

Video Bar at the Hilton

May 4-6, 2017, Hilton Eugene and Conference Center

This year, the Video Bar will be at the Hilton Eugene and Conference Center, 66 E. 6th Ave. Here you can watch any of the entered films on individual viewing stations for no charge. All the entered films are listed below. Films noted with an asterisk (*) are also to be shown on the big screen for the competition.

10,000...Or so

Distributor: Lynn Dana Wilton

Canada

Producer: Lynn Dana Wilton

16 minutes

A lot can change in a few thousand years. Produced for the Toronto Animated Image Society, part of Toronto Public Library's "Artists in the Library" program, we highlight some changes Scarborough, Ontario, has seen in the last 10,000 years. Beginning with the retreating of the glacier, through artifacts, flora and fauna associated with each new demographic, and using voices and workshop-created animation by members of the community, the filmmaker celebrates the neighborhood's growing strength through its diversity . . . under the watchful eye of those who have been here before.

*Agacheri Turks: The Woodmen of Anatolia

Distributor: Elif Erturk

Turkey

Producer: Elif Erturk

20 minutes

Produced between 2013 and 2016, this film is primarily about the daily lives and traditions of the Turkic Alevi woodmen. The woodmen are a group of Turkmen occupied with timber harvesting and living in the mountainous region close to the western and southern shores of Turkey. A large number of Turkic woodmen continue their livelihood in these locations. In this mountainous region, the woodmen make their livelihood through forestry and struggle with the limited possibilities provided in this isolated region, while at the same time upholding their traditions. Although the historical sources are not definite, they have lived in this region for centuries, at least since Ottoman times. The film not only documents the woodmen's traditional events, but also acts as a witness to the traditional prayer read during funerals.

Awards/Selections:

Adana Ahin Koza Film Festival, Competition section finalist, documentary section, 2016

Amerindian Fingerprint

Distributor: EKLA Production

France

Producer: Regis Ayache

52 minutes

When the first Europeans discovered the Lesser Antilles archipelago, people had been living there for 2000 years: 2000 years spent on fishing, building villages and trade and 2000 years of dreams, of myths, of exchanging with nature. Saint Vincent Island is in the middle of this archipelago and serves as the base station for young anthropologist Vanessa Demicryan, who treks from Trinidad to Guadeloupe, Grenada, through space and time, in search of their fingerprint.

*Approaches: Saint Michel de Cuxa

Distributor: Py Films

France

Producer: Bertrand Abadie

22 Minutes

Archaeological researchers can further their knowledge of a major historical site such as St. Michel de Cuxa in more than one way. When this story began, over 1000 years ago, neither France nor Spain existed as we know them. There was just Europe, violent, fragmented, the legacy of the Carolingian era. And here, in what is now southern France, was the Têt valley and, not far away, the Episcopal see of Elne, close to modern Perpignan. In this film, researchers digitize the entire building, using drones and scanners, to recreate in 3D certain aspects of the abbey that now are lost. Scientists examine the subsoil using radar, seeking cavities and buried foundations. And historians suggest alternative arrangements for sculpted fragments. They all have been working together for nearly five years to recreate, on screen, the successive abbeys predating the one in which you can stand today.

Awards/Selections:

International Archaeology Film Festival, Split, Croatia, November 2016

ICRONOS: International Festival of Archaeological Film, Bordeaux, France, October 2016

The Austronesian Cultural Diversity

Distributor: Uning Palapessy

UK

Producer: PT. Corina Intimedia

10 minutes

Relying on current archaeological evidence particularly from Java, this documentary explores the expansion of early people through Asia. From Taiwan and south China, people evidently spread throughout the southern Pacific land masses. Beginning with discoveries of Paleolithic tools, the viewer is introduced to finds, particularly of stone tools and ornaments, from central Java. Local archaeologists explain the flowering of culture and tool technology through the Neolithic period.

Austurias Masuela

Distributor: Zberman Jabannema

Iran

Producer: Zberman Jabannema

21 minutes

A piece of sculpture that looks timeless, this historic town in Iran displays an ever-growing harmony between man and nature when it tries to unify organic forms with environmental limitations in order to adapt itself to the site. The relocation from the old town to the new town happened about 1000 years ago. No religious building was meant to be built in the new town. Did it happen intentionally or were other factors involved?

Bal Ej: The Hidden Jews of Ethiopia

Distributor: Irene Oreleansky

Israel

Producer: Irene Oreleansky

96 minutes

The film relates one woman's journey to discover and explore a secret Jewish sect in Ethiopia. Persecuted by their Orthodox Christian neighbors, the Bal Ej were slandered as evil-eyed and hyena-people. Deprived of basic rights such as land ownership, they adopted crafts including pottery, weaving and iron smithing. Fearing persecution, the Bal Ej appear as Christians outwardly, practicing Judaism in strict secrecy. Synagogues hidden deep in the mountains had never before been visited by strangers. Some of their ancient traditions tracing back to Biblical times are completely forgotten by the rest of the world. The film lifts the curtains of hundreds of years, revealing the history, customs and culture of this remarkable community.

Barone

Distributor: City of Sibernik

Croatia

Producer: Gral Film and City of Sibernik

18 minutes

In the 17th century, Sibernik is a vibrant Mediterranean community and the largest city of Venetian Dalmatia. But the border of the turbulent Ottoman Empire is less than five kilometers away and the city's defense is weak. After the outbreak of a new war between the small aristocratic Republic of Venice and an empire that spans three continents, the people of Sibernik have to dig themselves out of hopeless situations, under the unlikely but competent leadership of a German aristocrat.

The Big Journey

Distributor: Troubadours Films

Switzerland

Producer: Nasser Bakhti

98 minutes

Five people born with disabilities, each with a distinct life and specific background, are part of a joint project that shows us how human beings live in their environment in different parts of the world. They leave Switzerland on an adventure trip and live like nomads. This is what Veronique, Stephen, Isabelle, Serge and Cedric have set out to do. From Mongolia to the Arizona desert, from the land of the Fulani to the Roma people, they travel off the beaten track, avoiding tourist stereotypes. They roam nomadic paths and immerse themselves in the sweet-sour daily life of so-called "primitive" people for a human experience beyond our differences

Blu

Distributor: CAT Multimedia

Italy

Producer: CAT Multimedia

14 minutes

Blu is poetry. Designed to advertise and promote the Livorno Province Museum, this short film has slowly but surely become a classic. The film's creator, Andrea Camerini, triggers the action through Nico's dog, which craves whalebones and an Etruscan worker's fish, dragging the boy into a number of adventures through space and time. They meet Romans, Napoleon in Elba Island, as well as artists Pietro Mascagni, Amedeo Modigliani and Giovanni Fattori, who devoted his entire life and art to this land and who serenely, with slow and neat strokes, paints the sky of Blu. This is a sunny film, encompassing artworks, characters and places in a fulfilling glow of warmth.

The Boundaries of the Sea: Tyrrhenian and Adriatic seas Split between Etruscans, Phoenicians and Phocaeans

Distributor: Per Caso srl

Italy

Producer: Maurizio Giusti

36 minutes

Following a sea battle in which an Etruscan-Phoenician alliance fought Phocaeans Greeks, a treaty engraved on gold plates was found at Pyrgi, near Rome. The battle of Aléria, in what became the Roman *Mare Nostrum* after the 5th century BC, took place at the Corsican locality mentioned by Herodotus. Weakened during the battle, the victorious Phocaeans had to withdraw. The Tyrrhenian Sea then was divided between the winners into two major spheres of influence. Gaining access to important trade networks through the Adriatic Sea, the Etruscans then built the port of Spina, on the Po Delta. This historical and archaeological tour touches three different stages in Lazio, Emilia Romagna and Campania.

***The Bridge Recovered**

Distributor: Py Films

France

Producer: Bertrand Abadie

18 minutes

Dropping into a hidden chamber deep in a South African cave, we explore an unprecedented trove of over 1500 ancient human bones that hold the potential to rewrite the story of our origins. They may help fill a crucial gap in the fossil record and tell us how *Homo*, the human family, emerged from ape-like ancestors like the famous Lucy. Join NOVA on the treacherous descent into this cave of spectacular and enigmatic finds and discover their startling implications for the saga of what makes us human.

Awards/Selections: PBS Broadcast, September 2015.

The Bronze Age

Distributor: ARS ARETE

Slovakia

Producer: Stanislav Manca

30 minutes

What was the life like in the late Bronze Age in Slovakia? This documentary film in three parts, based on the research of an international team of archaeologists, shows what values people of this period preferred. It examines how they lived, worked, and adorned themselves. The first part of the movie, called "The Discovery of the Prehistoric Settlement," represents the path used to discover the major settlement in Slovakia. The second part, "Crafts," examines methods of producing tools, ceramics, woven fabrics, and garments. It also investigates the mystery of bronze smelting. The third part, "The Spiritual Life and Ritual," illuminates funeral rites, shamanism, medicine, sun worship, and sacrificial rituals.

The Charm of the Impossible

Distributor: Edizioni l'Immagine V.le Giulio Cesare

Italy

Producer: Edizioni l'Immagine V.le Giulio Cesare

30 minutes

The film concerns the magnificent lifestyle for disabled people offered by a 93-year-old person who has dedicated his whole life to freeing them from segregation in hidden, dark corners of houses all over Sicily. This is a rare document of the extraordinary energy that a human being is capable of when he has the passion of love in his heart. Luigi Orazio Ferlauto has dedicated all his life to revealing the immense value of every human being.

