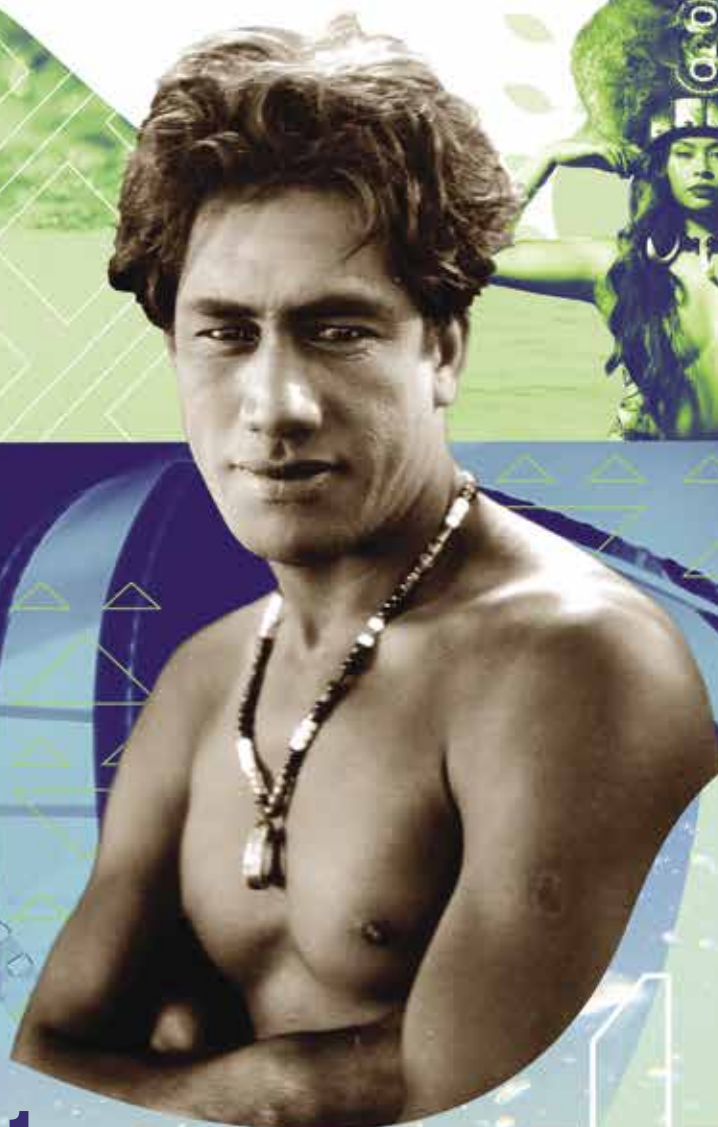


HAWAII INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



PRESENTED BY HALEKULANI

HIFF.ORG



HIFF 41 PROGRAM GUIDE

ONLINE
NOV 4-28, 2021

IN-THEATER OAHU
NOV 4-14, 2021

IN-THEATER NEIGHBOR ISLANDS
NOV 18-21, 2021



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WWW.HALEKULANI.COM

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Halekulani

On the Beach at Waikiki

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Jeff Bell - President
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- Jake Houseman
- Bryan Luke
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- Dick Oshima
- Brian Uy
- Indru Watumull
- Owen Ogawa - Director Emeritus

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, while 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 pinnacles 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 tastemaker, 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 HAWAI'I FILM AWARDS

HIFF will present the MADE IN HAWAI'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 HAWAI'I Award, including a cash prize of \$10,000. Nominees will be pre-selected by the Festival's programmers.



KAU KA HÖKŪ AWARD PRESENTED BY HAWAIIAN AIRLINES

The KAU KA HÖKŪ (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 HAWAI'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 film 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, Taiwan, 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 XR
NOVEMBER 19 - 21, 2021

BIG ISLAND, KAUAI, & MAUI

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 | 2:00PM - 6:00PM | Closed Sundays
NOV 4 - 28 | 9:00AM - 8:00PM | Daily
NOV 4 - 14 | In person 1 hour prior to showtime

HIFF41 PASS INFORMATION

LIMITED ACCESS PASS

\$100 General Public / \$80 HIFF Members | Limited Online Film Access

- Watch 78 Features** & over 100 Short films during the Festival Dates, November 4 - 28

**20 Films available in Hawai'i-Only. Select titles have 'limited seating' for LIMITED ACCESS pass holders (watch early to ensure access!). This information is noted on the film listings.

INDIVIDUAL / HALE VIRTUAL PASS

Individual - \$150 General Public / \$130 HIFF Members | All Online Film Access

Hale - \$200 General Public / \$180 HIFF Members | All Online Film Access

- Individual Pass;** good for one device at a time
- Hale (Household) Pass;** good for multiple devices
- Watch 93 Features** & over 100 Short films during the Festival Dates, November 4 - 28
- Guaranteed Access to ALL online programming

**20 Films available in Hawai'i-Only. This information is noted on the film listings.

ALL-ACCESS PASS

\$450 General Public / \$400 HIFF Members | All Online and Theater Screenings

- Watch 124 Features** & over 100 Short films during the Festival Dates, November 4 - 28
- Guaranteed Access to ALL online programming
- Access to ALL HIFF41 In-theater screenings, November 4 - 14, 2021. RSVP REQUIRED. (*opening night not included)
- Personalized Printed HIFF Pass

**20 Online Films available in Hawai'i-Only. This information is noted on the film listings.

SUPPORTER PASS

\$900 General Public / \$800 HIFF Members | All Online & In Person Film Access

- Watch 125 Features** & over 100 Short films online during the Festival Dates, November 4 - 28
- Guaranteed Access to ALL online programming
- Access to ALL in person screenings included. RSVP REQUIRED for Reserved Seating
- Personalized Printed HIFF Pass & Special HIFF40 Gift Bag Included**7 Films available in Hawai'i-Only. This information is noted on the film listings.

**20 Online Films available in Hawai'i-Only. This information is noted on the film listings.

Go to www.hiff.org or call the HIFF Box Office 1-808-447-0577 to learn more about the HIFF41 passes.

HIFF41 INDIVIDUAL FILM TICKETS

ONLINE TICKETS

\$8 General Public | \$6 HIFF Members

- Tickets are for a single film only
- Films are available for viewing during the Festival Dates, November 4 - 28
- Once you begin watching your film, you have 72 hours before it will expire*

*All films will expire at 11:59PM on NOV 28

IN PERSON SCREENING TICKETS

Advance Tickets

\$14 General Public | \$12 Senior/Student/Military

*HIFF Members receive \$2 OFF all tickets

Day of Show

\$15 All Patrons

NO DISCOUNTS DAY OF SHOW

Go to www.hiff.org or call the HIFF Box Office 1-808-447-0577 to purchase tickets.

PAYMENT METHODS

All major credit cards, checks and cash are accepted.

HOW TO HIFF ONLINE

WHERE CAN I WATCH HIFF41 ONLINE FILMS?

The HIFF41 Program will be ONLINE at HIFF.ORG!

- All HIFF41 Online films will be available to view online at hiff.org during the Festival dates.
- Watch the films directly on your computer, tablet, phone, Amazon Fire TV, Roku or Apple TV any day or time during the Festival dates.
- ALL films will be available to view in the state of Hawai'i, and 80% of films will be available nationwide.
- Special live Filmmaker Q&As and Panels will also take place at specified times during the festival dates and will be broadcast simultaneously online and Facebook. Information on hiff.org

HOW DO I WATCH HIFF41 ONLINE FILMS?

- Browse HIFF41 Films on www.hiff.org
- Purchase a PASS on the Festival Passes webpage, OR purchase an individual film ticket by adding tickets on the film page.
- After Pass or Ticket purchase, look for an email with your link during the festival dates, if you purchased prior to November 4th your links for individual films will be emailed the morning of November 4th. To access your pass, go to watch.hiff.org and enter your email and password you created for your online Elevent account.
- Grab your popcorn and kakimochi and watch on your device November 4 -28!

Optional: Download the Hawai'i International Film Festival' app on your Amazon Fire TV, ROKU or Apple TV to watch directly on your television.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN LIVE Q&AS AND PANELS?

All Filmmaker Q&As and HIFF TALKS are FREE to attend and will be accessible online via HIFF.ORG, YouTube, and Facebook Live.

- Browse the schedule of filmmaker Q&As and HIFF TALKS on the FILMS & EVENTS page on HIFF.ORG
- Choose which ones you want to attend and mark your calendars!
- Pop on to HIFF.ORG LIVE Feed, the HIFF Facebook page or HIFF's YouTube Channel and join the discussion!
- Check your email for the event Zoom link, sent to you on the day of the event. Open the link and join the discussion! You can also watch on Facebook Live via the HIFF Facebook page.

Optional: Can't make the TALK during the scheduled time? No worries! All Q&As and TALKS will be recorded and available to view later on HIFF.ORG and Facebook.

Bonus: Many films will also have pre-recorded Q&As that will be available for viewing anytime from November 4 - 28 on the HIFF Streaming app, at HIFF.ORG, and on Facebook.

HOW TO HIFF IN PERSON (OAHU)

TICKETHOLDER ENTRY

- Tickets can be purchased in advance online over the phone, or in person at the theater
- Please have your ticket saved to your phone or printed for touch-less entry into the venue, your ticket will be scanned by a box office representative.

PASSHOLDER ENTRY

- All PASSHOLDERS must pre-register for screening entry
- Registrations will be checked by a Staff Member at the theater and your pass scanned

THEATER ARRIVAL & SEATING

- In alignment with Consolidated Theatres COVID policy, patrons may not arrive more than 30 minutes before showtime
- Upon arrival, pass holders will be seated first 30 minutes prior followed by ticket holders on a first come first served basis by a Staff Member. This is to ensure the safety of patrons in accordance with COVID guidelines

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 (two weeks since a single dose vaccine, or two weeks since the second dose of a two dose vaccine); or (b) a negative PCR test for Covid-19 (taken within 48 hours of the event). Tests will not be provided at the event.

VENUES

BPBM – The Great Lawn
Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum
1525 Bernice Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

WRD – Consolidated Theatres Ward with TITAN LUXE
Ward Entertainment Center
1044 Auahi St
Honolulu, HI 96814

KHL – Consolidated Theatres Kahala
Kahala Mall
4211 Waialae Ave #3080
Honolulu, HI 96816

SBX – Entrepreneur's Sandbox
643 Ilalo Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

HOW TO HIFF NEIGHBOR ISLANDS

HIFF HILO SHOWCASE

BIG ISLAND BOX OFFICE AND 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

38 Haili Street
Hilo, HI 96720
PH: (808) 934-7010

BOX OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM - 3:00PM Weekdays
Closed State Holidays
Tickets available at the door for all screenings

COVID GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Please visit: <https://hilopalace.com> for details.

HIFF KAUAI SHOWCASE

KAUAI 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
9691 Kaumualii Highway, Waimea, HI 96796
PH: (808) 651-5744 (day)
PH: (808) 338-2027 (evening)

COVID GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Please visit: <http://www.waimeatheater.com> for details.

HIFF MAUI SHOWCASE

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 | 2:00PM - 6:00PM | Closed Sundays
NOV 4 - 28 | 9:00AM - 8:00PM Daily
NOV 18 - 21 | In person 1 hour prior to showtime

VENUE

Consolidated Theatres Ka'ahumanu
275 W Ka'ahumanu Ave Suite B29
Kahului, HI 96732

COVID GUIDELINES & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

See HOW TO HIFF IN PERSON (OAHU) for COVID Guidelines

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 any time at info@hiff.org with questions
- Call our Tech Support line at 1-808-447-0577; Open from 9AM - 8PM Daily from November 4th - 28th.

WE DESIGN STUFF

We like to think big and get straight to the point.

**MIDDLE
MGMT**

middlemgmt.com | [@middlemgmt](https://www.instagram.com/middlemgmt)

HIFF OHANA MEMBERSHIP & HIFF SELECTS



HIFF MEMBERSHIP

HIFF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership-driven organization, dedicated to enriching the cultural landscape of the Islands through the cinematic arts. We rely on the support of our members to sustain and grow as Hawai'i's premier, non-profit organization devoted to the film arts. By joining the HIFF Ohana you'll enjoy great films and support HIFF from our Annual Fall Festival and Spring Showcase to screenings and events throughout the year. HIFF Memberships are year-round and good for 365 days.

HIFF SELECTS SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

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&A's! Keeping our HIFF OHANA members in mind, this new service will feature special pricing for members.

