

JULY - OCTOBER 2019

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FILM FORUM

PREMIERES

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Calendar Programmed by KAREN COOPER and MIKE MAGGIORE



RAY & LIZ

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY RICHARD BILLINGHAM UK 2018 108 MINS. KIMSTIM

“Richard Billingham’s blisteringly honest photos of his alcoholic dad and his mountainous, tattooed mom — Ray and Liz, as they have come to be intimately known — were the toast of Charles Saatchi’s epochal late ’90s exhibition *Sensation*.” — Elizabeth Fullerton, British art critic. One of Britain’s most celebrated artists, Billingham has made an autobiographical debut feature that immerses the viewer in his Midlands childhood of loveless squalor and parental obliviousness. Despair is laced with humor and boredom with cruelty. RAY & LIZ stands in stark contrast to Ken Loach’s quasi-heroic working class stories. But because this film is made by a first-rate artist, there is a strange beauty that shines through the rampant horror that suffuses everything we see and hear. Billingham is an original.

12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:15

JULY 24 - 30 ONE WEEK ONLY

ANGELS ARE MADE OF LIGHT

PRODUCED, DIRECTED, AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY JAMES LONGLEY

USA / DENMARK / NORWAY 2018 117 MINS. IN DARI, PASHTO, ENGLISH, AND ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES GRASSHOPPER FILM

Sohrab, Rostam, and Yaldash, three Afghan brothers, are among the subjects of James Longley’s portrait of contemporary Kabul: a city torn apart by decades of war, the ravages of Taliban rule, and a continual American military presence. Like the filmmaker’s Oscar-nominated IRAQ IN FRAGMENTS, his new film counterpoints gorgeous cinematography with the grim reality of growing up amid seemingly endless conflict. Recording “poetry in dilapidation,” the film is praised for its “gentle exquisiteness... (with) intimate and evocative insight into a culture too often vilified due to Western ignorance.” (Keith Uhlich, *The Hollywood Reporter*) Longley captures ineffable moments of childhood wonderment that manage to shine through the ruined buildings and weary faces of a once-great vibrant city and its people.

12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40

Presented with support from the Richard Brick, Geri Ashur, and Sara Bershtel Fund for Social Justice Documentaries



JULY 31 - AUGUST 13 2 WEEKS

JAY MYSELF

DIRECTED BY STEPHEN WILKES USA 2018 79 MINS. OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES

The Bank — a six-floor, 36,000 square foot, 100-year-old landmark building — sits on the corner of the Bowery and Spring Street, for decades draped in mystery, graffiti-covered, with boarded-up windows. Inside, renowned photographer/artist Jay Maisel inhabited a thriving artist paradise since 1966. A successful commercial photographer (covers for *New York Magazine*, *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit editions, and the iconic Miles Davis *Kind of Blue* album), he’s also a prolific art photographer and obsessive collector of extraordinary (and ordinary) objects that have inspired him. JAY MYSELF chronicles Maisel’s monumental move out of his 72-room home following its sale, the largest private real estate deal in NYC history. With humor and awe, Stephen Wilkes captures Maisel’s half-century of collecting — having had the room to save and exhibit every last thing he found beautiful, strange, or (potentially) useful.

12:30, 2:15, 4:10, 6:00, 7:45, 9:30

Presented with support from the Helen Frankenthaler Endowed Fund for Films on Art and the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation Fund



AUGUST 14 - 27 2 WEEKS

LOS REYES

PRODUCED, DIRECTED, AND EDITED BY IVÁN OSNOVIKOFF AND BETTINA PERUT

CHILE / GERMANY 2018 78 MINS. IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES GRASSHOPPER FILM

In Santiago, Chile, Chola and Football are two homeless dogs — who aren’t homeless at all. Scrappy, adorable mutts, they live in Los Reyes, the city’s oldest skateboard park, kept company by dozens of teenage boys who are constantly in motion. (Surely the film’s title also refers to the dogs, truly kings of their quirky world.) One dog constantly schleps around a deflated football (or golf ball or empty soda bottle); the other romps alongside him day and night. The voices of the young skaters, set against the noises of the city, form a soundscape: bragging, complaining, joking, sharing the daily experiences of working-class kids. One day, two dog houses miraculously appear in the park — just in time to provide shelter for the coming winter. A touching film about the mysteries and joys of friendship: 2-legged on wheels and 4-legged on the ground. “An extraordinary film” — Jonathan Romney, *Film Comment*.

