



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

A THREE DAY CELEBRATION OF INDEPENDENT FILM
FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE

NOVEMBER 15, 16 & 17, 2024

FESTIVAL GUIDE

FULL FESTIVAL PASS: \$50 | SINGLE DAY PASS: \$25 | SINGLE BLOCK TICKET: \$10

[MILBURNSTONE.COM/FILMFESTIVAL](https://milburnstone.com/filmfestival)

 FilmFreeway



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 15, 16 & 17, 2024

Welcome to the Cecil County Independent Film Festival's fifth season! Since 2019 we've presented over **400** films from all over the world and this season is no different! We started with over 450 submissions this season and narrowed down the field to 85 incredible films!

These films come from as close as Rising Sun and as far away as China, with lots of films from all over the US and plenty of shorts from Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, DC and New York! Our full length features come from wonderful filmmakers from Virginia, Delaware, Maryland and Columbia. We also added an additional venue! this year we'll be presenting our international shorts in the Cecil College Technology Center Amphitheater on Saturday Afternoon. There's a lot to see at the festival this year, to the filmmakers: Thank you for your continued support in helping make this festival a success, for sharing your vision with the Cecil County Community and for being bold storytellers, and to the film lovers and aficionados, **enjoy!**



A NOTE FROM FESTIVAL DIRECTOR, **ANDREW JOHN MITCHELL**

ANDREW JOHN MITCHELL,
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

THE CECIL COUNTY INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL
IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM MORTON FORT,
AVID READER, FILM LOVER AND FRIEND.





CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL 2024 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

FESTIVAL PASS HOLDERS CAN
BEGIN PICKING UP PASSES AT 2PM

BLOCK #1: 3 - 5PM
THE COWBOY

BLOCK #2: 6 - 8PM
DEADLY OBSESSION

BLOCK #3: 9 - 11PM
NARRATIVE SHORTS #1

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

BLOCK #4: 10AM - 12PM
NARRATIVE SHORTS #2

BLOCK #6: 1 - 3PM
NARRATIVE SHORTS #3

BLOCK #8: 4 - 6PM
NARRATIVE SHORTS #4

BLOCK #9: 7 - 9PM
NARRATIVE SHORTS #5

BLOCK #10: 10 - 11:30PM
SINS OF THE FATHER

BLOCK #5: 11AM - 1PM*
INTERNATIONAL SHORTS #1

BLOCK #7: 2 - 4PM*
INTERNATIONAL SHORTS #2

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

BLOCK #11: 10A - 12PM
DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

BLOCK #12: 1 - 3PM
THE END OF THE RUN

BLOCK #13: 4 - 6PM
SILENCE ON THE STREETS

* THESE BLOCKS WILL BE PRESENTED IN CECIL COLLEGE'S TECHNOLOGY CENTER





CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

LOCATION & INFORMATION:

CAMPUS ADDRESS:
**ONE SEAHAWK DRIVE,
NORTH EAST MD 21901**
BOX OFFICE PHONE NUMBER:
(410) 287-1037



SCREENING LOCATIONS:

A: THE MILBURN STONE THEATRE

B: CECIL COLLEGE'S TECHNOLOGY CENTER

LOCAL LODGING SUGGESTIONS:

BEST WESTERN CHESAPEAKE BAY NORTH INN (0.4 MI)

COMFORT INN & SUITES (1.6 MI)

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES NORTH EAST (1.6)

LOCAL DINING SUGGESTIONS:

RECOMMENDED:

STEAK & MAIN (STEAK HOUSE, SUSHI & OYSTER BAR) (3.2 MI)

OTHER SUGGESTIONS:

WOODY'S CRAB HOUSE (SEAFOOD) (3.1 MI)

PIER 1 (CASUAL DINING & SEAFOOD) (3.1 MI)

RISE 'N GRIND CAFE (BREAKFAST, COFFEE & MORE) (7.4 MI)

BOG TURTLE BREWERY (BEER, SANDWICHES & MORE) (7.5 MI)

TO 272 (NORTH EAST RD)





CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #1: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

BLOCK #1: (3-5PM)

The Cowboy (El Vaquero) | Run time: **One Hour, 33 Minutes** | Director: **Emma Rozanski**

Country of Origin/Location: **Bogota, Cundinamarca, Colombia**

If the cowboy boot fits, wear it. The arrival of a stray horse triggers a series of events in Bernicia's life that alters her world as she slowly takes on the persona of a cowboy. Through her journey, she must overcome several obstacles that threaten her newfound desires. EL VAQUERO is an uplifting drama about self-determination.

