

JUNO FILMS PRESENTS

A FILM BY
JOHAN VON SYDOW

NARRATED BY
"WEIRD AL" YANKOVIC

TINY TIM

KING FOR A DAY

**51st Annual
USA Film Festival
April 21-25, 2021**

Angelika Film Center Dallas

USAFF51

WELCOME



Welcome to USAFF51

Recent events may have challenged all of us in every conceivable way, but somehow people still found ways to communicate through filmmaking. We salute those filmmakers' creative, improvised and unconventional methods and are pleased to share some of their works with you. Please enjoy this year's program line-up showcasing films based on true stories, films that make us laugh, films that provoke thought and discussion, and films that celebrate the power of art and the human spirit.

TICKET INFO

With respect for the safety of our guests, the following protocols regarding ticketing and seating will be observed for this year's program. Please see notes below and info on back panel.

How to Get Tickets

Thanks to our wonderful Sponsors, tickets for **all programs** are **FREE** but **must** be **reserved in advance by telephone** by calling the Festival office at **214-821-6300**.

Important please note: *There will be no walk-up tickets available at the theater this year.*

All Tickets will be available via Advance Telephone Reservations ONLY.

Additional instructions will be provided by telephone when you call to request tickets.

When can I call to get Tickets?

Tickets will be available to **USAFF Members & Sponsors** via **telephone ONLY** beginning **APRIL 12th**

Tickets will be available to the **General Public** via **telephone ONLY** beginning **APRIL 16th**

Seating & Safety

- **Facemasks** are required for all attendees.
- **Social distancing seating** -- Seating for all programs will be **limited** to 1/4 of auditorium capacity.
- **Contact-free event** -- There will be no tickets distributed at event; **All admission will be via Advance Telephone Reservations only.**

DEDICATION

During the last year, many of us have lost friends, family and colleagues. We remember USAFF alumni filmmakers Joan Micklin Silver, Lynn Shelton, Stacy Title, Chadwick Boseman, Larry McMurtry, Wilford Brimley, Buck Henry, Carl Reiner, Stuart Gordon, Kenny Rogers, Shirley Knight and Michael Apted -- and we dedicate this year's program to these wonderful artists and friends.

USA FILM FESTIVAL 2021

WEDNESDAY, April 21st - Opening Night



TINY TIM: KING FOR A DAY

Wednesday, April 21 6:30pm

The story of outcast Herbert Khaury's rise to stardom as Tiny Tim is the ultimate fairytale -- and so is his downfall. Considered either a freak or a genius, Tiny Tim left no one unaffected. Over 45 million Americans watched his wedding to Miss Vicki on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show, and his queer personality has been celebrated by the likes of Bob Dylan and Johnny Depp. There were plans and hopes that Tiny Tim would be a lasting star, not only a novelty act. But one man ruined those plans -- Tiny Tim. With exclusive access to Tiny Tim's diaries plus interviews with his family and friends, the film is a fascinating portrait of one of the oddest stars the world has ever seen. A life of struggle; against his skeptical parents, hostile neighbours, booing audiences, and his battle with mental illness. And girls! Girls! Girls! And a boy. But also Tiny's fanatical belief: One day I will be famous! The heart-breaking, unforgettable film is directed by Johan von Sydow. Special thanks to Juno Films. 78mins.

Presented with our friends at the G. William Jones Film and Video Collection at SMU. *(Some news footage from the Collection is utilized in the film.)*

SPECIAL THANKS

With regard to this year's program, we want to thank all of our **filmmakers, distributors and film reps** for their patience through all of the necessary reshuffling and rescheduling to make this in-theater program possible. As always, we are honored to support your inspiring works.

We want to thank our **Sponsors** (listed in this flyer) for their support to make the program available as **FREE ADMISSION** as part of our community outreach programs.

We send special thanks to our **National Short Film Jurors** -- Karen Allen, Diane Baker, Jim Beaver, Bill Butler, Rosson Crow, Dale Dickey, Bill Haller, Ron Judkins, Chris Roe and Stephen Tobolowsky, as well as our **local pre-screening Jury crew** for being a huge part of this year's process. Their selections are scheduled throughout the program.

A number of **Tribute** programs and other events honoring **Master Artists** had to be rescheduled until safe travel can be assured. We look forward to bringing these artists to our stage in the near future.

And finally, we extend grateful thanks to our **members, volunteers, Board of Directors, vendors, and friends and colleagues** at the Angelika Film Center. Your partnership and support made this year's program possible.