12:30, 2:15, 4:10, 6:00, 7:45, 9:30



AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3 ONE WEEK

THE MIRACLE OF THE LITTLE PRINCE

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MARJOLEINE BOONSTRA

THE NETHERLANDS 2018 90 MINS. IN FRENCH, TIBETAN, TAMAZIGHT, SÁMI, AND NAWAT WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES FILM MOVEMENT

“What is essential is invisible to the eye.” — The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Translated into more than 375 languages (more than any book but the Bible), *The Little Prince* has been embraced across a vast swath of cultures — including by those who speak endangered languages: the Berbers of Morocco, the indigenous Pipil of El Salvador, the Sami of Norway/Finland, and the people of Tibet. Originally published in 1943, the book’s enigmatic story of an angelic child who befriends a stranded pilot in the North African desert, has been debated for years. As understood by people who are themselves outcasts and exiles, it is a tale of friendship, alienation, loneliness, and eternal life.

12:30, 2:25, 4:20, 6:15, 8:10, 10:00

Presented with support from the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation Fund and the Richard Brick, Geri Ashur, and Sara Bershtel Fund for Social Justice Documentaries



ÁGA

DIRECTED BY MILKO LAZAROV

BULGARIA / GERMANY / FRANCE 2018 96 MINS. IN SAKA (AKA YAKUT) WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES BIG WORLD PICTURES

Living in a yurt in frozen, end-of-the-earth Siberia, an Arctic indigenous couple, Nanook and Sedna, are self-sufficient, aided by their sled-dog and an occasional visitor. But their lives are changing: ice-fishing is not as productive, the ice is melting earlier each year, and wildlife is struggling to survive. They differ on whether or not to make amends with their estranged daughter, Ága, who left this remote tundra years ago to work in a diamond mine. When Sedna falls ill, Nanook embarks on an arduous journey to find her. Staggeringly photographed in widescreen (“Director Milko Lazarov and his cinematographer Kaloyan Bozhilov never cease to amaze.” — *Screen Daily*) and suffused with ethnographic detail and empathy for the traditions of its isolated characters, ÁGA is an immersive, one-of-a-kind visual experience.

12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:00



SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 1 2 WEEKS

MIDNIGHT TRAVELER

DIRECTED BY HASSAN FAZILI PRODUCED, WRITTEN, AND EDITED BY EMELIE MAHDAVIAN

USA / QATAR / UK / CANADA 2018 90 MINS. IN ENGLISH AND PERSIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES

“A documentary that feels like a modern-day message in a bottle, an urgent appeal for help from a family that’s still searching for a home.” (Scott Tobias, *Variety*) In 2015 the Taliban in Afghanistan call for the death of Hassan Fazili, a filmmaker who, with his wife, runs Kabul’s Art Café, a progressive meeting place. The family (including two young daughters) begin a harrowing 3500-mile, 3-year “journey to the edge of Hell,” across Iran, Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, and Serbia — ultimately arriving in Hungary. Utilizing only mobile phone cameras, they document the vicissitudes of illegal border crossings and hunger and cold, as they are abetted by smugglers who may or may not be trustworthy and the casual violence of local thugs. The most basic 21st century technology is employed to tell an extraordinary story of ordinary, decent people caught between Taliban terror and the inhumanity of Kafkaesque Western bureaucracies.