Director Statement: I enjoy exploring the ephemeral side of human nature - the emotion, creation and destruction. As a filmmaker and video artist, my work combines different techniques and narrative structures for existential discussions on psychology and human folly. A strong sense of aesthetic stylization frames my ideas. I create symbolic puzzles. My desire is to disrupt viewer expectations and defy genre expectations. Playful undertones of absurdism within my work reveals my love for lateral thinking and a strength of imagination. My narrative film work tends towards character-based stories and magic-realism. Fascinated by moral ambiguity and heightened-drama, my practice usually delves into these realms - creating worlds that symbolically externalize the inner-psychology of character.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #1: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

BLOCK #2: (6-8PM)

Deadly Obsession | Run time: **One Hour, 42 Minutes** | Director: **Kendria Roane-Williams**

Country of Origin/Location: **Richmond, Virginia, United States of America**

A woman on the verge of divorce runs into an old high school friend with reference in his heart and murder on his mind.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #1: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

BLOCK #3: (9PM-11PM) | NARRATIVE SHORTS #1

MUDSLIDE | LIA MEIJER | 17:18

Cami, a young woman who's living independently in the city, is burdened with her dreams and goals of being an actress. It's been months since she's had a steady job working on her career and she's not only starting to feel the stress mentally, but financially as well. Cami is finally able to secure an audition for an upcoming film, and as she is preparing for the role, a figure from her past comes to haunt her.

JIM'S INTERVIEW | DAVID MICHAEL WOLFE | WEST CHESTER, PA USA | 3:55

When Jim oversleeps his alarm, it's a race against time to get to his job interview.

BEST FRIENDS | DAVID MICHAEL WOLFE | WEST CHESTER, PA USA | 2:51

When a dog gets adopted at the dog pound, he has to think fast to stay with his best friend, who is being left behind.

CURVEBALL | ZHANNA J. SNYDER | POINT OF ROCKS, MD USA | 15:00

A teenage boy by the name of Eddy Alden struggles to enjoy his love for baseball amidst the Vietnam War draft.

BREAD FILM | JOE HOENISCH | LANGHORNE, PA USA | 14:38

A man goes on an epic journey to buy bread in this absurd comedy.

THE STRANGER | BENJAMIN E. GREENBERG | CARLISLE, PA USA | 11:00

As Vanzetti relentlessly pursues the truth of what happened to his partner, his own reality begins to unravel.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON | RAY AND MIGDALIA ETHERIDGE | PALM BAY, FL USA | 9:17

Their marriage was a joke in more ways than one.

SHAME | KELLY LYNN WARREN | AGOURA HILLS, CA USA | 4:52

After a woman is assaulted by a mutual friend, she struggles to communicate with her best friend about what happened, leading to tragic consequences.

LIZZIE | JACK FOLEY | SOMERVILLE, NJ USA | 15:44

A father/daughter con artist team tries to take advantage of the wrong family.

DEAD AIR | BRAD ETTER | SUNLAND, CA USA | 13:18

Shortly after receiving a vintage radio as a birthday gift from her husband, Julie begins to hear mysterious coded messages.

RENDEZVOUS | KRISTIN BATTERSBY | PLEASANT VALLEY, NY USA | 6:53

Two lifelong friends, divided by their views of cultural tradition and what it means to be a modern Bengali woman, reconnect at a pivotal moment in one of their lives.

ARDOR | V. LEIGH | POUGHKEEPSIE, NY USA | 5:55

In the not too distant dystopian future, a couple must decide whether or not love, family and passion can overcome a world divided by race.

DRIVEN OUT | ANDY CURRIE | MONTCLAIR, NJ, USA | 20:00

A former high school bully is sent on a harrowing journey when an former classmate recommends a mysterious new ride share service.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #2: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024

BLOCK #4: (10AM-12NOON) | NARRATIVE SHORTS #2

IT'S A MATCH! | MICHELLE MARY SCHAEFER | GREENVILLE, SC USA | 13:05

When a hearing bi-curious woman matches with a Deaf lesbian named "Leatherface" on a dating app, she has high hopes for the relationship-but she must contend with the fear that lurks beneath the surface.

