates Film Festival will bring 25 films to campus along with our first-ever VR title. We will welcome over a dozen special guests either in person or by video. We will run three panels, all of which will pair faculty experts with activists and filmmakers. Attendees will have the opportunity to watch *Lewiston*, a short documentary about our home, and experience a 360-degree immersive experience that recounts the experiences of Lewiston residents. They will be able to view films that deal with issues of government surveillance, explore histories of racial violence, negotiate the fine line between eco activism and eco terrorism, engage the topic of transgender athletics, recount the struggles of refugees searching for a safe place for themselves and their families, and portray the struggles of end-of-life care. They will journey with Elizabeth Rynecki (class of 1991) as she walks in her great grandfather's footsteps in search of the artwork he created that was later scattered around the world following his murder in a concentration camp. And they will do it all right here, on the Bates campus, for free. The way festivals should be.

At Bates, film and television courses are taught in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies, Art and Visual Culture, Religious Studies, Anthropology, Asian Studies, English, Theater and Dance, Spanish, French and Francophone Studies, American Studies, Japanese, European Studies, Music, History, Philosophy, German, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Africana, and many other departments and programs. Film and television reach across disciplines and unite us, and they also have the potential to reach outside of the Bates campus and connect individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences. This is our biggest hope for the Bates Film Festival – that through a shared love of film we will bring a diverse set of individuals together in the same room so that conversations can take place that might not happen otherwise. Your presence at the festival helps us to do just that.

Thank you for being here, and welcome to the 2019 Bates Film Festival!



Jonathan J. Cavallero

Associate Professor of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies

305 College Street | Lewiston, Maine | 04240-6087 | 207 786-8294 | FAX: 207-786-8332



2019

Bates Film Festival

(www.bates.edu/BFF)



Wednesday, 11/6/2019

4:00-4:45	Bates Shorts Block (with Q&A)	Olin 104
4:45-5:30	Panel: A Historical View of Film Study at Bates	Olin 104
7:00-9:00	Chasing Portraits (with Q&A)	Olin 104

Thursday, 11/7/2019

1:00-3:00	A Shared Space: Lewiston (with Q&A)	Chase Hall Little Room
4:00-6:00	Documentary Shorts Block	Olin 104
8:00-10:30	The Last Black Man in San Francisco	Schaeffer Theater

Friday, 11/8/2019

10:00-12:00	The Feeling of Being Watched	Olin 104
1:30-3:30	Midnight Traveler	Olin 104
4:00-5:00	Panel: Borders and Boundaries	Olin 104
5:15-7:15	Woman at War	Olin 104
7:30-9:30	Ms. Purple	Olin 104



2019

Bates Film Festival

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Saturday 11/9/2019

10:00-12:00	Farming	Olin 104
1:30-3:45	Narrative and Animated Shorts Block (with Q&A)	Olin 104
3:45-4:30	Panel: Representing Difference	Olin 104
5:00-7:30	Changing the Game (with Q&A)	Olin 104

Sunday, 11/10/2019

1:30-3:30	Always in Season (with Q&A)	Olin 104
5:30-7:30	Tazzeka Dinner and a Movie	Muskie 201

Board of Directors

Jonathan J. Cavallero

*Founding Director
Yarmouth, Maine*

Andrew Berg ('20)

Titusville, Florida

Ethan King ('21)

Exeter, New Hampshire

Clemmy Callaway ('20)

Woodland Hills, California

Teagan Ladner ('21)

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

Matt Chlastawa ('20)

Westfield, Massachusetts

Nicky Meyerson ('20)

Beverly Hills, California

Drew Collins ('20)

Piedmont, California

Daniella Pascucci ('20)

Needham, Massachusetts

Maddie Fagundo ('20)

Boulder, Colorado

Torri Pelletier ('20)

Topsham, Maine

Perla Figuereo ('21)

Bronx, New York

Abel Ramirez ('20)

Denver, Colorado

Kody Greenhalgh ('20)

West Warwick, Rhode Island

Isaiah Saunders ('21)

Tilton, New Hampshire

Julia Gutterman ('20)

Mamaroneck, New York

Eleanor Shields ('20)

Bar Harbor, Maine

Shae Gwydir ('20)

Port Jefferson, New York

David Sparks ('20)

Simsbury, Connecticut

Will Holland ('20)

Oakland, New Jersey

Jim Stevens ('20)

North Kingstown, Rhode Island

Mike Jones ('20)

Stratford, Connecticut

Tristan Van Rooden ('20)

Washington, DC

Professional Advisory Board

Wayne Beach

Screenwriter & Director
Chair, Film Program, Maine Media Workshops

John Murchison ('88)

Vice President, Miniseries
HBO

Taylor Blackburn ('15)

TV Writer

Mike Pavlic ('96)

President of Creative Advertising
United Artists Releasing

Alexandria Bombach

Filmmaker

Jordan Roberts

Writer/Director

Constance Brimelow ('16)

Freelance Documentary Producer

A. Clayton Spencer

President
Bates College

Steven Brookman (P '21)

Co-Head, Motion Picture Business Affairs
Creative Artists Agency

Dan Tausanovitch ('10)

Creative Executive
Warner Bros. Pictures

Ed Decter (P '21)

Screenwriter/Producer/Showrunner
Carteret Street Productions

Lauren Tempest ('08)

Content Acquisition
Hulu

Steven DePaul (P '17)

Director, Episodic Network Dramas

Anike Tourse ('92)

Writer, Director, & Actor

Amy Geller ('96)

Documentary Filmmaker
Lecturer, Boston University

Jon Vickers

Founding Director/Curator
Indiana University Cinema

Kelly Gollogly ('10)

Visual Development Artist
DreamWorks TV Animation

Bumble Ward (P '17)

Founding Partner
Hive Communication Collective

Stacy Kabat ('85)

Activist/Director/Producer

Tom Wilhite

Co-Founder
Hyperion Pictures

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Bates College

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Cinema Sarah Lawrence

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Michael Sargent

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Bates College

Paul Schofield

Bates College

Stephanie Kelley-Romano

Bates College

Shu-chin Tsui

Bowdoin College

Andrew Kennedy

Bates College

Laura Vazquez

Northern Illinois University

Elsa Lankford

Towson University

Tricia Welsch

Bowdoin College

Francisca 'Paqui' Lopez

Bates College

Justine Wiesinger

Bates College

Film Festival Studies Alumni

2018

Luc Alper-Leroux ('20)
Vicky Arjoon ('19)
Gil Connolly ('18)
Gillian Coyne ('19)
Grant DeWald ('18)
Jackson FrenchRobitaille ('18)
Erin Fuller ('18)
Tessa Liebes ('19)
Nate Merchant ('18)
Sarah McCarthy ('18)
Brian Pansius ('18)
Sierra Ryder ('18)
Marisa Sittheeamorn ('18)
Lena Szeto ('18)

2019 Short Term Redesign

Vicky Arjoon ('19)
Gillian Coyne ('19)
Matt Chlastawa ('20)
Abel Ramirez ('20)
Eleanor Shields ('20)

Meet Our Advisory Board Members

Wayne Beach wrote his first screenplay in 1991; since then, he has composed screenplays for Warner Bros., Twentieth Century Fox, Disney, Sony, TNT, Village Roadshow Pictures, Wolf Films, and other studios and networks. His produced screenplays include: *Murder At 1600* (1997), starring Wesley Snipes, Diane Lane and Alan Alda; and *The Art of War* (2000), starring Wesley Snipes. He wrote and directed *Slow Burn* (2005), starring Ray Liotta, LL Cool J, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Mekhi Phifer, Jolene Blalock, and Taye Diggs, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and was released in 1100 theaters by Lionsgate. In 2014, he created an original television pilot, *American Dream*, which inspired a bidding war between Showtime, FX, and WGN. Beach has taught screenwriting at Northwestern University, Bates College, and Maine Media Workshops + College where he is currently chair of the film program. His former students have become successful writers, directors, and producers working at the highest levels of film and television. Their credits include *Blindspot*, *Friends*, *Arrow*, *Malcom in the Middle*, *Riverdale*, *Dawson Creek*, *Beverly Hills 90210*, and more. (Written by Maddie Fagundo '20)

Taylor Blackburn ('15) graduated from Bates in 2015 with a degree in Rhetoric. She went on to earn her Master of Fine Arts in TV Writing and Production at Loyola Marymount University where she was able to simultaneously have various internships with companies such as Amazon, HBO, and FX. At Amazon, Jill Soloway, the writer, producer, creator, and showrunner of the Emmy Award-winning dramedy series *Transparent* was impressed by Blackburn and asked her to stay on as their assistant. Blackburn later was tasked with finding substantial projects for Topple, Soloway's production company. Soon, however, Blackburn earned a spot in a mini writers' room at Amazon Studios. As a staff writer, she and her team are currently penning the first few episodes of a show that Amazon is considering picking up. (Written by Nicky Meyerson '20)

