The Archaeology Channel
International Film Festival

May 13 - 17, 2020 • Eugene, Oregon
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Welcome to The Archaeology Channel International Film Festival!

Welcome to the seventeenth annual edition of TAC International Film Festival, Lane County’s longest-running film festival! What we began in 2003 as an extension of our very popular Web site, The Archaeology Channel, for live audiences has grown into one of the leading film competitions in the cultural heritage genre worldwide. Thanks a million to the hundreds of people and dozens of partnering organizations and sponsors who have made this possible! Please support our sponsors and let them know that you appreciate their commitment to this unique cultural exhibition.

In today’s world, we face real challenges in the areas of social justice and international relations. Improved cross-cultural understanding among people can help move the world toward resolving these problems. Studies have shown that exposing young people to other cultures helps them appreciate different modes of thinking. We believe that this positive influence applies to people of all ages. Exposing our audience to diverse cultures and the many stories that make up the collective human past is a contribution we sincerely want to make.

What once was primarily an exhibition of film has become, even more importantly, a meeting place for those with stories to tell and audiences to reach. We continue to develop this event as a mechanism for pushing forward the genre of cultural heritage media while exhibiting the best film productions in the world. This genre is widely admired and viewed worldwide, but filmmakers, broadcasters, indigenous groups, archaeologists, historians, educators, and others experience big challenges with program development, funding, content, and distribution. We have designed the Festival to attract and encourage communication, networking and collaboration among the interested parties, including the audience. We want to promote more, better, and more widely available programming for people everywhere.

As always, we are very excited about the content of this year’s Festival. Over the years, we’ve reviewed many hundreds of film entrants from 90 countries. International participation and the quality of the films continue to grow. This year, we accepted 103 entries from 26 countries for the competition. Although not the biggest in number, this group stands at leasts on a par with previous years in the numbers of truly fine films. We grudgingly pared the list down to a screening schedule of 26 outstanding films that are among the best in the world. These films will take you around the globe: places as far apart as Singapore and Peru and across the human timeline from hundreds of thousands of years ago in the Neanderthal era to the Japanese bombing of Oregon in World War II. As usual for our Festival, a hallmark of these films is diversity of topic, country of origin, running time, and filmmaking style.

The advent of the coronavirus pandemic in our world has not diminished our excitement and resolve about putting on this event. Illustrating and promoting cultural heritage through media is even more important than it ever was. We regret the need to drop plans for all our public gatherings, but the silver lining shines brightly. For the first time, we will screen most of our selected films online and on-demand for a worldwide audience very much bigger than could ever fit into a cinema. Beyond that, our advance planning for public events in 2020 will serve us well as we reschedule these events for the 18th edition of the Festival, to take place May 12-16, 2021!

Thanks for joining us. Please take advantage of the online film screenings and don’t hesitate to share your thoughts with us and with others on an exciting film competition and the development and uses of cultural heritage media. Help us celebrate and encourage the storytellers who invest their artistry in telling the human story.

Dr. Rick Pettigrew  
President and Executive Director  
Archaeological Legacy Institute (ALI)
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A Quick Overview of TAC Festival 2020

As is our custom, we originally planned TAC Festival 2020 to be big and busy with lots of public events. However, to adapt to the new conditions we are experiencing with the coronavirus pandemic, we have removed the public events from the program and shifted to an entirely online format. To help you get a complete picture of what is happening and what is not, we’ve compiled a quick list of event activities that we planned, but will not be able to conduct until 2021.

Just to be clear, we have REMOVED the following public events from TAC Festival 2020:

- Banquet with Keynote Address by Dr. Tom King, Oregon Electric Station, 27 E 5th Ave.
- Conference presentations, Civic Winery, 50 E 11th Avenue
- Film Screenings, The Shedd Institute, Sheffer Recital Hall, 868 High Street
- Day Trek to Cascadia Cave hosted by the Willamette National Forest
- Video Bar, Eugene Public Library, 100 W. 10th Avenue
- Public lecture by Keynote Speaker, Dr. Tom King, Eugene Public Library
- Saturday Social, Capitello Wines, 540 Charnelton Street
- Awards Reception, Capitello Wines

Film screenings now will take place online and on-demand during the period May 13-17, 24 hours per day, on our own subscription platform, Heritage Broadcasting Service (HBS), which you can access through a link on our Festival web site page at [http://www.archaeologychannel.org/festival](http://www.archaeologychannel.org/festival). We will share the $4.99 subscription fee with the makers of the films screened online.

As always, we will have awards selected by our jury. However, without an audience at live screenings for all the selected films, we are unable this year to have an award in the Audience Favorite category.
Our Jury

This international competition depends on our jury, to whom we have entrusted the responsibility of viewing and carefully evaluating each of the 26 films selected for screening. Our jury comprises the following individuals.

Dr. Charles Armitage
State Archaeologist for Nevada
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Dr. Armitage began his archaeological career at the University of Oregon and has served the federal government as an archaeologist for many years.

Fred Crafts
Eugene's Ambassador for the Arts
Mr. Crafts is an arts consultant who was the Fine Arts Editor for the Los Angeles Times and arts editor at the Eugene Register-Guard, among other things. More recently, he is the mastermind and director of the very popular Fred Crafts’ Radio Redux, the Eugene-based radio theater troupe.

Mike Dilley
Director, Eugene International Film Festival (EIFF)
Mr. Dilley has a long career as a producer in the movie business, which is still his interest and primary activity. He has been the EIFF Director for 12 years.

Shirley Gazsi
President, AntiquityNOW
Ms. Gazsi manages AntiquityNOW, a nonprofit cultural and education organization incorporated in New York and has worked in the nonprofit and education fields for more than 20 years.

Bahman Nooraei
Documentary and Experimental Film Center, Tehran, Iran
Mr. Nooraei is a live TV show host and journalist from Tehran; he has been a key figure in the organization of more than 40 international film festivals around Iran in his 13-year career, including the Cinema Verite documentary festival in Tehran. He is a published translator and works with many international organizations and events as a conference interpreter. He also does local and international marketing for Iranian film productions.

The jurors have watched and reviewed each film according to a standardized scoring system that encompasses many categories, including animation and effects, cinematography, inspiration, music, narration, public education value, and script. During their deliberations, concluded prior to the event, the jurors worked remotely and were not aware of the identities of Festival sponsors. On the day following TAC Festival (May 18), we will announce the honors the jury has conferred on deserving film makers. Jurors will make an award for Best Film as well as the best in each category and have the option to make special mention of films that stand out from the rest in other respects.
Virtual Film Screenings
Heritage Broadcasting Service (HBS), via archaeologychannel.org/festival

Virtual tickets are available online via a link at archaeologychannel.org/festival for $4.99 and additional contributions are welcome at archaeologychannel.org/donate. The films on HBS include most, but not all, Festival entrants, and your admission covers five days of viewing, May 13 -17, 24 hours per day, during which you may watch any of the available films, even multiple times if you wish! You will find short summaries of all the films selected for the competition beginning on Page 6. Beginning on Page 11 you will find short summaries of all the other films submitted but not selected for the competition.

TAC Festival 2020 Films Selected for the Competition:

Art at War (Italy)
Becoming Singapore (Singapore)
The "Boy" with the Nikon (Italy)
Bronze: A Forgotten Treasure (Singapore)
Cedar: Tree of Life (Canada)
First Horse Warriors (Canada; USA)
Hafez and Goethe (Iran)
The Last Bonesetter (Peru)
The Last Tribes (Turkey)
The Lions of Lissa (Italy; Croatia)
*Lost Cities with Albert Lin: Stonehenge (UK)
Mayan Time: Archaeo-astronomical Phenomena (Mexico)
Neandertal: The Mystery of the Bruniquel Cave (France)
Papua New Guinea: The Fire Dance (France)
*Pyramids Builders New Clues (France)
Remains: The Search for SFC Samuel J. Padgett (USA)
The Ring People (USA)
River of Treasures (Poland)
Saving Places (USA)
Samurai in the Oregon Sky (USA)
Stout Hearted: George Stout and the Guardians of Art (USA)
Theirstory (USA)
Vārs (Iran)
*Versailles Rediscovered: The Sun King’s Vanished Palace (France)
We, the Voyagers: Our Vaka (USA)
Yam Festival, Ghana (Ghana)

*All films are screened online with the written permission of the copyright holders. The asterisk indicates that we did not receive permission from the copyright holder to screen the film, and the specified film will not appear on HBS for online viewing.
Film Summaries for Films Selected for the Competition

The following films, except those with asterisks, will be available for online viewing for 120 hours during the period May 13-17, 2020, via the ticket link at http://www.archaeologychannel.org/festival.