BIRDS OF THE AIR | GISELLE MUSE | NEW YORK, NY USA | 11:30

It's supposed to be Shar's first day presenting as a woman in public. But she's not out to her family yet. She has a plan: skip church, get dolled up, sneak out. But she has to avoid Grandma, who is home sick. Plus, blending eyeshadow is harder than it looks. And eventually, Shar's plans go off the rails in ways she didn't see coming.

MY DARLING LIZZIE | ESTER FERMAN | CLYDE, NC USA | 11:12

A lonely man slips slowly into the throes of madness, but not before trying desperately to find love, comfort, and solace.

THE CRANE WIDE | CALEB C. ADAMS | 11:30

A take on the Japanese wivestale of the same name, The Crane Wife tells of a poor, lonely dress-maker who, one night, receives a knock on the door from a bird that will change his view on life.

FRAIL GROUNDS | ABBY TARPEY | GREENVILLE, SC USA | 30:12

A girl, Margot, wakes up in a world unfamiliar to her, reuniting with her siblings to try to understand how she ended up there and how to escape. Finding the answers at her funeral, the trio learns what is important along the way.

TAP | VANESSA M. H. POWERS | ALEXENDRIA, VA USA | 7:33

After his mother's untimely death, Oliver and his father try to live their lives as best they can. When Dad gets Oliver a used car for his birthday, cleaning out the garage leads to the discovery of something sinister his Mom left behind.

THE IMPLANT | JOSE VASILIO TORRES | 15:00

Set in an alternate America, a young man named Sam wakes up in a place where people are forced to get an implant in their necks by the government. He realizes although most things are similar, something is very odd about this place. What's more, he discovers he is not the only "Sam" that woke up in this world.

TROPHY | WILLAM PETERS | WESLEY CHAPEL, FL, USA | 14:24

An oblivious tourist quickly learns that when it comes to vacation, timing is everything.

BAY FOR BLOOD | HARRY WALDMAN | CHICAGO, IL, USA | 18:00

James and Rob are hiding out in isolation to fix their mutual issues. As time progresses, the two reveal facts regarding their disturbing past relationship. An acquaintance of James', Jessica, finds herself in an uncomfortable position as she contemplates the best way to handle the situation.



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BLOCK #5: (11AM - 1PM) | INTERNATIONAL SHORTS #1

EVERGREEN | JINKYUNG SONG | LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM | 16:12

"It will pass." Precious memories are buried, not forgotten. Eugene reflects on a day she skipped school and went to the park with her best friend, Joan ten years earlier. At 18-years-old, Eugene plans to spend a special day with Joan in the park. They have a small talk and spend their own time as they always did. At last, Eugene hesitates to confess something to Joan. Eugene's recollection becomes a powerful and heartrending portrait of their relationship, as she tries to reconcile the father she knew with the man she didn't.

THE LAST ONE | LUKAS VIZNER, MIRIAM FULMEKOVA | 20:00

Near future. Madam Victoria is the last inhabitant of the city. After a sequence of events, humanity began a new era on the New Earth. One of the few remaining cities on Earth that are still standing, is for sale. With the arrival of the mysterious Adam, Madam Victoria visits familiar places, now covered with dust. Will they manage to find understanding and is Adam a suitable buyer?

STAND BY ME | PARISA ZANDBAF | 10:00

An American couple's dream travel to Amsterdam becomes a test of their love and a journey of universal bittersweet favors.

MOMENTO MORI | FABIO SERVULLO | MONTE APRAZIVEL, SP BRAZIL | 8:21

A woman in search of memory and identity dives into a surrealist journey where cinematic language itself is the vortex of all reality.