Alexandria Bombach is an award-winning director, cinematographer, and editor. Her feature-length documentary, *On Her Shoulders* (2018), won Best Directing in the US Documentary Competition at the

Sundance Film Festival, was nominated for two Film Independent Spirit Awards, and was shortlisted for Best Documentary Feature at the Academy Awards. In 2016, Bombach visited Bates to screen her feature-length documentary, *Frame by Frame* (2015), which went on to win over 25 film festival awards. (Written by Eleanor Shields, '20)

Constance Brimelow ('16) is a documentary filmmaker based in Brooklyn, New York. Since graduating from Bates College in 2016, she has worked as an Associate Producer on *This Is Home* (2018) - a feature-length documentary that chronicles the first 8 months of four Syrian refugee families resettling in Baltimore, MD. It was featured on the cable service Epix, and premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2018, where it won The Audience Award for World Cinema Documentary. She continues to work in the film industry as a producer at Osmosis Films which is also based in Brooklyn. (Written by Torri Pelletier '20)

Steven Brookman (P '21) is the Co-Head of Motion Picture Business Affairs at leading entertainment agency Creative Artists Agency (CAA), where he serves as a high-level negotiator and advisor to many of the most acclaimed and successful artists in film today. He joined CAA in 2003 from the entertainment law firm Bloom, Hergott and Diemer, where he was a partner. Brookman received his law degree from the University of California Berkeley and his undergraduate degree from Colgate University. One of his greatest passions is teaching and helping young adults jump start their careers in the industry. He recently joined the University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts as a professor, teaching "Breaking into the Entertainment Industry." Brookman is a returning Professional Advisory Board member for BFF and is a proud Bates parent of Peri Brookman ('21). (Written by Jim Stevens, '20)

Ed Decter (P '21) is a film director, producer and screenwriter, with television and film credits that include *There's Something About Mary*, *The Santa Clause 3*, *The Santa Clause 2*, *The New Guy*, and *The Lizzie McGuire Movie*, and television credits that include *Boy Meets World*, *In Plain Sight*, and *Shadowhunters*. An active member of the NESAC family, Ed is an alumnus and guest lecturer at Wesleyan University, as

well as a parent of a current Bates student. (Written by Teagan Ladner '21)

Steven DePaul (P '17) is an American television director based in Los Angeles and a parent of a 2017 Bates College graduate. As an undergraduate at Clark University, DePaul co-founded the University's video department. DePaul began his post-graduate career with a 16-year stint traveling the globe with rock-and-roll legends like The Eagles, Bruce Springsteen, and Joni Mitchell. He transitioned to television as a post-production specialist before working his way up the ranks to being one of the producers of the highly acclaimed *NYPD Blue*, for which he won a Primetime Emmy for "Outstanding Drama Series" in 1995. DePaul now works mostly as a director, helming episodes of programs like *Person of Interest*, *Grimm*, and most recently *The Good Doctor*, *The Village*, and *The Gifted*. (Written by Isaiah Saunders '21)

Amy Geller ('96) is an award-winning director, producer, and teacher who has made a number of short films, documentaries, and commercials. Her recent films have been distributed on platforms like PBS, BBC, The Documentary Channel, iTunes, NBC, Netflix, Amazon, and Fox News. Geller's documentary *For the Love of Movies: The Story of American Film Criticism* (2009) has screened at 80 film festivals around the world. She also teaches film courses at Boston University where she won the 'BU Women's Guild Scholarship' which assisted in the making of the documentary feature *The Guys Next Door* (2016). Geller currently lives in Boston, Massachusetts and attends many film festivals in the New England area. (Written by Kody Greenhalgh, '20)

Kelly Gollogly ('10) is a Bates College graduate who double majored in Developmental Psychology & Studio Art and also took classes at Parson's the New School (NYC) and Concept Design Academy (Pasadena, CA). Gollogly began her career as an intern at Nickelodeon in Los Angeles, eventually becoming a production assistant for 6 years before rising to an animator and painter. She has been at DreamWorks since October 2016 and is currently working as the Visual Development Artist on Tony Hill's *Archibald's Next Big Thing*. (Written by Drew Collins '20)

Stacy Kabat ('85) graduated from Bates College in 1985, and has been a director, producer and screenwriter. She is passionate about human rights advocacy and perhaps best known for writing *Women's Rights, Human Rights* in 1999. She also wrote and co-produced *Rape Is...* in 2003 and co-produced *Strong at the Broken Places: Turning Trauma to Recovery* in 1998. In 1992, she won a Rebook Human Rights Award for her efforts to improve the lives of abused women and in 1994, she won an Oscar for Best Documentary Short Subject for *Defending Our Lives*, a short film that exposed the severity of domestic violence in the United States. In 1995, Kabat presented at the NGO forum during the United Nation's Fourth "Conference on Women" in Beijing. Kabat is currently running her nonprofit, Peace At Home, and is a maternal/child health nurse and a lactation consultant at Mass General in Boston. (Written by Daniella Pascucci '20)

John Murchison ('88) is a creator and executive with over twenty years of experience in the film and television industry. Currently the vice president of miniseries at HBO in Los Angeles, Murchison joined the network in 1995 and has since worked to develop some of its most prominent and award-winning television shows and movies, including *Band of Brothers*, *John Adams*, and *Elizabeth I*. Murchison graduated from Bates in 1988 with a degree in History and went on to earn a Master of Science degree in Television, Radio, and Film from the S.I. Newhouse School of Communications at Syracuse University. He is currently a member of the Bates College Board of Trustees. (Written by Andrew Berg, '20)

Mike Pavlic ('96) began getting involved with theatre during his time at Bates. After graduating in 1996, he decided he wanted to get involved within the film industry. Pavlic attended film school at Boston University and started to direct plays on the side. He then moved to California to fully immerse himself in the film industry, taking a job answering phones at a small production company. From there, Pavlic landed an entry-level position at Sony. Starting as an editor working on movie trailers, he worked his way up to become the manager of creative advertising, where he worked from 2003-2005. After taking a couple years away from Sony to travel the world, he returned in 2009 as the president of worldwide advertising. In 2018, Pavlic became the President of Creative

Advertising at Annapurna Pictures before moving over to UA Releasing when Annapurna and UA joined forces. Pavlic has worked on the advertising campaigns for movies such as *Zero Dark Thirty*, *American Hustle*, *Sausage Party*, *22 Jump Street*, *The Magnificent Seven*, *Moneyball*, *The Shallows*, the *Hotel Transylvania* franchise, *Grown Ups 2*, *Julie & Julia*, and *Zombieland*. He is currently working on promoting *The Addams Family*, and the new James Bond movie. When asked about how he got to where he is now, he notes that, "Everyone has their own path, there isn't one way to get into the industry." (Written by Matt Chlastawa '20)

Jordan Roberts is an Academy Award-nominated screenwriter and director who is known for writing and directing three major feature films and co-writing the screenplay for *Big Hero 6*, which won best animated feature at the 87th Academy Awards. He also wrote the narration for the documentary *March of the Penguins*, which won the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 2005. His first credit in a film was for writing the screenplay for a 1997 comedy called *The Debtors*. Roberts then branched out into directing, starting in 2004 with *Around the Bend* and continuing with *Frankie Go Boom* in 2012 and *Burn Your Maps* in 2016. (Written by Ethan King '21)

A. Clayton Spencer is the 8th president of Bates College. She previously served for seven years as Vice President for Policy at Harvard University where she was also a lecturer in the Graduate School of Education, teaching courses on federal higher education policy. Spencer was previously the Chief Education Counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, working with Senator Edward M. Kennedy from 1993 to 1997 to direct education legislation and policy. Since coming to Bates, she has completed countless projects serving to enhance the higher education of students on campus. Her accomplishments include the Purposeful Work program launched in 2014, an initiative that encourages students to pursue meaningful work with a liberal arts degree. (Written by David Sparks '20)

Dan Tausanovitch ('10) is a Bates graduate and current creative executive at Warner Brothers Entertainment. After graduating from Bates College in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in American

Government and Politics, Tausanovitch moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in the entertainment industry, first securing a position at Artists First Entertainment, a talent management company, where Tausanovitch worked as a talent and literature manager. Tausanovitch later moved to De Line Productions, assisting Jacob Robinson, Vice President of Development, and later Donald De Line, President of De Line Productions. Tausanovitch then became assistant to Toby Emmerich, the current chairman of Warner Brothers Entertainment. He now works as a creative executive at Warner Brothers Entertainment in Los Angeles where he is developing a number of projects including the upcoming film *The Little Things* starring Academy Award-winner Denzel Washington. (Written by Tristan Van Rooden, '20)

