April 5-10, 2016

The world's premier & Oscar® qualifying international showcase of short film

Wheeler Opera House IN ASPEN
Crystal Theatre IN CARBONDALE

ASPENFILM.ORG | @ASPENFILM | #SHORTSFEST16
focus, she began drawing the sideshow scenes from her empowerment and exploitation.

In 1998, as she was contemplating a shift in artistic direction, she said, "When I went to the sideshows as a child, these people were fascinating to me."

She wanted spinning wheels and flashing lights, she said. She wanted the "burlesque of the absurd." And she wanted to tell stories about the people who perform in those carnivals, people who often face prejudice and discrimination.

"Sideshow of the Absurd" was staged in its first iteration in 1999, and the show has since been performed at various locations, including the Contemporary Art Museum of Las Vegas, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Southern California.

The show is a multimedia art show that combines live performance, spoken word, and visual art. It is a celebration of the human body and the beauty of the human form, and it is a critique of the ways in which society stereotypes and marginalizes certain groups of people.

"Sideshow of the Absurd" is a powerful reminder of the importance of empathy and understanding, and it is a call to action for us all to stand up against prejudice and discrimination.
As we embark on this milestone Aspen Shortsfest, it is my honor to welcome you to our magical home in the mountains.

For 25 years, Shortsfest has shone a much needed spotlight on a lesser known art form, giving directors the screen time that often becomes a launching pad for successful filmmaking careers. As one of the premier short film festivals in the world and an Oscar®-qualifier, we are proud to present another outstanding program thanks to the passion and dedication of the Shortsfest Programming team led by Aspen Film Artistic Director Maggie Mackay. Keeping in the spirit of Aspen Film’s founder Ellen Kohner Hunt’s vision, this lineup includes films that are, in a word, unforgettable.

Shortsfest and our organization’s work year-round is only possible through the strong support we receive from our community, donors, sponsors, volunteers, and board members, which continually humbles us. A special thank you to our lodging partners, who make it possible for us to bring more than 50 filmmakers from around the world to Aspen. This artist attendance and participation is one of the reasons that makes our festival so special.

We are thrilled to return to our official host venues: the Wheeler Opera House in Aspen and Cystral Theatre in Carbondale. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to our friendly staff members or volunteers if you have any questions or special needs during your festival-going experience. I look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting as many new film lovers as possible during Shortsfest.

On behalf of the Shortsfest team and everyone at Aspen Film, enjoy the journey!

With gratitude,
John Thew
Executive Director

It gives me enormous pleasure to present the 25th installment of Aspen Shortsfest! Shortsfest is one of the most cherished and respected film festivals in the United States, with an international reputation for its devotion to filmmakers and film lovers alike.

Culled from more than 3,200 submissions, the 56 films in our competitive shorts programs represent 25 countries from around the globe and reveal an incredibly eclectic array of approaches to storytelling and filmmaking. Along with films made by both emerging filmmakers and veterans alike, Shortsfest offers audiences myriad unique opportunities to interact with some of the best filmmakers working today.

In an increasingly chaotic and confusing world, our universal stories are, like the single-root system of the aspen trees, what connect us all. In picking up where Shortsfest’s beloved 20-year veteran programmers Laura Thielen and George Eldred left off, I hope this year’s lineup will offer a story for everyone.

Maggie Mackay
Artistic Director

Aspen Film Board of Trustees

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HOW TO FEST

PASSES & TICKETS
ADMISSION TO THE 25TH ASPEN SHORTSFEST CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED USING A PASS OR A SINGLE TICKET:

PASSES
Passed are available only to Aspen Film Members at the Producer Level and above.

TO BECOME A MEMBER
visit aspenfilm.org or call 970.306.3662.

VIP PASS
Guaranteed reserved seat bearing your name for all screenings.

PRIORITY PASS
Your pick of the best available seat for all screenings 30 minutes before the start of each program.

TICKETS
GENERAL ADMISSION
Tickets for most Shortsfest Programs are $15 EACH for your pick of the best available seat 15 minutes before the start of each screening. ASPEN FILM MEMBERS receive a 20% discount on single tickets for $12 EACH.