USA FILM FESTIVAL 2021

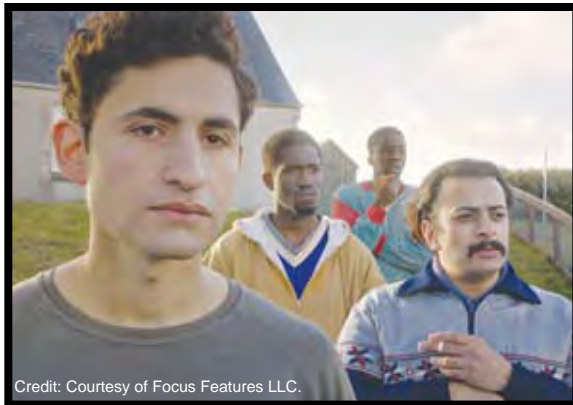
THURSDAY, April 22nd



RITA MORENO: JUST A GIRL WHO DECIDED TO GO FOR IT

Thursday, April 22 7:00pm

Over a 70+ year career, Rita Moreno defied both a humble upbringing and relentless racism to become a celebrated and beloved actor, one of the rare Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony Award Winners of our time. Born into poverty on a Puerto Rican farm, Moreno and her seamstress mother immigrated to New York City when Moreno was 5-years-old. After studying dance and performing on Broadway, Moreno was cast as any ethnic minority the Hollywood studios needed filled: Polynesian, Native American, Egyptian and so on. Despite becoming the first Latina actress to win an Academy Award for her role as Anita in "West Side Story," the studios continued to offer Moreno lesser roles as stereotypical ethnic minorities, ignoring her proven talent. Director Mariem Pérez Riera's intimate documentary illuminates the humor and the grace of Moreno, as well as lesser-known struggles faced on her path to stardom, including pernicious Hollywood sexism and abuse, a toxic relationship with Marlon Brando, and serious depression a year before she emerged an Oscar winner. Moreno's talent and resilience triumphed over adversity as she broke barriers, fought for LatinX representation and forged the path for new generations of artists who, like Rita, will never be pigeonholed. The film will be released by Roadside Attractions on June 18th. 90mins.



Credit: Courtesy of Focus Features LLC.

LIMBO

Thursday, April 22 6:30pm

Writer/director Ben Sharrock's unexpectedly comic drama is a wry and poignant observation of the refugee experience, set on a fictional remote Scottish island where a group of new arrivals await the results of their asylum claims. The film centers on Omar, a young Syrian musician who is burdened by his grandfather's oud, which he has carried all the way from his homeland. Haunted by the guilt of leaving his brother behind in war-torn Syria and his parents in Turkey -- and faced with limited communication -- Omar struggles to become part of a community comprised of a motley group of fellow migrants who love the show "Friends" and Freddie Mercury. The film stars Amir El-Masry with Vikash Bhai, Ola Orebiyi, Kwabena Ansah, Sidse Babbett Knudsen and Kais Nashif. *Limbo* will be released by Focus Features on April 30th. 103mins.



Credit: © 2020 PM Final Account Holdings, LLC. Courtesy of Focus Features LLC.

FINAL ACCOUNT

Thursday, April 22 6:45pm

Directed by the late nonfiction filmmaker Luke Holland, this documentary provides an urgent portrait of the last living generation of everyday people who participated in Adolf Hitler's Third Reich. Over a decade in the making -- and derived from over 300 interviews -- the film raises vital, timely questions about authority, conformity, complicity and perpetration, national identity, and responsibility as men and women ranging from former SS members to civilians in never-before-seen interviews reckon with -- in very different ways -- their memories, perceptions and personal appraisals of their own roles in the greatest human crimes in history. Focus Features will release the film on May 21st. 90mins. Presented with our friends at 3 Stars Jewish Cinema.

Note: Film titles are confirmed at press time; additional works may appear in the line-up.

FRIDAY, April 23rd



Credit: Courtesy of IFC Films. An IFC Films Release.

HOLLER

Friday, April 23 6:30pm

In a forgotten pocket of Southern Ohio where American manufacturing and opportunities are drying up, a determined young woman, Ruth Avery (Jessica Barden), finds a ticket out when she is accepted to college. Alongside her older brother, Blaze (Gus Halper), Ruth joins a dangerous scrap metal crew in order to pay her way. Together, they spend one brutal winter working the scrap yards during the day and stealing valuable metal from the once thriving factories by night. With her goal in sight, Ruth finds that the ultimate cost of an education for a girl like her may be more than she bargained for, and she soon finds herself torn between a promising future and the family she would leave behind. Also starring Pamela Adlon, Becky Ann Baker, and Austin Amelio, writer/director Nicole Riegel's feature directorial debut is a visually stunning, bittersweet coming-of-age story. The film will be released by IFC Films on June 11th. 90mins.



TEXAS SHORT FILMS

Friday, April 23 6:45pm

Join us for a program of dramatic and comedic shorts by Texas filmmakers. In William Willer's *DINNER WITH GODFATHER* a man experiences an unexpected turn of events when he meets his nephew before skipping town; in Jake Eide's *GLENDA GOES QUIET* an unfulfilled young woman seeks to clear her head at a silent retreat; Charles Wiedman's philosophical *MAGNIFICENT BEAST* portrays the inner journey of a man who renegotiates a lifetime of hidden trauma; in Merced Elizondo's *MANOS DE ORO* a former mechanic (Julio César Cedillo) struggling with crippling arthritis attempts to regain his identity and fractured family relationships; in Dano Johnson's *MESSAGE FROM THE FUTURE* a time traveler tries to save the future but finds humans who care more about other things; and in Nate Shorman's *NOT THE CAKE* a harried young woman running late to a family gathering must decide how far she will go to keep her relationships intact. 86mins.