Lauren Tempest ('08) has worked at Hulu since 2015 and currently leads the Scripted Television acquisitions group for the Content Partnerships team. Before joining the Hulu team, Tempest worked with NBCUniversal's USA Network program acquisitions group for six years. She is a 2008 Bates College graduate with a B.A. in History and Philosophy. Tempest explains that it is critical to understand the business side of the entertainment industry in order to have an acute awareness of the way things work in Hollywood. (Written by Clemmy Callaway '20)

Anike Tourse ('92) is a graduate of Bates College, class of '92, who then went on to receive her Master of Fine Arts degree from The Ohio State University. Tourse is a multimedia maker who has worked both in front of the camera and behind the scenes. She is the writer and director of the award-winning short film *America: I Too*, which played at the 2018 Bates Film Festival and is distributed by CHIIRLA, the largest social justice and education film distribution company in the United States. Tourse has also written for television series like *One Life to Live* on ABC and *Girlfriends* on UPN. Additionally, she is a playwright who authored "No Milk Today," which premiered at the 2015 Wisconsin Fermentation Fest, and she has written and performed several solo shows. Her productions have toured across the United States and around the world, including at Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the largest international theater festival in the world, and on a national Nigerian tour sponsored by the 7-UP Bottling Company. In 2016, she returned to

Bates to perform a solo show during new student orientation. Tourse's current project, *Frances the Fish*, revolves around the lives of mixed ethnic and mixed status families who are having difficulties staying together in the face of legal obstacles and changes to immigration enforcement policies. You can learn more about Tourse and see videos of her work on her website at aniketourse.com. (Written by Perla Figuereo '21)

Jon Vickers is the founding director of the IU Cinema. Prior to becoming the director, Vickers served as managing director of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at the University of Notre Dame. In the early 1990s, he also opened the Vickers Theatre, an independent, single-screen arthouse in Three Oaks, MI. (Written by Shae Gwydir '20)

Bumble Ward (P '17), a 25-year entertainment industry veteran, is a publicist and founder of Hive Communication Collective, a communications agency offering an innovative approach that is particularly focused on narratives and storytelling. During her time in the industry, Ward has worked with an impressive roster of clients including Quentin Tarantino, Tim Burton, Sofia Coppola, and Alejandro González Iñárritu. Before founding Hive, she served as Executive Vice President of publicity at Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation and is credited with having created the "director-as-rockstar" phenomenon. (Written by Abel Ramirez '20)

Tom Wilhite is co-founder of Hyperion Pictures, an Emmy Award-winning production company for live-action and animated films and television programming. He takes pride in Hyperion's efforts to emphasize ethnically diverse animation with programs such as *The Proud Family* and *Bebe's Kids*. Wilhite is a former executive director of the Sundance Institute and Sundance Film Festival, after being corporate officer in charge of production at Walt Disney. His career in film festivals began in college through a Marx Bros. Film Festival where he went on to meet legendary comedian Groucho Marx, who later became his first client at the Rogers & Cowan PR firm. Wilhite now lives in Maine where he has played a formative role in the Maine International Film Festival's tributes to iconic cinematic figures like John Ford and Roger Deakins. (Written by Julia Gutterman, '20)

Meet Our Faculty Advisory Board

David Coon is an Associate Professor of Media Studies at the University of Washington, Tacoma with a Ph.D. in Communication and Culture from Indiana University. His scholarship and teaching explore how popular culture and media shape understandings of identity, specifically with race, gender, and sexuality. His first book, *Look Closer* (Rutgers UP) published in 2013 deals with the “suburbanization” of media, and how popular culture prioritizes the promises of suburban life which are inherently conservative and exclusionary. Additionally, in 2018, Professor Coon published a book called *Turning the Page* (Rutgers UP), which investigates about how LGBTQ+ minorities have created organizations that help uplift and elevate the voices of queer filmmakers. (Written by Torri Pelletier '20)

Jay Craven is a writer, director, producer, and current film faculty member at Sarah Lawrence College. Craven directs the Cinema Sarah Lawrence Program where students acquire hands-on experience in the world of professional filmmaking. He completed his undergraduate studies at Boston University and the School of Visual Arts, and later pursued a Master of Arts at Goddard College. In 1991 Craven and his wife Bess O'Brien co-founded Kingdom County Productions, through which they have produced numerous award-winning dramatic films, documentaries, a radio-show, and an Emmy-winning television comedy series. KCP films have played in over 50 countries and at over 40 international festivals including Sundance, South by Southwest, and the AFI Fest. Craven had previously founded and directed St. Johnsbury's Catamount Arts (1975-91) and co-founded Vermont's Circus Smirkus. Craven also serves as the Artistic Director of the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, which focuses entirely on the work of first- and second-time filmmakers, and he teaches screenwriting and directing at Sarah Lawrence College as well as producing workshops for kids and teens in playwriting, filmmaking, circus arts, and sketch comedy. (Written by Tristan Van Rooden '20)

Melvin Donalson ('73) is a professor, poet, novelist, screenwriter, playwright, and essayist. After graduating from Bates College in 1973 with a degree in American History, Donalson attended the University of

Iowa to obtain his M.A. in American Studies. After earning his Master's degree, he returned to Bates to teach English before obtaining a Ph.D. in American Studies from Brown University. Donalson has taught at Bates College, University of California-Santa Barbara, Pasadena City College, UCLA, and California State University-Los Angeles, where he researched and taught African American Studies, American Literature, and Ethnicity in American Cinema. Donalson has written a total of seven books, multiple screenplays, and two plays. Currently, he is working to transition his play, *Shout*, into a feature film. (Written by Matt Chlastawa '20)

Anna Feder is the founder and curator for the Bright Lights film series at Emerson College, where she is also the Director of Programming in the Visual Media Arts department. Feder focuses on creating cinema culture and has over twenty years of programming experience at festivals including Wicked Queer, the Boston Underground Film Festival, and SFIndie. (Written by Teagan Ladner '21)

Carolina González Valencia is an Assistant Professor of Art and Visual Culture at Bates College. In 2016, she received her MFA in film, video, new media, and animation from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Her art takes form through the unification of multiple media ranging from animation, video, film, performance, writing, drawing, and painting. Through her work, she creates art that challenges social and historical depictions of migration, otherness, diaspora, and labor. She has worked on projects in Colombia, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Lebanon, and the United States and her work has been exhibited internationally including at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Quito, Ecuador; the Center for Maine Contemporary Art (Rockland, ME); GAZE (San Francisco); the International short films showcase (Jakarta, Indonesia); Full Frame Theater/International short films and videos (Durham, NC); Broward College (Davie, FL); *Contra el Silencio Todas Las Voces* (Mexico City); Cinemateca Distrital (Bogotá, Colombia); and the Gene Siskel Film Center (Chicago). Currently, she is working on her first feature-length documentary, which is in pre-production. (Written by Maddie Fagundo '20)

Jakub Kazecki is an Associate Professor of German and Chair of the German and Russian Studies Department at Bates College. Before working at Bates, Kazecki taught German language, literature and film courses at Central Connecticut State University and McMaster University. He has specific research interests in 20th-century German literature and images of German-Polish relationships in literature, film and visual arts. As a fan of humor, Kazecki has also done research on the use of laughter and comedy in different media as seen through his book *Laughter in the Trenches: Humour and Front Experience in German First World War Narratives* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012). He is also the author of numerous articles, the co-editor (with Karen A. Ritzenhoff) of *Heroism and Gender in War Films* (Palgrave Macmillan 2014), and the co-editor (with Karen A. Ritzenhoff and Cynthia J. Miller) of *Border Visions: Identity and Diaspora in Film* (Scarecrow Press, 2013). (Written by Julia Gutterman, '20)

Stephanie Kelley-Romano is an Associate Professor and Chair of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies at Bates College in Lewiston Maine. Her research and teaching interests include gender and media, myth and narrative, conspiracy, political rhetoric, and the public sphere. Her scholarship has appeared in such journals as *The Journal of Hate Studies*, *Communication Quarterly*, *Journalism Studies*, and *The Journal of UFO Studies*. She is often sought after for podcasts on political or paranormal topics, and recently had an op-ed on *Newsweek.com*. She is currently at work on a book-length manuscript that explores the rhetoric of the alien abduction phenomenon. This past year, Kelley-Romano received the Kroepsch Teaching Award at Bates College for excellence in teaching, a public recognition of her strong work as a teacher especially in her "Presidential Campaign Rhetoric" and "The Rhetoric of Alien Abduction" seminars. (Written by Jim Stevens, '20)

