



SXSW FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2018 FEATURES AND OPENING NIGHT FILM *A QUIET PLACE*

Film Festival Celebrates 25th Edition

Austin, Texas, January 31, 2018 – The South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conference and Festivals announced the features lineup and opening night film for the 25th edition of the Film Festival, running March 9-18, 2018 in Austin, Texas. The acclaimed program draws thousands of fans, filmmakers, press, and industry leaders every year to immerse themselves in the most innovative, smart and entertaining new films of the year.

During the nine days of SXSW 132 features will be shown, with additional titles yet to be announced. The full lineup will include 44 films from first-time filmmakers, 86 World Premieres, 11 North American Premieres and 5 U.S. Premieres. These films were selected from 2,458 feature-length film submissions, with a total of 8,160 films submitted this year.

“2018 marks the 25th edition of the SXSW Film Festival and my tenth year at the helm. As we look back on the body of work of talent discovered, careers launched and wonderful films we’ve enjoyed, we couldn’t be more excited about the future,” said Janet Pierson, Director of Film. “This year’s slate, while peppered with works from many of our alumni, remains focused on new voices, new directors and a range of films that entertain and enlighten.”

“We are particularly pleased to present John Krasinski’s *A Quiet Place* as our Opening Night Film,” Pierson added. “Not only do we love its originality, suspense and amazing cast, we love seeing artists stretch and explore. While this is not Krasinki’s first feature as writer and director, it’s an exciting evolution for this multi-talented artist.”

New this year, the SXSW Film Festival is launching a new Independent Episodic section, an expansion on its Episodic section launched in 2014. Returning for 2018, Interactive, Film, and Music badges will now include expanded access to more of the SXSW Conference and Festivals experience. With one unified conference that spans 24 tracks of programming plus the Cities Summit, we’ll be offering more opportunities for networking, learning, and discovery than ever before. SXSW’s next registration deadline is February 9, 2018 at 11:59pm PT. Early registrants benefit from discounted rates.

Feature films in the SXSW lineup screen in 12 sections: Narrative Feature Competition, Documentary Feature Competition, Headliners, Narrative Spotlight, Documentary Spotlight, Visions, Midnighters, Episodic, 24 Beats Per Second, Global, Festival Favorites, and Special Events.

Midnighters, Shorts, Virtual Cinema, Independent Episodics, Title Sequences, Music Videos and late-breaking Features will be announced on February 7. All feature categories, with the exception of Special Events, will be eligible for category-specific Audience Awards.

The Narrative Feature Competition includes: *Family* directed by Laura Steinel; *First Match* directed by Olivia Newman; *Jinn* directed by Nijla Mu'min; *The New Romantic* directed by Carly Stone; *SADIE* directed by Megan Griffiths; *Shotgun* directed by Hannah Marks and Joey Power; *Summer '03* directed by Becca Gleason; *Thunder Road* directed by Jim Cummings; *The Unicorn* directed by Robert Schwartzman; *Write When You Get Work* directed by Stacy Cochran.

The Documentary Feature Competition includes: *Chi-Town* directed by Nick Budabin; *Garry Winogrand: All Things are Photographable* directed by Sasha Waters; *The Gospel of Eureka* directed by Michael Palmieri and Donal Mosher; *¡Las Sandinistas!* directed by Jenny Murray; *People's Republic of Desire* directed by Hao Wu; *Social Animals* directed by Jonathan Green; *This One's For The Ladies* directed by Gene Graham; *TransMilitary* directed by Gabriel Silverman and Fiona Dawson; *Weed The People* directed by Abby Epstein; and *The World Before Your Feet* directed by Jeremy Workman.

A selection of other highlights include: *The Bill Murray Stories: Life Lessons Learned From A Mythical Man* directed by Tommy Avallone; *Blockers* directed by Kay Cannon; *Boundaries* directed by Shana Feste; *The Dawn Wall* directed by Josh Lowell and Peter Mortimer; *Fast Color* directed by Julia Hart; *A Little Wisdom* directed by Yuqi Kang; *Nossa Chape* directed by Jeff and Michael Zimbalist; *Paradox* directed by Daryl Hannah; *Profile* directed by Timur Bekmambetov; *A Quiet Place* directed by John Krasinski; *A Vigilante* directed by Sarah Daggar Nickson; *Wild Nights With Emily* directed by Madeleine Olnek. In Episodics: *Barry* directed by Bill Hader; *The Last O.G.* directed by Jordan Peele, *Warriors of Liberty City* directed by Evan Rosenfeld and Andrew Cohn; *Vida* directed by Alonso Ruizpalacios and So Yong Kim.

The 2018 SXSW Film Festival will include:

NARRATIVE FEATURE COMPETITION

Ten world premieres; ten unique ways to celebrate the art of storytelling. Selected from 1,408 narrative feature submissions in 2018.

Family

Director/Screenwriter: Laura Steinel

When an emotionally stunted 30 year-old woman is tasked with watching her awkward and bullied 12 year old niece for the week, she finds her life unfolding when the girl runs away to be a Juggalo. *Cast: Taylor Schilling, Bryn Vale, Brian Tyree Henry, Jessie Ennis, Blair Beeken, Matt Walsh, Allison Tolman, Eric Edelstein, Kate McKinnon, Fabrizio Guido* (World Premiere)

First Match

Director/Screenwriter: Olivia Newman

Hardened by years in foster care, a teenage girl from Brooklyn's Brownsville neighborhood decides that wrestling boys is the only way back to her estranged father. *Cast: Elvire Emanuelle, Yahya Abdul-Mateen II, Colman Domingo, Jharrel Jerome, Jared Kemp* (World Premiere)

Jinn

Director/Screenwriter: Nijla Mu'min

A shape-shifting, pepperoni-loving, black teenage Instagram celebrity explores her identity and sexuality in the midst of her mother's conversion to Islam. *Cast: Zoe Renee, Simone Missick, Kelvin Harrison, Jr., Hisham Tawfiq, Kelly Jenrette, Dorian Missick, Ashlei Foushee, Maya Morales, Damien D. Smith* (World Premiere)