THE WAY | KATERYNA TKACHENKO | 9:53

February 24, Russia launched a full-scale attack on my home country, Ukraine. 8 years earlier Russia annexed Crimea and sent troops on Donbas region. I've always seen my country as a place with a poetic old culture and a bright modern future. Ever since I was young, my dream was to show the beauty of Ukraine, and of its history and culture, to the world. I've always believed in a bright future for Ukraine and when the war started I felt like the old secure and safe world had cracked. My young friends went to the war to defend the country. Waiting, instability, and orphanhood have come to my land. Most of the film's photography was done in Ukraine a few years ago. Assembling them in the US, I've tried to find the most clear picture about my far away country in order to share its story and tragedy to the world.

SCREAM WITH ME | SHIVA MARDAN NIA | 14:50

"La eterna búsqueda del quién" explores identity and grief through a fusion of techniques such as digital animation, oil on glass and mixed media. Through the monologue an introspective journey is made, reflecting on loss and personal transformation.

THURSDAY IN MARCH | LUIS MURILLO ARIAS | 17:20

María turns 19 and says goodbye to her mother to take the train. It is a Thursday in March 2004.

WITHOUT YOUR LOVE | DIANA PARKS, ADRIAN PARKS | TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA | 14:50

After 10 years apart, two ex-lovers confront the traumatic incidents that led to their breakup and the complex feelings that have kept them apart.

THE RECURRENCE | ANGELO GIORDANO | CISTERNA DI LATINA, ITALY | 11:42

In a small town in the south of Italy, the new mayor has canceled an ancient recurrence. Tommaso, a bizarre man worried by the disastrous consequences that this decision could bring, tries to change his mind.



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DAY #2: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024

BLOCK #6: (1-3PM) | NARRATIVE SHORTS #3

REPLACE.ME | DAVID J. MURPHY | ODENTON, MD USA | 25:00

Derrick Weems, a stressed-out father and husband, turns to artificial intelligence to help him better grasp a healthy work-life balance.

DEAD MAN WALKING | DEVIN MALDONADO | LUTHERVILLE TIMONIUM, MD USA | 14:42

Alex and her boyfriend, Henry, struggle to connect in their secluded home in the woods after the recent death of Alex's father. However, following a trip to the market and a recent outbreak, Henry is attacked by a presumably homeless person forcing the couple to realize how much they truly mean to one another.

KYLE VS. KAREN | JIM MORRISON | GREENPOINT, NY USA | 5:00

Kyle, a social media clout seeker is caught as he snaps a picture of an unsuspecting patron in a coffee shop. Highly offended, she immediately calls him out on this violation of her personal space.

THE FAINT GOODBYE | AARON GARCIA | LOS ANGELES, CA USA | 9:31

A film experience about two past lovers meeting at a cafe after years apart. If you saw your past lover that you still had feelings for, what would you do or think?

FIVE STAGES OF GRIEF | 2:48

BABE TO BLOCKED | MICHELLE MARY SCHAEFER | GREENVILLE, SC USA | 25:52

A beautiful talented Deaf actor, Kat Gellar falls in love with the stage manager, Lex. Kat longs for human connection, and genuine love where communication isn't a barrier. Lex is a full package, with sex, love, and the beauty of communication in American Sign Language. They have dreams, and there is the love that Kat and Lex have with each other and a bright future. This all changes when Lex couldn't handle her past and Kat's love for her. Then suddenly it's: Babe to Blocked, is it too late for them?

REAL | MARIA FORSYTHE | 5:00

A tiny film webseries exploring Deafness, love, and the lengths we go to find it. These tiny film follows Lauren as she navigates relationships and connection in a world of complex communication.

DINNER FOR SIX | EMILY KRANKING | 6:23

An overprotective family spies on their disabled daughter's first date in absurd ways. Reimagined as the rom-coms and Disney Channel sitcoms she grew up with, Emily Kranking tells an exaggerated version of her first date.

DREAMS OF R'LYEH | JOHN W. TEREGETSKY | FALLSTON, MARYLAND, USA | 15:00

A young artist is plagued by dreams of an ancient city, and the malevolent entities that live there...

HEART OF GOLD | JACK FOLEY | MORGANVILLE, NJ, USA | 22:13

A young girl experiences difficulties adapting to a new environment. She meets and overcomes her challenges with love and kindness.



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BLOCK #7: (2PM - 4PM) | INTERNATIONAL SHORTS #2

BALLERINA BOY | MARC JURE | CANADA | 17:00

When a Black timid and directionless freshman discovers his love for ballet, he must learn to fight for himself in a locker room full of rowdy boys.