***Chambord: The Castle, the King and the Architect**

Distributor: Terranoa

France

Producer: Stéphane Milliere, Gedeon Programmes

50 minutes

From the concept of a hunting lodge envisioned by young Francis the First to the masterpiece conceived by an aging Leonardo da Vinci and launched by the noble monarch, this film is an uplifting inquiry on the mysteries of Chambord Castle. These mysteries have remained unsolved for nearly 500 years. Will they finally be solved? Chambord Castle is among the most renowned castles in France's Loire Valley and unlike any other castle. Until now, very little has been known about its origins and the significance of its curious architecture. Did Leonardo da Vinci, who was required by Francis the First to settle in the region, take part in its conception? What is the meaning of the multiple symbols hidden in its sculptures? Through cutting-edge technologies and new archaeological digs, scientists for several years have been conducting a thrilling investigation.

Awards/Selections:

ICRONOS: International Festival of Archaeological Film, Bordeaux, France

Connecting the Past to the Present through Archaeology

Distributor: Idaho National Laboratory

USA

Producer: Chris Morgan, Idaho National Laboratory

11 minutes

On the evening of January 8th, 1944, a B-24 crashed during a nighttime training mission near the Twin Buttes Bombing range, killing all seven men on board. After the initial cleanup and recovery, the crash site was left and forgotten for nearly 70 years until Idaho National Laboratory archaeologists relocated the site. They found a class ring was from 1935 that had the initials 'M.A.H.' engraved on the inside. They found the daughter of the ring's owner, and returned it to her and invited her to visit the crash site and participate in this video.

Conquering Kedarnath: Hiking To The Heavens

Distributor: Sukhmidhey Films

India

Producer: Ajay Jain, Sukhmidhey Films

150 minutes

An ancient land, nestled in the snow-capped Himalayan peaks of Kedarnath, was one of the holiest places in the world for Hindus. This rare film showcases a magical land as it was before being completely wiped out in the North India Flash Floods of 2013. The movie is the last and only comprehensive documentation of a trek to the temple and the surrounding villages. With strong narrative and cinematography, the viewer is immersed in the treacherous trek to Kedarnath, just months before the disaster. As the incredible journey unfolds, travelers uncover deep underlying truth that forms the very essence of our ordinary lives.

The Cutting Edge: Climate and People of the Whale

Distributor: Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.

USA

Producer: Rose High Bear

27 minutes

This film is the second in a series of Climate and Native Wisdom documentary films being produced by the Native American nonprofit, Wisdom of the Elders, Inc. These short documentaries feature climate problems of American Indian and Alaskan Native peoples and their responses to emerging climate issues impacting tribes and their traditional first foods along with their rich cultural arts. *The Cutting Edge* features the Inupiaq people of Alaska. It includes Alaskan Native elders, a whaling captain and cultural leaders from several Arctic villages in Alaska.

The Cyprus Museum

Distributor: Cyprus Pedagogical Institute

Cyprus

Producer: Cyprus Pedagogical Institute

43 minutes

The film portrays the creation of the first archaeological museum of Cyprus in the late 19th century, in Lefkosia, and the later establishment of the Cyprus Museum in the early 20th century. Enriched with archival material from that time, the film depicts the historical development of the island by presenting archaeological sites and finds of the archaeological excavations. These are exhibited in the halls of the Cyprus Museum, covering the period from the early years of human presence on the island (10th Millennium BC) until the Roman period.

Dahaneye Gholaman: Archaeology without Excavation

Distributor: Hossein Foroootan

Iran

Producer: Hossein Foroootan

40 minutes

To many people, archaeology is excavation. But in recent years, technological advancement has provided new methods to archaeologists to study past cultures more accurately. One new method, Archaeo-Geophysics, is used by archaeologists to study sites without excavation. Between 2009 and 2012, a team of Iranian archaeologists conducted four seasons of studies in Dahaneye Gholaman, an Achaemenid city in eastern Iran. Although excavations in the 1960s and 1990s had revealed important information, still many questions remained to be answered about this important site. Because it would take decades to excavate the site, the archaeologists used Archaeo-Geophysical survey to answer their questions without need to dig.

Dance of the Giants: The Wonder of the Sanfermines Festivities

Distributor: Domingo Moreno

Spain

Producer: Domingo Moreno

74 minutes

Dance of the Giants uncovers the magic within festivities. This testimonial and social account of the *Sanfermines*, festivities celebrating Saint Fermin of Pamplona, is told through a group of legendary papier-mache personalities who come to life each year through dance, fantasy and collective memory. This film shows the life and magic of the giants, *kilikis*, (big-heads), and *zaldikos* of the *Comprarsa de Pamplona*, the krewes of Pamplona, that come to life and are true emblems of the city. Archival images of local filmmakers and directors, such as Orson Welles, show the long history and contretemps of the krewes of Pamplona, as well as the evolution of the festivities and society through the years.

Darkened Water

Distributor: Documentary and Experimental Film Center

Iran

Producer: Alireza Dehghan

30 minutes

The famous 120-kilometer *qanat* (Arabic) or *kariz* (Farsi) underground water system (aqueduct) of the Central Desert of Iran is in danger. Named a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2015, this crucial water supply has been in use since at least the 3rd millennium BC. Over 2000 access shafts once watered fields, humans and animals. Recent squabbles over who is responsible, lack (or misappropriation) of funds and a scarcity of skilled workmen are allowing the well system to diminish and become polluted. The viewer follows a pitman as he samples the water along its route. Without its water, many along the route of the aqueduct will suffer or perish.

The Dawn of the Etruscans: Aspects and Evidences of the Villanovan Culture

Distributor: IBC Institute for Cultural and natural and artistic heritage of the Emilia-Romagna Region

Italy

Producer: MediaVision cine&video Italy

26 minutes

Combining living history with archaeological finds preserved in museums in Emilia-Romagna, this documentary presents a picture of daily life between the ninth and seventh centuries BC. It reveals the Villanovan culture characterizing the archaeological identity of a large part of Italy. This film describes Villanovan culture from Campania to the Po Valley, from the Tyrrhenian to the Adriatic Sea, during the early Iron Age. Included are the warrior elite, aristocracy, religion (especially funeral rites), crafts, the role of women, and relationships with other peoples of the Mediterranean. With its roots set in the Villanovan Culture, Etruscan civilization rose within about four centuries, to be one of the major cultures of early Italian history.

***The Destruction of Memory**

Distributor: Autlook Filmsales

USA

Producer: Tim Slade

85 minutes

Over the past century, cultural destruction has brought catastrophic results across the globe. This war against culture is not over - it's been steadily increasing. In Syria and Iraq, the "cradle of civilization," millennia of culture are being destroyed. The push to protect, salvage and rebuild has moved in step with the destruction. Legislation and policy have played a role, but heroic individuals have fought back, risking and losing their lives to protect not just other human beings, but our cultural identity - to save the record of who we are. Based on the book of the same name by Robert Bevan, *The Destruction of Memory* tells the whole story - looking not just at the ongoing actions of Daesh (ISIS) and at other contemporary situations, but revealing the decisions of the past that allowed the issue to remain hidden in the shadows for so many years.

Awards/Selections:

Arquiteturas Film Festival, Lisbon, Portugal

The Diary of Theodore Kracklite

Distributor: Meteores Films

France

Producer: Ariane Metais

16 minutes

Shimmering between science fiction and poetry, this film follows a paleontological expedition from the 1920s, relating the discovery of *Elephas Falconeri*, a dwarf elephant native to the Mediterranean Islands. Found in underwater caverns off Sicily, the fossilized elephant's remains were the size of a small pony. During the Pleistocene, the sea level dropped 120 meters, leaving many new land bridges followed by animals. Finally, however, with global warming, land bridges submerged, trapping the pachyderms which, as Kracklite proposed, therefore diminished in size. Mingling legends of Prometheus, Odysseus and the Cyclops, later Greek settlers on Sicily apparently incorporated ideas about the skulls of *Elephas Falconeri* into their own legends. Dreams and fables thus become a part of reality.

Digging Deeper: Buried Landscapes of Pennsylvania

Distributor: Angela Jaillet-Wentling

Producer: Angela Jaillet-Wentling

USA

25 minutes

This film is a look into the fifty-year practice of the now historic legislation, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, in Pennsylvania. Traveling across the state, from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia with stops along the way, we look at some of the archaeological sites that have helped strengthen and revolutionize our understanding of the potential for buried landscapes beneath our feet. Spanning nearly 16,000 years of human life, we highlight five Pennsylvania archaeological sites, asking the question, "what lies beneath your feet?"

Discovering Trento: Places and Symbols of the Land, Episode 1

Distributor: RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana-Struttura di Programmazione Sede di Trento

Producer: RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana-Struttura di Programmazione Sede di Trento

Italy

18 minutes

Developed in collaboration with the Cultural Activities Service of the Autonomous Province of Trento, this film highlights discoveries in the Trentino-South Tyrol region of Italy. Close to the Austrian border in northern Italy, the hostess, Francesca, is instructed by Dr. Franco Marzatico on the prehistory of the region. Featured in the first episode are Neanderthal and early Homo sapiens remains, stelae from the 3rd century BC, and lake dwellers of the Neolithic. 4/3/2017

Discovering Trento: Places and Symbols of the Land, Episode 2

Distributor: RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana-Struttura di Programmazione Sede di Trento

Producer: RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana-Struttura di Programmazione Sede di Trento

Italy

16 minutes

In the second episode of discovery of the history and culture of the Autonomous Province of Trento, Francesca and Dr. Franco Marzatico take the viewer from the Renaissance castle at Thun back into the earlier history of the Raetians. These people, who knew the Etruscans, were conquered by the Romans in the first century BC. Famous for their wine, the Raetians worked bronze and iron and lived in thatched stone houses. The final stop on the tour is Castello Buonaconsiglio, a Medieval-through-Renaissance mountain outpost in the Trentino-South Tyrol region of Italy.