Andrew Kennedy is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Bates College. After receiving his undergraduate degree in Chemistry at Providence College, Professor Kennedy continued his education by getting a Ph.D. in Medicinal Chemistry from the University of Virginia and completing a fellowship in Neurobiology with the McKnight Brain Institute at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Following a passion for understanding the chemical

processes through which long-term memory is encoded, Professor Kennedy came to Bates eager to teach students about various topics ranging from Organic Chemistry to the Mechanisms of Memory. Within the past month, it was announced that Professor Kennedy led a group of Bates students in creating a new molecule, aptly named “Bobcat 339.” Created after two years of research, the discovery has the ability to help patients suffering from various cancers as well as Alzheimer’s by helping to elucidate which drugs are better suited to individual patients. (Written by Nicky Meyerson ‘20)

Elsa Lankford has been a faculty member at Towson University since 2005 and was recently promoted to Associate Professor of Electronic Media and Film. She specializes in audio production and post-production classes and is an interdisciplinary artist who works in multiple media — sound, music, photography – and focuses on urban issues, specifically Baltimore City. She received her Master of Science from Towson University in 1998 and received a Master of Fine Arts from Goddard College in 2006. Lankford has published work on urban landscapes, created audio documentaries on urban issues, including *Highway to Nowhere* in West Baltimore, and has composed music for films and documentaries. She is also the co-founder and chair for the WAMM Festival (Women and Minority in Media Festival), which celebrates diversity in media production. Currently, Lankford is composing original music. (Written by Daniella Pascucci ‘20)

Francisca ‘Paqui’ Lopez is a Professor of Spanish at Bates College. After graduating with her licentiate degree from the University of Córdoba, Professor Lopez went on to earn her Ph.D. in Spanish from the University of Connecticut. During her time at UConn, Professor Lopez began instructing at Bates College, where she became an expert on contemporary Spanish literature and culture, specifically focusing on representation in narrative fiction, film, and television. She has published a number of books, including *Posdata*, as well as over 60 other pieces that range from criticism to literature and poetry. (Written by Abel Ramirez ‘20)

Marcelle Medford is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Bates College. She is an expert on Black urban immigration, and has recently

published work on the limitations of assimilation paradigms, arguing that nuanced theories of immigrant racialization are required to capture the breadth of Black multiplicities. This specialization currently informs her teachings in her courses on Urban Sociology, Immigration Racialization, Black Immigrant Narratives, and Principles of Sociology. Medford enjoys movies with subversive social commentary that depict the joy and banality of everyday life from the perspectives of Black and immigrant communities, and she loves the films: *Boomerang* (1992), *Life is Beautiful* (1997), *Moonlight* (2016), *Dirty Pretty Things* (2002), and *Eat Drink Man Woman* (1994). (Written by Eleanor Shields, '20)

Erin Murphy is a Maine-based documentary filmmaker, freelance videographer, and film professor at Colby College. At Colby, Murphy teaches "Introduction to Documentary Filmmaking" where students make documentary shorts about the food industry in Maine, "Digital Publishing" where students learn about different ways to make media and put them online, and an "Archival Film" course. Before Colby, she worked at Bucknell University as an instructional technologist, teaching faculty and students how to use video in class or for research. For the last few years, Murphy has been working on a documentary called *Wazo Idea*, which follows young members of a Portland activist art collective. Her documentary addresses questions of power structures and the ethics of subject involvement when filming. (Written by Clemmy Callaway '20)

Charles Nero is the Benjamin E. Mays '20 Distinguished Professor at Bates College and specializes in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies, Africana, and American Cultural Studies. His scholarship and teachings revolve around African American literature, film, and Queer Studies. In 1991, he published "Toward a Black Gay Aesthetic: Signifying in Contemporary Black Gay Literature" which was the first-ever essay to provide a platform for analysis of black gay texts. His extensive list of publications includes articles that have appeared in academic journals like *Camera Obscura*, *Feminist Media Studies*, *Public Culture*, *FORECAAST*, *Callaloo: A Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters*, *The Howard Journal of Communication*, and *The Journal of the History of Sexuality* and as well several anthologies including *Brother to Brother: New Writings by Black Gay Men*, *Black Queer Studies in the Millennium*,

and *Out in the South*. He received his Ph.D. from Indiana University – Bloomington. (Written by Perla Figuereo '21)

Stephanie Pridgeon is a Bates College Assistant Professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies. In addition to leading Spanish language courses at Bates, Professor Pridgeon has also taught Latin American Studies classes addressing a variety of topics including gender and sexuality in Latin American literature, Jewish Latin American Cinema, and testimonial literature and film. Pridgeon's individual research concentrates on the intersection of ethnicity, gender, and religion in 20th and 21st century Latin American film and literature. Her concentration in Latin American cinema is highlighted in her forthcoming book, "Revolutionary Visions: Jewish Life and Politics in Latin American Film," in which she analyses the representation of Jews in political movements in recent Latin American film. Professor Pridgeon obtained her Ph.D. in Spanish from Emory University in 2015, an M.A. in Spanish from the University of Virginia, and a B.A. in Spanish, Latin American and Caribbean Studies from the College of Charleston. Recently, Pridgeon was awarded a "Jews in the Americas" Visiting Research Fellowship by the University of Florida's Price Judaica Library. (Written by Will Holland, '20)

Michael Sargent is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Bates who received his Ph.D. in Social Psychology at Ohio State University (1999). Professor Sargent specializes in social psychology: specifically comparing interpersonal versus group dynamics, stereotyping and impressions of race, and the impact of social category information on judgment/decision making. Professor Sargent is also an alumnus of the Bates Film Festival having premiered his documentary film *Witchcraft Blue* at the 2018 BFF. Professor Sargent's research has been published in several journals, including *The Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* (2007) and *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* (2004). (Written by Isaiah Saunders '21)

Paul Schofield is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Bates College. Schofield has been teaching at Bates since 2013 and has become one of the most highly regarded professors on campus. His research focuses primarily on moral and political philosophy as well as the philosophy of

film -- specifically, the consideration of film as a philosophical text. Schofield's work has been published in distinguished journals such as *The Journal of Political Philosophy* and *American Philosophical Quarterly*. His book-length manuscript on duties to the self is forthcoming from Oxford University Press in 2020. Schofield earned a Bachelor's of Arts from Notre Dame in 2002, his Master's at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee in 2005, and his Ph.D. at Harvard University in 2013. (Written by Andrew Berg, '20)

Shu-chin Tsui is the Director of the Asian Studies Program and a Professor of Asian and Cinema Studies at Bowdoin College. Her research interests focus on gender politics but involve areas across many fields including film studies, cultural studies, and visual art studies. Her first book *Women Through the Lens: Gender and Nation in a Century of Chinese Cinema* (U of Hawaii P, 2003), discusses the appropriation of women in twentieth century China. Tsui added to her collection of admired work with her second book *Gendered Bodies: Toward A Women's Visual Art in Contemporary China* (U of Hawaii P, 2015), which explores women artists and the portrayal of the female body. At Bowdoin she offers a variety of courses including "Ecocinema: China's Ecological and Environmental Crisis," "Hollywood Imagination of Asia," "The Cultural Revolution through Film," and "Fashion and Gender in China." (Written by David Sparks '20)

Laura Vazquez is the Undergraduate Program director for the Department of Communication at Northern Illinois University. A filmmaker who produces social justice documentaries, she established and directs *RealityBytes*, a film festival that gives high school and college students the opportunity to competitively screen their work. (Written by Shae Gwydir '20)

Tricia Welsch is a professor of Cinema Studies at Bowdoin College and a film historian with a specialization in early cinema. She has published a biography on Gloria Swanson, one of the biggest stars of the silent era, titled *Gloria Swanson: Ready For Her Close-Up*. Professor Welsch has been a faculty member at Bowdoin for 26 years and is the original member of their Film Department, serving as its only member for the program's first 7 years. She teaches a dozen different courses and a

number of independent studies, some of which include classes on specific directors, biopics, gay and lesbian cinema, British film, and a survey of American film. (Written by Ethan King '21)

Justine Wiesinger is an Assistant Professor of Japanese at Bates. She teaches both Japanese language and courses on Japanese culture, including literature, film, and theater. She is a Fulbright scholar, having conducted research for her book project in 2015-2016 at Waseda University in Tokyo, and has presented at major conferences around the world, most notably the Tanaka Symposium on 3.11 at Oxford University, and the "Literature after 3.11 Today" conference at INALCO in Paris and recently chaired the panel, "Voices Lost and Found in Fukushima" at the MLA International Symposium (Summer 2019). Wiesinger was also invited to speak at the University of Maryland in 2019 presenting a portion of her research which discusses how bodies can claim trauma - a concept that is intrinsically tied to the devastating aftermath of Japan's 2011 earthquake, tsunami and Fukushima disaster. In addition to writing the play "Waters Rise" produced by the Women's Theatre Festival in Durham, North Carolina that premiered in October 2019, she is currently working on a book project which brings to focus the film and theatre that was created as a response to Japan's 2011 disasters. (Written by Mike Jones '20)

BFF SPECIAL GUESTS

The Huckman Family (Jen, Tom, and Sarah)

Jen and Tom Huckman are the proud parents of three healthy and active teenagers, including their middle child, Sarah.

