



2012 TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES SHORT FILM SELECTIONS

New York, NY [March 13, 2012] – The 2012 Tribeca Film Festival (TFF), presented by founding sponsor American Express, today announced its lineup of 60 short films, 26 of which are world premieres.

For the second year running, the recipient of the Tribeca Film Festival's Best Narrative Short award will qualify for consideration in the Short Films category of the annual Academy Awards® without the standard theatrical run, provided the film otherwise complies with the Academy rules. The 2011 TFF Narrative Short *Pentecost* was nominated for Best Live Action Short at this year's annual Academy Awards®, while last year's award-winning TFF documentary short *Incident in New Baghdad* was nominated for Best Documentary Short.

TFF's shorts programs chart a wide range of cultural perspectives and geographic coordinates. Drawn from more than 2,800 submissions, the 2012 roster represents 25 countries and territories, including Australia, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, France, Germany, Haiti, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Palestine, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Scotland, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Ukraine.

The 2012 slate will be presented in 9 thematic programs (5 narrative, 3 documentary and 1 experimental). Performers and interviewees include Jamie Lee Curtis, Rachel Dratch, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Michael Fassbender, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Rachael Harris, Hugh Masekela, Sting, and Lily Tomlin.

The year's lineup reflects a particularly wide range of stylistic signatures and storytelling techniques, from "Triptych," a documentary program focusing on art, music and physical beauty, to a decidedly testosterone-heavy edition of our ever-popular New York shorts program (titled "Men-Hattan" this year in honor of its unusually masculine bent), which will include the world premiere of writer-director (and TFF alum) Neil LaBute's *BFF*.

Returning TFF directors joining Neil LaBute include Julia Bacha, Matthew Bonifacio, Shawn Christensen, David Darg, Sasha-Waters Freyer, Martin Laporte, David B. Levy, Charles Lim, Bryn Mooser, Jay Rosenblatt, and Joel Schlemowitz.

"With a terrific balance of comedy and drama in the programs, this year's shorts lineup is sure to take TFF audiences on an amazing ride, twisting between narrative invention, documentary insights, and experimental landscapes," said Sharon Badal, TFF Head of Shorts Programming. "We're thrilled to have so many international short films in this year's selections, particularly from countries whose work may be new to our filmgoers."

Works selected for the 2012 TFF shorts slate are eligible to compete for combined cash and value-in-kind prizes totaling more than \$10,000 for Best Narrative Short, Best Documentary Short and Student Visionary Award.

Following is a listing of the selected short films in the nine programs in which they will be presented:

2012 TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL SHORT FILM PROGRAM

Men-Hattan – Narrative

Our New York shorts program takes a decidedly masculine turn in these testosterone-infused tales. In 1964 a young pediatrician begins his residency at *Willowbrook*, only to discover that the institution's medical personnel are conducting U.S. Army-funded experiments on the children (based on true events). A poor kid from Brooklyn with college dreams fights the fates for a chance to change his life in *Turning a Corner*. Each morning Vincent, a down-on-his-luck New Yorker, waits at the *B61* bus stop, but when mysterious Sal joins him, an unlikely friendship develops. A conservative Seattle shoe designer travels to New York City for the first time and experiences an unforgettable night in *Migraine*. Jack and Jill have been "best friends forever," and when Jill suspects that her boyfriend is cheating on her, Jack offers to help her in *BFF*. At the lowest point of his life, Richie gets a call from his estranged sister, asking him to look after his nine-year-old niece Sophia for a few hours in *Curfew*. A young man suspects the girl he is dating to be hiding a secret after she routinely orders massive amounts of food to go in *Doggy Bags*.

- *Willowbrook* · Directed by Ross Cohen, written by Andrew Rothschild · USA · World Premiere
- *Turning a Corner* · Directed and written by David B. Levy · USA · New York Premiere
- *B61* · Directed and written by Michael Buscemi · USA · World Premiere
- *Migraine* · Directed and written by Matthew Bonifacio · USA · World Premiere
- *BFF* · Directed and written by Neil LaBute · USA · World Premiere
- *Curfew* · Directed and written by Shawn Christensen · USA · New York Premiere
- *Doggy Bags* · Directed and written by Edward Burns · USA · World Premiere