The FAMILY FUN! program is $10 FOR ADULTS AND FREE FOR KIDS. All kids welcome to the show FREE of charge with a complimentary ticket issued by the Wheeler Box Office.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND PURCHASING TICKETS IN ADVANCE through the Wheeler Opera House Box Office, 970.920.5770 and aspenshowtix.com for all shows.

For CARBONDALE SHOWS, tickets can be purchased at Bonfire Coffee, 33 Main St., Carbondale.

Tickets are also available for sale at the door at the Wheeler Opera House before each Aspen screening and at the Crystal Theatre for Carbondale Screenings.

RUSH TICKETS
FIVE MINUTES PRIOR TO THE START OF EACH SCREENING, Aspen Film will make any unfilled seats available for sale. RUSH TICKETS ARE $15 EACH.

ASPEN FILM MEMBERS RECEIVE A 20% DISCOUNT ON RUSH TICKETS. The rush line forms 45 minutes prior to each screening at the Wheeler Opera House and Crystal Theatre.

VENUES
Screenings for the 25th Aspen Shortsfest are held at the WHEELER OPERA HOUSE in Aspen (320 E. Hyman Ave.) and the CRYSTAL THEATRE in Carbondale (427 Main St.).

The FILMMAKER LOUNGE is open daily to all pass holders from 10AM - 5PM in the LIBRARY at the HOTEL JEROME (330 E. Main St.).

Please check the schedule inside for additional Special Event, Special Programming, and Après Screening locations.

SHORTSFEST CAFÉ
MAWA’S KITCHEN will have fresh meal and snack options available for purchase before and between shows in the Wheeler Opera House lobby.

SPECIAL NEEDS
If you have special needs covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify Aspen Film 970.925.6882.

RUSH TICKETS

SPECIAL THANKS

Aspen Film Volunteers
Bonfire Coffee
Mawa’s Kitchen
Mel Blumenthal
Paradise Bakery
Red Butte Roasters
Wheeler Opera House Staff and Volunteers

Please arrive early.
In the event of a sell-out, all unclaimed seats are released 5 minutes before show time.

PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

AS M UP TO DATE INFORMATION VISIT ASPENFIL M ASFNofilm.org

#SHORTSFEST16
Receptions, Après Screenings, and late night parties are all part of the festival experience. Please join us in celebrating great film with great conversation!

**TUESDAY, APRIL 5**

**OPENING RECEPTION**

6:30pm
Wheeler Opera House Lobby
Join us in kicking-off the 25th Aspen Shortsfest, before Shorts Program 1, with hors d'oeuvres, wine, and beer.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by: Aspen Film and The Aspen Times

**APRIL 5, 6, 7, 10**

Immediately following evening screening programs

**APRÈS SCREENINGS**

The J Bar at the Hotel Jerome
Hang out with Aspen Film’s staff and with festival filmmakers from around the world as we celebrate the day’s events during these late-night get-togethers. Food and beverage discounts available with your Aspen Shortsfest pass or ticket.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by: Aspen Film and the Hotel Jerome

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8**

Immediately following Shorts Program 7

**APRÈS SCREENING AT THE REC ROOM**

The Rec Room
515 E. Hopkins Ave.
Hang out with Aspen Film’s staff and festival filmmakers as we celebrate Aspen’s newest late-night hot spot, The Rec Room. Complimentary grilled cheese sandwiches with your Aspen Shortsfest pass or ticket. Join us as we spin the night away to music chosen by you from The Rec Room’s extensive vinyl LP collection.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by: Aspen Film and The Rec Room

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**

Immediately following Shorts Program 9

**APRÈS SCREENING AT ERIC’S BAR**

Eric’s Bar
315 E. Hyman Ave.
Challenge your fellow film lovers, Aspen Film staff, and festival filmmakers to rounds of pool and shuffleboard at one of Aspen favorite hang-outs. Eric’s Bar will provide a discounted drink menu for Shortsfest pass and ticket holders.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by: Aspen Film and Eric’s Bar

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10**

**BREAKFAST AT THE FEST**

11:30am
Wheeler Opera House Lobby
Join Aspen Film board members, staff, filmmakers, and fellow festival goers for brunch before attending our Family Fun! program. Complimentary breakfast buffet, mimosas, and Bloody Marys provided.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by: Aspen Film and Mawa’s Kitchen