In High School, Sarah was just like most of her classmates: when not in class, she enjoyed spending time with her friends and as a 4-sport athlete, participating on her high school's Nordic Ski, Winter Indoor Track, Spring Track and Cross-Country teams. Currently in her first year the University of New Hampshire, Sarah is studying Social Work, sings with the acapella group Wild Tones, and serves as a Campus Ambassador for GLAAD.



Sarah also dedicates a great deal of her time advocating for the rights of transgender people like herself. She and her parents have been featured in state and national press, and are often invited to speak about the importance of protecting transgender youth from discrimination. Like many families with a transgender child, the Huckman's have fought to ensure Sarah is treated with dignity and respect. Since Sarah officially came out as transgender in the 7th grade, the Huckman's have worked with school officials to ensure she can use the restroom that matches her gender identity. They have also fought against policies that prohibited transgender students, including Sarah, from participating in the sports that match her gender identity. Most recently, the Huckman's spent time advocating for the passage of legislation that explicitly extended

New Hampshire's nondiscrimination protections in housing, employment and public services to transgender people.

The Huckman family, along with many chickens and two goats, live in West Ossipee, New Hampshire, where Jen works as a Municipal Clerk, and Tom is a self-employed welder and machinist.

Halle Johns

Halle Johns is a producer, editor, and freelance filmmaker based in Camden, Maine. She graduated from Bates College in 2016 with a degree in Rhetoric and a concentration in Film Studies. She has worked as an editor and producer at Compass Light Productions for the better part of the last three years, and this past May, she completed a graduate certificate in documentary studies at the Salt Institute in Portland, Maine. Her primary documentary interest revolves around people and their relationships to their environment.



Shuab Mahat

Shuab Mahat is a filmmaker, cinematographer and virtual reality storyteller who grew up in the Dadaab Refugee Camp in eastern Kenya and today lives in Lewiston, Maine. Shuab is the co-director and main character of the virtual reality films *A Shared Space:*

Lewiston and *Returning To Dadaab*.



Emilie Mannering

Emilie Mannering is a filmmaker from Montréal, Canada. Her short films have screened at *TIFF*, *BFI London*, *IndieLisboa*, and won multiple of Canadian and International awards. She was nominated twice at the *Canadian Screen Awards* for Best Short Films (2016 and 2019). Emilie is a *TIFF Talent Lab* Alumni. She is currently writing her first feature film, *Tous mes premiers amours*.



Jacqueline Olive

Jacqueline Olive is an independent filmmaker and immersive media producer with fifteen years of experience in journalism and film. Her debut feature documentary, *Always in Season*, premiered in competition at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and was awarded the Special Jury Prize for Moral Urgency. The film is slated to broadcast on the PBS Emmy Award-winning series, *Independent Lens*, in February 2020. Jackie also co-directed the award-winning, hour-long film, *Black to Our Roots*, which broadcast on PBS WORLD in 2009.



Jackie has received artist grants and industry funding from Sundance Institute, Independent Television Service, Ford Foundation, Tribeca Film Fund, Firelight Media, Chicken & Egg Pictures, Southern Documentary Fund, and more. She was recently awarded the Emerging Filmmakers of Color Award from International Documentary Association (IDA) and the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation. In April 2019, Jackie was profiled as one of Variety's "10 Filmmakers to Watch."

Carmine Pierre-Dufour

Carmine Pierre-Dufour is a bilingual writer and director who works in both television and film. Recently, she was part of the writing team behind CTV's new medical series, *Transplant*.

She wrote and co-directed the short film *Mahalia Melts in the Rain*, which was nominated for Best Live Action Short Drama at the Canadian Screen Awards. With over 40 selections, the film continues its journey through the festival circuit. Carmine has also received funding to develop her first

feature film titled *Montreal, you're beautiful tonight*.



Daniel Quintanilla

Daniel Quintanilla is a filmmaker, editor, and virtual reality storyteller who grew up in a multicultural home in Cuernavaca, México. Today he lives in the U.S., but the experience of having lived on both sides of the border shapes the kinds of stories he chooses to focus on. He has collaborated on NSF-supported projects documenting endangered languages in places such as Oaxaca (Mexico) and Maine (U.S). Daniel's



short documentary, *Not A Citizen*, about a Maine resident who was picked up in an ICE raid, is currently featured on the national film tour *Stories Beyond Borders*. In 2018, Daniel edited the feature film, *The Most Unknown*, a VICE Media documentary directed by Ian Chaney and advised by Werner Herzog which sends nine scientists to extraordinary parts of the world to uncover unexpected answers to some of humanity's biggest questions. In 2019, as an independent filmmaker, Daniel has produced and directed numerous short documentaries with varying themes in places like Malta, Greece, Cuba, Peru, and Mexico. Most recently, Daniel created *A Shared Space*, a platform for filmmakers who wish to use virtual reality to tell stories whose themes bridge continents.

Elizabeth Rynecki

Elizabeth Rynecki is the great-granddaughter of Polish-Jewish artist, Moshe Rynecki (1881-1943). She grew up with her great-grandfather's paintings prominently displayed on the walls of her family home and understood from an early age that the art connected her to a legacy from "the old country": Poland. In 1999, Elizabeth designed the original Moshe Rynecki: Portrait



of a Life in Art website. Elizabeth has a BA in Rhetoric from Bates College ('91) and an MA in Rhetoric and Communication from UC Davis ('94). Her Master's thesis focused on children of Holocaust survivors. Her book, also titled *Chasing Portraits*, was published by NAL/Penguin Random House in September 2016. This is her first film.

Marisa Sittheamorn

Originally hailing from Bangkok, Thailand, Marisa Sittheamorn is a recent Bates alum with a dual degree in Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies, and Politics. Since graduation, Marisa has relocated North of the border, and has been spearheading a variety of local and international projects and activities at Farsi Cinema Center, a Toronto-based, non-profit aiming to connect the film industries of Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan, with the rest of the world. Outside of her nine-to-five, Marisa has served as a research and production assistant on an upcoming documentary about miscarriage, and volunteers as a writer at Photographers Without Borders.



**2019 Bates Film Festival
Official Selections**



Always in Season

(Directed by Jacqueline Olive, 2019, 89 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Sundance, 2019; HotDocs, 2019; Full Frame, 2019; San Francisco Film Festival, 2019

Awards: Special Jury Award for Moral Urgency, Sundance, 2019

After the killings of Oscar Grant, Trayvon Martin, and Michael Brown, director Jacqueline Olive was moved to create a film surrounding the historical violence on black lives. *Always in Season* follows the death of a 17-year-old boy named Lennon Lacey who was found hanging in Bladenboro, North Carolina. Olive reveals the impact the hanging of Lacey had on the community and calls into question its similarity to public tortures and hangings from centuries ago. This film was easy for the BFF programming committee to select because of the values and artistic creativity displayed. *Always in Season* was shown at the Sundance Film Festival earlier this year and received the Special Jury Award for Moral Urgency. (Written by David Sparks '20)

In Person: Jacqueline Olive, Director

Website: <https://www.alwaysinseasonfilm.com>

Screens: Sunday November 10 / 1:30pm / Olin 104

Bewildered

(Directed by Gregor Wilson, 2019, 30 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Hollyshorts, 2019; DC Shorts, 2019; Montreal International Black Film Festival, 2019

Bewildered follows the journey of two famous jazz vocalists and the struggles they face as their once ideal marriage is thrown a wrench when a loved husband falls into dementia. Just as hope seems to be lost, a young caregiver reintroduces melody into the world, revealing the true power of music and its ability to provide comfort to both patients affected by memory loss and their families. The Bates Film Festival believes this film provides a strong platform for beginning discussions on the topic of mental health. It can engage a wide variety of individuals from local older generation community members to academic departments located on campus to caregivers and family members who have witnessed the effects of dementia. (Written by Shae Gwydir, '20)

Website: <https://www.bewilderedfilm.com>

Screens: Saturday November 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104

Changing the Game

(Directed by Michael Barnett, 2019, 88 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Tribeca, 2019; Frameline, 2019

Awards: Audience Award, Best Documentary, Frameline 2019

This intimate documentary takes us into the lives of three transgender high school athletes recounting the challenges they face in order to compete. The stories of Sarah, Mack, and Andraya provide unique insight into the social and legislative barriers transgender athletes face in the United States. Each story chronicles unique challenges as these athletes participate in different sports and reside in different states. As members of a marginalized community within athletics, Sarah, Mack, and Andraya pave the way toward “changing the game.” The BFF board feels that by advocating for marginalized athletes from diverse backgrounds, this documentary helps shed light on the transformative power of our differences. (Written by Matt Chlastawa '20)