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

BENEFIT	HIFF OHANA (ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP) \$40/Year	HIFF SELECTS (ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE) \$7.99/For HIFF Members OR \$9.99/month	HIFF OHANA SELECTS (MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION IN ONE) \$120/Year
Two (2) Discounted tickets to all in person and virtual HIFF Events*	INCLUDED		INCLUDED
Member preview screenings twice a year	INCLUDED		INCLUDED
Advanced ticket sales before each festival	INCLUDED		INCLUDED
Festival Program Guide	INCLUDED		INCLUDED
A specially curated monthly film available streaming from your home		INCLUDED	INCLUDED
An exclusive filmmaker Q&A each month		INCLUDED	INCLUDED
Monthly bonus features including bonus film content, short films, and more		INCLUDED	INCLUDED
Sharing your love for HIFF Year-Round?	INCLUDED	INCLUDED	INCLUDED

*Discount Applies to advance ticket sales only.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION PURCHASE

Purchase 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 3th | 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM Closed on Sundays

November 4th - 28th | 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

info@hiff.org

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 any time 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

ONLINE PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

FILM PROGRAM

PASS TYPE	REGION	FILM INFORMATION	DATES AVAILABLE
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	7 DAYS United States 96M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	AMERICANISH United States 90M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>WC</div>	ARAATIKA! RISE UP Australia 81M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>WC</div>	ARC Japan 127M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	ARCADE United States 85M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE ART OF INCARCERATION Australia 81M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	ATOMIC COVER UP United States 52M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	A BALANCE Japan 152M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE BIG BEND United States 103M	11/10-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	BIGGER THAN ME Australia, United States 53M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	BORN TO BE HUMAN Taiwan ROC 105M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	CAPTAIN AMERICA United States 97M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	CAT DADDIES United States 89M	11/10-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	CATCH THE FAIR ONE United States 85M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	COME BACK ANYTIME Japan 81M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	CROSSINGS United States 90M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	CYBORG United States 86M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	DARK RED FOREST China 83M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	DAUGHTERS OF THE WAVES France 53M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	DOLLMAN United States 82M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	DRIFTING Hong Kong SAR China 112M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	ETERNALLY YOUNGER THAN THOSE IDIOTS Japan 118M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	FACELESS United States 80M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE FIRST STEP United States 89M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	FLEE Denmark, France, Norway, Sweden, US 83M	11/10-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	FOOD FOR THE REST OF US United States 83M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	FROM EARTH TO SKY Canada 83M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	GIRLS CAN'T SURF Australia 108M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	GOOD DEAL South Korea 118M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	GUIDANCE China 93M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	HAND ROLLED CIGARETTE Hong Kong SAR China 100M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	HEAVEN: TO THE LAND OF HAPPINESS South Korea 100M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	HIGH TIDE, DON'T HIDE New Zealand 82M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE ISLAND IN ME United States 100M	11/10-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>WC</div>	ISLANDS Canada 94M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	IT'S A SUMMER FILM! Japan 97M	11/4-11/28

PASS TYPE	REGION	FILM INFORMATION	DATES AVAILABLE
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	ITO Japan 116M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	JAMES & ISEY New Zealand 92M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	JUNHO South Korea, United States 104M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	KARMALINK Cambodia 102M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>WC</div>	KIM MIN-YOUNG OF THE REPORT CARD South Korea 94M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE LAST GOZE Japan 109M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	LAST OF THE WOLVES Japan 139M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	LISTEN BEFORE YOU SING Taiwan ROC 113M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	LONG DAY South Korea 100M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	LOVE AND FURY United States 93M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	MAD GOD United States 83M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE MAGICIAN ON THE SKYWALK (SERIES) Taiwan ROC 500M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	MANZANAR, DIVERTED: WHEN WATER BECOMES DUST United States 84M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE United States 81M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	MIRACLE CITY KOZA Japan 119M	11/10-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	MISSION: JOY United States 90M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	MONEY HAS FOUR LEGS Myanmar 98M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	MONEYBOYS Taiwan ROC 120M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	NEMESIS United States 95M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	NINJA GIRL Japan 88M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	OFF COUNTRY Australia 96M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	OFFICE ROYALE Japan 102M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	OKAGESAMA DE ~HAWAI'I NIKKEI WOMEN'S TRAJECTORY Japan 112M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	ONE SECOND China 104M	11/15-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	ONE SUMMER STORY Japan 138M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE PANTHERS (SERIES) New Zealand 90M	11/15 - 11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	PARIS 13TH DISTRICT France 84M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>FREE 🌐</div>	PAU HANA YEARS (SERIES) United States 120M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🌿</div>	PETIT MAMAN France 72M	11/10-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE PURSUIT OF PERFECTION Japan 79M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	REEL WAHINE OF HAWAI'I: SEASON 3 (SERIES) United States 51M	11/10-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	REFASHIONED Hong Kong SAR China 83M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	THE RETURN: LIFE AFTER ISIS Spain, United Kingdom 90M	11/4-11/28
<div>SAIL</div>	<div>🇺🇸</div>	RIDE THE WAVE United Kingdom 84M	11/4-11/28

PASS TYPE ACCESSIBILITY

S

 Supporter

A

 All Access

I

 Individual/Hale

L

 Limited

FREE

 Free to Public

REGION ACCESSIBILITY

🌿

 Hawai'i

WC

 West Coast












































































🇺🇸

 USA

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 World Wide

ONLINE PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

PASS TYPE	REGION	FILM INFORMATION	DATES AVAILABLE
		ROCK BOTTOM RISER United States 70M	11/4-11/28
		ROLLING South Korea 75M	11/4-11/28
		THE SALT IN OUR WATERS Bangladesh 106M	11/15-11/28
		THE SEEDS OF VANDANA SHIVA Australia 82M	11/4-11/28
		SHRIEKING IN THE RAIN Japan 102M	11/15-11/28
		SINKHOLE South Korea 114M	11/10-11/28
		SOUNDS OF TAIWAN: A SYMPHONY BY BAO YUANKAI Taiwan ROC 95M	11/4-11/28
		STORM LAKE United States 85M	11/4-11/28
		THE TAKING United States 76M	11/10-11/28
		TEINE SĀ: THE ANCIENT ONES New Zealand 60M	11/4-11/28
		TEN MONTHS South Korea 95M	11/15-11/28
		TIME Hong Kong SAR China 99M	11/15-11/28
		TIONG BAHRU SOCIAL CLUB Singapore 88M	11/4-11/28
		TRY HARDER! United States 85M	11/4-11/28
		USERS United States 81M	11/15-11/28
		WE'VE ONLY GOT THIS WORLD Vanuatu 77M	11/4-11/28
		WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY Japan 121M	11/4-11/28
		WHETHER THE WEATHER IS FINE Philippines 104M	11/14 7-11PM & 11/17 7-11PM
		WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED United States 193M	11/15-11/28
		THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD Norway, Denmark, France Sweden, US 127	11/15-11/28
		WRITING WITH FIRE India 93M	11/4-11/14
		THE YEAR OF THE EVERLASTING STORM United States 115M	11/15-11/28
		ZOKKI Japan 113M	11/4-11/28
PASS TYPE	REGION	SHORTS PROGRAMS	DATES AVAILABLE
		ACM UHM SHOWCASE	11/4-11/28
	 	DANIEL K. INOUE INITIATIVE SHOWCASE	11/4-11/28
		DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA SHORTS	11/4-11/28
		EAT. DRINK. FILM. SHORTS	11/4-11/28
		GREEN SCREEN SHORTS	11/4-11/28
	 	KEIKI SHORTS	11/4-11/28
		MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS 1	11/10-11/28
		MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS 2	11/10-11/28
		MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS 3	11/15-11/28
		PACIFIC SHOWCASE SHORTS	11/4-11/28
		PANORAMA SHORTS	11/4-11/28
		SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA SHORTS	11/4-11/28
	 	STUDENT SHOWCASE	11/4-11/28

TALKS & PANELS

HIFF is proud to present an exciting line-up of LIVE filmmaker discussions, panels and special virtual events. All HIFF TALKS, PANELS & EVENTS will be presented ONLINE and are entirely FREE to the public.

DISCUSSION SERIES

FILM FOR THOUGHT IN CONVERSATION

As part of HIFF's Annual Film For Thought program presented by the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities, the festival will present a series of scholar-led discussions with Film For Thought directors.

IN CONVERSATION WITH GEMMA CUBERO DEL BARRIO | THE ISLAND IN ME

Join us for a special Conversation With Gemma Cubero del Barrio, director of THE ISLAND IN ME. Moderated by Caryn Lesuma, Professor in the Faculty of Arts and Letters at Brigham Young University Hawai'i.

IN CONVERSATION WITH DANIS GOULET | NIGHT RAIDERS

Join us for a special Conversation With Danis Goulet director of NIGHT RAIDERS. Moderated by Bryan Kuwada, Professor of Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

IN CONVERSATION WITH DEANN BORSHAY LIEM | CROSSINGS

Join us for a special Conversation With Deann Borshay Liem director of CROSSINGS. Moderated by Vernadette Gonzalez Professor of American Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

IN CONVERSATION WITH THE REBEL FILM COLLECTIVE | HIGH TIDE DON'T HIDE

Join us for a special Conversation With The Rebel Film Collective, the team behind HIGH TIDE DON'T HIDE. Moderated by University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Art and Art History Professor Jaimey Hamilton Faris.

IN CONVERSATION WITH JAKE WACHTEL | KARMALINK

Join us for a special Conversation With Jake Wachtel, director of KARMALINK. Moderated by Ida Yoshinaga, Assistant Professor in the School of Literature, Media and Communication at Georgia Tech University.

HIFF 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 team behind new comedy 7 DAYS, director and 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.

SCHEDULE INFORMATION AND EVENT REGISTRATION AT WWW.HIFF.ORG

HIFF TALKS PANELS

THE ACTOR'S JOURNEY

In this panel, we discuss the actor's journey in an ever-changing media landscape and the spike of TV and film production for major streaming platforms, which seems limitless. The panel will focus on examples of content being created by and about marginalized communities and go into the nitty gritty of being a BIPOC actor, working in Hollywood and Hawai'i, and how the panelists careers are changing with the times. Panelists: Kimee Balmilero, Tim Chiou, Kanoa Goo, and Amy Hill.

DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING

This panel will explore the expanding repertoire of production formats available to the documentarist. With the advent of hybrid narrative/ documentary forms to film and television, this panel will consider future trends in documentary topics, production styles, and distribution mechanisms in this fast-changing marketplace of ideas. Panelists: Alexandre Philippe, Lisa D'Apolito, and Ciara Lacy.

GREEN SCREEN PANEL DISCUSSION PRESENTED BY MORGAN STANLEY HAWAI'I

In this special virtual panel, we speak with filmmakers and environmental activists and practitioners from HIFF's GREEN SCREEN section. They will discuss the inspiration to tell these stories, the power of media to incite, educate and formalize a call-to-action against the climate change. From Hong Kong, to Bangladesh, to New Zealand, and right here in Hawai'i, we will discuss how this crisis unites us all, and how we can affect real change for all of our survival.

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES IN FILMMAKING

As part of 2021's New American Perspective's program presented in partnership with the Vilcek Foundation, HIFF will present a FREE panel discussion with filmmakers spotlighted in this year's program: Natalia Almada, Aizzah Fatima, Kier-La Janisse, Roshan Sethi, Karan Soni, Shih-Ching Tsou, and Geraldine Viswanathan.

KIN THEORY: INDIGENOUS MEDIA CONNECTIONS ACROSS PASIFIKA AND BEYOND

In this virtual panel, enjoy stories from Indigenous creatives from Pasifika and beyond about how they center their cultural upbringing to create community-specific and place-based media, as well as the movement to grow, strengthen, and support new and existing media connections across the global Indigenous community. Panelists will include Dakota Alcantara-Camacho, Chad Charlie, Erin Lau, Alyssa London, and Thomas Mangloña II. Moderated by Tracy Rector, Managing Director, Storytelling, Nia Tero.

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 Le.

THE PAU HANA YEARS PANEL DISCUSSION

'Ulu'ulu will moderate 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 homesteaders 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 Levison and Jerry Risius, moderated by Civil Beat reporter Chad Blair.

IN PERSON SCREENING SCHEDULE

VENUES

BPBM — The Great Lawn Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum 1525 Bernice Street Honolulu, HI 96817	WRD — Consolidated Theatres Ward with TITAN LUXE Ward Entertainment Center 1044 Auahi St Honolulu, HI 96814
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH

7:00 PM-8:31 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 1	US	WRD
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

6:00 PM-7:36 PM	ALONG THE SEA	JP, VN	KHL
7:00 PM-8:36 PM	WATERMAN	US	BPBM
7:00 PM-8:58 PM	THE DEVIL'S DEAL	KR	KHL
7:30 PM-9:21 PM	C'MON C'MON	US	KHL
8:00 PM-10:19 PM	MEMORIA	CO, FR, DE, MX, TH, UK	KHL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

1:00 PM-2:54 PM	GIFT OF FIRE	JP	KHL
1:30 PM-3:30 PM	WHO WE ARE: A CHRONICLE OF RACISM IN AMERICA	US	KHL
2:00 PM-4:13 PM	THE HAND OF GOD	IT	KHL
3:00 PM-4:34 PM	LAN YU (4K RESTORATION)	HK	KHL
4:00 PM-7:02 PM	DRIVE MY CAR	JP	KHL
4:30 PM-6:17 PM	THE SWORD AND THE SORCERER	US	KHL
5:00 PM-6:32 PM	CAT DADDIES	US	KHL
5:30 PM-7:15 PM	NIGHT RAIDERS	CA, NZ DK, FR,	KHL
7:30 PM-8:56 PM	FLEE	NO, SE, US	KHL
8:00 PM-10:27 PM	BARAGAKI UNBROKEN SAMURAI	JP	KHL
8:30 PM-10:21 PM	THE BIG BEND	US	KHL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

10:00 AM-5:00 PM	HIFF OHANA DAY AT BISHOP MUSEUM	US	BPBM
1:00 PM-3:02 PM	MIRACLE CITY KOZA	JP	KHL
1:30 PM-2:45 PM	PETIT MAMAN	FR	KHL
2:00 PM-3:13 PM	REEL WAHINE OF HAWAI'I: SEASON 3 + BLUE COOLER + OUR WALKS IN HAWAI'I	US	KHL
3:00 PM-4:24 PM	THE TAKING	US	KHL
3:30 PM-5:44 PM	A HERO	IR	KHL
4:00 PM-6:08 PM	ANIMA	CN	KHL
4:30 PM-6:52 PM	LAST OF THE WOLVES	JP	KHL
5:30 PM-7:06 PM	ALONG THE SEA	JP, VN	KHL
7:00 PM-9:24 PM	ANITA	HK	KHL
7:30 PM-9:36 PM	PARALLEL MOTHERS	SP	KHL
8:00 PM-9:51 PM	SPIRITWALKER	KR	KHL

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

6:30 PM-7:52 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 2	US	KHL
7:00 PM-9:11 PM	RIPPLES OF LIFE	CN	KHL
7:30 PM-9:15 PM	NIGHT RAIDERS	CA, NZ	KHL

KHL — Consolidated Theatres Kahala Kahala Mall 4211 Waialae Ave #3080 Honolulu, HI 96816	SBX — Entrepreneur's Sandbox 643 Ilalo Street Honolulu, HI 96813
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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

6:00 PM-7:48 PM	THE ISLAND IN ME	CI, SP, US	KHL
6:30 PM-7:30 PM	BIGGER THAN ME	AU, US	KHL
7:00 PM-10:02 PM	DRIVE MY CAR	JP	KHL
7:30 PM-9:16 PM	JOCKEY + MIA, MARGUERITE, AND MARGE	US	KHL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

5:00 PM-7:19 PM	ANITA	HK	KHL
6:00 PM-8:35 PM	A BALANCE	JP	KHL
6:30 PM-9:51 PM	WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED	US	KHL
7:00 PM-8:48 PM	I WAS A SIMPLE MAN	US	WRD
7:30 PM-9:34 PM	THE LOST DAUGHTER	GR, US	KHL
8:00 PM-10:01 PM	LIMBO	CN, HK	KHL

