



**RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES HIGHLY ANTICIPATED
LINE-UP FOR 2018**

**RAY WINSTONE, ADRIAN LESTER, LAURA CARMICHAEL,
ANNABELLE WALLIS, JONATHAN PRYCE AND GARETH EDWARDS
AMONG FESTIVAL JURORS**

**PRINCESITA, DIRECTED BY MARIALY RIVAS AND PRODUCED BY
THE LARRAIN BROTHERS' FABULA, TO OPEN THE FESTIVAL**

**GEORGE MICHAEL AND DAVID AUSTIN'S
GEORGE MICHAEL: FREEDOM - DIRECTOR'S CUT
TO SCREEN AS GAY TIMES SPECIAL SCREENING**

**7 MIRACLES, THE WORLD'S FIRST FEATURE-LENGTH CINEMATIC
VR EXPERIENCE TO RECEIVE ITS WORLD PREMIERE**

To download full press release go to:

<https://www.raindance.org/launch-press-release/>

LONDON - WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST, 2018:

The Raindance Film Festival in partnership with Lumix today announced its highly-anticipated line-up in full of over 80 feature films, 99 short films, 22 music videos and 33 VR experiences, including **31 World Premieres, 28 International, 21 European and 81 UK Premieres**. Celebrating its 26th year, Raindance Film Festival will take place in London's West End from Wednesday 26 September until Sunday 7 October, 2018.

Elliot Grove, Raindance Founder, “Independent film matters more than ever. Our varied programme of the very best of independent, uncensored cinema has the power to transport from our place of overwhelm - breaking down barriers and allowing us to understand how people with very different circumstances from all over the globe live, work and play. We are proud to give a voice to the outsiders, the rebels, the dreamers and the poets and to celebrate films of dissent, which challenge society.”

Elliot Grove was joined by jury member, Judi Shekoni (*Maleficent 2, Breaking Dawn - Part 2*) as they revealed this year’s competition films in the International and UK Features, Documentaries, Shorts and Web Series categories, as well as the programme for the much anticipated Virtual Reality strand.

The UK Premiere of award winning director Marialy’s Rivas’ *Princesita* will be the Opening Night Film. Produced by Fabula, the Chilean production company created by the Larrain brothers, the film tells the story of twelve-year-old Tamara, who has been raised in a cult. As she becomes a young woman, she receives instructions for her life mission: to carry the successor, fathered by the cult leader, the charismatic Miguel.

The festival received a record-breaking number of submissions (8929 total) this year from over 118 countries, the highest it has received to date and will screen almost 250 projects - including features, shorts, webfest, VR and music videos selected by our team of 20 programmers, who watched over 4000 hours of footage. A champion of independent filmmaking, Raindance is the largest independent film festival in Europe and has consistently been a great supporter of the UK film industry.

Along with **Judi Shekoni**, this year’s competition films will be judged by a panel of a number of eminent industry professionals such as writer **John Harris Dunning** and **Alex Hoffman** (*Global Executive Producer, Head of Music for VICE UK*) plus high profile supporters such as **Michael Flatley** (*Blackbird*), **Ray Winstone** (*The Departed, Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*), **Jonathan Pryce CBE** (*Game of Thrones, Tomorrow Never Dies, Pirates of the Caribbean*), **Carmen Ejogo** (*Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, Selma*), **Adrian Lester OBE** (*Hustle, The Day After Tomorrow*), **Aisling Loftus** (*Mr Selfridge, War & Peace*), **Gareth Edwards** (*Rogue One: A Star Wars Story, Star Wars: The Last Jedi*), **Juliet Stevenson CBE** (*Truly, Madly, Deeply, Bend It Like Beckham*), **Rufus Sewell** (*Dark City, A Knight’s Tale*), **Greta Scacchi** (*Presumed Innocent, White Mischief*), **Sienna Guillory** (*Resident Evil: Retribution, Resident Evil: Apocalypse*), **Jenny Agutter** (*Logan’s Run, An American Werewolf in London, The Avengers*), **Annabelle Wallis** (*The Mummy, Peaky Blinders*), **Laura Carmichael** (*Man in an Orange Shirt, Downton Abbey*), **Karen Bryson** (*Shameless*), **Genevieve O’Reilly** (*Rogue One: A Star Wars Story, Tin Star*), **Madeleine Mantock** (*Charmed, Into The Badlands*) and **Rupert Evans** (*The Man in the High Castle, Hellboy*).

In recognition of the outstanding achievements of this year's filmmakers, the jury will watch each of the films nominated in the following categories: **Best International Film, Best UK Film, Best Director, Best Performance, Best Script, Best Cinematography, Discovery Award** and **Best Documentary**.

Films nominated for Best International Film include the Opening Night film, **Princesita** (Chile/Argentina/Spain); Israeli director Veronica Kedar's **Family** (Israel/Germany); Kosai Sekine's debut feature-length film **Love at Least** (Japan), a radical, stupid and very real love story; Sophie Fillières' **When Margaux Meets Margaux** (France); Rene Eller's **We** (The Netherlands/Belgium); directorial debuts from the Far East include Aya Igashi's **A Crimson Star** (Japan) and Fog Forest's **The End of Wind** (China); in Sean Hamish's **Saint Judy** (USA), executive produced by Alfred Molina and starring Michelle Monaghan, we follow episodes of a fictitious regime change when, for an exceptional moment, power is held by ordinary people; Christopher Greenslate's **Saviours** (USA) follows a young woman who embeds herself in a white power group in order to find her adoptive African-American mother; Sara Forestier's **M** (France) is an opposites attract love story of Lila and Mo.

Films nominated for Best UK Film include George Michael and David Austin's **George Michael: Freedom - Director's Cut**, chosen as the Gay Times Special Screening, and featuring over thirty minutes of never seen before private footage, extraordinary performances and insight from famous friends - George's self-portrait is one of love, loss, success, defeat and his creative process, revealing how the superstar masters the art of being one of the most influential artists of his generation. Other nominees include Blair Macdonald and Oliver Clark's debut feature **Team Khan** is a fly-on-the-wall documentary about professional boxer Amir Khan, filmed between 2014 - 16 as he chases a fight with the unbeaten superstar Floyd Mayweather Jr, whilst outside of the ring Amir must grapple with the significance of family, fame, and religion, as he grows from boxing's golden child into a man; Louis Myles' **Kaiser! The Greatest Footballer Never to Play Football** is the tale of the greatest sporting fraud of all time; **We the Kings**, directed by Lauren McKenzie, is a contemporary thriller, in which a fostered teenager has a vendetta against the former guardian of his foster brother; Marc Price's debut film Colin won Best Feature at Raindance, his latest feature, **Nightshooters** is a contemporary thriller and a love letter to low-budget filmmaking and 80s action films.

Additional narrative features are considered in the Discovery Award, which is given to Best Debut Film. Films nominated in this category include Andrea Jaurieta's **Ana By Day** (Spain), when Ana's double appears and takes her place she is totally free and able to explore her new anonymity and freedom; starring *Homeland*'s Morgan Saylor and directed by Hanna Ladoul and Marco La Via, **We The Coyotes** (USA) is the story of a couple starting their new life together in Los Angeles; Nikola Mijović and Vlastimir Sudar's **Borders, Raindrops** (Republic of Srpska/Bosnia and Herzegovina/Montenegro/Serbia/Sweden/UK) is the story of a young city girl, who visits her family high up in the Balkan mountains, recently divided by new borders; Lazar Bodroza's **Ederlezi Rising** (Serbia), is a story of an astronaut sent on a long intergalactic

mission, accompanied by a female android who he begins to fall in love with; in Piotr Domalewski's **Silent Night** (Poland), it is Christmas Eve and Adam, a young economic migrant, returns home unannounced for a traditional supper, though nobody suspects the true reason for his unexpected return.