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10**

**MILK & COOKIES**

2:00pm
Wheeler Opera House Lobby
Bring the whole family to enjoy complimentary milk and cookies immediately following our Family Fun! screening. All kids welcome to the show FREE of charge with a complimentary ticket issued by the Wheeler Box Office.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by: Aspen Film. Cookies provided by: Paradise Bakery

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10**

**AWARDS DINNER**

6:00pm
Cooking School of Aspen
216 S. Monarch St.
Celebrate the commencement of Shortsfest as our slate of prestigious prizes is presented to filmmakers. This seated wine-dinner is open to the public. Tickets available for $75, call Aspen Film to reserve: 970.925.6882.
Hosted by: Aspen Film and Cooking School of Aspen

**SHORTSFEST 2016 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

Aspen Film’s free, valley-wide educational programs seek to expand world views, develop critical viewing skills, cultivate curiosity, and inspire creativity. Educational enrichment opportunities for students include films in the classrooms, filmmakers in schools, attendance at festivals, filmmaker labs, and participation on the Shortsfest’s Youth Jury.

For more information contact Aspen Film at 970.925.6882.
SHORTSFEST 2016
SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7
FRIDAY, APRIL 8
FILMMAKER CONVERSATIONS
Noon – 2:00pm
The Red Onion
420 E. Cooper Ave.
Get a behind-the-scenes look into the creative process of guest filmmakers from around the world at these lunch-time panel discussions.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by: Aspen Film

THURSDAY, APRIL 7
SEED&SPARK PRESENTS:
CROWDFUNDING TO BUILD INDEPENDENCE
Noon – 2:00pm
Gonzo Gallery
625 E. Hyman Ave.
Join Seed&Spark, the film industry’s most ground-breaking crowdfunding platform, exclusively created to support a rich community of independent filmmakers and storytellers, for this inspirational presentation and conversation. Seed&Spark’s Erica Anderson, Head of Crowdfunding & Education, will discuss everything from how to develop your funding campaign to reaching an audience you will have a lasting, flourishing, and direct relationship with. All dreamers welcome!
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Special Thanks to The Colorado Office of Film, Television, & Media

SATURDAY, APRIL 9
STOP ASKING PERMISSION AND TELL YOUR STORY:
A conversation with Sean Baker and BRIGHT IDEAS magazine
NOON-2pm
Chair 9 at The Little Nell
675 E. Durant Ave.
Celebrated director Sean Baker and producer Darren Dean (Snowbird, Tangerine, Prince of Broadway) sit down with BRIGHT IDEAS magazine’s Editor-in-Chief James Kaelan to talk about Baker and Dean’s latest short, Snowbird, world-premiering at Aspen Shortsfest and commissioned by cutting-edge French fashion house Kenzo. Come join us for this inspirational conversation discussing everything from shooting films on an iPhone to finding financing in the least likely of places.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Aspen Shortsfest’s Jury recognizes films with the following Oscar®-qualifying awards:

- **BEST ANIMATION ($2,500)**
- **BEST COMEDY ($2,500)**
- **BEST DOCUMENTARY ($2,500)**
- **BEST DRAMA ($2,500)**
- **BEST SHORT SHORT ($1,000)**

The Jury will award one film **BEST STUDENT FILM ($1,000)**.

Shortsfest’s audiences determine the winners of the **AUDIENCE AWARD ($500)** and the **AUDIENCE SPECIAL RECOGNITION**.

The **YOUTH JURY AWARD ($500)** is given to one film by local high school students.

The **ELLEN AWARD** named for Aspen Film’s Founder and former Executive Director, Ellen Kohner Hunt, originated from an endowment raised by the community to annually award a film that embodies the spirit of Aspen Film’s programming from 1976 to 1995. The 2016 Aspen Shortsfest Ellen Award Jurors are: Steve Allrededge, Linda Girvin, Gail Holstein, Ellen Kohner Hunt, and Lynda Palevsky.

Seed&Spark will select one film that crowdfunded a portion of their budget to receive the **SEED&SPARK AWARD**, which includes $250 toward the winning filmmaker’s next Seed&Spark crowdfunding campaign (on campaigns of $7,500 or more), individual crowdfunding and audience-building consultation with Seed&Spark experts, and distribution on Seed&Spark’s streaming platform.