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

5:00 PM-7:14 PM	THE FABLE: THE KILLER WHO DOESN'T KILL	JP	KHL
5:30 PM-7:11 PM	LOVE AND FURY	US	KHL
6:30 PM-8:38 PM	ANIMA	CN	KHL
7:00 PM-8:44 PM	7 DAYS	US	KHL
8:00 PM-9:58 PM	THE DEVIL'S DEAL	KR	KHL
8:30 PM-10:14 PM	SHORT TERM 12	US	KHL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

5:00 PM-7:11 PM	RIPPLES OF LIFE	CN	KHL
5:15 PM-7:13 PM	TICK, TICK...BOOM!	US	KHL
6:00 PM-7:51 PM	SPIRITWALKER	KR	KHL
7:00 PM-9:10 PM	ARC	JP	KHL
8:00 PM-10:27 PM	BARAGAKI UNBROKEN SAMURAI	JP	KHL
8:30 PM-10:13 PM	TEN MONTHS	KR	KHL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH

11:30 AM-1:11 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 3	US	KHL
12:30 PM-2:28 PM	TICK, TICK... BOOM!	US	KHL
1:00 PM-3:19 PM	MEMORIA	CO, FR, DE, MX, TH, UK	KHL
2:00 PM-3:38 PM	CROSSINGS	US	KHL
2:30 PM-4:16 PM	THE FABULOUS FILIPINO BROTHERS	PH, US	KHL
3:00 PM-4:31 PM	DARK RED FOREST	CN	KHL
4:00 PM-6:09 PM	THE POWER OF THE DOG	AU, CA, NZ, UK, US	KHL
5:00 PM-6:38 PM	AMERICANISH	US	KHL
5:30 PM-7:17 PM	ONE SECOND	CN	KHL
7:00 PM-9:14 PM	THE FABLE: THE KILLER WHO DOESN'T KILL	JP	KHL
8:00 PM-10:16 PM	RED ROCKET	US	KHL
8:30 PM-10:07 PM	HOSTAGE: MISSING CELEBRITY	KR	KHL

VENUES

PAL — The Palace Theater & Box Office 38 Haili Street Hilo, HI 96720	WAI — Waimea Theater & Box Office Historic Waimea Theater 9691 Kaumualii Highway Waimea, HI 96796
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH

1:00 PM-2:49 PM	THE SALT IN OUR WATERS	BD	KHL
1:30 PM-2:59 PM	USERS	US	KHL
2:00 PM-4:12 PM	BRUISED	US	KHL
3:00 PM-5:04 PM	THE LOST DAUGHTER	GR, US	KHL
4:00 PM-5:42 PM	ISLANDS	CA	KHL
4:30 PM-6:40 PM	THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD	DK, FR, NO, SE, US	KHL
5:00 PM-6:37 PM	HOSTAGE: MISSING CELEBRITY	KR	KHL
6:00 PM-7:58 PM	THE YEAR OF THE EVERLASTING STORM	US	KHL
7:00 PM-8:51 PM	C'MON C'MON	US	KHL
7:00 PM-9:10 PM	BELLE	JP	WRD
7:30 PM-9:17 PM	WHETHER THE WEATHER IS FINE	PH	KHL
8:00 PM-10:01 PM	LIMBO	CN, HK	KHL

HIFF XR SHOWCASE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

12:00 PM-6:00 PM	XR SHOWCASE	VARIOUS	SBX
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

12:00 PM-6:00 PM	XR SHOWCASE	VARIOUS	SBX
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HILO SHOWCASE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

7:00 PM-8:36 PM	WATERMAN	US	PAL
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

5:00 PM-7:02 PM	MIRACLE CITY KOZA	JP	PAL
8:00 PM-9:31 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 1	US	PAL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

2:00 PM-3:24 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 2	US	PAL
5:00 PM-7:05 PM	BELLE	JP	PAL
8:00 PM-10:09 PM	THE POWER OF THE DOG	AU, CA, NZ, UK, US	PAL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

1:30 PM-2:55 PM	HIGH TIDE DON'T HIDE	NZ	PAL
4:00 PM-5:13 PM	ROCK BOTTOM RISER	US	PAL
7:00 PM-8:48 PM	I WAS A SIMPLE MAN	US	PAL

KHM — Consolidated Theatres Ka'ahumanu 275 W Ka'ahumanu Ave Suite B29 Kahului, HI 96732
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KAUA'I SHOWCASE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

7:00 PM-8:48 PM	I WAS A SIMPLE MAN	US	WAI
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

5:30 PM-7:44 PM	THE FABLE: THE KILLER WHO DOESN'T KILL	JP	WAI
8:00 PM-9:37 PM	HOSTAGE: MISSING CELEBRITY	KR	WAI

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

2:45 PM-4:16 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 1	US	WAI
5:00 PM-7:02 PM	MIRACLE CITY KOZA	JP	WAI
7:30 PM-9:06 PM	WATERMAN	US	WAI

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

2:30 PM-4:13 PM	THE ISLAND IN ME	CI, SP, US	WAI
4:45 PM-6:09 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 2	US	WAI
7:00 PM-8:41 PM	THE FABULOUS FILIPINO BROTHERS	PH, US	WAI

MAUI SHOWCASE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

7:00 PM-8:41 PM	MADE IN HAWAI'I SHORTS PROGRAM 3	US	KHM
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

5:30 PM-7:03 PM	AMERICANISH	US	KHM
8:00 PM-9:37 PM	HOSTAGE: MISSING CELEBRITY	KR	KHM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

1:30 PM-4:32 PM	DRIVE MY CAR	JP	KHM
5:30 PM-7:11 PM	THE FABULOUS FILIPINO BROTHERS	PH, US	KHM
8:00 PM-9:58 PM	THE DEVIL'S DEAL	KR	KHM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

1:30 PM-2:54 PM	ARAATIKAI	AU	KHM
4:00 PM-6:05 PM	BELLE	JP	KHM
7:00 PM-8:36 PM	WATERMAN	US	KHM

MAHALO TO OUR SPONSORS

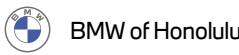
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MAJOR SPONSORS



PREMIERE SPONSORS



FESTIVAL SPONSORS



MEDIA SPONSORS



MAHALO

- Bishop Museum
- Daniel K. Inouye Institute
- GN Wilcox Trust
- Josie & Don Over Memorial Fund at the Hawai'i Community Foundation
- McInerney Foundation
- Network for the Promotion of Asia Pacific Cinema (NETPAC)
- Taiji & Naoko Terasaki

THIS PROGRAM IS PRESENTED IN PART BY AN AWARD FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
This program is made possible in part by funding from the Hawai'i State Foundation for Culture & The Arts and the Federal ARP Act
'Ulu'ulu: The Henry Ku'ualoha Giugni Moving Image Archive of Hawai'i

MADE IN HAWAI'I FILM AWARD NOMINEES



HIFF 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 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 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 Hawai'i-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.

NOMINATED FEATURES



I WAS A SIMPLE MAN

HAWAI'I PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: CHRISTOPHER MAKOTO YOGI
See Page 19 for film details.



THE ISLAND IN ME

WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: GEMMA CUBERO DEL BARRIO
See Page 27 for film details.



OUR MAKAWAO

FESTIVAL PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: MATT YAMASHITA
See Page 43 for film details.



WATERMAN

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

NOMINATED SHORTS



AGAPE

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



ALA MOANA BOYS

FESTIVAL PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: KELI'Y GRACE
See Page 43 for film details.



I WILL BE YOUR BREATH

FESTIVAL PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: MALIA ADAMS
See Page 43 for film details.



KA HO'I

WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: MITCHEL VIERNES
See Page 43 for film details.



LAST HAWAIIAN SUGAR

WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: DÉJÀ CRESENCIA BERNHARDT
See Page 43 for film details.



RIVER OF SMALL GODS

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
DIRECTOR: BRADLEY TANGONAN
See Page 43 for film details.



SINA MA TINIRAU

WORLD PREMIERE
DIRECTORS: VILSONI HERENIKO, GAVIN ARUCAN
See Page 42 for film details.

2021 HONOREES



HALEKULANI GOLDEN MAILE FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DESTIN DANIEL CRETTON



Maui-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, Kaitlyn Dever, and John Gallagher Jr. His third feature, an adaptation of the NY Times best-selling memoir, THE GLASS CASTLE, starred 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 NY-Times best-selling memoir by civil rights attorney Bryan Stevenson. The film starred Michael B. Jordan, Jamie Foxx and Brie Larson.



HIFF 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 SHEETS 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.



HIFF PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN COMMUNICATIONS TRAILBLAZER AWARD DANA LEDOUX MILLER



Dana Ledoux Miller is currently co-showrunning Netflix's UNTITLED 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 Feigco Entertainment and set up at Quibi as a part of their Break The Room initiative. Prior to that, she was Co-EP on AMC's KEVIN CAN GO F*CK HIMSELF and the supervising producer on AMC's LODGE 49. She is also adapting COSMOLOGY OF MONSTERS for Chernin with Destin Daniel Cretton attached to direct. Dana was a producer on ABC's DESIGNATED 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 cyborg 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 fevered cult following. From his explosive debut with THE SWORD AND THE SORCERER (1982) to Jean-Claude Van Damme's CYBORG 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 home movies in Kaneohe to stint as an editor and cameraman for KGMB 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 cult film fans 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.



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GALAS

FILM PROGRAM

OPENING NIGHT FILM



S WATERMAN

WORLD PREMIERE

OPENING NIGHT FILM | MADE IN HAWAII

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 88M

DIRECTOR: ISAAC HALISIMA

5-NOV 7:00 PM | BISHOP MUSEUM

18-NOV 7:00 PM | PALACE

20-NOV 8:00 PM | WAIMEA

21-NOV 7:00 PM | KAAHUMANU

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



S I WAS A SIMPLE MAN

HAWAII PREMIERE

CENTERPIECE FILM | MADE IN HAWAII | KAU KA HOKU 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



S BELLE

HAWAII PREMIERE

CLOSING NIGHT FILM

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 122M

DIRECTOR: MAMORU HOSODA

14-NOV 7:00 PM | WARD

20-NOV 5:00 PM | PALACE

21-NOV 4:00 PM | KAAHUMANU

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.





7 DAYS

HAWAII PREMIERE
NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 96M
DIRECTOR: ROSHAN SETHI
11-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Ravi and Rita get more than they bargained for when the date arranged by their traditional Indian parents turns into an awkward week sheltering in place together in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Trapped inside with nothing else to pass the time, this awkward date transforms into a life-changing experience in this heartfelt and hilarious romantic comedy about navigating life, love and family in uncertain times.



ALONG THE SEA

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN | KAU KA HOKU NOMINEE
JAPAN, VIETNAM | JAPANESE, VIETNAMESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 88M
DIRECTOR: AKIO FUJIMOTO
5-NOV 6:00 PM | KAHALA
7-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA

ALONG THE SEA follows three Vietnamese women in their early 20s, Phuong, An, and Nhu who moved to Japan to work. When they decide to escape their workplace, where their passports have been confiscated, they become illegal migrants. A broker, based in a quiet fishermen village, helps them to find a shelter and a new job in a small fish factory. Yet, as they begin their new life, Phuong falls ill. Phuong must now figure out how to get fake documents in order to save herself.



AMERICANISH

HAWAII PREMIERE
NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR: IMAN ZAWAHRY
13-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA
19-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHUMANU
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

In a world where tradition is vital, three young muslim women-sisters living in Queens and their newly immigrated cousin-attempt to navigate through the rocky waters of romance and careers. But they also must try to honor the traditions of their culture. AMERICANISH, directed by one of the first female hijabi filmmakers, breaks tropes of typical rom-coms with an endearing story of womanhood, family, and culture and what it takes to achieve it all.



ANIMA

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA | KAU KA HOKU NOMINEE
CHINA | CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 120M
DIRECTOR: CAO JINLING
7-NOV 4:00 PM | KAHALA
11-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA

Tutu and his little brother Linzi belong to the Lonki forest tribe. One day while in the forest Linzi falls into a bear den, and young Tutu shoots the bear, a bad omen for them both. Years later, Tutu and Linzi 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.



ANITA

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG
HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 136M
DIRECTOR: LONGMAN LEUNG
7-NOV 7:00 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 Canto 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, from her childhood days singing with her sister, to her activism and community service in her later years.



ARAATIKA!

HAWAII PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS
AUSTRALIA | ABORIGINAL, ENGLISH | 81M
DIRECTOR: LARISSA BEHRENDT
21-NOV 1:30 PM | KAHUMANU
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Compared to their pan-Pacific rivals, the Australian rugby national team had one glaring deficiency: their pre-game "unity dance" did little to inspire fear into their competition and courage among their fans. ARAATIKA! (a.k.a. THE FIGHT TOGETHER) is a documentary about one man's mission to take on decades of racism and cultural injustice to incorporate more indigeneity into the sport. For these players, rugby is their platform for restoring pride into their community, and this dance is their warrior's voice.



ARC

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 127M
DIRECTOR: KEI ISHIKAWA
12-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

19-year-old dancer Rina finds herself living on the streets after abandoning her baby at age 17. But when she encounters a mysterious woman, Ema, at a dance performance, an opportunity arises that changes her fate. Ema brings Rina into her world of 'plastination', a new technique that allows the human body to be preserved in perfect condition after death. However, when Ema's brother discovers how to preserve the living human body indefinitely, it sets the stage to change the course of humanity forever.



THE ART OF INCARCERATION

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS
AUSTRALIA | ENGLISH | 81M
DIRECTOR: ALEX SIDDONS
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Seen through the eyes of Indigenous prisoners at Victoria's Fulham Correctional Centre, THE ART OF INCARCERATION explores how art and culture can empower First Nations people to transcend their unjust cycles of imprisonment. This narrative documentary humanizes the over representation of Indigenous Australians within the prison system, and provides an insight into the inmate's quest for cultural identity and spiritual healing as they prepare for the annual 'Confined' exhibition and life on the outside.



ARCADE

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 85M
DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Teens disappear when they play Arcade, a virtual-reality game with seven deadly levels. Written by then unknown David S. Goyer (THE DARK KNIGHT Trilogy) and starring '90s teen staples Megan Ward and Seth Green, ARCADE was released in that early '90s VR-to-film output like LAWNMOWER MAN and VIRTUOSITY. Stay for the '90s teen goth chic and Amiga-sourced graphics!



ATOMIC COVER-UP

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 52M
DIRECTOR: GREG MITCHELL
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

ATOMIC COVER-UP is the first documentary to explore the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 from the unique perspective, words, and startling images of the brave cameramen and directors who risked their lives filming in the irradiated aftermath. It reveals how this historic footage, created by a Japanese newsreel crew and then an elite U.S. Army team, was seized, classified top secret, and then buried by American officials for decades to hide the full human costs of the bombings as a costly nuclear arms race raged.