COMEDIC SHORT FILMS

Friday, April 23 7:00pm

Join us for a program of comedic shorts and unexpected outcomes. In Zachary Woods' *DAVID* a severely depressed man reaches out for an emergency session with his therapist (Will Ferrell); Javad Atefeh's *DO.SOLO.PIN* follows the day of a young caregiver taking care of an elderly man; in John Gray's *EXIT PACKAGE* a zoom meeting for a corrupt investment company goes horribly wrong; in Kimmy Gatewood's *NAVEL GAZERS* a woman longs to break free from her device in the inevitable future where everyone has a permanent curve in their spine from looking at their screens; in Hugo Le Gourrierec's *PIPO AND BLIND LOVE* a factory worker lives in a dehumanized world where emotions are rationed and measured; in Bobby Barbacioru's *REMISIVIR* two brothers fight a virus the best way they know how; in Do Young Chan's *SMILE* a painter is inspired by another painter's work; in Rick Ross's *TESLA* an earnest engineering student is forced to take desperate action with a noisy neighbor; and in Valentina Starkova's dark-hearted *AWARD* a forgotten elderly relative teaches her family a lesson in caring. 110mins.

USA FILM FESTIVAL 2021

SATURDAY, April 24th



HIGH SCHOOL SHORT FILMS

Saturday, April 24 3:00pm

Join us for a collection of class project short films from Garland High School International Baccalaureate (IB) film students in the Reel Owl Cinema program, which teaches students the art of filmmaking with an emphasis on narrative storytelling. 60mins.



THRILLER SHORT FILMS

Saturday, April 24 4:30pm

Join us for a program of psychologically thrilling shorts featuring a novelist who makes a disturbing discovery after waking from a nightmare to find a troubling entry in his appointment book in Alexandre Singh's *THE APPOINTMENT*; a young, 1950s hairstylist who is drawn to the strange jukebox at her new job in Dominic Kubisch's *ECHTHAAR*; a young boy forced to deal with the entity that possesses his mother in John Gray's *HOUSEHOLD DEMONS*; a man who finds himself confronted with his heinous deeds in Monica De Almeida's *LOOK WHAT YOU HAVE DONE!*; and two cops searching for an unidentified assailant in Jerónimo García Castela's *TARTARUS*. 69mins.



ENEMIES OF THE STATE

Saturday, April 24 6:45pm

When their hacktivist son, a former Air National Guard, is targeted by the US Government, the DeHarts will do anything to protect him. And so begins to unravel a web of secrets in this fascinating, stranger-than-fiction cyber-thriller story. Director Sonia Kennebeck's whistle-blower documentary features in-depth interviews, conspiracy theories, espionage and bizarre discoveries with unexpected plot twists and shocking revelations until the very end. The film will be released by IFC Films this summer. 103mins.



LEAVE THE DOOR OPEN

Saturday, April 24 4:00pm

Washington, D.C. in the 1930s -- the epicenter of American jazz. Two teenage Turkish boys new to America are overjoyed at the prospect of being able to regularly see their jazz idols perform live but are soon shocked to discover the rigid segregation of the time meant they could not find the albums of their favorite Black musicians in mainstream record shops, let alone attend live performances. Driven by their passion for jazz, the two boys, Ahmet and Nesuhi Ertegun, led by their father -- the Turkish Ambassador to the U.S. -- reject the existing status quo and ignore the barriers of racial discrimination to become part of the jazz scene, befriend- ing Black jazz musicians and hosting racially-integrated dinners and jam sessions at the official Embassy. Guests included legendary jazz artists such as Duke Ellington, Lester Young, Teddy Williams, Johnny Hodges, and Count Basie. Through the eyes and the voices of the Ertegun family, historians, musicians and academics, director Ümran Safer's completely engaging celebration of jazz provides a behind-the-scenes look into how a deep love of jazz and a multicultural background taught two teenage boys to refuse to accept racial discrimination and pushed them to test socially acceptable racial boundaries -- eventually laying down the foundations of the iconic music label Atlantic Records. 65mins. **Co-presented with Sammons Jazz and the Sammons Center for the Arts.**



Credit: Kerry Brown / Bleecker Street & Topic Studios

DREAM HORSE

Saturday, April 24 6:30pm

Written by Neil McKay and directed by Euros Lyn, this inspiring drama is based on the true story of Dream Alliance, a racehorse bred by a group of locals from a small, working-class Welsh village under the encouragement of headstrong Jan Vokes (Toni Collette), a bartender with very little money and no experience. After a chance encounter with the arrogant former racehorse syndicate leader, Howard Davies (Damian Lewis), Jan convinces her neighbors -- and Howard -- to aid in funding the horse's breeding and training with whatever cash they can spare from week to week. Despite skepticism at every turn, Jan and her newfound colleagues embark on a journey that renews their sense of purpose culminating with a memorable showing at the Welsh Grand National. *Dream Horse* is a heart-warming film about finding the people and passion projects that make life rewarding. The film will be released by Bleecker Street. 113mins.