VERFLECHTUNG | PHILLIP HOFMANNER, SIMON JONAS PFLANZER | SEFTIGEN, BERN SWITZERLAND | 20:00

In the near future, Susana's fiancé Marco decides to have a chip implanted in his brain. Marco, who suffers from severe depression and has professional problems as a result, sees this new technology as his only chance, not to lose touch. Susana, who originally drew his attention to the chip, soon begins to have doubts, when Marco begins to change dramatically.

THE PARTY | MARIA MAYA | SAO PAULO, BRAZIL | 23:45

Adapted from the theatrical play "A festa" by Italian playwright Spiro Scimone, the short film portrays the misconceptions and unsatisfied affections of an ordinary, less affluent family consisting of a father, a mother, and a son, isolated within a kitchen. The dramatic situation revolves around the preparations for the parents' wedding anniversary. In an atmosphere that blends comedy, melancholy, suggestive silences, and mundane phrases filled with double meanings, they react in various ways to the celebration of the marriage.

THE SCORE | CHRISTOPHER HEWITT | BRISTOL, UNITED KINGDOM | 24:58

Cutler and Mica nervously hole up in his failed bar - him tense and armed, her high and paranoid - waiting to make an illicit trade for the money he desperately needs. When the other party, Portman and her two bodyguards, arrive they are not who Cutler was expecting and everythinghe isn't: young, female and in charge. They attempt to make the deal but as tension and prejudice reach a crescendo, fingers and guns are pointed when they finally realise they can all hear the film's musical score, and it's trying to trick them into killing each other.

THE LIVING | SEVDA GHAZANFARIAN | 18:16

Tehran makes you fall in love

LA ETERNA BUSQUEDA DEL QUIEN | RAQUEL SALOME VELASQUEZ | BOGATA | 2:02

"La eterna búsqueda del quién" explores identity and grief through a fusion of techniques such as digital animation, oil on glass and mixed media. Through the monologue an introspective journey is made, reflecting on loss and personal transformation.

MIA HAS A SECRET | DMYTRO KOTURANOV | 13:19

After a painful breakup with boyfriend, attractive girl Mia moves to a quiet town to start a new life. The girl does not even know that two thieves have learned about her move, and plan to use this opportunity and make money. While planning the robbery, neither the robbers nor Mia even suspect that a stranger is secretly watching their every move...

ANCHOR | VILMOS PETER | 17:00

Anchor GIRL's experience of her out of sync, yet monotonous day-to-day existence is increasingly challenging for her, as she willingly tries to give up unhealthy habits while also losing access to experiences essential to her being.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #2: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024

BLOCK #8: (3-5PM) | NARRATIVE SHORTS #4

IZANAGI | KYLE FLICKINGER | 13:57

Japanese siblings, Kenji and Maiya, live peacefully in rural America until their lives fall victim to the American culture.

THE BBQ | JONATHAN FREY, DANIEL BREITHAUPT | 10:25

The BBQ is a dark satire/comedy about a reunion of high society friends in a small town in the deep south.

CALL ME BACK | ETHAN SMITH | BOSTON, MA USA | 7:55

A lonely man finds comfort in a phone call from his brother, but must soon come to terms with the reality of his conversation.

THINGS NOT SAID | MENUETTE SILVER | NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA USA | 7:31

Things Not Said is a six-episode comedy web series about a couple who embarks on a therapy journey that involves video journals in hopes of improving their relationship.

LE FILM FRERE | NOAH DARLING | NEW HOLLAND, PA USA | 8:32

A college student cinephile decides to become a hitman to pay off his college tuition, but little did he know, it would be harder than they make it out to be in the movies.

THE SPACE BETWEEN | LUKE BAKER | ATLANTA, GA USA | 18:59

Two college students, who on the outside couldn't be more different from each other, happen to meet at a party and form a deep connection where they find self-discovery, forgiveness and hope for the future.

SWAN LAKE | LACHIN KERBABAIEVA | MIAMI, FL USA | 5:29

The film takes place in a dystopian world where society is under constant supervision because of the spread of a new swan disease.