A BALANCE

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 152M
DIRECTOR: YUJIRO HARUMOTO
10-NOV 6:00 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 strikes out to learn the truth behind the incident. What she finds instead is two families' lives torn apart, first by the loss of their loved ones, and secondly by their ostracization in the community. As Yuko struggles to eke out a story for her film, an incident at home leaves her questioning her own motives.



BARAGAKI: UNBROKEN SAMURAI

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN | ASIAN CINERAMA
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 144M
DIRECTOR: MASATO HARADA
6-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA
12-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA

Veteran director and HIFF-fan favorite Masato Harada is back with his most action-packed samurai epic to-date. The master of historical drama, Harada turns his impeccable attention to detail on the life of Toshizo Hijikata, vice-commander of the shinsengumi and staunch opposer of the Meiji Restoration. Starring Junichi Okada as Hijikata in one of his best career performances, and supported by an all-star cast, BARAGAKI: UNBROKEN SAMURAI is based on the novel 'Moeyo Ken' by Ryotaro Shiba.



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THE BIG BEND

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA | KAU KA HŌKŪ NOMINEE
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 103M
DIRECTOR: BRETT WAGNER
6-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA
NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

While exploring the vast and unknowable land of Texas, two families-the Prices and the Talbotts-reunite in a remote desert as they confront marriage, friendship, parenthood, and mortality, attempting to survive and live amongst one another in a foreign world. THE BIG BEND, directed by Brett Wagner, 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.



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BIGGER THAN ME

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
SURF CINEMA
AUSTRALIA, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 53M
DIRECTOR: CLAIRE GORMAN
9-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Filed over the course of ten years, BIGGER THAN ME is a documentary that follows Wrenna, a big dreamer with an ardent adoration for the ocean. But Wrenna must also navigate through challenges of being a woman and being the next great surfer. This endearing coming-of-age tale highlights the complex obstacles a nineteen-year-old athlete faces while risking everything to greet the big waves of Hawai'i, which she's been trying to conquer since childhood.



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BORN TO BE HUMAN

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN
TAIWAN ROC | CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 105M
DIRECTOR: LILY NI
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

When a Taiwanese boy, Shi-nan, experiences abdominal pain and begins to urinate blood, his family discovers that he is intersex. His parents take extreme measures to avoid telling him the news at first, but it results in malicious medical coercion that pushes Shi-nan into an emotional spiral. BORN TO BE HUMAN confronts the fear and horror of the mental and physical dysphoria the intersex community experiences, thus examining Taiwan's disturbing past with intersex individuals.



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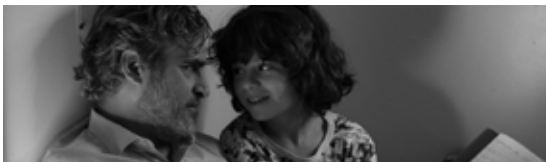
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HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 129M
DIRECTOR: HALLE BERRY
14-NOV 2:00 PM | KAHALA

Jackie "Justice" (Halle Berry, who also directs) is a washed up MMA fighter, scraping by in life working multiple jobs and trying to make ends meet. When her boyfriend manages to trick her into going to an underground fight, her passion for the sport is reignited. As Jackie prepares to go back to "the only thing she is good at," the son she once abandoned is dropped off at her doorstep. Confronted by her past choices and traumas, Jackie will have to fight to reclaim the two most meaningful things she has walked away from: six-year-old Manny and an MMA title.



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C'MON C'MON

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 108M
DIRECTOR: MIKE MILLS
5-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA
14-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA

Johnny (Joaquin Phoenix) and his young nephew (Woody Norman) forge a tenuous but transformational relationship when they are unexpectedly thrown together in this delicate and deeply moving story about the connections between adults and children, the past and the future, from writer-director Mike Mills (BEGINNERS, 20TH CENTURY WOMEN).



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CAPTAIN AMERICA

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 97M
DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Frozen in ice since World War II, Captain America is revived and must save the President of the United States from an enemy with a tie to his past. Before the MCU, there was Albert Pyun's CAPTAIN AMERICA! Released in 1990, with little budget and resources, Pyun channeled all his chutzpah and ingenuity to craft an under-appreciated comic book movie during a dark time when Marvel was not viable or cool.



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CAT DADDIES

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 89M
DIRECTOR: MYE HOANG
6-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

CAT DADDIES showcases portraits of "cat dads" from all over the country, some of which struggle to navigate the unprecedented events of 2020 with their little furry friends. They include a group of firefighters, a stuntman, a truck driver, a Bay Area tech worker, a schoolteacher, an Instagram influencer, and a terminally ill homeless man living on the streets of New York. These men couldn't be more different, but they share an unconditional love of their beloved pets.



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COME BACK ANYTIME

HAWAII PREMIERE
EAT. DRINK. FILM.
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 81M
DIRECTOR: JOHN DASCHBACH
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A self-taught master chef, Masamoto Ueda serves delicious ramen to a loyal community of regular customers from a small storefront in Tokyo. Renowned for his delicious cooking and charming personality, Masamoto balances his restaurant with pilgrimages to the Japanese countryside with some of his closest friends and customers. Easily one of the most delicious films from Hot Docs 2021, COME BACK ANYTIME is a soul-nourishing crowd pleaser guaranteed to spike your appetite.



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CYBORG

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 86M
DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A martial artist (Jean Claude Van Damme) hunts a killer in a plague-infested cyberpunk future. Rebased in 1989 and shot over 3 weeks, CYBORG is a benchmark in Albert Pyun's oeuvre, including contributing to a little known Van Damme's rising status as an '80s action hero, and the director's fascination with dystopian settings.



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CATCH THE FAIR ONE

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA | INDIGENOUS LENS
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 85M
DIRECTOR: JOSEF KUBOTA WLADYKA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

In this absorbing revenge thriller executive produced by Darren Aronofsky, a Native American woman embarks on the fight of her life when she goes in search of her missing sister. The former boxer intentionally gets entangled in a human trafficking operation in order to retrace the steps of her kid sister and work her way up the chain of command to find the man responsible. Real life US boxing champion Kali Reis plays the fearsome protagonist, delivering a breakout performance.



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CROSSINGS

WORLD PREMIERE
FILM FOR THOUGHT
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 90M
DIRECTOR: DEANN LIEM
13-NOV 2:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

In CROSSINGS, a group of internationally renowned women peacemakers crosses the DMZ from North to South Korea, calling for peace on the Korean peninsula. The film follows key women leaders, including Gloria Steinem and Nobel Peace Laureates Leymah Gbowee and Mairead Maguire, led by Korean American activist Christine Ahn, on this historic journey. Through their story, the film explores enduring questions about war's legacies and the role women play in resolving the world's most intractable conflicts.



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DARK RED FOREST

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA | KAU KA HŌKŪ NOMINEE
CHINA | TIBETAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 83M
DIRECTOR: JIN HUAGING
13-NOV 3:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Every year, thousands of Tibetan nuns hike 4,000 meter up to the Yarchen Monastery in their relentless pursuit of enlightenment, healing, and faith. As they develop severe cold-borne illnesses while each dwelling in small portable wooden houses, these nuns will even stray from their holy path every now and then. DARK RED FOREST is an exceptionally intimate portrayal of the lives and experiences of these women, a rare and lengthy glimpse into a community that is often politically shrouded and even "left behind" in a rapidly contemporizing China.





DAUGHTERS OF THE WAVES

HAWAII PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | SURF CINEMA | INDIGENOUS LENS
FRANCE | ENGLISH, FRENCH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 53M
DIRECTOR: SÉBASTIEN DAGUERRESSAR, LISA MONIN
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

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. Still in high school, Heimetiti is training hard in the only sports medicine program on the islands. And the youngest, Kohai, is dead set to follow in her sister's footsteps. DAUGHTER OF THE WAVES captures the love, passion and determination of these vibrant young women, their tight-knit family, and the potential futures that will be unlocked by these groundbreaking sisters.

PLAYS WITH: A MOMENT WITH THE ARTIST TIM MCKENNA



THE DEVIL'S DEAL

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA
SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 115M
DIRECTOR: LEE WON-TAE
5-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
11-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA
20-NOV 8:00PM | KAAHUMANU

In Lee Won-tae's crime thriller, THE DEVIL'S DEAL, a no-name politician, Jeon Hae-woong is eliminated from an assembly-member election by a local big-wig who finds Jeon to be a thorn in his side. Coupled with the stress of threatening loan-sharks, Jeon 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 altruistic father.



DOLLMAN

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 82M
DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN
NOV 4 - 28 | 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 besieged by an onslaught 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 manic as ever as the main baddie, in one of his earliest performances.



DRIFTING

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG | ASIAN CINERAMA
HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 112M
DIRECTOR: JUN LI
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Fai (Francis Ng), a homeless man recently released from prison, finds his old friends on the streets in Sham Shui Po, one of Hong Kong's poorest districts. One night, the group is rudely 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.



DRIVE MY CAR

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 179M
DIRECTOR: RYUSUKE HAMAGUCHI
6-NOV 4:00 PM | KAHALA
9-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
20-NOV 1:30 PM | KAAHUMANU

Yusuke is a successful stage director and actor married to the enigmatic Oto. But when Oto dies suddenly, Yusuke finds himself left with many unanswered questions. Two years later and still grieving the loss, he accepts a job in 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. As they increasingly log hours together in the Saab, Yusuke and Misaki form an unexpected bond.



ETERNALLY YOUNGER THAN THOSE IDIOTS

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 118M
DIRECTOR: RYOHEI YOSHINO
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Horigai is more than eager to finish her college career and begin her new job at a 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.



THE FABLE: THE KILLER WHO DOESN'T KILL

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 131M
DIRECTOR: KAN EGUCHI
11-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA
13-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA
19-NOV 5:30 PM | WAIMEA

Based on the Japanese manga series of the same name, THE FABLE: THE KILLER WHO DOESN'T KILL stars Junichi Okada as legendary assassin Akira Sata, aka 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 he was once assigned to kill.



THE FABULOUS FILIPINO BROTHERS

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA
PHILIPPINES, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 98M
DIRECTOR: DANTE BASCO
13-NOV 2:30 PM | KAHALA
20-NOV 5:30 PM | KAAHUMANU
21-NOV 7:00 PM | WAIMEA

Dante Basco (HOOK, THE DEBUT) makes his directorial debut, and he's bringing his entire family with him. THE FABULOUS FILIPINO BROTHERS is an intergenerational comedy that is sweet, at times raunchy, and full of heart. Dante co-stars with siblings Darion, Arianna, Dionysio, and Derek. From cockfights to adultery, and finding new (and old) love in unexpected places, each of the brothers finds themselves in different situations that will ultimately challenge their beliefs on love and family, all leading up to a climactic family wedding!



FACELESS

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | CANTONESE, ENGLISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 80M
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 Artist 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 complexity of the fight for personal freedoms against an encroaching authoritarianism.



THE FIRST STEP

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 89M
DIRECTOR: BRANDON KRAMER
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

CNN commentator Van Jones decided to controversially cross party lines to win bipartisan support for criminal justice. Van's journey building bridges in a time of extreme polarization takes him deep into the messy drama of the Trump administration, internal divisions within both parties, and the lives of activists fighting on the frontlines for their communities. The film also explores deeper questions of "top down" leadership vs. grassroots activism and shows how, for those who choose to bridge the political divide, the personal costs can be devastating.



FLEE

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
DENMARK, FRANCE, NORWAY, SWEDEN, UNITED STATES | DANISH, DARI, ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, SWEDISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 83M
DIRECTOR: JONAS POHER RASMUSSEN
6-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA
NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

One of the most riveting and captivating films of the year, with breathtaking animation, FLEE recounts the true story of Afghan refugee Amin Nawabi. Living in Denmark, on the cusp of marriage, Amin reveals a secret that he has kept for 20 years. For the first time in his life Amin shares the story of his daring escape from Afghanistan as a child refugee in the 1990s.



FOOD FOR THE REST OF US

HAWAII PREMIERE
GREEN SCREEN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 83M
DIRECTOR: CAROLINE COX
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Recent social movement campaigns such as #BlackLivesMatter, #IdleNoMore, and #TimesUp have also inspired other ways to close the gaps for disenfranchised communities in the long term, focusing on the food supply chain. FOOD FOR THE REST OF US focuses on four examples in particular: an Indigenous-owned organic farm in Hawai'i, a Black urban high school land-farm in Kansas City, a female Kosher butcher working with the queer Colorado community, and an Inuit community operating a small, climate-friendly geodesic dome.





FROM EARTH TO SKY

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA | INDIGENOUS LENS
CANADA | ENGLISH | 83M
DIRECTOR: RON CHAPMAN
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

FROM EARTH TO SKY explores the work of seven unique and accomplished Indigenous Architects as they design and complete extraordinary 'buildings' in cities and communities across North America and Turtle Island. Beautiful and intimate, the film sparks a vital conversation paramount to transforming perspectives on how we approach our built environment. These architects are uniformly driving a movement as climate change threatens the planet. They are world leaders in aesthetic, form, sustainability and ultimately protecting the planet. Their stories have never been more important.



GIFT OF FIRE

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 111M
DIRECTOR: HIROSHI KUROSAKI
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 three young people, blending the romanticism of scientific exploration and the moral conundrums that emerge in the process.



GIRLS CAN'T SURF

HAWAII PREMIERE
SURF CINEMA
AUSTRALIA | ENGLISH | 108M
DIRECTOR: CHRISTOPHER NELIUS
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

In 2019, the World Surf League announced that it'll award equal pay to all surfers, bringing an end to years of inequality for female surfers. GIRLS CAN'T SURF follows champion female surfers through the early years of professional surfing. While battling sexism and thwarting the shallow media coverage of bikini contests, these surfers took on a male-dominating sport, helping change the game forever.



GOOD DEAL

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA
SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 118M
DIRECTOR: CHO KYOUNG-HO
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

GOOD DEAL is a woven tapestry of the interconnected lives of people striving through the day-to-day of contemporary Korean society. Quite a spectrum of themes are covered: romance, crime, sports, family, work, and even Russian literature! As each of its characters seek 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 Kyuon-ho, the film mixes wickedly dark humor and sincere sentimentality through its interwoven yet still seamlessly linear style of storytelling.