Character Flaws –Narrative

These shorts provide a glimpse into self-identity and self-discovery. Yasemin lives in her own world of fantasy with the notes she feels and the sounds she sees, as she spends a day with her mother and grandfather in *Time of the Plums*. In *Donkey*, David, a London banker who was the most popular child in class, bumps into Stanley, whom he bullied in high school, resulting in a powerful encounter. The Fourth of July in Los Angeles is always about *Fireworks*, as two adolescent brothers set out on a quest to impress a group of girls. Once the show begins at this drive-in theater, the concession stand closes for the clerk's private performance, but tonight his victims seek revenge during *Intermission Time*. After participating in an execution by lethal injection, a doctor is so overcome by *Angst* that he decides to find a way out. A 12-year-old boy in a war-torn fishing village in Somalia must decide between falling into the pirate life or rising above to choose the path of an honest fisherman in *Asad*. Overweight Maori woman Kiri awakens powerful memories when she takes a trip with family and friends to the *Whakatiki* River, where she spent many summers as a girl. *Teacher of the Year* is a day in the life of Ethan Collins, a severely depressed, foul-mouthed elementary school teacher whose wife's recent infidelity and departure have left him questioning everything in his life.

- *Time of the Plums (Erik Zamani)* · Directed by Sezen Kayhan, written by Sezen Kayhan and Cemil Kavukçu · Turkey · New York Premiere
- *Donkey* · Directed and written by Keir Burrows · UK · New York Premiere
- *Fireworks* · Directed by Victor Hugo Duran, written by Kevin James McMullin · USA · World Premiere
- *Intermission Time* · Directed by Michael Degg · USA · New York Premiere
- *Angst (Angustia)* · Directed by León Rechy · Mexico · North American Premiere

- **Asad** · Directed and written by Bryan Buckley · USA · World Premiere
- **Whakatiki** · Directed by Louise Leitch, written by Bernadette Murphy · New Zealand · World Premiere
- **Teacher of the Year** · Directed by Chris MODOONO, written by Chris MODOONO and Gil Zabarsky · USA · World Premiere

Status Update – Narrative

Life's surprising twists and turns change the direction of these short films. In **Rung**, after a cathedral bell ringer passes away, his spot on the bell-ringing choir is up for grabs and two women find themselves in an unlikely competition for the coveted position. A couple's relationship goes through its first big test in a crowded spot in **Café Regular Cairo**. **GABI** is a sassy, sexy, and strong Puerto Rican woman, but an unexpected family death forces her to return to her native homeland, confronting a place she thought she had left behind. When a man brings his eight-year-old son to a soccer game and the ticket price is higher than he expected, he is desperate not to disappoint the boy in **Bad Gones**. In **Screenshot** Kate meets an old friend through Facebook and discovers just how unfriendly a place the internet can be. On his way to a statistics conference, John Wilkins is the victim of a freak accident, sucked out of a plane when an emergency door fails mid-flight at **43,000 Feet**. Clark and Becca leave a bar after a night out with friends, and when they pass a homeless man on the street Clark gets an idea in **Double or Nothing**. Liam and Michael are professional safecrackers who meet on a simple job to relieve an office safe of its contents, but there's a catch—a light-activated alarm system impels the men to embark on a **Pitch Black Heist**.

- **Rung** · Directed by Chris Hanratty, written by Mike McPhaden · Canada · International Premiere
- **Café Regular Cairo** · Directed and written by Ritesh Batra · Egypt, India · North American Premiere
- **GABI** · Directed and written by Zoé Salicrup Junco · Puerto Rico · U.S. Premiere
- **Bad Gones** · Directed and written by Stéphane Demoustier · France · International Premiere
- **Screenshot** · Directed and written by Cathal Burke · Ireland · New York Premiere
- **43,000 Feet** · Directed by Campbell Hooper, written by Matthew Harris · New Zealand · World Premiere
- **Double or Nothing** · Directed by Nathaniel Krause, written by Neil LaBute · USA · World Premiere
- **Pitch Black Heist** · Directed and written by John Maclean · UK · New York Premiere