Discovering Underground Verona: The Archaeological Site of Corte Sgarzerie

Distributor: Soprintendenza Archeologica Belle Arti e Paesaggio per le Province di Verona

Producer: Soprintendenza Archeologica Belle Arti e Paesaggio per le Province di Verona

Italy

15 minutes

Scipione Maffei, a famous erudite who lived in Verona in 1700, takes us through the scrupulous and complex anastylosis work of the Capitolium. What remains of the old Roman Forum can be found today in cellars and caves under the center of Verona, Piazza delle Erbe. The result is a journey that begins and ends in the small but precious archaeological site which lies below Sgarzerie Court, where you can admire the great fallen vaults in the cryptoporticus and the subsequent medieval additions. Through the historical phases, from the Roman settlement to nowadays, we can see the reconstructed structures of the Capitolium and the subsequent stages of ruin.

The Dolomites: Mountains, People and Their Stories

Distributor: Fondazione Dolomiti-Dolomiten-Dolomites-Dolomitis UNESCO

Producer: Land Comunicazioni s.r.l.

Italy

52 minutes

In 2009, UNESCO chose nine Dolomite groups in northern Italy as a World Heritage Site because of their sublime beauty and scientific value. They are the model for all dolomitic mountains in the world. In this journey among the extraordinary landscapes of the Pale Mountains, the viewer discovers their exceptional importance for the history of earth and listens to the stories of the men and women who shaped the landscape through their hard work. The long gestation of the Dolomites covered 280 million years of eruptions, extinctions, rising seas, rain forests, and glaciation periods. The story recounts crazed mineral hunters, unsolved murders, ancient human remains, and long-gone reptiles. It is the story of the world.

Efisia Pischedda: Memories of an Antiquarian

Distributor: Antiquarium of Oristano

Producer: Comune di Oristano and Consulmedia

Italy

13 minutes

Working for pleasure in the late 1800s, the lawyer, Efisia Pischedda, collected and catalogued more than 6400 Sardinian artifacts. The first of two parts of this presentation is a reference overview of archaeology of the Mediterranean and its relations with Sardinia. The second part, set in 1893, is a conversation between Pischedda and Prof. Friedrich von Duhn of Heidelberg University, which illuminates not only Oristano archaeological history, but also contemporary personalities such as Schliemann, Belzoni, Champollion, Carter, and many others. Great visual effects include 3-D reconstructions of major Sardinian archaeological sites such as a Neolithic village near Cabras, Nuraghe (Tower) Losa of Abbasanta village, and the Roman city of Tharros.

Fight Masters: Silat

Distributor: National Film Development Corporation

Producer: Justin Ong Petaling Jaya

Malaysia

46 minutes

An American Navy fighter journeys to earn his final honor in the ancient martial art of *Silat*, once reserved only for Asians. Shot and produced in full high definition, *Fight Masters: Silat* uses cutting-edge motion capture and CGI to deconstruct the science behind the fast and powerful moves that form the deadly art of *Silat*.

***The Enigma of the Great Menhir**

Distributor: *Belaine- Anne Littardi*

France

Producer: *Fred Hilgemann Films*

52 minutes

Seven thousand years ago, peoples along Europe's Atlantic shores erected thousands of big standing stones, on which they carved mysterious signs. Among them was the Great Menhir, a 330-ton giant that once stood on the shore of the Gulf of Morbihan in French Brittany. An international team of scientists led by the French archaeologist Serge Cassen succeeded in deciphering the symbolic language of those stones. Between history and myth, those ancient signs tell us a story common to all Atlantic cultures during late prehistory: the story of the first sailors!

Awards/Selections:

TV broadcast on France 3, 2016

Amiens Festival of Archaeological Film, Amiens, France, 2016

International Short Film Festival, Clermont-Ferrand, France, 2016

TV broadcast on France 5, 2016

Archaeological Film Festival of Narbonne, France, 2016

ICRONOS: International Festival of Archaeological Film, Bordeaux, France, 2016

AGON: International Meeting of Archaeological Film of the Mediterranean Area, Athens, Greece

International Review of Archaeological Cinema, Rovereto, Italy, 2016

Arkhaios Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, 2016

***The Experts Travel Back in Time: The Neolithic Ages**

Distributor: *Doncoila Productions*

France

Producer: *Pierre-Emmanuel Lyet*

4 minutes

The series *The Experts Travel Back in Time* is a stratigraphic and humorous introduction to some great periods of humanity in western Europe, through the daily lives of the men and women who have gone before us. One important period was the Neolithic Age. Having lived nomadically as hunter-gatherers in the Stone Age, humans of the Neolithic Age began settling down as farmers and gradually became attached to their new homes. This transition to fixed homes led them to build villages and raise livestock in order to sustain growing communities.

Awards/Selections:

ICRONOS: International Festival of Archaeological Film, Bordeaux, France, 2016

***Fatal Alchemy**

Distributor: *British Medical Journal*

UK

Producer: *Martin Freeth*

13 minutes

Miracle beauty products may be a staple Christmas present today, but they're not a recent invention. Diane de Poitiers, a French noble woman and mistress of Henry II of France, tried to use gold to preserve her looks—in alchemical law, gold was immutable, and alchemists and apothecaries created various potions to pass this gift on to their customers. This short film is about a French research team's investigations of Diane's remains and its discovery that the gold and other minerals she used to preserve her youth were actually slowly poisoning her. The researchers were Philippe Charlier of the Raymond Poincaré Hospital in Garches and Joël Poupon of the Lariboisière Hospital in Paris. Filming was also done in the Louvre Museum in Paris and at the Château d'Anet, where Diane de Poitiers lived. Lilley Mitchell stars as the ghost of Diane.

Awards/Selections:

French TV, 2011

Fish Listeners of Setiu Lagoons

Distributor: *National Film Development Corporation*

Malaysia

Producer: *Nanditasolomon Petaling Jaya*

47 minutes

The fish listeners are unique to Malay fishing culture. While only a handful of fish listeners are alive today, only Pak Harun still makes a living in this manner. He is currently teaching his son, Polo, the art of fish listening. The film explores his art and his knowledge of the fish he hunts and the sea where he works. Interviews with two retired fish listeners augment Pak Harun's descriptions of his art.

***A Footnote in Ballet History**

Distributor: *So Freakantastik*

France, USA, Saudi Arabia, Egypt

Producer: *Olivier Delesse, Hisham Abdel Khalek, Saad Bin Mobammed, Wanny Yazan*

117 minutes

The establishment of the art of classical ballet in Egypt under the auspices of the state during the Cold War is at the heart of an extraordinary saga, narrated here by its first pioneers. Prima ballerina Magda Saleh and fellow dancers known as the Bolshoi Five recall the founding of the first national ballet school, staffed with Soviet teachers—the early triumphs, collapse and renewed hopes over five decades. The film is a tribute to a group of determined women who have been at the forefront of the struggle to revive the Egyptian art scene from Magda Saleh's founding of Cairo's New Opera House to her support today for the Egyptian diaspora in the United States and the initiatives of her students who now carry the torch in Egypt.

Awards/Selections:

3rd best documentary in Pan-African Festival of Cinema and Television of Ouagadougou (FESPACO) 2017

Forever a Pearl**Distributor:** *M-DOCS*

Indonesia

Producer: *Syaiful Halim*

23 minutes

Forever a Pearl is a film dedicated to Rasinah, Maestro of Indramayu Mask Dance. This film creates a portrait of Rasinah's life, including her family, students, her dancing, and her developmental stages. The focus of the work is a woman's struggle with her artistic instincts. Strategic issues incorporated in this film include feminism, identity and minority status.

Fort Ancient*Distributor:** *Camera One*

USA

Producer: *Camera One*

42 minutes

Imagine a traffic jam of the largest commercially available dump trucks. Now, imagine that bumper to bumper line-up, each truck heaped high with earth, extending for over 400 miles! Welcome to the largest single construction project in ancient America: Fort Ancient. Over 200 years have passed since American explorers encountered the mysterious, giant, earthen walls overlooking Ohio's Little Miami River. The name Fort Ancient is correct in one respect: it is truly ancient. Work began 2,100 years ago, but it's doubtful that it was ever intended to be a fort. Instead, this was a giant ceremonial center designed to draw people in, rather than repel them. High-tech archaeology is revealing long-buried features. Now, for the first time, some of what has mystified observers for two centuries is starting to make sense. Here is a complex astronomical observatory, a New World Stonehenge, and much, much more!

Awards/Selections:

Arkhaio Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, 2016

A Gigantic Jigsaw Puzzle: The Epicurean Inscription of Diogenes of Oinoanda*Distributor:** *Nazim Guveloglu*

Turkey

Producer: *The Middle East Technical University*

33 minutes

The Ancient City of Oinoanda, close to Fethiye, Turkey, hosts presumably the largest philosophical inscription of the ancient world. The inscription, 65 to 80 meters long, was constructed by Diogenes of Oinoanda so as to convey Epicurean philosophy to the next generations and city's visitors. The film focuses on the efforts to pursue this aim of Diogenes. Epicurean approaches to concepts such as pleasure, happiness, friendship, dreams, and gods are discussed around the peculiarities of research history. As senior researcher Martin Ferguson Smith puts it, the content of the inscription applies surprisingly well to the problems of contemporary society.

Awards/Selections:

Ankara International Film Festival, Ankara, Turkey, 2013

Turkish National Television Documentary Awards, 2013

Cinarchea: International Archaeology Film and Art Festival, Brandenburg, Germany, 2013

Cannes Film Festival, France, 2013

Special Mention, Boston Turkish Film Festival, USA, 2013

Third Prize, International Archaeology Film Festival, Split, Croatia, 2016

Arkeolan: International Archaeological Film Festival of the Bidasoa, Irun, Spain, 2016

Award for Originality, AGON: International Meeting of Archaeological Film of the Mediterranean Area, Athens, Greece, 2016

God's House*Distributor:** *Fazlollah Tari*

Iran

Producer: *Fazlollah Tari*

32 minutes

The Atigh Jame Mosque—the oldest mosque in Shiraz, Iran, and one of the oldest in the country—is the subject of this documentary. Begun in AD 894 under the short-lived Saffarid dynasty of Iran, this mosque has been rebuilt and restored many times. The story begins with the birth of the mosque and continues to the present. A square-shaped building stands out in the center of this mosque. This building is God's House, a unique structure in which people used to keep holy books. The film describes the good times and bad times of the mosque—and God's House—throughout its history.