GUIDANCE

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA
CHINA | MANDARIN CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 93M
DIRECTOR: NEYSAN SOBHAM
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

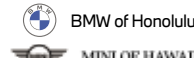
In the future, all hope rests on a fragile peace brokered 10 years after the Great War. During a weekend trip to the countryside, a couple begin to use 'Guidance', a radical device originally conceived to create enlightened human beings. However, they soon subvert Guidance to manipulate and lie - all in the hope of saving what they're afraid of losing most: each other.



THE HAND OF GOD

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA
ITALY | ITALIAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 130M
DIRECTOR: PAOLO SORRENTINO
6-NOV 2:00 PM | KAHALA

From Academy Award-winning writer and director Paolo Sorrentino (THE GREAT BEAUTY) comes the story of a young man's heartbreak and liberation in 1980s Naples, Italy. THE HAND OF GOD follows Fabietto Schisa, an awkward Italian teen whose life and vibrant, eccentric family are suddenly upended - first by the electrifying arrival of soccer legend Diego Maradona and then by a shocking accident from which Maradona inadvertently saves Fabietto, setting his future in motion. Sorrentino returns to his hometown to tell his most personal story, a tale of fate and family, sports and cinema, love and loss.



HAND ROLLED CIGARETTE

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG
HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 100M
DIRECTOR: CHAN KIN LONG
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

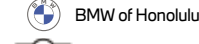
Mani, a young South Asian immigrant in Hong Kong, hides from the gang members pursuing him in the apartment of one Kwan Chiu, a washed-up British Chinese soldier abandoned by the colonial government after Hong Kong's handover to China in 1997. When Kwan discovers Mani, he learns that he has upset the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



A HERO

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA
IRAN | FARSI, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 131M
DIRECTOR: ASGHAR FARHADI
7-NOV 3:30 PM | KAHALA

Rahim is in prison because of a debt he was unable to repay. During a two-day leave, he tries to convince his creditor to withdraw his complaint against the payment of part of the sum. But things don't go as planned. Oscar winning director Asghar Farhadi returns to his native Iran with his latest film, evoking the domestic suspense of A SEPARATION and THE SALESMAN, with a story about truth-telling, honor and the price of freedom.



HEAVEN: TO THE LAND OF HAPPINESS

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA | ASIAN CINERAMA
SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 100M
DIRECTOR: IM SANG-SOO
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Prisoner 203 only has a few months left on his sentence, but when he finds out he has two weeks left to live, he decides to make a break for it. Fleeing the hospital, he lures worker Nam Sik into the getaway...hearse. Nam-sik, is not too displeased with this arrangement, as he was about to face arrest for stealing medicine from the hospital. Realizing there is no turning back, this unlikely pair go on the run, hunted by both the police and the owners of the stolen hearse.



HIGH TIDE DON'T HIDE

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
FILM FOR THOUGHT | GREEN SCREEN
NEW ZEALAND | ENGLISH | 82M
DIRECTOR: NIVA KAY, EMILY MCDOWELL, NIA PHIPPS, PHIL STEBBING
21-NOV 1:30 PM | PALACE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

While Greta Thunberg has led the movement for environmental reform, many teenagers around the world also rally in favor of her sentiments. In HIDE TIDE, DON'T HIDE, five New Zealand teens join the global movement to end the climate crisis. But after a young indigenous activist highlights the movements' lack of diversity, especially since the climate crisis disproportionately affects indigenous communities, the group must confront its own prejudices and inequality in their activism.



HOSTAGE: MISSING CELEBRITY

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA
SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 94M
DIRECTOR: PIL GAM-SUNG
13-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA
14-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA
19-NOV 8:00 PM | WAIMEA
19-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHUMANU

What happens when life imitates art? Korean superstar actor Hwang Jung-min is about to find out. Jung-min has reached the pinnacle of his career, recognized as one of Korea's top leading men. Resting on his laurels after the latest premiere, he is caught unaware when he finds himself kidnapped by a group of brutal thugs. When the thugs request an immediate ransom, Jung-min must muster up all of his acting skills to mastermind his way out of this real and present danger.



THE ISLAND IN ME

WORLD PREMIERE
FILM FOR THOUGHT | MADE IN HAWAII | PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS
COOK ISLANDS, SPAIN, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, PUKAPUKAN, RAROTONGAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 100M
DIRECTOR: GEMMA CUBERO DEL BARRIO
9-NOV 6:00 PM | KAHALA
21-NOV 2:30 PM | WAIMEA
NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

THE ISLAND IN ME is a documentary feature that takes the viewer to the Polynesian atoll of Pukapuka, a unique place never before captured in film. With only four hundred inhabitants and ten meters above sea level, the atoll has stories to tell. The film follows two women who grew up here and return home after decades away to find the atoll, and themselves, forever changed.



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ISLANDS

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA | KAU KA HÖKÜ NOMINEE

CANADA | ENGLISH, TAGALOG, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 94M

DIRECTOR: MARTIN EDRALIN

14-NOV 4:00 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Joshua, a timid, middle-aged Filipino immigrant in Canada has lived in the comfort of his parents' care his entire life. When his mother suddenly passes and his father's health declines, he quits his job to look after his father full-time despite his inexperience taking care of anyone, including himself. In comes Marisol, an OFW (Overseas Filipino Worker) and caretaker, who moves in to help, as she does not want to return to her life in Kuwait. Anxious of being alone, have Joshua's prayers been answered?



BMW of Honolulu
MINI OF HAWAII

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IT'S A SUMMER FILM!

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 97M

DIRECTOR: SOUSHI MATSUMOTO

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Hadashi aka "Barefoot" is a samurai cinema-obsessed Japanese high school teen who feels alienated from the rest of her school's film club. She spends most of her time watching the classics with her two best friends: a kendo enthusiast and a sci-fi geek. Tired of competing for attention with the club's director and her incessant rom-com endeavors, Barefoot decides to finally produce her unrealized script Samurai Spring over the course of a summer. IT'S A SUMMER FILM! is a film for cinephiles, a love letter to the affirmative power of the medium.

HAWAIIAN
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RETURN ENGAGEMENT

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 116M

DIRECTOR: SATOKO YOKOHAMA

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

High school student Ito lives in rural Aomori prefecture in northern Japan. Teased at school for her thick accent and Tsugaru 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 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 the cafe) after all.

HAWAIIAN
AIRLINES.

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JAMES & ISEY

HAWAII PREMIERE

PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS

NEW ZEALAND | ENGLISH, MAORI, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 92M

DIRECTOR: FLORIAN HABICHT

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Ahead of her 100th birthday, Isey and her devoted son James prepare for the party of a lifetime. Ngāti Manu woman Isey Cross lives with her youngest son, James, on a farm in Kawakawa, a small town on New Zealand's North Island. Cheeky and vivacious, the 99-year-old is preparing to celebrate her centenary. Over the next seven days, as James organizes the festivities, capping the last two decades of preparing his mum to cross over to the spirit world. JAMES & ISEY is a film about aroha (love).

30PIC
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JOCKEY

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 93M

DIRECTOR: CLINT BENTLEY

9-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA

An aging jockey (Clifton Collins Jr.), hopes to win one last title for his longtime trainer (Molly 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 rookie rider (Moises Arias), who claims to be his son, and whom he takes under his wing, further complicates the path to fulfilling his dream.

PLAYS WITH: MIA, MARGUERITE & MARGE

BMW of Honolulu
MINI OF HAWAII

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JUNHO

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA

SOUTH KOREA, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 104M

DIRECTOR: DAVID BOO

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Junho wanted nothing more than to be a great actor. But when his prestigious Seoul acting troupe is rocked by a #MeToo scandal, he escapes to San Francisco, to start a new life. Unlike Junho's attempt to overcome loneliness, isolation and the loss of his best friend Jin, who was a victim of the scandal, his transgression from the past dislocates him from the present. Filmed on location in Seoul and San Francisco, JUNHO is a contemporary story that intertwines themes of sexual abuse, male culpability, immigration and identity.

KO-FIC
Korean Film Council

KBFD
Korean Film Bank

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KARMALINK

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

FILM FOR THOUGHT | SOUTHEAST ASIAN SHOWCASE

CAMBODIA, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, KHMER, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 102M

DIRECTOR: JAKE WACHTEL

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

KARMALINK is a buddhist sci-fi mystery that follows a boy named Leng Heng. Living in the slums of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Leng 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 "nanobugs" to navigate through foreign memories. On their journey, Leng and his friends uncover conspiracies of reincarnation and confront the man behind it all.

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LAN YU (4K RESTORATION)

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG

HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CANTONESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 86M

DIRECTOR: STANLEY KWAN

6-NOV 3:00 PM | KAHALA

It's 1988 in Beijing. Domineering businessman Chen Handong lives 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 Bei Tong's novel Beijing Comrades, widely hailed as a milestone in queer Chinese literature, LAN YU chronicles Chen Handong and Lan Yu's relationship through a decade of political and economic upheaval in China.

Hong Kong
Economic & Trade Office
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KIM MIN-YOUNG OF THE REPORT CARD

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA

SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 94M

DIRECTOR: LEE JAE-EUN, LIM JISUN

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

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 hometown, 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.

KO-FIC
Korean Film Council

KBFD
Korean Film Bank

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THE LAST GOZE

WORLD PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 109M

DIRECTOR: MASAHARU TAKIZAWA

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Blind since infancy, Haru had little opportunity as a young girl in Japan. With her father passed and her mother ill, Haru's best option is to become a "goze" - a traveling singer and storyteller respected by many of the common folk. THE LAST GOZE is the tragic yet inspiring true story of Haru Kobayashi, one the last artists of her kind. Haru endures relentless emotional and physical violence to become one of the most famous performers of her generation, eventually named one of Japan's Living National Treasures.

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LAST OF THE WOLVES

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 139M

DIRECTOR: KAZUYA SHIRAIISHI

7-NOV 4:30 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Set three years after THE BLOOD OF WOLVES, Detective Shuichi Hioka successfully implements Shogo Ogami's plan to control the yakuza as Ogami, his slain partner, intended. But when a sinister individual is released from prison, Hioka's plan unravels, and his wish for peace between gangs and a crimeless community is put to the test. LAST OF THE WOLVES follows up the first film as an inventive, crime-thriller and a reinvention of the cop-versus-gangster genre.

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LIMBO

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG

CHINA, HONG KONG SAR CHINA | CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 118M

DIRECTOR: SOI CHEANG

10-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA

14-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA

From director Soi Cheang, comes the biggest Hong Kong Chinese action crime thriller of the year. A serial killer is on the loose. Under public pressure to solve the case, the police reinstate veteran detective Cham (Gordon Lam Ka Tung) on active duty and assign him to the case with rookie cop Will (Mason Lee). However, Cham's past returns to haunt him when he encounters To (Cya Liu), the girl who killed his wife and child in a car accident.

Hong Kong
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HAWAII
NATIONAL
BANK



LISTEN BEFORE YOU SING

UNITED STATES PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN

TAIWAN ROC | CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 113M

DIRECTOR: YANG CHIH-LIN

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

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 tribe, 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?



LONG DAY

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA

SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 100M

DIRECTOR: CHO SUNG-KYU

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Over the course of a day in four vignettes, a group of interconnected people have a series of interactions. When a novelist moves into his house, he finds a woman who claims she used to live there. A filmmaker scouts a location with her boyfriend, but arguments get in the way. Two people who lost their spouses in a car accident deliberate whether the deceased were having an affair. A writer visits an old friend, hoping to receive permission to turn her story into a film.



THE LOST DAUGHTER

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA

GREECE, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 121M

DIRECTOR: MAGGIE GYLLENHAAL

10-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA

14-NOV 3:00 PM | KAHALA

While on a summer holiday, middle-aged university professor Leda (Oscar®; winner Olivia Colman) becomes transfixed by Nina (Dakota Johnson), a young mother. The chance encounter turns into an obsession that triggers memories of motherhood, career turns, and past loves. Soon, under the burning sun of the small coastal town, Leda's darkest impulses and hidden truths emerge. Maggie Gyllenhaal adapts Elena Ferrante's acclaimed novel, deftly channeling the book's emotional energy through a sensibility entirely her own.



LOVE AND FURY

HAWAII PREMIERE

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA | INDIGENOUS LENS

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 93M

DIRECTOR: STERLIN HARJO

11-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

A bold and honest look at the complexities of Native identity and art, through the lens of Sterlin Harjo (RESERVATION DOGS), in conversation with Indigenous artists living in the US and abroad. This yearlong portrait of 20 creatives (musicians, poets, sculptors, performance artists, muralists, comedians) reminds the viewer of the rich, diverse and sometimes brooding artistic expression of Native peoples.

A Master Class with director Sterlin Harjo will follow the screening.



MAD GOD

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 83M

DIRECTOR: PHIL TIPPETT

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

MAD GOD is a jaw-dropping stop-motion animated journey into madness, 30 years in the making, birthed by FX titan Phil Tippet (STAR WARS, ROBOCOP, JURASSIC PARK). Defying description, MAD GOD opens with a steampunk explorer as it navigates a series of horror-filled worlds populated by deranged mad scientists, gruesome experiments, and amorphous creatures. There is no "good and evil," just cruelty and chaos explored through themes of exploitation, destruction, and frenzied capitalism. MAD GOD is a beautifully deranged artistic achievement with an uncompromising vision.



THE MAGICIAN ON THE SKYWALK (SERIES)

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN

TAIWAN ROC | MANDARIN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 500M

DIRECTOR: YANG YA-CHE

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Set in 1980s Taipei, Budian, the imaginative son of a shoe vendor, fantasizes that the titular magician who also sells his wares next to him, has supernatural powers and is able to channel the various urban legends and folklore to life. This proves as a great narrative vehicle for the series, as stories depicting children of working-class families in a now bygone era, is realized by engaging performances and a sizable TV production budget. For many Taiwanese, this is a nostalgic trip worth taking.



MANZANAR, DIVERTED: WHEN WATER BECOMES DUST

HAWAII PREMIERE

GREEN SCREEN | INDIGENOUS LENS

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 84M

DIRECTOR: ANN KANEKO

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Beginning in Payahuunadū ("the land of flowing water"), also known as Owens Valley, director Ann Kaneko lights the colonial legacy of injustice shared at the site of Manzanar. This documentary is a contentious memorial to the internment of Japanese Americans and the little known grounds where indigenous communities have fought for their rights to the lands and water that sustain them. Poetically weaving memories of Native Americans, Japanese American WWII incarcerated, and environmentalists, this film is an embodiment of solidarity you will not want to miss.



