A NEW ERA BEGINS.

For guest room reservations and information, call 855.738.4966.
WWW.HALEKULANI.COM

f  #HALEKULANIMOMENT
HIFF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LETTER
Aloha kākou,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 41st annual Hawai‘i International Film Festival presented by Halekulani.

Despite everything we have faced in this impossibly difficult year for us in the Pacific, our creatives continue to walk boldly in their storytelling. To honor their vital work, it is our intention that this year’s Festival offers an opportunity for those of us in Hawai‘i to experience and connect with each other and the world through our programs, continuing to share Hawai‘i’s authentic voices and stories on a global scale. At the heart of HIFF41 is a spirit of hope and inspiration and a space for respite and conversation. We hope to draw our audiences in closer, in connection with these films and the creatives behind them.

HIFF41 takes place from November 4 to 14 on O‘ahu and November 18-21 on neighbor islands with virtual programs streaming from November 4 to 28 nationwide. The HIFF VR/New Media Exhibit will be from November 19-21 on O‘ahu. The HIFF41 film program includes 123 features, 100 shorts, and for the first time ever, a new episodic series program. Among the lineup are 139 Hawai‘i premieres, 34 world premieres, 21 US premieres, and 11 international premieres from 36 countries. Featuring in-person screenings alongside digital screenings, HIFF41 will be accessible to audiences across the United States.

In continuation of HIFF’s mission to advance understanding and cultural exchange among the peoples of Asia, the Pacific and North America by presenting films from around the world, HIFF41’s special program focuses are Pacific Islander and Indigenous Filmmaking spotlights, as well as one of the most pressing matters of our times, the climate crisis and environmental sustainability, with an expanded GREEN SCREEN section. Creative industries in Hawai‘i are key to rebuilding better, and HIFF is proud to feature an expanded Made in Hawai‘i section with many of these films as part of our Competition program, offering cash prizes totaling $10,000 to these for the fifth year in a row.

HIFF41 includes the greatest buzzworthy hits from the United States as part of our Panorama Section and the best from Asian Cinema including our closing night presentation of BELLE from animation maestro Mamoru Hosoda. We welcome you to the world premiere of WATERMAN, a new feature documentary exploring the iconoclastic life and legacy of Hawai‘i’s own Duke Kahanamoku. HIFF41’s centerpiece film features the Hawai‘i premiere of Sundance darling I WAS A SIMPLE MAN by local filmmaker Christopher Makoto Yogi. HIFF41 is also excited to recognize the work of film luminaries from around the world including Destin Daniel Cretton, Sterlin Harjo, Dana Ledoux Miller, Stanley Kwan, Albert Pyun, and more.

We are deeply committed to ensuring a safe, accessible event this year. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our deepest gratitude to all of our community partners, sponsors, board members, volunteers, HIFF members and benefactors who have made this year possible, and especially to support the ability for HIFF to continue our education and industry building initiatives while ensuring we are able to offer many low cost and free programs featuring new films and guests for our ‘ohana.

More information on all the HIFF41 upcoming screenings, talks, and events are available at www.hiff.org. Mahalo nui and stay safe!

BECKIE STOCCHETTI
Executive Director

JEFF BELL
HIFF Board President

PRESENTED AWARDS

HALEKULANI GOLDEN MAILE FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
According to Hawaiian tradition, the maile lei is often reserved for the most memorable occasions. It is known as the ‘lei of royalty’ given to signify respect and honor. The HIFF Golden Maile Award for Career Achievement is bestowed to an artist who has reached the career milestones very few have achieved via industry awards and accolades and a body of work that is known globally. They can represent an entire country’s film industry by producing work that is best representative of that country’s very best in cinema, developing an illustrious and varied filmography that truly captures cultural snapshots through powerful storytelling and exemplary movie-making. Past recipients include Masato Harada, Quentin Tarantino, Samuel L. Jackson, Maggie Cheung, and Wong Kar Wai.

HALEKULANI MAVERICK AWARD
The Hawai‘i International Film Festival’s Halekulani Maverick Award is given to an international cinema artist who has a unique and eclectic career trajectory, contributing to international cinema and the filmed arts in an innovative way. This maverick does things on his or her terms, creating work that can have a rabid cult following to a mass appreciation in today’s pop culture. Like a trendsetter and trendmaker, their work may not have been appreciated early on, but has become an artistic benchmark.

PIC TRAILBLAZER AWARD
This award, presented by Pacific Islanders in Communications (PIC), is given to a cinema artist of Pacific Islander heritage who broadens the scope of Pacific Islander stories onto the world stage, producing award winning work in independent and global cinema. This honoree is a true trailblazer, whose work aligns with PIC’s mission, which is to support, advance, and develop Pacific Island media content and talent that results in a deeper understanding of Pacific Island history, culture, and contemporary challenges.

COMPETITION AWARDS

MADE IN HAWA‘I FILM AWARDS
HIFF will present the MADE IN HAWA‘I FILM awards this year to focus on the dynamic and flourishing local independent film scene that strives onward here in the Hawaiian Islands. Fiction, Non-fiction and short films that are made by locally-based filmmakers or involve locally-based stories are eligible for the BEST MADE IN HAWA‘I Award, including a cash prize of $10,000. Nominees will be pre-selected by the Festival’s programmers.

KAU KA HŌKŪ AWARD PRESENTED BY HAWAIIAN AIRLINES
The KAU KA HŌKŪ (Shooting Star) Award presented by Hawaiian Airlines will be awarded to an emerging filmmaker (first or second feature film). Both fiction and non-fiction feature films will be nominated by the festival programmers and adjudicated by an international jury.

HIFF BEST SHORT FILM AWARD
Short films are usually the initial steps for an emerging filmmaker. They help establish tone, style and a filmmaker’s creative vision to form the foundation of a budding career. These works can also be proof of concepts or progenitors to a feature film, but they must stand alone as their own succinct and unique work. Short films come in many forms, genres and lengths and it is always a welcome challenge by the HIFF programmers to sift through the hundreds of entries per year to curate a half dozen feature-length programs. The Shorts Film Award is chosen by a prestigious jury from a final selection of nominees selected by the Festival’s programming committee. This also includes specific programs such as PACIFIC SHOWCASE and MADE IN HAWA‘I.

NETPAC AWARD
Founded in 1990 by Cinemaya and UNESCO, the Network for the Promotion of Asian-Pacific Cinema (NETPAC) is an international not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting Asian and Pacific cinema throughout the world. The prestigious NETPAC award is given at select international film festivals to promote Asian and Pacific cinema by spotlighting exceptional works and discovering new talent. The NETPAC award is presented annually at international film festivals in Toronto, Berlin, Cannes, Venice, Rotterdam, Busan, Singapore, Tokyo, Yamagata, Amiens and Hawai‘i. HIFF is the only film festival in the United States given permission to present the NETPAC award.

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD PRESENTED BY HAWAII NEWS NOW
Vote for your favorite feature film, documentary or short film playing at HIFF. Vote via ballot in theaters or on watch.hiff.org / HIFF smart TV apps by using the 5 Stars on a film’s page. Ballots will be distributed for the first screening of every eligible film during the film festival. Winners will be announced post-festival.
**KEY TO ICONS IN FILM GUIDE:**
- *{}* Included with Supporter Pass
- *{}* Included with All-Access Pass
- *{}* Individual/Hale Pass
- *{}* Included with Limited Access Pass
- *{}* Available Statewide
- *{}* Available on the West Coast
- *{}* Available Nationwide
- *{}* Available Worldwide
- *{}* In Theaters
- *{}* Online
- *{}* FREE

**FESTIVAL DATES ONLINE**
November 4 - 28, 2021

**O'ahu SCREENINGS & EVENTS NOVEMBER 4 - 14, 2021**

**HIFF NOVEMBER 19 - 21, 2021**

**BIG ISLAND, KAU'A'I, & MA'UI NOVEMBER 18 - 21, 2021**

**BOX OFFICE & TICKET INFORMATION**
Passes and tickets are available for purchase beginning OCTOBER 18 online at HIFF.org, or by calling the HIFF Box Office at 1-808-447-0577.

**BOX OFFICE HOURS**
Online 24hrs a day | 7 days a week
Phone Hours
OCT 15 - NOV 3 | 10:00AM - 3:00PM | Closed Sundays
NOV 4 - 28 | 9:00AM - 6:00PM | Daily
NOV 4 - 14 | In person 1 hour prior to showtime

**HIFF BOX OFFICE & TICKET INFORMATION**
Tickets to Big Island screenings at the Palace Theater in Hilo, Hawai'i are available in person or by phone only.

**THE PALACE THEATER & BOX OFFICE**
36 Hall Street
Hilo, HI 96720
PH: (808) 934-7010

**BOX OFFICE HOURS**
10:00AM - 3:00PM Weekdays
Closed State Holidays

**COVID GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROTOCOLS**
In accordance with the local, state, and federal guidelines, masks are required to be worn indoors in Hawai'i, even for fully vaccinated individuals. To be allowed access to the event, we ask that you please provide proof of either, (a) confirmation that you have been fully vaccinated in Hilo, over the phone, or in person at the theater and your pass scanned

**QUESTIONS & SUPPORT**
Have questions about how it all works? Need some tech support? Check out these resources to find out more:
- Go to HIFF.ORG FESTIVAL PASSES page for more information on Festival Passes
- Go to HIFF.ORG/HOW TO HIFF page for tech support, streaming questions, and in person screening questions
- Use the Live Chat box on HIFF.ORG to connect directly with our support team
- E-mail us at any time at info@hiFF.org with questions

**CALL WITH SUPPORT line at 1-808-447-0577**
Open from 9AM - 8PM from November 4th - 28th.

**COVID GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROTOCOLS**
- In alignment with the local, state, and federal guidelines, masks are required to be worn indoors in Hawai'i for fully vaccinated individuals. To be allowed access to the event, we ask that you please provide proof of either, (a) confirmation that you have been fully vaccinated in Hawai'i, or in person for those who are not.

**KUAI'IAN BOX OFFICE AND TICKET INFORMATION**
Tickets to Kauai screenings at the Waimea Theater in Waimea, Hawai'i are available in person or by phone only.

**WAIMEA THEATER & BOX OFFICE**
Historic Waimea Theater
749 Kaumuali'i Highway, Waimea, HI 96796
PH: (808) 651-5744 (day)
PH: (808) 338-2027 (evening)

**COVID GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROTOCOLS**
Please visit: http://www.waimeatherealtime.com for details.
Hawai‘i International Film Festival has launched our HIFF SELECTS program. A new monthly subscription program featuring a carefully curated new film each month, along with exclusive filmmaker discussions, and bonus features. Films will be screened each month on HIFF’s new streaming platform at watch.hiff.org. You can watch from the comfort of your home, and even join the discussion for our Q&As! Keeping our HIFF OHANA members in mind, this new service will feature special pricing for members.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION PURCHASE

Purcahse your HIFF OHANA membership and/or HIFF SELECTS subscription anytime at www.hiff.org/membership or call the HIFF Box Office at (808) 447-0577 for assistance.

HIFF BOX OFFICE & Help Line
Ph: 808-447-0577 or 844-249-4531
October 15th - November 3rd | 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM Closed on Sundays
November 4th - 28th | 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
info@hiff.org

**MEMBER PREVIEW SCREENINGS**

Two (2) Discounted tickets to all in person and virtual HIFF Events* INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

**ADVANCED TICKET SALES**

Member preview screenings twice a year INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

Advanced ticket sales before each festival INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

Festival Program Guide INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

**HIFF SELECTS**

A specially curated monthly film available streaming from your home INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

An exclusive filmmaker Q&A each month INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

Monthly bonus features including bonus film content, short films, and more INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

Sharing your love for HIFF Year-Round? INCLUDED INCLUDED INCLUDED

*Discount Applies to advance ticket sales only.

**HAVE QUESTIONS? NEED TECH SUPPORT?**

- **Go to** www.hiff.org/membership page for more information on Membership & Subscription
- **Go to** www.hiff.org/hiff41 page for tech support and streaming questions
- Use the Live Chat chatbox feature on HIFF.ORG to connect with support staff
- E-mail us anytime at info@hiff.org with questions
- Call our Tech Support line at 808-447-0577 or 844-249-4531; Open from 9AM - 8PM Daily from November 5th - 29th

**BELOW IS A FULL BREAKDOWN OF ALL OF THE BENEFITS OF HIFF OHANA MEMBERSHIP AND HIFF SELECTS**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>BENEFIT</th>
<th>HIFF OHANA (ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP) $40/Year</th>
<th>HIFF SELECTS (ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE) $7.99/Per HIFF Members OR $9.99/month</th>
<th>HIFF OHANA SELECTS (MEMBERSHIP &amp; SUBSCRIPTION IN ONE) $120/Year</th>
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<td>Festival Program Guide</td>
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<td>Sharing your love for HIFF Year-Round?</td>
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# Film Program at a Glance

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<th>Region</th>
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<th>Dates Available</th>
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<td><strong>Individual/Hale</strong></td>
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<td><strong>USA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>World Wide</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Free to Public</strong></td>
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<td><strong>West Coast</strong></td>
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## Film Information

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<td><strong>ARC</strong></td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td><strong>BIGGER THAN ME</strong></td>
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<td><strong>BORN TO BE HUMAN</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CAPTAIN AMERICA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CAT DADDIES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CATCH THE FAIR ONE</strong></td>
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<td>A</td>
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<td><strong>THE RETURN: LIFE AFTER ISIS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>RIDE THE WAVE</strong></td>
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**Supporter All Access**

- **Hawaii**
- **West Coast**
- **USA**
- **World Wide**

**Pass Type Accessibility**

- **Supporter**
- **All Access**
- **Individual/Hale**
- **Limited**
- **Free to Public**

**Region Accessibility**

- **Hawaii**
- **West Coast**
- **USA**
- **World Wide**
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<td>THE TAKING</td>
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<td>STUDENT SHOWCASE</td>
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**HFF Talks Master Class Series**

**In Conversation with Dana Ledoux Miller | HIFF Trailblazer Award Recipient**
Join us for an extended conversation with HIFF alumnus, UH Mānoa graduate, and this year’s Pacific Islanders in Communications Trailblazer Award honoree Dana Ledoux Miller.