**David Ansen** was a movie critic for *Newsweek* from 1977 to 2008. He was the Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Film Festival from 2010 through 2014. He is currently the Lead Programmer of the Palm Springs International Film Festival. He has written documentaries for TNT, HBO and PBS on Greta Garbo, Groucho Marx, Bette Davis, and Elizabeth Taylor and has written for *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Interview*, *Cosmopolitan*, and other publications. In the 1990s he served for eight years on the selection committee of the New York Film Festival.

**Lisa Kennedy** writes about popular culture, race, and gender – and has for more than two decades. From 2003 to 2015 she was film critic for the *Denver Post*. In 2012, she added theater critic to her title. A member of The National Society of Film Critics, she has been a juror for the American Film Institute’s Top Movies, Film Independent’s Spirit Awards, and the Gotham Awards. She has also been a judge for the Pulitzer Prize in criticism. Jurying for Aspen Shortsfest remains one of her favorite gigs. As she works on book and freelance projects, she continues to review films as host of “Reaction Shot,” a weekly movie review show on denverpost.com.

**Alex Karpovsky** has directed five feature-length films and numerous music videos. As an actor, he currently plays Ray Ploshansky in the HBO comedy series *Girls* and has appeared in the last two films written and directed by the Coen Brothers – *Inside Llewyn Davis* and *Hail, Caesar!*

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6:30pm
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION
Wheeler Opera House Lobby

Join us in kicking off the 25th Aspen ShortsFest, before Shorts Program 1, with hors d’oeuvres, wine, and beer.

COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Hosted by:
Aspen Film and The Aspen Times

7:30pm
SHORTS PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 92 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to The Aspen Times and Toby Devan Lewis

I, Destini
Delicately animated in black-and-white, Destini Riley’s affecting account of the impact of the prison-industrial complex on African-American families like her own was actually submitted as evidence in her brother’s trial. (Nicholas Pilarski, Destini Riley, USA, 14 min.) World Premiere

Everything Will Be Okay
The stakes of a weekend reunion couldn’t be higher for a father and his little girl in this taut yet sensitive Oscar®-nominated drama. (Patrick Vollrath, Germany/Austria, 30 min.)

Pickle
An electrocuted fish, a water-retentive goose, a paralyzed possum who eats scrambled eggs: with affection and humor, a pair of animal lovers recount the injuries and insults life has hurled at their menagerie. (Amy Nicholson, USA, 15 min.)

The Shining Star of Losers Everywhere
In 2003, Japan was plunged into economic darkness, and its people needed a ray of hope. They found one in Haru Urara, a racehorse with a pink Hello Kitty mask and a career-long losing streak. (Mickey Duzyj, Japan/USA, 18 min.) World Premiere

The Evictor
A low-level gangster meets the most unexpected of adversaries when he breaks into the house of a family he’s supposed to eject in this multilayered, beautifully directed drama. (Bumsue Chun, South Korea, 15 min.) World Premiere
NOON FILMMAKER CONVERSATION

The Red Onion
420 E. Cooper Ave.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
See page 6 for details.

5:30pm SHORTS PROGRAM

Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 90 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to Aspen Public Radio and Esther Pearlstone

Charlotte
A teenage girl experiences the highs and lows of an unexpected crush in this tender and honest take on coming-of-age. (Angel Kristi Williams, USA, 11 min.)

God Willing
This portrait of Palestinian artist Mais Rouel AbuSaa doubles as an inspiring examination of the role of women in Islamic society today. (Gayle Embrey, USA, 7 min.) World Premiere

La Laguna
“I am not Mexican. I am Mayan,” says 12-year-old Yu’uk, and his statement reverberates throughout this luminous, deeply poignant journey into the heart of the rainforest, where his family’s way of life is under siege and the modern world encroaches. (Aaron Schock, Mexico/USA, 38 min.)

8:30pm SHORTS PROGRAM

Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 88 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to Alpine Bank and Nancy Wall & Chuck Wall

Sea Breeze
In this intimate character study, a Taiwanese shopkeeper and a Filipino migrant find in one another a kindred spirit. (Chun-Yi Li, Taiwan/UK, 30 min.) International Premiere

Before the Spring
Cairo, 2011: revolution is in the air, but Tamer—who has a bright future awaiting him and his family in America—wants no part of it. Whether he has a choice is the question compelling this gritty drama. (James Kaelan, USA/Egypt, 12 min.) World Premiere

A Coat Made Dark
In this dark animated fable, stolen treasure marks a change in fortune for an evil dog and his exploited manservant—but not in the way they think it will. (Jack O'Shea, Ireland, 10 min.)

