Sebastopol Center for the Arts welcomes you to the 9th Annual cuisine and boutique shopping. Sonoma County's growing art scene and is situated near other meeting rooms, a commercial kitchen and ample parking.

Outstanding art programs, in addition to having phenomenally now have over 50,000 people visiting the Center each year for spaces for our visual, performing, literary and film arts. We have films to present to our discerning audiences.

Three years ago the Center remodeled the Sebastopol Center for the Arts and chose which artists to visit.

2016 EVENTS

Discover Art and the artists of Sonoma County during open studio weekends! The diversity includes painters, sculptors, potters, jewelers and more. There is something for everyone to enjoy during these self-guided studio tours. Visit the Preview Exhibits at the Center for the Arts and choose which artists to visit.

Art at the Source Open Studios June 4-5 & 11-12, 2016

159 artists open their West County studios to the public and show how they make art.

Sonoma County Art Trails October 8-9 & 15-16, 2016

Enjoy the beauty of fall and visit interesting studios during this annual county-wide event.

And don’t miss...

Motion: An International Exhibition October 21 - November 27, 2016

This show presents artwork that contains movement perceivable by the viewer or depends on its motion for its effect.

2016 Steering Committee

Randy Hall, Festival & Program Director
Cynthia Stefanioli, Festival Producer
Lee Clark, Technology Coordinator
Barbara Coon, Box Office Coordinator
Kathryn Davy, Volunteer Coordinator

Joan McGlothlin, Filmmaker Liaison Coordinator
Mango Miller, Housing Coordinator
Shad Reinstein
Karen Vyner-Brooks, Fundraising Coordinator
Jeffrey Zankel

Special Thanks to Gil Mansergh for his invaluable contributions to our educational programs and his contribution to our Critic’s Award Selection.

Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival 2016

HOW TO FEST

Ticket Prices

Regular screenings & special programs: $10
Opening Night Film & Party: $35 advance ($30 SCA/SDFF Members) $40 at the door - subject to availability

ALL ACCESS PASS: No tickets necessary, includes all films, parties, and filmmaker-only events. $225 ($205 SCA/SDFF members)

DAY PASSES: Saturday-Only Pass (All Saturday films & the Barlow Block Party). $50 ($45 SCA/SDFF Members)

PUNCH CARD: Redeemable for SIX regular admission tickets ($50 value). $90 ($85 SCA/SDFF members)

How it works: Purchase the punch card at the box office. TREAT THIS PUNCH CARD AS CASA; no refunds or exchanges possible. When you know what films you want to see, bring the punch card with you to the SDFF Box Office, and redeem one punch for one hard ticket. Opening Night Film & Party requires THREE punches.

How to Buy

1. ONLINE www.sebastopolfilmfestival.org (surcharge applies)

2. IN PERSON At the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, 282 S. High St., Sebastopol. Tues-Fri, 1pm-4pm or by appointment - call 707-829-4797 for details.

3. BY PHONE 707-829-4797 ext. 303 (Note: $.50 surcharge for all phone orders)

Leave a message and box office staff will call you back to complete the phone order. No phone orders accepted after March 10.

Ticket Policy

• Tickets guarantee a seat until 15 minutes prior to the start of all films or presentations. Please arrive early. Five minutes prior to show time empty seats will be re-sold.

• All tickets for regular screenings and special programs are $10. Opening Night is $35 in advance (SCA/SDFF members $30), or $40 at the door (depending on availability).

• Tickets purchased through SCA will be available for pickup prior to the festival at SCA during business hours and during the festival (March 17-26) at SCA beginning one hour prior to the first program of the day.

• Waist Tickets: A Wait Line will be formed outside the venue prior to show time. Unclaimed seats will be released 3 minutes before each film, at which time Waist Line tickets may be available for purchase for $12 cash only.

• Call tickets can be picked up at SCA before the festival. During the festival, Call tickets will be at the venue of your first film.

• No refunds or exchanges.

• NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK permitted.

Consent To Be Filmed: by entering and by your presence at the various venues and locations of the Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival (March 17 through 20, 2016), you give the Sebastopol Center for the Arts your consent to be photographed, filmed and/or otherwise recorded. This consent includes any use, in any and all media, throughout the universe in perpetuity, of your appearance, voice and name for any purpose whatsoever in connection with this event.
THE MORE THE MERRIER

The most satisfying part of our job is working with local organizations like the Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival that share our passion for making the community a strong, vibrant place to be.

Stop by one of our locations in the North Bay area for a free coffee. Go to umpquabank.com to find a store near you.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome everyone to our 9th Annual festival! After all the teeth-graunched, hand-wringed, sweat-pooling, and anxiety-swelling of screening, programming, fundraising, and planning, we have finally arrived at the festival weekend itself!

Seeing as this is my first year running this program, I have mentioned repeatedly that the job itself is ever-changing, always adapting to a new stage or phase of the lifecycle of this film festival. It has been an amazing learning process, and I hope that you’re pleased with the result.