STUDENT SHORT FILMS

(In Competition)

Saturday, April 24 3:30pm

Join us for a program of new U.S. and international student works including William Michael Anderson's *CARAVAN* which centers on an outcast in a rural English community who draws the attention of a vengeful mother; in Zoey Zhao's *FOODS FOR COPING* a Chinese single mother in New Zealand grapples with the fallout of discovering her 16-year-old daughter is pregnant; in Ningxin Chen's *DISAPPEARING* a 9-year-old Chinese girl tries to attract her parents' attention by causing chaos in the house; in Leonardo Martinez's *LAWN DOGS* two Mexican brothers must learn to adapt to their new lives together in the wake of their parents' absence; in Shicong Zhu's *SNAKE TRAIL* a Chinese girl finds herself in an institutional conundrum without the legal documentation to prove her kinship to her deceased mother; in Peier "Tracy" Shen's *OUT OF PLACE* both the disconnection and the connection between two immigrant lives in the United States are explored as a young aspiring Chinese pianist and a Mexican house painter cross paths; and in Nicola Rinciari's *OUR SIDE* an African caregiver must decide whether to save herself or the elderly Sicilian man in her care. 111mins.



Photo: Anders Overgaard

RIDERS OF JUSTICE

Saturday, April 24 7:00pm

Recently deployed soldier Markus (Mads Mikkelsen) is forced to return home to care for his teenage daughter after his wife is killed in a tragic train accident. But when a survivor of the wrecked train surfaces claiming foul play, Markus begins to suspect his wife was murdered and embarks on a mission to find those responsible along with a band of bickering misfits. Writer/director Anders Thomas Jensen's deliriously dark, screwball revenge comedy is violent but also surprisingly funny and poignant thanks to Jensen's brilliant script. Also featuring Nikolaj Lie Kaas, Gustav Lindh, Andrea Heick Gadeberg, Lars Brygmann, Nicolas Bro, and Roland Møller. The film will be released by Magnolia Pictures on May 21st. 116mins.

USA FILM FESTIVAL 2021

SUNDAY, April 25th



NONFICTION SHORT FILMS (In Competition)

Sunday, April 25 3:30pm

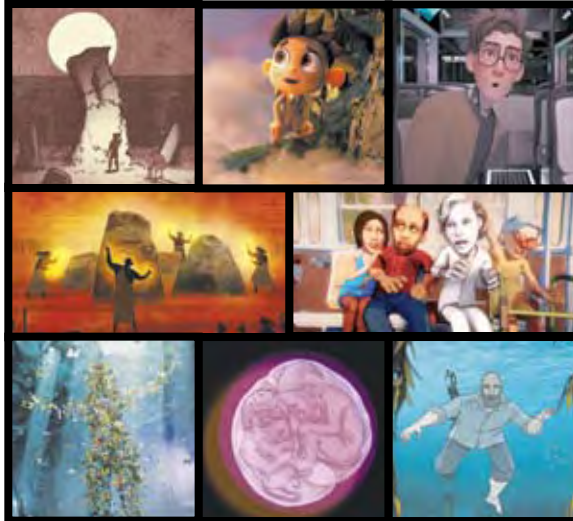
This program of fascinating true stories includes Yucong Chen's UNFINISHED LIVES, which addresses the tragic case of USC student, Xinran Ji, who was beaten to death when returning home from a study session and the impact this case had on the Chinese community; in Laki Karavias' MESSANIA'S STORY an African woman discusses her personal journey and the African tradition of circumcizing young girls to make them marriageable for older men; Toby Hayman's THE BIRDER follows an ecology professor (who is also an ornithologist) who studies birds to learn how our environment is changing; Asali Echol's LION ON THE MAT follows a young Vietnamese-American martial artist as she trains for an upcoming Jiu Jitsu match while balancing the demands of regular life; in David Baram's ONE ALL THE WAY three elderly New Jersey men search for the world's greatest Hot Texas Weiner while discussing the changes to their hometown; Dinah Sam's THE HANDS OF AN ELDER celebrates the importance of Cree culture in an ever-changing world; in Wayne Valin-McDougall's RED ROAD an Anishinaabe-Innu man rediscovers his traditional culture which helped free him from drug addiction as he makes regalias in preparation for the annual Pow Wow; and Steve Sxwithul'txw's FINDING THE BALANCE follows young divers who are working to protect First Nations' territorial waters. 122mins.