**Film Festival Undercover, A Strategy Workshop for Filmmakers**
Want to know the inside scoop about how to succeed on the film festival circuit? You’re in the right place when Sharon Badal (Vice President of Filmmaker Relations and Shorts Programming for the Tribeca Film Festival) gives a fun behind-the-scenes workshop especially designed for HIFF 2021 filmmakers.

**New American Perspectives: 7 Days Master Class**
Presented as part of the New American Perspectives program in partnership with the Vilcek Foundation, join us for a special conversation with the directors behind new comedy 7 DAYS, director co-writer Roshan Sethi, co-writer and lead actor Karan Soni, and lead actress Geraldine Viswanathan.

**Spotlight on Hong Kong: In Conversation with Stanley Kwan**
Join us for a special conversation with renowned director Stanley Kwan, and the director of a documentary on her life. Director Kwan is this year’s Spotlight on Hong Kong Filmmaker in Focus.

**Documentary Filmmaking**
This panel will take the audience behind the scenes of major documentary projects and explore how the industry is changing in the wake of hybrid narrative/documentary formats. Panelists: Karmel Baimelso, Tim Chiou, Kanoa Goo, and Amy Hil.

**The PANTHERS Panel Discussion**
Join us for a behind-the-scenes discussion with the team behind the groundbreaking New Zealand series THE PANTHERS, based upon the true story of the Polynesian Panthers. Moderated by HIFF Artistic Director Anderson Lee.

**The Pau Hana Years Panel Discussion**
Unmoderated by a free online panel in tandem with the special presentation of THE PAU HANA YEARS 1975 series. The panel will feature special guests including Molokai homeowners and crew members who worked on the special series in the 1970s. They will discuss the history of the Molokai homesteads and present a look into the future legacy of the community.

**Storm Lake with Civil Beat**
In partnership with Honolulu Civil Beat, HIFF presents a special conversation with the directors of STORM LAKE, Beth Lavision and Jerry Rosias, moderated by Civil Beat reporter Chad Blair.

**Online Program at a Glance**

**Pass Type** | **Region** | **Film Information** | **Dates Available**
--- | --- | --- | ---
SA | | ROCK BOTTOM RISER | United States | 70M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | ROLLING | South Korea | 75M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | THE SALT IN OUR WATERS | Bangladesh | 106M | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | THE SEEDS OF VANDANA SHIVA | Australia | 82M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | SHRIEKING IN THE RAIN | Japan | 102M | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | SINKHOLE | South Korea | 114M | 11/10-11/28 |
SA | | SOUNDS OF TAIWAN: A SYMPHONY BY BAO YUANJIAI | Taiwan ROC | 95M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | STORM LAKE | United States | 85M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | THE TAKING | United States | 76M | 11/10-11/28 |
SA | | TEINE SÀ, THE ANCIENT ONES | New Zealand | 60M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | TEN MONTHS | South Korea | 95M | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | TIME | Hong Kong SAR China | 99M | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | TIONG BAHRU SOCIAL CLUB | Singapore | 88M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | TRY HARDER! | United States | 85M | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | USERS | United States | 81M | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | WE’VE ONLY GOT THIS WORLD | Vanuatu | 77M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY | Japan | 121M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | WHETHER THE WEATHER IS FINE | Philippines | 104M | 11/17-11PM & 11/17-7PM |
SA | | WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BETWITCHED | United States | 193M | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | WRITING WITH FIRE | India | 93M | 11/4-11/16 |
SA | | ZOKKI | Japan | 1113M | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | ACM UHM SHOWCASE | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | DANIEL H. INOUYE INITIATIVE SHOWCASE | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA SHORTS | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | EAT, DRINK, FILM SHORTS | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | GREEN SCREEN SHORTS | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | KEKI SHORTS | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | MADE IN HAWAII SHORTS 1 | | 11/10-11/28 |
SA | | MADE IN HAWAII SHORTS 2 | | 11/10-11/28 |
SA | | MADE IN HAWAII SHORTS 3 | | 11/15-11/28 |
SA | | PACIFIC SHOWCASE SHORTS | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | PANORAMA SHORTS | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA SHORTS | | 11/4-11/28 |
SA | | STUDENT SHOWCASE | | 11/4-11/28 |
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<td>BPBM — The Great Lawn</td>
<td>Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum 1525 Bernice Street Honolulu, HI 96817</td>
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<td>WAI — Consolidated Theatres Ward with TITAN LUXE</td>
<td>Ward Entertainment Center 1044 Aukai St Honolulu, HI 96814</td>
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<td>KKL — Consolidated Theatres Kahala</td>
<td>Kahala Mall 4211 Waialae Ave #3080 Honolulu, HI 96816</td>
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<td>SBI — Entrepreneur’s Sandbox</td>
<td>643 Iliau Street Honolulu, HI 96813</td>
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<td>WI — Waimea Theater &amp; Box Office</td>
<td>Historic Waimea Theater 9671 Kaumualii Highway Waimea, HI 96796</td>
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<td>KHM — Consolidated Theatres Ka’ahumanu</td>
<td>275 Wa’ahumanu Ave Suite B29 Kahului, HI 96732</td>
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### Screening Schedule

**IN PERSON SCREENING SCHEDULE**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH**

- **7:00 PM-8:31 PM**
  - **THE ISLAND IN THE MOON**
  - **BIGGER THAN WE**
  - **DRIVE MY CAR**
  - **JOCKEY + MA**
  - **MAHIOLE, HANA**

- **7:30 PM-9:14 PM**
  - **PETIT MAMAN**
  - **THE HAND OF GOD**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH**

- **4:00 PM-6:35 PM**
  - **RED ROCKET**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH**

- **1:00 PM-2:05 PM**
  - **STORY OF MY LIFE**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH**

- **10:00 AM-5:00 PM**
  - **HIFF OPENING GATE AT BISHOP MUSEUM**
  - **MIRACLE CITY SKOZA**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH**

- **5:00 PM-7:14 PM**
  - **THE FABLE: THE KILLER WHO DOESN’T KILL**
  - **LOVE AND FURY**
  - **ANIMA**
  - **7 DAYS**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH**

- **5:00 PM-7:11 PM**
  - **RIPPLES OF LIFE**
  - **TICK, TICK...BOOM!**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH**

- **11:30 AM-1:11 PM**
  - **MADE IN HAWAI’I SHORTS PROGRAM 3**
  - **TICK, TICK...BOOM!**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH**

- **6:30 PM-8:48 PM**
  - **THE DAUGHTER OF HABITAT**
  - **THE LOST DAUGHTER**
  - **LONBO**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH**

- **5:00 PM-7:19 PM**
  - **ARITA**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH**

- **5:00 PM-7:14 PM**
  - **THE FABLE: THE KILLER WHO DOESN’T KILL**
  - **ANIMA**
  - **7 DAYS**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH**

- **5:00 PM-7:02 PM**
  - **MIRACLE CITY KOZA**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH**

- **12:00 PM-2:00 PM**
  - **HIFF JR SHOWCASE**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST**

- **12:00 PM-6:00 PM**
  - **HIFF JR SHOWCASE**
NOMINATED SHORTS

WORLD PREMIERE

LAST HAWAIIAN SUGAR
DIRECTOR: DEJA CRESCENCIA BERNARDOT
See Page 43 for film details.

DIRECTOR: JUSTIN KINATA
See Page 41 for film details.

THE ISLAND IN ME
DIRECTOR: KELI’I GRACE
See Page 27 for film details.

Hawaii Film Award Nominees 2021 Honorees

Hawaii Film Festival will present the fifth annual MADE IN HAWAI‘I FILM AWARD this year to continue our focus on the dynamic and flourishing local independent film scene that thrives around here in the Hawaiian Islands. Fiction, non-fiction and short films that are made by locally-based filmmakers or involve locally-based stories are spread out throughout the 2021 film program to stand alongside works from around the world. HIFF’s decision to include this competition was an easy one, as the Festival has an illustrious history of providing a forum for Hawaii-made films for its 41 year history. As the media landscape changes, along with the democratization of ‘filmmaking’, itself via digital technology, the rise of local cinema artists has drastically increased. At the same time, creative content produced by indigenous people around the world, including Native Hawaiians, is on the rise. With this in mind, the intent of the MADE IN HAWAI‘I FILM AWARD is to provide accolades to films that our esteemed jury feel offer significant representation of stories that authentically reflect the unique, yet universal experiences of ourselves.

HIFF PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN COMMUNICATIONS TRAILBLAZER AWARD
DANA LEDOUX MILLER
Dana Ledoux Miller is currently co-showrunning Netflix’s UNTIITLED THAI CAVE RESCUE limited series produced by SKG and Jon M Chu. Previously, she was an Executive Producer on LAST RESORT for Seven Bucks Productions and FoxGio Entertainment and was set up at Quibi as part of their Break The Room initiative. Prior to that, she was Co-EP on AMC’s KILLING EVE and an executive producer on AMC’s LOTTIE 49. She is also adapting COSMOLOGY OF MONSTERS for Chernin with Destin Daniel Cretton attached to direct. Dana was a producer on ABC’s DESONATED SURVIVOR and also wrote for Netflix’s NARCOS and HBO’s THE NEWSROOM. She is a graduate of the Academy for Creative Media at the University of Hawai‘i Manoa and lives in Los Angeles with her family.

HIFF41 LEGACY AWARD
ALBERT PYUN
Albert Pyun is a writer/director best known for his contributions to cult movie making during the heyday of the direct-to-video and B-movie circuits of the 1980s through the 2000s. He is credited with pioneering the cyberpunk sub-genre and is considered to be a maverick and renegade in independent genre cinema. With over 50 titles to his name, he has enjoyed a prolific career spanning 30+ years and has earned himself a revered cult following. From his explosive debut with THE SWORD AND THE SORCERER (1982) to Jean-Claude Van Damme’s CYBORG (1989) and Cannon’s infamous CAPTAIN AMERICA (1990), Pyun’s career has spanned almost five decades, and has run the gamut of resources, from Hollywood studios to no-budget indies. From his hanabata days making movie movies in Kaneohe to stints as an editor and cameraman for KOMO News to his eventual move to Hollywood, Pyun has led a fascinating and crazy journey as an artist, driven by passion and unstoppable in the face of impossible odds. His storied 50+ films listed on IMDb may have been relegated in the bargain bins of Diamond Head Video, but his influence was truly impactful and influential not only for the eventual fan movement in Hawai‘i but also globally. It’s only apropos that we honor the work of Albert Pyun, and do so where it all began for him, Hawai‘i.

HIF HALEKULANI MAVERICK AWARD
STERLIN HARJO
“IT’s not up to Hollywood to change Native representation in the media. They have failed at it for decades. It’s up to us - Artists, Filmmakers, Storytellers and Activists. That power is ours alone,” - Sterlin Harjo
Sterlin Harjo is a member of the Seminole Nation and has Muskogee heritage. He was raised in Holdenville, Oklahoma and studied art and film at the University of Oklahoma. His burgeoning film career has been tied with three feature films at Sundance—FOUR SQUARES TO THE WIND (2007), BARKING WATER (2008), and THIS MAY BE THE LAST TIME (2014)—all premiering at the prestigious festival. Harjo is a founding member of a five-member Native American comedy group, The 1491s. He was recently appointed to The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and is the co-creator, alongside Taika Waititi, on the hit FX series RESERVATION DOGS, which was recently renewed for a second season. His latest documentary, LOVE AND FURY, will be screened at HIFF41.

HIFO4 LEGACY AWARD
ALBERT PYUN
Albert Pyun is a writer/director best known for his contributions to cult movie making during the heyday of the direct-to-video and B-movie circuits of the 1980s through the 2000s. He is credited with pioneering the cyberpunk sub-genre and is considered to be a maverick and renegade in independent genre cinema. With over 50 titles to his name, he has enjoyed a prolific career spanning 30+ years and has earned himself a revered cult following. From his explosive debut with THE SWORD AND THE SORCERER (1982) to Jean-Claude Van Damme’s CYBORG (1989) and Cannon’s infamous CAPTAIN AMERICA (1990), Pyun’s career has spanned almost five decades, and has run the gamut of resources, from Hollywood studios to no-budget indies. From his hanabata days making movie movies in Kaneohe to stints as an editor and cameraman for KOMO News to his eventual move to Hollywood, Pyun has led a fascinating and crazy journey as an artist, driven by passion and unstoppable in the face of impossible odds. His storied 50+ films listed on IMDb may have been relegated in the bargain bins of Diamond Head Video, but his influence was truly impactful and influential not only for the eventual fan movement in Hawai‘i but also globally. It’s only apropos that we honor the work of Albert Pyun, and do so where it all began for him, Hawai‘i.