In Person: Sarah Rose Huckman, Subject/Transgender Athlete/Activist

Website: <http://superfilms.tv/work/features/>

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 5:00pm / Olin 104

Chasing Portraits

(Directed by Elizabeth Rynecki, 2018, 78 minutes)



Notable Festivals: San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, 2018; New York Jewish Film Festival, 2019; Rhode Island International Film Festival, 2019

Directed by Elizabeth Rynecki (Bates Class of 1991)

Chasing Portraits follows the journey of Elizabeth Rynecki as she traces the footsteps of her great grandfather. Moshe Rynecki was a prolific artist who chronicled life in the Warsaw Ghetto. Evacuated to a concentration camp, Moshe was later murdered and his art scattered around the world. His great granddaughter's efforts to track down his paintings becomes both an act of recovery and discovery. In pursuing her artist great grandfather, Elizabeth becomes an artist herself – using her camera the way her grandfather used his paintbrushes. The Bates Film Festival is proud to present this work by and about a Bates alum that offers a very personal story of the intergenerational effects of trauma. (Written by Jonathan J. Cavallero, Associate Professor of Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies)

In Person: Elizabeth Rynecki ('91), Director/Subject

Website: <http://www.chasingportraits.org>

Screens: Wednesday November 6 / 7:00pm / Olin 104

Cooped Up

(Directed by Taylor Scipio, 2019, 15 minutes)



**Unit Production Manager, Shayna Waldman (Bates Class of 2008);
Executive Producer Ira Waldman (Bates Class of 1973)**

Cooped Up! is a comedy by director Taylor Scipio about a newly acquainted couple who goes home after a costume party, one in a full body chicken costume and the other dressed as a vampire. The film functions as a satirical play on narrative tropes of self-acceptance and the acceptance of others, and the identities we can't erase. This 14-minute documentary provides a lighthearted take on identity politics, and how we navigate identity in personal relationships. (Written by Torri Pelletier '20)

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt9904376/>

Screens: Wed, Nov 6 / 4:00pm / Olin 104 (in Bates Shorts Block)

Farming

(Directed by Adewale Akinnuoye Agbaje, 2018, 107 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Toronto International Film Festival, 2018; Edinburgh International Film Festival, 2018

Awards: Michael Powell Award for Best British Feature, Edinburgh International Film Festival, 2018

British-Nigerian writer and director Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje shares his traumatic childhood past in his debut film. As a young Nigerian boy, Enitan is “farmed out” by his parents to a white British foster family in the hopes of a better future. Instead, he develops a self-hatred towards his race, which leads him to join a white skinhead gang. The Bates Film Festival Board felt that Enitan’s agonizing struggle to come to terms with his racial identity made *Farming* a painful, yet powerful film to watch and discuss. (Written by Teagan Ladner '21)

By Video: Adewale Akinnuoye Agbaje, Writer/Director/Actor

Website: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1127881/>

Screens: Saturday November 9 / 10:00am / Olin 104

Father Figure

(Directed by Bibi Fadlalla, 2019, 25 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Sheffield International Film Festival, 2019; DC Shorts, 2019

Bibi Fadlalla's documentary collage film, *Father Figure*, tells the story of how young, black, gay men experience frequent encounters of racism and marginalization. Guilliano, founder of The Kiki House of Angels, a Voguing community, recounts he and his friends' personal experiences of homophobia and discrimination and how they find solace in the community. This film offers a variety of perspectives on this topic by including personal stories, dance sequences and interviews. *Father Figure* is a compelling film that will inspire thoughtful discussions about social and political issues surrounding the LGBTQ community. (Written by Daniella Pascucci '20).

Website: <https://hazazah.nl/project/father-figure-in-production/>

Screens: Thurs Nov 7 / 4:00pm / Olin 104 (in Doc Shorts Block)

Fauve

(Directed by Jeremy Comte, 2018, 17 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Sundance, 2018; Aspen ShortsFest, 2018; Telluride Film Festival, 2018

Awards: Special Jury Award, Sundance 2018; Best Drama, Aspen Shorts Fest 2018; Academy Award® Nomination for Best Live Action Short Film

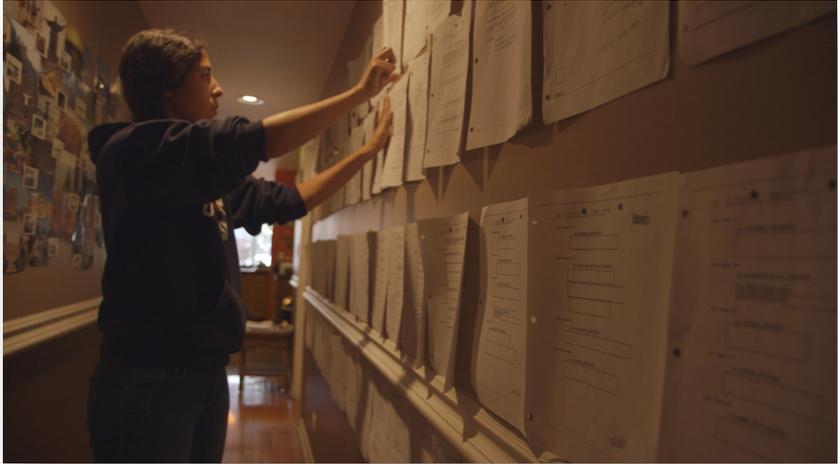
Fauve follows two young boys as they explore their masculinity through playful games. Conflict ensues as they each struggle to prove to the other who is “victorious” through contests of grit. With no type of mature guidance, the stakes of winning and losing are raised beyond a playful game. The BFF Programming Committee found this film strikingly powerful with an unforgettable display of despair colliding with innocence. At a time when not every voice is heard with equal sincerity, this short film conveys a lesson in listening to others when a plea may not be taken seriously. (Written by Mike Jones '20)

Website: <http://jeremycomte.com>

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104 (in Narrative Shorts Block)

The Feeling of Being Watched

(Directed by Assia Boundaoui, 2018, 86 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Tribeca, 2018; HotDocs, 2018; Camden International Film Festival, 2018

Awards: Audience Award, Best Documentary, Camden International Film Festival, 2018; Best Documentary, Woodstock Film Festival, 2018

In her first feature-length documentary, *The Feeling of Being Watched* (2018), journalist Assia Boundaoui investigates the FBI surveillance conducted of her Arab-American neighborhood in Chicago. Throughout the 87-minute film, Boundaoui uncovers one of the largest pre-9/11 FBI surveillance programs and exposes its persistent impact on Arab-American communities. Through this film, the BFF hopes to spark a wider conversation surrounding the injustices promulgated by the United States government onto racially diverse communities. (Written by Abel Ramirez '20).

Website: <http://www.feelingofbeingwatched.com>

Screens: Friday November 8 / 10:00am / Olin 104

Hors Piste

(Directed by Leo Brunel, Loris Cavalier, Camille Jalabert, and Oscar Mallet, 2019, 6 minutes)



Notable Festivals: New York International Children's Film Festival, 2019; DC Shorts, 2019; Hamptons International Film Festival, 2019

Awards: Best Animation, BAFTA Student Film Awards 2019

Hors Piste is a comedic animated short film about two mountain rescuers who ascend a freezing peak by helicopter in order to rescue an injured climber. They appear experienced and efficient, but an accident forces them to pitch themselves and their cargo down the mountain. As the rescuers descend, their improvisational methods get increasingly absurd. *Hors Piste* is a lighthearted and hilarious offering in our short narrative film block, showcasing impressive animation and irreverent humor in a tight runtime. (Written by Ethan King '21)

Website: <http://www.passion-pictures.com/uk/animation-studios/project/hors-piste-trailer/>

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104 (in Narrative Shorts Block)

Kamali

(Directed by Sasha Rainbow, 2018, 24 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Mumbai Shorts International Film Festival, 2018; Palm Springs International Shortfest, 2019; DC Shorts, 2019

Awards: Jury Award, Best Documentary Short, Atlanta Film Festival, 2019; Jury Award Winner, DC Shorts, 2019; Best Documentary Short, Raindance, 2019

Sasha Rainbow's short documentary shares the story of Kamali, a child who is being raised by a single mother and becomes the only girl skateboarder in a small fishing village. Kamali fights for her future in the male-dominated sport while her mother embarks on a journey to set herself free from her past. This film demonstrates how the two pursue their dreams and claim ownership of their lives in a man's world. *Kamali* brilliantly challenges structural inequalities since it empowers all to confront and contest patriarchal dominance in sports and the larger culture. (Written by Maddie Fagundo '20)

Website: <https://www.kamali-film.com>

Screens: Thurs Nov 7 / 4:00pm / Olin 104 (in Doc Shorts Block)