HER NAME WAS JO

Sunday, April 25 6:30pm

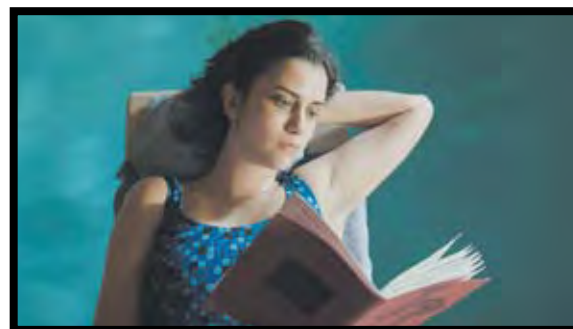
Self-reliant, 10-year-old Jo (Mary Cate Williams) spends her days along the Shenandoah River with her best friend, Selma (Elisa Duca), fishing, scrapping for metal – surviving. But when her abusive, junkie stepfather dies, Jo decides – with Selma in tow – to hide the body, take the car, and set off across the country in search of her real dad – a folk singer in Los Angeles. The touching, coming-of-age film by writer/director Joe Duca explores what hides beneath the dark side of Americana -- the brutality and damage of generational trauma -- while sentimentally exploring childhood innocence and its resilience in light of that darkness. 99mins.



ANIMATED SHORT FILMS (In Competition)

Sunday, April 25 3:00pm

Journey to fascinating animated worlds with a damaged, forgotten block of marble which emerges as one of the greatest and most beautiful works of art after years of neglect in James Bourne's THE ABANDONED BLOCK; a young boy who is pressured to quit daydreaming in order to grow up to become successful in the corporate world in Santiago Aguilera & Gabriel Monreal's THE BOY AND THE MOUNTAIN; a cyborg who sees his photo on a fugitive wanted poster in Natalie Nichols' IDENTITY CRISIS; the legend of four mysterious stones on Waikiki Beach and the spirits who brought the healing powers in Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, Dean Hamer & Joe Wilson's KAPAEMAHU; a man who goes through a deep, inner change as he endures an adventurous bus ride in Geoff Hecht's METRO6; a butterfly that explores the ruins of an ancient civilization in Xi Wang's METAMORPHOSIS; twins in the womb who experience the outside world from prenatal life in Alireza Darvish's THE TASTE OF BRIGHTNESS; and an older man who is looking for the remains of his friends 30 years after they were struck by an air attack in Amir Mehran's THE WHITE WHALE. 62mins.



ALL-IN MADONNA

Sunday, April 25 6:30pm

After being homeschooled her entire life, 17-year-old Madonna (Maddie) attends public school for the first time and is confronted with rumors about her widowed dad's criminal past. When her dad becomes a person of interest in the disappearance of a local man and the gossip mounts, his drinking escalates and his behavior becomes more volatile – forcing Maddie to reconcile herself with the father who raised her and the man he may actually be. The film is directed by Arnold Lim and written by Susie Winters, starring Melanie Rose Wilson and Adam Lolacher. This is Lim's feature directorial debut. 85mins.



DRAMATIC SHORT FILMS

Sunday, April 25 4:00pm

This collection of dramatic shorts includes two young girls who find hope and friendship in a boxing gym in Ben Price's 3 MINUTES OF SILENCE; a young woman with crippling anxiety who ventures to complete what would seem to be a simple task in Jeff Ayar's BORDERLINE COFFEE; a door-to-door saleswoman who realizes she and her customers have been duped in Gretl Claggett's FLIP THE SWITCH; a young woman who is left voiceless and trapped in a whirlwind of incompetence in the aftermath of an attack in Molly Manning Walker's GOOD THANKS, YOU?; a young uninhibited woman reluctantly doing her community service in the dementia ward of a nursing home who becomes more and more interested in the fate of one of her patients in Charlotte Rietbergen & Samantha Janssen's MRS. VAN DALEN AWAITS...; a psychiatrist who learns the hard way that appearances are sometimes deceptive after he is touched by a patient's story in Jean-Michel Gervais & Gabriel J. Lemay's ROSA. 110mins.



BEANS

Sunday, April 25 6:30pm

Set against the backdrop of the 78-day standoff between two Mohawk communities and government forces in Quebec in 1990, Tekehentahkwa -- also known as Beans -- is a 12-year-old free-spirited Mohawk girl who lives near an Indigenous reservation. When a peaceful protest at the reservation turns into an armed stand-off, Beans' Mohawk community joins the uprising -- known historically as The Oka Crisis. As violence and discrimination against the Mohawk communities intensify, Beans is forced to grow up quickly and she begins to radically change into a preteen filled with animosity who is set on seeking revenge. Directed by an indigenous female filmmaker, who was born and raised in Kahnawake, and based on true events, Tracey Deer's debut feature film is a powerful coming-of-age drama. The film is co-written by Deer and Meredith Vuchnich, starring Kiawentiio with Rainbow Dickerson and Violah Beauvais. The film will be released by FilmRise. 92mins.