Art at War
**Distributor:** HV Rights: Film Documentari d’Arte
**Producer:** Tobia Pesia
54 Minutes, Italy

This documentary focuses on the clever men and women who found themselves saving Italy’s artistic heritage during the Second World War. This is the story of Rodolfo Siviero, secret agent and double dealer, and of Emilio Lavagnino, inspector of the Ministry in Rome, and of Pasquale Rotondi, Superintendent of Fine Art for the Marche region. Siviero, Lavagnino and Rotondi: three men, whose stories intertwined as they fought the Nazi greed for art and protected priceless masterpieces from the allied bombings. Experience the Nazi treasure hunt for Italian artwork, foiled at every turn by the courage of these men as they risked their lives to preserve the legacy of Italian art.

 Becoming Singapore
**Distributor:** Channel News Asia, Mediacorp
**Producer:** Tom St John Gray
47 minutes, Singapore

Commemorating Singapore’s bicentennial, “Becoming Singapore” uncovers clues from the island’s mysterious past and explores myths that have lasted for generations. Tracing back hundreds of years, presenter Eunice Olsen examines Singapore’s forgotten history as well as her own long-lost roots. In an evocative journey across the island’s bustling streets, excavation sites, mangrove swamps, lush green parks, art galleries, and clan associations, we meet a variety of people with rich and diverse stories to tell. Eunice takes a bold step into understanding her own past—but how does her own family history mirror that of Singapore’s?

The “Boy” with the Nikon
**Distributor:** Studio Film TV
**Producer:** Lucio Rosa
31 minutes, Italy

Within the confines of Libya, the ancient oases, cloaked in splendid architecture by the Berbers, still stand. As most of the buildings fall into abandonment and decay, this is a world that is disappearing all too quickly. With little interest in recovering these places or in preserving their history, the oases seem doomed to extinction. Walk alongside Lucio Rosa as he revisits these aging monuments, walking along their streets and visiting the precious things that linger from an ancient time. Through the lens of a Nikon camera, witness the sublime architecture of ancient luxurious dwellings, the elaborate and towering fortified storehouses, and villages that once welcomed merchants bearing the goods of sub-Saharan Africa towards the Mediterranean Sea ports.

Bronze: A Forgotten Treasure
**Distributor:** Mediacorp Pte. Ltd.
**Producer:** Nivitra Devi, D/O Hari, Tom St John Gray, Dawn Karen Tan
48 minutes, Singapore

In a remote Singapore lockup lies a stunning collection of Chinese bronze artefacts, unseen and forgotten for almost five decades, since the Cultural Revolution of Maoist China. Over one hundred bronze pieces, believed to be from the Shang and Zhou dynasties, have remained hidden . . . until now. This documentary traces the mysterious journey of these potentially priceless pieces from China to Singapore. What happens next is a present-day quest to discover their true authenticity and value, using forensic tests and expert analysis to reveal the real story behind these lost treasures.

Cedar: Tree of Life
**Distributor:** April Johnson
**Producer:** April Johnson
11 minutes, Canada

This short and expressionist documentary explores the relationship between the cedar tree and three indigenous women who work with it, weave with it and live with it. Three Salish women hold knowledge of cedar, passed down from their grandmothers and mothers. They commune with this sacred tree as they practice and share their culture and art in both traditional and contemporary contexts. To them, cedar is a life-giver and a transformer. “Cedar: Tree of Life” reveals how each woman uses cedar and how cedar expresses itself through them. From garments to homes to a burial material for those who have passed on, cedar was and is inextricably linked to all aspects of life.

First Horse Warriors
**Distributor:** NOVA
**Producer:** Larry Klein for NOVA
53 minutes, Canada, USA

The advent of horse riding was a momentous step in human history, but when and how did our ancestors first learn to master these animals? “First Horse Warriors” unlocks this mystery on the vast, grassy plains of Kazakhstan, in Central Asia, where wild horses still roam free and nomadic herders follow their traditional way of life. Investigating clues from archaeology and genetics, researchers reveal vivid evidence of the very first horsemen. Along the way, they discover the genetic link between ancient horsemen and millions of people today.

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Hafez and Goethe

**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center

**Producer:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center

Iran

78 minutes

This documentary explores the impacts of Hafez and Goethe, two of the most prominent poets of all time. “Hafez and Goethe” takes a closer look at how Hafez, a Persian poet writing in the 14th century, came to have a strong impact and influence on Goethe, a German poet writing in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Hafez's influence is best explored through Goethe’s invaluable collection of poems called “West–Eastern Diwan.” This collection can be seen as an early example of the blending of Western and Eastern cultures in art.

The Last Bonesetter

**Distributor:** Documentary Educational Resources

Peru

**Producer:** Adam Booher, Kathryn Oths

27 minutes

This film traces the career of one of the last "hueseros," or bonesetters, in Chugurpampa, Peru—80-year-old Don Felipe. Medical anthropologist Kathryn Oths has long been concerned with the survival of indigenous healing. She got to know Don Felipe in the 1980s while conducting fieldwork in Chugurpampa. At that time, dozens of healers offered their services to the sick and injured, but 25 years later, Don Felipe is now the sole provider of traditional health care for Chugurpampa. Besides being a well-known bonesetter and herbalist, over time he also took on the roles of midwife and healer for illnesses unique to the Andes, such as susto (soul loss from fright). While there is a modern medical center, it is seldom staffed by doctors and has few medicines to prescribe, so Don Felipe has become the only trusted source of health care for miles around.

The Last Tribes

**Distributor:** Turkish Radio and Television Corporation

Turkey

**Producer:** Guven Aksu

53 minutes

Humans have hunted and gathered for thousands of years for survival, living as part of nature, without destroying anything. Today, only a few regions are left on earth where the hunter-gatherer life cycle continues. One of those very special places is the Tsumkwe region in Namibia. With footage shot recently, not archival footage, “The Last Tribes” showcases the life of the Ju'/Hoansi San People, one of the extraordinary peoples of Namibia, some of whom have chosen to honor their traditional lifeway and continue to commune with nature.

The Lions of Lissa

**Distributor:** Nicolo Bongiorno

Croatia, Italy

**Producer:** Nicolo Bongiorno

76 minutes

This film revolves around the 1866 Battle of Lissa, the first naval fleet battle to involve Ironclad warships, which triggered a fundamental geopolitical intersection for several European nations in the context of the “Italian Risorgimento”—the unification of different Italian states into the Kingdom of Italy during the 19th century. The documentary team conducted underwater photography of the highest technical quality, shedding new light on the spirit of underwater exploration. From the point of view of naval archaeological history, it carries out a deep and complex dive of significant scientific value on a legendary wreck lost in the depths of the Adriatic Sea. This story moves forward as a poetic and personal tale full of action and wonder in a mosaic of visual, historical, anthropological, and mythological references.

*Lost Cities with Albert Lin: Stonehenge*

**Distributor:** Arrow Media

UK

**Producer:** Arrow Media

44 minutes

Stonehenge is one of the most iconic monuments of prehistory, but surrounded in mystery. Why was it built at this particular site in southern England 5000 years ago? Three thousand years before work began on the first Stonehenge, the same area was inhabited by mysterious hunter-gatherers. Just a mile from the stone circle itself, at Blick Mead spring, archaeologists have been uncovering an 8000-year-old site with a unique stone structure that offers a tantalizing clue to why Stonehenge is where it is. Their unprecedented finds, including tens of thousands of stone tools, change our understanding of these people, their origins and their lives. For thousands of years, they kept returning to this place. Albert Lin goes on an epic high-tech adventure across England and Scandinavia to discover their secrets and to reveal the inheritance they passed on to the builders of Stonehenge.