House Sitting
Things always look better in the morning—and as the hapless hero of this gentle comedy discovers, sometimes they smell better, too. (Joe Burke, USA, 16 min.) World Premiere

The Orchestra
While the world around him shimmers with light and song, poor old Vernon wonders: can he ever emerge from the dark, tone-deaf shell of his painfully shy making to strike up a tune with his new neighbor? (Mikey Hill, Australia, 15 min.)

Charlotte
World Premiere

God Willing
World Premiere

La Laguna
World Premiere

Before the Spring
World Premiere

A Coat Made Dark
World Premiere

House Sitting
World Premiere

Under the Sun
In this dark animated fable, stolen treasure marks a change in fortune for an evil dog and his exploited manservant—but not in the way they think it will. (Jack O'Shea, Ireland, 10 min.)

World Wide Woven Bodies
Just as he’s entering puberty, Mads gets ensnared in the World Wide Web in this Norwegian family dramedy set at the turn of the millennium. (Truls Krane Melby, Norway, 16 min.)

She Dances for People
Mesmerizing black-and-white imagery allows an intriguing glimpse into the complex and moving history of Canada’s indigenous populations. (Michelle Latimer, Canada, 4 min.) U.S. Premiere

World Wide Woven Bodies
UK Premiere

She Dances for People
UK Premiere

World Wide Woven Bodies
UK Premiere
NOON
SEED&SPARK PRESENTS CROWDFUNDING TO BUILD INDEPENDENCE
Gonzo Gallery, 625 E. Hyman Ave.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Special Thanks to The Colorado Office of Film, Television, & Media
See page 6 for details.

5:30pm
SHORTS PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 90 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to The Aspen Club & Spa and Lee & Steve Rittvo

The Black Belt
Tackling a subject both infuriating and hopeful, acclaimed documentarian Margaret Brown’s timely foray into the voter-ID debate introduces the Alabamans at the center of the fray. (Margaret Brown, USA, 11 min.)

Deer Flower
At once unsettling, whimsical, and amusing, this stop-motion, 3D-printed fairy tale follows a young boy who partakes in an ancient rite of passage. (Kangmin Kim, USA/South Korea, 7 min.)

Hotel der Diktatoren
Welcome to the Hotel Ledger Plaza Bangui. Once owned by a notorious dictator, it’s palatial by the standards of the Central African Republic—particularly the local employees, who show up for work every day in hopes it will one day reopen to guests. Think Waiting for Gaddafi. (Florian Hoffmann, Germany/Central African Republic, 16 min.)

8:30pm
SHORTS PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 87 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to AspenOUT and Paulette & Mel Blumenthal

Across the Sea
A stolen phone sheds light on the dreams and sorrows of both a new mother and a teenaged boy in this deceptively subtle and beautiful drama. (Kelly Robinson, UK, 11 min.)

Dirt
Stylish and captivating, this stark thriller unfolds less as a whodunit than as a whoitdunto. (Darius Clark Monroe, USA, 7 min.)

Edmond
In the hilariously grotesque tradition of Švankmajer and the Quay Brothers, this piece of stop-motion animation takes you on a trip around the world of an unabashed freak. (Nina O’Meara, USA, 3 min.) World Premiere

Irregulars
Against a tellingly hypnotic factory backdrop, a refugee encapsulates the global immigration crisis in his own wrenching words. (Fabio Palmieri, Italy, 9 min.) North American Premiere

MissMe: The Artful Vandal
From subliminal to subversive: once a hot shot in the advertising world, MissMe has since found her voice and her bliss as a Montreal street artist. (Mohammad Gorjestani, USA, 4 min.)
NOON  FILMMAKER CONVERSATION
The Red Onion
420 E. Cooper Ave.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
See page 6 for details.

5:30pm  SHORTS PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 86 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to City of Aspen and Adam & Melony Lewis

Dancing for You
Young Vilde’s passion for folk dance, zest for life, and tender affection for her beloved granddad intermingle within the picturesque framework of the Norwegian countryside in this moving documentary. (Erlend E. Mo, Norway, 29 min.) U.S. Premiere

First Night Out
A woman takes herself to dinner for the very first time. (Will Mayo, USA, 3 min.)