USAFF51

INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION / JULY 2021



Photo credits: Karen Allen - Michele Eve Sandberg; Jim Beaver - Michael Helms; Bill Butler - Owen Roizman; Rosson Crow - Rose Eichenbaum; Chris Roe - Bart Mastronardi.

Karen Allen is known for her work as an award-winning actor in over 40 feature films including *Animal House*, *A Small Circle of Friends*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Shoot the Moon*, *Starman*, *Until September*, *Scrooged*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Malcolm X*, *The Perfect Storm*, *The Sandlot*, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, *White Irish Dinners*, *Bad Hurt*, and *Year by the Sea*. Her most recent work in *Colewell* was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award in 2020, and she just completed working on *Things Heard and Seen* for Netflix and *Unsinkable*. She has worked for 30 years On- and Off- Broadway (“A Summer Day,” “Speaking in Tongues,” “The Glass Menagerie,” “The Monday After the Miracle,” “Extremities,” “As You Like It,” “The Country Girl”) and has done extensive television work over the years. Karen began directing theatre at Bard College at Simon’s Rock ten years ago (where she is still a faculty member for the Theatre Dept.). She continued her work as a director at the Berkshire Theatre Festival in Stockbridge, MA (“Moonchildren,” “Extremities,” “Frankie and Johnny in the Clair du Lune,” “Outside Mullingar”) and in NYC with Lucy Thurber’s “Ashville” at the Cherry Lane Theatre. She directed her first short film *A TREE. A ROCK. A CLOUD.* (based on Carson McCullers’ short story) in 2017. She is a long time member of the Actor’s Studio and is on the Board of the Berkshire International Film Festival.

Jim Beaver is well-known for his roles in “Deadwood,” “Supernatural,” “Justified” and “Breaking Bad.” He currently has continuing roles on “Watchmen,” “The Boys,” and “The Ranch,” making him one of Hollywood’s busiest and most popular character actors. Previous television credits include “Days of Our Lives,” “Reasonable Doubts,” “Thunder Alley,” “Harper’s Island,” “Day Break,” and “John from Cincinnati” -- to name a few. In addition to television, Beaver has starred in the films *In Country*, *Crimson Peak*, and the upcoming films *Nightmare Alley* and *Blindfire*. Other film credits include *Joy Ride*, *Sister Act*, *Bad Girls*, *Next*, *Adaptation*, *Turner and Hooch*, and *The Life of David Gale*. As a stage actor, he has appeared in plays across the country -- most recently starring in “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” at the Berkshire Theatre Festival and “The Man Who Came to Dinner.” He spent five seasons with the Dallas Shakespeare Festival playing lead roles in “Macbeth” and “Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia” in national tours as well as “The Lion in Winter,” “The Hasty Heart,” “The Rainmaker,” “The Mousetrap,” “The Lark,” and “Charley’s Aunt” in regional productions. Jim is a three-time Los Angeles Dramalogue Critics Award-winner for his plays, “Verdigris,” “Semper Fi,” and “Sidekick.” He was a film critic/columnist for ten years and is the author of two books of film history and is currently working on his third. A Marine Corps veteran of Vietnam and former Chairman of the Board of Theatre West in LA, Jim is a Cherokee-German native of Laramie, Wyoming who was raised in Irving, Texas. He was married to actress Cecily Adams from 1989 until her death in 2004. Currently, he lives in Los Angeles with their daughter Madeline and his wife, singer Sarah Spiegel.

Diane Baker is a pioneer in the film and television industry. In a career that has spanned over 50 years, she has received numerous awards and acclaim as an actress, producer and director (including multiple Emmy and Golden Globe nominations). Diane’s film credits as an actress include *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, *The Best of Everything*, *300 Spartans*, *Nine Hours to Rama*, *Mirage*, *Marnie*, *The Prize*, *Strait-Jacket*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *Silence of the Lambs*, and the television films *Inherit the Wind* and *About Sarah*. Additionally, she has appeared in numerous television shows including several episodes of “House, MD,” “Law & Order: SVU,” “ER,” “Unscripted,” as well as “First Monday in October,” “The Blue and the Grey,” and the miniseries “Jackie O.” In addition to acting, Ms. Baker is fascinated with filmmaking; her first effort as a producer came in the self-financed documentary *Ashiana*. As President and CEO of Baker Street Entertainment, she produced *Portrait of Grandpa Doc*, “One of a Kind,” *Never Never Land*, “A Woman of Substance,” and the documentaries *To Climb a Mountain* and *Miracles in the Making*. Currently, she is in pre-production on the series “The Illustrator: America’s Storyteller” with Dennis Powers. Diane has an Honorary Doctorate in Law from the University of Irvine and a Doctorate from Academy of Art U., is a member of AMPAS and BAFTA, serves on the Board of Directors of Roots of Peace, and is on the Advisory Boards of CSSSA (California State Summer School for the Arts). She was invited to the Academy of Art University in 2004 to build an acting program for graduate and undergraduate students and became Executive Director of both Schools of Acting and Filmmaking. She facilitated the building of Academy of Art’s first sound stage and also inaugurated a 240-seat theater in San Francisco for theatrical performances. She loves mentoring students and is creating a center for serious post-graduate filmmakers in Los Angeles who wish to make films that inspire, educate, and entertain: Global Film Connect, (The Robert Osborne Center for Film Studies) a 2 year certificate non-profit 501(c)3 program to begin in Fall 2021.