The New Romantic (Canada)

Director/Screenwriter: Carly Stone

Frustrated with the lack of chivalrous guys her own age, a college senior gives up on dating for love to date an older man in exchange for gifts instead. *Cast: Jessica Barden, Hayley Law, Brett Dier, Timm Sharp, Avan Jogia, Camila Mendes* (World Premiere)

SADIE

Director/Screenwriter: Megan Griffiths

While her father is away serving in the military, Sadie battles to preserve his place on the home front when her mother takes an interest in a new man. *Cast: Melanie Lynskey, Sophia Mitri Schloss, John Gallagher Jr., Danielle Brooks, Tony Hale, Keith Williams, Tee Dennard* (World Premiere)

Shotgun

Directors/Screenwriters: Hannah Marks, Joey Power

A young couple's relationship develops quickly when one of them is diagnosed with a life-changing illness. *Cast: Maika Monroe, Jeremy Allen White, DeRon Horton, Marisa Tomei, Sasha Lane, Joe Keery, Gina Gershon, Dean Winters, Olivia Luccardi* (World Premiere)

Summer '03

Director/Screenwriter: Becca Gleason

On her deathbed, Jamie's grandmother leaves her with two pieces of information: one involves a baptism, the other a blowjob. This sets Jamie and her family on an emotional roller coaster ride while she falls for the wrong guy at the wrong time. *Cast: Joey King, Andrea Savage, Paul Scheer, Jack Kilmer, Erin Darke, Stephen Ruffin, Kelly Lamor Wilson, Logan Medina, June Squibb* (World Premiere)

Thunder Road

Director/Screenwriter: Jim Cummings

Officer Arnaud loved his Mom. *Cast: Kendal Farr, Jim Cummings, Nican Robinson, Jocelyn DeBoer, Macon Blair, Bill Wise, Jordan Fox, Chelsea Edmondson* (World Premiere)

The Unicorn

Director: Robert Schwartzman, Screenwriters: Nick Rutherford, Kirk C. Johnson, Will Elliott

Facing the fourth year of their engagement, an indecisive couple is thrust into the most uncomfortable night of their lives by intentionally and unintentionally involving a third party in their relationship. *Cast: Lauren Lapkus, Nick Rutherford, Lucy Hale, Beck Bennett, Dree Hemingway, Beverly D'Angelo, John Kapelos, Maya Kazan, Darrell Britt-Gibson, Kyle Mooney* (World Premiere)

Write When You Get Work

Director/Screenwriter: Stacy Cochran

Write When You Get Work is a comedy of money and access, a NY love story set in the Bronx and at a pricey school for girls on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Years after they've parted ways, Jonny Collins pursues Ruth Duffy for love -- and profit. *Cast: Emily Mortimer, Finn Wittrock, Rachel Keller, Scott Cohen, Jessica Hecht, James Ransone, Andrew Schulz, Tess Frazer, Afton Williamson, Zarif Kabier* (World Premiere)

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE COMPETITION

Ten world premieres: ten real world stories that demonstrate innovation, energy and bold voices. Selected from 1,050 feature documentary submissions in 2018.

Chi-Town

Director: Nick Budabin

An underdog basketball player from Chicago goes on a meteoric rise to become one of the best college point guards in the nation. But while he pursues dreams of the NBA, his success contrasts with the effects of gun violence on his friends back home. (World Premiere)

Garry Winogrand: All Things are Photographable

Director: Sasha Waters Freyer

Artist. Iconoclast. Man of his time. *All Things are Photographable* is a revealing documentary portrait of the life and work of acclaimed photographer Garry Winogrand – the epic storyteller in pictures of America across three turbulent decades. (World Premiere)

The Gospel of Eureka

Directors: Michael Palmieri, Donal Mosher, Screenwriter: Donal Mosher

Love, faith, and civil rights collide in a southern town as evangelical Christians and drag queens step into the spotlight to dismantle stereotypes and explore the meaning of belief. Gospel drag shows and passion plays set the stage for one hell of a show. (World Premiere)

¡Las Sandinistas! (Nicaragua, United States)

Director: Jenny Murray

¡Las Sandinistas! uncovers the disappearing stories of women who shattered barriers to lead combat and social reform during Nicaragua's 1979 Sandinista Revolution, and who continue to lead Nicaragua's current struggle for democracy and equality. (World Premiere)

People's Republic of Desire (China)

Director: Hao Wu

In China's popular live-streaming showrooms, three millennials – a karaoke singer, a migrant worker and a rags-to-riches comedian – seek fame, fortune and human connection, ultimately finding the same promises and perils online as in their real lives. (World Premiere)

Social Animals

Director: Jonathan Green, Screenwriters: Carol Martori, Jonathan Green, Peter Garriott

A daredevil photographer, an aspiring swimsuit model, and a midwest girl next door are all looking for the same things from their Instagram accounts—a little love, acceptance and, of course, fame—and they'll do just about anything to get it. (World Premiere)

This One's For The Ladies

Director: Gene Graham

This One's For The Ladies explores the sexual and social identity of contemporary black America through intimate, eye opening and often hilarious accounts from women and men who find love and community in the underground world of exotic dancing. (World Premiere)

TransMilitary

Directors: Gabriel Silverman, Fiona Dawson, Screenwriters: Jamie Coughlin, Gabriel Silverman

At a time when transgender people are banned from serving in the U.S. military, four of the thousands of transgender troops risking discharge fight to attain the freedom they so fiercely protect. (World Premiere)

Weed The People

Director: Abby Epstein

Weed the People captures the uplifting and heart-wrenching struggles of families who treat their cancer-stricken children with marijuana, some with astonishing results. (World Premiere)

The World Before Your Feet

Director: Jeremy Workman

For over 6 years, Matt Green, 37, has been walking every street in New York City – a total of more than 8000 miles. *The World Before Your Feet* tells the story of one man's unusual quest and the journey of discovery, humanity, and wonder that ensues. (World Premiere)

HEADLINERS

Big names, big talent: Headliners bring star power to SXSW, featuring red carpet premieres and gala film events with major and rising names in cinema.