Escape Clause –Narrative

These shorts ponder personal predicaments and the pursuit of happiness. An Air Force drone pilot operates air strikes in Afghanistan from a base in America, returning each day to his wife and son in suburbia, but when his team makes a lethal mistake, he is forced to face reality beyond the cubicle in **Unmanned**. Alone in a brightly lit studio, a ballerina recalls her old choreography, leaping and spinning in front of an invisible audience in **Prima**. Amit and her female life partner Noa have decided to take a crucial step and have a baby, but despite their strong self-confidence, after the baby's birth neither one of them knows what to do next in **Stitches**. A French narrator jumps from one dramatic scene to another, confused about the story that he is trying to tell in **Voice Over**. When Jason and his mother attend a funeral service of someone they have never met, they accidentally wind up leading **The Procession**. An ordinary suburban mom carefully plans a life-changing trip to Paris, but when her plans go terribly awry, she finds herself alone on the banks of the Seine wondering why the city of dreams cannot magically fill her life with meaning in **Picture Paris**.

- **Unmanned** · Directed and written by Casey Cooper Johnson · USA · New York Premiere
- **Prima** · Directed and written by Miguel Calayan · Philippines · World Premiere
- **Stitches (Tfarim)** · Directed and written by Adiya Imri Orr · Israel · World Premiere
- **Voice Over** · Directed by Martin Rosete, written by Luiso Berdejo · Spain · North American Premiere

- **The Procession** · Directed and written by Robert Festinger · USA · World Premiere
- **Picture Paris** · Directed and written by Brad Hall · USA · New York Premiere

Fallout – Narrative

Decisions and repercussions confront the characters in these short films. Following the tsunami that claimed the lives of his parents, **Adirake** searches for the white elephant his mother spoke of in this coming-of-age story. After passing the civil service examination Sung-joo returns to her hometown to spend the day with her friend, Shin-hee, who stayed behind, in **Chupachups**. Taking place in the ex-Yugoslavia of the 1970s, a mother secretly celebrates Easter at home with her children when their father, an army officer and ingrained communist, discovers his family's clandestine festivities in **Easter Eggs**. **Trotteur** is a tale of man versus machine in a duel between a young man and a locomotive. A young couple trapped in a remote estate of empty houses and shrieking **Foxes** is beckoned from their isolation into a twilight world. Following a deadly pandemic that has decimated the world's population, a father drives his nine-year-old daughter from the west coast of Australia to the safe zone in **Transmission**. A young Irishman traveling **All That Way For Love** across the African continent to get to his doctor girlfriend hitches a ride with a nomadic older couple and becomes embroiled in their complicated history.

- **Adirake** · Directed and written by Tati Barrantes and Andinh Ha · Thailand · International Premiere
- **Chupachups** · Directed by Ji-suk Kyung · South Korea · North American Premiere
- **Easter Eggs** · Directed by Slobodan Karajlovic, written by Slobodan Karajlovic and Jelena Svilar · Croatia · New York Premiere
- **Trotteur** · Directed by Arnaud Brisebois and Francis Leclerc, written by Arnaud Brisebois · Canada · New York Premiere
- **Foxes** · Directed by Lorcan Finnegan, written by Garret Shanley · Ireland · New York Premiere
- **Transmission** · Directed and written by Zak Hilditch · Australia · International Premiere
- **All That Way For Love** · Directed by Henry Mason, written by Thomas Martin · UK · New York Premiere

Long Story Short – Documentary

Past, present and future coexist in this program of short docs from here and abroad. A Soviet family searching for a modest paradise is swept into the immense Chernobyl nuclear disaster in 1986, recalled through small episodes as **Leonid's Story**. Experience the Egyptian revolution through the eyes of a Bedouin falcon trainer who sees the regime fall from afar and speaks of how falconry and government are similar in **A Falcon, A Revolution**. Over the course of *The New Yorker* magazine cartoonists' weekly lunch, four prominent artists share their styles, inspirations, and creative processes in **Every Tuesday: A Portrait of the New Yorker Cartoonists**. Ballet shoes are worn by delicate girls, but they're crafted by burly men whose hands tell another story in **The Perfect Fit**. For the last 53 years, **The Last Ice Merchant** Baltazar Ushca has harvested glacial ice from the tallest mountain in Ecuador, prompting this tale of cultural change and indigenous people. A tour of the Oregon State Hospital conducted to uncover the deplorable conditions there uncovers thousands of corroded copper urns containing the cremated remains of unclaimed psychiatric patients in **Library of Dust**.