Bill Butler is an artist, innovator, and cinematographer that has marked with more first-time directors than any other cinematographer working today -- directors with the caliber of Francis Ford Coppola, Steven Spielberg, William Friedkin, Jack Nicholson, Sylvester Stallone, Bill Paxton, Ivan Reitman, John Badham, Milos Forman, Peter Hyams, Phil Kaufman, and the list goes on. His creativity and ability to understand the director’s vision, interpreting their needs in addition to the actors’ and crew’s, have garnered him two Emmy awards for *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Raid on Entebbe*, an Emmy nomination for “The Thorn Birds,” and an Academy Award nomination for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. Butler has over 80 film credits including *Jaws*, *Grease*, *Child’s Play*, *Sniper*, *Rocky II*, *Rocky III*, *Rocky IV*, *Stripes*, *Big Trouble*, and *Anaconda*. To this day, he remains the only Director of Photography to so successfully make the transition from television to film. He has directed numerous -- some award-winning -- commercials. As an innovator in electronic television, he originated much of the look that dominates television today -- such as the use of the ‘seamless’ background. In 2002, Bill Butler was the recipient of the coveted ASC Lifetime Achievement Award. His special understanding of complex personalities, tremendous compassion for others, and ability to relate to actors, directors, and the crew makes him one of the most sought after cinematographers/Directors of Photography in the motion picture, television and advertising industries. At home, Bill spends his time with his wife, Iris; they have two daughters, Genevieve and Chelsea.

Dale Dickey is a veteran of the stage -- having worked On-Broadway and regional stages across the country -- as well as a veteran of film and television. She has over 50 film credits -- most notably *Winters Bone*, winning the Indie Spirit Award for supporting actress. Other films include *Leave No Trace*, *Hell or High Water*, *Iron Man 3*, *Changeling*, *Super 8*, *The Guilt Trip*, *Domino*, *The Pledge*, and *Small Town Crime*. With over 40 guest star spots on television, she is best known for her recurring work on “Breaking Bad,” “True Blood,” “Justified,” “My Name Is Earl,” “Vice Principals,” and “Claws.” She was recently seen in “Unbelievable,” “Room 104,” “Into the Night,” and Hulu’s Holiday Anthology series “Pooka.” Born and raised in Knoxville, TN, she trained with the Clarence Brown Company at the University of Tennessee, receiving an honorary MFA. She continued her training while living in New York, London and Chicago and currently resides in Lala Land.

Bill Haller is an 24-year veteran animator whose career has encompassed a wide variety of work ranging from commercials, short film, animated features and VFX films in which he has acted as both an animator and has supervised animation. He has been responsible for creating the visual style and development work for various films such as *SCOObI*, *Hotel Transylvania*, and *Book of Life*. Along with contributing to the work for many awards in advertising work, he was also nominated for a VES award for “outstanding character animation in an animated film” for Dracula in *Hotel Transylvania*. Bill’s animation credits also include *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, *Surfs Up*, *Open Season*, *Open Season 2*, *Open Season 3*, *Rock Dog*, *Smurfs*, *Smurfs 2*, *Cats and Dogs 2*, *Alvin and the Chipmunks 2*, *Prince Caspian*, *Speed Racer*, *I am Legend*, *Beowulf*, *Monster House*, *Son of the Mask*, *Blade Trinity*, and *Scooby Doo 2*. Most recently, he is serving as Animation Supervisor on the Netflix title *Back to the Outback* through Reel FX Creative Studios.

Rosson Crow was born in 1982 in Dallas, Texas. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the School of Visual Arts in 2004 and a Master of Fine Arts from Yale University in 2006. As an artist, her solo gallery exhibitions include Honor Fraser Gallery in Los Angeles, Galerie Nathalie Obadia in Paris, Deitch Projects NYC, Over the Influence in Hong Kong, and White Cube in London. One-person exhibitions of her work have been presented at MOCA Tucson, AZ (2018) Musée Régional d’Art Contemporain de Séignan, France (2014); Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH (2010); and the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX (2009). Rosson’s work has been included in thematic exhibitions such as “Contemporary Magic: A Tarot Deck Art Project,” The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA (2011); “Summer Exhibition,” Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK (2010); “Le Meilleur des Mondes,” Musée d’Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg, Luxembourg (2010); “New York Minute,” Macro Future Museum, Rome, Italy (2009); and “Out of Storage I -- Painters Choose from the Collection,” Musée d’Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg, Luxembourg (2008). In 2016, Rosson’s first short she co-wrote, directed, and designed, *MADAME PSYCHOSIS HOLDS A SEANCE*, won the USA Film Festival Jury Award in the Experimental category. Currently, Rosson is exhibiting in Aspen, Colorado with Honor Fraser Gallery.