The Last Black Man in San Francisco

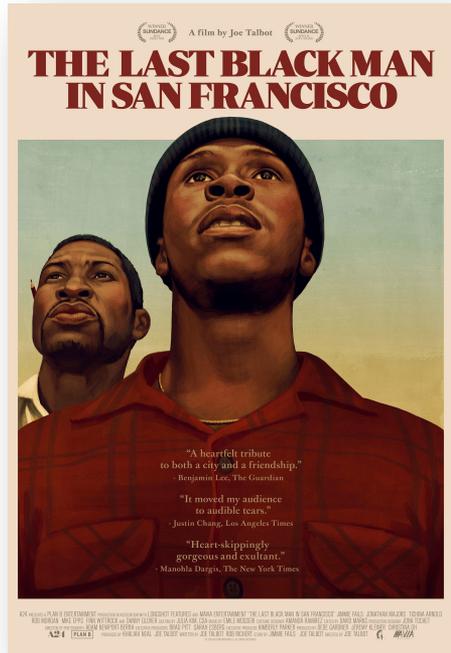
(Directed by Joe Talbot, 2019, 121 minutes)

Notable Festivals:

Premiere, Sundance, 2019

Awards: Special Jury Award, Sundance, 2019; Best Director, Sundance, 2019

The Last Black Man in San Francisco follows Jimmie Fails as he dreams to reclaim the Victorian home that his grandfather built in the center of San Francisco. With him on this journey is his best friend Mont. Both of them navigate a city that is constantly changing and seems to be leaving them behind. The film includes black and brown skaters, street preachers, playwrights, and locals who are finding themselves feeling like foreigners in areas that they once called home. We programmed *The Last Black Man in San Francisco* because we felt it provided a unique representation of black bodies. We hope it can advance discussions regarding race and the ways that the black diaspora is impacted by issues like gentrification. (Written by Perla Figuereo '21)



Website: <https://a24films.com/films/the-last-black-man-in-san-francisco>

Screens: Thurs Nov 7 / 8:00pm / Schaeffer Theatre

Lewiston

(Directed by Jacob Roberts and David Shayne, 2019, 18 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Camden International Film Festival, 2019; New Hampshire Film Festival, 2019

Lewiston is a short film produced and directed by Jacob Roberts and David Shayne that shows the relationship between the local white community and the Somali refugee community right here in Lewiston, Maine. After a huge brawl broke out downtown in Kennedy Park between the two groups, a white male was hit in the head with a rock, resulting in death. This film takes an in-depth look at both communities by observing how members of each navigate their daily lives and deal with the major incident that struck Lewiston as a whole. We programmed this short not only because our Bates community can connect to this environment but also because it raises important issues of social class here in Lewiston. (Written by Kody Greenhalgh '20)

By Video: Jacob Roberts and David Shayne, Directors

Website: <https://www.lewistonfilm.com>

Screens: Thurs Nov 7 / 4:00pm / Olin 104 (in Doc Shorts Block)

Mahalia Melts in the Rain

(Directed by Carmine Pierre-Dufour and Emilie Mannering, 2018, 12 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Pittsburgh Short Film Festival, 2019; DC Shorts, 2019; St. John's International Women's Film Festival, 2019

Awards: Canadian Screen Awards Nomination for Best Live Action Short Drama, 2019

Mahalia Melts in the Rain is a short film about a 9-year-old black girl who is shy due to her differences in appearance and yearns to fit in. Prior to a photo shoot with her ballet class, Mahalia's mother takes her to a salon in an attempt to help her feel more included and comfortable with her peers. We believe this film embodies the BFF mission statement by displaying and embracing "the transformative power of our differences." (Written by Jim Stevens, '20)

In Person: Carmine Pierre-Dufour, Writer/Director and Emilie Mannering, Director

Website: <http://www.colonellefilms.com/portfolio-item/mahalia-melts-in-the-rain/>

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104 (in Narrative Shorts Block)

Midnight Traveler

(Directed by Hassan Fazili, 2019, 90 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Sundance, 2019; Berlin International Film Festival, 2019; True/False, 2019; HotDocs, 2019

Midnight Traveler, is a documentary film directed by Hassan Fazili that follows the journey of the director and his family as they flee persecution by the Taliban in Afghanistan and pursue refuge in Europe. The film is shot exclusively on handheld phones by Fazili and his family and recounts the challenges they face on the long and dangerous road to obtaining refugee status in Europe. This affecting documentary provides first hand insight into the dangers that refugees face and lends a humanized perspective to the international refugee crisis. *Midnight Traveler* provides a fantastic opportunity to inspire dialogue about international topics like the treatment of global refugees and the ways those issues manifest on a local level here in Lewiston/Auburn. Among other accolades, the film earned the No Borders - World Cinema Documentary Special Jury Award at the Sundance Film Festival, and the Golden Gate Award, McBaine Documentary Feature Award Winner at the San Francisco International Film Festival. (Written by Will Holland, '20)

Introduced by Marisa Sittheeamorn ('18), Farsi Cinema Center

Website: <https://www.midnighttravelerfilm.com>

Screens: Fri Nov 8 / 1:30pm / Olin 104

Ms. Purple

(Directed by Justin Chon, 2019, 87 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Premiere, Sundance, 2019; Seattle International Film Festival, 2019

Kasie must balance her life as a daughter, caregiver and karaoke hostess all while reconnecting with her estranged brother in the final days of their father's life. Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Justin Chon, *Ms. Purple* tells a beautifully heartbreaking story about family, womanhood and what it means to support yourself and those in your life. Showing off both the allure and ugliness of Los Angeles's Koreatown, *Ms. Purple* captivates audiences with its graceful and patient storytelling. The film sheds light on a side of Los Angeles that has been largely underrepresented in film and media. *Ms. Purple* is a glowing example of how hardship and adversity can bring out new parts of ourselves and those around us. (Written by Julia Gutterman, '20)

Website: <https://mspurple.oscilloscope.net>

Screens: Fri Nov 8 / 7:30pm / Olin 104

My Daughter Yoshiko

(Directed by Brian Blum, 2019, 17 minutes)



Notable Festivals: DC Shorts, 2019; Miami Film Festival, 2019; Urbanworld Film Festival, 2019

Directed by Brian Blum, *My Daughter Yoshiko* is an honest glimpse at the struggles of raising a child with autism. A Japanese-American mother must come to terms with her young daughter's diagnosis, facing a society that is not always forgiving towards developmentally different individuals and without the help of her husband who is overseas. It is not often in media that living with autism is given a platform, much less so for women and girls who suffer from it. We are delighted to be showing *My Daughter Yoshiko* because of its unique perspective and powerful message. (Written by Julia Gutterman, '20)

Website: <https://www.brianblumfilms.com/my-daughter-yoshiko>

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104 (in Narrative Shorts Block)

Nefta Football Club

(Directed by Yves Piat, 2018, 17 minutes)



Awards: Audience Award, Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, 2018; Best Comedy and Audience Award, Aspen Shortsfest, 2019

Nefta Football Club is a short comedy about the innocence of childhood. Set in the south of Tunisia, this film follows two young, soccer-obsessed brothers who encounter a wandering donkey alone in the middle of the desert on the border of their enemy country, Algeria. When the older brother discovers that the strange animal is carrying loads of white powder, what began as a simple ride through the dunes quickly shifts into a series of hysterically charming misunderstandings. With a thoughtful narrative and impressive performances, *Nefta Football Club* takes a conceivably troubling circumstance and animates it with humor, heart, and wide-eyed naiveté. Aligning with the BFF's focus on equity and justice, and in conjunction with a panel on representing differences, our board has selected *Nefta Football Club* because of its commentary on border conflict between Northern African countries and its representation of cultural conflict and the daily lives of children in an impoverished area. (Written by Clemmy Callaway '20)

Website: <http://lesvalseurs.com/portfolio/nefta-football-club/>

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104 (in Narrative Shorts Block)

The Pleasure Center

(Directed by Taylor Blackburn, 2019, 15 minutes)