Films vying for the Best Documentary Award include **Ballet Now** (USA), directed by Steven Cantor, executive producers include Elisabeth Moss (*Mad Men*, *The Handmaid's Tale*), which follows dance sensation Tiler Peck is a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process involved in curating a three-day dance series, seeking to push boundaries; Editor-in-Chief of Kino-Zeit, the largest German-language publication for arthouse cinema, Beatrice Behn and René Gebhardt have collaborated on **The Artist & the Pervert** (Germany), a ground-breaking film documents the lives of a renowned composer of symphonic music, descended from Nazi ancestors and his wife, an African-American kink educator, who engage in a controversial role-play game between a white master and a black slave; Jeff and Michael Zimbalist's **Nossa Chape** (Brazil, Colombia, Spain) tracks the rebuilding of the Chapecoense football club in Brazil after an airplane crash left only three players alive; Denali Tiller's **Tre Maison Dasan** (USA) is an intimate portrait of three boys growing up, each with a parent in prison; **Rumble: The Indians who Rocked the World** (Canada), directed by Catherine Bainbridge, is a feature documentary about the role of Native Americans in popular music history.

Other music documentary highlights in 2018 include several World Premieres:, John Alexander's **This Is Love** (USA) in which music legends George Clinton, Mick Fleetwood, Sinbad, and Norman Jay unveil an unsung hero of soul, Rudy Love, who turned down fame to make music with his family, yet whose influence is felt today - the screening will be followed by concert at The 100 Club; **RISE: The Story of Augustines** (USA) chronicles the inspirational journey of William McCarthy & Eric Sanderson's rise to critical indie acclaim and the tragic death of McCarthy's younger brother, James; Jordan Albertsen's **Boom** (USA) is the story of one of Rock'n'Roll's wildest and most influential bands, The Sonics and features interviews with artists including Pearl Jam, The Sex Pistols, Heart, and Mudhoney.

Other noteworthy films playing at the festival include Jay Alvarez's **Dizzy Pursuit** (USA), exec produced by Anthony and Joe Russo, where a young couple receives unwanted visits from family members while trying to cast their independent feature film; Peter Medak's **The Ghost of Peter Sellers** (Cyprus), is a tragicomic documentary about young director desperately tries to complete a film on the open sea, while battling its star actor, who is trying to sabotage the film; directed by his wife, Saskia Boddeke, **The Greenaway Alphabet** (Netherlands) is a deeply personal and powerful portrait chronicling conversations between the renowned filmmaker and his daughter.

The international short film competition slate includes ***Souls of Totality*** (dir: Richard Raymond, UK/USA), a love story about the intensity of a looming moment that can change everything; ***June 21*** (dir: Nagisa Morimoto, France) about a young man who helps a clinic patient break out of her room and together, they set off to venture far from the city and enjoy the summer days; ***Imfura*** (dir: Ishimwe Samuel, Switzerland/Rwanda) which casts a light on the issues faced by families who were torn apart by the Rwandan genocide; ***The Last Day of the Empire*** (dirs: Anna Rubi and Julia Halasz, Hungary) about the last days of a fictitious regime change; and ***Clean Blood*** (dir: Jordan Michael Blake, USA) - Christmas movie about family, the apocalypse and an immaculately pregnant man.

UK Short Films include Jon Drever's ***Thawed*** in a which a woman has brought back her husband from cryogenic suspension; Charlotte Regan's ***Little Monster*** A man has his first phone call to his daughter after being sent to prison; in Aaron Dunleavy's ***Landsharks*** a young teenage boy is lured into the jaws of an underground loan shark; in Nicholas Eriksson's ***Ellston Bay*** when Keir decides to re-establish contact with his estranged father, he returns to his hometown by the sea, and quickly discovers that all is not as it seems on the surface; Iesh Thapar's ***Alien Culture*** is set in West London, 1979 where racial tensions are running high.

Another short of note is Eli Powers' ***Holy Moses*** (USA), starring and exec produced by Amanda Seyfried - a strange mystery involving a missing Irish cow which turns up in American nowhere twenty-five years later.

This year's Queer Film strand will once again showcase outstanding creations from the LGBTQ+ community. ***Dykes, Camera, Action!*** is an outstanding introduction to lesbian cinema and provides a history of queer film from a lesbian perspective that explores both mainstream work and arthouse cinema. Another historical look into the queer community will be provided by ***Ruminations***, an endearing dive into the life of Rumi Missabu, the founder of San Francisco based theatre group The Cockettes. Finally, ***Kill The Monsters*** is an artful and sensitive look into a polyamorous relationship tackling both the triviality and the hardships of contemporary romance which is not to be missed.

Raindance proudly supports female filmmakers and we are pleased to announce female centred indie films by both up and coming and established female filmmakers as well as documentaries celebrating inspiring women from around the world. A few examples showing the breadth of female centred indie offerings this year include the beautifully shot feature film ***Princesita*** directed by Marialy Rivas and the inspiring documentary ***The Last Fight*** about Marloes Coenen, a Dutch mixed martial arts fighter approaching retirement and her preparation, doubts and fears surrounding her final fight for the MMA championship.

Renowned filmmaker **Allison Anders** will be attending Raindance with a retrospective of her 90's indie hit ***Mi Vida Loca*** - the film looks beyond the surface of the lives of Hispanic girl gangs and attempts to create a deeper portrait of young women in the Echo Park section of Los Angeles. Allison Anders will also host an unmissable Lumix Masterclass. With a career spanning over 3 decades, Allison has always shared tales of punks, outsiders, and strong feminist statements. Her work has ranged from indie classics like *Mi Vida Loca* and *4 Rooms*, to recent high profile work such as *Orange is the New Black*. Her personal experience of abandonment, survival and success during her early life echo throughout her films, and instills them with a sense of raw truth that so many strive to capture.

RAINDANCE IMMERSIVE STORIES AND INTERACTIVE WORLDS

Raindance Film Festival continues to champion creators who are pushing the artistic development of the new mediums of Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality. This year's immersive strand, **Raindance Immersive Stories and Interactive Worlds**, held between Thursday 4th - Sunday 7th October, will feature the annual showcase, **Gallery of Immersive Stories and Interactive Worlds, Summit**, and **Awards Ceremony** that celebrate the creativity, ingenuity and artistry expressed in immersive storytelling over the past year.

The selection features 33 Virtual Reality experiences, created by established directors and artists such as Dame Judi Dench (*My Oak Tree VR*), Elijah Wood (*Transference*), Eric Darnell (*Crow: The Legend*); leading VR directors and Raindance alumni such as Eugene YK Chung (*Arden's Wake: Tide's Fall*), Angel Manuel Soto (*Dinner Party*), Martin Taylor (*Awake: Episode One*); first-time VR creators and directors such as Chagall (*Ukiyo Cave: Surely*), Orly Rodriguez (*The Archivist*), Maximilian Sacker and Ioulia Isserlis (*KOBOLD*), Landia Egal and Thomas Pons (*Umami*), Taylor Myers (*King of Infinite Space*), Kenneth Henderson and Alyssia Frankland (*Opinions*), James A. Castillo (*Madrid Noir*), Kristina Buozyte (*Trail of Angels*), Bin Gu (*The Apple*), John Lynch (*Crackle Pop*), and many more.

17 Virtual Reality experiences will receive their world premiere, including **7 Miracles**, the world's first feature-length cinematic VR experience. Produced by Vive Studios, and created by highly acclaimed team of producers and directors, Joel Breton (*Pirates of the Caribbean, Unreal, Anno 1602, Terraria*), Enzo Sisti (*Aquaman, Wonder Woman, Passion Of Christ, Avengers: Age of Ultron*), Rodrigo Cerqueira (*Jesus VR: The Story of Christ*) and Marco Spagnoli (*Hollywood Invasion, Hollywood on Tiber, Walt Disney, and Italy – A Love Story*), the experience has been nominated for the festival's **Grand Jury Prize: Best Immersive Story**, recognising creative achievement in immersive storytelling.

The selected 33 VR experiences have been nominated for **Raindance Immersive Stories Awards** that recognise creative excellence and technical achievement across 10 categories:

1. **Best Interactive Narrative Experience**
2. **Best Animation Experience**
3. **Best Cinematic Experience**
4. **Best Documentary Experience**
5. **Best Social Impact Experience**
6. **Best Music Experience**
7. **Best Multi-Person Experience**
8. **Discovery Award: Best Debut Experience**
9. **British Award: Best UK Experience**
10. **Grand Jury Prize: Best Immersive Story**

Technologies within the spectrum of Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality continue to rapidly evolve, enabling artists to experiment and push the boundaries of storytelling in bold and daring ways. Reflecting the latest trends in the industry, the festival introduced a new award, **Best Multi-Person Experience**, shining the spotlight on social VR experiences, giving audiences a taste of what the future of immersive storytelling will feel like. Additional new awards include **British Award: Best UK Experience**, and **Discovery Award: Best Debut Experience**, recognising first-time creators.