Awards/Selections:

Best Documentary, Iranian Broadcast Film Festival, 2013

Shanghai Film Festival, 2016

International Review of Archaeological Cinema, Rovereto, Italy, 2013

Best Cinematography, Rouyesh International Film Festival, Iran, 2015

Nominated for best research, Tehran International Short Film Festival, Iran, 2014

The Grand Masters of the Chauvet Cave*Distributor:** *Andana Films*

France

Producer: *Andana Films*

52 minutes

A team of artists, visual artists and prehistorians was appointed to oversee the creation of the Pont d'Arc Cavern, a detailed replica of Chauvet Cave. The film follows the Catalan painter Miquel Barcelò as he observes and comments on the work of the artists while they create the reproductions. Going back and forth between the original Cave and the Cavern, the film gives the viewer an exceptional feeling of intimacy with the paintings and drawings. It enables us to feel their emotional power and understand the incredible techniques used by artists in deep prehistoric time. Here, one is facing the works of great masters whose art can be compared to that of Rembrandt and the surrealist, Miro.

Awards/Selections:

Audience Prize, International Review of Archaeological Cinema, Rovereto, Italy, 2015

International Festival of Films On Art, Montreal, Canada, 2016

Amiens Festival of Archaeological Film, Amiens, France, 2016

International Festival of Science Documentary Films of Olomouc, Czech Republic, 2016

***Gyptis: A Greco-Massalian Boat Dating back to the 6th Century BC**

Distributor: *Antoine Chene*

France

Producer: *Antoine Chene*

64 minutes

In 1993, as a result of archaeological excavations conducted close to the old port of Marseille, France, the remains of an archaic Greek boat dating back 2600 years were discovered. After conducting archaeological studies and during the restoration of the original ship, the naval archaeological team from the Centre Camille Jullian at Aix-Marseille University decided to construct a navigable replica of the original boat. *Gyptis*, as it was baptized, was entirely made with techniques used in archaic times, allowing the researchers to recover the craftsmanship used by marine carpenters used during this period. To determine its navigating potential and to better understand the way it worked, the boat was launched in the waters of the Old Port of Marseille in 2013. Today it can be seen sailing the same waters it sailed 2600 years ago.

***Himera: The Temple of Victory**

Distributor: *Himera Archaeological Park, Italy*

Italy

Producer: *Himera Archaeological Park, Italy*

11 minutes

On June 30, 2016, the Italian town of Termini Imerese inaugurated a new Antiquarium which joins the Archaeological Museum and highlights the Temple of Victory in the nearby ancient Greek city of Himera. The exhibits cover findings such as the burial of 10,000 riders with their horses, a unique event in the history of Greek archaeology in Sicily. The film illustrates the epic moments of the battle, the victorious ending with the construction of the Temple of Victory, the subsequent defeat and destruction of Himera in 408 BC, and the archaeological excavations from the 19th century to today.

His Majesty

Distributor: *Mohammad Al-Hadari*

Egypt

Producer: *Mohammad Al-Hadari*

11 minutes

In this dramatic production, Magdy has left his job in Egypt and lives away from his family. He faces poverty and debt so he can pursue his dream: the theater. He is cast as Pharaoh in a play. However, a message from his daughter puts him on a crossroads and now he has to face reality. The viewer is left wondering whether going abroad to work in something besides theater is the only option for this make-believe king.

Home, Sweet Trapezoidal Home

Distributor: *Faculty of Dramatic Arts*

Serbia

Producer: *Faculty of Dramatic Arts*

38 minutes

This film takes us over the waters of the Danube to the Iron Gates, where 8000 years ago mankind made one of the first known steps in architecture. In a meditative form, we explore a new perspective in understanding of the Lepenski Vir type house brought to us by Dusan Boric, a young professor of prehistoric archaeology at Cardiff University.

***Honey Hunters**

Distributor: *National Film Development Corporation Malaysia (FINAS)*

Malaysia

Producer: *Ira Rakiz Tuffile*

24 minutes

In the rainforests of Malaysia, the Tualang tree stands high above all others, hosting hives of Asiatic Giant Bees that pollinate hundreds of plant species. Once a year, 85-year-old rice farmer Salleh Mohammad Nor and his team of honey hunters set out to scale these 60 meter tall trees in the forests of Pedu, Kedah. They only have a brief window of time to harvest their prize: one of the highest grades of honey in the world. Steeped in traditional beliefs and practices, the honey hunters take us on a journey to discover how ancient know-how may offer the key to understanding the science behind the giant bees.

Hunter

Distributor: *Documentary and Experimental Film Center*

Iran

Producer: *Karby Jabangiri*

44 minutes

Addressing contemporary problems of wildlife conservation, *Hunter* tackles the long-established Iranian tradition of game hunting. The film opens with a father whose daughter convinces him of the cruelty of killing small birds. Interviews with hunters, guides, park rangers, and gun salesmen highlight the difficulties of curbing a tradition dating back centuries. Iranians, however, are beginning to realize that, without constraint, many species of birds and animals will disappear forever. Conservation, education, government regulation, and active policing are helping turn public awareness towards the problem. The father of the young heroine publicly destroys his hunting rifle and bird cages, emphasizing his commitment to conservation.

***Iceman Reborn**

Distributor: *PBS*

USA

Producers: *Bonnie Brennan, Paula Apsell, Julia Cort, Chris Schmidt*

53 minutes

He was stalked, attacked and left to die alone. Murdered more than 5,000 years ago, Oetzi the Iceman is Europe's oldest known natural mummy. Miraculously preserved in glacial ice, his remarkably intact remains continue to provide scientists, historians and archaeologists with groundbreaking discoveries about a crucial time in human history. But in order to protect him from contamination, this extraordinary body has been locked away, out of reach, in a frozen crypt—until now. NOVA joins renowned artist paleo-sculptor Gary Staab as he has been granted rare access into the Iceman's frozen lair. Gary has been charged with creating an exact replica of the mummy, which scientists and the public alike then can study up close and in person. As we see the Iceman's rebirth from 3D printing, resin, clay, and paint, new revelations about Oetzi's life and legacy come to light, including surprising secrets hidden in his genetic code.

I'm Branko by Surname Fucic

Distributor: *Istra Film*

Croatia

Producer: *Tiba Modric, Istra Film*

36 minutes

This documentary tells a poetic and contemplative story of Branko Fučić, the most respectful Croatian researcher of *glagolitic* letters (the oldest known Slavic script), and frescoes. His work in the second half of the twentieth century has illuminated the art history of southeast Europe. Fučić is a scientist who made ancient people, past events and time closer to us in an interesting and simple manner.

***The Inevitable Evolution of Fort Frederick**

Distributor: *Anthony Koelker*

USA

Producer: *Anthony Koelker*

27 minutes

Nine historians and archaeologists follow the colonial fort's 250-year long lineage. Combine scientists with the written record and you have a pretty complete picture. In early 2015, archaeologists from the University of South Carolina's Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology undertook a month-long excavation of this poorly designed and built colonial fort made of tabby. Fort Frederick in Port Royal, South Carolina, held buried secrets about the site's long occupation. More than a century after its original construction, the crumbling tabby fort remarkably became the site of a monumental event in our nation's history—the first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation in the Confederate States. *The Inevitable Evolution of Fort Frederick* is the story of the site's transformation over the span of three centuries.

Awards/Selections:

Arkhaios Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, 2016

Interdisciplinarity at the Service of Archaeology. The Mural Paintings of the Roman Necropolis of Cumae

Distributor: *Centre Jean Berard*

Italy

Producer: *Centre Jean Berard*

28 minutes

In the Roman necropolis of the Porta Mediana in Cuma in Naples, Italy, an important multidisciplinary project was created using a set of wall paintings from one of the best preserved monuments of the third century B.C. Launched between 2012 and 2014, the project brought together specialists of several disciplines from different countries. It was also an opportunity to train students in the field and allow them to meet teachers and other professionals in the humanities and natural sciences. This documentary follows the evolution of a program whose purpose is the preservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage.

The Journeys of Amphora and Professor Heinrich Dressel

Distributor: *Roma Capitale, Superintendent of Cultural Heritage*

Italy

Producer: *Roma Capitale, Superintendent of Cultural Heritage*

9 minutes

In 1878, a worker of the Municipal Archaeological Commission in Rome near Castro Pretorio, discovers a cobbled floor, uncovering a huge deposit of intact amphorae. This short film explores the work of Heinrich Dressel, the German epigrapher urgently called to record the inscriptions on the amphorae, each having a specific story, which must be translated and interpreted. After his arduous research, Heinrich Dressel develops a descriptive table, the "Dressel Table," inaugurating a new research tradition. Today, from Rome's Museum of the Imperial Forums to the Markets of Trajan, those same amphorae make their last journey, accompanied by new workers, towards the definitive museum exhibition.

Kayeh

Distributor: *Raytonefilm Company*

Iran

Producer: *Keivan MobseniGerash*

15 minutes

The kayeh is a kind of scarf with different designs and ornaments, which is traditionally worn around infants' and small children's heads. This documentary film shows the process of making the kayeh as practiced by an old woman from Gerash, a small town in the south of Iran. The film also shows her serene and peaceful life with her husband. They happen to be the filmmaker's grandparents, too!

The Kelp Highway

Distributor: *Alexander Wowra*

USA/Germany

Producer: *Alexander Wowra*

11 minutes

For generations, scientists believed the first people to reach the Americas crossed a frozen land bridge between Siberia and Alaska. *The Kelp Highway* investigates the now-current hypothesis of several California- and Oregon-based marine scientists and archaeologists, including Dr. Jon Erlandson of the University of Oregon, who suggest that the first people reached the North American continent from northeastern Asia via the Pacific coast following the kelp forests of the north Pacific.