Mayan Time: Archaeo-astronomical Phenomena

**Distributor:** Alberto Jose Doctorovich

Mexico

**Producer:** Alberto Bruss

8 minutes

This time-lapse documentary uses stunning cinematography to demonstrate archaeo-astronomical phenomena in the Mayan areas. Condensing a year of astronomical alignments into just minutes, the film portrays a stunning view of Mayan temples “in action.” These places were built in significant locations with painstaking attention to detail, but they were built and existed in connection with significant astronomical alignments, such as the equinoxes and solstices. “Mayan Time” strives to capture the temporal nature of these sacred spaces and show the beauty and antiquity that make them truly irresistible.
Neandertal: The Mystery of the Bruniquel Cave

Distributor: Terra bona

Producers: GEDEON Programmes, FELIS Production, ARTE France, CNRS Images

53 minutes

Who built a structure made up of more than 400 broken stalagmites roughly 1000 feet inside a cave in the Aveyron gorges of France? When was this structure created and for what purpose? Since its discovery in 1990, Bruniquel Cave has kept the secrets of its architecture and creation. In 2014, a team of researchers returned to the cave, hoping to solve the enigma. This documentary has followed their progress for four years, both in their laboratories and in Bruniquel itself. Exclusively, we have witnessed one of the most important archaeological discoveries of our time. The Neanderthal is at the center of it all.

Papua New Guinea: The Fire Dance

Distributor: ARTE France

Producer: Tournez S’il Vous Plait

26 minutes

This film showcases the ritual fire dance of the Baining tribe, a group indigenous to East New Britain, Papua New Guinea. Several times a year, the tribes comes together after three days of preparation. The ensuing celebration features a huge fire, dancing, masks, and costumes. The elaborate masks are particularly interesting, as they are laboriously constructed from natural materials found locally and used for just one festival before being discarded. “Papua New Guinea: The Fire Dance” invites you to witness this beautiful and elusive event for yourself.

*Pyramids Builders New Clues

Distributor: Terra bona

Producer: GEDEON Programmes

53 minutes

Egypt has long drawn archaeologists to its pyramids. Over the past few decades, significant discoveries have taken place on the sites where the pyramids stand. Now, hundreds of kilometers from the pyramids themselves, we are gaining more insight into just how they were built. Two teams of Egyptologists, one based in the desert and the other located on the Red Sea coast, are uncovering more about the Egypt of Khufu's time. Khufu may be most remembered for the iconic Great Pyramid of Giza, but this research aims to discover more about how the ancient Egyptians worked, outside the pyramids. This film was shot by a film crew embedded for several weeks within these two archaeological missions. The documentary team filmed archaeological experiments in real time, revealing ancient techniques and methods and unlocking the secrets of these ancient and great builders.

Remains: The Search for SFC Samuel J. Padgett

Distributor: Mark Phillips

Producer: Mark Phillips

40 minutes

On April 10, 1968, SFC Samuel J. Padgett celebrated his 31st birthday before boarding a helicopter during the Vietnam War. The helicopter later lost power and crashed into the jungles of South Vietnam, where the rescue team was able to recover the remains of only three of the four crash victims; SFC Padgett was not one of them. Alongside nearly 2500 other American soldiers from Vietnam, Padgett’s status lists him as “Killed/Body Not Recovered,” but now a team of archaeologists and U.S. service members is committed to recovering his body. “Remains” brings SFC Samuel Padgett’s story to life as the team strives to bring his body home.

The Ring People

Distributor: Koelker & Associates

Producer: Anthony Koelker

29 minutes

Forty centuries ago, an ancient group of people left their mark on the landscape of coastal South Carolina. Today, archaeologists from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, a dozen universities and the National Park Service search for clues about our earliest-known coastal dwellers. Perhaps our best clue to who they were is the many rings of shell they left behind. Whether the shells were placed deliberately or merely discarded into a midden is unknown, but “The Ring People” visits these rings, along with other remote sites, as scientists strive to understand more about these people and their place in our story.

River of Treasures

Distributor: Arkana Studio

Producer: Dorota Roszkowska

73 minutes

In the 17th century, the Swedish army invaded Poland, looting priceless sculptures and decorations from the royal palace in Warsaw and beyond. That there is hardly any 17th-century architecture left in Warsaw today can be credited to this “Swedish Deluge.” "River of Treasures" follows filmmakers and explorers Marcin Jamkowski and Konstanty Kulik as they tell the story of this cultural invasion and of the expedition launched in search of this lost patrimony. It begins with Dr. Hubert Kowalski and his discovery of 350-year-old letters between the King of Poland and the Mayor of Warsaw. The letters mention a ship laden with priceless marbles, lying somewhere deep underwater. The film takes viewers on the ten-year journey to locate these sunken treasures, from library archives and historic castles to the bottom of the Vistula River.
Samurai in the Oregon Sky
**Distributor:** Ilana Sol  
**Producer:** Ilana Sol  
USA  
48 minutes

In 1942, Japanese pilot Nobuo Fujita catapulted his seaplane off a submarine, flew over the Oregon coast, and became the only pilot to bomb the U.S. mainland during World War II. He never dreamed he would one day be invited back to the region, where he would begin a lifelong friendship with the people of a small Oregon town. “Samurai in the Oregon Sky,” created by director Ilana Sol of Portland, Oregon, chronicles how Mr. Fujita came to refer to his former target as his “second home.”

Saving Places
**Distributor:** Story Arts Media  
**Producer:** Joseph Daniel  
USA  
64 minutes

Thousands of historically significant remote structures are falling into disrepair across America. These include fire towers, mining buildings, log barns, rural schoolhouses, ranches, and cabins that all tell a vivid story of our past, and, if preserved, can teach us how to create our future. Narrated by Peter Coyote, “Saving Places” follows HistoriCorps as their intrepid staff and volunteer crews work to conserve threatened structures on public lands. From uncovering historic back stories and highlighting surrounding natural and social environments to featuring the challenging restoration work of over a dozen extraordinary projects, “Saving Places” is a genuine adventure into the past.

Stout Hearted: George Stout and the Guardians of Art
**Distributor:** New Mile Media Arts  
**Producer:** New Mile Media Arts  
USA  
80 minutes

“Stout Hearted” tells the story of Iowa Native George Stout and his impact on the fields of Art Conservation and Monument Protection. During World War II, Stout led the Monuments Men through Europe on the greatest treasure hunt in history, protecting and recovering priceless art from the Nazis. Stout’s legacy with the Monuments Men continues presently with the US Committee of the Blue Shield, an organization that is protecting precious art from destruction in areas of global conflict. Stout’s innovative methods of art conservation, created some 90 years ago, are still used today in major museums around the world.

Theirstory
**Distributor:** Sarah Cahlan  
**Producer:** Sarah Cahlan  
USA  
22 minutes

Mankind. As archaeologists have traced our history, the scales have overwhelmingly favored the masculine narrative. Even the word “mankind” seems to exclude the female portion of humankind. But “the times they are a-changing,” and in this time archaeologists are re-evaluating longstanding attitudes, perceptions and interpretations about gender roles in the human story. “Theirstory” introduces the archaeologists and anthropologists who looked at the narrative of prehistory and asked, “where was the other half of our species?” Through the lens of the feminine narrative, “Theirstory” highlights assumptions of gender and our understanding of ourselves in relation to human history.

Vars
**Distributor:** Advaita Film Srl  
**Producer:** Gianmarco D’Agostino  
Iran  
52 minutes

This documentary focuses on one of Iran’s most historic features: the 70-year-old Veresk Bridge. The bridge was constructed in 1937 by Reza Shah, the Shah of Iran, but it gained the nickname “Pol-e Piroozi” (meaning Bridge of Victory) during World War II as it was used by the Allies to deliver aid to the Soviets in their fight against Hitler. At one point, the demolition of the bridge was requested by Hitler himself, but the request was denied by the Shah. Today, the bridge is used approximately four times per day by trains connecting between Tehran and Gorgan or Sari. “Vars” picks up the story as the insurance policy for the bridge has expired and there is some speculation as to whether or not it is still usable for transit.