I would be lying if I said that this was a one-person effort. This program takes a small village to create, and without the steadfast support of my steering committee, none of this could be possible. My request to you: if you see anyone wearing a “Steering Committee” badge at the festival, please take a moment to thank them for making this event a reality.

As the process now reaches its climax this weekend, I hope you will join me in celebrating the filmmakers and their stories, each of which shines a light on the world we live in, the world we came from, or the world yet to come.

— Randy Hall, Festival Director

FROM THE PROGRAMMER

It starts when the windows are opened to let in June’s fresh breezes. Our Call for entries opens June 1 each year. This is our 9th Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival and the beginning of June has lost none of its excitement and wonder at what comes to us, hopeful for a screen in the Festival. Hundreds of films arrive to be considered. We’re the programmers who screen each entry for excellence in story and craft; those that eventually will become our program for you. Documentaries tell stories in as many ways as the artists’ vision imagines. We meet people, causes, pet pigs and anger. We stumble through someone’s day in a far-flung place of the world and hope while they try to hang on to life, integrity and family. Every batch of films offers knowledge, surprise, humor or mirrors. Editing skills: audio, music and action can stun us with their audacity and ability to tell a story. Hundreds of films, each year, and we always look forward to pressing “play”; ready to be captivated by what has come our way. Make yourself comfy. Our new chairs will help. This is when we share 70 of the best that started through the window when June was fresh.

— Jean McGlothlin

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And many more anonymous donors.

Thank you all for your support!

STOP BY ONE OF OUR LOCATIONS IN THE NORTH BAY AREA FOR A FREE COFFEE. GO TO UMPQUABANK.COM TO FIND A STORE NEAR YOU.
**THURSDAY**

**OPENING NIGHT**

Film: Hitchcock/Truffaut

In 1962, François Truffaut persuaded Alfred Hitchcock to sit with him for a week-long interview in which the great British auteur would share with his young admirer the secrets of his cinema. Based on the original recordings of this meeting — used to produce the seminal book “Hitchcock/Truffaut” — this film illustrates the greatest cinema lesson of all time and plunges us into the world of the creator of Psycho, The Birds and Vertigo.

Director Kent Jones gives a very contemporary reinterpretation of Hitchcock’s cinema. By highlighting the main topics with a large number of clips (legendary and lesser known) from Hitchcock’s films, 10 contemporary cinema greats reiterate the esthetic, technical, and narrative questions at the heart of these conversations with Truffaut. Thanks to the original sound recordings of these discussions, the book suddenly comes to life: Hitchcock and Truffaut, with their intonations, hesitations, and laughter, answer Martin Scorsese, David Fincher, Richard Linklater, Wes Anderson, James Gray, Olivier Assayas, Kiyoshi Kurosawa, Peter Bogdanovich and Paul Schrader, resurrecting this fabled one-week encounter and 20-year friendship.

Following the film, we will remain at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts for our Opening Night Party, where audience and visiting filmmakers from around the world kick-off the SDFF weekend with films, events and special programs.

Thursday, March 17, 7:00 p.m.
Sebastopol Center for the Arts

**FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE BARLOw**

Awards Party

Following the film, The Barlow opens its doors to introduce festival goers, filmmakers and guests to what The Barlow has to offer. Food and drink are included and the party will also be the backdrop for this year’s Awards Ceremony for the Jury and Critic’s awards. Be there to learn who receives the Jury Award for feature and short categories as well as the Critic’s Award presented by syndicated film critic Gil Manksen.

Attendance is limited. Make sure to check the online program for up-to-date information.

Friday, March 18, Barlow Event Center, 9:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY**

**BLOCK PARTY AT THE BARLOw**

At the midpoint of the festival weekend, we all take a break and invite everyone to The Barlow to enjoy a Block Party on Saturday afternoon. Saturday festival goers, pass holders and invited guests will be treated to an afternoon social with bites and beverages offered courtesy of The Barlow. Feel free to take in the hospitality and get a mid-afternoon break from documentaries!

Attendance is limited. Make sure to check the online program for up-to-date information.

Saturday, March 19, The Barlow, 3:30 p.m.
SPOTLIGHT ON WOMEN FILMMAKERS

“When Kathryn Bigelow won an Academy Award for Best Director for ‘The Hurt Locker’ in 2010, she was the first woman so honored. But a recent study found across 1,300 top-grossing films from 2002 to 2014, only 4.1 percent of all directors were female.” – Fortune Magazine, October 2015

*The latest study on gender equality in Hollywood found that last year, 2015, women accounted for 9 percent of the directors of the 250 top-grossing domestic films. This result put women on par with the level achieved in 1998.* – New York Times Magazine, October 2015

The Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival is excited and proud that women helmed half of the films we are presenting this year. Contrast this against the latest study on gender equality in Hollywood and you have the beginning of a pretty interesting conversation. Is gender a non-issue when directing a documentary? Are the rules somehow different for documentarians than narrative filmmakers? Join us on Saturday as five female documentarians discuss their take on this disparity, their careers as filmmakers and what the future holds for filmmakers in film and media.