HOROLOGIST OF THE MACABRE | YURI WARE | 10:53

After a series of murders, a rugged detective uses a supernatural force in hopes of finding the killer.

THE ROAD TO LILITH | BRENDAN HYLTON | NEW MARKET, MARYLAND, USA | 15:00

For centuries, women have hid their fierceness, suppressing their "Dark Feminine", for fear of judgment from the patriarchy.

MELTDOWN | SASHA WOOTTEN, ROMANIA NUNEZ | MONTGOMERY VILLAGE, MARYLAND, USA | 4:49

With the help of his friend, an autistic circus performer must overcome a meltdown when an unfamiliar location leaves him overwhelmed.

SCORCHED EARTH; SUN GLITCH | JEB PAPPAS | 14:10

In a near-distant future, humanity's collective conscience undergoes a religious evolution.

STOLEN | BRENDAN BILO | LUTHERVILLE, MD USA | 7:01

"STOLEN" tells the tale of a man and his former life of theft.

A TRIBUTE TO THE STARRY-EYED GIRL | ZOE NOVELLA EPPERSON | OKLAHOMA CITY, OK USA | 12:00

Four eccentric, but earnest musicians drop out of university to try their luck in the Boston music scene.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #2: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024

BLOCK #9: (7-9PM) | NARRATIVE SHORTS #5

BEAUTY | CARLY DERNETZ | ANNAPOLIS, MD USA | 1:41

In a visually engaging stop motion, a powerful slam poem delves into the weight of beauty standards and body image, as words cut out of paper are intertwined with images from Towson's literary magazine

STAN BEHAVIOR | TYLER C. PETERSON | LOS ANGELES, CA USA | 15:01

A drag queen embarks on a quest for better workplace rights, but finds herself in a dicey situation when her new lawyer, a tone-deaf straight woman, is revealed to be a drag super fan.

AMITYVILLE VS. THE GALATIC SAMURAI SCHOOLGIRLS | BRIAN WILD | WILMINGTON, DE USA | 17:19

Three Earth men who are up to no good in an Airbnb in Amityville, New York. Their misadventures take a wild turn when a spaceship descends from the sky, carrying three super hot alien women from Planet X - the Galactic Samurai Schoolgirls.

TRUE LOVE'S KISS | SAMUEL WHITE | ELKTON, MD USA | 5:03

A woman begins to wonder how her boyfriend would hold up in the face of temptation.

DROP POINT COMPROMISED | PAT W DOUGHERTY, MATTHEW FAY | DELAWARE, USA | 28:18

One car. One job. One dead body. What could go wrong?

CURTAIN CALL | DANIEL IGLESIAS GONZALEZ | 5:27

After receiving an ominous phone call, a closeted gay theatre actor must solve the mystery of who was on the other line before he is outed at the end of his show's intermission.

GAM-GAM'S YAM JAM | COLLEEN KELLEY | LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, USA | 21:00

Marvin Blank is tasked by his Gam-Gam to pick up pies for the Yam Jam but quickly runs into trouble along the way.

NOIR, "THE STREETS OF SUGONDESE" | BENJAMIN S. BAGROWSKI | RISING SUN, MARYLAND, USA | 12:50

A sudden murder plunges a semi-familiar detective into a case, investigating silly characters in the town of Sugondese. Little does he know, it would hard-boil their lives.

BULWARK | BRENDAN HYLTON | NEW MARKET, MARYLAND, USA | 15:00

A wanted woman is on the run from a gang after stealing one of their valuable wagons. With the help of a bounty hunter and a scrawny kid, she may reach her destination at the cost of revealing herself.

GONE | NATHAN PATRICK WINN | SEVERNA, MARYLAND, USA | 4:49

A young girl loses her dog late at night and frantically searches for him.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #2: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024

BLOCK #10: (10-11:30PM)

Sins Of The Father | Run time: **One Hour, 42 Minutes** | Director: **Vanessa M. H. Powers**

Country of Origin/Location: **Alexandria, Virginia, United States of America**

After the death of his father, Aden and his mother, Sarah, find themselves responsible for the sale of his family home - a place they thought they'd left behind. When Sarah's friends arrive to help, the task seems almost manageable. However, as they clear out the house, they uncover secrets in Sarah's past and the sinister nature of the cultivated community Aden was raised in.... And his father's family is not so eager to let the sins of the past go unpunished.