The Killing of the Basque Whalers

Distributor: *Subar*

Spain

Producer: *Subar*

79 minutes

In June 1615, 86 Basque whalers, captained by Martin de Villafranca, Pedro de Aguirre and Esteban de Telleria, sailed to the cold waters of northern Iceland, where they were involved in the country's darkest episode—the biggest massacre in Iceland's history. Thirty-two basque whalers were brutally murdered. Why did it happen? *The Killing of the Basque Whalers* follows the story of a group of archaeologists who traveled to Iceland four centuries later looking for clues that may help to explain the massacre.

Landing

Distributor: *Produzioni Cinematografiche Chora TV*

Italy

Producer: *Produzioni Cinematografiche Chora TV*

7 minutes

This film tells about Greek exiles of Magna Graeca in Cilento, a region on Italy's west coast, south of Salerno. Focusing on the foundation of Elea (Hyele or Velia in Italian), it shows Greek refugees fleeing Phocaea in Turkey, producing both glamorous buildings and the famous philosophers, Parmenides and Zeno. Elea disappeared, but the Greeks remained, though further upstream and as Christians. Survivors of iconoclastic fury, monks followed Basil, a Byzantine Greek Orthodox saint. The exiled Basilians were also promoters of civilization; the track of their passage is scattered throughout the Cilento area of Campania.

The Last Frontier

Distributor: *Rai Com e Rai Cinema*

Italy

Producer: *Rai Com e Rai Cinema*

73 minutes

BR-230 Transamazon is about 5,000 kilometers of dirt road through the rainforest. The intention of the Brazilian Military Government was to allow colonization of the Amazon. Marucs, a former gold miner who became an Evangelical pastor, has traveled the road hundreds of times, coming to know all its angles and stories. A journey into memory and places of colonization, this film is a journey about the human beings who have populated the deep forest. Set among cowboys, hunters and illegal gold miners, we discover the deeper meaning of the Border as a place where everything is possible; an endless dream.

Live From UB

Distributor: *Documentary Educational Resources*

USA

Producer: *Dulguun Bayasgalan*

83 minutes

The film shows the viewer a side of Mongolia that is often overlooked in international media. The capital, Ulaanbaatar (UB for short), is home to half the country's population, its financial epicenter, and backdrop for its ever-growing vibrant rock music scene. Interspersed throughout are exclusive interviews with a range of Mongolian music industry experts, rock and pop stars, anthropologists, and heads of state. The development of modern Western music styles in Mongolia parallels its history. Highlighted by rare archival footage, the film follows one young rock band as they struggle with what it means to be Mongolian in the 21st century.

Living on Heritage: Amerindian Presence in Haiti

Distributor: *Till Sonnemann and Joseph Sony Jean*

Netherlands

Producer: *Till Sonnemann and Joseph Sony Jean*

9 minutes

How has the Amerindian heritage influenced life in the village of Meillac in Haiti's Northeastern Department? Haiti's rich history is still very present in the region. Archaeological evidence ranges from the archaic Amerindian settlements to ruins of colonial occupation and Haitian independence. The idea to make a short documentary developed only after reviewing the interviews and footage conducted as part of the Nexus 1492 research project. With music by Erol Josie, the film is entirely in Haitian Creole and subtitled in English.

A Looming Past

Distributor: *Sasbi Sivramkrishna*

India

Producer: *Sasbi Sivramkrishna*

54 minutes

A Looming Past weaves together a multi-layered narrative of the lives of traditional coarse blanket makers in a small southern Indian village in Karnataka State, Yaravarahalli. This documentary not only shows the ancient process of blanket weaving but also subtly reveals the relationship between the weaver and shepherd as well as the weaver and trader, all of whom belong to the same broadly-defined caste, the *Kuruba*. This film is an attempt to capture the sights and sounds of an ancient occupation in its contemporary and increasingly frayed context and at a critical juncture in its long and textured history.

*The Lost City of Cecil B. DeMille

Distributor: *Peter L. Brosnan and Daniel J. Coplan*

USA

Producer: *Peter L. Brosnan and Daniel J. Coplan*

88 minutes

Have you seen "The Ten Commandments" with Charlton Heston? Did you know that in 1923 Cecil B. DeMille made a silent version of "The Ten Commandments"? He shot the film in Santa Barbara County, California, about 150 miles north of Hollywood, and built a huge City of the Pharaoh set. Designed by Paul Iribe, the "Father of Art Deco," it was the largest set in motion picture history. When filming wrapped, the city mysteriously vanished. In 1982 Peter Brosnan was sitting in a bar and someone told him that there were ancient Egyptian sphinxes buried somewhere in the California Dunes. It sparked his imagination and he embarked on what turned out to be a thirty-year battle to prove the existence of these sphinxes and the discovery of the Lost City, culminating in the world's first archaeological excavation of a movie set.

Awards/Selections:

Santa Barbara International Film Festival, 2016

Rhode Island International Film Festival, 2016

Montreal World Film Festival, 2016

Mask Dance of Sujana Arja

Distributor: *M-DOCS*

Indonesia

Producer: *Syaiful Halim*

9 minutes

This film relates the philosophy of Indonesian mask dance (*topeng*), with dancer Sujana Arja as maestro of this art. Reflecting the varied tapestry of Indonesia's history at the crossroads of trade and culture, *topeng* attempts to render the complexities and contradictions of human nature through stock characters. Sujana demonstrates dances and explains the meaning of each dance.

Memories and Songs

Distributor: *Stela Papastefanou*

Greece

Producer: *Stela Papastefanou*

41 minutes

In search of the history of a language—Judeo-Spanish—which is little used nowadays and survives mainly through songs, the film explores melodies that used to fill the alleys of the city of Thessalonika, Greece. In order to approach the tradition of a nowadays vastly diminished ethnic group, the film presents the Jewish Community Choir of Thessalonika. Ranging wider, *Memories and Songs* is actually a documentary about the history and culture of the Mediterranean.

*Mia

Distributor: *Winnipeg Film Group*

Canada

Producer: *Spotted Fawn Productions Inc*

9 minutes

In this imaginative animated short film, a young Indigenous female street artist named Mia walks through the city streets painting scenes rooted in the supernatural history of her people. Lacking cultural resources and familial connection within the city, she paints these images from intuition and blood memory. She has not heard the stories from her Elders' lips, but has found her own methods to rediscover them. The alleyways become her sanctuary and secret gallery, and her art comes to life. Mia is pulled into her own transformation via the vessel of a salmon. In the struggle to return home, she traverses through polluted waters and skies, witnessing various forms of industrial violence and imprint that have occurred upon the land.

Awards/Selections:

Regent Park Film Festival, Toronto, Ontario, 2016

Kassel Documentary Film and Video Festival, Kassel, Germany, 2016

Underexposed Film Festival, Rock Hill, South Carolina, 2016

Surrey Film Festival, Simon Fraser University, Surrey, British Columbia, 2016

Innsbruck Nature Film Festival, Innsbruck, Austria, 2016

Native Spirit Festival, London, 2016

Visual Voices, Chongqing, China, 2016

Vancouver Latin American Film Festival, British Columbia, 2016

Native Cinema Showcase, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 2016

Open Air Filmfest Weiterstadt, Germany, 2016

Asinabka Film and Media Arts Festival, Ottawa, Ontario, 2016

Toronto Animated Image Society Showcase, 2016

*My Name is Salt

Distributor: *Documentary Educational Resources*

India

Producer: *Farida Pacha*

96 minutes

Year after year, 40,000 village members, including Sanabhai and his family, migrate to a seasonal saline desert in Gujarat, India. Here, they harvest what they proudly proclaim to be the world's whitest salt, using the same painstaking, manual techniques as generations before them. Hardship and exploitation loom large in this film, but director Farida Pacha lets this speak for itself, instead fixing her gaze on the poetry and ritual of Sanabhai and his family's existence. Exquisite camerawork and a haunting score help Pacha expose the austere beauty of the subject.

Mystic Mass

Distributor: *Documentary Educational Resources*

Canada/Lebanon

Producer: *Karim B Haroun Marina Klimoff*

70 minutes

Every year, thousands of Shia Muslims meet in the village of Nabatiyyeh in Lebanon, to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Hussein, assassinated in AD 680. It is by far the most important religious event in the Shia faith, and leads to the formation of immense mass movements all around the world. Mystic Mass documents the ceremony and provides an exhaustive description of how the Mass is formed. It explores how the group attains its highest mystical levels and how it dissolves—all within a period of twenty-four hours.

*Naachtun: The Forgotten Mayan City

Distributor: *Les Films a Cinq*

France

Producer: *Les Films a Cinq*

54 minutes

Naachtun is the last city of the Maya golden age. We know little about it, as archaeologists started to excavate it just a few years ago. The researchers are trying to understand how this city, isolated in the middle of the tropical forest of Guatemala, can have survived for almost 200 years after the collapse of the Maya civilization in surrounding cities. In this effort they are shedding new light on the history of the Maya people. Employing ambitious resources, including 4K HD cameras, drones and cutting-edge graphics results in an exciting adventure combined with an in-depth scientific study. This documentary turns into an account of an epic saga.

*Nowruz in Tajikistan

Distributor: *Documentary and Experimental Film Center*

Iran

Producer: *Documentary and Experimental Film Center*

30 minutes

Tajikistan's biggest annual celebration is the spring festival of Nowruz, literally "New Day." Nowruz marks the beginning of the Persian New Year, which starts at the spring equinox. The roots of the festival are Zoroastrian—the religion of the Persians before they converted to Islam. For the Tajiks, Nowruz represents a festival of friendship and renewal of all living beings. Jumping over the fire on the last Wednesday of the year is practiced by the Tajiks as well. One tradition that has survived in Tajikistan is the gathering of wildflowers by children in the villages. They bring the flowers back and, while wearing colorful attire, walk around the village, knock on people's doors and present them each with a flower. This happens one week before Nowruz and is an occasion for many old folk songs that are sung by the children during the event.