The ten winners will be selected by an international panel of jury members consisting of industry visionaries such as *Vicki Dobbs Beck*, executive in charge of ILMxLAB; *Curtis Hickman*, co-founder and Chief Creative Officer at THE VOID; *Wesley Allsbrook*, the artist behind *Dear Angelica*, last year's winner of Best Animation Experience award; *Jérôme Blanquet*, director of *Alteration*, last year's winner of Best Cinematic Experience award; *Grace Boyle*, founder and director of THE FEELIES, one of last year's winners of Best Social Impact Experience award, and many more.

The artwork for this year's **Raindance Immersive Stories and Interactive Worlds** was created in Virtual Reality using Oculus Quill illustration tool by *Wesley Allsbrook*, the artist behind *Dear Angelica*, last year's winner of Best Animation Experience award. The artwork is based on the Festival trailer directed by *Hector M. Valdez*, director of *Peaches*, winner of the Film of the Festival award in 2017.

Stills: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jedcy0rkuebcsm4/AADtQDVYt0JGu8q2ZGjrNOOba?dl=0>

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Anatomy of a Reel is the Raindance Film Festival's in-depth study of the process from script to screen in painstaking detail. The series invites the masters of their craft to talk shop with their biggest filmmaking fans. Carlos Gallardo joins us this year to host a detailed scene breakdown of his critically acclaimed low-budget feature: 'El Mariachi'. Carlos starred in and produced the film, and it was directed by his close friend Robert Rodriguez. Critically acclaimed it was renowned for costing only \$7,000 to make. The full trilogy of 'Mariachi' films would go on to gross \$246 million worldwide, helping launch the careers of Antonio Banderas and Salma Hayek, and is preserved as one of only 25 films in the National Film Registry.

Joining us for a Fireside Chat, Tony Kaye is a six time Grammy nominated music-video director, who's worked with artists such as Johnny Cash and The Red Hot Chilli Peppers and an award winning film director. Perhaps known best for his feature film debut American History X in 1998, the final cut of which he famously distanced himself from because of disputes over the quality. Kaye's films dive into the darkest crevices of society and shine a light on the aspects of human nature we would perhaps otherwise ignore.

We are also excited to welcome New York Times Media Columnist Jim Rutenberg to the festival this year to discuss journalistic integrity and how documentary filmmakers take on the reigns of responsibility in this arena. He has been a long time commentator on the Trump campaign, the rise of Fox News which he helped coin 'The Fox Effect', and was part of an infamous expose on the structures of abuse that allowed Harvey Weinstein to operate.

CHILE - GUEST COUNTRY 2018

Raindance Film Festival welcomes Chile as guest of honour for our 2018 festival. The Chilean Film industry is experiencing a golden age – in the last few years, Chile has earned various nominations, participating and winning awards at the main Film Festivals worldwide and earning the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film in 2018 with ***A Fantastic Woman***.

Other Chilean features include ***Damn Kids*** (Gonzalo Justiniano), is set in 1983, portraying the vicious dictatorship of General Pinochet; directed by Into Carrizo-Ortiz, ***The Night*** is the story of an ordinary student who must choose between staying true or giving in to his dark side on the day when the world is immersed in total darkness.

The Guest Country Forum will include a panel discussion with experts from the Chilean Film Industry, discussing co-production, collaboration, and distribution throughout the Chilean marketplace. The event will also welcome a Case Study from Chilean VR Creators: ***Merced Productora***.

As a special event to all Chile Day guests, Gonzalo Maza, writer of Oscar winner ***A Fantastic Woman*** will present an *Anatomy of a Reel* on one of the film's most iconic scenes.

The Guest Country programme is run in collaboration with the Department of Culture of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Chile (DIRAC) and the Embassy of Chile in the UK.

Now in its third year, Raindance is proud to host China Day 2018, in partnership with Beijing-based production and distribution company Dreamax Media. Bringing together a curated selection of Chinese and UK experts, panels will include Co-Production, Sales & Acquisition, and International Film Education.

The independent Film Trust has teamed up with Raindance to produce the Vertical Lab - a targeted six-month mentoring scheme that helps underrepresented film artists advance their careers in cinema. Building on the success of last year's 25X25 project, the Vertical Lab brings 15 artists working in development, production and exhibition to Raindance. On Friday September 28th, the Lab Sessions event will showcase an eclectic selection of their work including live script readings, film screenings and performances of film scores. The screenings and discussion will be interpreted by a BSL interpreter. The Vertical Lab asserts that a diverse film industry makes better cinema and empowers those who lack exposure, primarily women, BME and LGBTQ groups, as well as people with disabilities and low income.

London TV Pitchbox, the first pitching event organised by Raindance Film Festival and online platform Filmarket Hub, will host a case study of 'Peaky Blinders' by Jamie Glazebrook, Executive Producer of the series and Creative Director at Caryn Mandabach Productions. Ahead of the pitching session, attendee creators and executives will have the opportunity to learn about the development and production process which attributed to the success of the crime drama set in 1920s Birmingham.

London TV Pitchbox is a brand new pitching event dedicated to British drama series in development, which will take place on 28 September at The Century Club, within Raindance Industry Forum. The call for projects is open until 24 August. Seven projects will be selected to pitch in front of a panel of top TV executives and commissioners. After the pitching session there will be a networking lunch, where projects representatives and companies' executives will be able to share their feedback.

Filmarket Hub is the first online marketplace for films and series in development. It matches international projects with producers, TV broadcasters, OTT platforms, sales agents and distributors. It is an excellent tool to discover excellent scripts or find financing partners, with more than 12.000 users from all over Europe & Latin America. Filmarket Hub also organises pitching events under the brand 'Pitchbox', where the best projects of the online marketplace have the opportunity to present in front the greatest companies from the industry.

Main partners of the 26th Raindance Film Festival include Lumix by Panasonic, Vice Film School, Vue, The Century Club which will host Industry and Programme Special Events, Virgin Money Lounge on Haymarket which will host the Delegate Centre, Telegraph, Gay Times, Diva, Pebble, DreamMax, Independent Film Trust, Filmmarket Hub and UK Film review.

~ENDS~

For any press queries, please contact Katy Driscoll and Gemma Cox
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Festival passes can be purchased through the Festival website:

<https://www.raindance.org/courses/raindance-film-festival-pass/>
<https://www.festival.raindance.org>

Tickets to **Raindance Immersive Stories Summit** can be purchased here:
<https://raindance-immersive-stories-summit.eventbrite.co.uk>

Tickets to **Raindance Gallery of Immersive Stories and Interactive Worlds** can be purchased here:
<http://calendar.raindancefestival.org/programmes/raindance-gallery-of-immersive-stories>

Tickets to **Raindance Immersive Stories Awards** can be purchased here:
<https://raindance-immersive-stories-awards-ceremony.eventbrite.co.uk>

ABOUT RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Discover. Be Discovered.

Listed by Variety as one of the world's top 50 'unmissable film festivals', Raindance showcases features, shorts, music videos, virtual reality films and web series by filmmakers from the UK

and around the world celebrating and supporting independent, new and alternative filmmakers not just during our 12 day festival but throughout the year.

Raindance Film Festival is officially recognised by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences USA, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts and the British Independent Film Awards. Selected shorts will qualify for Oscar® and BAFTA nominations. British short films that play in competition and all British features that play in 2018 will be eligible for entry for the 2018 British Independent Film Awards BIFA.

ABOUT RAINDANCE – THE VOICE OF INDEPENDENT FILM

Raindance is dedicated to fostering and promoting independent film in the UK and around the world. Based in the heart of London, Raindance combines Raindance Film Festival, Training Courses, which are offered throughout the year through its 11 international hubs and the prestigious British Independent Film Awards.