A Quiet Place

Director: John Krasinski, Screenwriters: Bryan Woods, Scott Beck, and John Krasinski, Producers: Platinum Dunes

If they can't hear you, they can't hunt you. *Cast: Emily Blunt, John Krasinski, Noah Jupe, Millicent Simmonds* (World Premiere)

Blockers

Director: Kay Cannon, Screenwriters: Brian Kehoe, Jim Kehoe, Jon Hurwitz, Hayden Schlossberg, Eben Russell

When three parents discover their daughters' pact to lose their virginity at prom, they launch a covert one-night operation to stop the teens from sealing the deal. *Cast: Leslie Mann, Ike Barinholtz, John Cena, Kathryn Newton, Geraldine Indira Viswanathan, Gideon Adlon* (World Premiere)

Boundaries

Director/Screenwriter: Shana Feste

Laura and her troubled son Henry are forced to drive her estranged, pot-dealing, carefree father Jack across country after being kicked out of a nursing home. *Cast: Vera Farmiga, Christopher Plummer, Lewis MacDougall, Bobby Cannavale, Kristen Schaal, Dolly Wells, Yahya Abdul-Mateen, Christopher Lloyd, Peter Fonda* (World Premiere)

PARADOX

Director/Screenwriter: Daryl Hannah

A loud Poem. A whimsical western tale of music and love. *Cast: Neil Young, Lukas Nelson, Micah Nelson, Corey McCormick, Anthony LoGerfo, Tato Melgar, Willie Nelson, Charris Ford, Dulcie Clarkson Ford* (World Premiere)

Final Portrait (United Kingdom, United States)

Director/Screenwriter: Stanley Tucci

Final Portrait is the story of the touching and offbeat friendship between world renowned artist Alberto Giacometti and American writer and art-lover James Lord, based on Lord's memoir.

Cast: Geoffrey Rush, Armie Hammer, Clémence Poésy, Tony Shalhoub, Sylvie Testud (North American Premiere)

NARRATIVE SPOTLIGHT

High profile narrative features receiving their World, North American or U.S. premieres at SXSW.

6 Balloons

Director/Screenwriter: Marja Lewis Ryan

Over the course of one night, a woman drives across LA with her heroin addict brother in search of a detox center, with his two year old daughter in tow. *Cast: Abbi Jacobson, Dave Franco, Charlotte Carel, Madison Carel, Jane Kaczmarek, Dewan Owens, Tim Matheson, Jen Tullock, Maya Erskine, Heidi Sulzman* (World Premiere)

All Square

Director: John Hyams, Screenwriter: Timothy Brady

A down-on-his-luck bookie befriends an ex-girlfriend's son and gets the bright idea to take bets on his youth league baseball games; only to realize he's killed what's pure about the sport as the games turn ugly when money is on the line. *Cast: Michael Kelly, Josh Lucas, Pamela Adlon, Tom Everett Scott, Isiah Whitlock Jr., Harris Yulin, Yeadley Smith, Jesse Ray Sheps, Jay Larson, Craig Walker* (World Premiere)

Anchor and Hope (Spain)

Director/Screenwriter: Carlos Marques-Marcet

When the best friend of a bohemian lesbian couple agrees to be their surrogate, the three friends set out on an unconventional journey to start a family. *Cast: Natalia Tena, Oona Chaplin, David Verdaguer, Geraldine Chaplin* (North American Premiere)

A Bluebird in My Heart (Belgium, France)

Director/Screenwriter: Jérémie Guez

Attempting to lead a quiet reformed life, an ex-con finds refuge in a motel run by a single mother and her daughter Clara. The peace and freedom he has found in this safe haven disappears when Clara is assaulted, forcing him to face his old demons. *Cast: Roland Moller, Veerle Baetens, Lola Le Lann, Lubna Azabal* (World Premiere)

The Breaker Upperers (New Zealand)

Directors/Screenwriters: Jackie van Beek, Madeleine Sami

Two women run a business breaking up couples for cash but when one develops a conscience their friendship unravels. *Cast: Jackie van Beek, Madeleine Sami, Celia Pacquola, James Rolleston, Ana Scotney* (World Premiere)

Fast Color

Director: Julia Hart, Screenwriters: Julia Hart, Jordan Horowitz

In this genre-bending supernatural drama, a woman is forced to go on the run when her extraordinary abilities are discovered. Years after having abandoned her family, the only place she has left to hide is home. *Cast: Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Lorraine Toussaint, Saniyya Sidney, Christopher Denham, David Strathairn* (World Premiere)

First Light (Canada)

Director/Screenwriter: Jason Stone

A close encounter with mysterious lights sends two teens on the run after one discovers she has extraordinary but dangerous powers. *Cast: Stefanie Scott, Theodore Pelerine, Said Taghmaoui* (World Premiere)

The Legacy of the Whitetail Deer Hunter

Director: Jody Hill

The great hunter Buck Ferguson (Josh Brolin) and his trusted cameraman Don (Danny McBride) set out for an epic weekend adventure to reconnect with Buck's young son (Montana Jordan). (World Premiere)

Neurotic Quest for Serenity (Brazil)

Directors/Screenwriters: Paulinho Caruso, Teodoro Poppovic

Kika is going through a lot. She's a famous actress. She has millions of fans. She's about to star in a post apocalyptic soap opera. And she has obsessive compulsive disorder. *Cast: Tatá Werneck, Vera Holtz, Bruno Gagliasso, Daniel Furlan* (North American Premiere)

Outside In

Director: Lynn Shelton, Screenwriters: Lynn Shelton, Jay Duplass

An ex-con struggling to readjust to life in his small town forms an intense bond with his former high-school teacher. *Cast: Jay Duplass, Edie Falco, Kaitlyn Dever, Ben Schwartz* (U.S. Premiere)

Support The Girls

Director/Screenwriter: Andrew Bujalski

The general manager at a highway-side 'breastaurant' has her incurable optimism and faith--in her girls, her customers, and herself--tested over the course of a long, strange day. *Cast: Regina Hall, Haley Lu Richardson, Shayna McHale, James LeGros, Dylan Gelula, AJ Michalka, Brooklyn Decker, Lea DeLaria, Jana Kramer, John Elvis* (World Premiere)