*Versailles Rediscovered: The Sun King’s Vanished Palace*
**Distributor:** Terranoa  
**Producer:** ARTE France, GEDEON Programmes, CNRS Images  
France  
52 minutes

As the Palace of Versailles undergoes unprecedented restoration work and an extensive digitalization campaign of the many maps relating to it (over 10,000 in all over the past 40 years), this film reveals the story of how the royal château evolved to reflect the Sun King’s growing ambitions and power over his 70-year reign. Viewers watch as Versailles is brought back to life though fiction and 3D imagery, from its initial conception to the architectural masterpiece we know today. The Sun King’s most fanciful ideas—including a hedge maze, marble baths and the private royal art gallery—are brought back to life through computer generated imaging. Unique scanning technologies, new excavations in the gardens . . . all this and more will offer fresh insight into the world’s most visited palace and the life of the Sun King.
We, the Voyagers: Our Vaka

**Distributor:** Pacific Traditions Society  
**Producer:** Marianne George  
**USA**  
57 minutes

“Our Vaka” is the first part of a two-part documentary called “We, the Voyagers: Lata’s Children.” In this film, Polynesian voyagers of Taumako, Solomon Islands, share their history, motivations, and skills through story-telling, canoe building and wayfinding. Using only the designs, materials and methods of Lata, the Polynesian culture-hero who built the first voyaging canoe and navigated across the Pacific, the voyagers recall their ancestors, who made the greatest of human migrations. “We the Voyagers” began in 1996 when Paramount Chief Kaveia, an experienced navigator, began training new generations to plant gardens, feed workers, make rope from plants, weave and sew sails, protect the island’s trees, adze parts for voyaging canoes, and lash them together. After years of filming, Lata’s children are ready to share their story, and the lessons Lata has taught them, with the world.

Yam Festival, Ghana

**Distributor:** Altius Films  
**Producer:** Philippe Krudolfer  
**Ghana**  
4 minutes

The Yam Festival, known in the local Ewe dialect as “Te Za,” is a harvest festival in the Asogli State in the Volta Region of Ghana. The very colorful Yam Festival takes place in September of each year and is presided over by the paramount chief and president of the National House of Chiefs, King Togbe Afede XIV. This short documentary film looks at the music, dancing, feasting, and local crafts of the Festival, as well as the ways in which it celebrates family, farmers, culture, and unity.
Other Films Submitted

The following films were submitted as entries to TAC Festival 2020, but regrettably were not selected for the competition

The Albanus Project: Inside the Old Emissary
**Distributor:** Maria Teresa Pilloni  
**Producer:** Maria Teresa Pilloni  
*Italy*  
53 minutes

Near Lake Albano lies one of the greatest pieces of Roman engineering: the Albano drain outlet, a massive roman tunnel that once prevented the lake from overflowing its banks. Ancient sources date the tunnel to the beginning of the 4th century BC, and now, it becomes the subject of a three-year program of speleological studies. With a film crew led by Massimo D’Alessandro, “The Albanus Project” follows the investigation and exploration of this ingenious hydraulic work of antiquity.

All Is Well
**Distributor:** Altius Films  
**Producer:** David Alger  
*USA*  
26 minutes

The Muddy Creek Pioneer Trail and Handcart Trek, in the southwest corner of Wyoming, is a relatively unknown portion of the Emigrant Trail. The trail hosted pioneers on their journey west, gold seekers rushing towards California, and Johnston's army on their way to invade the Salt Lake Valley. “All Is Well” follows over 400 members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as they re-enact the pioneer handcart trek in June 2019.

Archaeology at the River Narrows: Indigenous Occupation of the Slocan Valley
**Distributor:** Vimeo  
**Producer:** Petra Elfström  
*Canada; USA*  
16 minutes

This film documents the research in Slocan Valley, British Columbia, since the year 2000. It explores the questions about and interpretations of the indigenous occupation of the Slocan Narrows, shedding light on the pre-colonial history of the valley.

Bewitchment
**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Producer:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
*Iran*  
29 minutes

People from all over the world are drawn to the Iranian city of Meybod, where an ancient fortress still stands today. “Bewitchment” tells the history of its time as both a temple and a castle, from the blood spilt within it in hopes of conquest to the brutal collapse of the people living inside it.

The Big Dig 2019 -- Paisley Abbey Drain
**Distributor:** Tony Grace  
**Producer:** Tony Grace  
*UK*  
21 minutes

Rediscovered in 1990, the Great Drain of Paisley Abbey has attracted great local interest. This documentary follows an eight week program of excavation forming the latest phase the archaeological investigation of one of Scotland's most intriguing monuments.

Boneyard Alaska
**Distributor:** Glacier Film, LLC.  
**Producer:** Glacier Film, LLC.  
*USA*  
74 minutes

Beneath the ever-frozen ground of Alaska, a gold miner is unearthing a treasure trove of perfectly-preserved Ice Age bones, including wooly mammoths and prehistoric bears. For the first time, a team of paleontologists are allowed into the mine site to search his immense bone collection for the secrets that will unlock the history of the animals of the Pleistocene Epoch.

Carracci: The Silent Revolution
**Distributor:** Giulia Giapponesi  
**Producer:** Giulia Giapponesi  
*Italy*  
52 minutes

The story of the three Bolognese painters is narrated by internationally known art advisor, Marco Riccòmini. Marco interviews scholars who reconstruct the artistic and human journey of three artists who embody the extraordinary ability to work together, overcoming their personal limits. The story focuses on celebrating the strength, patience and faith that are at the core of every successful team.

Catherine the Great
**Distributor:** Shihyun Wang  
**Producer:** Shihyun Wang  
*USA*  
30 minutes

Born in 1729 as Princess Sofie of Anhalt-Zerbst, Catherine the Great became Empress of Russia at the age of 33, and went down in history as one of the nation’s greatest leaders. This film shares her story through an “interview” with Catherine, using her narration to guide the viewer through the Empress’s life.
Chollywood
**Distributor:** Cintamani Films  
**Producer:** Rod Sáez Chávez  
*Chile*  
*54 minutes*

Every July, thousands of people flock to the middle of the Atacama Desert, seeking the Pampa del Tamarugal reserve for the great festivity of La Tirana. Home to the imaginary universe of Chollywood, this space is characterized by superstition, syncretism and global culture. Characters such as Mickey Mouse, Indians, dancing devils and polar bears guide us through their place of pilgrimage.

Ciao, Babylon
**Distributor:** Documentary Educational Resources  
**Producer:** Kurt Reinhard, Christopher Schreiber  
*USA*  
*52 minutes*

Experts believe that by the end of the century, half of the 6,500 languages spoken today will have vanished. With every language that dies, a unique way of perceiving the world vanishes. Ciao, Babylon takes us to New York, where Dan Kaufman is committed to preserving endangered languages. Following Giancarlo Malchiodi from Brooklyn to the Swiss Alps, as he rediscovers his mother tongue Romanish, a language that faces extinction within a few decades.

Coffin Decollete
**Distributor:** Nancy Kamal  
**Producer:** Emad Banoub  
*Egypt*  
*6 minutes*

Upon finding wedding preparations within her home, a young Egyptian girl is shocked to discover she is about to become a bride. This film highlights her suffering as she is robbed of her childhood and deprived of her right to complete her education. The film is expressive without dialogue, with the aim of focusing on the internal feelings of the heroine as she becomes a victim of child marriage.

The Cross and Mithra
**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Producer:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
*Iran*  
*96 minutes*

After the destruction caused by World War II, reconstruction projects occasionally yielded the discovery of vaults similar to the crypts in churches. These vaults were found throughout Europe, and at a one point, had belonged to groups of people practicing Mithraism. This documentary focuses on Mithraism ethic in Iran and its relationship to other religions.

Deposit to the Ground
**Distributor:** Midia Kiasat  
**Producer:** Masoumeh Salehbeigi  
*Iran*  
*10 minutes*

This short film follows an elderly couple, as they are disturbed by a commotion in their town. When they investigate, they find the townspeople gathered around the river, where a one-year-old child had drowned. The childless couple track the body as it passes through the stages of preparation for burial.