MEMORIA

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA

COLOMBIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, MEXICO, THAILAND, UNITED KINGDOM | ENGLISH, SPANISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 136M

DIRECTOR: APICHPONG WEERASETHAKUL

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.



MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 81M

DIRECTOR: KATE TSANG

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Teenage delinquent Sammy Ko teams up with a surly children's party magician (Rhea Perlman) on a bizarre adventure to navigate her tumultuous home life and inner demons. She finds inspiration in this strange spinster who grabs joie de vivre by the bootstraps, and tries to teach herself magic of her own. An appealing odd-couple road movie, this endearing and quirky coming-of-age story that touches on unlikely friendships, grief, and finding hope in the darkest moments.



MIRACLE CITY KOZA

WORLD PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 119M

DIRECTOR: KAZUHIRO TAIRA

7-NOV 1:00 PM | KAHALA | 19-NOV 5:00 PM | PALACE

20-NOV 5:00 PM | WAIMEA | NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

Koza City, Okinawa, present day. Shota, the grandson of legendary rocker Haru, has been spending his days in idleness, when his grandfather is killed in a traffic accident. Shortly thereafter, Haru's ghost appears to Shota with an otherworldly proposition: trade bodies so grandpa can take care of unfinished business! Suddenly, Shota finds himself transported to the 1970s, his spirit transmuted to the then young Haru. The problem is Shota doesn't know how to play rock n' roll...

PLAYS WITH: NINUFABUSHI MIATI



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MONEYBOYS

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN | ASIAN CINERAMA

TAIWAN ROC | MANDARIN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 120M

DIRECTOR: C.B. YI

NOV 15 - 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.

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NEMESIS

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 95M

DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Troubled LA cyborg cop Alex is ordered to apprehend his former partner Jared, accused of smuggling data to information terrorists plotting to kill government officials. Continuing in Albert Pyun's fascination with cyborg dystopian settings, NEMESIS is Albert Pyun delving hard into William Gibson cyberpunk mode, but with multinational backdrops and business-suits-and-machine-pistols aesthetic, and where shotguns and shoot ballistic missiles. It's still balls-to-the-wall Pyun!

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NINJA GIRL

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 88M

DIRECTOR: YU IRIE

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A Japanese city servant cares for her dying grandfather, a prominent opposer to the Immigrant Elimination Ordinance. Suddenly, a family friend commits suicide after admitting his role in concocting fraudulence to help push the act through. The city servant takes it upon herself to make things right after her grandpa informs her that she is actually the last survivor in a long lineage ... of ninjas. Directed by Yu Irie, NINJA GIRL goes beyond the stereotypes of ninja culture and cinema and offers a satirical take with strong, socially-relevant themes to current events in Japan.

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OFFICE ROYALE

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 102M

DIRECTOR: KAZUAKI SEKI

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Naoko Tanaka (Nao) is an ordinary office lady, who witnesses constant violence between the warring OL factions within her place of employment. The factions are blindsided by a newcomer, Ran Hojo, who quickly defeats everyone within the company. After extending her control over many factions throughout the city, Ran catches the eyes 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...

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OKAGESAMA DE ~HAWAII'NIKKI WOMEN'S TRAJECTORY~

WORLD PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

JAPAN | ENGLISH | 112M

DIRECTOR: HIROYUKI MATSUMOTO

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

On February 8, 1885, the first 153 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 Hiroyuki Matsumoto focuses on documenting testimonials and stories of Nisei women, especially stories about their parents, the Issei generation, unveling stories about plantation life, WWII, and their contribution to Hawai'i in reshaping government and society during the post-war.

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ONE SUMMER STORY

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 138M

DIRECTOR: SHUICHI OKITA

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 Shohei, she learns that her father was the leader of an infamous cult who has disappeared. Determined to track him down, Minami masterminds a plan to sneak off from her summer swim camp and meet her enigmatic dad.

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PARALLEL MOTHERS

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA

SPAIN | SPANISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 123M

DIRECTOR: PEDRO ALMODÓVAR

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 regret 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 latest from Pedro Almodóvar is a unique chamber piece that combines telenovela with a serious take on his country's unresolved past.

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ONE SECOND

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA

CHINA | CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 104M

DIRECTOR: ZHANG YIMOU

13-NOV 5:30 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 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 humour, this is a fable about how cinema can inspire us.

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THE PANTHERS (SERIES)

HAWAII PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS

NEW ZEALAND | ENGLISH | 90M

DIRECTOR: MIKI MAGASIVA, TOM HERN, VEA MAFI'E'O

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 Will 'Ilolahia 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 miniseries.

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OFF COUNTRY

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS

AUSTRALIA | ENGLISH | 96M

DIRECTOR: JOHN HARVEY, RHIAN SKIRVING

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. Over the course of a year, OFF COUNTRY follows several such students, who, despite hailing from distinct nations and having vastly different circumstances, each share a commitment to doing themselves and their families proud - no matter the difficulties.

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PARIS, 13TH DISTRICT

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA

FRANCE | FRENCH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 84M

DIRECTOR: JACQUES AUDIARD

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Émilie meets Camille who is attracted to Nora, who crosses paths with Amber. 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 auteur Celine Sciamma (PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE) "frenchifies" Tomine's work into a sensual and sexy triptych.



PAU HANA YEARS : GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF MOLO-KAI HOMESTEADING (SERIES)

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

MADE IN HAWAII

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, HAWAIIAN | 120M

DIRECTOR: MONTE HICKOK

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Presented as part of the 100 Years: Hawaiian Homes Commission Act archival screening series, 'Ulu'Ulu: the Henry Ku'uialoha Guigui 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 Moloka'i homesteads.



PETIT MAMAN

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA

FRANCE | FRENCH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 72M

DIRECTOR: CELINE SCIAMMA

7-NOV 1:30 PM | KAHALA

NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

8-year-old Nelly is spending time at her recently deceased grandmother's house while 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

HAWAII PREMIERE

PANORAMA

AUSTRALIA, CANADA, NEW ZEALAND, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 126M

DIRECTOR: JANE CAMPION

13-NOV 4:00 PM | KAHALA

20-NOV 8:00 PM | PALACE

Created by legendary director Jane Campion, Phil (Benedict Cumberbatch) instills fear in the eyes of those around him. His brother (Jesse Plummons)-all too aware of his brother's menacing nature-decides to bring home a new wife and her son. But Phil employs his most deadly, awe-inspiring capacity to inflict fear in his brother's new wife and son. THE POWER OF THE DOG explores toxic masculinity and living between the borders of insanity and passion.



THE PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

HAWAII PREMIERE

EAT. DRINK. FILM.

JAPAN | ENGLISH, JAPANESE, SPANISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 79M

DIRECTOR: TOSHIMICHI 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 Takemasa Shinohara of Ginza Shinohara, pastry chef Natsuko Shoji of Eté, 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

HAWAII PREMIERE

GREEN SCREEN

HONG KONG SAR CHINA | ENGLISH | 83M

DIRECTOR: JOANNA BOWERS

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Three passionate Hong Kongers strive to disrupt the textile and recycling industries by innovating sustainable solutions to change mindsets and transition towards a circular economy before the landfills overflow. Their stories are set against a backdrop of the rise and fall of the 'made in Hong Kong' industrial era through the eyes of the 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...



RIDE THE WAVE

HAWAII PREMIERE

SURF CINEMA

UNITED KINGDOM | ENGLISH | 84M

DIRECTOR: MARTYN ROBERTSON

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

14-year-old Ben Larg from the isle of Tiree, has made a name for himself as 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 unforgiving 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.



PLAYS WITH: ICEBOX



ROCK BOTTOM RISER

HAWAII PREMIERE

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 70M

DIRECTOR: FERN SILVA

21-NOV 4:00 PM | PALACE

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Hawaii's swirling, rolling flow of volcanic lava provides the anchor for this energetic, visually and sonically bold cinematic essay by experimental filmmaker Fern Silva. Filled with astounding telescopic imagery and engaging digressions into philosophically related phenomena, ROCK BOTTOM RISER breaks temporal and generic boundaries, touching upon everything from astronomy to geology to ethnography, from the origins of the universe to colonialism's remapping of our planet. Silva erupts all notions of what one might expect from "nature documentary" filmmaking, and shows viewers familiar worlds made alien.



THE RETURN: LIFE AFTER ISIS

HAWAII PREMIERE

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

SPAIN, UNITED KINGDOM | ENGLISH | 90M

DIRECTOR: ALBA SOTORRA CLUA

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 languish in limbo, stateless to this day. With unfettered access, director Alba Sotorra Clua and her team allow these women to tell their own stories for the first time.



RIPPLES OF LIFE

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA | KAU KA HOKU NOMINEE

CHINA | CHINESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 123M

DIRECTOR: WEI SHUJUN

8-NOV 7:00 PM | KAHALA

12-NOV 5:00 PM | KAHALA

An inventive film about the making of...a film, RIPPLES OF LIFE is a clever satire, both amusingly humorous and deeply contemplative. From newcomer director/writer Wei Shujun this delightful ode to the absurdity of filmmaking unfolds through a triptych of stories, told from the perspective of three different protagonists, all involved in a film production set in a small town.



RED ROCKET

HAWAII PREMIERE

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 128M

DIRECTOR: SEAN BAKER

13-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA

The audacious new film from writer-director Sean Baker (The Florida Project, Tangerine), starring Simon Rex in a magnetic, live-wire performance, RED ROCKET is a darkly funny, raw, and humane portrait of a uniquely American hustler and a hometown that barely tolerates him.



REEL WAHINE OF HAWAII: SEASON 3 (SERIES)

WORLD PREMIERE

MADE IN HAWAII

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 51M

DIRECTOR: HEATHER GIUGNI, ERIN LAU, ANNE MISAWA, SHIRLEY THOMPSON, VERA ZAMBONELLI

7-NOV 2:00 PM | KAHALA

NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

Produced by Hawaii'i Women in Filmmaking, REEL WAHINE OF HAWAII celebrates gender and cultural diversity behind the camera. But it also highlights the difficulties female filmmakers experience while directing. Season 3 follows six women of varying backgrounds speaking to the lack of diversity in the industry, the power of cinema for Native Hawaiian people, and the little known but long history of female filmmakers making movies in Hawaii.



PLAYS WITH: BLUE COOLER & OUR WALKS IN HAWAII



ROLLING

HAWAII PREMIERE

EAT. DRINK. FILM.

SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 75M

DIRECTOR: KWAK MIN-SEUNG

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

25-year-old Juri has been languishing away since the pandemic hit, living in her family's apartment, playing video games all day and ordering in take-out food. Her mother Young-shim on the other hand, has been working hard to keep her kim-bap shop alive. When Young-shim has to leave town suddenly, she gives Juri an ultimatum. Take over the shop while she's away, or move out. The unenthusiastic Juri must step up to the plate and perfect her mother's diverse kim-bap recipes or else!

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THE SALT IN OUR WATERS

HAWAII PREMIERE
GREEN SCREEN
BANGLADESH | BENGALI, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 106M
DIRECTOR: REZWAN SHAHRIAR SUMIT
14-NOV 1:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Rudro, an artist from Dhaka, travels to a remote fishing village beset by climate change in the Ganges Delta. His enormous box of art supplies singles him out as a city slicker among the rural population. Upon arrival, Rudro soon learns that he has come ashore in a deeply conservative Muslim community, and tensions surface when the villagers help Rudro unload his art supplies, and discover that he is a sculptor: a maker of idols.

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SHORT TERM 12 WITH DESTIN DANIEL CRETTON

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 96M
DIRECTOR: DESTIN DANIEL CRETTON
11-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA

Calm and competent, Grace (Brie Larsen) is a young counsellor 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 Destin Daniel Cretton's SHORT TERM 12, the film that put him on the map to a vibrant Hollywood career and the smash hit SHANG-CHI.

A Master Class with Destin Daniel Cretton will follow the screening.

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SINKHOLE

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA
SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 114M
DIRECTOR: KIM JI-HOON
NOV 10 - 28 | ONLINE

Park Dong-Won is thrilled. Finally after 10 years of saving, he has managed to purchase an apartment for his family. However, after moving in, something seems a bit strange, the apartment seems slightly tilted. But Dong-Won is too excited to pay this much mind. However, the morning after his housewarming party, disaster strikes! Without warning, a massive sinkhole opens up, plunging the building 500 meters into the earth. Dong-Won, his hungover colleagues, and his surly neighbor must band together if they have any chance at survival!

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THE SEEDS OF VANDANA SHIVA

HAWAII PREMIERE
GREEN SCREEN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 82M
DIRECTOR: CAMILLA BECKET, JAMES BECKET
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

THE SEEDS OF VANDANA SHIVA profiles one of the most important activists and revolutions of the modern day: a strong-willed daughter of a Himalayan forest conservator engaged in a David and Goliath-esque strife against multinational corporations such as Monsanto who aim to perpetuate 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.

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SHRIEKING IN THE RAIN

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN
JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 102M
DIRECTOR: EIJI UCHIDA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

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 berate 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.

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SOUNDS OF TAIWAN: A SYMPHONY BY BAO YUANKAI

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN
TAIWAN ROC | MANDARIN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M
DIRECTOR: HEATHER TSUI
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Celebrated Chinese composer Bao YuanKai had an artistic breakthrough when he came to Taiwan nearly three decades ago. Director Heather Tsui (LONG TIME NO SEA, HIFF38) follows Bao over the past decade and shows him at work, in rehearsal with orchestras, visiting parts of the island nation that inspired his compositions, in conversation with his peers, and preparing for his magnum opus, capturing the beautiful sights, culture and unique perspectives of Taiwan.

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SPIRITWALKER

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA
SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 108M
DIRECTOR: YOON JAE-KEUN
7-NOV 8:00 PM | KAHALA
12-NOV 6:00 PM | KAHALA

From the mind of writer/director Yoon Jae-Keun 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 jumping to a new body every 12 hours, and each of the bodies in which he lands are connected to each other in some way...

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THE SWORD AND THE SORCERER

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: ALBERT PYUN
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 99M
DIRECTOR: ALBERT PYUN
6-NOV 4:30 PM | KAHALA

An 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 and went onto become a box office success. HIFF is proud and delighted to feature legendary B-movie director Albert Pyun's arguably best work.