A full list of nominated Features, Documentaries, Short Films, Web Series and Immersive Stories (VR experiences) are listed below:

IN COMPETITION – BEST INTERNATIONAL FILM

PRINCESITA
FAMILY
LOVE AT LEAST
WHEN MARGAUX MEETS MARGAUX
WE
A CRIMSON STAR
THE END OF WIND
SAINT JUDY
SAVIOURS
M

BEST UK

GEORGE MICHAEL: FREEDOM - DIRECTOR'S CUT
TEAM KHAN
KAISER! THE GREATEST FOOTBALLER NEVER TO PLAY FOOTBALL
WE THE KINGS
NIGHTSHOOTERS

BEST DIRECTOR

PRINCESITA – MARIALY RIVAS
FAMILY - VERONICA KEDAR
WHEN MARGAUX MEETS MARGAUX - SOPHIE FILLIÈRES
THE END OF WIND - FOG FOREST
WE - RENE ELLER

BEST PERFORMANCE

WE THE KINGS - TIMOTHY WEST
WHEN MARGAUX MEETS MARGAUX – SANDRINE KIBERLAIN
SAINT JUDY – MICHELLE MONAGHAN
PRINCESITA - MARCELO ALONSO
PRINCESITA - SARA CABALLERO

BEST SCRIPT

WHEN MARGAUX MEETS MARGAUX - SOPHIE FILLIÈRES
PRINCESITA - CAMILA GUTIÉRREZ, MARIALY RIVAS
FAMILY - VERONICA KEDAR
THE END OF WIND - FOG FOREST
WE THE KINGS - LAUREN MACKENZIE

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

PRINCESITA - SERGIO ARMSTRONG
WHEN MARGAUX MEETS MARGAUX - EMMANUELLE COLLINOT
FAMILY - CHRISTIAN HUCK
TEAM KHAN - OLIVER CLARK, ASAD FARUQI, BLAIR MACDONALD
WE - MAXIME DESMET

BEST DISCOVERY

ANA BY DAY
BORDERS, RAINDROPS
SILENT NIGHT
EDERLEZI RISING
WE THE COYOTES

BEST DOCUMENTARY

BALLET NOW
NOSSA CHAPE
THE ARTIST & THE PERVERT
TRE MAISON DASAN
RUMBLE

BEST INTERNATIONAL SHORT

SOULS OF TOTALITY
JUNE 21
IMFURA
THE LAST DAY OF THE EMPIRE
CLEAN BLOOD

BEST UK SHORT

THAWED
LITTLE MONSTER
LANDSHARKS
ELLSTON BAY
ALIEN CULTURE

RAINDANCE IMMERSIVE STORIES (VIRTUAL REALITY) NOMINATIONS

BEST INTERACTIVE NARRATIVE EXPERIENCE

AWAKE: EPISODE ONE
KOBOLD
THE ARCHIVIST
TRANSFERENCE
UMAMI

BEST ANIMATION EXPERIENCE

ARDEN'S WAKE: TIDE'S FALL
CROW: THE LEGEND
MADRID NOIR – PROLOGUE
SHENNONG: TASTE OF ILLUSION
YETI AND SPAGHETTI

BEST CINEMATIC EXPERIENCE

DINNER PARTY
HOTEL ZENTAI
KINCH & THE DOUBLE WORLD
KING OF INFINITE SPACE

BEST DOCUMENTARY EXPERIENCE

GRENFELL: OUR HOME
INSIDE TUMUCUMAQUE
IS ANNA OK?
NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN
THE SUN LADIES

BEST SOCIAL IMPACT EXPERIENCE

BEING ME
MY AFRICA & MY AFRICA: ELEPHANT KEEPER
THE DAIRY INDUSTRY
THE EVOLUTION OF TESTICLES
WINDOW TO OUR WORLD

BEST MUSIC EXPERIENCE

CHORUS
NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN
OPINIONS
UKIYO CAVE: SURELY

BEST MULTI-PERSON EXPERIENCE

CHORUS
IS ANNA OK?
THE APPLE

BRITISH AWARD: BEST UK EXPERIENCE

GRENFELL: OUR HOME
JUDI DENCH: MY OAK TREE VR
KINCH & THE DOUBLE WORLD
NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN
OPINIONS

DISCOVERY AWARD: BEST DEBUT EXPERIENCE

CRACKLE POP
MADRID NOIR – PROLOGUE
UKIYO CAVE: SURELY
THE ARCHIVIST
TRAIL OF ANGELS

GRAND JURY PRIZE: BEST IMMERSIVE STORY

7 MIRACLES
ARDEN'S WAKE: TIDE'S FALL
CROW: THE LEGEND
TRANSFERENCE

RAINDANCE NOMINATED FEATURES

PRINCESITA, directed by Marialy Rivas, Chile/Argentina/Spain, UK premiere

In a distant land on the southernmost tip of the world lives Tamara, a twelve-year-old girl who has been raised in a cult led by the charismatic Miguel. As she becomes a young woman, she receives instructions for her life mission: to carry a holy child; fathered by Miguel himself.

Cast: Sara Caballero, Marcelo Alonso, María Gracia Omega

WHEN MARGAUX MEETS MARGAUX, directed by Sophie Fillières, France, UK Premiere

Margaux is women in her twenties living a carefree but unsatisfying life. One night at a party she meets another Margaux, two decades her elder. Troubling details and similarities seem to link the two women, and their lives become increasingly entangled.

Cast: Sandrine Kiberlain , Agathe Bonitzer , Melvil Poupaud

A CRIMSON STAR, directed by Aya Igashi, Japan, World Premiere

Yo is a young girl who, while hospitalised, encounters and becomes emotionally attached to Yayoi, a kind nurse. A year after they first meet the two meet again by chance but under different circumstances - Yayoi is no longer a nurse, but a sex worker.

Cast: Miku Komatsu, Yuki Sakurai, Katsuya Maiguma

FAMILY, directed by Veronica Kedar, Israel/Germany, UK Premiere

Home is where the hurt is... Lily would do anything to make it go away.

Cast: Eli Danker, Evgenia Dodina, Veronica Kedar, Hen Yanni, Aryeh Hasfari

LOVE AT LEAST, directed by Kosai Sekine, Japan, World Premiere

A radical, stupid and very real love story.

Cast: Shuri, Masaki Suda, Riisa Naka

WE, directed by Rene Eller, Netherlands/Belgium, UK Premiere

During a scorching summer in a Belgian-Dutch border village, eight teenagers play games to break the listless monotony. They challenge each other and soon their sexual curiosity starts to blur the lines between right and wrong. As innocence is crushed in depraved games the teenagers soon turn into ruthless predators.

Cast: Aimé Claeys, Tijmen Govaerts, Pauline Casteleyn, Maxime Jacobs, Friso van der Werf

THE END OF WIND, directed by Fog Forest, China, European Premiere

A solitary white-collar worker searches for the meaning of life. An innocent prisoner newly released from prison awaits his death. A North Korean woman escapes to China to survive. These three strangers will meet and become friends for a moment. One by one, they will disappear with the wind.

Cast: David Dai, Jing Mu, Shuxian Ren

SAINT JUDY, directed by Sean Hanish, USA, European Premiere

The empire collapses in a blink of an eye. Oppression disappears, but so does safety. Everything is unstable, but also possible. We follow episodes of a fictitious regime change when, for an exceptional moment, power is held by ordinary people and their clumsy acts of self-liberation.

Cast: Michelle Monaghan, Leem Lubany, Common, Alfred Molina, Alfre Woodard

SAVIOURS, directed by Christopher Greenslate, USA, UK Premiere

A young woman embeds herself in a white power group in order to find her adoptive African-American mother. But one night after the group returns from a rally they test her allegiance. Shot in a single, continuous take.

Cast: Megan Johnson, Nathaniel Stroud, Joe Cadiff, Carol Payton, Austin Ford, David Dimitruk, Jon Maxwell, Brian Regal, Morris Black, Kendra Thompson, Glenn Lutz

M, directed by Sara Forestier, France, UK Premiere

Lila and Mo meet at a bus stop. Lila has a paralysing speech impediment. Mo is chatty and exuberant. Lila is preparing for her exams. Mo illegally races cars for a living. Opposites attract, and they fall in love. But Mo carries a secret burden.

Cast: Sara Forestier, Redouanne Harjane, Jean-Pierre Leaud, Liv Andren, Nicolas Vaude

WE THE KINGS, directed by Lauren Mackenzie, UK, World Premiere

In this contemporary thriller, a fostered teenager has a vendetta against the former guardian of his foster brother. As his actions spiral out of control he finds himself a hiding place. But although he assumes he is alone, he soon finds out that things aren't as straightforward as they seem...