**Written, Directed, and Executive Produced by Taylor Blackburn
(Bates Class of 2015)**

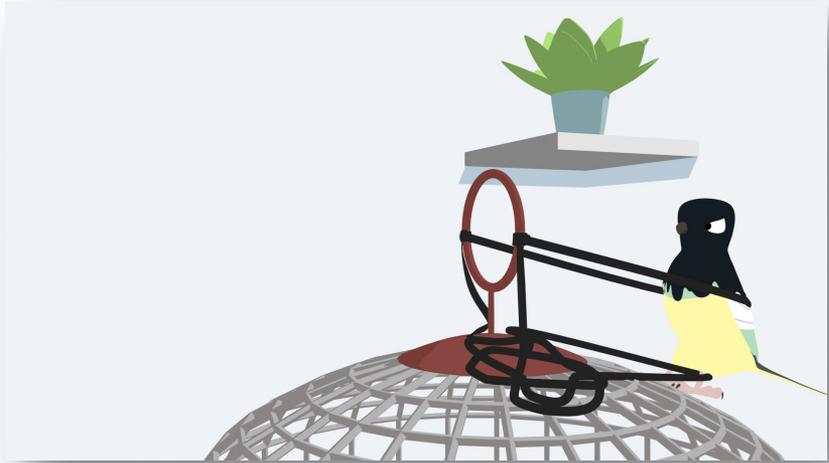
Written, directed and produced by Bates graduate Taylor Blackburn, *The Pleasure Center* is a short film about dating and sex in the modern digital age. When Emily, a sex positive virgin, is roped into a Tinder date by her roommate with a handsome stranger, things don't necessarily go as planned...especially the following morning. Created by an all women and non-binary production team, *The Pleasure Center* brings humor to the awkwardness of online dating and provides a glimpse into the sexual culture of this younger generation. This short film provides a unique perspective for the Bates community by giving voice to underrepresented communities behind the camera as well as showing a film that highlights sexual encounters through a funny, safe, and younger-oriented lens. (Written by Nicky Meyerson '20)

Website: <https://taylor-blackburn.com/the-pleasure-center-1>

Screens: Wed, Nov 6 / 4:00pm / Olin 104 (in Bates Shorts Block)

Presque!

(Directed by Colette D'Amico, 2018, 2 minutes)



Presque! (2018) is an animated short comedy directed by Collete D'Amico which recaptures the generation-bridging slapstick humor of a certain cat and mouse and breathes life back into the style of original cartoons. The film's wonderful soundtrack, fun visuals, and lovable protagonist all work together to create a short that viewers of all ages will enjoy. (Written by Tristan Van Rooden '20)

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104 (in Narrative Shorts Block)

Selling Lies

(Directed by Leslie Iwerks, 2019, 30 minutes)

Notable Festivals:

Santa Barbara International Film Festival, 2019; Pittsburgh Shorts Film Festival, 2019; Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, 2019

Awards: Best

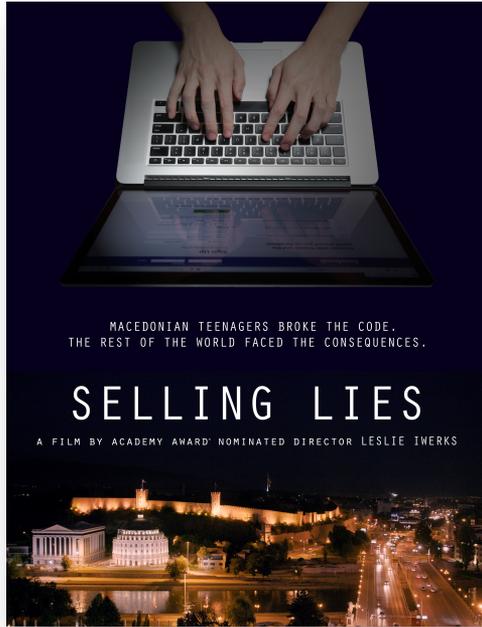
Documentary Short Film, Santa Barbara International Film Festival, 2019; Best Short Documentary, Dumbo Film Festival, 2019

Selling Lies (2019)
from Academy Award-nominated director

Leslie Iwerks tells the story of the Macedonian fake news industry and its influence on the 2016 United States election. In this 30-minute documentary-short, Iwerks introduces audiences to a network of teenagers who crafted fake political news stories during the months leading up to the 2016 election. In doing so, she reveals the extreme wealth they accrued and calls attention to its resounding impact, which still shapes American politics. Artfully captured and poignantly told, the film brings forth a critical and topical conversation on media use, misuse, and political corruption. (Written by Eleanor Shields '20)

Website: <https://www.sellingliesdoc.com>

Screens: Thurs Nov 7 / 4:00pm / Olin 104 (in Doc Shorts Block)



A Shared Space: Lewiston

(Directed by Daniel Quintanilla, Shuab Mahat, and Hilowle Aden, 2019)



Notable Festivals: Camden International Film Festival, 2019

Daniel Quintanilla, Shuab Mahat, and Hilowle Aden are virtual reality storytellers who share an immersive experience of two immigrants' journey in Lewiston, Maine. This film specifically tells the story of two friends, co-directors Mahat and Aden, who grew up in Kenya in the world's largest refugee camp. Today, they both raise their families in Lewiston. *A Shared Space: Lewiston* is an immersive experience that invites us to consider and question the spaces we occupy while offering a diverse perspective that will inspire thoughtful discussion of the social and political issues surrounding immigration. (Written by Daniella Pascucci '20, Maddie Fagundo '20, and Andrew Berg '20)

In Person: Daniel Quintanilla and Shuab Mahat, Directors

Website: <https://sharedspacevr.squarespace.com/lewiston>

Screens: Thurs, Nov 7 / 1:00pm / Chase Hall B18 (Little Room)

Shoulder Season

(Directed by Halle Johns, 2019, 9 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Camden International Film Festival, 2019

Directed by Halle Johns (Bates Class of 2016)

The game of “dodgeball” does not garner a lot of national press or even much local attention. However, when we travel to Rockland, Maine, we find an incredibly close-knit community united by their love of, yes, dodgeball. This short, created by Halle Johns, unveils the magic behind the Rockland Dodgeball League, capturing the scene of hundreds of community members of all ages and genders together with one goal: to play dodgeball, together. We chose this short because it embodies the power of unification around sport, and how something as simple as dodgeball can cultivate community among people from diverse backgrounds. (Written by Drew Collins '20)

In Person: Halle Johns, Director

Website: <https://www.hallejohns.com/shoulder-season>

Screens: Wed, Nov 6 / 4:00pm / Olin 104 (in Bates Shorts Block)

Skin

(Directed by Guy Nattiv, 2018, 20 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, 2019; HollyShorts Film Festival, 2018

Awards: Academy Award® Winner for Best Live Action Short Subject, 2018; Audience Award, Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, 2019; Best Short Film, HollyShorts Film Festival, 2018; Best Film, HollyShorts Film Festival, 2018

Skin follows two families – one white, one black – who come into conflict after an encounter at a local supermarket. Both families have sons who witness the violent confrontation, which is driven by racism and stokes desires for revenge. We selected *Skin* for this year's film festival because of the discussion it might inspire on the issue of racism and identity in the modern-day US. (Written by Isaiah Saunders '21)

Website: <http://www.foxsearchlight.com/post/4329/skin/>

Screens: Sat Nov 9 / 1:30pm / Olin 104 (in Narrative Shorts Block)

Tazzeka

(Directed by Jean-Phillipe Gaud, 2018, 95 minutes)



Awards: Audience Award, Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival, 2018

Tazzeka follows the story of a young Moroccan man named Elias who dreams of becoming a Parisian chef. Following years of trying to conform to his family's expectations, Elias decides to pursue his dreams only to be faced with the harsh realities of being an undocumented immigrant in a modern society. Exquisitely filmed against the backdrops of the Moroccan mountains and the bustling streets of Paris by French director Jean-Philippe Gaud, *Tazzeka* carefully balances a story about following your deepest passions and the uncertainty of living in an immigrant community. As an addition to the Bates Film Festival, *Tazzeka* provides a unique, international-based perspective on equal justice with an important emphasis on immigrant rights and needs. Like a tender and ripe tenderloin steak, *Tazzeka* captures your attention from beginning to finish featuring sizzling and crisp direction and ages with a sense of completion, leaving audiences with a satisfying and polished aftertaste. (Written by Nicky Meyerson '20)

Screened in Conjunction with the Tournées Film Festival

Website: <http://www.africanfilm.com/Tazzeka.html>

Screens: Sun Nov 10 / 5:30pm / Muskie Archives 201

Woman at War

(Directed by Benedikt Erlingsson, 2018, 101 minutes)



Notable Festivals: Cannes Film Festival, 2018; Cairo International Film Festival, 2018; Palm Springs International Film Festival, 2018

Awards: SACD Screenwriting Award, Cannes Film Festival, 2018; Best Feature, Hamburg Film Festival, 2018; Best Film, Edda Awards, Iceland

Woman at War is an Icelandic film about Halla, an eco-activist and choir director, and her battle with Iceland's pervasive aluminum industry. Praised by *Variety*, *The Guardian*, and the Cannes Film Festival, it is an intelligent, feel-good film that poses a deft critique of globalization and ecological degradation. From the picturesque cinematography to the flawless sound design, *Woman at War* speaks to the festival's larger mission as it cultivates discussions on urgent social issues while fostering an appreciation for film artistry. (Written by Andrew Berg, '20)

Website: <https://www.womanatwarfilm.com>

Screens: Fri Nov 8 / 5:15pm / Olin 104

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