- **Leonid's Story (Istoriya Leonida)** · Directed and written by Rainer Ludwigs · Germany, Ukraine · New York Premiere
- **A Falcon, A Revolution** · Directed and written by Md Rezwan Al Islam and Jassim Al Rumaihi · Qatar · North American Premiere
- **Every Tuesday: A Portrait of the New Yorker Cartoonists** · Directed by Rachel Gordon Loube · USA · World Premiere
- **The Perfect Fit** · Directed by Tali Yankelevich · Scotland · New York Premiere
- **The Last Ice Merchant (El Último Hielero)** · Directed by Sandy Patch · USA · World Premiere
- **Library of Dust** · Directed by Ondi Timoner and Robert James · USA · New York Premiere

Help Wanted – Documentary

Political or personal, these short documentaries address some life-challenging situations.

German engineer Jürgen Perthold was intrigued about where his newly adopted stray, Mr. Lee, disappeared to for days on end, so he developed the *CatCam* to help solve the mystery. Three Mexican immigrants who risk their lives every day rappelling down some of the tallest skyscrapers in Chicago reveal their thoughts about work, mortality, and the people they observe inside the high-rises they clean in *Paraíso*. As the cholera epidemic rages in Haiti and the UN denies responsibility for introducing the disease despite mounting evidence, witness the stories of a young baseball player named Joseph and a Haitian lawyer fighting for victim compensation in *Baseball in the Time of Cholera*. By vacating the apartment of an elderly building manager we discover the soul of *Jean Lewis*, a former female Hollywood reporter connected to some of the most renowned stars of her time. Benjamin Kyle was found unconscious outside a Burger King in 2004 without any clothes, identification, or memories, and seven years later no one knows who he is, even the FBI, in *Finding Benjamin*. Mohammed El Kurd is a Palestinian teenager growing up in the heart of East Jerusalem, but when his family is forced to give up a part of their home to Israeli settlers, local residents begin peaceful protests and in a surprising turn, are quickly joined by scores of Israeli supporters in *My Neighbourhood*.

- *CatCam* · Directed by Seth Keal · USA · New York Premiere
- *Paraíso* · Directed by Nadav Kurtz · USA · New York Premiere
- *Baseball in the Time of Cholera* · Directed by David Darg and Bryn Mooser · Haiti · World Premiere
- *Jean Lewis* · Directed by Pascui Rivas · USA · New York Premiere
- *Finding Benjamin* · Directed and written by John Wikstrom · USA · New York Premiere
- *My Neighbourhood* · Directed by Julia Bacha, Rebekah Wingert-Jabi, written by Rebekah Wingert-Jabi · USA, Israel, Palestine · World Premiere

Triptych – Documentary

This trio of short documentaries delves into art, music, and physical beauty. *Dreamscapes* looks behind and beyond the canvas of artist Stephen Hannock, following him from his Newcastle opening to the canals of Venice and the streets of New York. *Alekesam* is the story of Hugh Masekela, an international jazz icon and apartheid activist who was exiled from his homeland South Africa for 30 years, and his son Selema, who attempts to embrace the roots of his identity through music and reconnect with his father. *Beauty Culture* investigates our obsession with beauty and the influence of photographic representations on female body image and the persistent “beauty contest” of daily life.

- *Dreamscapes* · Directed by Wolfram Hissen · USA, France · World Premiere
- *Alekesam* · Directed by Jason Bergh, written by Jason Bergh and Kevin Barth · USA · World Premiere
- *Beauty Culture* · Directed by Lauren Greenfield · USA · World Premiere

Journeys Across Cultural Landscapes – Experimental

Spanning creative journeys across four continents. The assembled filmmakers invoke diverse cultural landscapes, suggesting a collective struggle of humanity between apocalyptic visions of the past, present, and future, and the redemptive power of the human spirit. Cinematic techniques comprising found footage imagery, historic audio recordings, still photography, animation, collage, Super 8mm (celluloid) filmmaking, and digital cinematography comprise the rich visual and audio landscapes of these films, all made by talented artists, ranging from emerging student voices to experienced filmmakers returning to TFF.