Cast: Elliot James Langridge, Timothy West, Amanda Abbington,

NIGHTSHOOTERS, directed by Marc Price, UK, World Premiere

When a group of filmmakers witness a brutal gangland execution they find themselves on the run from a violent horde of criminals determined to eradicate any witnesses. Unable to flee the building, our hapless film crew must use their guerrilla filmmaking skills as weapons to survive the night.

Cast: Jean-Paul Ly, Nick Aaron, Nicky Evans, Rosanna Hault, Richard Sandling

ANA BY DAY, directed by Andrea Jaurrieta, Spain, International Premiere

Ana is from a traditional middle-class family, on the cusp of a PhD and marriage, but she feels unfulfilled. When a double appears and takes her place she is totally free for the first time. Ana explore her new anonymity and freedom, testing her limits and searching for meaning.

Cast: Ingrid García-Jonsson, Mona Martínez, Marcelo Ogalla, Fernando Albizu, Maria José Alfonso

BORDERS, RAINDROPS, directed by Nikola Mijović, Vlastimir Sudar, Republic of Srpska/Bosnia and Herzegovina/Montenegro/Serbia/Sweden/UK, Uk Premiere

A young city girl visits her family high up in the Balkan mountains, recently divided by new borders. Her presence brings love, mystery, and hope that everyone will be able to live together again.

Cast: Kristina Stevović, Vahidin Prelić, Robert Budak, Nedjeljko Milović, Ognjen Vujović

SILENT NIGHT, directed by Piotr Domalewski, Poland, UK Premiere
Christmas Eve. A house in a village in eastern Poland. Adam, a young economic migrant, returns home unannounced for a traditional supper. Nobody in his large family suspects the true reason for his unexpected return to Poland.

Cast: Dawid Ogrodnik, Tomasz Zietek, Arkadiusz Jakubik, Pawel Nowisz, Agnieszka Suchora

EDERLEZI RISING, directed by Lazar Bodroza, Serbia, UK Premiere

This is a story of an astronaut sent on a long intergalactic mission, accompanied by a female android. During the flight he begins to fall in love with the android, believing that there is a real person inside the machine.

Cast: Sebastian Cavazza, Stoya, Maruša Majer, Kirsty Besterman

WE THE COYOTES, directed by Hanna Ladoul, Marco La Via, USA, UK Premiere

Amanda and Jake are in love and want to start a new life together in Los Angeles. The first day of their new life takes them all around the city, bringing them more surprises and frustrations than expected. Will they make the right decisions?

Cast: Morgan Saylor , McCaul Lombardi , Betsy Brandt , Khleo Thomas, Lorelei Linklater

RAINDANCE NOMINATED DOCUMENTARIES

GEORGE MICHAEL: FREEDOM DIRECTOR'S CUT, directed by George Michael/David Austin, UK

Set against a backdrop of never seen before private footage, extraordinary performances and insight from famous friends, George's self-portrait is love, loss, success, defeat and his creative process which reveal how he masters the art of being one of the most influential artists of his generation.

Emmanuelle Alt, David Austin, Tony Bennett, Mary J Blige, Naomi Campbell

TEAM KHAN, directed by Oliver Clark, Blair Macdonald, UK, World Premiere

A fly-on-the-wall documentary about professional boxer Amir Khan, filmed between 2014 - 16. We follow Khan as he chases a fight with the unbeaten superstar Floyd Mayweather Jr. Outside of the ring Amir must grapple with family, fame, and religion, as he grows from boxing's golden child into a man.

Cast: Amir Khan

KAISER! THE GREATEST FOOTBALLER NEVER TO PLAY FOOTBALL, directed by Louis Myles, UK, UK Premiere

Carlos Henrique Raposo had one dream - to become a professional footballer. Despite having no footballing talent he managed to con a professional career within the game in Brazil for twenty six years, while never playing a game. This is the tale of the greatest sporting fraud of all time.

Cast: Carlos Henrique Raposo, Renato Gaucho, Zico, Bebeto, Junior

BALLET NOW, directed by Steven Cantor, USA, European Premiere

Dance sensation Tiler Peck, a principal dancer at the New York City Ballet, curates a three-day dance series entitled Ballet Now, seeking to push boundaries and integrate unexpected elements into performances to delight ballet's devout followers, and create new fans. This film captures a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process.

Cast: Tiler Peck

NOSSA CHAPE, directed by Jeff & Michael Zimbalist, Brazil, Colombia, Spain, Uk Premiere

NOSSA CHAPE tracks the rebuilding of the Chapecoense football club in Brazil after an airplane crash left only three players alive. Through exclusive interviews of the families of the deceased, the new team, and the three surviving players, the documentary investigates the community's many challenges in the aftermath of tragedy.

Cast: Jakson Ragnar Follmann, Alan Luciano Ruschel, Helio Hermito Zampier Neto

THE ARTIST & THE PERVERT, directed by Beatrice Behn, René Gebhardt, Germany, UK Premiere

Georg Friedrich Haas is a renowned composer of symphonic music, and descended from Nazi ancestors. His wife is an African-American kink educator. They engage in a controversial role-play game between a white master and a black slave. This ground-breaking film documents their lives between perversion, art, love, and radical self-determination.

Cast: Georg Friedrich Haas, Mollena Lee Williams-Haas

TRE MAISON DASAN, directed by Denali Tiller, USA, International Premiere

An intimate portrait of three boys growing up, each with a parent in prison. Directly told through the child's perspective, the film is an exploration of relationships, separation, masculinity, and coming of age in America when a parent is behind bars.

Cast: Tre Janson, Maison Teixeira, Dasan Lopes

RUMBLE: THE INDIANS WHO ROCKED THE WORLD, directed by Catherine Bainbridge, Canada

RUMBLE: THE INDIANS WHO ROCKED THE WORLD is a feature documentary about the role of Native Americans in popular music history.

Cast: Link Wray, Charley Patton, Jimi Hendrix, Taboo, Randy Castillo

RAINDANCE NOMINATED SHORT FILMS

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

Hair Wolf

Yellow

The Matchmaker

I Come From The Fire City

A Song Downwind, and Rainbow Upstream

Consequences of Any Kind

Counterfeit Kunkoo

All These Creatures

Blurred Lines

Fullmoon

Bricklayer's Poet
Dishonour
Thy Kingdom Come
June 21
The Errand
Good Girl Jane
Dear You
Pa'lante
The Apricot Tree
Shukria
Butterfly Daughter
Comme Les Roses
First World Problems
Prawn
Homeless
Imfura
Teenage Threesome
The Last Day of the Empire
Clean Blood
Good Girls Don't
Shoe Shiner
Help Wanted
Selfie Stick
Holy Moses
Eleftheromania
The Sweetest Blow
Dinner Party
Shennong: Taste of Illusion

UK SHORTS

The Many Faces of Beth Jones
Souls of Totality
Early Days
Thawed
Blue Christmas
Babs
Ellston Bay
Neapolitan Porno
Little Monster
Landsharks
Beautiful Dead Things
Alien Culture

Remembrance
All The World's a Stage
Our Dinner Party
The Power of Max
Off-Street
The Bootstrap Paradox
Loud

RAINDANCE IMMERSIVE STORIES NOMINATIONS

BEST INTERACTIVE NARRATIVE EXPERIENCE

AWAKE: EPISODE ONE, directed by Martin Taylor, Australia, UK Premiere

Harry is a prisoner in his own house and lost in his mind, obsessed with discovering the truth behind a recurring dream of his departed wife. And now there is a new presence in his world: you. Your arrival signals a life-changing event capable of saving Harry from his darkness.

Cast: Jake McDorman, Analeigh Tipton, Nicholas Hope, Alan Watts

KOBOLD, directed by Maximilian Sacker and Ioulia Isserlis, Germany, UK Premiere

Little Kaspar has recently lost his mother. When his imaginary friend Pixi offers him a way to see her again, he embarks on a journey deep into a dark world from which he may never return. **KOBOLD** blurs the line between cinema and gaming. Explore a fully interactive universe, pick up clues, solve mysteries and encounter the ancient evil...

Cast: David Bredin, Nick Holaschke, Garry Lane

THE ARCHIVIST, directed by Orly J Rodriguez, Jr. and Kemal Can Kirdar, USA, World Premiere

A VR experience based on the world of Twin Peaks, taking you beyond the curtain and into the unpredictable dreamscape. With a new original storyline and soundtrack, **THE ARCHIVIST** invites you to experience an entirely new mystery, with new characters as well as those you know and love.