HAIKULANI GOLDEN MAILE FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
DESTIN DANIEL CRETTON
Mau‘in-born Destin Cretton, is fresh off the release of Marvel Studios’ newest film, SHANG CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS, starring Simu Liu, Michelle Yeoh, Awkwafina, and Tony Leung. This is the first film in the MCU that is led by an Asian actor, and mostly Asian cast. Destin’s feature film debut, I AM NOT A HIPSTER, premiered at Sundance in 2012. And was followed by SHORT TERM 12, which won the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award at the SXSW Film Festival in 2013, featuring early performances by Brie Larson, Lakeith Stanfield, Rami Malek, Keilin Dever, and John Gallagher Jr. His third feature, an adaptation of the NY Times best-selling memoir, THE GLASS CASTLE, starring Brie Larson, Woody Harrelson, and Naomi Watts and was released in 2016 by Lionsgate. Following this, Destin directed JUST MERCY, HIFF39 Centerpiece Gala for Warner Bros, the adaptation of the NYTimes best-selling memoir by civil rights attorney Bryan Stevenson. The film starred Michael B. Jordan, Jamie Foxx and Brie Larson.

MADE IN HAWAI‘I FILM AWARD NOMINEES

NOMINATED FEATURES

I WAS A SIMPLE MAN
DIRECTOR: CHRISTOPHER HANOTO YOKI
See Page 19 for film details.

THE ISLAND IN ME
DIRECTOR: KENNA GIBRERIL DEL BARRO
See Page 27 for film details.

OUR MAKAWAO
FESTIVAL PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: NATT火山
See Page 43 for film details.

WATERMAN
WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: ISAAC KALAGON
See Page 19 for film details.

NOMINATED SHORTS

AGAPE
WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: JUSTIN KINATA
See Page 41 for film details.

ALA MOANA BOYS
FESTIVAL PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: KELI‘I GRACE
See Page 43 for film details.

I WILL BE YOUR BREATH
FESTIVAL PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: NAHIL ADAMS
See Page 43 for film details.

KA HO‘I
WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: MITCHEL LERNES
See Page 43 for film details.

LAST HAWAIIAN SUGAR
WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: DEJA CRESCENCIA BERNARDOT
See Page 43 for film details.

RIVER OF SMALL GODS
UNITED STATES PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: BRADLEY TANGIANN
See Page 43 for film details.

SINA MA TINIRAU
WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: VILSONI HERENIKO, GAVIN ARUCAN
See Page 42 for film details.
OPENING NIGHT FILM

WATERMAN
WORLD PREMIERE

OPENING NIGHT FILM | MADE IN HAWAI‘I
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 88M
DIRECTOR: ISAAC HALISIMA
5-NOV 7:00 PM | BISHOP MUSEUM
18-NOV 7:00 PM | PALACE
20-NOV 8:30 PM | WAIHEʻA
21-NOV 7:00 PM | KAʻAHUMANU

Surfing legend. Olympic superstar. Hawaiian Icon. American hero. Five-time Olympic medalist and Native Hawaiian Duke Paoa Kahanamoku shattered records and brought surfing to the world while overcoming a lifetime of personal challenges. Narrated by Jason Momoa, WATERMAN explores his journey and legacy as a legendary swimmer, trailblazer, and the undisputed father of modern-day surfing, following the sport’s first-time inclusion in this year’s Olympics - a fitting tribute to his work promoting the sport around the globe. Through Duke’s incredible athletic accomplishments and embodiment of the Aloha spirit, the film celebrates his triumphs and philosophy of inclusion, challenging us all to embrace diversity and incorporate Aloha into our own lives.

CENTERPIECE PRESENTATION

I WAS A SIMPLE MAN
HAWAII PREMIERE

CENTERPIECE FILM | MADE IN HAWAI‘I | KAU KA HŌKŪ NOMINEE
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 100M
DIRECTOR: CHRISTOPHER MAKOTO YOGI
10-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
18-NOV 7:00 PM | WAIMEA
21-NOV 7:00 PM | PALACE

Masao is an aging man who lives a solitary existence on O’ahu’s North Shore. But when he learns that he’s not long for this world, his life’s regrets begin to surface, like a slowly rising tide. As Masao becomes bed-ridden, previously distant sons and daughters trickle into his home to provide end-of-life care. Most mysteriously, Masao’s late wife, Grace, returns to haunt him, triggering flashbacks to the past Masao must learn to confront.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM

BELLE
HAWAII PREMIERE

CLOSING NIGHT FILM
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 122M
DIRECTOR: MAMORU HOSODA
14-NOV 7:00 PM | WARD
20-NOV 6:30 PM | PALACE
21-NOV 4:00 PM | KAʻAHUMANU

Suzu is a 17-year-old high school student living in a rural village with her father. For years, she has only been a shadow of herself. One day, she enters “U,” a virtual world of 5 billion members on the Internet. There, she is not Suzu anymore but Belle, a world-famous singer. She soon meets with a mysterious creature. Together, they embark on a journey of adventures, challenges and love, in their quest to become who they truly are. BELLE is the latest masterpiece from Oscar-nominated Mamoru Hosoda (SUMMER WARS, WOLF CHILDREN, MIRAI) and had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, receiving universal acclaim.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT: WWW_CONSOLIDATEDTHEATRES_COM
FILMS

HIFF service in her later years. The film opens with her unforgettable last concert, and spans her incredible life, cultural icon during Hong Kong’s golden age in the eighties and nineties. The name in Hong Kong, queen of Canto pop, Anita Mui was the very definition of a spanning the life of legendary singer and actress Anita Mui. A household HIFF is proud to present the US Premiere of the long awaited ANITA, a biopic in her later years. The film opens with her unforgettable last concert, and spans her incredible life, cultural icon during Hong Kong’s golden age in the eighties and nineties. The name in Hong Kong, queen of Canto pop, Anita Mui was the very definition of a spanning the life of legendary singer and actress Anita Mui. A household HIFF is proud to present the US Premiere of the long awaited ANITA, a biopic

10-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA

7-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA

7-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA

11-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA

ANITA

HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 134M

DIRECTOR: LIN HAIYAN

7-NOV 7:50 PM | KAHALA

10-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA

HIFF is proud to present the US Premiere of the long awaited ANITA, a biopic spanning the life of legendary singer and actress Anita Mui. A household name in Hong Kong, queen of Canton pop, Anita Mui was the very definition of a cultural icon during Hong Kong’s golden age in the eighties and nineties. The film opens with her unforgettable last concert, and spans her incredible life, cultural icon during Hong Kong’s golden age in the eighties and nineties. The name in Hong Kong, queen of Canto pop, Anita Mui was the very definition of a spanning the life of legendary singer and actress Anita Mui. A household

11-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA

Tutsi and his little brother Leli belong to the Luri people. One day while in the forest Leli falls into a bear den, and young Tutsi shoots the bear, a bad omen for them both. Years later, Tutsi and Leli have been forced to eke out a living as lumberjacks clearing the surrounding woods. When they both fall for the same woman a wedge is driven between the brothers. Both brothers will learn that to live in this changing world, sacrifices will be made.

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

PARTICULARS

11-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA

10-NOV 6:50 PM | KAHALA

5-NOV 6:00 PM | KAHALA

4-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA

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NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN | ASIAN CINEMA

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 144M

DIRECTOR: MASAHARU HARA

6-NOV 6:50 PM | KAHALA

11-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA

10-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

When a news story breaks about a student’s suicide after alleged assault by her teacher, it is not long before the teacher also takes his own life. Documentary filmmaker Yuko Yoko strikes out to learn the truth behind the incident. What she finds instead is two families’ love torn apart, first by loss of their loved ones, and secondly by their estratification in the community. As Yoko struggles to eke out a story for her film, an incident at home leaves her questioning her own motives.

BARAGAKI: UNBROKEN SAMURAI

HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 134M

DIRECTOR: LIN HAIYAN

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**FILMS**

**HIFF**

**Mills (BEGINNERS, 20TH CENTURY WOMEN).**
Between adults and children, the past and the future, from writer-director Mike Mills (BEGINNERS, 20TH CENTURY WOMEN), Johnny (Joaquin Phoenix) and his young nephew (Woody Norman) forge a 14-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA 5-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA 6-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA Nominated for the 2021 Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay, this is a deeply moving story about the connections we make with individuals.

**C'MON C'MON**

Directors: Mike Mills and Alexis Bayer, USA | English, with English subtitles | 108M Directed by Mike Mills, this heartwarming tale explores the complex obstacles of a nineteen-year-old autistic face while risking everything to give the big waves of Hawai'i, which she's been trying to conquer since childhood.

**BORN TO BE HUMAN**

Taiwan ROC | Chinese, with English subtitles | 105M Directed by Lex Yi, this film surveys the landscape of Texas with a keen eye, drifting through the dark, cold desert, and the families who live troubled lives in between it all.

**BRUISED**

USA | English | 129M Directed by Mye Hoang, this film explores the landscape of Texas with a keen eye, drifting through the dark, cold desert, and the families who live troubled lives in between it all.

**COME BACK ANYTIME**

Japan | Japanese, with English subtitles | 81M Directed by Tatsunari Ikeda, this film surveys the landscape of Texas with a keen eye, drifting through the dark, cold desert, and the families who live troubled lives in between it all.

**CROSSINGS**

USA | English, Korean, with English subtitles | 90M Directed by Jean Leong, this film surveys the landscape of Texas with a keen eye, drifting through the dark, cold desert, and the families who live troubled lives in between it all.

**CAT DADDIES**

USA | English | 89M Directed by Mye Hoang, this film surveys the landscape of Texas with a keen eye, drifting through the dark, cold desert, and the families who live troubled lives in between it all.

**CAPTAIN AMERICA**

USA | English | 97M Directed by Albert Pyun, this film surveys the landscape of Texas with a keen eye, drifting through the dark, cold desert, and the families who live troubled lives in between it all.

**CATCH THE FARE ONE**

USA | English | 85M Directed by Jesse Voiles, this film surveys the landscape of Texas with a keen eye, drifting through the dark, cold desert, and the families who live troubled lives in between it all.
Yusuke and Misaki form an unexpected bond. As they increasingly log hours together in the Saab, Hiroshima and sets off in his red Saab. Upon arrival, he discovers that he will be required to have a chauffeur drive him. His chauffeur turns out to be the taciturn young Misaki. In Lao Lan-wan’s crime thriller, THE DEVIL’S DEAL, a no-name politician, Jean Hae-mong is eliminated from an assembly-member election by a local bigwig who finds Jean to be a thorn in his side. Coupled with the stress of threatening loan-sharks, Jean decides to take revenge and finish his political aspirations. But this decision leads to a disturbing relationship with a gang member that encourages corruption and the fall of a previously alicious father.

DRIFTING
HARUMI PIKIN
SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG | ASIAN CINEMA
HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 112M
DIRECTOR: JIN LI
NOV 4 – 24 | ONLINE
Fai (Francis Ng), a homeless man recently rescued from prison, finds his old friends on the streets in Shatin Sha Po, one of Hong Kong’s poorest districts. One night, the group is suddenly awakened by an unannounced street sweep. Seeing their possessions stolen by police officers and trashed, Fai and his friends decide to stand up for the dignity of their homeless community with the help of Ms. Ho (Cecilia Choi), a social worker.

THE DEVIL’S DEAL
HARUMI PIKIN
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 113M
DIRECTOR: LES MICHEL
5-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
11-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA
20-NOV 9:30PM | KAHAHUHU
Based on the Japanese manga series of the same name, THE DEVIL: THE KILLER WHO DOESN’T KILL stars Junichi Okada as legendary assassin Akira Sota, also The Fable. Following his boss’s order to “kill no one and live like a normal man for a year,” Akira lives a peaceful life that is interrupted when he encounters a young woman in a wheelchair and a shady NPO representative that he once assigned to kill.

DOLLMAN
SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FRILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 82M
DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN
NOV 4 – 20 | ONLINE
An intergalactic policeman named Brick Bardo lands on Earth, in pursuit of alien criminals. Though regular sized on his home planet, he soon discovers he is doll sized (13 inches) on Earth! Brick is besought by an enlists of curious kids, angry gang members, and his own doll-sized enemies. Comedian Tim Thomerson is an absolute gem as the hard-boiled Bardo, and Jack Earle Haley is marvelous as the child welfare center in her hometown. She strikes up an awkward friendship with a fellow classmate named Inogi, but after the sudden death of a friend, their friendship evolves, leading Inogi to share the secret of her tragic past. Horigai realizes she’s been willfully blind to the adult world and the deeper sadness experienced by everyone around her.