Good White People
The struggle for the soul of a historic Cincinnati neighborhood comes to an end as gentrification displaces the longtime black residents featured in this hard-hitting, emotionally resonant documentary. (Jarrod Welling-Cann, Erick Stoll, USA, 16 min.)

The Old Man and the Bird
Here’s a folktale as timeless as it is intelligently animated: in the dead of winter, an elderly hermit takes in one last breath of fresh air made flesh. (Dennis Stein-Schomburg, Germany, 7 min.) North American Premiere

Step 9
With a loyal sidekick along for the ride, Marian discovers the most heartfelt search for redemption can double as a romp. (Leonora Pitts, USA, 13 min.)

8:30pm  SHORTS PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 92 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to Colorado Creative Industries

Glove
An astronaut recalls a glove he lost in space in this charming animated meditation on the spirit of human endeavor. (Alexa Lim Haas, Bernardo Britto, USA, 6 min.)

Hounds
Teamwork and treachery, devotion and deceit intersect in this surreal and strangely comic tale of bureaucratic breakdown, set in a museum with a pernicious pecking order. (Omer Tobi, Israel, 30 min.) International Premiere

Red Folder
At his teacher’s behest, a troubled student goes in search of a red folder—but is it really a red flag? (Ben Kallam, USA, 10 min.)

The Send-Off
In small-town America, a group of high-school students gathers for the biggest, brightest night of their young lives. (Ivete Lucas, Patrick Bresnan, USA, 12 min.)

Tuesday
In this slice of social realism, a teenage schoolgirl learns a bit about life during an ordinary day on the streets of Istanbul. (Ziya Demirel, France/Turkey, 13 min.)

Victor XX
His loved ones know him as Mari; strangers see him as Victor. Set in small-town Spain, this anguished yet inspiring coming-of-age story is also a coming-of-gender story. (Ian Garrido, Spain, 21 min.)
NOON
STOP ASKING PERMISSION AND TELL YOUR STORY:
A conversation with Sean Baker and BRIGHT IDEAS magazine
Chair 9 at The Little Nell
675 E. Durant Ave.
COMPLIMENTARY AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
See page 6 for details.

5:30pm
SHORTS PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 88 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to Aspen Film Volunteers

Brillo Box (3¢ off)

While tracing the 40-year journey of an Andy Warhol original from her family’s living room to the auction block, documentarian Lisanne Skyler delivers a delightful, nostalgia-tinged snapshot of the American middle class, colorfully framed by a crash course in postmodernism. (Lisanne Skyler, USA, 40 min.) World Premiere

Oh My Father
At the heart of this quietly touching real-life portrait is the daily routine of a 98-year-old man and the daughter who cares for him. (Rodrigo Ojeda-Beck, Robert Machoian, USA, 11 min.) World Premiere

Snowbird
From the director of the groundbreaking indie hit Tangerine, in conjunction with cutting-edge fashion label Kenzo, comes this gorgeously lensed, off-the-grid, May–December romance. (Sean Baker, USA, 12 min.) World Premiere

Summer of Sarah
This classic coming-of-age story finds sixteen-year-old Sarah struggling to juggle her hardworking father’s expectations, a demeaning job and the advances of a boy from the right side of the tracks. (Emma Benestan, France, 25 min.) U.S. Premiere

8:30pm
SHORTS PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 81 Minutes
FILMMAKER Q&A TO FOLLOW
Special Thanks to Aspen Film Volunteers

Bacon & God’s Wrath
At age 90, Razie contemplates her journey of self-discovery upon deciding to try bacon after a lifetime of keeping kosher in this quirky, insightful documentary. (Gol Friedman, Canada, 9 min.)

Chekhov
Grief and ire shot through with wicked humor: a brief phone call from the director to his sister contains all the elements of the namesake master’s works. (Jack Dunphy, USA, 5 min.)

Partners
Sex, work, money, commitment: the duo driving this wry comedy cover all the greatest hits of arguing couples before they even get out of bed in the morning. (Jory Ally, USA, 7 min.)