Unlovable

Director: Suzi Yoonessi, Screenwriters: Charlene deGuzman, Sarah Adina Smith, Mark Duplass
A sex- and love-addicted woman learns what real intimacy is when she starts making music with a reclusive man. *Cast: Charlene deGuzman, John Hawkes, Melissa Leo, Paul James, Ellen Geer, Gigette Reyes* (World Premiere)

A Vigilante

Director/Screenwriter: Sarah Daggar Nickson
A once abused woman, Sadie (Olivia Wilde), devotes herself to ridding victims of their domestic abusers while hunting down the husband she must kill to truly be free. *Cast: Olivia Wilde, Morgan Spector, Kyle Catlett, CJ Wilson, Tonye Patano, Chuck Cooper, Betsy Aidem, Judy Marte* (World Premiere)

Who We Are Now

Director/Screenwriter: Matthew Newton
Beth, recently released from prison, tries to get custody of her son again and find her way back into the outside world, along the way realizing who she is isn't about where she's been, it's about where she's going. *Cast: Julianne Nicholson, Emma Roberts, Zachary Quinto, Jess Weixler, Jimmy Smits, Jason Biggs, Lea Thompson, Scott Cohen, Octavia Chavez-Richmond, J. Mallory McCree* (U.S. Premiere)

Wild Nights With Emily

Director/Screenwriter: Madeleine Olnek
Molly Shannon plays Emily Dickinson in *Wild Nights With Emily*, a humorous drama. This independent film explores her vivacious, irreverent side that was covered up for years — most notably Emily's lifelong romantic relationship with another woman. *Cast: Molly Shannon, Amy Seimetz, Susan Ziegler, Brett Gelman, Jackie Monahan, Kevin Seal, Dana Melanie, Sasha Frolova, Lisa Haas, Al Sutton* (World Premiere)

WILDLING

Director: Fritz Bohm, Screenwriters: Fritz Bohm, Florian Eder
A blossoming teenager uncovers the dark secret behind her traumatic childhood. *Cast: Bel Powley, Brad Dourif, Liv Tyler, Collin Kelly-Sordelet, James Le Gros, Troy Ruptash, Arlo Mertz, Aviva Winick* (World Premiere)

You Can Choose Your Family

Director: Miranda Bailey, Screenwriter: Glen Lakin
A seventeen-year-old boy blackmails his father after discovering his secret second family. *Cast: Jim Gaffigan, Logan Miller, Anna Gunn, Samantha Mathis, Alex Karpovsky, Hayes MacArthur, Michelle Hurd* (World Premiere)

DOCUMENTARY SPOTLIGHT

Shining a light on new documentary features receiving their World, North American or U.S. premieres at SXSW.

Agave: The Spirit of a Nation (Mexico, United States)

Directors: Nicholas Kovacic, Matthew Riggieri, Screenwriter: Chantal Martineau

In Mexico, families have passed down the tradition of distilling agave for generations and now, this once obscure Mexican drink is everywhere. Discover, how one delicate plant has carried the weight of a nation and the people trying to protect it. (World Premiere)

Ali & Cavett: The Tale of the Tapes

Director: Robert Bader, Screenwriters: Robert S. Bader, Dick Cavett

The life and times of Muhammed Ali shown through the lens of his numerous appearances on *The Dick Cavett Show*. The film features new interviews with Dick Cavett, Rev. Al Sharpton, and Larry Merchant, as well as archival material from the Cavett Show. (World Premiere)

Alt-Right: Age of Rage

Director/Screenwriter: Adam Bhala Lough

In the first year of Trump's Presidency, Daryle Lamont Jenkins, an Antifa activist, combats the rise of the Alt-Right movement, while Richard Spencer, an Alt-Right leader, fights to gain ground, culminating in a tragic showdown in Charlottesville. (World Premiere)

The Bill Murray Stories: Life Lessons Learned From A Mythical Man

Director: Tommy Avallone, Screenwriters: Tommy Avallone, Max Paolucci

One man's journey to find meaning in Bill Murray's many unexpected adventures with everyday people, rare and never-before seen footage of the comedic icon participating in stories previously presumed to be urban legend. (World Premiere)

Brewmaster

Director/Screenwriter: Douglas Tirola

Brewmaster follows a young ambitious New York lawyer who struggles to chase his American dream of becoming a brewmaster and a Milwaukee-based professional beer educator, as he attempts to become a Master Cicerone. (World Premiere)

Daughters of the Sexual Revolution: The Untold Story of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders

Director: Dana Adam Shapiro

Daughters of the Sexual Revolution is the never-before-told story of Suzanne Mitchell, the fiercely-loyal den mother of the original Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders. (World Premiere)

The Dawn Wall (Austria, United States)

Directors: Josh Lowell, Peter Mortimer

Legendary free climber Tommy Caldwell tries to get over heartbreak by scaling 3000ft of an impossible rock face: the Dawn Wall of El Capitan. (North American Premiere)

From All Corners (Japan)

Director: Ryusuke Okajima

Fuyuki Shimazu, the cardboard picker and artist, creates wallets made from used cardboard which he picks up from 25 countries. His wallets travel around the world to advocate the concept of "upcycling" which is the mind beyond recycling or re-use. (World Premiere)

Getting Over

Director/Screenwriter: Jason Charnick

A man discovers a box of interviews with his father, a lifelong heroin addict who died of AIDS in 1997. What he finds will uncover generations of family secrets, forcing him to redefine his own past, doubt his present, and question his future. (World Premiere)

Nossa Chape (Brazil, Colombia, United States)

Directors/Screenwriters: Jeff Zimbalist, Michael Zimbalist

Nossa Chape tracks the rebuilding of the Chapecoense football club in Brazil after an airplane carrying the team crashed on November 28th, 2016, and left all but three of the players dead. (World Premiere)

Operation Odessa

Director: Tiller Russell

The stranger-than-fiction true story of a Russian mobster, a Miami playboy, and a Cuban spy who teamed up in the early 90's to sell a Soviet submarine to the Cali Cartel. (World Premiere)

Take Your Pills

Director: Alison Klayman

Every era gets the drug it deserves. In America today, where competition is ceaseless from school to the workforce and everyone wants a performance edge, Adderall and other prescription stimulants are the defining drugs of this generation. (World Premiere)

Time Trial (United Kingdom)

Director: Finlay Pritsell

Time Trial takes us into the final races of cyclist David Millar's career, leading to his last encounter with the Tour de France. The film reveals how the human spirit is driven by forces deeper than success and glory. (North American Premiere)

VISIONS

Visions filmmakers are audacious, risk-taking artists in the new cinema landscape who demonstrate raw innovation and creativity in documentary and narrative filmmaking.