Of Memory and Forgetting

Distributor: *Ducks & Drakes*

Producer: *Fabien Massard*

France
52 minutes

In 2013, archaeologists of the National Institute for Preventive Archaeological Research (INRAP), explored a forgotten cemetery in a district north of Marseille. Beyond the scientific documentation of the dead bodies, the film explores our own relationship to finiteness. Reflecting from the margins, this film inquires about the possibility of our links within a changing society.

Old Friend

Distributor: *Haider Hazim*

Producer: *Haider Hazim*

Iraq
5 minutes

Aran is an Iraqi private who is wounded in his leg during a battle. Following his injury, he hides in a Christian house to get first aid. Then he discovers that house has been captured by ISIS militants. He decides to commit suicide. Then, however, he meets his old friend. Does his friend save him?

On the Road of the Elephants

Distributor: *Ce.R.D.O. (Research Center on Eastern Desert)*

Producer: *Ce.R.D.O. (Research Center on Eastern Desert)*

Italy
35 minutes

The film documents an archaeological research project carried out by the brothers Alfredo and Angelo Castiglioni in Sudan and Eritrea. In the temple of Massawat es-Sufra, in the Nubian desert, the researchers find evidence that the temple was once the training place of elephants for war. Traveling along the probable itinerary followed by the pachyderms to the embarkation ports of the Red Sea, the Castiglioni find further confirmations for their hypothesis.

Painter of Wind

Distributor: *Documentary and Experimental Film Center*

Producer: *Ezzatollah Parvazeh*

Iran
45 minutes

Born into the Qashqai Turkish tribe in northern Iran, Bijan Bahadori Kashkooli is a world-renowned self-taught Iranian painter. In this film, he is an old man cared for by his daughter. When a boy, Bijan absorbed the unique culture and life-style of his mother's family, learning Persian only after he grew up. In the 1950s, Bahadori became an art teacher in schools opened to teach the same nomadic Qashqai. We meet his son, Hooman, and nephew, Siroos, who are both artists. Bijan's naive painting style depicts his life of fifty years ago and is a valuable anthropological record. Interviews with contemporary "Black Tent" nomads confirm the importance of Bahadori's paintings for preserving a way of life.

***Prayers Long Silent**

Distributor: *Nanyang Technological University Singapore*

Producer: *Dan Frodsham*

UK
27 minutes

Prayers Long Silent charts the work of an international team of researchers and conservators as they attempt to restart the conservation of medieval wall paintings in Famagusta, Cyprus. These have suffered from decades of neglect resulting from the island's political troubles, involving the location of Famagusta within Northern Cyprus, a self-declared state recognized only by Turkey. Amongst the many challenges facing the team are a church where the frescoes are covered in a thick layer of cement, along with the ever-present threat that conservation will again be halted by political pressures.

Ranthambhor: The Untold Saga

Distributor: *Rituraj Devaang Jain*

Producer: *Rituraj Devaang Jain*

India
58 minutes

This is the story of Ranthambhor: the invincible fort, and the valiant forgotten hero, Maharaja Hammir Dev Chauhan. For the first time, pioneering research on archaeology and history reveals one of India's most ancient forts, which is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This untold saga of India's most impregnable fort showcases a living representative of India's glorious history and culture. A powerful vocal narrative of rare endangered ancient India, Dhrupad music by the only female Rajasthani Dhrupad singer, Dr. Madhu Bhatt Tailang, enriches the film. By showcasing these glorious representatives of a distant past, the film seeks to raise mass awareness towards the conservation of India's rich ancient heritage and culture.

Reconstructing Hawthorne

Distributor: *George Wingard*

Producer: *George Wingard*

USA
26 minutes

Its story was lost, but this short documentary on the small community of Hawthorne in Aiken County, South Carolina, will draw the viewer into the tumultuous times of Cold War 1950s and the construction of the Savannah River nuclear site. Hawthorne's handful of residents were removed. In mid-December 2014, the Savannah River Archaeological Program, partnering with filmmaker Patrick Hayes, used interviews with two of Hawthorne's last residents, historical documents, photos, and archaeology to ensure the protection of the area for future generations. For all who lived in this small community, the project was completely unexpected and all-encompassing.

Remembering Yayayi

Distributor: *Documentary Educational Resources*

Australia

Producer: *Pip Deveson, Ian Dunlop, Fred Myers*

57 minutes

Escaping life in government settlements, the Pintupi people moved to remote central Australia, to Yayayi, where film maker Ian Dunlop visited in 1974. Ian was tracking the lives of people he photographed ten years earlier. In 2006, anthropologist Fred Myers took the old footage to show to Pintupi now living on their own land at Kintore and Kiwirrkura. There, Marlene Nampitjinpa, a lively young girl in the original, was delighted with scenes of her family thirty years ago. Looking back at the transition period as Pintupi people struggled to take control of their destiny draws attention to the value of archival material for contemporary indigenous people.

Rigoberta Menchu: Daughter of the Maya

Distributor: *Gravitas*

USA

Producer: *Ivan Swanjjeff*

62 minutes

This is the story of an unlikely hero, a poor peasant Maya girl living in a remote section of Guatemala, who survived a genocide and became a voice for her people across the world. The film shares the story of 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Rigoberta Menchu. Documenting her extraordinary life, this film highlights Rigoberta's early work on plantations and the loss of her entire family at the hands of military rulers. Continuing to fight in spite of her losses, Rigoberta was finally forced to flee to Mexico, where her story was subsequently published. At the end of the 36-year Guatemalan civil war, Rigoberta took her case against government officials to Spain.

Roman Mining Technology

Distributor: *Rua da Escola*

Portugal

Producer: *Faculty of Archaeology*

20 minutes

One of the most important gold mining areas in the entire Roman Empire is found in northern Portugal. Many of the most valuable coins minted in Rome during the first and second centuries AD had gold mined from this territory. Impressive marks of this exploration and the technology employed can still be observed on the site. Huge work areas in the open, deep galleries and a complex network of hydraulic channels still make quite an impression nowadays for their size and state of conservation-- the most fascinating of Roman Portugal.

The Route of Columbus: Historic Importance and Heritage

Distributor: *Till Sonnemann*

Netherlands

Producer: *Till Sonnemann*

10 minutes

The Route of Columbus addresses the significance of indigenous knowledge for Columbus and his crew in their first expeditions into the interior of the island of Hispaniola. The Spaniards would have passed close by El Flaco, the current focus of research for Nexus 1492. There, Dominican participants share their thoughts on the excavation of the site, one of many Indigenous settlements recorded by drone as part of the project.

Sardinia Cosmic Megalith

Distributor: *Ilario Godani*

Italy

Producer: *Ilario Godani*

30 minutes

Around 1850 B.C. a mysterious and advanced culture flourished on the island of Sardinia, understood now as an evolved civilization called the Nuragic. The megalith sites of the Nuragics show the greatness and scientific knowledge that this civilization had achieved, but behind the stones there is much more. Bioenergy, archaeoastronomy, subtle energies, and astonishing new theories of scientists from all over the world blend in a journey between Heaven and Earth, past and future, in the timeless treasures of Sardinia.

*Sailing a Sinking Sea

Distributor: *Documentary Educational Resources*

Thailand

Producer: *Olivia Wyatt*

65 minutes

This is a feature-length experimental documentary exploring the culture of the Moken people of Burma and Thailand. The Moken are a seafaring community and one of the smallest ethnic minority groups in Asia, traditionally spending eight months out of the year in thatched-roofed wooden boats. As these people are wholly reliant upon the sea, their entire belief system revolves around water. *Sailing a Sinking Sea* weaves a visual and aural tapestry of Moken mythologies and present-day practices. As a viewer you will swim under the sea past fishes and mermaids, sail boats across turquoise waters, land on thirteen different islands, step inside sea shanties on stilts, delve into the minds of shamans, become possessed through the worship of sea gods, dance between lovers, and emerge drenched in Moken mythology.

The Secret Language of Gesture: Works and Studies of Paola Marzano

Distributor: *Paola Marzano*

Italy

Producer: *Paola Marzano*

24 minutes

This project analyses the *Sarcophagus of the Spouses* (seventh century BC), a beautiful and famous Etruscan artwork in the collection of the Etruscan Museum of Rome's Villa Giulia. Starting from hypotheses of the eastern origin of this people, the study analyses the gestures of their hands forming a secret, hermetic language connecting different eras and cultures. Reflecting mutual love between spouses, the gesture shows the respect and consideration enjoyed by Etruscan women. In fact, the position of the hands of the "Spouses" are found in three Indian *madras* identifying some Hindu deities. This is an unprecedented research into art, putting the spotlight on the Etruscan's eastern origins and cultural influences.

Secret Nest of the Dynasty

Distributor: Media Promocja

Producer: Media Promocja

Poland

44 minutes

One of the biggest mysteries of Poland's history is the origin of the House of Piast, the first dynasty to rule the Polish state. For years, scholars have been debating whether this dynasty, as represented by Mieszko, the mid-10th century founder of the Polish state, was indigenous or came from beyond Poland, such as from Scandinavia, Great Moravia, or Kievan Rus. An interdisciplinary team of scholars including archaeologists, biologists and bioinformatics scientists is starting a research project involving genetic analysis which may help solve the mystery.

Selinunte: A City between Two Rivers

Distributor: Grafimated Cartoon

Producer: Grafimated Cartoon

Italy

22 minutes

Selinunte was founded by settlers from Greece on a promontory overlooking the sea in far western Sicily. Thanks to flourishing trade, Selinunte emerged as a rich and majestic city in Magna Graeca. Neighboring Segesta, however, considered it a threat and continuous skirmishes between the two cities ended disastrously for Selinunte which was destroyed and abandoned. Many questions remain about the site. In this 3D reconstruction of the acropoli, overlays of live action recreate an idea about how Selinunte appeared before its destruction. This rich historical tale linking art, culture, mythology, and archaic cults brings Selinunte, albeit virtually, to life, restoring its former glory.