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TEINE SĀ - THE ANCIENT ONES

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS
NEW ZEALAND | ENGLISH | 60M
DIRECTOR: MATASILA FRESHWATER
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

TEINE SĀ is a supernatural anthology film based on 5 notorious goddesses of the Pacific. After centuries of slumber, the 'Teine SĀ' or 'the ancient ones' have been evoked to come into the world once again. Set in modern day, ordinary Pasifika women have encounters with these ancient spirits who help them in their struggles and leave lessons in their wake. These tales of the unexpected take on many twists and turns, putting a chilling contemporary spin on these age old legends from Oceania.

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STORM LAKE

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 85M
DIRECTOR: BETH LEVISON, JERRY RISIUS
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

The Storm Lake Times publishes a paper on a shoestring budget for an audience of just 3,000 readers. Led by its Pulitzer-prize winning editor-in-chief Art Cullen, The Times is an undeniable institution, but it is at risk of extinction. Big Agriculture draws capital and people away from the community, and local print media is losing ground against social media and ad-driven sources. STORM LAKE is a documentary that honors a legacy of noble journalism in a time where facts are under assault and courage is scarce.

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THE TAKING

HAWAII PREMIERE
DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 76M
DIRECTOR: ALEXANDRE PHILIPPE
7-NOV 3:00 PM | KAHALA
NOV 10 - 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 self-perpetuating falsehoods, and why it continues to hold mythic significance in the global psyche.

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TEN MONTHS

HAWAII PREMIERE
SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA | KAU KA HŌKŪ NOMINEE
SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M
DIRECTOR: NAMKOONG SUN
12-NOV 8:30 PM | KAHALA
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Mirae 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 Mirae awakens one day feeling nauseous. Panicked and in denial, Mirae begins a comical journey through pregnancy, discovering the woes, the joys, and the social connotations 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.



TICK, TICK...BOOM!

HAWAII PREMIERE
PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 115M

DIRECTOR: LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

12-NOV 5:15 PM | KAHALA

13-NOV 12:30PM | KAHALA

Lin-Manuel Miranda (HAMILTON) makes his feature directorial debut with TICK, TICK...BOOM!, an adaptation of the autobiographical musical by Jonathan Larson, who revolutionized theater as the creator of RENT. The film follows Jon (Andrew Garfield), a young theater composer who's waiting tables at a New York City diner in 1990 while writing what he hopes will be the next great American musical. With the clock ticking, Jon is at a crossroads and faces the question everyone must reckon with: What are we meant to do with the time we have?



TIME

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG

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

DIRECTOR: RICKY KO

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, and now they must service the elderly, calling hits on themselves, until a young girl subscribes to their services, challenging Chau to make an important decision. TIME is an exploration of aging and community.



TIONG BAHRU SOCIAL CLUB

HAWAII PREMIERE

SOUTHEAST ASIAN SHOWCASE

SINGAPORE | ENGLISH | 88M

DIRECTOR: BEE THIAM TAN

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Meet Ah Bee: an office worker who always puts on a smile for others. For his thirtieth birthday, his doting mother gifts him membership to Tiong Bahru Social Club, a new planned community that maximizes the happiness of its residents through an all-seeing artificial intelligence. When Ah Bee arrives, he also signs up to become a "happiness agent" for seniors in Tiong Bahru's assisted living facilities. Is this where he will finally find fulfillment?



TRY HARDER!

HAWAII PREMIERE

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 85M

DIRECTOR: DEBBIE LUM

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

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 the few open spots in their dream colleges. With humor and heart, director Debbie Lum takes us to the reality of the American college application process and the intersection of class, race, and educational opportunity as experienced by high school seniors living through it.



USERS

HAWAII PREMIERE

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 81M

DIRECTOR: NATALIA ALMADA

14-NOV 1:30 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

Winning for Best Directing, U.S. Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival, USERS is the first English-language effort by 2012 MacArthur "Genius" Awardee Natalia Almada. Almada asks what the world will be like for her child and whether she is comfortable with his potential loss of human agency in a "technopoly." Supported by Bennett Cerf's astounding photography and a dreamy score compiled by Dave Cerf and featuring the Kronos Quartet, USERS reflects on an anthropological past that is, indeed, our uncanny present.



WE'VE ONLY GOT THIS WORLD

UNITED STATES PREMIERE

PACIFIC SHOWCASE | INDIGENOUS LENS

VANUATU | BISLAMA, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 77M

DIRECTOR: PETER WALKER

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

Rodney and Betty are classmates in Vanuatu. He is an ardent environmentalist who has a crush on her, while she is boy crazy for a local DJ. Rodney is driven to bring awareness of the effects of climate change to his community. When Betty is sent to visit her grandfather, only then does she realize that the climate crisis is real. Can her new awareness bring her closer to Rodney, who runs into trouble with local leaders when his one man crusade causes tensions?



WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND FANTASY

HAWAII PREMIERE

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN | ASIAN CINERAMA

JAPAN | JAPANESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 121M

DIRECTOR: RYUSUKE HAMAGUCHI

NOV 4 - 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 old friends. Appearances deceive, actions lie, and people are not who they seem to be. (Silver Bear winner, 2021 Berlin International Film Festival.)



WHO WE ARE: A CHRONICLE OF RACISM IN AMERICA

HAWAII PREMIERE

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 117M

DIRECTOR: EMILY KUNSTLER, SARAH KUNSTLER

6-NOV 1:30 PM | KAHALA

Interweaving lecture, personal anecdotes, interviews, and shocking revelations, criminal defense and civil rights lawyer Jeffery Robinson draws a stark timeline of anti-Black racism in the United States, from slavery to the modern myth of a post-racial America.



WHETHER THE WEATHER IS FINE

HAWAII PREMIERE

SOUTHEAST ASIAN SHOWCASE | KAU KA HOKU NOMINEE

PHILIPPINES | TAGALOG, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR: CARLO FRANCISCO MANATAD

14-NOV 7:30 PM | KAHALA

14-NOV 7:00PM - 11:00PM | ONLINE

17-NOV 7:00PM - 11:00PM | ONLINE

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 Manila-bound ship, and Norma searches for a man from her past. Processions of the living and dead pass them by, more surreal than somber, challenging our three survivors to make sense out of the seemingly senseless.



WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED

HAWAII PREMIERE

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES

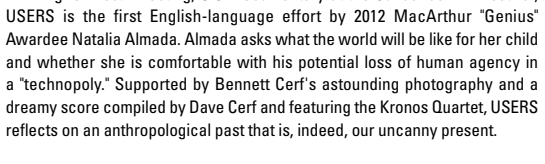
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 193M

DIRECTOR: KIER-LA JANISSE

10-NOV 6:30 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

The first documentary on the history of folk horror, exploring the history of this unique genre from its beginnings in the 1960s to its revival today tracking its trajectory from the UK, Europe, America and Asia. Touching on over 200 films, WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED investigates the many ways that we alternately celebrate, conceal and manipulate our own histories in an attempt to find spiritual resonance in our surroundings.



WRITING WITH FIRE

HAWAII PREMIERE

DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

INDIA | HINDI, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 93M

DIRECTOR: SUSHMIT GHOSH, RINTU THOMAS

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

In the midst of a patriarchal news landscape, the reporters with Khabar Lahariya - India's only all-female news network - are taking it upon themselves to cover their country's inequities with unflinching and intrepid determination. Armed only with their smartphones, these fearless journalists roam the state of Uttar Pradesh, exposing the country's extremist Hindu leadership, rape culture, and rampant corruption. WRITING WITH FIRE follows this ambitious group of Dalit women-led by their chief reporter, Meera, one of the undaunted women from India's lowest caste behind Khabar Lahariya.





THE YEAR OF THE EVERLASTING STORM

HAWAII PREMIERE
GREEN SCREEN

UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 115M

DIRECTOR: ANTHONY CHEN, DAVID LOWERY, JAFAR PANAH, LAURA POITRAS, DOMINGO SOTOMAYOR, MALIK VITTHAL, APICHATPONG WEERASETHAKUL

14-NOV 6:00 PM | KAHALA

NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE

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

HAWAII 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.



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.

FILM PROGRAM



BLUE COOLER

DIRECTOR: LAURA MARGULIES

BLUSH

DIRECTOR: JOE MATEO

HOW TO CATCH A TAOTAOMONA

DIRECTOR: NEIL TINKHAM

KAPAEMAHU

DIRECTORS: HINALEIMOANA WONG-KALU, JOE WILSON, DEAN HAMER

MILK

DIRECTOR: CELIA JASPERS

SINA MA TINIRAU

DIRECTORS: VILSONI HERENIKO, GAVIN ARUCAN

THE TINY TREE

DIRECTOR: ANNIE CUSICK WOOD

YUAN YUAN AND THE HOLLOW MONSTER

DIRECTOR: CATHERINE CHEN



HIFF41 AND TAIJI TERASAKI PRESENT: KAIMANA NOVEMBER 5 - 28 | BISHOP MUSUEM

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 Hawaii and Pacific island life, highlighting fond memories of the Waikiki Natatorium's community and vibrant ocean culture.



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 Hawaii at Manoa and college students studying in Hawaii.



AGAPE

DIRECTOR: JUSTIN KIMATA, CHRISTIAN LEE

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

ONIPAA

DIRECTOR: DYLLON CHING

LAST NIGHT

DIRECTOR: DOUGLAS HABAN



DOCUMENTARY PANORAMA

AVAILABLE

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A selection of short documentaries from around the world in tandem with our Documentary Panorama program at HIFF41.



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

RADICAL CARE: THE AUNTIE SEWING SQUAD

DIRECTOR: VALERIE SOE

UNEMPLOYMENT HOTLINE

DIRECTOR: NIKOS CAMPBELL

WE CAME BACK FOR YOU

DIRECTOR: AKIRA BOCH, TAIJI TERASAKI

YELLO

DIRECTOR: KING YAW SOON



EAT. DRINK. FILM.

AVAILABLE

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

A pupu platter of delectable short film delights in tandem with our Eat. Drink. Film. program at HIFF41.



LITTLE FISH

DIRECTOR: EDWARD COLUMBIA

NO PLACE LIKE KASAMA

DIRECTOR: KERRI PANG

PHOENIX BAKERY: SWEETS FOR THE SWEET

DIRECTOR: JANET CHEN

TANAGOKORO: A CULINARY PORTRAIT

DIRECTOR: VICTORIA FISTES, MASASHI NOZAKI



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

BLUSH
DIRECTOR: JOE MATEO

HOW TO CATCH A TAOTAOMONA
DIRECTOR: NEIL TINKHAM

MILK
DIRECTOR: CELIA JASPERS

THE TINY TREE
DIRECTOR: ANNIE CUSICK WOOD

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

FIRE IN THE WATER, FIRE IN THE SKY
DIRECTOR: MÍRIA GEORGE

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: SANCIA SHIBA NASH

MAHĀLANG
DIRECTOR: NATHANIEL BROWN, ELLIOT DEBRUYN, CAILI QUAN

MALIHINI
DIRECTOR: HAAHEO AUWAE-DEKKER

PILI KA MO'O
DIRECTOR: JUSTYN AH CHONG

SINA MA TINIRAU
DIRECTOR: GAVIN ARUCAN, VILSONI HERENIKO

URCHIN
DIRECTOR: TAOFIA PELESASA

MADE IN HAWAI'I

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.



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

ALA MOANA BOYS
DIRECTOR: KELI'I GRACE

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

KA HO'I - THE RETURN
DIRECTOR: MITCHEL VIERNES

LAST HAWAIIAN SUGAR
DIRECTOR: DÉJÀ CRESENCIA BERNHARDT

RIVER OF SMALL GODS
DIRECTOR: BRADLEY TANGONAN

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
HILO, KAUAI & ONLINE

BALLISTIC
DIRECTOR: ZACK HARRIS

BLUE COOLER
DIRECTOR: LAURA MARGULIES
ONLINE, ALSO PLAYS WITH KEIKI SHORTS

BROK3N
DIRECTOR: KURT JONES

CASHBACK
DIRECTOR: ZOE EISENBERG
ONLINE, ALSO PLAYS WITH JOCKEY

ESCAPE VELOCITY
DIRECTOR: SAMUEL DAVENPORT
O'AHU & ONLINE

GONE CAMPING
DIRECTOR: EMILY KIM
O'AHU & ONLINE

IN THE LIGHT
DIRECTOR: KAILER SCOPACASA
HILO, KAUAI & ONLINE

MIA, MARGUERITE & MARGE
DIRECTOR: MARISSA DIMITRION
ONLINE, ALSO PLAYS WITH JOCKEY

OUR WALKS IN HAWAI'I
DIRECTOR: LEE-WON FULBRIGHT
ONLINE, ALSO PLAYS WITH REEL WĀHINE OF HAWAI'I

TROUBLE IN PARADISE
DIRECTOR: MIKE BAYMAN

WHEN YOU STOP RUNNING
DIRECTOR: KRYSTA LEI
O'AHU & ONLINE

PROGRAM THREE

AVAILABLE
13-NOV 11:30 AM | KAHALA
18-NOV 7:00 PM | KA'AHUMANU
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, MATT YAMASHITA



PANORAMA

AVAILABLE

NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE

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



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

NUEVO RICO

DIRECTOR: KRISTIAN MERCADO

SUNSHINE CITY

DIRECTOR: EVAN LAMAGNA

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.



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

NOSES ON THE RUN

DIRECTOR: KIM BORAM

PLOT

DIRECTOR: JEON IN-HWAN

TAKE ME HOME, COUNTRY ROADS

DIRECTOR: JEON SHI HYOUNG

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE RAINBOW STATE

DIRECTOR: JINYOUNG LEE WON

Proud to be the Official Airline of the 41st Annual Hawai'i International Film Festival



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





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](https://www.hiff.org)

LOCATION

HIFF XR LOUNGE

NOV 20 - 21 | 12:00PM - 6:00PM

ENTREPRENEURS SANDBOX

643 Ilalo St, Honolulu

Immerse yourself in the wonderous 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](https://www.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](https://www.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](https://www.hiff.org) from November 4-28, 2021.

XR PROGRAMS

XR TALK

NOV 19 | 5:00PM - 8:00PM

BOXJELLY | 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](https://www.hiff.org).

VR FILMS

HIFF's selection of awe-inspiring XR 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 NAMOO, 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 famous fashion designer battling through the spectre of greed and fame. Experience the hidden perspective of paranoid time traveler, MODERN POLAXIS, through his private journal hidden away in a layer of AR and accessible through an app, comic book and posters. Step into the sacred space of BREONNA'S GARDEN, a powerful and moving AR installation that allows us to pause and honor the life of Breonna Taylor while remembering those whom we miss.