Cast: Jason McNeil, Ally Tasker Murphy, Curt Clendinin

TRANSFERENCE, directed by SpectreVision (Elijah Wood, Josh C. Waller, Daniel Noah, Kyle McCullough, Lisa Whalen) and Ubisoft (Patrick Plourde, Sylvain Bernard, Christian Bedard), Canada, USA, UK Premiere

A psychological thriller placing you face-to-face with a fractured family, as you freely explore their minds. Navigate a dreamlike home filled with secrets. Collect the evidence of a family's history to choose how you repair their lives. Learn the rules of a place bent on breaking them. Unlock the truth.

Cast: Lindsay Burdge, Macon Blair, Tyler Crumley

UMAMI, directed by Landia Egal and Thomas Pons, France, UK Premiere

UMAMI is a real-time animated Virtual Reality experience immersing the viewer into the story of a man rediscovering his memories through a series of traditional Japanese dishes, beverages and tastes: the sweet, the sour, the bitter, the salty and the UMAMI, the 'delicious taste' in Japanese.

Cast: Amaury la Burthe, Eimi Kawahara

BEST ANIMATION EXPERIENCE

ARDEN'S WAKE: TIDE'S FALL, directed by Eugene YK Chung, USA, UK Premiere

TIDE'S FALL continues the journey of Meena, a young woman living in a post-apocalyptic world and searching for her father in the depths of the ocean after his unexpected disappearance. Featuring the voice of Academy Award-winner Alicia Vikander, this expansion of Penrose Studios's award-winning ARDEN'S WAKE embraces the art of long-form storytelling in Virtual Reality.

Cast: Alicia Vikander, Richard Armitage

CROW: THE LEGEND, directed by Eric Darnell, USA, UK Premiere

Inspired by the Native American legend, a fully immersive journey exploring themes of self-discovery, diversity and selflessness wherein the viewer plays a key role in the story of Crow, voiced by John Legend, who must give up everything he values to save his friends – or so he thinks.

Cast: John Legend, Oprah Winfrey, Constance Wu, Liza Koshy, Tye Sheridan, Sarah Eagle Heart, Randy Edmonds, Diego Luna

MADRID NOIR – PROLOGUE, directed by James A. Castillo, UK, World Premiere

It's a warm spring night in Madrid, 1929. A detective named Manolo Monreal, grouchy after a long day on the job, encounters a stray puppy on the streets. Will Manolo be enchanted by her cuteness and keep her safe from the dangers of the night?

SHENNONG: TASTE OF ILLUSION, directed by Mi Li and Wang Zheng, China, UK Premiere

SHENNONG is an adventure story about a hero of prehistoric China, which describes a battle between Shennong, the God-King of Chinese medicine and a beast from his imagination.

YETI AND SPAGHETTI, directed by Harold Hayes, Jr. and Craig Phillips, USA, World Premiere

The ice caps are melting and all kinds of prehistoric beings, ancient monsters, and cosmic what-nots are rapidly thawing out in the magical landscape, Hourglass Moonland. When a young Inuit girl, Spaghetti, crashes her snowmobile into a melting glacier, she lets loose a wild Yeti. Their adventures are just beginning.

Cast: Sienne Josselin, Kelly Skiver, Harold Hayes, Jr., Matt Bobb

BEST CINEMATIC EXPERIENCE

DINNER PARTY, directed by Angel Manuel Soto, USA, UK Premiere

Betty and Barney Hill are an interracial couple who made the first report of a UFO abduction in America in 1961. After undergoing recorded hypnosis to recover memories of their experience, the Hills listen to the recording during a dinner party, and what they hear could change their lives forever.

Cast: Malcolm Barrett, Sarah Sokolovic

HOTEL ZENTAI, directed by Leo Medel, Chile, World Premiere

Four stories intersect in a zentai club, the sexual-fetish discipline whose followers wear lycra suits and rub each other. Mother and daughter recognise each other in a ritual, a man cannot decide what to wear, a coach loses his authority and two lovers never see each other's faces.

Cast: Mariana Di Girolamo, Antonia Zegers, Alejandro Goic, Fernanda Ramírez, Eliana Albasetti

KINCH & THE DOUBLE WORLD, directed by Colin Arnold and Steven Cholerton, UK, World Premiere

A young street urchin named Kinch, living in Victorian London, steals a loaf of bread and is pursued by a policeman. Taking refuge in an old vaudeville theatre he meets a magician who transports him to a parallel universe where magic is real.

Cast: Mack Keith-Roach, Bella Padden, Edward Halsted, Robert Fitch

KING OF INFINITE SPACE, directed by Taylor Myers, Daniel Hasse and Darren Emmerson, UK, Ireland, USA, World Premiere

Step into Hamlet's mind as his faith in humanity erodes and he unravels his philosophy of wonder, loss, and madness. A whirlwind of spectres and omens descend, stretching the very fabric of reality. Is this a vision of the future or just another of his bad dreams?

Cast: Taylor Myers, Constantine Malahias, Yuriy Pavlish, Jonathan Hopkins, Beth Ann Hopkins

BEST DOCUMENTARY EXPERIENCE

GRENFELL: OUR HOME, directed by Jonathan Rudd, UK

GRENFELL: OUR HOME is a bold and innovative VR documentary, which combines survivor's testimonies filmed in stereoscopic 360° video with computer-generated animation. The film offers a powerful and original perspective on the Grenfell Tower fire and the community that existed before the fire.

Cast: Gomes family, Alves family, Corinne Jones, Jason Miller, Lilian Alwa

INSIDE TUMUCUMAQUE, directed by Ina Krüger and Patrik de Jong, Germany, International Premiere

Discover the unique ecosystem of the Tumucumaque nature reserve in Brazil from the perspective of its animals. Fly like a harpy eagle, swim with the black caiman and discover this magical world through the perception of animals as a sensual experience.

IS ANNA OK?, directed by Camila Ruz, UK, London Premiere

This is a true story of twins Anna and Lauren whose lives are changed in an instant. Step into their memories, connect the two halves of their story, and join them as they piece their world back together.

Cast: Marli Siu

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN, directed by Lysander Ashton, music by Anna Meredith, UK, World Premiere

During the First World War millions of multiple choice postcards were sent from the front. Nothing was to be written on them, as communication was only allowed through prescribed phrases. NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN is an artwork inspired by musician Anna Meredith's FIVE TELEGRAMS and drawing inspiration from these postcards.

THE SUN LADIES, directed by Celine Tricart and Christian Stephen, USA, UK Premiere

In 2014 ISIS fighters invaded Iraq and targeted the Yazidi community of Sinjar. Men were killed, and women and girls taken as sex slaves. Those who escaped started a female-only fighting unit called the Sun Ladies to bring back their sisters and protect the honour and dignity of their people.

BEST SOCIAL IMPACT EXPERIENCE

BEING ME, directed by Peter Collis for The Cornerstone Partnership, UK, World Premiere

An immersive tool used to highlight the needs of children in the care system. Through the eyes of a child, the film follows the journey from foetus to early childhood, experiencing the impact of abuse and neglect but also the power of positive intervention from adults in the child's life.

Cast: Victoria Yeates, Raeleigh Green, Matilda Velevitch, Charlie Bedford, Sarah Hoare

MY AFRICA, directed by David Allen for Conservation International, UK, European Premiere

A virtual reality journey to northern Kenya, where the futures of wildlife and people are intertwined. Viewers will stand in the midst of a thundering wildebeest migration, witness a lioness snatch her prey, go nose-to-trunk with an inquisitive baby elephant, and meet a community dedicated to saving Africa's wildlife.

Cast: Lupita Nyong'o, Naltwasha Leriye

MY AFRICA: ELEPHANT KEEPER, directed by Adam May, Elliott Round, UK, European Premiere

Become an Elephant Keeper and learn more about the remarkable work undertaken at the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary in Kenya. Following on from the 360° film MY AFRICA, audiences can now welcome Dudu, a baby elephant, to the sanctuary, using real world props to create an innovative interactive VR experience.