1985

Director/Screenwriter: Yen Tan

A young man goes home for the holidays and struggles to reveal a distressing secret to his loved ones. *Cast: Cory Michael Smith, Virginia Madsen, Michael Chiklis, Jamie Chung, Aidan Langford, Ryan Piers Williams* (World Premiere)

Don't Leave Home

Director/Screenwriter: Michael Tully

An American artist's obsession with a disturbing urban legend leads her to an investigation of the story's origins at the crumbling estate of a reclusive painter in Ireland. *Cast: Anna Margaret Hollyman, Lalor Roddy, Helena Bereen, David McSavage, Karrie Cox* (World Premiere)

Elizabeth Harvest (United Kingdom)

Director/Screenwriter: Sebastian Gutierrez

Elizabeth Harvest is a science fiction reimagining of the French folktale of Bluebeard, in which a violent nobleman in the habit of murdering his wives is confronted by a new wife trying to avoid the fate of her predecessors. *Cast: Abbey Lee, Ciaran Hinds, Carla Gugino, Matthew Beard, Dylan Baker* (World Premiere)

Friday's Child

Director/Screenwriter: A.J. Edwards

Fresh out of foster care at age 18, a young drifter turns to petty crime to survive, and discovers an impossible love in an unlikely friend. *Cast: Tye Sheridan, Imogen Poots, Jeffrey Wright, Caleb Landry Jones* (World Premiere)

Meow Wolf: Origin Story

Directors: Morgan Capps, Jilann Spitzmiller, Screenwriters: Jilann Spitzmiller, Morgan Capps, Christina Procter

A group of artists, punks, and weirdos create a subversive DIY collective to disrupt the art establishment in Santa Fe, NM, which in the face of internal turmoil evolves into a cultural phenomenon on the path to becoming a global creative empire. (World Premiere)

More Human Than Human (Netherlands, United States)

Directors: Tommy Pallotta, Femke Wolting

More Human Than Human explores what it means to live in the age of intelligent machines. During this quest, the filmmaker finds out how much of his creativity and human values are at stake as he builds his own robot to replace himself as a filmmaker. (World Premiere)

Perfect

Director: Eddie Alcazar, Screenwriter: Ted Kupper

A young man with a violent past enters a mysterious clinic where the patients wildly transform their bodies and minds using genetic engineering. *Cast: Garrett Wareing, Courtney Eaton, Tao Okamoto, Maurice Compte, Abbie Cornish, Martin Sensmeier, Sarah McDaniel, Chris Santos, Leonardo Nam, Regan 'Busdriver' Farquhar* (World Premiere)

Pet Names

Director: Carol Brandt, Screenwriter: Meredith Johnston

When her ill mother urges her to take a vacation from her caretaking, grad-school-dropout Leigh invites her ex along on the camping trip. The two soon find that confronting old wounds during a weekend in the woods is anything but restful. *Cast: Meredith Johnston, Rene Cruz, Stacy Parish, Chelsea Norment, Jake Bradley, Lilliana Winkworth, Christina Seo* (World Premiere)

Profile

Director: Timur Bekmambetov, Screenwriters: Britt Poulton, Timur Bekmambetov, Olga Kharina

Looking to investigate recruitment techniques of ISIS to lure women into Syria, Amy Whitaker, a journalist, creates a Facebook profile of a Muslim convert. When an ISIS recruiter contacts her online character, she experiences the process first hand. *Cast: Valene Kane, Shazad Latif, Christine Adams, Morgan Watkins, Amir Rahimzadeh* (North American Premiere)

Prospect (Canada, United States)

Directors/Screenwriters: Zeek Earl, Chris Caldwell

A teenage girl and her father travel to a remote moon on the hunt for elusive riches. But there are others roving the moon's toxic forest and the job quickly devolves into a desperate fight to escape. *Cast: Sophie Thatcher, Pedro Pascal, Jay Duplass, Andre Royo, Sheila Vand, Anwan Glover* (World Premiere)

Relaxer (United States)

Director/Screenwriter: Joel Potrykus

Y2K is approaching fast, but Abbie can't get off the couch until he beats an unbeatable level on Pac-Man. *Cast: Joshua Burge, David Dastmalchian, Andre Hyland, Adina Howard, Amari Cheatom* (World Premiere)

Rukus

Director: Brett Hanover, Screenwriters: Brett Hanover, Alanna Stewart, Rukus

A hybrid of documentary and fiction, *Rukus* is a queer coming-of-age story set in the liminal spaces of furry conventions, southern punk houses, and virtual worlds.