Look for the WFF icon in the program.

DOCUMENTARY WEB SERIES

Online videos have now been around for several years as YouTube and other video sharing sites have demonstrated. Now there is an emerging trend of filmmakers who use the documentary form and target online distribution as the first and only channel for their work. This year, SDFF has identified some of these pioneering projects and brings them to the festival to celebrate and discuss.

Look for the WS icon in the program.

Life’s Work, by Breakwater Studios

Director Ben Proudfoot and his team created several short vignettes on craftsmen and women, masters of their medium telling their story. Each vignette’s focus is on the visuals, the music and pace. These portraits are gorgeously cinematic and irresistibly bite-sized. Look for them throughout the weekend.

Waves of Childhood

In a miraculous blending of female filmmakers, refugee stories, and online delivery, this project was the culmination of a media workshop held at the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan. The unique angle of this presentation: young Syrian girls, facilitated by Laura Doggett & Tasneem Toghoj, the workshop gave the girls access to equipment, support and encouragement to develop and tell their stories visually. You can witness the result.

SATURDAY SHORTS

If you love short films and you have a yen to enjoy a “festival-within-a-festival” then this is the one for you! We have programmed one screen on Saturday to present short documentaries, all day long. Enjoy some great themed blocks of shorts along with the filmmakers who created them!

See page 12 film grid for titles. Look for the SS icon in the program.

SHORTS 1: Long & Short – Art in the face of loss, unexpected victims of railroad suicides, an ancient form of communication and a chorus of voices laying bare the economic realities of our society.

SHORTS 2: Clearing Obstacles – Crow’s who clean up Mardi Gras, four-legged victims of Hurricane Katrina and the indomitable spirit of an artist.

SHORTS 3: In Monochrome – A feast of black & white documentary shorts, anchored with the black & white art of an American comic book art legend.

SHORTS 4: Of Earth & Water – Two craftsmen using the earth as their medium, an aquatic paradise in jeopardy and the stark and fragile nature of our own waterways.

PORTRETS OF RESILIENCE

As armed conflict continues to rage in different parts of the world, SDFF transitions from portrayals of the direct conflict in order to focus on the humanitarian impact as well as the side effects of revolution and societal upheaval. The films in this special program include several areas of the world you already know, but haven’t likely seen in this context. The characters brought to life by filmmakers have the stories that come from forced migration or marginalization, while at the same time, tempered in the hope that better days will come.

Look for the icon in the program.

50 Feet From Syria - A Syrian-American surgeon patches lives 30 minutes from the border with Syria. The film gives the girls access to equipment, support and encouragement to develop and tell their stories visually. You can witness the result.

Waves of Childhood

One, If by Land - Three vignettes from Syria female refugee stories, and online delivery, this project was the culmination of a media workshop held at the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan. The unique angle of this presentation: young Syrian girls, facilitated by Laura Doggett & Tasneem Toghoj, the workshop gave the girls access to equipment, support and encouragement to develop and tell their stories visually. You can witness the result.

A Nation Without A Homeland - An Iraqi man tries to help a South Sudanese civil conflict rages as the Arab Spring in Egypt victimized women yet one of them refuses to give up on the dream of a nation.

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This year we present Jury Awards to our best feature length and short documentaries representing the best in non-fiction filmmaking being presented at the 2015 Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival. We are proud to announce our finalists for this year’s award that represent SDFF’s dedication to bringing important, challenging, and artistic films to Sebastopol every year.

**Award Finalists**

Sara Alexander
Elizabeth Ballard
Laudy Bensahil
Christopher Buczek
Sandy Cameron
Sara Caruso
Rob & Ce Cary

**Jurors**

**FEATURE JURY**

Jason Osder: Director of Let the Fire Burn Assistant Professor, Media & Public Affairs, George Washington University

Jerry Rothwell: Director of How to Change the World SDFF 2015 Jury Award Winner

Caroline Von Knobel: Independent Producer, Managing Director, Camden International Film Festival

**SHORT JURY**

David Feldman: Director of Los Olvidados SDFF 2015 Short Jury Award Winner

Jane Roseman: Director of Pie Lady of Pie Town SDFF 2015 Best of the Fest Participant

**Features**

Atlan
Drawing The Tiger
Daughters of the Forest
Ghost Town To Havana
The Trials of Spring

**Shorts**

Born Fighter
Curley
In The Canyon
Long Story Short
Quiet Title

**SDFF Members**

Paul Manning
Roberta O’Neill
Sarah & David O’Neill
Rick Painter
Gyrla Christian
Priscilla Racette
Othmar Peters
Laurie Ross
Dahaii Serbo
Kate Schaffer
Jane & Alain Serkissian
Fald Shemsh & Tom History
Sandy & Jim Shelton
Bliss Ranger
Mary & Robert Singh
Sandy Smith
Vale Smith
Susan Stanford
Dorothea Steng
Rani Sugg
Dana Stapleton
Susan Stenz
Ben Stenz
Jean-Pierre Swennen
Jane Kennedy
Adrian Tamayo
Rick Thompson
Carlynn Johnson
Charlotte Thomas & Patrick Stewart
Victoria Trautwein
Gary Winer
Sara Winge
Jeffrey Zaloski
Senna Chesser
Willow & Boris Zimmerman