12:30, 2:20, 4:10, 6:00, 7:50, 9:45

Presented with support from the Richard Brick, Geri Ashur, and Sara Bershtel Fund for Social Justice Documentaries



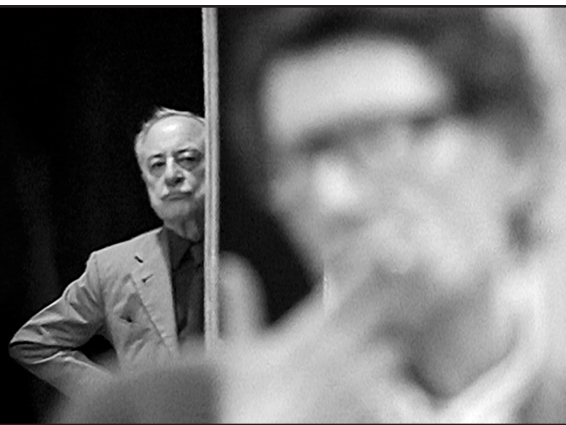
OCTOBER 2 - 15 2 WEEKS

CELEBRATION

DIRECTED BY OLIVIER MEYROU FRANCE 2018 74 MINS. IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES KIMSTIM

A fascinating, long-suppressed documentary on the legendary Yves Saint Laurent, commissioned by his business partner (and former lover) Pierre Bergé — and then shelved for more than a decade when Bergé decided it was too revealing. Filming as the proverbial fly-on-the-wall over three years, as YSL became increasingly frail and incommunicado, Meyrou captures the last of the great haute couture houses. Seamstresses, cutters (“les petites mains”) and models work frantically to finesse the tiniest adjustments (“the hair of a frog”), as the principals undergo nothing less than existential crises (YSL: poignant and morose; Bergé: acerbic and overbearing). An intimate evocation of the complex relationship between two of fashion’s most brilliantly creative and profoundly idiosyncratic men.

12:30, 2:10, 3:45, 5:20, 7:00, 8:40, 10:15



OCTOBER 16 - 29 2 WEEKS

STUFFED

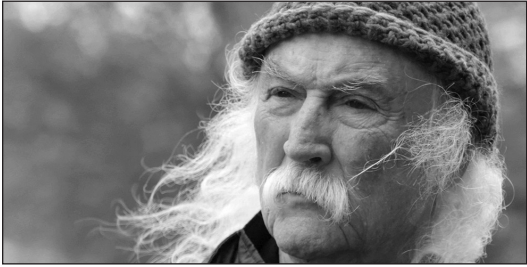
DIRECTED BY ERIN DERHAM USA / CANADA 2019 85 MINS. MUSIC BOX FILMS

Growing up in New York means having spent happy hours in the Hall of African Mammals in the American Museum of Natural History, ogling the amazing dioramas. Filmmaker Erin Derham is a vegetarian and animal lover with a Masters degree in Environmental History, so she approached the subject of taxidermy with trepidation. But in this gorgeous, quirky, fascinating documentary she discovers a new generation of taxidermists dedicated to applying their tortoise to a field that has conservation at its heart. Lonesome George, the last of his species (a Pinta Island tortoise) has been preserved — as have hummingbirds, aardvarks, ocelots, and axolotls. There’s even a subculture (“rogue taxidermy”) specializing in the creation of fantasy or “cryptozoological” animals. Whether tattooed or strictly white-bread, these new taxidermists are articulate and passionate about their work; they will surprise and delight you.

12:30, 2:20, 4:10, 6:00, 7:50, 9:40



OPENING JULY - SEPTEMBER



OPENING FRIDAY, JULY 19

DAVID CROSBY:
REMEMBER MY NAME

Directed by A. J. EATON
Produced by CAMERON CROWE

“A TERRIFIC MOVIE.
Moving & elegiac rock-nostalgia.”
— Owen Gleiberman, VARIETY

SONY PICTURES CLASSICS



OPENING FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

ONE CHILD NATION

Directed & Produced by
NANFU WANG and JIALING ZHANG

“...an unsparing rebuke
of totalitarian rule.”
—Manohla Dargis, THE NEW YORK TIMES

AMAZON STUDIOS



OPENING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

WHERE'S MY
ROY COHN?

Directed by MATT TYRNAUER

“Beyond Machiavellian”
—Roger Stone on Roy Cohn
(Trump's favorite lawyer)

SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

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June 2019 Vol. 16 No. 4 © 2019
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JULY - OCT 2019