Cast: Hannah Boulting

THE DAIRY INDUSTRY, directed by Animal Equality, UK, USA, World Premiere

Few have witnessed the unimaginable suffering of cows and their calves on dairy farms, where

a cycle of cruelty affects entire families. Our team of investigators transport you inside this secretive industry to share the heartbreaking stories behind every glass of milk. Will you be a witness?

Cast: Evanna Lynch

THE EVOLUTION OF TESTICLES, directed by Ryan Hartsell for Male Cancer Awareness Campaign, UK, Ireland, USA, International Premiere

Two parts humour, one part emotion, this salty sweet VR piece starring Chris O'Dowd raises awareness about testicular cancer through laughter. This project is part of the Oculus VR for Good Creators Lab, where filmmakers are paired with nonprofits to make great VR in the name of social good.

Cast: Chris O'Dowd, Andy Neill, Ali Shaw, Jay Holmes

WINDOW TO OUR WORLD, directed by Ben Perry for The Cornerstone Partnership, UK, World Premiere

Harnessing the power of VR to transport viewers into the world of a child, the film enables carers and professionals to understand how trauma and abuse impact children's development and behaviour. It aims to motivate action to address the UK's foster carer shortage and its significant social and financial implications.

Cast: Annick Elaine Weerts, Julian Ben Vinnicombe, Daniel Michael Jacobs, Robin Daniel Thompson, Alice Blake

BEST MUSIC EXPERIENCE

CHORUS, directed by Tyler Hurd, music by Justice, UK Premiere

CHORUS transforms you and five friends into fantastical female warriors and sends you on an epic journey to a faraway Tron-like fantasy world. There, you will battle weird and treacherous monsters to save your species from extinction, while fighting to the visceral sounds of electronic music duo, Justice.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN, directed by Lysander Ashton, music by Anna Meredith, UK, World Premiere

During the First World War millions of multiple choice postcards were sent from the front. Nothing was to be written on them, as communication was only allowed through prescribed phrases. NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN is an artwork inspired by musician Anna Meredith's FIVE TELEGRAMS and drawing inspiration from these postcards.

OPINIONS, directed by Alyssia Frankland and Kenneth Henderson, UK, World Premiere

Modern society is obsessed with social media. Online platforms provide us with a constant unwanted stream of other people's opinions. What happens when it all gets too much? Cabaret superstars Bourgeois & Maurice offer us a solution in this satirical VR music video.

Cast: Liv Morris, George Heyworth

UKIYO CAVE: SURELY, directed by Chagall and Eduardo Fitch, UK, The Netherlands, World Premiere

Music is a gateway to emotion but in a media-congested society, do we get to ever truly listen? UKIYO CAVE: SURELY uses the immersive qualities of VR and 3D spatialised audio to bring back focus, gently directing the viewer towards a state of musical euphoria.

Cast: Chagall, Leyla Rees, Stijn Goossens

BEST MULTI-PERSON EXPERIENCE

CHORUS, directed by Tyler Hurd, music by Justice, UK Premiere

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This is a true story of twins Anna and Lauren whose lives are changed in an instant. Step into their memories, connect the two halves of their story, and join them as they piece their world back together.

Cast: Marli Siu

THE APPLE, directed by Bin Gu, Kaoru Naito, Liquan Liu, China, Japan, Korea, World Premiere
THE APPLE walks the viewer through different stages of life whilst exploring the world of 'The Philosopher'. Each life stage is represented by distinctive styles of movement that are a metaphor for the human journey from beginning to end. Spatial compression algorithms were used to create this unique multi-person experience.

BRITISH AWARD: BEST UK EXPERIENCE

GRENFELL: OUR HOME, directed by Jonathan Rudd, UK

GRENFELL: OUR HOME is a bold and innovative VR documentary, which combines survivor's testimonies filmed in stereoscopic 360° video with computer-generated animation. The film offers a powerful and original perspective on the Grenfell Tower fire and the community that existed before the fire.

Cast: Gomes family, Alves family, Corinne Jones, Jason Miller, Lilian Alwa

JUDI DENCH: MY OAK TREE VR, directed by Daniel Wan and James Manisty, UK, World Premiere

Fly around and through a two-hundred-year-old oak tree in Judi Dench's garden. Combining cutting-edge graphics, real scan data, state-of-the-art 360° filming techniques and poetic storytelling, this heart-warming journey brings the tree alive in a completely new way, and shows how trees can help to save our planet.

Cast: Judi Dench

KINCH & THE DOUBLE WORLD, directed by Colin Arnold and Steven Cholerton, UK, World Premiere

A young street urchin named Kinch, living in Victorian London, steals a loaf of bread and is pursued by a policeman. Taking refuge in an old vaudeville theatre he meets a magician who transports him to a parallel universe where magic is real.

Cast: Mack Keith-Roach, Bella Padden, Edward Halsted, Robert Fitch

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN, directed by Lysander Ashton, music by Anna Meredith, UK, World Premiere

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Modern society is obsessed with social media. Online platforms provide us with a constant unwanted stream of other people's opinions. What happens when it all gets too much? Cabaret superstars Bourgeois & Maurice offer us a solution in this satirical VR music video.

Cast: Liv Morris, George Heyworth

DISCOVERY AWARD: BEST DEBUT EXPERIENCE

CRACKLE POP, directed by John Lynch, UK, World Premiere

Experience the neurological phenomenon of sound to colour synesthesia - the perception of colours or shapes when listening to sounds and music. Documentary and music video collide in this kaleidoscopic VR film, pieced together from the descriptions of synesthetes listening to the breathtaking music of Paul Russell's post-punk orchestra, Human Pyramids.

Cast: Yasmyn Hendrix, Timothy Layden

MADRID NOIR: PROLOGUE, directed by James A. Castillo, UK, World Premiere

It's a warm spring night in Madrid, 1929. A detective named Manolo Monreal, grouchy after a long day on the job, encounters a stray puppy on the streets. Will Manolo be enchanted by her cuteness and keep her safe from the dangers of the night?

THE ARCHIVIST, directed by Orly J Rodriguez, Jr. and Kemal Can Kirdar, USA, World Premiere

A VR experience based on the world of Twin Peaks, taking you beyond the curtain and into the unpredictable dreamscape. With a new original storyline and soundtrack, THE ARCHIVIST invites you to experience an entirely new mystery, with new characters as well as those you know and love.

Cast: Jason McNeil, Ally Tasker Murphy, Curt Clendinin

TRAIL OF ANGELS, directed by Kristina Buozyte, Lithuania, UK Premiere

TRAIL OF ANGELS is a tribute to the famous Lithuanian painter and composer M.K. Čiurlionis. It's an immersive VR animation that invites the viewer to explore the magic world of Čiurlionis's paintings while listening to his original music.

UKIYO CAVE: SURELY, directed by Chagall and Eduardo Fitch, UK, The Netherlands, World Premiere

Music is a gateway to emotion but in a media-congested society, do we get to ever truly listen? UKIYO CAVE: SURELY uses the immersive qualities of VR and 3D spatialised audio to bring back focus, gently directing the viewer towards a state of musical euphoria.

Cast: Chagall, Leyla Rees, Stijn Goossens

GRAND JURY PRIZE: BEST IMMERSIVE STORY

7 MIRACLES, directed by Rodrigo Cerqueira and Marco Spagnoli, USA, Italy, World Premiere

The world's first feature-length immersive experience, 7 MIRACLES is a deeply personal story of Jesus and his seven miracles, based on the book of John.

Cast: Dejan Bucin, Ben Starr, Sara Lazzaro, Lorenzo Balducci, Cosimo Fusco

ARDEN'S WAKE: TIDE'S FALL, directed by Eugene YK Chung, USA, UK Premiere

TIDE'S FALL continues the journey of Meena, a young woman living in a post-apocalyptic world and searching for her father in the depths of the ocean after his unexpected disappearance. Featuring the voice of Academy Award-winner Alicia Vikander, this expansion of Penrose Studios's award-winning ARDEN'S WAKE embraces the art of long-form storytelling in Virtual Reality.

Cast: Alicia Vikander, Richard Armitage

CROW: THE LEGEND, directed by Eric Darnell, USA, UK Premiere

Inspired by the Native American legend, a fully immersive journey exploring themes of self-discovery, diversity and selflessness wherein the viewer plays a key role in the story of Crow, voiced by John Legend, who must give up everything he values to save his friends – or so he thinks.