**SDFF 2016**

www.sebastopolfilmfestival.org
707.829.4797

**Festival Sponsors**
1989

Denmark, 2014, 97 minutes

Directors: Anders Bierregaard, Erzebet Rac

"1989" is the story of Prime Minister Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union and his struggles to bring an end to the Cold War with the US. The film is a political thriller that explores the complex relationship between the US and the Soviet Union, and the challenges faced by Gorbachev in attempting to bring an end to the Cold War. The film is set against the backdrop of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union, and it provides a fascinating insight into the political dynamics of the time.

50 Feet From Syria

Turkey, USA, Syria, 2015, 39 minutes

Director: Skye Fitzgerald

"50 Feet From Syria" is a portrait of Syrian-American surgeon Hisham Bismar, performing intricate acts of medical necessity underpinned by the chaos and complexity of war around him. The story of war and civil unrest that has plagued Syria are well highlighted in the bodies of the victims he treats. Through it all, Bismar perseveres. Director Fitzgerald’s film serves as a snapshot in time for the current plight of Syrian refugees.

The Amina Profile

Canada, 2015, 85 minutes

Director: Sophia Derase

Amina, a lesbian in Syria, has a blog called ‘A Gay Girl in Damascus’ during the pre-civil war Arab Spring. She becomes involved in an online relationship with a Canadian lesbian. After she disappears, the international community starts searching for her. Is this a lesbian love story? Syria? The Internet? An international thriller? "The Amina Profile" shows us that sometimes truth is stranger than fiction.

Beneath Paradise

Puerto Rico, 2015, 12 minutes

Director: Darlen Morales

The island of Culebra, located off the coast of Puerto Rico, has one of the richest ecosystems in the Caribbean. It is dependent on the waves of unexploded World War II era munitions, prompting the military to come together in an attempt to restore the coral reefs. In English and Spanish with English subtitles.

Birds of a Feather

New Zealand, 2015, 68 minutes

Director: Nina Wells

The British Seagull once touted as ‘The best outboard motor in the world’ is now famous for being hopelessly unreliable. ‘Birds of a Feather’ is the story of seagull racing on New Zealand’s Waikato River where competitors from all walks of life battle 130km downstream, subjecting themselves to an arduous challenge that will test their patience, temper and resolve. Director Nina Wells introduces the competitors and takes us along for the race.

Art Connect

Trinidad & Tobago, 2015, 74 minutes

Director: Miquel Gatell

"Art Connect" reveals the impact that art and creativity had in a group of at-risk ‘teenagers from LaVentille, the community in Trinidad and Tobago with the most violence. The story is told by these children who had access to different forms of art to express themselves. By talking, painting, singing, dancing and filming they allow us into their world.

At Midnight

Australia, 2015, 4 minutes

Director: Amber McBride

Maria escaped from Communist Hungary during the 1956 uprising. She was seeking creative freedom, but her husband could not tear himself away from his successful filmmaking career to go with her. As she attempted to build a new life in Australia, she made a feature film about her escape. Her film was revolutionary for its time and wildly successful. Fifty-seven years later, she tells her version of the story.

Atlan

Iran, 2015, 62 minutes

Director: Masoud Karamoosini

Horses are the most important element in the life of Iranian Turkmen. As horse races are some of the most significant social events in their land, Turkmen Sahra. All is a Turkman horse trainer whose horse, Bhan, has won for him many times. All plans to use Bhan’s and his other horses’ winnings to pay for his wedding. But events don’t go his way.

Cactus Jack: Lone Star on Capitol Hill

USA, 2015, 54 minutes

Director: Nancy Schiesar

The incredible journey of John Nance Garner, from a two-horse Texas town to the corridors of power in Washington. The hard-charging “Cactus Jack” becomes the most influential vice president in modern history and the muscle behind The New Deal. The film traces Nance’s career from his ‘safe’ district in Texas that elected him to congress for 30 years to his eight year stint as FDR’s backroom deal-making vice president.

Chau, Beyond the Lines

Vietnam, 2015, 33 minutes

Director: Courtney Marsh

Chau, a 16-year-old boy living in a Vietnamese peasant camp that cares for kids disabled by Agent Orange, battles with the reality of his dream to one day become a professional artist and clothing designer. Chau’s unstoppable spirit plays against the backdrop of the displacement of those whose lives were shaped by the defoliant chemical. Oscar-Nominated for Best Short Documentary in 2016.

Clan

Australia, 2014, 7 minutes

Director: Larissa Behrendt

"Clan" is the story of James Saunders, an Australian Aboriginal gay man. James goes to boarding school on a scholarship where he realizes that he is different. After he graduates, he is rejected by his father and stepfather and left on his own. Struggling with depression and suicide, James decides to come out. He finds a new family with a gay rugby team, the Convicts, and with them goes on to win two rugby world cups.