The Dome of the Universe
**Distributor:** Hamzeh Mohammad Hosseini  
**Producer:** Erfan Ghasempour  
*Iran*  
*29 minutes*

Damavand, a small town near the base of the tallest mountain in Iran, is ripe with culture, history, architecture and nature. This film follows the history and ecology of the town and introduces the landmarks and people who call it home.

Elarmekora
**Distributor:** Magneto  
**Producer:** Magneto  
*France*  
*19 minutes*

Elarmekora is the story of a scientific adventure tracing the first prehistoric men of the Congo Basin. The researchers’ mission: to go back in time, hundreds of thousands of years, and date the stone tools from the Elarmekora deposit. This film documents the datation steps of what might be the most ancient evidence of human presence in the forest block of Central Africa, research that could change the established model for the history of our origins.
Embers of the Sun 2019  
**Distributor:** Living Antiquity  
**Producer:** Living Antiquity, Analogue Films  
Armenia  
12 minutes

This impressionist short film evokes the strange beauty of Armenia's prehistoric monuments and sacred landscapes. The megaliths and rock art of the remote highlands are vestiges of the mysterious Bronze Age people who lived and worshiped in this volcanic realm some four thousand years ago.

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Embracing G. L. Bernini  
**Distributor:** Dedalus Film, Fablab Venezia  
**Producer:** Dedalus Film, Fablab Venezia  
Italy  
12 minutes

A short documentary on Beatrice Falconi’s commissioned work of a customized protective shell for G.L. Bernini’s “Rio della Plata” clay bozzetto in order for the museum to safely transport it. This film follows the step-by-step production of this shell.

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Enigma: The Florence Wilson Story  
**Distributor:** Bonepicker Films  
**Producer:** Amy Newman, Richard Wright  
Canada  
47 minutes

This film follows the life of Florence Wilson, a woman of the British Columbia Cariboo Gold rush who was lost to history until researchers interested in heritage stories found records detailing her previous exciting life in England, and later, in the San Francisco area of California. Six researchers look for one woman by searching through hidden records and traveling the globe to follow her story.

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Entretejido  
**Distributor:** Documentary Educational Resources  
**Producer:** Patricia Alvarez Astacio  
Peru  
34 minutes

Entretejido is an observational-ethnographic film that weaves together the different sites and communities involved in making alpaca wool fashions. Varying representations of indigeneity emerge out of these encounters, which both challenge and reproduce historically-rooted racism.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Title</th>
<th>Distributor</th>
<th>Producer</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Expansions</strong></td>
<td><strong>Distributor:</strong> Manuel Ferrari</td>
<td><strong>Producer:</strong> Manuel Ferrari</td>
<td><strong>Argentina; Germany</strong></td>
<td><strong>30 minutes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Formerly Youth Square</strong></td>
<td><strong>Distributor:</strong> Venera Films</td>
<td><strong>Producer:</strong> Mina Akbari</td>
<td><strong>Iran</strong></td>
<td><strong>70 minutes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalist Mina Akbari’s &quot;Formerly Youth Square&quot; opens with a photograph of a group of 70 journalists taken about 20 years ago in Javanan Square. Of those, only six continue to work in their profession, including the filmmaker. Many emigrated after the 2009 unrest that followed allegedly rigged elections, a few were imprisoned, and others simply left the field. &quot;Formerly Youth Square&quot; drew such a large audience because such sensitive topics are rarely discussed in public forums.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Game Without Zero</strong></td>
<td><strong>Distributor:</strong> Atefeh Rezayan</td>
<td><strong>Producer:</strong> Atefeh Rezayan</td>
<td><strong>Iran</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 minutes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A short film that follows a young girl’s journey through an urban neighborhood to find an adequate wedding ring for her doll, permitting her to marry another one of the girl’s dolls.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Gondi Shapour
**Distributor:** IRIB Media Trade
**Producer:** Soudabeh Mogavari
*Iran*
Gondi Shapour, the first academic and international city in the world, flourished from the 3rd century AD (Sasanian Period) until the 11th century AD (Islamic Period) in southwest of Iran. The film’s basis has been library and field research on this city, with new findings emerging.

Ice Patch Archaeology
**Distributor:** Vimeo
**Producer:** Ben Skudlarek
*USA*
Ice patch discoveries provide an amazing way to capture public interest and to integrate education about archaeology and Native American cultures with our understanding of ancient and modern climate. This film provides a brief overview of more than a decade’s worth of investigation into the archaeology of alpine snow and ice in the Greater Yellowstone area of the Rocky Mountains, USA and the effects of climate change on archaeological resources.

India, Festival of Colors
**Distributor:** ARTE France
**Producer:** Tournez S’il Vous Plait
*France*
This film shares the ritual of the Holi Festival of colors and its significance in Indian culture. Occurring every spring, this festival unites the otherwise separated caste-social system of India with vibrant body painting. Each color holds a specific meaning, and all of the colors are combined on a person’s skin, representing profound love from the community. Though these various rituals, people celebrate their religion, while bringing fortune to their families in the upcoming year.

Intertwining Threads of Modern Artist
**Distributor:** Arsmedia
**Producer:** Arsmedia
*Slovenia*
Slovenia’s fascinating art of lace making has been going through a renaissance in the last decade, thanks to Slovenian modern artists, who approached lace making tradition in new forms of expression such as architecture, fashion, interior design, illustration and even culinary art. The film follows Slovenian artists from Ljubljana to London and New York in their search of preserving this rich legacy and explores unique potentials that the craft of bobbin lace-making offers in contemporary art.

Last Disintegrated School
**Distributor:** A Crowe Flyz Productions
**Producer:** A Crowe Flyz Productions
*USA*
This film shares the untold story of the day Thurgood Marshall came to a segregated mountain community called Hillburn in upstate New York. Marshall, an NAACP lawyer at the time, assisted the parents of Hillburn in breaking down racial segregation at Brook School, the last school to be integrated in New York in 1943. “Last Disintegrated School” is written by Alice Crowe and directed by Alicia Crowe, identical twins, first-time filmmakers, attorneys, and hot sauce entrepreneurs.

The Last Tlatoani
**Distributor:** Pablo Jato
**Producer:** Pablo Jato
*Mexico*
In a small Mexican town beaten down by crime and drug trafficking on the mountain of Guerrero, lie the remains of the last Aztec emperor: Cuauhtémoc. Thousands of Aztec dancers meet once a year in this town to pay homage to the last emperor killed by Hernan Cortes in 1521. The story of how they were discovered in the twentieth century, after a family kept the secret of its location for 4 centuries.
Layers of Pompeii
**Distributor:** Kevin Taylor Anderson  
**Producer:** Kevin Taylor Anderson  
**USA**  
26 minutes
This documentary film approaches contemporary Pompeii with an ethnographic lens, exploring the range of reasons tourists have for visiting the site while giving voice to those who interpret, maintain, and study the ancient Roman city. What is unearthed exposes disjuncture between the modern city surrounding the archaeological park and the site itself, but also the fragile state of the city “frozen in time.”

Like a Forest in the Bed of Its Own Leaves
**Distributor:** Hatam Naeejzadeh  
**Producer:** Hatam Naeejzadeh  
**Iran**  
78 minutes
This documentary follows the lives of cowherds in the north Iranian region of Tabarestan. In the middle of making the documentary, the genre was converted to an experimental feature. A documentary about traditional animal-husbandry of northern Iran transforms into a film about experimental film-making.

Looking for Sapiens
**Distributor:** ca tourne!  
**Producer:** Pauline Coste  
**France**  
57 minutes
“Looking for Sapiens” looks to explore the clichés we carry from the 19th century about our prehistoric ancestor – the “caveman.” The film consults prehistorians and enthusiasts about how we can see and normalize a more accurate vision of these Paleolithic populations, a vision based on scientific research.

Lorestan, the ancient land of the Kassite People
**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Producer:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Iran**  
64 minutes
The Zargos Mountain Range in the Lorestan Region of Iran has drawn settlers for thousands of years, as the region provides an exceptional defensive formation and an abundance of resources. Among the region’s inhabitants are the Kassite people. Focusing on the Kassite ethnic culture of the second & third millennium B.C., archaeologists study Kassite-associated artifacts in an attempt to better understand this under-studied society.