The Shadows of Loneliness

Distributor: Documentary and Experimental Film Center

Producer: Saeed Boblooli

Iran

40 minutes

Opening with a tribute ceremony, this film is the biography of the famous Iranian graphic designer and artist, Iradj Anvari. A leader in Iranian art trained in Paris, Anvari is a skilled and sophisticated book designer, poster designer, painter and photographer. Following the Iranian Revolution of 1979, he was fired from his teaching job in the Faculty of Ornamental Art. Emphasizing Anvari's contributions to art through his teaching in pre-revolutionary Iran, the film discusses his present circumstances as an infirm 75-year-old who is being forced to vacate his apartment.

Short Recap: The Archaeologists

Distributor: Fabien Campaner

Producer: Fabien Campaner

France

40 minutes

Finding that his students misunderstand archaeology, among other subjects, a teacher in France endeavors to enlighten them. He begins by defining terms and explaining a basic history of the subject. Using film clips, animation and live action, the teacher distinguishes looters, relic hunters, cowboys, and colonialists from archaeology as a science. In the course of his lesson, the teacher debunks myths and clichés and brings enlightenment.

Skipper Soleiman

Distributor: Documentary and Experimental Film Center

Producer: Sa'adatall Sa'eedpoor

Iran

25 minutes

Focusing on the Iranian sailor-turned-farmer, Solejman, the film highlights the plight of Lake Urmia. Located in the far northwestern corner of Iran, centrally between the Caspian, Black and Mediterranean seas, Lake Urmia has become a salt plain. The desiccation of this lake poses serious environmental questions. Taking the viewer on a tour of the area, the camera follows displaced sailor Solejman discussing his new life as a farmer. The viewer sees rusting ships, blowing clouds of salt and plant damage that are the legacy of a once thriving lake.

Solar Observatory Bezdovodka

Distributor: Oleksandr Kylykavka

Producer: Oleksandr Kylykavka

Ukraine

18 minutes

The study of old maps has enabled archaeologists to begin unraveling the mysteries of a series of mounds at a Ukrainian site called Bezdovodka. Here, studies of the geometric patterns coordinated with celestial observations has led to the discovery of an ancient solar observatory in the Ukraine. The site is opening its secrets, thousands of years in the making. This film about a large site tells a story about the discovery of this Ukrainian "Stonehenge."

The Son of Raw: The Roman

Distributor: Altrusm Pictures

Producer: Simon Rawson

UK

90 minutes

The year is AD 400 in what we know as Western Europe. After an unprovoked battle with local German barbarians, The Roman is wounded and seeks refuge in the nearby forest to regain his strength and tend to his wounds. There he is granted another day to live by the Gods and where he meets a mysterious traveler. The two men will be challenged and tested by each other, Mother Nature and the innermost conflicting primordial affiliations with man's body and mind. With Death hovering over The Roman, what will this journey hold for both men? Discover everything your heart and mind desire in this openly suggestive fable about the human connection.

Sound of Silence

Distributor: Documentary and Experimental Film Center

Iran

Producer: Manoochehr Moshbisi

45 minutes

Focusing on the life and work of Badrol alZaman Garib, one of Iran's foremost linguistic scholars, the viewer comes to understand the importance of Farsi language, literature and its predecessors such as the Sogdian and Bactrian languages of the renowned Silk Road. Now in her eighties, Dr. Garib studied in the United States prior to the Iranian Revolution. She is the descendant of a long line of literary scholars in Iran who have carried on her family traditions through teaching, translation, lexicography, and studies in linguistics. Her love of poetry, especially the epic poem *Shahnameh* by Abu'l-Qasim Ferdowsi Tusi (ca. AD 940-1020), comes through clearly.

*Stone Age Cinema

Distributor: ZED

France

Producer: MCA Productions, Jean-Pierre Bailly

54 minutes

This film takes the spectator on the first tracks of the cinematographer through 20,000 years of Paleolithic art. Foolish proposal? Not at all! A new reading of the rock art paintings and engravings reveals numerous cases of stop-action, a fundamental stage of animated film, in the movement of animals represented on walls. Toward the end of the Paleolithic, an incredible mechanism even makes its appearance, seeming to create an animation with a couple of images. This perplexes many cinema experts. But that's not all. The cave artists apparently were even devoted to the graphic story: a way of telling stories with sounds and images, in immersions as in cinema, but without settling the spectator in a chair. This is an amazing investigation deep into the heart of the mankind's cultural DNA.

Sultan Muhammad: The Painter

Distributor: Documentary and Experimental Film Center

Iran

Producer: Seyed Vahid Hosseini Nami

26 minutes

Focusing on the *Shahnameh* (*Book of Kings*) created under the royal patronage of Shah Tahmasp and the *Miraj* (Night Journey of the Prophet Muhammad), both by the artist Sultan Mohammad, this film is an introduction to Persian miniature painting. Using animation, the paintings are brought to life in a charming manner. Interviews with Iranian art experts help clarify stylistic details and foreign influences in Persian painting. Created around AD 1525-1535, in Tabriz, over 700 paintings illustrate the history and culture of Iran in this edition of Ferdowsi's famous epic poem, *Shahnameh*. In the *Miraj* painting, the Prophet is shown riding the mystical steed, *al-Buraq*, into the heavens.

Sweat

Distributor: Winnipeg Film Group

Canada

Producer: Kevin Lee Burton

5 minutes

A sweat lodge ceremony cannot be documented. In this film, I recreate my experience and what brought me to the sweat lodge with a metaphorical and poetic interpretation of this beautiful ceremony. This is a re-enactment of my journey to the sweat lodge ceremony through sound, image and narration.

Table Songs of Kakheti

Distributor: Documentary Educational Resources

Switzerland

Producer: Documentary Educational Resources

83 minutes

At the foot of the Caucasus, the Kakheti province of eastern Georgia is famous for its wine and its polyphonic songs. Binding verbal and musical arts in a unique way, banquets alternate ritualized toasts and collective singing which Georgians consider a major component of their national identity. This film reveals the performance of these songs in the traditional context of banquets (*supra*), under the presidencies of toastmasters (*tamada*). With two ornamented solo voices-occasionally one melodic voice- while the choir sings the drone, a sustained tone in the bass, long songs and elaborate toasts are shown in their integrality, revealing important insights into Georgian cultural values.

Tama Gaun: The Copper Village

Distributor: University Museum of Bergen

Nepal

Producer: University Museum of Bergen

89 minutes

In Okharbot village in Western Nepal, few people still know how to practice copper mining and smelting. This film follows Ujir, a foreman teaching the steps of mining and smelting. Copper has a number of symbolic and economic aspects connected to exchange and healing. It is also the Hindu god Shiva. Although abolished, the complex Nepali caste system structures the lives of most people. Paradoxically, the "untouchable" smiths (Kami) produce one of the purest elements in Hindu cosmology. This film follows the technological practices of mining and smelting copper, the daily life of people in the village, and the festival of Dassain, as part of the social and cultural context.

The Tent Makers of Cairo

Distributor: Documentary Educational Resources

Australia

Producer: Kim Beamish

94 minutes

The film offers unprecedented access to a small community of talented craftsmen in the heart of Old Cairo, practicing the uniquely Egyptian art of Khayamiya, or hand-stitched appliqué. Showcasing their work in quilting exhibitions, tent makers travel to the United States and France, where traditional techniques and practices as well as their changing audiences are documented. Spanning three turbulent years, from Egypt's January 2011 Revolution ending President Mubarak's thirty-year rule to the June 2014 election of Abdel Fatah al Sisi, viewers experience the Revolution through the eyes of these Egyptians. With tourism at a standstill, Cairo's tent makers struggle not only to maintain their culture and craft, but simply to survive.

Teokari: Companion on the Path

Distributor: *Salvador Espinosa*

Producer: *Salvador Espinosa*

Mexico

58 minutes

This is a documentary film that aims to show clearly and experientially, from three different perspectives, the value of the Huichol (Wixaritari) people as a culture and as a community and how they have benefitted other cultures. The importance of the Wixaritari is crucial for contemporary society at this time, when individualistic and materialistic values have brought about a deep lack of connection and disrespect of the environment.

Ticket from the Past: Station Erinnerung

Distributor: *NUR Film Group*

Producer: *Rike Holtz*

Germany

23 minutes

As a little boy in the late nineteen-thirties, Friedrich Weissbach grew up in Germany. His home was close to a railway station, where he fell in love with locomotives. World War II destroyed his hometown. It did not, however, diminish little Frieder's passion for trains. Today, he keeps a collection of railway treasures. Herr Weissbach is currently building a museum for his collection. Even in his garden, he has placed an original which will be part of the final exhibit.

Tlatemolistli

Distributor: *Jose Luis*

Producer: *Jose Luis*

Mexico

7 minutes

Tlatemolistli is the expression of the spiritual search for the Self that resides in each of us. A Native North American character, Lea, played by Mexican actress Ana Nolasco, struggles to find the true purpose of her existence through a symbolic path that offers the sublime beauty found in the exterior world, the abundance of nature. The long walking path which takes Lea through the four elements is the one that reminds us that painful suffering is the good gift that Life gives to each one of us. The film's voiceover comprises words from poems written by ancient Nahuatl people in Mexico before the Spanish conquest

Top Top Secret

Distributor: *Documentary and Experimental Film Center*

Producer: *Mohammad Reza Moqadasyan*

Iran

50 minutes

Khatkhati, Iran's comic magazine, is the subject of this film. Throughout the movie, the topic of censorship is depicted with humor, irony and animation. The viewer gets to know the principle cartoonists, designers and staff as they interact to produce this important contemporary monthly. We see their think sessions, their concern with contemporary issues (the Nov. 2016 cover features Donald Trump dragging a frightened Statue of Liberty) in the areas of economics and politics, as well as social issues. Through all, however, their fear of crossing the "Red Line" of the censors is palpable.