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**THURSDAY MARCH 17**

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<tr>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>SCA Robert Brent Auditorium</td>
<td>Opening Night: Hitchcock/Truffaut</td>
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<tr>
<td>8pm</td>
<td>SCA Little Red Hen</td>
<td>PEER PITCH PROGRAM</td>
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<td>9pm</td>
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**FRIDAY MARCH 18**

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<td>Rialto Cinemas® Theater #1</td>
<td>Lady Bug</td>
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<td>5pm</td>
<td>Rialto Cinemas® Theater #1</td>
<td>The Yes Man</td>
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<tr>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Rialto Cinemas® Theater #1</td>
<td>Ane Revolting</td>
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<td>7pm</td>
<td>Rialto Cinemas® Theater #3</td>
<td>4:15-5:45 pm</td>
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<td>8pm</td>
<td>Rialto Cinemas® Theater #4</td>
<td>The Animal Professie</td>
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**SATURDAY MARCH 19**

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<tr>
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<td>Barlow Block Party</td>
<td>Science 4 The Masses</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Barlow Block Party</td>
<td>Discrete charm of Geometry</td>
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**SUNDAY MARCH 20**

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<th>Film Name</th>
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<td>Barlow Block Party</td>
<td>Waves of Childhood</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Barlow Block Party</td>
<td>Nation W/O Homeland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Barlow Block Party</td>
<td>District Zero</td>
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**VENUES**

1. Sebastopol Center for the Arts
2. Rialto Cinemas®
3. The Barlow Events Center
Curley: A Historiophoty by Billy Palumbo
USA, 2015, 19 minutes
Director: Billy Palumbo

Just as James Michael Curley challenged and redefined the dominant politics of early 20th century Boston, just as Curley’s legacy has been simplified and sanitized, just as history in general blunts and sculpts facts to meet an end, “Curley: A Historiophoty by Billy Palumbo” challenges chronology, and objectivity in history-telling for questions. In this amusing film Palumbo attempts to redefine history.

Daughters of the Forest/Hijas Del Bosque
USA, 2015, 56 minutes
Director: Samantha Grant

“Daughters of the Forest” follows the lives of a group of girls attending The Mbaracayu Forest Girls’ School. The school is surrounded by land where more than 95 percent of the forest has been burned and cleared. The school is where the girls learn both academically and through running businesses that support themselves and the school. We see the fulfilment of their vision: the best hope for changing the world is empowering the girls.

In Spanish with English subtitles

The Discrete Charm of Geometry
Germany, 2015, 66 minutes
Director: Ekaterina Eremenko

Witness the excitement of discovering, competition and recognition all shown as it unfolds. Scientists pursue the idea of ‘discretization’, which uses mathematics to construct continuous objects from basic building blocks. This film explores the boundaries between mathematics and the lives of those who are involved in it. It is a who’s who of the stars of modern mathematics with some fascinating character studies.

In English, German and Russian with English subtitles

Dogs of the 9th Ward
USA, 2015, 31 minutes
Directors: Silvia Turchin, Almeez Bosschart

Years after Katrina, New Orleans is overrun by wild dogs. The euthanization rate for stray dogs is around 70%, unless the dog is “perfect”, he or she has very little chance of getting out alive. The film follows the 9th Ward residents and dog rescuers who are working to better the conditions of their community by rehabilitating these once discarded street dogs.

In Arabic with English subtitles

Drawing the Tiger
USA, 2015, 98 minutes
Directors: Amy Berson, Ramyata Limbu, Scott Squire

“Drawing the Tiger” is the intimate portrait of a Nepalese family’s daily struggle to survive off subsistence farming and the price that family pays for their golden opportunity to break the poverty cycle. Shanta, their brightest child, receives a charity scholarship to go to school in the capital city. She promises to return and free her family from poverty. But she doesn’t.

In Nepali with English subtitles

The Drybrush Master
USA, 2014, 30 minutes
Director: Ben Tobin

Filmmaker Tobin takes us on an exploration of the work of NY Times bestselling illustrator Greg Ruth. The film navigates through the incredible brush and ink world of Ruth’s beautifully executed story illustrations as seen in his books such as “The Lost Boy”. Viewers are treated to full screen stills of Ruth’s stunning black and white work while Ruth himself describes his technique and its evolution.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 3:00 p.m.

Elephant’s Dream
Belgium, 2014, 74 minutes
Director: Kristof Bilsen

A poetic portrait of Congo in transition, seen through the eyes of public sector workers in a railway station, post office and the only fire station in the largest city, Kinshasa. Belgian director Kristof Bilsen’s cinema verité view of the daily lives of these workers tells us everything we need to know about poverty, neglect, corruption and decaying infrastructure in a city of 11 million people.

In French with English subtitles

Sunday, March 20, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 1:00 p.m.