FACELESS
HARUMI PIKIN
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | CANTONESE, ENGLISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 88M
DIRECTOR: JENNIFER NGO
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Directed by journalist Jennifer Ngo, FACELESS focuses on four people who participated in the 2019 protests in Hong Kong in response to the controversial extradition bill the Articar concerned about the Hong Kong LGBTQ+ community’s future. The Student on the cusp of graduation, the Believer who advocates for non-violent resistance, and the loving Daughter of a police officer. As Hong Kong’s political status remains precarious, this documentary is more pertinent than ever in understanding the complex of the fight for personal freedoms against an unyielding authoritarianism.

DRIVE MY CAR
HARUMI PIKIN
GREEN SCREEN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 179M
DIRECTOR: NOBUHIRO TERADA
20-NOV 1:30 PM | KAHALA
9-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
6-NOV 4:00 PM | KAHALA
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 179M
DIRECTOR: NOBUHIRO TERADA
20-NOV 1:30 PM | KAHALA
9-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
6-NOV 4:00 PM | KAHALA
In the Tahitian American blended Fierro family, all the women are surfers-Vahine (20), Heimiti (16) and Kohai (14). Vahine, the eldest, is already a world champion. In the Tahitian American blended Fierro family, all the women are surfers-Vahine (20), Heimiti (16) and Kohai (14). Vahine, the eldest, is already a world champion. In the Tahitian American blended Fierro family, all the women are surfers-Vahine (20), Heimiti (16) and Kohai (14). Vahine, the eldest, is already a world champion. In the Tahitian American blended Fierro family, all the women are surfers-Vahine (20), Heimiti (16) and Kohai (14). Vahine, the eldest, is already a world champion. In the Tahitian American blended Fierro family, all the women are surfers-Vahine (20), Heimiti (16) and Kohai (14). Vahine, the eldest, is already a world champion.

FILMS
FILMS

**FROM EARTH TO SKY**
**HABUIA PREMIERE**
**DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA | INDIGENOUS LENS**
**AUSTRALIA | ENGLISH | 108M**

DIRECTOR: NEYSAN SOBHANI

NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE

In the future, all hope rests on a fragile peace brokered 10 years after the shocking accident from which Maradona inadvertently saves Fabietto, setting the stage for two lives crossed by an electrifying accident and a defining moment.

**GIFT OF FIRE**
**HABUIA PREMIERE**
**SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN**
**JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 111M**

DIRECTOR: KENJI HANDA

6-NOV 1:00 PM | KAHALA

During World War II, the Japanese government commissions a young scientist named Shu to develop a bomb that could change the course of the war. As his research progresses yet the war effort sways heavily against their nation, Shu has to choose between his devotion to science, his country, and his sense of humanity. Based on actual historical events, it focuses on the lives of these young people, blending the remembrance of scientific exploration and the moral conundrums that emerge in the process.

**GOOD DEAL**
**HABUIA PREMIERE**
**SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA**
**SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 110M**

DIRECTOR: CHO KYOUNG-HO

7-NOV 3:30 PM | KAHALA

6-NOV 2:00 PM | KAHALA

GOOD DEAL is a woven tapestry of the interconnected lives of people struggling through the day-to-day of contemporary Korean society. Gate a spectrum of themes are covered: romance, crime, sports, family, work, and even Russian literature. As each of its characters seeks to make a ‘deal’ with another person to help them stay ahead or even stay alive, they find their interactions much more involved and complex than they first thought. Written and directed by Cho Kyung-ho, the film mixes visually dark humor and sincere sentimentality through its interwoven yet still seamlessly linear style of storytelling.

**HAND ROLLED CIGARETTE**
**HABUIA PREMIERE**
**SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA**
**HONG-KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 100M**

DIRECTOR: CHI-KIUNG HO

NOV 15 – 28 | ONLINE

Mai, a young South Asian immigrant in Hong Kong, hides from thegang members pursuing him in the apartment of one Kwan Chi, a washed-up British Chinese soldier abandoned by the colonial government after Hong Kong’s handover to China in 1997. When Kwan discovers Mai, he learns that he has upset the same gang boss that Kwan is in debt to. The two men, initially hostile, gradually bond over their increasingly dire circumstances.

**HEAVEN: TO THE LAND OF HAPPINESS**
**HABUIA PREMIERE**
**SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA | ASIAN CINERAMA**

**SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 100M**

DIRECTOR: IM SANG-SOO

The Chinese soldier abandoned by the colonial government after Hong Kong’s handover to China in 1997 has stories to tell. The film follows two women who grew up here and return to Hong Kong as it is on the cusp of becoming a special administrative region of China.

**GOOD TIMES, BAD TIMES**
**HABUIA PREMIERE**
**SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN**
**JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 117M**

DIRECTOR: HOSHINO SHUNIKA

6-NOV 1:00 PM | KAHALA

In During World War II, the Japanese government commissions a young scientist named Shu to develop a bomb that could change the course of the war. As his research progresses yet the war effort sways heavily against their nation, Shu has to choose between his devotion to science, his country, and his sense of humanity. Based on actual historical events, it focuses on the lives of these young people, blending the remembrance of scientific exploration and the moral conundrums that emerge in the process.

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FILMS

Jockey (Hawai‘i Premiere; Panorama) - 9-NOV 7:30 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

An aging jockey (Clifton Collins Jr.), hopes to win one last title for his longtime trainer (Melki Parker), who has acquired what appears to be a championship horse. But the years - and injuries - have taken a toll on his body, throwing into question his ability to continue his lifelong passion. And the arrival of a young job advertisement for a ‘maid cafe’ in Aomori, she sees this as an opportunity to break free of her shyness. But it may be the shamisen that rescues her (and a job advertisement for a ‘maid cafe’ in Aomori, she sees this as an opportunity to break free of her shyness. But it may be the shamisen that rescues her (and

James & Isey (Hawai‘i Premiere; Spotlight on Japan) - 11-NOV 7:30 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

High school student who lives in rural Aomori prefecture in northern Japan. Teased at school for her thick accent and Toya’s dialect she has become introverted and afraid to speak. Her only creative outlet is the shamisen, which she learned to play in the style of her mother and grandmother. When Ito sees

JANUARY - JUNE 1:00 PM | KAHALA
11-NOV 7:30 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

James, on a farm in Kawakawa, a small town on New Zealand’s North Island. Cheeky and vivacious, the 9-year-old is preparing to celebrate her centenary. Over the next seven days, as James organizes the festivities, capturing the last two decades of preparing his mum to cross over to the spirit world. JAMES & ISEY is a film about a life (and the cafe after all).

LAN YU (4K Restoration) (Hawai‘i Premiere; Spotlight on Hong Kong) - 10-NOV 8:00 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

It’s 1988 in Beijing. Domineering businessman has lived a life of success. But when he meets a young student from the countryside, Lan Yu, the two men become first sexually, then romantically involved. Based off Bai Tong’s novel, Beijing Comrades, widely hailed as a milestone in queer Chinese literature, LAN YU chronicles Changdong and Lan Yu’s relationship through a decade of political and economic upheaval in China.

LAST OF THE WOLVES (Hawai‘i Premiere; Spotlight on Japan) - 14-NOV 4:00 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

Set three years after THE BLOOD OF WOLVES, Detective Shuichi Hikita successfully implements Shogu’s plan to control the yakuza as Gokai, his slab partner, intended. But when a sinister individual is released from prison, Hikita’s and his allies’ lives spin out of control as they fight for peace between gangs and a criminal community in just the last. LAST OF THE WOLVES follows up the first film as an invention, crime thriller and a reinvention of the cop-versus-gangster genre.

LAST GOZE (World Premiere; Spotlight on Japan) - 22-NOV 4:00 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

In Seoul acting troupe is rocked by a #MeToo scandal, he escapes to San Francisco, a new start. Unlike Lui’s attempt to overcome loneliness, isolation and toxic relationships of his best friend Jim, who was a victim of the scandal, his transgression from the past disulates him from the present. Filmed on location in Seoul and San Francisco, LAST OF THE WOLVES is a contemporary story that interstines themes of sexual abuse, male culpability, migration and identity.

IT’S A SUMMER FILM! (Hawai‘i Premiere; Spotlight on Japan) - 10-NOV 8:00 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

It’s a film for children, a love letter to the affirmative power of the medium. It’s a summer film! FILM PROGRAM

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JUHNO (Hawai‘i Premiere; Spotlight on Korea) - 15-NOV 5:00 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

Juhno wanted nothing more than to be a great actor. But when his prestigious school acting team is rocked by a Falls church scandal, he escapes to San Francisco, a new start. Unlike Lui’s attempt to overcome loneliness, isolation and toxic relationships of his best friend Jim, who was a victim of the scandal, his transgression from the past disulates him from the present. Filmed on location in Seoul and San Francisco, JUHNO is a contemporary story that interstines themes of sexual abuse, male culpability, migration and identity.

KARMAKIN (North American Premiere) - 14-NOV 4:00 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

KARMAKIN is a mindbending sci-fi mystery that follows a boy named Lang Hong. Living in the ashes of Phoenix Pens, Cambodia, Lang is jolted awake by another dream of mysterious treasure he believes is rooted in his past life. He recruits his friends to help him search for the treasure, using “handshoes” to navigate through foreign memories. On their journey, Lang and his friends uncover conspiracies of reincarnation and confront the man behind it all.

JAMES & ISEY (Hawai‘i Premiere; Spotlight on Japan) - 11-NOV 7:30 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

James, on a farm in Kawakawa, a small town on New Zealand’s North Island. Cheeky and vivacious, the 9-year-old is preparing to celebrate her centenary. Over the next seven days, as James organizes the festivities, capturing the last two decades of preparing his mum to cross over to the spirit world. JAMES & ISEY is a film about a life (and the cafe after all).

JOHNNY (Hawai‘i Premiere; Panorama) - 9-NOV 7:30 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

An aging jockey (Clifton Collins Jr.), hopes to win one last title for his longtime trainer (Melki Parker), who has acquired what appears to be a championship horse. But the years - and injuries - have taken a toll on his body, throwing into question his ability to continue his lifelong passion. And the arrival of a young job advertisement for a ‘maid cafe’ in Aomori, she sees this as an opportunity to break free of her shyness. But it may be the shamisen that rescues her (and the cafe after all).

Plays: MIA, MARGARETTE & MARIE

KIM MIN-YOUNG OF THE REPORT CARD (Hawai‘i Premiere; Spotlight on Korea) - 22-NOV 4:00 PM | Kahala
9:38 - 28:30

Jung-hee and Min-young are best friends about to graduate high school. They study for their college entrance exams. Min-young ends up at Daegu University, while Jung-hee languishes in her homestay, working a repetitive job that she claims is a stepping stone to better things. One day, Min-young invites Jung-hee to meet her in Seoul. And so we follow the misadventures of these two girls-some real, some imagined, some remembered as their lives begin to diverge.
MAD GOD is a jaw-dropping stop-motion animated journey into madness, 30
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
DIRECTOR: PHIL TIPPETT
PANORAMA
HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

MAGGIE GYLLENHAL adapts Elena Ferrante’s acclaimed novel, deftly channeling
of motherhood, career turns, and past loves. Soon, under the burning sun of
mother. The chance encounter turns into an obsession that triggers memories

Like many other HIFF films, MAD GOD too is an instance of the medium’s
potential to bring forth narratives that would otherwise be impossible to
realize, challenging the conventions of what we consider ‘normal’ cinema.

THE MAGICIAN ON THE SKY Walk (Series)
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 103M
DIRECTOR: NONG CHA
PANORAMA
SURETEST: ON TAIWAN
TAINAN ROC | MANDARIN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 103M
DIRECTOR: NONG CHA

Budget cuts and a small student body cause Jiu Pu Elementary to be threatened
with closure. In an attempt to stay open, the school enters a choir competition.
The school tends to children from the Bunun tribes, an indigenous group from
Taiwan that is known for their musical ability. By coming back to their roots
with the help of tribe elders, can the children find their own voices and learn
to sing as a collective?

MIRACLE CITY KOZA
WORLD PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 111M
DIRECTOR: AKIHITO TSARA
5-NOV 11:00 AM | KAHALA
11-NOV 5:30 PM | PALACE

A young director is determined to realize his first feature film while balancing a
choice to continue his shoot, he is forced to make a series of unpredictable
decisions to turn his life around in this timely satire of the life of an artist in
the 21st century.

MISSION: JOY
HAWAI‘I PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR: PEGGY CALLAHAN, LOUIE PSIHOYOS

The book’s emotional energy through a sensibility entirely her own.

MIRACLE CITY KOZA
WORLD PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 111M
DIRECTOR: AKIHITO TSARA

11-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA
5-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA
13-NOV 1:00 PM | KAHALA

From the visionary director of TROPICAL MALADY, Apichatpong Weerasethakul
tells a serene tale of an expatriate woman named Jessica (Tilda Swinton). Ever
since Jessica is mysteriously awakened to a loud noise, she is unable to sleep
and experiences strange sensory issues. While this occurrence disturbs her,
she begins to look at the world differently. MEMORIA is a haunting, introspective
account of a woman trying to discover the origins of a noise only she can hear.
FILM PROGRAM

MONEYBOYS
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN | ASIAN CHERISH
TAIWAN ROC | MANDARIN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 120M
DIRECTOR: CHIUS COS LET
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
MONEYBOYS depicts the culture clash between China’s urban metropolises and rural villages as seen through the eyes of a young hustler named Fei. He finds work in the city as a moneyboy, but is devastated when he realizes that his family accepts his money but not his homosexuality, leading him to struggle to build up a new life.