Thy Kingdom Come

Director: Eugene Richards

A cancer patient mad at God; a Klansman seeking redemption; a mother blamed for her baby's death; an elderly woman never not in love; a priest who doesn't pass judgment, who listens: Interwoven, unscripted stories of life in a small mid-America town. *Cast: Javier Bardem, Callie Eldred, Tasia Moore, Joshua Collins, Adam Watters, Samantha Jo Chism Watters, Melvin Kemp, Melvin Cook, Kathryn Von Glahn, Eric Eudy* (World Premiere)

Wild Honey Pie! (United Kingdom)

Director/Screenwriter: Jamie Adams

Gillian and Oliver have reached the Seven Year Itch moment in their Marriage, being of the melodramatic persuasion they itch till their relationship bleeds! *Cast: Jemima Kirke, Alice Lowe, Sarah Solemani, Brett Goldstein, Joanna Scanlon, Richard Elis, Dan Clark, William Thomas* (World Premiere)

Wobble Palace

Director: Eugene Kotlyarenko, Screenwriters: Story by Dasha Nekrasova, Eugene Kotlyarenko

A week before the 2016 election, a couple on the verge of a nervous break-up decide to split their home over the weekend and test the waters of independence. *Cast: Dasha Nekrasova, Eugene Kotlyarenko, Jack Kilmer, Paige Elkington, Caroline Hebert, Casey Jane Ellison, Vishwam Velandy, Janiva Ellis, Kim Ye, Elisha Drons* (World Premiere)

EPISODIC

Featuring innovative new work aimed squarely at the small screen, Episodic tunes in to the explosion of exciting material on non-theatrical platforms, including serialized TV, webisodes and beyond.

Barry

Director: Bill Hader, Screenwriters: Alec Berg, Bill Hader

Barry features Bill Hader as a low-rent hitman from the Midwest. Lonely and dissatisfied in his life he begrudgingly travels to Los Angeles to kill someone and ends up finding an accepting community in a group of eager hopefuls within the LA theater scene. *Cast: Bill Hader, Henry Winkler, Stephen Root, Sarah Goldberg, Glenn Fleshler, Anthony Carrigan* (World Premiere)

Condor

Directors: Lawrence Trilling, Andrew McCarthy, Screenwriters: Jason Smilovic, Todd Katzberg
Inspired by Paramount's Sydney Pollack 1975 political thriller *Three Days of the Condor*.

Condor follows Joe Turner (Max Irons), a young CIA analyst whose idealism is tested when he stumbles onto a terrible plan that threatens millions of lives. *Cast: Max Irons, William Hurt, Leem Lubany, Mira Sorvino, Brendan Fraser, Bob Balaban, Angel Bonnani, Katherine Cunningham, Christina Moses, Kristen Hager* (World Premiere)

Krypton

Directors: Colm McCarthy, Ciaran Donnelly, Screenwriters: Cameron Welsh, Damian Kindler and David S. Goyer, Story by David S. Goyer, Ian Goldberg

What if Superman had never existed? Seg-El, Superman's grandfather, is faced with a conflict: Save Krypton? Or let it be destroyed in order to secure the future of his grandson-to-be? *Cast: Cameron Cuffe, Georgina Campbell, Elliot Cowan, Ann Ogbomo, Aaron Pierre, Rasmus Hardiker, Wallis Day, Blake Ritson, Ian McElhinney, Shaun Sipos, Colin Salmon* (World Premiere)

The Last O.G.

Creator and Executive Producer: Jordan Peele, Executive Producers: Tracy Morgan and John Carcieri, Director: Jorma Taccone

The Last O.G. is a show about humanity, second chances and redemption. Morgan plays Tray an ex-con who is shocked to see just how much the world has changed when he returns to the free world after 15 years in prison. *Cast: Tracy Morgan, Cedric the Entertainer, Allen Maldonado, Tiffany Haddish, Joel Marsh Garland, Gino Vento, Natalie Carter, Taylor Mosby, Ryan Gaul* (World Premiere)

Vida

Directors: Alonso Ruizpalacios, So Yong Kim

Vida is about two estranged Mexican-American sisters from the Eastside of Los Angeles who couldn't be more different. Circumstances force them to return home where they are confronted by the past and surprising truth about their mother's identity. *Cast: Melissa Barrera, Mishel Prada, Ser Anzoategui, Chelsea Rendon, Carlos Miranda, Maria Elena Laas* (World Premiere)

Warriors of Liberty City

Directors: Evan Rosenfeld, Andrew Cohn

Warriors of Liberty City from showrunner Evan Rosenfeld follows a season with the Liberty City Warriors, a youth football program founded by an unlikely mentor: Luther Campbell, better known as Uncle Luke from 2 Live Crew. *Cast: Luther "Uncle Luke" Campbell, Chad "Ochocinco" Johnson, Lavalrick Lucas, Jr., Lavalrick "Dread" Lucas, Sr., George Harris, Jr., George Harris, Sr., Barry Jenkins, Herbert Ritchie, Chatarius "Tutu" Atwell, Jr., Robert "Lamont" Beneby, Jr.* (World Premiere)

24 BEATS PER SECOND

Showcasing the sounds, culture and influence of music & musicians, with an emphasis on documentary.

BLAZE

Director: Ethan Hawke, Screenwriters: Ethan Hawke, Sybil Rosen

The story of an unsung country music legend who gave up paradise for the sake of a song.

Cast: Benjamin Dickey, Alia Shawkat, Charlie Sexton, Josh Hamilton, Wyatt Russell, Jenn Lyon, Kris Kristofferson, Sam Rockwell, Steve Zahn, Richard Linklater

Elvis Presley The Searcher (Film 1 and 2)

Director: Thom Zimny

The documentary focuses on Elvis Presley as a musical artist. It explores how he accumulated his influences, deconstructs why his sound and his style were so revolutionary and examines the creative and personal struggles that preceded his death. (World Premiere)

Heavy Trip (Finland)

Directors: Jukka Vidgren, Juuso Laatio, Screenwriters: Jukka Vidgren, Juuso Laatio, Aleks Puranen, Jari Olavi Rantala

A young man is trying to overcome his fears by leading the most unknown heavy metal band in to the hottest metal festival of Norway. The journey includes heavy metal, grave robbing, Viking heaven and an armed conflict between Finland and Norway. *Cast: Johannes Holopainen, Minka Kuustonen, Max Ovaska, Antti Heikkinen, Samuli Jaskio, Chike Ohanwe, Ville Tiihonen* (World Premiere)

If I Leave Here Tomorrow: A Film About Lynyrd Skynyrd

Director: Stephen Kijak

The story of Lynyrd Skynyrd; The Greatest American Rock Band Ever. We fly beyond Free Bird to celebrate the life & times of leader Ronnie Van Zant, from boogie-woogie beginnings in Jacksonville's Shantytown to a tragic end in a Mississippi swamp. (World Premiere)