Equal Justice Under Law
USA, 2015, 3 minutes
Director: Dan Goldes

Shot and edited June 26, 2015, following the Supreme Court’s historic ruling on marriage equality, this documentary commemorates President Barack Obama’s speech about the ruling with video of the reaction in San Francisco streets. Video was shot on a cell phone, uploaded to Dropbox, edited in iMovie, and combined with licensed music within hours of the ruling.

Sunday, March 20, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 5:00 p.m.

Feelings Are Facts: The Life of Yvonne Rainer
USA, 2015, 86 minutes
Director: Michael Braslevsky

Filmmaker Braslevsky takes us for a nostalgic tour of his family history as he unpacks the life of his mother. Leveraging family photo albums and home movies, along with archival material, he brings his mother’s experience to life. The film is a saga revealing how history, culture and politics affected and shaped his mother’s impressive life in this heartfelt tribute.

In Russian with English subtitles

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 7:30 p.m.

A Few Stanzas to Our Mothers
USA, Ukraine, 2015, 66 minutes
Director: Sanna Rahola

“Daughters of the Forest” follows the story of Yvonne Rainer: choreographer from San Francisco made an unconventional solo which became a decisive moment in the history of contemporary dance. Then she began experimenting with film. At the age of 56 she came out as a lesbian, and in 1997 she won the Teddy Award. Today, aged 80, she is still working on our mothers.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 2:00 p.m.

Fibre & Wood
Canada, 2015, 10 minutes
Director: Ben Proudfoot

Sanna Rahola and Douglas Duld are a couple of master craftsmen collaborating on the same work. Although he is a woodcarver and she is a fiber artist, they explore techniques of combining their crafts to enhance the effects of each. This film is from the Breakwater Studios’ “Life’s Work” web series on craft in Nova Scotia.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 1:30 p.m.

The London Watch
UK, 2014, 6 minutes
Director: Bianca Elgar

The life story of Yvonne Rainer, director, choreographer and feminist and her impact on the world of contemporary dance.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 9:30 a.m.

Equal Justice Under Law
USA, 2015, 3 minutes
Director: Dan Goldes

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Sunday, March 20, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 1:00 p.m.
Flotsam
USA, 2015, 15 minutes
Director: Olivia Motley
Paula, a performance artist from Brazil, is internationally famous in the underground scene for his alter-ego Gazelle and his publication GAZEL. LAND, a documentation of the gay nightlife community of London, New York and São Paulo. Paula is also HIV-positive, and with the sudden death of his partner Eric, he embarks on a conscious transformation by filtering what matters in his life. The film brings us into Paula’s search for a meaningful way to deepen Gazelle’s life.

In English and Spanish with English subtitles
Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 1:00 p.m.

Hitchcock/Truffaut
USA, 2015, 79 minutes
Director: Kent Jones
In 1966 François Truffaut interviewed Alfred Hitchcock, publishing the interviews in his pioneering book "Hitchcock/Truffaut." In Kent Jones’ new documentary of the same name, renowned film critics and directors bring to life the characters, themes and stories of the famous director. The result is a deeply illuminating portrait of one of the world’s most influential filmmakers.

In English, French and Japanese with English subtitles
Thursday, March 17, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 7:00 p.m.

Gazelle: The Love Issue
USA, 2015, 93 minutes
Director: Cesar Terranova
Gazelle: The Love Issue is an epic romance that explores the relationship between a mother and daughter through the lens of their shared passion for photography. The film follows the story of a mother who discovers her daughter’s talent for photography and helps her pursue her dream. With a talented cast and stunning visuals, Gazelle: The Love Issue transports viewers to the beautiful landscapes and vibrant cities of France, allowing them to experience the beauty of photography and the joy of family.

In English and French with English subtitles
Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 1:30 p.m.

Les Ille Chocolat
France, 2015, 18 minutes
Director: Jérôme Laurent
“Le Chocolat” follows the stories of three former chocolate makers who reunite to create a new chocolate brand. The film explores their journey as they discover the true meaning of craftsmanship and the importance of community. With stunning visuals and a captivating storyline, Les Ille Chocolat is a tribute to the art of chocolate-making and the passion of those who create it.

In French with English subtitles
Sunday, March 20, Rialto Cinemas® #4, 5:30 p.m.

Jiaoliàn [Coach]
China, USA, 2014, 75 minutes
Director: Esteban Arguello
Su Nana, a basketball coach in a small town in China, is determined to make her team the best in the country. With a limited budget and few resources, she works tirelessly to prepare her players for the upcoming season. "Jiaoliàn [Coach]" captures the challenges and triumphs of her coaching journey, inspiring viewers to believe in their dreams and never give up.

In English and Chinese with English subtitles
Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 11:40 a.m.
Women Filmaker
Web Series
Portrait of Resilience
Saturday Short

Long Story Short
USA, 2015, 45 minutes
Director: Natalie Bookchin
“Long Story Short” interweaves over a hundred video interviews made with laptops and webcams at food banks, homeless shelters, adult literacy programs, and job training centers. Participants discuss why they are poor, how it feels, how they cope, and what they think should be done. Masterfully edited by director Natalie Bookchin, narratives unfold across the screen in choruses of overlapping phrases, ideas, and experiences, revealing individual perspectives as well as the power of the collective voice.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 7:15 p.m.
SCA Little Red Hen, 3:30 p.m.