The Traditional Ski Festival in Altai, China

Distributor: *Arctic Peace Cultural Exchange Center*

Producer: *Ayiken Jiashan*

China

4 minutes

This film was shot in the Khom and Kanas regions of the Chinese Altai Mountains. A small part of the film was shot on a trip in 2012 with Nils Larsen, an American ski historian. The main parts were shot in early 2015 with Swedish filmmaker Kurt Skoog, just before a ski history conference in Altay City. I made this short film to show the ancient way of skiing that still survives in my hometown and, moreover, to explain the alternative ways of preserving the ski culture. I also showed a bit of the summer season to show the potential for mass tourism at this location. This film also gives guidance to viewers on how to develop better winter tourism in the region.

Transhumants of Guadalaviar: On the Cuencan Trail

Distributor: *Domingo Moreno*

Producer: *Domingo Moreno*

Spain

29 minutes

In early November, the shepherds of Guadalaviar, a village in Spain's Sierra de Albarracín with a long migratory tradition, lead their flocks to Andalusian uplands. Following the great herd, we come to know the lives of shepherds and their families who are in a constant dialogue with nature. The move is done on foot, on a livestock trail, with established rest stops scattered along the 500 kilometers separating the mountains south of Teruel from the meadows of Sierra Morena. It's one of the few long distance migrations to survive on the Iberian Peninsula.

The Traveler from the North

Distributor: *Alessandro Stevanon and Akhet Sri*

Producer: *Alessandro Stevanon and Claudia De Davide*

Italy

8 minutes

A simple heap of stones, seen through the attentive eyes of an archaeologist, can represent a discovery of exceptional value capable of rewriting the history of an entire territory. Such a discovery occurred recently during work for the expansion of the Hospital at Saint-Pierre in the Aosta Valley of Italy. There, a structure eighteen meters in diameter has been identified as a prestigious funerary cairn that contained the burial of a Celtic warrior datable to the seventh century BC. This is a unique find in the context of the northwestern Alps. The find opens new and unexpected scenarios regarding the migrations of Celtic populations in the early Iron Age.

Twilight of the Mochicas

Distributor: *Tournez Sup*

Producer: *Tournez Sup*

France

26 minutes

Fifteen hundred years ago in the Andes, a South American people flourished in one of the most arid deserts in the world. The Mochicas, or Moches, tamed the desert and built immense pyramids of adobe brick (huacas) between the second and eighth centuries. Little is known of this civilization, which fell into oblivion long before the Spanish conquest. Recent discoveries have reopened debate on its disappearance. Contrary to what was supposed, the Mochicas did not disappear due to a sudden change in climate. New proposals suggest that rites, practices and religious buildings were abandoned by the population following a revolution against the ruling blood theocracy, which had used ritual sacrifice as a political weapon.

Underworlds: Or Death and Resurrection of the Child-God Soma

Distributor: *Petrus van der Let*

Producer: *Petrus van der Let*

Austria

43 minutes

How did the idea of a “soul” that is saved in an afterlife come about in the first place and how was it used to increase the power and riches of the priests? Seeking a confluence of ideas about death and resurrection, this film explores myths and beliefs from India to Spain. Narrators explain fascinating examples such as tunnel systems below the European surface, ancient Greek tombs in Turkey, Iranian ideas about the god Mithra, contemporary practices in India surrounding the gods Soma and Indra, and modern Catholic rituals in Spain.

The Unsolved Mystery

Distributor: *Brand Expo Design, Ltd.*

Producer: *Chris Micallef*

Malta

59 minutes

This documentary is a call for exploration and preservation of the archaeological mystery of deep cart ruts formed in various places in the coralline stone covering Malta. To this day, such cart ruts remain an unsolved mystery to scholars attempting to describe their configurations and function. Attempts at explaining these enigmatic features have been a continuous endeavor, with various hypotheses suggested. Cart-rut sites, however, are still widely misunderstood and consequently are often under threat from urban sprawl. Through deeper study and understanding, these cart ruts may become a better understood cultural component of Europe’s rich archaeological heritage.

The Vacuum Triumph

Distributor: *Edizione L’Immagine*

Producer: *Edizione L’Immagine*

Italy

2 minutes

When the prestigious European television network ARTE asked the Italian director to create a documentary on Fascist architecture, he wondered whether the Mussolini regime had created propaganda with architecture in the same way it did with cinema and radio. Searching major Italian sources, he created a film containing no living humans: only architecture, statues and animals. This unconscious absence precisely expressed the director’s certainty that Fascist ideology had no respect for the immense wealth embodied in every person. With Fascism, he found that, in general, the exaltation of race replaced any profound appreciation of each individual. Thus, the destruction of war became the inevitable outcome of dictatorship.

***Vikings Unearthed**

Distributor: *BBC WorldWide*

Producer: *Eamon Hardy for WGBH NOVA*

UK

113 minutes

Bloody raids. Merciless pillaging. Loathsome invasions. The Vikings are infamous for their fearsome conquests—but they were also expert seafarers, skilled traders and courageous explorers. They traveled far and wide, crisscrossing the known world from Scandinavia to Europe and Asia, leaving a trail of evidence that suggests they were far from just vicious warriors. Through stunning CGI recreations and careful investigations of archaeological evidence, *Vikings Unearthed* unravels the secrets of these intrepid adventurers. And now, new evidence is coming to light that these pioneering people may have ventured even farther than we had suspected. Renowned space archaeologist Sarah Parcak takes up the case and is on the trail of the Vikings. What she discovers just might rewrite history.

Wake up!

Distributor: *Winnipeg Film Group*

Producer: *Jessie Short, Winnipeg Film Group*

Canada

6 minutes

A Métis woman explores identity by transforming herself into one of the only widely known Métis icons, a man named Louis Riel, who lived over 100 years ago. This transformation suggests the disparate histories between Métis men and women, while addressing the absence of Métis people from larger conversations about Indigenous visual culture.

The Wall

Distributor: *Documentary and Experimental Film Center*

Producer: *Ghasem Shisbegari*

Iran

15 minutes

Luscious photography emphasizing patterns in Iranian architecture are the highlight of this film. Arranged in a roughly historical sequence, the photographs begin with ruins of the royal complex at Persepolis. Ranks of carved courtiers and guards flow across the smooth carved stone. Iranian architectural techniques include brick, plaster set with mirror and paintings, tile, and colored glass and adobe highlight later periods. Dramatic patterns of light and shadow appear in the strong light. In the modern period, examples include glass, steel beam and concrete as well as contemporary graffiti.

War or Peace**Distributor:** *Kayvan Sarvari**Iran***Producer:** *Kayvan Sarvari*

4 minutes

In this short drama, the filmmaker asks: What is influence of conflict on a family? The viewer sees the world from the point of view of a small boy playing with foam blocks on the floor of his home. Above his head, his parents are in a family spat about grandma's influence. When the boy leaves home, a strategic part of the puzzle is swept away.

The Wedding Dress from Skin and Bones**Distributor:** *UNDR Film**Italy***Producer:** *Cesare Landricina*

4 minutes

Based on Paolo Cognetti's short story, *Pelleossa*, this short film is an abstraction, a symbolic representation of the story. The female protagonist is a pilgrim in a surreal place. Three important narrative elements include the anorexic girl, the wedding to escape, and the body as a house haunted by ghosts. Where all is suspended, both light and history, even life and death, are suspended, as in anorexia.

Women's Affairs**Distributor:** *Fine Art Produzioni**Italy***Producer:** *Fine Art Produzioni*

52 minutes

A photographer from Palermo, a winemaker from Ragusa, an elderly woman from Enna, a novelist from Agrigento, a young archaeologist from Gela, and a famous actress from Catania appear in this film. What links these people? The fact of being women and Sicilian. Their stories are fragments of a single story, which keeps the heritage of Sicily, an absolutely female land. This is testified by a great variety of myths, legends and cults related to women, which have alternated and partly overlapped through time, becoming a cohesive force for all the peoples who occupied, and still occupy, this island.

The Wooden Wall**Distributor:** *Zea Harbour Project**Denmark***Producer:** *Bjorn Loven*

8 minutes

Following the all-important Battle of Salamis in 480 BC, Athenians came into the golden age of their naval bases. This film describes in drawings the scope of naval operations which made ancient Athens a naval superpower. Through the harbor at Piraeus and the massive fortifications of other naval bases, Greek domination of the Mediterranean meant the survival of their culture to the present day.

Would Say Would Fall**Distributor:** *MEL Magazine**USA***Producer:** *Brian Murphy and Mor Albalak*

9 minutes

Several thousand years ago, a mountain in southern Italy exploded. When the big one hit in AD 79, it transformed several coastal Roman cities into a time capsule of hot ash and mud. One of the most significant finds, a library at Herculaneum, also has been one of the most difficult to decipher. The library's papyrus scrolls were considered too fragile to open because the ancient lava flow had turned them into charcoal. Fortunately, Vito Mocella, an expert in condensed matter physics and electromagnetism, decided to devote his career to making the scrolls legible again.

Zarathustra: The Yellow Star**Distributor:** *Maz Film Production**Iraq***Producer:** *Mazin M. Sherabayani*

30 minutes

The film, *Zarathustra: The Yellow Star*, features the return of many Kurdish people in Iraqi Kurdistan to their ancient religion of Zoroastrianism after the invasion of the so-called Islamic State (ISIS). The old religion is once again finding members among young Kurdish men and women. A new fire temple has been designated now for the people to practice their religion and have discussions about the philosophical path of the prophet Zarathustra.

*Films screened in the competition.