Making the Grade (Ireland)

Director: Ken Wardrop

A feel-good musical journey of piano playing from absolute beginner through to accomplished pianist. (North American Premiere)

Milford Graves Full Mantis

Directors: Jake Meginsky, Neil Young (Co-Director)

Milford Graves Full Mantis weaves blistering performance footage from Europe, Japan, and the U.S. with a sublimely restrained, intimate glimpse into a world-renowned jazz percussionist's singular voice and complex cosmology. (World Premiere)

The Potential of Noise - Conny Plank (Germany)

Directors: Stephan Plank, Reto Caduff, Screenwriters: Stephan Plank, Reto Caduff, Zisak Riemann

Movie about Conny Plank, the famous German music producer. (North American Premiere)

Rapture

Directors: Sacha Jenkins, Ben Selkow, Geeta Gandbhir, Steven Caple Jr., Marcus A. Clarke, Gabriel Noble

Rapture showcases the definitive impact of hip hop on global culture over 8 episodes, featuring Nas, Dave East, T.I., Rapsody, Logic, G-Eazy, A Boogie wit da Hoodie, 2 Chainz and Just Blaze. (World Premiere)

Ruben Blades Is Not My Name (Panama)

Director/Screenwriter: Abner Benaim

Ruben Blades Is Not My Name portrays one of Latin America's most beloved singer-songwriters in a journey across his 50-year career. In an intimate way, the film gives us a chance to get to know the artist, his music, and the stories behind them. (World Premiere)

A Tuba To Cuba

Directors: T.G Herrington, Danny Clinch, Screenwriter: T.G Herrington

A son seeking to fulfill his late father's dream takes his band from the storied city of New Orleans to the shores of Cuba, where — through the universal language of music — dark and ancient connections between their peoples reveal the roots of jazz. (World Premiere)

GLOBAL

A diverse selection of international filmmaking talent, featuring innovative narratives, artful documentaries, premieres, festival favorites and more.

A Little Wisdom (Nepal)

Director: Yuqi Kang

See the world through the eyes of five-year-old Tibetan novice monk Hopakuli and share in his joys and sorrows as he endures the rigors of monastic life. *A Little Wisdom* endeavors to tell a story of children who find happiness through religious life. (North American Premiere)

Martyr (Lebanon)

Director/Screenwriter: Mazen Khaled

A young man's tragic death at Beirut's seaside causes his friends to grapple with loss and to partake in his community's rites and ceremonies, exposing the city's schisms and its society's fault lines. *Cast: Carol Abboud, Hamza Mekdad, Mostafa Fahs, Hady Bou Ayash, Rachad Nassereddine, Rabih el Zaher, Raneem Mourad* (North American Premiere)

Number 37 (South Africa)

Director/Screenwriter: Nosioho Dumisa

Number 37 is the story of Randall, wheelchair bound, playing a cat and mouse game blackmailing a powerful criminal whilst evading a sadistic loan shark who will kill him and his girlfriend if his loan is not paid back by the end of the week. *Cast: Irshaad Ally, Monique Rockman, Ephraim Gordon, David Manuel, Sandy Schultz, Deon Lotz, Danny Ross, Amrain Essop, Elton Landrew, Jeff Moss* (World Premiere)

Rush Hour (Mexico, Turkey, United States)

Director: Luciana Kaplan

Rush Hour is an intimate approach to personal stories of three commuters who spend hours of their lives going from home to work and back, reflection a common reality shared by billions of people. (U.S. Premiere)

Team Hurricane (Denmark)

Director/Screenwriter: Annika Berg

Team Hurricane – Radical Girls in an Ordinary World is a punk chick flick that mixes documentary material with highly stylized fiction. *Cast: Eja Penelope Roepstorff, Ida Glitre, Ira Rønnefelt, Maja Leth Bang, Mathilde Linnea Daugaard Jensen, Mia My Elise Pedersen, Sara Morling, Zara Munch Bjarnum* (U.S. Premiere)

Theatre of War (Argentina)

Director/Screenwriter: Lola Arias

Theatre of War is an essay on how to represent war, performed by former enemies. British and Argentinian veterans of the Falklands war come together to discuss, rehearse and re-enact their memories 35 years after the conflict. (U.S. Premiere)

Virus Tropical (Colombia)

Director: Santiago Caicedo

Born in a not-so-conventional family, Paola grows up between Ecuador and Colombia and finds herself unable to fit in any mold. With a unique feminine vision of the world, she will have to fight against prejudice and struggle for her independence. *Cast: María Cecilia Sánchez, Alejandra Borrero, Diego León Hoyos, Martina Toro, Mara Gutiérrez, Camila Valenzuela, María Parada*

FESTIVAL FAVORITES

Acclaimed standouts & selected previous premieres from festivals around the world.

American Animals (United States, United Kingdom)

Director/Screenwriter: Bart Layton

The unbelievable but true story of four young men who mistake their lives for a movie and attempt one of the most audacious art heists in US history. *Cast: Evan Peters, Barry Keoghan, Blake Jenner, Jared Abrahamson, Ann Dowd, Udo Kier*

Chef Flynn

Director: Cameron Yates

Chef Flynn captures the coming of age of a prodigy chef, as he navigates a sea of sudden fame, bullying, and his mother's camera.

Constructing Albert (Estonia)

Directors: Laura Collado, Jim Loomis, Screenwriter: Laura Collado

In the world of haute cuisine, the name Adrià is synonymous with creativity. *Constructing Albert* is a portrait of the younger brother Albert as he strives to establish his own reputation in the world of international haute cuisine after elBulli.

Damsel

Directors/Screenwriters: David Zellner, Nathan Zellner

An affluent pioneer ventures deep into the wilderness of the American West to join his fiancée.