The Long Walk Back
USA, 2012, 14 minutes
Director: Jonas Klittmark
Hundreds of Americans die every year on the railroad tracks; some by accident, others by choice. This documentary explores these tragic events through the lens of the train crew members, who unwillingly become spectators, perpetrators and ultimately victims of their own work.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 11:15 a.m.

Madina’s Dream
USA, 2015, 82 minutes
Director: Andrew Berendes
This hard-hitting inside look at the ongoing conflict in South Sudan presents a close-up view of everyday war-time life in the Nuba Mountains. The film is shot both in the refugee camp where women and their starving children, such as Madina, have fled, and village life under a siege in which Nuba men are daily forced to defend themselves against attacks from Sudanese troops. Their personal stories, told alongside skirmishes and bombings, create a riveting commentary of the effects of war on civilians.

In Arabic with English subtitles
Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 3:30 p.m.

Of The Sea
USA, 2015, 85 minutes
Director: Mischa Hedges
As the ocean’s fish stocks become increasingly threatened and coastal waters come under government regulation the role of the fishing community is changing. “Of The Sea” tells this story from the perspective of local fisherman and seafood providers who must now navigate this changing industry. They discuss their dual role of sustaining their livelihood while maintaining a healthy fish population.

In English, Spanish and Portuguese with English subtitles
Saturday, March 19, SCA Brent Auditorium, 3:10 p.m.

One, If by Land
USA, 2015, 14 minutes
Director: Nandini Sikand
“One, If by Land” is an experimental short film that explores undocumented immigration to the global North via land, sea and air. Inspired by three stories of real voyages made from Mexico, China and Mozambique, this film looks at the difficulties of the immigrant journey. Director Nandini Sikand’s use of grim but evocative imagery, raises questions as to why the difficulty of migration should exist in the first place.

In English, with Arabic subtitles
Saturday, March 19, SCA Brent Auditorium, 7:45 p.m.

Mother Earth
Canada, 2015, 10 minutes
Director: Ben Proudfoot
Nova Scotia ceramicist Louise Pentz was not satisfied with her success as a production potter. In “Mother Earth”, directed by Ben Proudfoot of Breakwater Studios: “Life’s Work” master craftsman profiles, she outlines the impetus for her change of style and the direction it sent her. Shot in and around her studio, this film helps us understand what drives and inspires artists.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #3, 7:15 p.m.

A Nation Without a Homeland
Iraq, 2015, 12 minutes
Director: Warath Kwaisl
Mohammed is a child refugee from Syria; he has no recollection of his family or his life before he reached Baghdad. In an attempt to reunite with his last words being “I Can’t Breathe”, throwing his life into turmoil.

In Arabic with English subtitles
Saturday, March 19, SCA Brent Auditorium, 5:15 p.m.

A New Color: The Art of Being Edythe Boone
USA, 2015, 57 minutes
Director: Marlene ‘Mo’ Morris
Edythe Boone may be 75 years old but she is still fully engaged in bringing her art to the community. Her murals grace buildings from Berkeley to San Francisco, but she is also a community educator. Boone tirelessly teaches both young and old in her unique method of mural painting. As events unfold, her nephew dies in police custody with his last words being “I Can’t Breathe”, throwing her work into turmoil.

In Arabic with English subtitles
Sunday, March 20, SCA Brent Auditorium, 5:15 p.m.

Oyster
USA, 2015, 56 minutes
Director: Amy Scott
Painted Nails
USA, 2015, 57 minutes
Director: Dianne Griffin, Erica Jordan
“Oyster” takes viewers into a community learning center. The story focuses on senior Raven Grinbin’s quest to become the first in her troubled family to finish high school. Neighborhood problems erode the school’s progress, and Hockenberry’s job is threatened, but ultimately Raven gets recruited to college, and a record number of students graduate oyster.

Saturday, March 19, SCA Brent Auditorium, 10:15 p.m.

Director: Amy Scott
When Van Haing, a Vietnamese immigrant and nail salon owner, discovers that her health problems, including two miscarriages, are the result of the products used in her salon, she becomes involved in the fight for safer cosmetics. In “Painted Nails”, we witness Van’s transition from a shy woman who speaks minimal English to a forthright advocate testifying before Congress. This is a heartwarming story of the struggles and successes of an immigrant family.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #4, 11:15 a.m.

A Path Appears: Sex Trafficking in the USA
USA, 2015, 90 minutes
Director: Marco Chermayeff
This hard-hitting documentary about sex trafficking features on-the-ground report- ers Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn and actor/advocates Ashley Judd, Blake Lively and Malin Akerman. Through interviews with trafficked women, the extent of the problem in the US is revealed, often graphically. From a half-way house in Nashville to an anti-trafficking program in Boston and a police program in Chicago targeting johns, the reporters reveal that trafficking is not just a foreign problem, but is rampant right here in our own backyard.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #4, 2:00 p.m.