- *An Incomplete History of the Travelogue, 1925* · Directed and written by Sasha Waters Freyer · USA · New York Premiere
- *Scenes From a Visit to Japan* · Directed by Joel Schlemowitz · USA, Japan · World Premiere
- *The Valley* · Directed and written by Leif Huron · USA · World Premiere
- *Sinews of Peace* · Directed and written by Timo Franc · UK · World Premiere

- ***Barcelona*** · Directed by Martin Laporte · Canada · World Premiere
- ***Democratic Locations*** · Directed and written by Thomas Kutschker · Germany · World Premiere
- ***Abys of Man's Conscience (Reconocer)*** · Directed by Juan Camilo González · Colombia, USA · New York Premiere
- ***Inquire Within*** · Directed by Jay Rosenblatt · USA · New York Premiere
- ***All the Lines Flow Out*** · Directed by Charles Lim · Singapore · North American Premiere

To keep up with Tribeca, visit the Tribeca Film Festival website at www.tribecafilm.com, and log in at <http://www.tribecafilm.com/register/>, where you can also subscribe to the Tribeca Newsletter.

Like the Tribeca Film Festival Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/TribecaFilm>. Follow us on Twitter @TribecaFilmFest and join the conversation by using the hashtag #TFF.

Tickets for 2012 Festival:

Tickets for the Festival will be \$16.00 for evening and weekend screenings, and \$8.00 for all late night and weekday matinee screenings.

Advance selection ticket packages and passes are now on sale for American Express Cardmembers and the general public. All advance selection packages and passes can be purchased online at www.tribecafilm.com/festival, or by telephone at (646) 502-5296 or toll free at (866) 941-FEST (3378).

Single ticket and discounted ticket package sales begin Tuesday, April 10 for American Express Cardmembers, Sunday, April 15 for downtown residents, and Monday, April 16 for the general public. Single tickets can be purchased online, by telephone, or at one of the Ticket Outlets, with locations at Tribeca Cinemas at 54 Varick Street, Clearview Cinemas Chelsea at 260 W. 23rd Street, and AMC Loews Village VII at 66 3rd Avenue. The 2012 Festival will continue offering ticket discounts for evening and weekend screenings for students, seniors and select downtown Manhattan residents. Discounted tickets are available at Ticket Outlet locations only. Discounted ticket packages can only be purchased online and by phone. Additional information and further details on the Festival can be found at www.tribecafilm.com.

About the Tribeca Film Festival:

The Tribeca Film Festival helps filmmakers reach the broadest possible audience, enabling the international film community and general public to experience the power of cinema and promote New York City as a major filmmaking center. It is well known for being a diverse international film festival that supports emerging and established directors.

Founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal and Craig Hatkoff in 2001 following the attacks on the World Trade Center, to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of the lower Manhattan district through an annual celebration of film, music and culture, the Festival brings the industry and community together around storytelling.

The Tribeca Film Festival has screened more than 1,300 films from more than 80 countries since its first edition in 2002. Since inception, it has attracted an international audience of more than 3.7 million attendees and has generated an estimated \$725 million in economic activity for New York City.

About the 2012 Festival Sponsors:

As Founding Sponsor of the Tribeca Film Festival, American Express is committed to supporting the Festival and the art of filmmaking, bringing business and energy to New York City and offering Cardmembers and festivalgoers the opportunity to enjoy the best of storytelling through film.

The Tribeca Film Festival is pleased to announce the return of its Signature Sponsors: Accenture, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Apple, Bloomberg, Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), Brookfield, Cadillac, Caesars Atlantic City, ESPN, Heineken USA, JetBlue, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Magnum® Ice Cream, NBC 4 New York, NCM Media Networks, New York Nonstop, Stolichnaya Vodka, The New York Times, Time Warner Cable, as well as its Cultural Partner the Doha Film Institute. The Festival is also honored to welcome the following new Signature Sponsors: BOMBAY SAPPHIRE® Gin, Conrad Hotels & Resorts and Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Focus Forward - a partnership between GE and CINELAN, and OppenheimerFunds.

PRESS CONTACTS:

Rubenstein Communications: **Dade Hayes** (212) 843-8022 dhayes@rubenstein.com
Tahra Grant (212) 843-9213 tgrant@rubenstein.com

Tribeca Enterprises: **Tammie Rosen** (212) 941-2003 trosen@tribecaenterprises.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: Film stills for the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival are available at www.image.net. If you are not an image.net media user yet, please register using the following referral code: 2604. Contacts for all these feature-length films can be viewed in the press section of the Tribeca Film Festival website: www.tribecafilm.com/festival/media.