Cast: Robert Pattinson, Mia Wasikowska, David Zellner, Nathan Zellner, Robert Forster, Joe Billingiere

Eighth Grade

Director/Screenwriter: Bo Burnham

Thirteen-year-old Kayla endures the tidal wave of contemporary suburban adolescence as she makes her way through the last week of middle school—the end of her thus far disastrous eighth grade year—before she begins high school. *Cast: Elsie Fisher, Josh Hamilton, Emily Robinson, Jake Ryan*

First Reformed

Director/Screenwriter: Paul Schrader

The pastor of a small New England church (Ethan Hawke) spirals out of control after a soul-shaking encounter with an unstable environmental activist and his pregnant wife (Amanda Seyfried) in this taut, chilling thriller. *Cast: Ethan Hawke, Amanda Seyfried, Cedric Kyles, Michael Gaston, Philip Ettinger, Victoria Hill*

Generation Wealth

Director/Screenwriter: Lauren Greenfield

Simultaneously personal journey and historical essay, Lauren Greenfield's latest documentary bears witness to the global boom–bust economy, the corrupted American Dream, and the human costs of late stage capitalism, narcissism, and greed.

Half the Picture

Director/Screenwriter: Amy Adrion

Half the Picture is a feature length documentary about the dismal number of women directors working in Hollywood, featuring top female directors sharing their experiences in the industry.

Lean on Pete

Director/Screenwriter: Andrew Haigh

From acclaimed filmmaker Andrew Haigh (*Weekend; 45 Years*), and based on the beloved novel by Willy Vlautin, comes *Lean on Pete*—a deeply moving story about love, loneliness, family, and friendship, told through the unique prism of one boy's connection to a very special racehorse. *Cast: Charlie Plummer, Chloë Sevigny, Steve Buscemi, Travis Fimmel*

Narcissister Organ Player

Director/Screenwriter: Narcissister

This hybrid performance/documentary film explores how the artist's complex family history, in particular her relationship with her mother, compelled her to create the masked, erotic performance character Narcissister.

Never Goin' Back

Director/Screenwriter: Augustine Frizzell

Jessie and Angela, high school dropouts, are taking a week off to chill at the beach. Too bad their house got robbed, rent's due, they're about to get fired and they're broke. Now to avoid eviction and get to the beach, no matter what! *Cast: Maia Mitchell, Cami Morrone, Kyle Mooney, Joel Allen, Kendal Smith, Matthew Holcomb, Atheena Frizzell, Spencer Rayshon, Marcus Mauldin, Liz Cardenas*

On Her Shoulders

Director: Alexandria Bombach

Nadia Murad is a 23-year-old Yazidi survivor of genocide and sexual slavery by ISIS. Repeating her horrific story to politicians, the media, and the United Nations, she must navigate bureaucracy, politics and sudden fame to get the world to listen.

Pass Over

Director: Spike Lee, Screenwriter: Antoinette Nwandu

Academy Award nominee and Honorary Oscar winner Spike Lee captures the poetry, humor and humanity of this urgent and timely play about two young black men talking trash, passing the time, and dreaming of the promised land. A provocative riff on *Waiting for Godot*, *Pass Over* is written by newcomer Antoinette Nwandu. *Cast: Jon Michael Hill, Julian Parker, Ryan Hallahan, Blake DeLong*

The Rider

Director/Screenwriter: Chloé Zhao

After a tragic riding accident, a young cowboy, once a rising star of the rodeo circuit, is warned that his competition days are over. Back home, he struggles to find himself when he can no longer do what what gives him a sense of purpose. *Cast: Brady Jandreau, Tim Jandreau, Lilly Jandreau, Lane Scott, Cat Clifford*

Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Director: Morgan Neville

Won't You Be My Neighbor? looks at children's television host Mr. Rogers' hard-fought campaign to influence generations of kids and adults in the ways of kindness.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Live soundtracks, cult re-issues & much more. Our Special Events section offers unusual, unexpected and unique one-off film events.

The Atomic Café

Director: Kevin Rafferty, Jayne Loader, Pierce Rafferty

A black comedy on the nuclear age, *The Atomic Café* opened in 1982 to worldwide critical and popular acclaim. In 2016, it was honored by the National Film Registry, Library of Congress, as "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant."

(World Premiere of 4K Digital Restoration)

This Is Us

Director: Various

Everyone has a family. And every family has a story. This grounded, life-affirming dramedy reveals how the tiniest events in our lives impact who we become, and how the connections we share with each other can transcend time, distance and even death. *Cast: Milo Ventimiglia, Mandy Moore, Chrissy Metz, Sterling K. Brown, Justin Hartley* (World Premiere)

Film Stills and Headshots can be found at: <http://fif.sxsw.com/media>

SXSW is proud to be an official qualifying festival for the Academy Awards® Short Film Competition. The Best Narrative Short, Best Documentary Short and Best Animated Short winners become eligible for the Academy Awards.

About SXSW Film Festival

Now in its 25th year, SXSW Film Festival brings together creatives of all stripes over nine days to experience a diverse lineup and access to thousands of SXSW Conference sessions with visionaries from all corners of the entertainment, media, and technology industries. **Check out SXSW Film Festival at 25 Alumni memories at <https://www.sxsw.com/tag/sxsw-film-25/>**

About SXSW

Founded in 1987 in Austin, Texas, SXSW is best known for its Conference and Festivals that celebrate the convergence of the interactive, film, and music industries. The event, an essential destination for global professionals, features sessions, showcases, screenings, exhibitions, and a variety of networking opportunities. SXSW proves that the most unexpected discoveries happen when diverse topics and people come together. SXSW 2018 will take place March 9-18, 2018.

SXSW 2018 is sponsored by Capital One, Mercedes-Benz, Bud Light, and The Austin Chronicle.

Press Credentials: We are accepting applications for 2017 SXSW Press Credentials at sxsw.com/press. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, February 7th, and walk-up requests will not be granted. Media approved for credentials will receive access to the limited block of hotel rooms held for Press at discounted conference rates. Rooms are sold on a 'first come, first served' basis. The earlier you apply, the better your selection of hotel rooms.

###

Press Contacts:

Jody Arlington

Brett Cannon

Elizabeth Derczo

Heather Kaplan

press@sxsw.com

512-467-7979