Mahiak
**Distributor:** Nora Film  
**Producer:** Iranian Youth Cinema Society  
**Iran**  
30 minutes
Doctors gave her a 0% chance to live and the hospital rejected her at birth. Follow a young woman’s journey though the modern world in an attempt to find her place in the patriarchal Iranian society while dealing with a rare skin disease.

Maasai Remix
**Distributor:** Gris-Gris Films  
**Producer:** Kelly Askew, Adam Mwarabu, Frank Kaipai, Evalyne Mkulati  
**Tanzania; USA**  
67 minutes
Maasai Remix follows three Maasai who—in the United Nations, a Tanzanian village, an American university—confront challenges by drawing strength from local traditions, modifying them when necessary, and melding them with new resources. Sharing a goal of Maasai self-determination in an ever-changing world, Adam Mwarabu, Evalyne Mkulati and Frank Kaipai innovate while maintaining an abiding respect and love for their culture.
M’Hamid Oasis Morocco

**Distributor:** Monika Koeck  
**Producer:** Monika Koeck  
**Distributor:** Monika Koeck  
**Producer:** Monika Koeck  
**Distributor:** Monika Koeck  
**Producer:** Monika Koeck  
**Distributor:** Monika Koeck  
**Producer:** Monika Koeck

This film documents the restoration work undertaken by an international team of researchers and volunteers in the most remote oasis of the Draa Valley, at the edge of the Sahara Desert. Involving the local community as well as professionals from around the world, the team restored and documented the oasis’s endangered cultural heritage. The film creates awareness of the cultural significance of this place and highlights the synergy of heritage preservation and community empowerment.

Monsters and Myths

**Distributor:** ZDF Enterprises GmbH  
**Producer:** Iris Schaffer-Flechtner-NEP neue film production GmbH

Dragons may be the most prominent monsters of all time. They are used to portray the power of Chinese Emperors, and served as the face of the enemy or even the devil. Myths of real monsters that wander through undiscovered parts of our planet. In the most unknown territories of life – the deep sea and darkest woods – this film uses scientific methods to track down the truth behind these myths.

MotherLand

**Distributor:** Baset Zandi  
**Producer:** Baset Zandi

After having a nightmare in which his mother dies, a man is awoken from a coma. As he leaves the hospital to check on her, he finds years have gone by since he’s been awake and home. When he returns, he is shocked to find his mother is not there. “Motherland” follows the story of his return home and his discovery of the truth of what happened to his mother.

Music Monks

**Distributor:** New Salt Media  
**Producer:** Qiaoli Wang

While Chinese Gongfu Monks are world-famous today, little is known about the mysterious Music Monks. Founded in 555 AD, Xiangguo Temple preserved the secret roots of Chinese music through efforts of generations. However, the continuous trauma of the last one hundred years has had a devastating effect on the music. Now, three talented young members of the orchestra continue the work of the Music Monks.

Mysteries of the Lake

**Distributor:** Armin Isarian  
**Producer:** Armin Isarian

The northwest Iranian archaeological site of Takht-e-Soleyman and its mysterious lake abound with secrets, myths and legends. The bottom of this lake is untouched because of its poisonous water and mountainous location. For the first time in history, we have successfully opened the way to the dark depths of the lake. This film introduce this historical place and attempts to unveil what lies beneath the surface.

A New Era

**Distributor:** Prima Luce  
**Producer:** Macalube Films, Prima Luce

Local authorities evict 2,000 villagers from Guanzhou, a river island in Southern China, to make way for new urban planning projects - a fate shared by five billion rural citizens of China yearly. In spite of the demolition of their homes and the dangers of police pressure, a handful of inhabitants return to the island. They battle to save their ancestral land from the metropolis which inexorably advances towards them.

Of Salt and Earth: A Funeral Ritual

**Distributor:** Junta Vecinal de Quintanalara (Burgos), Asociación Para el Desarrollo de Tierra de Lara  
**Producer:** Junta Vecinal de Quintanalara (Burgos), Asociación Para el Desarrollo de Tierra de Lara

The cult of death occurs in all civilizations and manifests in funeral rituals. In about the sixteenth century, a new funerary practice emerged, half religious and half pagan, the so-called “salt plates and bowls.” The archaeological excavation at the church of San Pantaleón in Quintanalara, in the Province of Burgos, Spain, immerses us in this ritual, so unusual in its origin and meaning.

Old Henry's Bones

**Distributor:** Andrew Francisco  
**Producer:** Andrew Francisco

"There's a difference, you know, between living and existing." Can a human being live for 134 years, as locals of a small upstate New York town maintain about the filmmaker's ancestor Henry Francisco? This character-driven documentary traces the borders of certainty through a legend rooted in nationalism and belief in the hereafter. Framed as a genealogical quest, “Old Henry's Bones” maps the topography of nostalgia and conviction in rural America.
Old Man's Heavy Sleep
**Distributor:** Mostafa Rostampour  
**Producer:** Mostafa Rostampour  
**Iran**  
15 minutes
This film is about the modern human family in which loneliness is dominant. We show the life of an old man who is left alone after his children’s departure. He desires death because of his new isolation. His only companion is a man who lives downstairs.

On the Trail of the Imperial Palace
**Distributor:** Slobodon Maksić  
**Producer:** Slobodon Maksić  
**Serbia**  
25 minutes
Join us on a journey to Glac field near Sirmium (Sremska Mitrovica) in Serbia, where Serbian and Australian archaeologists are excavating what they suspect is a palace of Maximianus Herculis. Find out how they came together on this journey through time, what they expect of the excavations and what their plans for the future are.

Orkiteng Loorbaak: Rite of Elders
**Distributor:** Gris-Gris Films  
**Producer:** Kelly Askew, Adam Mwarabu, Frank Kaipai, Evalyne Mkulati  
**Tanzania; USA**  
37 minutes
Maasai pastoralists are recognized throughout the world as iconic representations of Africa, warriorhood, and masculine prowess. In a rare intimate portrait, we follow Frank Ole Kaipai, chairman of Lesoit village in Tanzania, as he undergoes the Maasai life cycle ceremony to become a full-edged elder. Drawing on nearly eight years of anthropologic fieldwork, see how a Maasai community comes together to celebrate not only age and experience, but the women who bring men into the world.

Oudlajan
**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Producer:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Iran**  
29 minutes
Watch the development of Tehran from its beginnings as a 12 district village to a fortified city, culminating in the present day. Through the centuries the most iconic districts, like Oudlajan developed into cultural hubs. At one time Oudlajan served as the city’s Jewish district. Unlike the Jewish communities of Europe, Oudlajan provided Jews with a safe neighbourhoods allowing them to intermingle peacefully with Muslims.

Our Last Chance: Preserving Cape Canaveral
**Distributor:** Digital Heritage and Humanities Collections at the University of South Florida  
**Producer:** Gary Granger  
**USA**  
29 minutes
The Digital Heritage and Humanities Collections at the University of South Florida (USF) Libraries and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station 45th Space Wing worked together to digitally preserve historic launch complexes relating to our nation's early space history. This docu-short film follows the team and showcases the scientific exploration and the partnership with the 45th Space Wing to preserve these important sites, memories, and the pioneering spirit that pushed us to the moon and beyond.

Passmore Williamson Hoopes: "Seeds of Hope"
**Distributor:** One 4 The Ages Film Production  
**Producer:** One 4 The Ages Film Production  
**USA**  
11 minutes
The son of immigrant Quakers, Passmore Williamson grew up with humble and honest beginnings. However like most young men of this era Passmore would be thrust into the middle of American Civil War, caught in the crossfire between duty, honor, and morality.

Pixels of the Past: Archaeology of the Abbey of Cormery
**Distributor:** Thomas Pouyet  
**Producer:** Thomas Pouyet  
**France**  
13 minutes
This documentary explores the backstage of the archaeological research made in the ancient abbey of Cormery in the Loire valley. From the stones to the pixels, this film explores the questions and issues of the past and present research, showing the timeless aspect of the historical inquiry.