Someone Is Happy Somewhere
A troubled, deaf handyman and a beautiful but struggling tenant of a Brazilian high rise meet on an emotional crossroads in this intense drama, set on the night of the country’s biggest soccer match. (Mario Furloni, Alvaro Furloni, Brazil, 18 min.) International Premiere

Stripper Wars
A strip club becomes a dreamscape for a lonely exotic dancer longing for acceptance. (Giancarlo Loffredo, USA, 7 min.)

Thanks for Dancing
A glimmer of hope arises from the depths of grief on the wintry Norwegian horizon of this enduring love story. (Henrik Martin Dahlsbakken, Norway, 19 min.) North American Premiere

These C*cksucking Tears
Meet Patrick Haggerty, a singer-songwriter who has worn his fiercely antiestablishment heart on his sleeve since the 1970s, when he recorded the first gay country album. (Dan Taberski, USA, 16 min.)
11:30am
BREAKFAST AT THE FEST
Wheeler Opera House Lobby
See page 5 for details.

12:30pm
FAMILY FUN!
AARDMAN ANIMATIONS 40TH ANNIVERSARY FAMILY PROGRAM
Wheeler Opera House
Total Run Time: 89 Minutes
Aspen ShortsFest is thrilled to partner with legendary animation studio Aardman Animations—the ShortsFest alum that brought you such favorites as A Close Shave and Chicken Run—in celebrating its 40th anniversary with a retrospective screening the whole family’s sure to adore.

Special Thanks to Thrift Shop of Aspen and Les Dames d’Aspen, Ltd.

Aardman Original Cartoon

Pythagasaurus
Bumbling cavemen Ig and Uk awaken to find a volcano on their doorstep. Could their only hope be a dinosaur who’s good at math? (Peter Peake, 2011)

Creature Comforts
The animals in an English zoo conduct a series of interviews on their accommodation, diet, and of course the English weather. (Nick Park, 1989)

Morph: Grand Morph’s Home Movies
When Grand Morph shares footage of Morph as a baby, embarrassment and hilarity ensue. (Peter Lord, 1999)

Angry Kid: Bone
Oh no, the bone—what’s that doing there? (Darren Walsh, 1998)

Purple & Brown: Whistler
Visited by noisy and intriguing strangers, Purple and Brown are desperate to join in the fun. (Rich Webber, 2006)

Nokia: Dot
The invention of the CellScope—a Nokia device with a microscope attachment—was the inspiration for this tiny film about a 9-millimeter girl called Dot, who struggles through a microscopic world. (Sumo Science, 2010)

Ray’s Big Idea
A plucky, pioneering, prehistoric fish has a ground-breaking plan to improve his life. (Steve Harding-Hill, 2014)

Aardman Nathan Love
View the world’s most epic logo reveal for the world’s most epic partnership. (Joe Burrascano, 2015)

So You Want to Be a Pirate!
Chaos unfolds as The Pirate Captain reveals his tips on becoming a dashing yet sensitive terror of the high seas. (Jay Grace, 2012)

Aardman Original Cartoon

The Wrong Trousers
A villainous penguin and a pair of automated techno-trousers plunge our clay heroes into one of their wildest adventures yet. (Nick Park, 1993)

2:00pm
MILK & COOKIES
Wheeler Opera House Lobby
See page 5 for details.

6:30pm
AWARDS DINNER
Cooking School of Aspen
216 S. Monarch St.
See page 5 for details.
5:15pm
SHORTS PROGRAM

Crystal Theatre
Total Run Time: 85 Minutes
Special Thanks to the Towns of Basalt and Carbondale

Across the Sea
A stolen phone sheds light on the dreams and sorrows of both a new mother and a teenaged boy in this deceptively subtle and beautiful drama. (Kelly Robinson, UK, 11 min.)

First Night Out
A woman takes herself to dinner for the very first time. (Will Mayo, USA, 3 min.)

Glove
An astronaut recalls a glove he lost in space in this charming animated meditation on the spirit of human endeavor. (Alexa Lim Haas, Bernardo Britto, USA, 6 min.)

House Sitting
Things always look better in the morning—and as the hapless hero of this gentle comedy discovers, sometimes they smell better, too. (Joe Burke, USA, 16 min.) World Premiere

MISSME: THE ARTFUL VANDAL
From subliminal to subversive: once a hot shot in the advertising world, MissMe has since found her voice and her bliss as a Montreal street artist. (Mohammad Gorjestani, USA, 4 min.)