NIGHT RAIDERS
HAWAIIAN PREMIERE
FILM FOR THOUGHT | INDIGENOUS LENS | HANA KA'AHU MÔHOI
CANADA, NEW ZEALAND | CREE, ENGLISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 97M
DIRECTOR: DEREK DOOLEY
6-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA
8-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA
2043 - In a dystopian future a military occupation controls disenfranchised cities in post-war North America. Children are considered property of the regime which trains them to fight. A desperate Cree woman joins an underground band to track him down, Minami masterminds a plan to sneak off from her summer camp and meet her enigmatic dad.

OFF COUNTRY
INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS
AUSTRALIA | ENGLISH | 74M
DIRECTOR: JOHN HARVEY, HEAN SHORING
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Every year, around 3000 Indigenous students receive scholarships to attend some of Australia’s most prestigious boarding schools. It is an immense opportunity, setting many of the youngsters on a path to a bright future, but it also means they must leave their homes and communities. The course of a year, OFF COUNTRY follows several such students, who, despite feeling from distinct nations and having vastly different circumstances, each share a commitment to doing themselves and their families proud - no matter the difficulties.

OFFICE ROYALE
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 112M
DIRECTOR: KAZUAKI SEKI
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Naoaki Tanaka (Naol) is an ordinary office lady, who witnesses constant violence between the warring OL factions within her place of employment. The factions are bilked by a nonconformist, Ren Hojo, who quickly defeats everyone within the company. After extending her control over many factions throughout the city, Ren is faced by an army of opponents, who challenge her position as top office lady. Meanwhile, Nao discovers new abilities that may allow her to secure that position for herself.

NINJA GIRL
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 84M
DIRECTOR: YU IRIE
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Directed by Yu Irie, NINJA GIRL goes beyond the stereotypes of ninja culture and informs her that she is actually the last survivor in a long lineage... of ninjas. The city servant takes it upon herself to make things right after her grandpa after admitting his role in concocting fraudulence to help push the act through.

NEMESIS
SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 95M
DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Troubled LA cyber cop Alex is ordered to apprehend his former partner Jared, accused of smuggling data to information terrorists planning to kill government officials. Continuing in Albert Pyun’s fascination with cyber dystopian settings, NEMESIS is Albert Pyun delving hard into William Gibson cyberpunk mode, but with multilingual backdrops and business-outa-and-machine-pistols aesthetic, and where shotguns and shoot ballistic missiles. It’s still balls-to-the-wall Pyun!

OKAGESAMA DE – HAIWA'I NIKKEI WOMEN’S TRAJECTORY
WORLD PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
JAPAN | ENGLISH | 112M
DIRECTOR: HIDEKI HAMAMOTO
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
On February 4, 1885, the first 150 Japanese immigrants arrived in Hawai'i to work in the plantations. Almost 150 years later, “Nikkei” have become one of the most influential groups to shape the Hawai'i we know today. In OKAGESAMA DE, filmmaker Hiroaki Matsumoto focuses on documenting testimonies and stories of Nikkei women, especially stories about their parents, the generation, unveiling stories about plantation life, WWll, and their contribution to Hawai'i in reshaping government and society during the post-war.

ONE SUMMER STORY
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 108M
DIRECTOR: SHINSU KATA
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
High school student Minami has a happy life with her mom and stepdad. She’s never met her biological father, but hasn’t been too bothered about that. However, when she receives a mysterious handwritten talisman it sets off her interest in her ‘real dad’. With help from classmate Shin, she learns that her father was the leader of an infamous cult who has disappeared. Determined to track him down, Minami musters a plan to sneak off from her summer swim camp and meet her enigmatic dad.

PARALLEL MOTHERS
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON SPAIN
SPAIN | SPANISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 123M
DIRECTOR: PEDRO ALMODOVAR
7-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA
Two single women meet in a hospital room where they are both going to give birth. One is middle aged and doesn’t want it, while the other is adolescent and scared. As they wander the hospital hallways in the late hours, the two women form a strong bond with one another as they both confront motherhood. The later film from Pedro Almodóvar is a unique chamber piece that continues melodrama with a serious take on his country’s unresolved past.

PARIS, 13TH DISTRICT
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON FRANCE
FRANCE | FRENCH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 84M
DIRECTOR: JACQUES ARDAGNI
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Emilie meets Camille who is attracted to Nira, who crosses paths with Amarti. Three girls and a boy – They’re friends, sometimes lovers and often both. The latest film from French auteur Jacques Audiard (A PROPHET), comes a unique adaptation of short stories from “Optic Nerve,” by famed cartoonist Adrian Tomine. The script, co-written by another famed author Coline Scimama (PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE) “frenetically” Tomine’s work into a sensual and sexy triptych.

THE PANTHERS (SERIES)
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS
NEW ZEALAND | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR: MIRI PAISAGA, TOM HEEN, NIA MAUFLE
NOV 15 – 28 | ONLINE
Set in Auckland in 1974, THE PANTHERS focuses on how a group of Polynesian students and street gangsters led by Tongan student Vili Tekela formed a revolutionary movement called the Polynesian Panthers, drawing inspiration from the American Black Panther Party. HIFF is honored to present the first three episodes of this groundbreaking New Zealand TV series.

OKAGESAMA DE - HAIWA'I NIKKEI WOMEN'S TRAJECTORY
WORLD PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
JAPAN | ENGLISH | 112M
DIRECTOR: HIDEKI HAMAMOTO
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
China’s Zhang Yimou is a giant of international cinema. His many films, including RAISE THE RED LANTERN, HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS, and SHADOW have cemented his place in history. With ONE SECOND, he offers a powerful reminder of why film matters. A touching drama set against striking desert landscapes and marked by Zhang’s characteristic flashes of humor, this is a future film cinema can inspire us.

RAISE THE RED LANTERN
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE
CHINA | CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 134M
DIRECTOR: ZHANG YIMOU
13-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA
Zheng Fubo is a student nurse and decides to work in the frontier of the bordering Inner Mongolia. New classmates, Tao Jiashu and Li Jiali both have difficult and complicated pasts, still they are able to become close. Tao Jiashu is a student from the American Black Panther Party. HIFF is honored to present the first three episodes of this groundbreaking New Zealand TV series.

THE PANTHERS (SERIES)
HAWAI'I PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS
NEW ZEALAND | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR: MIRI PAISAGA, TOM HEEN, NIA MAUFLE
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PAU HANA YEARS: GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF MOLOKAI HOMESTEADING (SERIES)

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

MADE IN HAWAI‘I
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH
120M
DIRECTOR: HUNTER HAWK
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Presented as part of the 100 Years: Hawaiian Homes Commission Act archival screening series, "Ulule" the Henry Ku‘uikula ‘Agaihi Moving Image Archive of Hawai‘i presents four restored episodes of the 1975 series PAU HANA YEARS with host Bob Barker which celebrated the 50th anniversary of the first Molokai homesteads.

PETIT MAMAN

PAIHI PREMIERE

FRANCE | FRENCH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 72M
DIRECTOR: CÉLINE SCIAMMA
7-NOV 2:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 –28 | ONLINE
8-year-old Nelly is spending time with her recently deceased grandmother’s house whilst her mother and father clean out the home. While her parents set about packing, Nelly explores the surrounding woods. There she encounters Marion, a girl her age with a striking resemblance. The two quickly become friends, they build a fort, make pancakes, and share about their lives. As their bond deepens, the past and the present merge revealing intergenerational insights and intimacies.

THE POWER OF THE DOG

PAIHI PREMIERE

AUSTRALIA, CANADA, NEW ZEALAND, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH
126M
DIRECTOR: JANE CAMPION
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Created by legendary director Jane Campion, Phil (Benedict Cumberbatch) is a Scottish surfing champion. Now follow Ben and his family as he trains to ride one of the biggest and most dangerous cold water waves in the world at Mullaghmore, Ireland. With this unerring wave, if he gets it right, he joins an elite group. If he gets it wrong, the consequences are terrifying. Danger, opportunity, and parental dilemma collide propelling Ben and his family towards an unknown destiny.

THE PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

PAI HI PREMIERE

ECAT DRINK, FILM.
JAPAN | ENGLISH, JAPANESE, SPANISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 79M
DIRECTOR: TSUMUKE SAITO
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
The PURSUIT OF PERFECTION follows four leading chefs in Japan today as they relentlessly work to pursue their dreams and perfect their cuisine. Featuring kaiseki chef Takekatsu Shigetaka of Gion Shiroheisei, pastry chef Kentatsu Shioi of Été, French-trained Yosuke Suga of Sugalabo, and sushi chef Takaaki Sugita of Nihonbashi-Kakigaracho Sugita. Presented in the style of CHEF’S TABLE, with mouth-watering photography of unbelievably amazing food, this film is best served with a delicious meal of your choice.

RE- FASHIONED

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

HONG KONG SAR CHINA | ENGLISH | 93M
DIRECTOR: JOANA KORENS
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
Three passionate Hong Kongers strive to disrupt the textile and recycling industries by innovating sustainable solutions to change minds and transition towards a circular economy before the landfill overfill. Their stories are set against a backdrop of the rise and fall of the ‘made in Hong Kong’ industrial era through the eyes of people who lived it, and begins to stitch together what the future of sustainable fashion and the beginnings of a circular economy in the city may look like.

ROCK BOTTOM RISER

DOCS BY CIVIL BEAT

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH
84M
DIRECTOR: ROB WILSON
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
A Scottish surfing champion. Now follow Ben and his family as he trains to ride one of the biggest and most dangerous cold water waves in the world at Mullaghmore, Ireland. With this unerring wave, if he gets it right, he joins an elite group. If he gets it wrong, the consequences are terrifying. Danger, opportunity, and parental dilemma collide propelling Ben and his family towards an unknown destiny.

THE RETURN: LIFE AFTER ISIS

PAIHI PREMIERE

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

SPANISH, UNITED KINGDOM | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR: ALMA SOTOMAYOR
NOV 4 – 28 | ONLINE
THE RETURN offers an intimate, up-close-and-personal portrait of the young women who were seduced to leave the west and devote their lives to ISIS. After the fall of ISIS in 2017, these women along with other families of ISIS fighters were placed in Prison Camp Roj in Syria, where they languished in limbo, stateless to this day. With unfiltered access, director Alba Sotomayor Clua and her team allow these women to tell their own stories for the first time.
**Films**

**The Salt in Our Waters**

**Hawai‘i Premiere**

**Green Screen**

**Bangladesh | Bengali with English Subtitles | 114M**

Director: Rehan Shaheen Sosnit

11-NOV 1:00 PM | KALUALI

Calm and competent, Grace (Brie Larsen) is a young counselor at a California care unit for at-risk teens (LaKeith Stanfield, Kaitlyn Dever). However, her cool facade begins to crack in the pressure cooker atmosphere as she and some of the unruly residents are reminded of past and present abuses. HIFF revisits A Master Class with Destin Daniel Cretton will follow the screening.

**The Seeds of Vandana Shiva**

**Hawai‘i Premiere**

**Green Screen**

**United States | English | 122M**

Director: Camilla Bockett, James Bockett

11-NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

The Seeds of Vandana Shiva profiles one of the most important activists and revolutionaries of the modern day: a strong-willed daughter of a Himalayan forest conservator engaged in a David and Goliah-esque strike against multinational corporations such as Monsanto who aim to patentize their highly profitable yet environmentally degenerative agricultural practices. In the global war for control over food production systems, Dr. Shiva fights on behalf of both people and Mother Earth, and only one side can possibly prevail.

**Spiritwalker**

**Hawai‘i Premiere**

**Spotlight on Korea**

**South Korea | Korean, with English subtitles | 109M**

Director: Yoon Jae-Rim

7-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA

12-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA

From the mind of writer/director Yoon Jae-Rim comes the inventive, high-concept action thriller SPIRITWALKER. A man awakens after a car crash in a body he doesn’t recognize with no idea who he is. Yet after spending the day searching for clues to his shock he finds himself suddenly in the body of another. This amnesiac soon discovers that his spirit is leaping to a new body every 12 hours, and each of the bodies in which he lands are connected to each other in some way.

**Short Term 12 with Destin Daniel Cretton**

**Special Presentation**

**Panorama**

**United States | English | 89M**

Director: Destin Daniel Cretton

11-NOV 11 - 20:30 PM | KALUALI

A first-time young female film director pushes her production to the brink. Frequently melting down, isolating herself from everyone, giving vague directions, and insisting on dozens of takes per scene, her mostly male subordinates bate her constantly. A pure and genuine artist at heart, however, the director insists on a specific vision to the very end. SHRIEKING IN THE RAIN ventures behind the scenes of filmmaking with a cast of misfits who are all a little overwhelmed by their shared circumstances.