The Plight of Arezzo: The Story of a Fortress Set Against a City
**Distributor:** Gaetano Maria Mastrocinque, Marco Giustini, Federico Colizzi  
**Producer:** Gaetano Maria Mastrocinque, Marco Giustini, Federico Colizzi  
**Italy**  
22 minutes
The documentary traces the fundamental historical steps that led Cosimo I De Medici to establish the Medici Fortress on the hill of San Donato in Arezzo. It shows, in an epic and evocative key, how this mighty Renaissance fortification was able to dominate the entire city. It is an investigation of the origins and identity of the millennial history of the city of Arezzo.
Prehistoric Bajada "Hanging" Canals of the Safford AZ Basin  
**Distributor:** Various ARA Members  
**Producer:** Various ARA Members  
**USA**  
27 minutes

A large network of exceptionally well-engineered prehistoric canals has now been discovered near Safford, Arizona. The vast majority date to between AD 1250 and AD 1450 and appear to have been constructed by migrants from northeastern Arizona. These features now represent the second largest network of canal systems in the American Southwest, and, while smaller in size than the canal systems of the Phoenix Basin, they exhibit an engineering sophistication not found in those systems.

The Quest of the Dead Sea Scrolls  
**Distributor:** Sydonia Entertainment  
**Producer:** Sydonia Production Srl  
**Italy**  
51 minutes

Seventy years after their recovery, the Dead Sea Scrolls are still a thought-provoking matter of debate. Who wrote these scrolls? Where have they been realized? And how? From the stratigraphic excavations to the chemical analysis of the inks: a journey into science, to the discovery of the most interesting investigations carried out on this intriguing archaeological puzzle. A fascinating path that will finally unveil all the mysteries of the “Qumran keepers.”

Ralph and the Dinosaurs, Episode 22, V for Vulcanodon  
**Distributor:** Nadasdy Film  
**Producer:** Nadasdy Film  
**Switzerland**  
5 minutes

Did you know that some dinosaurs had fur, that Tyrannosaurus wasn’t the biggest flesh eating dinosaur, that each year we discover new species of dinosaurs? Since their existence was discovered on this planet, what we know about dinosaurs and what they looked like hasn’t stopped changing. Follow Ralph’s adventures in the world of dinosaurs and have fun learning or refreshing your ideas about what you think you already know.

The Sacred Enclosures  
**Distributor:** Raul Losada  
**Producer:** Raul Losada  
**Portugal**  
3 minutes

This documentary focuses on the Perdigões Archaeological complex, built between 3500 and 2000 BC. Through excavation after excavation, we learned more about the activities of the people who lived there 5,000 years ago: which utensils they used, how they organized themselves, how they dealt with death and how they handled the unknown.

Seville Holy Week  
**Distributor:** ARTE France  
**Producer:** Tournez S’il Vous Plait  
**France**  
26 minutes

For nine days a year Seville is flooded with Catholics from all over the world to celebrate Holy Week. The festival honors the crucifixion of Christ and the fragile beauty of life through a series of parades. Watch as each aspect of the festival comes together to form the grand spectacle that is Holy Week.

The Shadow of the Khan  
**Distributor:** Yasmeen Mamdouh  
**Producer:** Yasmeen Mamdouh  
**Egypt**  
10 minutes

Khan El Khalili is an old Egyptian market that has been an indispensable aspect of Egyptian heritage. However, the Khan El Khalili craftsmen now face ongoing social and economic challenges that endanger their professions.

Sheep Will Devour Us  
**Distributor:** Mostafa Rostampour  
**Producer:** Mostafa Rostampour  
**Iran**  
16 minutes

The story of the life of a girl called Tahereh, who is an unfortunate victim of a premature marriage. Now she wants to prevent her sister Khatereh from repeating those bitter memories.

Sicily Grand Tour 2.0  
**Distributor:** Fine Aft Produzioni srl  
**Producer:** Lorenzo Daniele for Fine Art Produzioni srl  
**Italy**  
89 minutes

Giorgio, a young university student, finds the works of an eighteenth century French architect by the name of Jean Houel. Houel’s descriptions of the Mediterranean island Sicily inspire Giorgio to begin his own exploration of the island, in which he creates his guide “Voyage pittoresque des isles de Sicilie de Malte et de Lipari.” Giorgio provides a unique and contemporary experience through encounters with the local populations.
The Sound of Bells
**Distributor:** Documentary Educational Resources (DER)  **Brazil**
**Producer:** Estudio CRUA  **70 minutes**

In the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais, the chimes of bells set the pace of life for its residents, announcing time for work, rest, prayer and celebration. Nominated as Brazilian Intangible Cultural Heritage, the sounds of the bells have transformed through time since their colonial origins, influenced by strong African heritage within the country. This documentary is a poetic representation of religious practice and experience in everyday life.

Stephen the Great: History of Moldova
**Distributor:** Exclusiv Media  **Moldova**
**Producer:** Exclusiv Media  **45 minutes**

Medieval Moldavian principality. Dark times. Brother against brother. A young heir of the throne sees the murder of his father. This film tells the life story of one of the most remarkable people in Moldavian history, a ruler who united the principality and strengthened the Orthodox faith: Prince Stephan the Great.

Supay
**Distributor:** Cholo Films  **Peru**
**Producer:** Diego Serrano, Eduardo Noblecilla  **16 minutes**

Heirs of a mystical Andean tradition, scissor dancers face extreme risks with grace and physical dexterity. Two brothers practicing this art-form, Rupaq and Misti, introduce us to the heart of a traditional festival within the town of Occochirura. They display the value of their customs and their unique connection with nature.

Survival of the Fittest
**Distributor:** Midia Kiasat  **Iran**
**Producer:** Sina Ghanadan  **28 minutes**

An Iranian family’s poor economic conditions become a matter of life-and-death when the eldest son loses his factory job. He concocts a plot to murder his ill father for his inheritance: a house that his father is keeping from his two sons. The younger son, driven by a desire to avoid the same economic trap his father and brother have fallen in, aids him.

Sweetheart Dancers
**Distributor:** Documentary Educational Resources (DER)  **USA**
**Producer:** Ben Alex Dupris  **14 minutes**

The ‘Sweetheart Dance’, a Native American celebration, has evolved over 30 years as a contest, lifestyle and sport for families who wish to carry on the culture of their ancestors through competitive dance. Traditionally a sport for a man and woman partnership, Two-Spirit couple Sean and Adrian boldly challenge this notion, hoping to rewrite the rules of their culture. This film explores the intersection of Native and LGBTQ+ identities.

Swift & Bold
**Distributor:** Mountain Goat Film Co.  **Canada**
**Producer:** Mountain Goat Film Co.  **22 minutes**

This documentary chronicles the history of Canada's oldest army regiment: the Queen's York Rangers. Follow the rangers’ two-hundred and fifty year journey from the American Revolution into the modern War On Terror as they continue to build their legacy.

Tat-Dwelling Heights
**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  **Iran**
**Producer:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  **51 minutes**

This documentary studies the Tat ethnic group in Iran and their attempt to remain relevant in a national culture that is quickly consolidating, excluding a vast number of social groups. Learn about the Tat’s historical and cultural importance, their identity and dialect, as well as how these variables play into their national identity.

The Theater of Scupi
**Distributor:** Focus Pocus  **North Macedonia**
**Producer:** Darko Popov for Focus Pocus  **52 minutes**

An introduction into archaeology as a science and conservation as a craft, this film follows the reconstruction of the theater of Scupi, a nationally and culturally significant Roman theater. Beginning with the town’s establishment in Dardania during the reign of Tiberius, its time as a legionary settlement and then the construction of the theater, the narrative is woven together through interviews with prominent contributing archaeologists, architects and historians.
Till the Following Morning

**Distributor:** Makan Mansourian  
**Producer:** Makan Mansourian  
**Iran**  
27 minutes

Sarah, a girl from a rich unreligious family in Tehran, lives in a studio apartment. One night her boyfriend, Khosro, comes to Sarah’s apartment with his friend Khalil. The night passes in a blur until Sarah wakes up the next morning to find herself alone. She finds two cell phones left by Khosro at her apartment. Unable to remember what has happened last night, she suddenly notices two blood stains on the carpet.