MONDO CANE
Celebrated American photographer Thomas Roma shares his philosophies on art, life, and the canine species while discussing two of his most influential projects with filmmaker Michael Almereyda. (Michael Almereyda, USA, 12 min.)

7:30pm
SHORTS PROGRAM

Crystal Theatre
Total Run Time: 91 Minutes
Special Thanks to the Towns of Basalt and Carbondale

Bacon & God’s Wrath
At age 90, Razie contemplates her journey of self-discovery upon deciding to try bacon after a lifetime of keeping kosher in this quirky, insightful documentary. (Sol Friedman, Canada, 9 min.)

BRILLO BOX (3¢ OFF)
While tracing the 40-year journey of an Andy Warhol original from her family’s living room to the auction block, documentarian Lisanne Skyler delivers a delightful, nostalgia-tinged snapshot of the American middle class, colorfully framed by a crash course in postmodernism. (Lisanne Skyler, USA, 40 min.) World Premiere

Partners
Sex, work, money, commitment: the duo driving this wry comedy cover all the greatest hits of arguing couples before they even get out of bed in the morning. (Josey Ally, USA, 7 min.)

SNOUBIRD
From the director of the groundbreaking indie hit Tangerine, in conjunction with cutting-edge fashion label Kenzo, comes this gorgeously lensed, off-the-grid, May-December romance. (Sean Baker, USA, 12 min.) World Premiere

I, Destini
Delicately animated in black-and-white, Destini Riley’s affecting account of the impact of the prison-industrial complex on African-American families like her own was actually submitted as evidence in her brother’s trial. (Nicholas Pilarski, Destini Riley, USA, 14 min.) World Premiere

The Shining Star of Losers Everywhere
In 2003, Japan was plunged into economic darkness, and its people needed a ray of hope. They found one in Haru Urara, a racehorse with a pink Hello Kitty mask and a career-long losing streak. (Mickey Duzyj, Japan/USA, 18 min.) World Premiere
3pm
**FAMILY FUN!**

**AARDMAN ANIMATIONS 40TH ANNIVERSARY FAMILY PROGRAM**

Crystal Theatre  
**Total Run Time: 89 Minutes**

Aspen Shortsfest is thrilled to partner with legendary animation studio Aardman Animations—the ShortsFest alum that brought you such favorites as *A Close Shave* and *Chicken Run*—in celebrating its 40th anniversary with a retrospective screening the whole family’s sure to adore.

Special Thanks to Thrift Shop of Aspen and Les Dames d’Aspen, Ltd.  
(See page 13 for program details)

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5:15pm
**SHORTS PROGRAM**

Crystal Theatre  
**Total Run Time: 87 Minutes**

Special Thanks to the Towns of Basalt and Carbondale

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**Charlotte**

A teenaged girl experiences the highs and lows of an unexpected crush in this tender and honest take on coming-of-age. (Angel Kristi Williams, USA, 11 min.)

**Dancing for You**

Young Vilde’s passion for folk dance, zest for life and tender affection for her beloved granddad intermingle within the picturesque framework of the Norwegian countryside in this moving documentary. (Erlend E. Mo, Norway, 29 min.)  
U.S. Premiere

**Just a Song**

When Dennis serenades his girlfriend, things don’t go as hoped—at least not for her. (Gina Hirsch, USA, 5 min.)

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**Mining Poems or Odes**

The shipyards of Scotland doubled as an institution of higher learning for the welder-turned-poet at the center of this lyrical portrait. (Callum Rice, Scotland/UK, 11 min.)

**The Orchestra**

While the world around him shimmers with light and song, poor old Vernon wonders: can he ever emerge from the dark, tone-deaf shell of his own painfully shy making to strike up a tune with his new neighbor? (Mikey Hill, Australia, 15 min.)

**She Dances for People**

Mesmerizing black-and-white imagery allows an intriguing glimpse into the complex and moving history of Canada’s indigenous populations. (Michelle Latimer, Canada, 4 min.)  
U.S. Premiere

**The Send-Off**

In small-town America, a group of high-school students gathers for the biggest, brightest night of their young lives. (Ivete Lucas, Patrick Bresnan, USA, 12 min.)
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