Cast: John Legend, Oprah Winfrey, Constance Wu, Liza Koshy, Tye Sheridan, Sarah Eagle Heart, Randy Edmonds, Diego Luna

TRANSFERENCE, directed by SpectreVision (Elijah Wood, Josh C. Waller, Daniel Noah, Kyle McCullough, Lisa Whalen) and Ubisoft (Patrick Plourde, Sylvain Bernard, Christian Bedard), Canada, USA, UK Premiere

A psychological thriller placing you face-to-face with a fractured family, as you freely explore their minds. Navigate a dreamlike home filled with secrets. Collect the evidence of a family's history to choose how you repair their lives. Learn the rules of a place bent on breaking them. Unlock the truth.

Cast: Lindsay Burdge, Macon Blair, Tyler Crumley

WORLD PREMIERES

Vestige, Mark Halliday, Australia,
Boom, Jordan Albertsen, USA
Wolves Unleashed Against All Odds, Andrew Simpson, Canada
This Is Love, John Alexander, USA
Rise: The Story Of Augustines, Todd Howe, USA
Matsuchiyo - Life of a Geisha, Ken Nishikawa, Japan
Cardiacs - Some Fairytales From The Rotten Shed, Tim Smith, UK
Team Khan, Oliver Clark, Blair Macdonald, UK
We The Kings, Lauren Mackenzie, UK
Feelings to Tell, Wen Li, China
A Crimson Star, Aya Igashi, Japan
Dizzy Pursuit, Jay Alvarez, USA
Major Arcana, Josh Melrod, USA
I Am Here, Vifill Prunner, Hong Kong
Nightshooters, Marc Price, UK
Above The Clouds, Leon Chambers, UK
Daddy's Girl, Julian Richards, USA/Georgia
7 Miracles, Rodrigo Cerqueira and Marco Spagnoli, USA, Italy
Being Me, Ben Perry, UK
Crackle Pop, John Lynch, UK
Hotel Zentai, Leo Medel, Chile
Judi Dench: My Oak Tree VR, Daniel Wan and James Manisty, UK
King of Infinite Space, Taylor Myers, Daniel Hasse and Darren Emmerson, UK, Ireland, USA
Kinch & The Double World, Colin Arnold and Steven Cholerton, UK
Madrid Noir, James A. Castillo, UK
Opinions, Alyssia Frankland and Kenneth Henderson, UK
The Archivist, Orly J Rodriguez, Jr. and Kemal Can Kirdar, USA
The Apple, Bin Gu, Kaoru Naito, Liqun Liu, China, Japan, Korea
The Dairy Industry, Animal Equality, UK, USA
Ukiyo Cave, Chagall and Eduardo Fitch, UK
Window to our World, Peter Collis, UK
Yeti and Spaghetti, Harold Hayes, Jr. and Craig Phillips, USA

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERES

Lost in America, Rotimi Rainwater, USA
Tre Maison Dasan, Denali Tiller, USA
I Hate New York, Gustavo Sánchez, Spain
Kill The Monsters, Ryan Lonergan, USA
Ana By Day - Andrea Jaurrieta, Spain

Accommodations, Amy Miller Gross, USA
In reality, Anna Lupo, USA
Inside Tumucumaque, Ina Krüger and Patrik de Jong, Germany
Nothing To Be Written, Lysander Ashton, UK
The Evolution of Testicles, USA

EUROPEAN PREMIERES

America, Claus Drexel, France
Ruminations, Robert James, USA
Our Wildest Dreams Marie Elisa Scheidt, Germany
Room Laundering, Kenji Katagiri, Japan
The End of Wind, Fog Forest, China
The Night, Inti Carrizo-Ortiz, Chile
Saint Judy, Sean Hanish, USA
My Africa, David Allen, UK
My Africa: Elephant Keeper, Adam May, UK

UK PREMIERES

The Artist & The Pervert, Beatrice Behn, René Gebhardt, Germany
The Last Fight, Victor Vroegindeweij, Netherlands
Gwendolyn, Ruth Kaaserer, Austria
The End of Meat, Marc Pierschel, Germany
Chi-Town, Nick Budabin, USA
Zimbelism, Matt Zimbel & Jean François Gratton, Canada
Dykes, Camera, Action!, Caroline Berler, USA
Southern Belle, Nicholas Peduzzi, France
In Your Face - The Neil Zlozower Story, Declan Maynes, Beate Maynes, Austria
The Settlement, Drew Rosas, Kevin Toomey, USA
The Ghost of Peter Sellers, Peter Medak, Cyprus
Kaiser! The Greatest Footballer Never to Play Football, Louis Myles, UK
The Things We Keep, Alessandro Cassigoli, Casey Kauffman, France
Princesita, Marialy Rivas, Chile/Argentina, Spain,
Bad Poetry Tokyo, Anshul Chauhan, Japan
Silent Night, Piotr Domalewski, Poland
About Bugs and Heroes, Petar Pasic, Serbia
Gift, Sunny Zhao, USA
Redcon-1, Chee Keong Cheung, UK
Front Page Midgets, Milorad Milinkovic, Serbia/Croatia
Comic Sans, Nevio Marasovic, Croatia
Ederlezi Rising, Lazar Bodroza, Serbia
Borders, Raindrops, Nikola Mijović, Vlastimir Sudar, Republic of Srpska/Bosnia and Herzegovina/Montenegro/Serbia/Sweden/UK
Luna's Revenge, Khaled Kaissar, Germany
Damn Kids, Gonzalo Justiniano, Chile

Tower. A Bright Day, Jagoda Szelc, Poland
When Margaux Meets Margaux, Sophie Fillières, France
Eternal Winter, Attila Szász, Hungary
Saviors, Christopher Greenslate, USA
Family, Veronica Kedar, Israel/Germany
We The Coyotes, Hanna Ladoul, Marco La Via, USA
M, Sara Forestier, France
Arden's Wake: Tide's Fall, Eugene YK Chung, USA
Awake: Episode One, Martin Taylor, Australia
Chorus, Tyler Hurd, USA
Crow: The Legend, Eric Darnell, USA
Dinner Party, Angel Manuel Soto, USA
KOBOLD, Maximilian Sacker and Ioulia Isserlis, Germany
Shennong: Taste of Illusion, Mi Li and Wang Zheng, China
The Sun Ladies, Celine Tricart and Christian Stephen, USA
Trail of Angels, Kristina Buozyte, Lithuania
Transference, SpectreVision (Elijah Wood, Josh C. Waller, Daniel Noah, Kyle McCullough, Lisa Whalen) and Ubisoft (Patrick Plourde, Sylvain Bernard, Christian Bedard), Canada, USA
Umami, Landia Egal and Thomas Pons, France

RAINDANCE IMMERSIVE STORIES AND INTERACTIVE WORLDS

WORLD PREMIERES

7 Miracles, Rodrigo Cerqueira and Marco Spagnoli, USA, Italy
Being Me, Ben Perry, UK
Crackle Pop, John Lynch, UK
Hotel Zentai, Leo Medel, Chile
Judi Dench: My Oak Tree VR, Daniel Wan and James Manisty, UK
King of Infinite Space, Taylor Myers, Daniel Hasse and Darren Emmerson, UK, Ireland, USA
Kinch & The Double World, Colin Arnold and Steven Cholerton, UK
Madrid Noir, James A. Castillo, UK
Opinions, Alyssia Frankland and Kenneth Henderson, UK
The Archivist, Orly J Rodriguez, Jr. and Kemal Can Kirdar, USA
The Apple, Bin Gu, Kaoru Naito, Liqun Liu, China, Japan, Korea
The Dairy Industry, Animal Equality, UK, USA
Ukiyo Cave, Chagall and Eduardo Fitch, UK
Window to our World, Peter Collis, UK
Yeti and Spaghetti, Harold Hayes, Jr. and Craig Phillips, USA

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERES

Inside Tumucumaque, Ina Krüger and Patrik de Jong, Germany
Nothing To Be Written, Lysander Ashton, UK
The Evolution of Testicles, USA

EUROPEAN PREMIERES

My Africa, David Allen, UK
My Africa: Elephant Keeper, Adam May, UK

UK PREMIERES

Arden's Wake: Tide's Fall, Eugene YK Chung, USA
Awake: Episode One, Martin Taylor, Australia
Chorus, Tyler Hurd, USA
Crow: The Legend, Eric Darnell, USA
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