**Shrieking in the Rain**

**North American Premiere**

**Spotlight on Japan**

**Japan | Japanese, with English subtitles | 102M**

Director: Eiji Uchida

6-NOV 11 - 28 | ONLINE

A ambitious king entrusts his youngest son with his triple-bladed projectile sword to use for revenge in the event of his death. Eleven years later, the son becomes a mercenary, but he re-discovers his royal heritage when he is recruited to help a princess interfere with the plans of those who still seek to conquer their lands. Initially dismissed by critics in 1982, the low-budget classic medieval fantasy THE SWORD AND THE SORCERER developed a cult following due to its seamless blend of fantasy and martial arts.

**The Sword and the Sorcerer**

**Special Presentation**

**Filmmaker in Focus: Albert Pyun**

**United States | English | 99M**

Director: Albert Pyun

6-NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

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**The Taking**

**Hawai‘i Premiere**

**Documentary Panorama**

**United States | English | 74M**

Director: Alain Dupre

7-NOV 2:30 PM | KAHALA

10-NOV 28 | ONLINE

A radical examination of Monument Valley’s representation in cinema and advertising since John Ford’s STAGECOACH (1939), THE TAKING scrutinizes how a site located on sovereign Navajo land came to embody the fantasy of the “Old West,” replete with racist overtones and government mismanagement.

**The Salt in Our Waters**

**Hawai‘i Premiere**

**Green Screen**

**South Korea | Korean, with English subtitles | 114M**

Director: Kim Jihoon

14-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA

7-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA

14-NOV 1:00 PM | KAHALA

14-NOV 3:00 PM | KAHALA

12-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA

17-NOV 1:00 PM | KAHALA

Calm and competent, Grace (Brie Larsen) is a young counselor at a California care unit for at-risk teens (LaKeith Stanfield, Kaitlyn Dever). However, her cool facade begins to crack in the pressure cooker atmosphere as she and some of the unruly residents are reminded of past and present abuses. HIFF revisits A Master Class with Destin Daniel Cretton will follow the screening.

**Teine Sā – The Ancient Ones**

**United States Premiere**

**Pacific Showcase | Indigenous Lens**

**New Zealand | English | 40M**

Director: Natasha Freshwater

11-NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Teine Sā is a supernatural archeology film based on 5 notorious goddesses of the Pacific. After centuries of slumber, the ‘Teine Sā’ or the ancient ones have been woken to come into the world once again. Set in modern-day, ordinary Polynesian women encounter with these ancient spirits who help them in their daily lives, passing on lessons to their ways. These tales of the unexpected take on many twists and turns, putting a chilling contemporary spin on these age old legends from Oceania.

**Ten Months**

**Hawai‘i Premiere**

**Spotlight on Korea**

**South Korea | Korean, with English subtitles | 95M**

Director: NamKeeung Sun

12-NOV 8:30 PM | KALUALI

11-NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Mira is a game engineer whose job is her biggest priority. It's the only part of her life that she's completely certain of. That is, until Mira awakens one day feeling nauseous. Panicked and in denial, Mira begins a combinatorial journey through program anomalies, discovering the voices, the joy, and the social connections behind being unmarried, job-oriented and pregnant. TEN MONTHS is a light-hearted tale, focusing on a young woman’s experience in a strange, new world.
FILMS

HIFF

a “technopoly.” Supported by Bennett Cerf’s astounding photography and a
and whether she is comfortable with his potential loss of human agency in
Awardee Natalia Almada. Almada asks what the world will be like for her child
USERS is the first English-language effort by 2012 MacArthur “Genius”
Winning for Best Directing, U.S. Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival,

November 15 – 28 | Online

In this triptych of short films, coincidence and chance encounters interrupt the
fragile reality of everyday life. Alternately playful, comedic, and cynical, WHEEL
OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY plumbs the theatrical depths beneath simple
stories: an unexpected love triangle, an attempt to blackmail a professor; and a
meeting between two of friends. Appearances deceive, actions lie, and people
are not who they seem to be. (Silver Bear winner, 2021 Berlin International Film Festival)

WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

DIRECTOR: NATALIA ALMADA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 127M

HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONENSE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 99M

 knights of korea

NOV 15 – 28 | Online

After being fired, replaced due to his inability to keep up, Chau re-enters his old
life: being a hitman for hire. He’s joined by his aging partners to resume their
special missions. But like their youth, their once-exciting job has disappeared,

TICK, TICK...BOOM!

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

DIRECTOR: DEBBIE LUM

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 115M

At Lowell High School, the top-ranked public high school in San Francisco, the
seniors are stressed out. As they prepare for the emotionally draining college
application process, students are keenly aware of the intense competition for

WE’VE ONLY GOT THIS WORLD

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

DIRECTOR: PETER MAKLER

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, WITH SUBTITLES | 79M

At Lowell High School, the top-ranked public high school in San Francisco, the
seniors are stressed out. As they prepare for the emotionally draining college
application process, students are keenly aware of the intense competition for

TRIAL HARDER!

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 95M

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seniors are stressed out. As they prepare for the emotionally draining college
application process, students are keenly aware of the intense competition for

TODAY WE ARE: A CHRONICLE OF RACISM IN AMERICA

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

DIRECTOR: EMILY KUNSTLER, SARAH KUNSTLER

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 117M

This powerful, multi-faceted documentary is a deep-dive into the past, present,
and future of anti-Black racism in the United States, from slavery to the modern myth of
a post-racial America. Interweaving lecture, personal anecdotes, interviews, and shocking revelations,

WELCOME TO WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

DIRECTOR: CARLO FRANCISCO MANATAD

PHILIPPINES | TAGALOG, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 77M

In Tacloban, the worst of Typhoon Haiyan has passed. But for Miguel and his
mother, Norma, the real ordeal is what comes after. As rumors of another
impending storm circulate, Miguel and his girlfriend Andrea try to board a Manilla-bound ship, and Norma searches for a man from her past. Processes of the living
and dead pass them by, more surreal than somber, challenging our three survivors
to make sense out of the seemingly senseless.

WHETHER THE WEATHER IS FINE

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

SOUTHEAST ASIA SHOWCASE

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 93M

This powerful, multi-faceted documentary is a deep-dive into the past, present,
and future of anti-Black racism in the United States, from slavery to the modern myth of
a post-racial America. Interweaving lecture, personal anecdotes, interviews, and shocking revelations,

WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN | ASIAN CINERAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 115M

Ryûsuke Hamaguchi is the first western director to win a Palme d’Or for his film
film festival. (Palme d’Or winner, 2019 Cannes Film Festival)

WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY

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film festival. (Palme d’Or winner, 2019 Cannes Film Festival)

WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN | ASIAN CINERAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 115M

Ryûsuke Hamaguchi is the first western director to win a Palme d’Or for his film
film festival. (Palme d’Or winner, 2019 Cannes Film Festival)

WELCOME TO WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

DIRECTOR: CARLO FRANCISCO MANATAD

PHILIPPINES | TAGALOG, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 77M

In Tacloban, the worst of Typhoon Haiyan has passed. But for Miguel and his
mother, Norma, the real ordeal is what comes after. As rumors of another
impending storm circulate, Miguel and his girlfriend Andrea try to board a Manilla-bound ship, and Norma searches for a man from her past. Processes of the living
and dead pass them by, more surreal than somber, challenging our three survivors
to make sense out of the seemingly senseless.

WHETHER THE WEATHER IS FINE

HAWAI‘I PREMIERE

SOUTHEAST ASIA SHOWCASE

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 93M

This powerful, multi-faceted documentary is a deep-dive into the past, present,
and future of anti-Black racism in the United States, from slavery to the modern myth of
a post-racial America. Interweaving lecture, personal anecdotes, interviews, and shocking revelations,

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a post-racial America. Interweaving lecture, personal anecdotes, interviews, and shocking revelations,
Featuring seven stories from seven auteurs from around the world, the film chronicles this unprecedented moment in time, and is a true love letter to the power of cinema and its storytellers.

ZOKKI
HAWAIʻI PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 113M
DIRECTOR: TAKUMI SAITOH, NAOTO TAKENAKA, TAKAYUKI YAMADA
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE
Based on several short stories by manga artist Hiroyuki Ohashi and co-directed by Takumi Saitoh, Naoto Takenaka, and Takayuki Yamada, ZOKKI is difficult to categorize, best described as an off-beat comedy from Japan that interweaves five stories into an intelligent yet often-absurd cohesive whole. All of the stories deal with ways in which loneliness can manifest itself into deception, including self-deception. By the end, these disparate narratives indeed collide into a satisfying conclusion.

ACM UHM SHOWCASE
AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE
A selection of the best new short films from students at the Academy for Creative Media at the University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa and college students studying in Hawai‘i.

AGAPE
DIRECTOR: JUSTIN KIMATA, CHRISTIAN LEE

BAREFOOT EMPRESS
DIRECTOR: VIKAS KHANNA KHANNA

EAGLES
DIRECTOR: KRISTY GUEVARA-FLANAGAN, MAITE ZUBIAURRE

F1-100
DIRECTOR: EMORY CHAO JOHNSON

IN THE SHADOW OF THE PINES
DIRECTOR: ANNE KOIZUMI

KALINGA (CARE)
DIRECTOR: KENT DONGUINES

PANT HOOT
DIRECTOR: RICHARD REENS

WE CAME BACK FOR YOU
DIRECTOR: AKIRA BOCH, TAIJI TERASAKI

RADICAL CARE: THE AUNTIE SEWING SQUAD
DIRECTOR: VALERIE SOE

PHOENIX BAKERY: SWEETS FOR THE SWEET
DIRECTOR: JANET CHEN

TANAGOKORO: A CULINARY PORTRAIT
DIRECTOR: VICTORIA FISTES, MASASHI NOZAKI

BLOOM
DIRECTOR: DESIRENE GAMBOA

DAY AND NIGHT
DIRECTOR: JEWEL RACASA

I WILL BE YOUR BREATH
DIRECTOR: MALIA ADAMS, ALESSANDRA GALLIAN

LAST NIGHT
DIRECTOR: DOUGLAS HABAN

MESSAGES
DIRECTOR: DANIEL OKA

ONIPA'
DIRECTOR: DYLLON CHING

LAST NIGHT
DIRECTOR: DOUGLAS HABAN

YELLO
DIRECTOR: KING YAW SOON

HIFF41 OHANA DAY AT BISHOP MUSEUM
On SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH, join HIFF and the Bishop Museum for a special presentation of HIFF’s KEIKI SHORTS Program, plus a Return Engagement of award winning short film KAPAEMAHU (HIFF 2020). The selection of short films will loop continuously from 10AM – 5PM, and viewing will be included with admission to the museum. Please bring your own lawn chairs and blankets for lawn seating. Chairs are not provided.

HIFF41 AND TAIJI TERASAKI PRESENT: KAIMANA
HAWAIʻI PREMIERE
NOVEMBER 5 - 28 | BISHOP MUSEUM
Hawaii-based artist Taiji Terasaki presents KAIMANA – an outdoor, walk-through art and film installation offering a cinematic work projected onto a dramatic, interactive mist curtain. The images projected onto the mist-screen reflect memories of old Hawai‘i and Pacific island life, highlighting fond memories of the Waikīkī Natatorium’s community and vibrant ocean culture.

THE TINY TREE
DIRECTOR: ANNE DUGGILL WOOD

YUAN YUAN AND THE HOLLOW MONSTER
DIRECTOR: CATHERINE CHEN

HAWAIʻI FILMS
THE YEAR OF THE EVERLASTING STORM
HAWAIʻI PREMIERE
GREEN SCREEN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 115M
DIRECTOR: ANTHONY CHEN, DAVID LOWERY, JAFAR PANAHI, LAURA POITRAS, DOMINGO SOTOMAYOR, MALIK VITTHAL, APICHATPONG WEERASETHAKUL
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE
14-NOV 6:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE
Available mainland USA and Hawai‘i
A selection of the best new short films from students at the Academy for Creative Media at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and college students studying in Hawai‘i.

LITTLE FISH
DIRECTOR: EDWARD COLUMBIA

NO PLACE LIKE KASAMA
DIRECTOR: KERRI PANG

FEATURING SEVEN STORIES FROM SEVEN AUTEURS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, THE FILM CHRONICLES THIS UNPRECEDEDENT MOMENT IN TIME, AND IS A TRUE LOVE LETTER TO THE POWER OF CINEMA AND ITS STORYTELLERS.

ONIPA’A
DIRECTOR: DYLLON CHING

LAST NIGHT
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YELLO
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RADICAL CARE: THE AUNTIE SEWING SQUAD
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SHORTS

GREEN SCREEN

AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A selection of environmentally focused short films from around the world in tandem with our GREEN SCREEN program at HIFF41.