Under the Blade

**Distributor:** Javid Farahani  
**Producer:** Javid Farahani  
**Iran**  
15 minutes

A female director is challenged by religious and cultural taboos while creating her film. A rape scene within her script drives away actresses fearing legal repercussions for crossing social and religious boundaries within society.

Vangeva

**Distributor:** Hatam Naejzadeh  
**Producer:** Hatam Naejzadeh  
**Iran**  
11 minutes

Iranian cowboys, termed “Galeshes,” face a number of challenges while maintaining their traditional livestock farms. On one farm, a cow loses her calf, prompting her to gradually cut off milk production. A traditional method is employed to make the mother believe her calf is still alive in order to prevent this. On another farm, a leopard has been attacking livestock, but the Galeshes believe one of the cows taken is still alive within the woods.

The Voyages of Copper [Parts I-IV]

**Distributor:** ARS ARETE: Civic Association  
**Producer:** ARS ARETE: Civic Association  
**Slovakia**  
109 minutes

An extraordinary insight in the history of mining and metallurgy from Late Middle Ages to Early Modern Era. The story begins at a 500-year-old Portuguese shipwreck on the coast of Namibia. Along with golden coins and other valuable artefacts, the ship was carrying a large amount of copper. The search for its origins paints a fascinating story against the backdrop of the historical quest to satisfy the demand and desire for spices.

Walking on Water

**Distributor:** Advaita Film Srl  
**Producer:** Advaita Film Srl  
**Italy**  
50 minutes

The flood of 1966 in Florence through the eyes, camera and creativity of Beppe Fantacci, who helped the famous artisans of Florence survive the devastation of the city. A forgotten story of desperation, creativity and recovery, the film features unreleased footage, and exclusive memories of the flood by families such as Bargellini, Ferragamo, Pucci, Tayar, and by gifted artisans who survived nowadays thanks to men like Beppe Fantacci.

Where the Wind Blows

**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Producer:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center (DEFC)  
**Iran**  
18 minutes

This documentary studies the phenomena and consequences of drought with respect to its natural causes as well as artificial ones such as the expansion of mines, industries, and roads, as well as the involuntary migration of villagers to cities.

Wild Horses -- A Micro/Mini-documentary

**Distributor:** Wild Horse Ranch Productions  
**Producer:** Wild Horse Ranch Productions  
**USA**  
4 minutes

American wild horses, a North American native species, are quickly disappearing. Once a thriving population of 2-million horses in the 1920s, they are down to just about 5% of their original population today. This film depicts American wild horses in a naturally balanced ecosystem where the vigor of the species is preserved without human intervention.

With the Wind

**Distributor:** Farhad Pakdel  
**Producer:** Farhad Pakdel  
**Iran**  
13 minutes

Mitra, a Qashqai woman in Iran, awaits for the return of her nomad fiancé from the winter pasture. On the night he is supposed to return, a documentary film-maker arrives in the village, seeking participants for a survey about a local dialect. The following day, Mitra and her blind brother accompany the film maker to the ancient Fire Temple and the Palace of Ardestir.
About *The Archaeology Channel*

*The Archaeology Channel* (http://www.archaeologychannel.org) is a streaming-media Web site introduced in 1999 by nonprofit Archaeological Legacy Institute (ALI) as its first and principal project. Its purpose is to tell the human story to people everywhere through digital media and cutting-edge technology. In a very real sense, we have combined the best of the old with the best of the new, because in our view, we human beings need to reflect on our past as we plan for a better future.

Using streaming-media technology, visitors to TAC from anywhere can experience our video and audio content on demand, at any time. We launched video programming in 2000 and audio in 2001. Our customized player delivers programming to all media devices in use today. TAC is mobile-friendly.

TAC is one of the top archaeology-related websites. Annual traffic averages around one million page views. Our content has grown to hundreds of streaming videos and a monthly half-hour cable TV-show called *Strata: Portraits of Humanity*, bringing you video portraits building on the many layers of the human experience, delivered on TAC, on a growing network of dozens of cable TV stations (including local Channel 29), and via the Comcast on-demand local menu in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California. TAC carries a long list of audio programs, including our weekly *Audio News from Archaeologica* podcast (with more than 200,000 monthly listeners), commentaries, interviews, indigenous stories, and *The Human Experience* program series. ALI reaches out through a long list of social media platforms, including our YouTube channel with more than a thousand subscribers. We have an active and growing film production program, a growing list of film titles available for rent or purchase on Amazon, and a new platform, Heritage Broadcasting Service, on which we are delivering the on-demand screenings for TAC Festival 2020 films. Our audience is very diverse, including educators, students and adventuresome, imaginative people of all ages. Now we have even branched out to cultural heritage tours, featuring archaeological sites in Malta, Peru, Britain, the Yucatan Peninsula, and Iran.

Because ALI is a tax-exempt nonprofit, our business model is similar to that of public broadcasting organizations like PBS, NPR and KLCC. We rely heavily on our Membership Program, underwriting, grants, and contracts. You can help assure the continued growth and success of *The Archaeology Channel* and our other initiatives by becoming a TAC Member. Please go to archaeologychannel.org/donate (or send a check to TAC Membership, PO Box 5302, Eugene, OR 97405) to make your contribution. To make a contribution by credit card, please call us at 541-345-5538. The amounts listed below are suggestions only—we accept any amount. Thanks very much!

Membership Category:  Child ($18)  
Limited or Fixed Income ($20)  
Student ($25)  
Organization ($45 or $95)  
Organization ($250 or $500)  
Lifetime ($1000)  
Quantum Benefactor ($5000)  

*The Archaeology Channel* International Film Festival • May 13-17, 2020
An Educational Tour Designed for ALI and Led by *Standing With Stones* Filmmakers Michael Bott and Rupert Soskin!

**Dates:** September 11 - 23, 2020  
**Registration Deadline:** June 11

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**The Megalithic Britain Experience**  
**Itinerary & Main Destinations**

- **Day 1—3 Orkney Islands:** Our journey begins in Kirkwall, in the Orkneys, where we spend three nights and visit a surprising group of sites comprising the World Heritage Site known as the Heart of Neolithic Orkney.

- **Day 4-5 Kilmartin:** For the first time, our tour will drive to Kilmartin on the West side of Scotland, enjoy a stunning view of the famous Loch Ness, and visit a remarkable variety of sites in and around Kilmartin Glen.

- **Day 6-7 Keswick in the Lake District of Cumbria:** Our launch point to see the stone circles of Long Meg and Her Daughters, the sixth-largest in Britain, and Castlerigg, whose majestic beauty inspired Romantic poets.

- **Day 9-10 Stratford-Upon-Avon:** Enjoy the beauty of Shakespeare’s hometown before visiting the hilltop barrow of Belas Knap.

- **Day 12 Stonehenge:** A sunset visit to Stonehenge within the stones, something not permitted to regular public visitors.

For more details, please visit [www.archaeologychannel.org/tours](http://www.archaeologychannel.org/tours)

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**Meet Your Expert Guides**

A decade ago, our tour guides Michael Bott and Rupert Soskin released *Standing with Stones*, the only comprehensive film overview of the megalithic monuments of the British Isles. This remarkable feature-length documentary film and book take the viewer on a journey of discovery, revealing the true extent and variety of megalithic Britain and Ireland.
Building and Redefining Community...

CULTURALLY As demonstrated through our magical annual celebration and through fostering the culture of public art throughout our region year-round.

ECONOMICALLY Helping drive our local economy, authentically, through serving as an incubator for nurturing small businesses, hand-craft artisans & entertainers and by attracting tourism dollars from around the world.

PHILANTHROPICALLY From our earliest roots and elemental to developing our long-lived success, our three primary funding programs provide opportunities to further our non-profit mission and support our community.

ENVIRONMENTALLY From our Zero Waste and alternative energy initiatives, to our partnership with LTD and our continuing commitment to stewardship on our 446 acre home, we are consciously working to build a greener future.

GENERATION-ALLY Through our Youth Programs featuring Culture Jam, a yearly gathering of youth ages 14-18 from diverse cultures and economic backgrounds who care about the world and changing our future through the empowerment and creativity of our youth.

Please visit us online to learn more: www.oregoncountryfair.org