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Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival 2016
Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival 2016
The Taalman sisters relate their memories of a haunted house they grew up in. Director Alina Taalman says “Growing up, my sisters and I heard voices, saw lights and dreamed of other beings. My mother and I shared a recurring dream of strangers on the driveway. Our dreams and our memories converged into the experience of living in a haunted house.”

“Growing up, my sisters and I grew up in. Director Alina Taalman relates their memories of a haunted house they grew up in. The Taalman sisters and I grew up in a haunted house, according to Director Alina Taalman. As a child, Alina Taalman and her sisters would dream of strange occurrences in their home, which they later realized were memories of a haunted house.

Director: Alina Taalman  
USA, 2015, 33 minutes

Quiet Title  
USA, 2015, 33 minutes  
Director: Alina Taalman

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Director: Alina Taalman  
USA, 2015, 33 minutes

Quiet Title  
USA, 2015, 33 minutes  
Director: Alina Taalman
Streetdance Family
UK, 2015, 88 minutes
Directors: Debbie Shuter, Adam Tysoe

“Streetdance Family” is the story of UK under-16 street dance crew Entry’s journey to the world championship in Germany. The film follows them through their rigorous training as they face the challenges of preparing for international competition. Their personal stories unfold through interviews with dancers, coaches and families, deepening our understanding of what drives them to go for the gold.

Thank You For Your Service
USA, 2015, 89 minutes
Director: Tom Donahue

The U.S. military faces a mental health crisis of historic proportions. “Thank You For Your Service” seeks to reveal the reality of war trauma and the failed policies that have brought us to where we are. Director Tom Donahue weaves compelling interviews from Defense Secretary Robert Gates, Admiral Mike Mullen, Generals David Petraeus and Loree Sutton and others with the tales of four struggling veterans, and we learn about the wounded warriors who need our help.

Thrive
USA, 2015, 13 minutes
Director: Paul Szymol

A short documentary about the pro-digous talent and irrepressible spirit of a musically precocious 12-year-old blind boy who plays the piano. We follow Matt Whetaker as he takes the lead in his first orchestral performance and we root for him when he applies to school for musically gifted children.

Visions of Cristina
USA, 2015, 5 minutes
Director: Alexandra Swaith Guild

This short captures visual artist Cristina Velasquez’ life in a few simple but effective scenes. Filmed in black & white as part of the Stanford Documentary Program.

Wastecooking: Make Food, Not Waste
Austria, 2015, 82 minutes
Director: Georg Misch

According to the UN FAO, one-third of all food produced around the world ends up in the garbage. With the help of a car that runs on used vegetable oil, a mobile stove and a host of culinary ideas, David Gross travels to five European countries, where the only thing on the menu is what others call garbage. There he whips up creative meals aimed at fighting food waste.

Waterbabies
USA, 2015, 16 minutes
Director: Nora Ballard

“Waterbabies” explores the world of synchronized swimming by way of an American teenage team. The New Canaan Aquas. The film follows the girls as they train, practice, compete and become dexterous masters. We see the ambitions these young teenage girls explore through swimming. The many challenges of female teenage life inevitably surface as well. What’s clear is that the girls are incredibly passionate about this sport.

Two Rivers
USA, 2015, 13 minutes
Director: Doug Hawes-Davis, Dru Farr, Ken Forrow

The Clark Fork and Blackfoot Rivers flow west from the wild country at the headwaters of the Continental Divide. These same waters are some of the most polluted in America. This paradox manifests itself as the rivers’ confluence in western Montana, where decades of extractive industry deposited tons of toxic sediment at Milfutown Dam. For better or worse, the American West is changing so the dam is slated for removal and a historic timber mill is closed down and dismantled. This is the New West, a place where “Two Rivers” changes that rule the menu.

The Yes Men Are Revolting
USA, 2014, 91 minutes
Directors: Andy Bichlbaum, Mike Bonanno, Laura Nix

Legendary prankster protesters Mike Bonanno and Andy Bichlbaum chronicle their latest efforts to expose corporate greed and political malfeasance — while in the midst of their own midlife crises. Their new priorities and responsibilities start to have a noticeable effect on their creative partnership. This does not, however, stop them from continuing to make trouble — and news.

Thursday, March 17, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 8:15 p.m.

Thrive
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A short documentary about the prodigious talent and irrepressible spirit of a musically precocious 12-year-old blind boy who plays the piano. We follow Matt Whetaker as he takes the lead in his first orchestral performance and we root for him when he applies to school for musically gifted children.

Sunday, March 20, SCA Brent Auditorium, 3:45 p.m.

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Sunday, March 20, SCA Brent Auditorium, 3:45 p.m.

In German with English subtitles.

Friday, March 18, 8:15 p.m.

Rialto Cinemas® #3, 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 19, SCA Brent Auditorium, 1:00 p.m.

In Arabic with English subtitles.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, March 19, Rialto Cinemas® #1, 1:45 p.m.
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April 26: Taxes Are Done. Now What?, Michelle Dench CFP