CALL OF THE HEART
DIRECTOR: HARUN GULER

CITIZENS OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF
DIRECTOR: TOM ABOOD

FISHPOND: LOKO I'A
DIRECTOR: LEAH WARSHAWSKI

GALAPAGOS
DIRECTOR: ANTOINE JANSSENS

HE KAU HEAHEA A HI'IAKA
DIRECTOR: TY SANGA

I AM A PLASTIC
DIRECTOR: RICHARD HAMASAKI

LIFE BELOW WATER
DIRECTOR: BRIAN SCHULZ

PILI KA MO'O
DIRECTOR: JUSTYN AH CHONG

PLANT HEIST
DIRECTOR: GABRIEL DE CUBA, CHELSI DE CUBA

ZONA
DIRECTOR: MASAMI KAWAI

KEIKI

AVAILABLE
7-NOV | BISHOP MUSEUM | FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE | FREE

A selection of family friendly shorts appropriate for all ages, especially geared towards the keiki.

BLUE COOLER
DIRECTOR: LAURA MARGULIES

HOW TO CATCH A TAOTAOMONA
DIRECTOR: NEIL TINKHAM

MILK
DIRECTOR: CELIA JASPER

THE TINY TREE
DIRECTOR: ANNIE COXWOOD

YUAN YUAN AND THE HOLLOW MONSTER
DIRECTOR: CATHERINE CHEN

PACIFIC SHOWCASE

AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

This annual showcase of the very best short films by and about the first peoples of the Pacific presents a broad cross section of genres and themes, ranging from comedy, slice of life drama, magical realism and the varied stories and traditions of Pacific Islanders.

DISRUPT
DIRECTOR: JENNIFER TE ATAMIRA WARD-LEALAND

BLUE COOLER
DIRECTOR: LAURA MARGULIES

HOW TO CATCH A TAOTAOMONA
DIRECTOR: NEIL TINKHAM

MAHALĀNG
DIRECTOR: NATHANIEL BROWN, ELLIOT DEBRUYN, CALI QUAN

MALIHINI
DIRECTOR: NAKAO AIWAE-DEKKER

PILI KA MO'O
DIRECTOR: JUSTYN AH CHONG

PLANT HEIST
DIRECTOR: GABRIEL DE CUBA, CHELSI DE CUBA

ZONA
DIRECTOR: MASAMI KAWAI

MADE IN HAWAI'I

AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Presenting the very best in short films from kama'aina filmmakers, as well as stories based and shot in Hawai'i, the MADE IN HAWAI'I shorts program is an early indicator of Hawai‘i's emerging talents, both in front and behind the camera.

ALMA MOANA BOYS
DIRECTOR: KELLI GRACE

I WILL BE YOUR BREATH
DIRECTOR: MALIA ADAMS, ALESSANDRA GALLIAN

KA HÔ1 - THE RETURN
DIRECTOR: MITCHEL VERNES

LAST HAWAIIAN SUGAR
DIRECTOR: DEJA CRESCENCIA BERNARDO

PROGRAM ONE

AVAILABLE
4-NOV 7:00 PM | WARD
19-NOV 8:00 PM | PALACE
20-NOV 2:45 PM | WAIMEA
NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

HE KAU HEAHEA A HI'IAKA
DIRECTOR: TY SANGA

HOW TO CATCH A TAOTAOMONA
DIRECTOR: NEIL TINKHAM

KA MO'OPUNA I KE ALO, THE GRANDCHILD IN THE PRESENCE
DIRECTOR: SANGE SHIBA NASH

MAHALĀNG
DIRECTOR: NATHANIEL BROWN, ELLIOT DEBRUYN, CALI QUAN

MALIHINI
DIRECTOR: NAKAO AIWAE-DEKKER

PILI KA MO'O
DIRECTOR: JUSTYN AH CHONG

PLANT HEIST
DIRECTOR: GABRIEL DE CUBA, CHELSI DE CUBA

ZONA
DIRECTOR: MASAMI KAWAI

PROGRAM TWO

AVAILABLE
8-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA
20-NOV 2:00 PM | PALACE
21-NOV 4:45 PM | WAIMEA
NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

AREA 77
DIRECTOR: VEGARD BYE

BALLISTIC
DIRECTOR: ZACK HARRIS

BLUE COOLER
DIRECTOR: LAURA MARGULIES

GONE CAMPING
DIRECTOR: EMILY KIM

IN THE LIGHT
DIRECTOR: KAUIER SODINAS

MALIHINI
DIRECTOR: NAKAO AIWAE-DEKKER

PILI KA MO'O
DIRECTOR: JUSTYN AH CHONG

SINA MA TINIRAU
DIRECTOR: GAVIN ARUCAN, NILSON HERNANDO

URCHIN
DIRECTOR: TADIA POLEASA

PROGRAM THREE

AVAILABLE
13-NOV 11:30 AM | KAHALA
18-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHULUANU
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

FISHPOND: LOKO I'A
DIRECTOR: LEAH WARSHAWSKI

HONOLULU’S NAUGHTIEST NIGHTCLUB OWNER
DIRECTOR: RICK QUAN

NO MAN IS AN ISLAND
DIRECTOR: LIZ BARNEY

OUR MAKAWAO
DIRECTOR: ROBERT STONE, NATTY RAMASHITA

PROGRAM ONE

ALA MOANA BOYS
DIRECTOR: KELLI GRACE

I WILL BE YOUR BREATH
DIRECTOR: MALIA ADAMS, ALESSANDRA GALLIAN

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SHORTS

PANORAMA

AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A selection of fiction shorts from around the world in tandem with our global Panorama program at HIFF41.

SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA

AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A selection of some of the best new short films from South Korea, presented as part of HIFF’s 2021 focus on new voices in Korean cinema.

ALA KACHUU - TAKE AND RUN
DIRECTOR: MARIA BRENDLE

BEND
DIRECTOR: GEORGIA GOGGIN

THE COCKTAIL PARTY
DIRECTOR: JESSICA SANDERS

FROM HERE
DIRECTOR: SAMANTHA FUTERMAN

METRO6
DIRECTOR: GEOFF HECHT

A NICKNAME
DIRECTOR: SEAN SANKALP RAJU

SUENVO RICO
DIRECTOR: KRISTIAN MERCADO

SUNSHINE CITY
DIRECTOR: EVAN LAMAGNA

CASUALLY, FOR THE WORSE
DIRECTOR: KIM YE-WON

FANNING
DIRECTOR: JEON YEJIN

GEORGIA
DIRECTOR: PAK JAYIL

HAIRY MONSTER
DIRECTOR: KIM OH JISOOK

INTERPRETING HYUN-JU
DIRECTOR: KANG JI-HYO

JANGMI
DIRECTOR: LEE KI-HYUK

NOSSES ON THE RUN
DIRECTOR: KIM BORAM

PLOT
DIRECTOR: JEON IN-HWAN

TAKE ME HOME, COUNTRY ROADS
DIRECTOR: JEON SIH HYOONG

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE RAINBOW STATE
DIRECTOR: JINYOUNG LEE WON

Every great film is a journey. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show.
HIFF XR

Comprising Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), Mixed Reality (MR), and beyond, Extended Reality (XR) bridges the real world with the boundlessness of our imagination! HIFF XR is proud to present a free program of VR and AR pieces by VR storytellers and XR world builders from around the globe. Step into our HIFF XR LOUNGE at the Entrepreneurs Sandbox for access to VR headsets that will immerse you completely within the digital world. Both our in-person and online audience can view select AR and 360° web-based experiences from anywhere through a mobile device or computer. Discover the power of XR and allow it to transport you through the dynamic and inspiring vehicle of immersive storytelling.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE.
For more information or to reserve your place, visit HIFF.ORG

LOCATION
HIFF XR LOUNGE
ENTREPRENEURS SANDBOX
NOV 20 - 21 | 12:00PM - 6:00PM

Immerse yourself in the wondrous stories and interactive experiences through Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR), showcased at our HIFF XR LOUNGE. View our selection of VR and AR experiences and book a 40 minute session by visiting us online at HIFF.ORG. For the safety of our staff and guests, walk-ins are welcome, however RSVP is highly recommended.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION
VR might not be suitable for all users. Young users may find it difficult to comfortably wear a headset, so VR is not appropriate for children under the age of 8. In some cases, participating in VR experiences may cause discomfort for some people, including nausea, dizziness, headaches, disorientation or injury. Due to executive order, everyone entering must provide proof of a COVID-19 vaccine or negative test. Masks must be worn at all times. CDC-approved sanitation supplies will be used to sanitize headsets before and after each usage.

XR PROJECTS ONLINE
November 4-28, 2021
HIFF.ORG

No matter where you are in the world, our selection of AR and 360° web-based experiences are easily accessible through your mobile device. Learn more about the art pieces available to our online audience by visiting HIFF.ORG from November 4-28, 2021.

XR PROGRAMS
XR TALK
NOV 19 | 5:00PM - 8:00PM

REELLY! RSVP REQUIRED
Join us at our HIFF XR Weekend Launch Party to learn about the burgeoning spaces of XR through the personal journeys of XR Artists, SUTU and JULIANA LOH. Guests must RSVP online at HIFF.ORG.

VR FILMS
HIFF’s selection of awe-inspiring VR pieces offer a look into the ever-evolving possibilities of storytelling. Sift through a wartime diary in a LIFE IN PIECES as writings and drawings come alive to reveal a Japanese-American teenager’s story during WWII. Get swept away in SYMPHONY, a musical journey through both real and imaginary settings by some of the best-known compositions in classical music. Explore the concept of the Embodied Cognition in the mystical SAMSARA. Follow the journey of life in NAMOD, an animated narrative poem that’s deeply personal yet surprisingly universal. Interact with surprising characters on a strange planet in the fun-filled animated experience BONFIRE.

SPOTLIGHT ON XR ART
Artist: SUTU
Move through the VR neon world of THE GIRL AND THE CRANE to follow a sea creature that is like the ‘taxi’ of the sea, whose main job is to transport all the little fish musicians in his/her mouth to the next musical location.

Artist: JULIANA LOH
As a tribute to the healers of the world amidst the current pandemic, THE BLUE BOAT offers a VR 360° guided tour of a dream-like paradise world that brings hope to humanity. Explore the VR and 360° web-based experiences of AWAKEN THE GIANTS: SINISTERIA VR to bring balance to the battle between nature, humanity and technology. Meander through the underwater world of the fun-filled BIG ORANGE FISH as it comes to life through augmented reality.

To learn more about HIFF’s XR Spotlight Artists, visit HIFF.ORG.

SPOTLIGHT ON XR ART

AMAPOLISA
Like a drug, this VR piece will hit you when you least expect it, an experience that will transport you to an ever-evolving possibilities of storytelling.

FILM PROGRAM

2021 XR EXPERIENCES

AWAKEN THE GIANTS: SINISTERIA VR
A precarious symmetry persists between nature, humanity and technology. We are asked to play a game of hide and seek in VR to figure out how to bring balance to this battle. This VR art piece will be available in-person with the 360° web-based version debuting at HIFF XR. The web-based experience is accessible to our online audience.

BIG ORANGE FISH
Through a fun and lighthearted augmented reality (AR) experience, you’ll get to explore the underwater world through your mobile device from anywhere in the world. People of all ages can appreciate this art piece featuring a sea creature that is like the ‘taxi’ of the sea, whose main job is to transport all the little fish musicians in his/her mouth to the next musical location.

THE BLUE BOAT
This VR art piece that we’ll be showcasing as a 360° guided tour, was created for the healers of the world and journeys into a dream-like paradise world. The experience depicts a tribal-looking man and woman delivering Pandora’s Box and Light to the world. They are sent to guard the treasure and to bring hope to humanity especially in the midst of the pandemic.

BONFIRE
Through this interactive animated VR experience starring comedian, writer and actress Ali Wong, you are on a mission to discover a new home for the human race. When tragedy strikes and your spaceship crash lands on a strange planet, you have only your robot sidekick and the light of your makeshift bonfire to guide you. And what’s that sneaking out around there in the dark alien jungle?

SPOTLIGHT ON XR ART

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To learn more about HIFF’s XR Spotlight Artists, visit HIFF.ORG.

A LIFE IN PIECES: THE DIARY AND LETTERS OF STANLEY HAYAMI
This VR film brings to life the wartime diary of Stanley Hayami, a Japanese-American teenager imprisoned with his family during WWII at the Heart Mountain camp in Wyoming. Stanley’s writings and drawings literally come alive using live-action characters, QV3 3D animation, and photogrammetry of real barracks.

MODERN POLAXIS
Modern Polaxis is a paranoid time traveller that writes about all his strange experiences in his private journal, which he hides away in a layer of augmented reality (AR). This experience is accessible through the app, book, and posters.

NAMOO
Namo is a narrative poem that comes to life as an animated VR film. Inspired by Erick Oh’s grandfather’s death, it follows his journey from birth to the end of his life. With a tree as a metaphor for a man’s life, you’ll experience his story through objects from times he’d rather soon forget. The film is a deep personal yet surprisingly universal piece that will resonate with each viewer.

OFING
On a volcanic island located southeastern of Taiwan lies an Austronesian descent - the Tao tribe. A-Lan, one of the younger generations who return home, has found a way of living, yet he is still torn between traditional and modern lives. Step onto the island and surrounding waters through this VR experience.

SAMSARA
In this interactive VR experience, audiences can explore the concept of the Embodied Cognition. After hundreds of years of space travel, we have re-engineered our DNA and artificially evolved into a new form. As a result, the viewer is transformed into different beings’ bodies and experiences the world from entirely new perspectives.