Director Statement: Vanessa M. H. Powers is a prolific and award-winning film director who has been making films professionally since 2011. Her company, the Oxford Comma Film Cooperative has tackled topics ranging from hysterical to heartbreaking, spanning almost every genre you can think of. Vanessa and her team have consistently delivered character-driven, thought-provoking, and stylishly told stories, with just enough Midwestern flair to make you say 'opec.' Her works have been seen in festivals across the country and around the globe, and she even has 2 feature films, 'Keepsake,' and 'Witch,' available on Amazon.com.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #3: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024

BLOCK #11: (10AM-12NOON) | DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

I AM MORE DANGEROUS DEAD | MAJIYE UCHIBEKE | PLAYA VISTA, CA, USA | 24:00

The story of a man largely unknown in the west, but who is a household name and hero to Nigerians.

WHY NOT? | COLIN HODGSON | WAYLAND, MA, USA | 19:44

A man diagnosed with ALS suddenly decides to sing in public and, at the urging of his best friend, record an album.

BLESSED BE THE JOINT | MARCUS VINICIUS DINIZ | GOIAS, BRAZIL | 14:14

In the midst of conservative politics in the city of Goiânia, an anti-prohibitionist collective is mobilizing for the legalization of marijuana against government repression.

AFROLISTIC: BLACK HEALING FROM ZIMBABWE TO THE BAY | NEKIA WRIGHT, SHYLET NDARAMBWA | 21:42

Black American healer shares about her practice and explores traditional healing, music, and dance in Zimbabwe.

SHAHROOR | Yafa EZZAT, SHAHROOR, MO'MEN GHANIM HASANALN | 14:59

Shahroor is a short documentary about Yafa's story, who was known for her passion for media since childhood. She had a clear plan to achieve her dream, with the support of her father Ezzat, the journalist, but one day all that vanished.

ONLY THE DEVIL REMEMBERS | DANIEL IGLESIAS GONZALEZ | 5:27

There are barely 200 meters between the entry and exit signs of Nadal. Sitting in between two provinces, in this small village of no more than 20 houses lived my family for some time in their lives.

SPECTRUM OF CONSUMPTION: A CONVERSATION STORY | COLLEEN KELLEY | LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, USA | 21:00

Spectrum of Consumption is an observational film following a group of women hunters in Montana, and their relationship to public land, conservation, and alternatives to the industrial food complex.

BIRD DOG | EMMA VICTORIA CENICACELAYA, PATRICK THOMAS EVANS | BEL AIR, MARYLAND, USA | 6:35

Bird Dog is a short documentary that explores the bond between human hunter and hunting dog while in the field.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #3: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024

BLOCK #12: (1-3PM)

The End Of The Run | Run time: **One Hour, 38 Minutes** | Director: **Ray Crew**

Country of Origin/Location: **Delaware, United States of America**

The End of the Run is a love story, a ghost story, a mob tale and a morality play," the film tells the story of a would be actor Billy, the middle brother in a mob family who has failed at everything in life and has been reduced to appearing in a cheesy murder mystery dinner theater to help his older brother steal money. When he is at his lowest, he's visited by Angela, a long lost love he hasn't seen in a decade. She says she wants to save him but she's concealing secrets that will change Billy... and the world forever.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL

DAY #3: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024

BLOCK #13: (4-6PM)

Silence On The Streets | Run time: **One Hour, 30 Minutes** | Director: **Sharece Sellem**

Country of Origin/Location: **United States of America**

"Silence on the Streets" is a ground-breaking documentary that explores the journey of addiction through the perspective of inner-city minorities and Native Americans. Award-winning Playwright Sharece Sellem skillfully intertwines personal narratives with expert insights from the fields of addiction, trauma, psychology, prevention, and harm reduction alongside individuals with firsthand experiences, uncovering the many factors that contribute to the distinct life experiences of black, brown, Latin X, and Native Americans, profoundly shaping their struggles with addiction throughout their lifetimes and their road to recovery.



CECIL COUNTY *Independent* FILM FESTIVAL NOVEMBER 15, 16 & 17, 2024

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