Ron Judkins is a motion picture production sound mixer, writer, and director. He is the winner of two Academy Awards, Best Sound for *Jurassic Park* and *Saving Private Ryan* and received nominations for his sound work on *Schindler’s List* and *Lincoln*. As a production sound mixer, he has over 60 film credits to his name -- including his most recent work on *The Lion King* and *Mulan*. As a writer/director, his work includes the feature films *Finding Neighbors* (distributed by Strand Releasing) and *The Hi-Line* (which was acquired by Showtime Television).

Manager, writer, award-winning producer & director **Chris Roe** entered the entertainment business in 1996, after starting his talent management agency, Chris Roe Management. Since then, his company has become well respected in the entertainment industry, managing clients such as George A. Romero (until his passing), Clive Barker, Bruce Davison, Meg Foster, Monte Markham, Mariette Hartley, Courtney Gains, Judy Geeson, and the legendary Malcolm McDowell -- to name a few. In 2007, he co-wrote/produced/directed the award-winning documentary feature, *One for the Fire*. He also produced and co-directed a television pilot, “Soul of the City,” and has acted as producer or executive producer on films such as *Suing the Devil*, *The Employer*, and *Bereave*. In 2018, he launched his production company, Tea Time Productions, Inc. *CEMETERY TALES: A TALE OF TWO SISTERS* (which screened at USAFF) was the company’s first production. *A TALE OF TWO SISTERS* has won over 40 awards and received over 40 nominations worldwide. Currently, Roe has multiple projects in development and several properties optioned. Roe is a proud member of the Television Academy of Arts and Sciences, The Producers Guild of America, and a board member of the George A. Romero Foundation (GARF). He resides with his family in Los Angeles, CA.

Stephen Tobolowsky has appeared in over 250 movies and television shows. He is best known for roles in *Groundhog Day*, *Memento*, “Silicon Valley,” “Californication,” “Glee,” “The Goldbergs,” and Norman Lear’s new “One Day at a Time” for PopTV. He co-wrote *True Stories* with David Byrne and Beth Henley. He wrote and performed *Stephen Tobolowsky’s Birthday Party* that premiered at the HBO Comedy Festival and his concert film *The Primary Instinct* (which screened at USAFF in 2018). Stories from his notable podcast “The Tobolowsky Files” have been heard across the country on NPR and PRI radio stations and can be heard anytime on Slashfilm.com and iTunes. His first book of stories, “The Dangerous Animals Club,” was published by Simon and Schuster in 2012. His second book, “My Adventures with God,” was released in April 2017.

SCHEDULE & TICKET INFO.

ANGELIKA FILM CENTER

WEDNESDAY APRIL 21	THURSDAY APRIL 22	FRIDAY APRIL 23	SATURDAY APRIL 24	SUNDAY APRIL 25
			3:00pm High School Shorts	3:00pm Animated Shorts
			3:30pm Student Shorts	3:30pm Nonfiction Shorts
			4:00pm Leave the Door Open	4:00pm Dramatic Shorts
			4:30pm Thriller Shorts	
6:30pm Tiny Tim	6:30pm Limbo	6:30pm Holler	6:30pm Dream Horse	6:30pm All-in Madonna
	6:45pm Final Account	6:45pm Texas Shorts	6:45pm Enemies of the State	6:30pm Beans
	7:00pm Rita Moreno	7:00pm Comedic Shorts	7:00pm Riders of Justice	6:30pm Her Name Was Jo

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USA FILM FESTIVAL

Ticket Info

With respect for the safety of our guests, several procedures regarding ticketing and seating will be observed for this year's program. Please see notes below.

Tickets for all programs are **FREE** but all tickets **must** be **reserved in advance by telephone**.

No Walk-Up tickets at the theater

Safety Note: No tickets will be available at the door; You will **not be allowed to enter the theater without an Advance Reservation**.

Tickets are available via **Advance Reservations only**. Special instructions will be provided by telephone when you call to request tickets.

TICKET REQUEST LINE *
214-821-6300

Phone lines open **10:30am to 5:00pm**
Monday - Friday beginning on dates below.

- * Tickets will be available to **USAFF Members** beginning **APRIL 12th**
- * Tickets will be available to the **General Public** beginning **APRIL 16th**

Seating & Safety Info

- Contact-less Event - There will be **no hand-off** of tickets, etc.; **All admission will be via advance telephone reservations ONLY**.
- Facemasks are required for attendees.
- Seating for all programs will be **limited to 1/4** of auditorium capacity.
- Social distancing seating will be in place.

Theater Location

All programs will take place at the
Angelika Film Center / Dallas
5321 E. Mockingbird Lane at Central Expressway

Membership

To become a Member of the Festival and receive **FREE screenings every month**, send us an email request for a membership brochure at usafilmfest@aol.com

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