SYMPHONY
Symphony is an immersive VR experience that takes spectators on a journey through emotions and music. Led by Gustavo Dudamel, viewers are placed inside both the orchestra and the instruments themselves, right at the heart of music. Throughout different real and imaginary settings, a unique musical experience will be lived, accompanied by some of the best-known compositions in classical music.
Shining a spotlight on Hawaii’s entrepreneurs.

Small business owners have faced incredible challenges this past year and a half. For over 60 years, we’ve supported Hawaii’s entrepreneurs, through good times and bad.

Learn more at HawaiiNational.Bank
HIFF EDUCATION

As the vanguard forum of international cinematic achievement in the Asia-Pacific region, HIFF endeavors to recognize new and emerging talent, promote career development and original collaborations through innovative education programs, and facilitate dynamic cultural exchange through the cinema arts. HIFF is proud to offer free exciting film programs for 6-12 students throughout Hawaii. The mission of our Education Program is three-fold:

- To inspire students to pursue excellence in film and video production
- To broaden their understanding of the media industry
- To sharpen their critical viewing skills and cultural awareness

Students will have the opportunity to participate in THREE programs:

YOUTH EDUCATION SCREENINGS PROGRAM

Free virtual screenings of highly acclaimed films that bear cultural and educational significance followed by a live virtual Q&A session.

GUEST FILMMAKER PROGRAM

The following professionals in the filmmaking industry have volunteered their time to share their expertise with Hawaii’s youth through hybrid classroom visits.

- Justyn Ah Cheng
- Henry Ian Cusick
- Gerard Elmore
- Aizzah Fatima
- Keili Grace
- Kier-La Janisse
- Ciara Lacy
- Erin Lau
- Laura Margulies
- Anne Misawa
- Rick Quan
- Roshan Sethi
- Karii Seni
- Matt Yamashita
- Christopher Makoto Yogi
- Mitchel Viernes
- Annie Cusick Wood

MCINERNY FOUNDATION

Kosasa Foundation

DANIEL K. INOUYE INSTITUTE STUDENT FILM INITIATIVE

As we partner with organizations like the Daniel K. Inouye Institute, we work to build a better future by working with young filmmakers who have a powerful voice to reimagine a new world. For the 2021 edition, the theme is “The Greatest Generation & the COVID Generation: Hope & Resiliency in Unprecedented Times.”

Young Americans who are coming of age in a time of the COVID-19 pandemic are faced with unprecedented challenges and isolation. Similar to those of the “Greatest Generation,” or those who were shaped by the Great Depression and World War II, how will youth of the “COVID Generation” now decide how history will define them? For this year’s prompt, 6th - 12th grade students across Hawaii created a short film through the lens of resiliency and hope answering what it will take for us as a state, a nation, and a world to move forward.

The Daniel K. Inouye Institute was established in 2013 to preserve Senator Inouye’s papers and tell his life story; support STEM education, civics learning and international educational-cultural exchanges; and establish a repository of the Asian American/Pacific experience.

FUTURE FILMMAKERS Q&A SESSION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Finalists attend a private Future Filmmakers Q&A session that features a celebrity youth ambassador alongside a moderator of the discussion, Philip Chung of You Offend Me, You Offend My Family (YOMYOMF). Past guests include actors Sung Kang, Phillipa Soo, Jacob Batalon, and Harry Shum, Jr. The session is followed by an Awards Ceremony where a 1st and 2nd place winner is announced for both middle school and high school divisions. Finalists also receive student filmmaker badges that provide them with access to HIFF, including free screenings and panel talks during the festival. The top two winners are also awarded with a cash prize from the Daniel K. Inouye Institute.

FUTURE FILMMAKERS SHOWCASE

Students have their short film presented virtually during the 41st annual Hawaii International Film Festival. This year is the first year we are spotlighting a student film from Alaska in partnership with Ted Stevens Foundation.

AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE | FREE
Presented by THE VILCEK FOUNDATION

The New American Perspectives program shines a spotlight on foreign-born filmmakers, celebrating the extraordinary contributions of immigrant artists to contemporary cinema and media in the United States. The program centers the voices of immigrant artists through film screenings, filmmaker Q&As, a filmmaker master class, and a panel discussion featuring all seven 2021 New American Perspectives filmmakers. We are delighted to introduce this year’s cohort, which includes Natalia Almada (b. Mexico), Aizzah Fatima (b. Saudi Arabia), Kier-La Janisse (b. Canada), Roshan Sethi (b. Canada), Karan Soni (b. India), Shih-Ching Tsou (b. Taiwan), and Geraldine Viswanathan (b. Australia). A number of this year’s New American Perspectives filmmakers will also participate in HIFF’s Guest Filmmaker Program, which brings filmmakers from around the globe into K-12 classrooms in Hawai‘i to speak with students about their careers in filmmaking.

2021 FILMS

2021 FILMMAKERS

NAP FEATURE FILMMAKER: ROSHAN SETHI
Roshan Sethi, born and raised in Canada, is a radiation oncologist and filmmaker. His premiere film at HIFF—the romantic comedy, 7 DAYS—marks his directorial debut. Sethi co-wrote the film with Karan Soni in the early days of the COVID-19 lockdown. He co-wrote the forthcoming feature film, CALL: JANIE—starring Elizabeth Banks and Sigourney Weaver—with Hayley Shor. He is the creator of television’s THE RESIDENT.

NAP FEATURE FILMMAKER: KARAN SONI
Karan Soni is an actor, producer, and screenwriter. Born in New Delhi, India, Soni moved to the United States to study at the University of Southern California. While in School, he landed a role in SAFETY NOT GUARANTEED. Since then, he has starred in several features, including the DEADPOOL movies, PAUL FEIG’S GHOSTBUSTERS, and ALWAYS BE MY MAYBE. He has been a series regular on television’s BETAS, OTHER SPACE, and BLUNT TALK, and currently stars in television’s, MIRACLE WORKERS. Soni co-wrote, starred in, and executive produced 7 DAYS.

NAP FEATURE FILMMAKER: GERALDINE VISWANATHAN
Geraldine Viswanathan is an Australian-born actor of Indian and Swiss descent. In 2016, she moved to Los Angeles to pursue work in film and television. Her breakout role came in the 2018 comedy, BLOCKERS; she had subsequent starring roles in 2019’s BAD EDUCATION and 2020’s THE BROKEN HEARTS GALLERY. She is known for her work on television’s MIRACLE WORKERS, opposite New American Perspectives filmmaker Karan Soni.

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES PROGRAM

2021 FILMS

7 DAYS
HAWAII PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR/WRITER: ROSHAN SETHI | CO-WRITER/LEAD ACTOR: KARAN SONI
LEAD ACTRESS: GERALDINE VISWANATHAN

AMERICANISH
HAWAII PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR/WRITER: IMAN ZAWAHRY CO-WRITER/LEAD ACTRESS: AZZAH FATIMA

RED ROCKET
HAWAII PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH | 120M
DIRECTOR: SEAN BAKER | PRODUCER: SHIH-CHING TSOU

WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED
HAWAII PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 193M
DIRECTOR: KIER-LA JANISSE

USERS
HAWAII PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH | 81M
DIRECTOR/NARRATOR: NATALIA ALMADA

13-NOV 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM | HIFF.ORG, FACEBOOK LIVE, & YOUTUBE

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES MASTER CLASS: 7 DAYS

HIFF and the Vilcek Foundation are honored to present a special Master Class with 7/Days filmmakers Roshan Sethi, Karan Soni, and Geraldine Viswanathan. Moderated by HIFF Artistic Director Anderson Le, the discussion will be streamed and shared on Facebook Live, YouTube, and HIFF.org.

13-NOV 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM | HIFF.ORG, FACEBOOK LIVE, & YOUTUBE

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES IN FILMMAKING PANEL

The Vilcek Foundation raises awareness of immigrant contributions in the United States and fosters appreciation of the arts and sciences. We accomplish our mission through our prizes program and through partnerships like the New American Perspectives program at HIFF. The innovative and perspective of foreign-born artists have made an indelible impact on filmmaking in the United States—expanding the boundaries of the medium as an art form and inspiring the next generation of artists and storytellers.
With the support of the Hong Kong Economic Trade Office of San Francisco (HKETO SF), HIFF continues its tradition of honoring great cinema from the region by honoring renowned Hong Kong New Wave master Stanley Kwan.

With a long career as both a director and producer, Stanley Kwan is one of the most prominent players in the Hong Kong film industry. An award winning filmmaker, Kwan first gained international acclaim with his third feature ROUGE (1987). He went on to direct Berlin award-winner CENTER STAGE (1991) starring the ephemeral Maggie Cheung in one of her best performances, and the renowned HOLD YOU TIGHT in 1997. HIFF is proud to present a special 4K Restoration of Kwan’s stunning tragic romance LAN YU (2001) which stands the test of time as one of Hong Kong cinemas greatest films. The Festival will also present a special Live-Streaming discussion with Stanley Kwan during the Festival.

In tandem with this program, HIFF will be presenting an online screening of CENTER STAGE as part of the Festival’s monthly HIFF SELECTS program.

**NEW HONG KONG CINEMA**

HIFF will also screen five new Hong Kong films this year, including a special Gala Screening of Anita Mui biopic ANITA, in theaters only. This long-awaited film traces the life of Canto-pop queen Anita Mui from her childhood through her incredible success as a singer and actress. Other films this year include the epic action film LIMBO from director Soi Cheang, Ricky Ko’s aging hitman dramedy TIME, hard-hitting social drama DRIFTING starring Francis Ng, and the crime thriller HAND ROLLED CIGARETTE starring Gordon Lam Ka Tung.

**SCREENINGS**

**LAN YU (4K RESTORATION)**

HAWAI’I PREMIERE

HONG KONG SAR CHINA 2001 | CANTONESE

WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 86M

DIRECTOR: STANLEY KWAN

6-NOV 3:00 PM | KHL

See Page 29 for film details.

**CENTER STAGE**

SPECIAL SCREENING

HONG KONG 1991 | CANTONESE, MANDARIN

WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 154M

DIRECTOR: STANLEY KWAN

NOV 1 - 30 | ONLINE USA | HIFF SELECTS PROGRAM

Please see the HIFF SELECTS webpage for details: https://hiff.org/hiff-selects-2/

**DISCUSSION**

**IN CONVERSATION WITH STANLEY KWAN**

An in-depth conversation with Stanley Kwan will be presented live and online. Viewers can join the conversation and participate via the HIFF Facebook Page and the HIFF Youtube Channel.

9-NOV 5:00 PM | LIVESTREAM

**ANITA**

UNITED STATES PREMIERE

HONG KONG SAR CHINA 2021 | CANTONESE

WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 136M

DIRECTOR: LONGMAN LEUNG

7-NOV 7:00 PM KHL

10-NOV 5:00 PM KHL

See Page 29 for film details.

**LIMBO**

HAWAI’I PREMIERE

HONG KONG SAR CHINA 2021 | CANTONESE

WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 118M

DIRECTOR: SOI CHEANG

10-NOV 8:00 PM KHL

14-NOV 8:00 PM KHL

See Page 29 for film details.

**DRIFTING**

HAWAI’I PREMIERE

HONG KONG SAR CHINA 2020 | CANTONESE

WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 112M

DIRECTOR: JUN LI

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE USA

See Page 24 for film details.

**HAND ROLLED CIGARETTE**

HAWAI’I PREMIERE

HONG KONG SAR CHINA 2020 | CANTONESE

WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 100M

DIRECTOR: CHAN KIN LONG

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE USA

See Page 27 for film details.

**TIME**

HAWAI’I PREMIERE

HONG KONG SAR CHINA 2020 | CANTONESE

WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 99M

DIRECTOR: RICKY KO

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE USA

See Page 38 for film details.
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SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN

An official Cannes Film Festival selection, and European co-production, MONEYBOYS from director C.B. Yi. Although this LGBTQ drama is set in South China, the production was shot entirely in Taiwan with support from the Taipei Film Commission after securing mainland production approval ran aground on the ostensible subject matter. A graduate of the Vienna Film Academy where he received tutelage from Michael Haneke, the director adopts a formal style that is measured, deliberate and visually sophisticated, which lends to the film's appeal among global arthouse crowds.

LISTEN BEFORE YOU SING, from director Yang-Chih-I, follows the underdog story to a tea, in an Asian riff of THE BAD NEWS BEARS but set in a children's choir facing budget cuts. Meanwhile, SOUNDS OF TAIWAN, from director Heather Tsui (LONG TIME NO SEA, HIFF39), chronicles the evolution of a composer's magnum opus through a decades long journey, as he became enamored with the sights, sounds, and unique culture of the island nation.

VR SHOWCASE

Finally, we continue Taiwan’s innovation in the XR space with the inclusion of two VR project: OFFING, from Shih-An Chen, a VR short documentary about a young indigenous person who returns to their hometown; and SAMSARA (Director: Huang Hsin-chien) is an innovative VR piece that explores the concept of ‘Embodied cognition.’

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PACIFIC SHOWCASE

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Hō‘omaika‘i HIFF and Mahalo to HIFF’s Executive Director Beckie Stocchetti for establishing this award in honor of Hawai‘i’s talented filmmakers.

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