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 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](https://www.hiff.org).

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 around out there in the dark alien jungle?

BREONNA'S GARDEN

In solidarity with Breonna Taylor's family, Breonna's Garden is a revolutionary framework for veneration through augmented reality (AR). As a sacred space, the Garden is brimming with flowers, butterflies, and a few of Breonna's favorite things.

THE GIRL AND THE CRANE

Hermanio was once a famous fashion designer who had the gift to communicate true beauty through his art. But when he became corrupted by commerce and fame he lost his gift. A chance meeting with a crane and a girl, gave him an opportunity to redeem himself - which he did, briefly - until the spectre of greed and fame haunted him once again and he fell back into his corrupted ways.

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, Quill 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

Namoo 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 deeply personal yet surprisingly universal piece that will resonate with each viewer.

OFFING

On a volcanic island located southeastern of Taiwan lives 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 hundred 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.



Alex & Andrew Le *The Pig & The Lady*

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**



Presenting Sponsor of the
HIFF41 Spotlight on China

HAWAII NATIONAL BANK

STUDENT SHOWCASE

FILM PROGRAM



Kosasa Foundation

Presenting the very best of short films from the youth of Hawai'i who are under 18-years-old.

**MCINERNEY
FOUNDATION**

AVAILABLE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE | FREE



ANIMATION

BAM BAM CRASH!

DIRECTOR: MARISA TONAKI

RAINY DAY

DIRECTOR: ARIANNA NICHOLS

MĀLAMALAMA - LIGHT OF KNOWLEDGE

DIRECTOR: AI LANGEVIN, KAYLA LIM-TAM

HAWAI'I BAPTIST ACADEMY ANIMATION CLASS 4

DIRECTOR: DANE ANDERSON, CONNIE CHEN,
JORDY DAVENPORT, KADEN KOBASHIGAWA,
TITUS LEE, NOAH NISHIMOTO, SAMANTHA
SEBASTICAN, JARREN SESON, MICAH SHIBUYA,
JOLIE TANABE, KALEE ANN TANI

PAPER PLANES

DIRECTOR: TERINA CHANG AND LAM NGUYEN

DOCUMENTARY

AUPUNI

DIRECTOR: INEZ ANDERSON, MAE HA

MALASADA COUPLE

DIRECTOR: CHAZZ COPPA

A BOY'S JOURNEY: CROSSING THE ALENUIHAAH CHANNEL

DIRECTOR: DEVERAUX GALLAGHER

PERSPECTIVE

DIRECTOR: CARLOS FLORES

LEEWARD DRIVE INN

DIRECTOR: ISABELLA DELA PENA

ENVIRONMENTAL

DROWNING

DIRECTOR: KAILANI IBANEZ, KEANU FRITH,
KA'IMI KALELEIKI

SEA CREATURES STRIKE BACK

DIRECTOR: KIANA HAUGG, KATHERINE
SALOMON, BIANCA HAUGG, MALAKAI KARACA,
ISABELLA SALAMONE, SYDEN SMITH

'IKE 'ĀINA: A SENSE OF PLACE

DIRECTOR: MAGNOLIA PADGETT, MAHINA
BRAUN, NOHI CASCO, MAKALI'AHU HEWAHEWA

SEA LEVEL RISE ADAPTATION ON MAUI

DIRECTOR: KAWAI KAPUNI, ERIN TANAKA, DEVIN
ANDALUZ, KA'ILI CASCO

PAINTING THE APOCALYPSE WITH BOB ROSS

DIRECTOR: KATHERINE SALOMON, HARLEY
STRAIN, MARLEE WHYTE

WAIHE'E VIRTUAL HUAKA'I

DIRECTOR: KAILANI IBANEZ, HO'OHIEOKALĀ
LUNA-BEAMER, KA'IMI KALELEIKI

EXPERIMENTAL

FOOTPRINT

DIRECTOR: BRANDAN AOKI, KYLIE AOKI

MONOTONY

DIRECTOR: MEMPHIS SAVAGE

ROULETTE ROULETTE

DIRECTOR: MIN KUK KIM

NARRATIVE

AVERAGE

DIRECTOR: TYLER TARA

BURNOUT

DIRECTOR: KAILANI IBANEZ

CLOSING THE DISTANCE

DIRECTOR: MORIAH GILMORE

HOMESICK

DIRECTOR: JOHN KIM,
KENTA TERASAKI, JOHN SUNG

PERFECT

DIRECTOR: MARISA TONAKI

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 (K-12) students throughout Hawai'i. 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 Hawai'i's youth through hybrid classroom visits.

- Justyn Ah Chong
- Henry Ian Cusick
- Gerard Elmore
- Aizzah Fatima
- Keli'i Grace
- Kier-La Janisse
- Ciara Lacy
- Erin Lau
- Laura Margulies
- Anne Misawa
- Rick Quan
- Roshan Sethi
- Karan Soni
- Matt Yamashita
- Christopher Makoto Yogi
- Mitchel Viernes
- Annie Cusick Wood

MCINERNY FOUNDATION Kosasa Foundation



HIGH TIDE, DON'T HIDE
DIRECTOR: NIA PHIPPS, EMILY MCDOWELL, NIVA KAY, PHIL STEBBING / 82M



TRY HARDER!
DIRECTOR: DEBBIE LUM / 84M



MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE
DIRECTOR: KATE TSANG / 81M

DANIEL K. INOUE 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 Hawai'i 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.



442nd Regimental Combat Team was formed in 1943, with 4,500 volunteer Americans of Japanese ancestry, including the U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye.



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 Hawai'i 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



NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES PROGRAM



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 filmscreenings, 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



7 DAYS NAP FEATURE FILM

HAWAI’I PREMIERE
UNITED STATES | ENGLISH | 96M
DIRECTOR/CO-WRITER: ROSHAN SETHI | CO-WRITER/LEAD ACTOR: KARAN SONI
LEAD ACTRESS: GERALDINE VISWANATHAN

NOV-11 7:00 PM
CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KAHALA
AVAILABLE NOV 15 – 28 | ONLINE | USA

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



WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED

HAWAI’I PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 193M
DIRECTOR: KIER-LA JANISSE

NOV-10 6:30PM | CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KAHALA
AVAILABLE NOV 15 – 28 | ONLINE | USA

NEW AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES IN FILMMAKING PANEL



AMERICANISH

HAWAI’I PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH | 90M
DIRECTOR/CO-WRITER: IMAN ZAWAHRY CO-WRITER/LEAD ACTRESS: AIZZAH FATIMA

NOV-13 5:00PM | CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KAHALA
NOV-19 5:30PM | CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KAAHUMANU (MAUI)
AVAILABLE NOV 15 – 28 | ONLINE | USA



RED ROCKET

HAWAI’I PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH | 128M
DIRECTOR: SEAN BAKER | PRODUCER: SHIH-CHING TSOU

IN THEATERS ONLY NOV-13 8:00PM | CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KAHALA



USERS

HAWAI’I PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2021 | ENGLISH | 81M
DIRECTOR: NATALIA ALMADA

NOV-14 1:30PM | CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KAHALA
AVAILABLE NOV 15 – 28 | ONLINE | HAWAI’I-ONLY

13-NOV 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | HIFF.ORG, FACEBOOK LIVE, & YOUTUBE

On Saturday, November 13, HIFF and the Vilcek Foundation will present a LIVE panel discussion with the 2021 New American Perspectives Filmmakers. Moderated by Anna Page, panelists will discuss their careers, their films at HIFF, and diversity and representation in filmmaking. Panelists include Natalia Almada, Aizzah Fatima, Kier-La Janisse, Shih-Ching Tsou, Roshan Sethi, Karan Soni, and Geraldine Viswanathan.



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 innovation 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.

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 JANE—starring Elizabeth Banks and Sigourney Weaver—with Hayley Schore. 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 televisions MIRACLE WORKERS, opposite New American Perspectives filmmaker Karan Soni.



NATALIA ALMADA

2012 MacArthur “Genius” fellow and two-time recipient of the Sundance Documentary Directing Award for EL GENERAL in 2009 and USERS in 2021, Natalia Almada’s directing credits include—TODO LO DEMÁS (New York Film Festival 2016), EL VELADOR (Cannes 2011), AL OTRO LADO (Tribeca 2005) and ALL WATER HAS A PERFECT MEMORY (Sundance 2002). She lives in Mexico City and San Francisco.



AIZZAH FATIMA

Born in Saudi Arabia, Aizzah Fatima is an award-winning writer, actor, comedian, producer, and a former Google engineer. Her feature film, AMERICANISH, had its world premiere at CAAMFest, where it won the audience award; her one-woman show, DIRTY PAKI LINGERIE, has been produced around the world. Fatima’s television pilot, MUSLIM GIRLS DTF: DISCUSS THEIR FAITH, is the winner of the 2020 Roddenberry Foundation Impact Award and an ISF Film award.



KIER-LA JANISSE

Kier-La Janisse is a Canadian-born film writer, programmer, producer, and the founder of The Miskatonic Institute of Horror Studies. WOODLANDS DARK AND DAYS BEWITCHED marks her directorial debut. A producer and editor at Severin Films, she produced the documentaries WE ALWAYS FIND OURSELVES IN THE SEA (2017), and TALES OF THE UNCANNY (2020). She is the author of two nonfiction books on horror and genre, and has edited and contributed to many others.



SHIH-CHING TSOU

Shih-Ching Tsou is a Taiwanese-born film producer, director, and writer based in New York City. She is the producer of RED ROCKET, directed by long-time collaborator, Sean Baker. Tsou first worked with Baker on her debut film, TAKE OUT, which was shown at HIFF in 2004. Tsou was the executive producer of STARLET (2012) as executive producer, and produced Baker’s highly-acclaimed films TANGERINE (2015) and THE FLORIDA PROJECT (2017). She was a Vilcek Creative Promise Prize Honoree in Filmmaking in 2009.

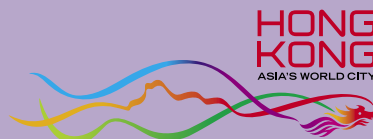
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SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG

FILM PROGRAM



FILMMAKER IN FOCUS: STANLEY KWAN

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 cinema's 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.

SCREENINGS



LAN YU (4K RESTORATION)

HAWAII 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

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 Gordan Lam Ka Tung.

SCREENINGS



SPOTLIGHT ON HONG KONG GALA

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 20 for film details.

DRIFTING

HAWAII 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.

LIMBO

HAWAII 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.

HAND ROLLED CIGARETTE

HAWAII 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

HAWAII PREMIERE
HONG KONG SAR CHINA 2020 | CANTONESE
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 99M

DIRECTOR: RICKY KO

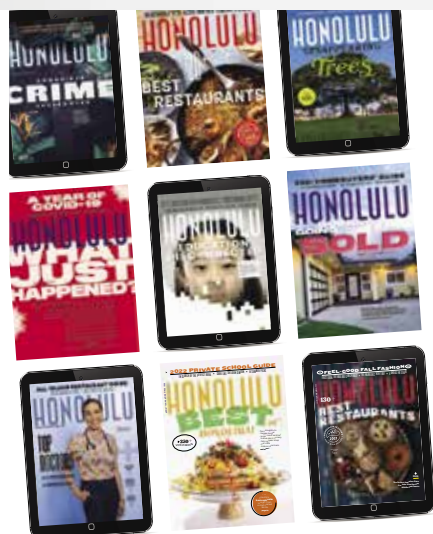
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE USA
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE USA

See Page 38 for film details.

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SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN



SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN: FROM TV TO VR TO CANNES

In the 2021 edition of HIFF's SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN, presented by the Ministry of Culture ROC and Taiwan Academy in Los Angeles, the Festival is honored to present a sweeping Taiwanese television series, four feature films, and two virtual reality projects. As content consumers view more filmed media via streaming services, and more independent filmmakers and producers are finding more opportunities to turn their projects into serialized content, it is only apropos for HIFF to also adapt to the changing media landscape, as the Festival also includes a streaming platform online as a sign of the times.

SERIES SCREENING

The Festival is honored to present a sweeping Taiwanese television series based on the short stories of famed writer Wu Ming-yi entitled THE MAGICIAN ON THE SKYWALK, as HIFF expands its programming to include premium television series from around the world. This presentation includes all 10 episodes of the series.



THE MAGICIAN ON THE SKYWALK

HAWAII PREMIERE
TAIWAN ROC 2021 | MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH
SUBTITLES | 500M

DIRECTOR: YANG YA-CHE
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE USA

FILM SCREENINGS

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 and SOUNDS OF TAIWAN: A SYMPHONY BY BAO YUANKAI provide the spectrum of the unique Taiwanese musical soundscape. The family-friendly LISTEN BEFORE

YOU SING, from director Yang Chih-lin, 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. Director Lily Ni's directorial debut, BORN TO BE HUMAN, is a unique coming-of-age story of a young teen, whose world is torn asunder when they learn that they were born inter-sex and the controversial twists and turns that occur from bullying to the lack of consent and agency on the control of one's body and identity.

MONEYBOYS

HAWAII PREMIERE
TAIWAN ROC 2020 | MANDARIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M

DIRECTOR: C.B. YI
NOV 15 - 28 | ONLINE USA

SOUNDS OF TAIWAN: A SYMPHONY BY BAO YUANKAI

HAWAII PREMIERE
TAIWAN ROC 2020 | MANDARIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M

DIRECTOR: HEATHER TSUI
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE USA

LISTEN BEFORE YOU SING

UNITED STATES PREMIERE
TAIWAN ROC 2020 | MANDARIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M

DIRECTOR: YANG CHIH-LIN
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE USA

BORN TO BE HUMAN

HAWAII PREMIERE
TAIWAN ROC 2020 | MANDARIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M

DIRECTOR: LILY NI
NOV 4 - 28 | ONLINE USA

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."

OFFING

HAWAII PREMIERE
TAIWAN ROC 2020 | MANDARIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M

DIRECTOR: CHEN SHIH-AN
NOV 20 - 21 | 12:00PM - 6:00PM |
ENTREPRENEURS SANDBOX

SAMSARA

HAWAII PREMIERE
TAIWAN ROC 2020 | MANDARIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 95M

DIRECTOR: HUANG HSIN-CHIEN
NOV 20 - 21 | 12:00PM - 6:00PM |
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