
CELEBRATING 28 YEARS
WITH THE BEST DOMESTIC
& INTERNATIONAL FEATURE
FILMS, DOCUMENTARIES
AND SHORTS!
RBFS
REHOBOTH BEACH
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
NOVEMBER 1-8, 2026
REHOBOTH BEACH FILM SOCIETY
REHOBOTH BEACH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
NOVEMBER 1 - 8, 2026
rehobothfilm.org

OPEN DAILY
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DINNER

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Dear Friends,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the 28th annual Rehoboth Beach International Film Festival (RBIFF). On behalf of the Rehoboth Beach Film Society, we invite you to join us for eight days of exceptional films, engaging conversations, and community celebration.

For 2026, we've added an eighth day to accommodate more than 115 features, documentaries, and short films. Staying true to our "International" name, this year's lineup includes films from the United States, United Kingdom, Lithuania, Japan, Iceland, Georgia, Türkiye, Nigeria, Pakistan, China, the Faroe Islands, Bermuda, Chile, Slovakia, Canada, Bolivia, the Philippines, and beyond including at least eight contenders for the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film. We're also celebrating our local roots with a dedicated Delmarva Day, featuring outstanding regional filmmakers and a documentary about the history of Lewes, Delaware, home to our Cinema Art Theater.

Our team has traveled to major film festivals around the globe to discover exceptional work and build the relationships that bring these films to Rehoboth Beach, giving our audiences the opportunity to enjoy many of them before their wide theatrical release.

Onscreen, you'll see the talents of Ayo Edebiri, Jason Alexander, Juliette Binoche, Tammy Blanchard, Tom Courtenay, Peter Frampton, David Oyelowo, Guy Pearce, J.K. Simmons, and Shea Whigham. We are especially delighted to welcome our very special honoree, Shea Whigham, who will receive the inaugural Glass Wave Award for Outstanding Contributions to Acting in Cinema, recognizing the craft, commitment, and distinctive presence he brings to independent film.

We're also honored to welcome Oscar-nominated screenwriter and filmmaker Mark Fergus as a special panelist and VIP guest. He joins Florian Bauhaus, Eric Edwards, Amy Ferris, Aku Louhimies, and other distinguished industry guests for conversations that connect audiences with the creative talent behind the screen.

The festival is about more than movies. Parties, special gatherings, and industry panels throughout the beach region create opportunities to connect, exchange ideas, and celebrate together. These events encourage community engagement while showcasing the character and hospitality of our coastal communities to attendees joining us from near and far, locally and globally.

This has also been a pivotal year for film in Delaware. Just a few weeks ago, Governor Matt Meyer signed the Delaware Entertainment Production Tax Credit into law, creating incentives to attract film, television, and digital media projects to our state. RBIFF is proud to be an enduring part of the story of film in the First State and to help celebrate its next chapter.

The festival is the beating heart of the Rehoboth Beach Film Society. None of this would be possible without the extraordinary generosity of our sponsors and patrons, the dedication of our volunteers, and the enthusiasm of our audiences. To all of you, we extend our heartfelt thanks.

Welcome to the festival. We're so glad you're here!

Warmly,

Dave Bever
*Executive Director*

Lisa G. Black
*Artistic Director,* Rehoboth Beach International Film Festival
*Board Member,* Rehoboth Beach Film Society

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR RETURNING PRESENTING SPONSOR**

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## ABOUT REHOBOTH BEACH FILM SOCIETY

The Rehoboth Beach Film Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit arts organization operating in the State of Delaware. Founded in August of 1998, the Society is home to the award-winning Rehoboth Beach International Film Festival. In 2016, the Rehoboth Beach Film Society opened the Cinema Art Theater in Lewes, DE. Our mission is to celebrate independent film, support emerging filmmakers, and engage the community through meaningful cinematic experiences that inform, inspire, and connect.

Delaware Division of the Arts

This organization is supported, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.DelawareScene.com.

# INFORMATION

**CHECK OUT THE FESTIVAL SOCIAL EVENTS ON PAGE 22!**

## ADMISSION

### *"BOARDWALK" ALL-ACCESS PASS
**$425 RBFS MEMBERS | $475 NON MEMBERS**

*Your pass includes complimentary admission for one to Festival films and panels throughout the Festival, held Sunday, Nov 1 - 8.*

### *"BEACH BALL" 3-DAY WEEKEND PASS:
**$350 ALL AUDIENCES**

*Your pass includes admission for one to Festival films and panels taking place during the final Festival weekend. Friday, November 6 thru Sunday, November 8.*

### *"SPLASH" STUDENT ALL-ACCESS PASS:
**$50 - Pass & Tickets must be purchased at the theater (with valid student ID)**

*Your pass includes one admission to Festival films and panels throughout the Festival. All screening tickets must be reserved in advance, in person at the Cinema Art Theater Box Office, Sunday, November 1 thru Sunday, November 8.*

### PICK UP PASSES AT THE FESTIVAL HUB - HYATT HOUSE!

### INDIVIDUAL FILM TICKETS:
**$15 RBFS Members / $18 Non-Members**
**$12 Active Military | $9 Students** (with ID)

### FILM PANELS: $35

## SPECIAL TICKETED FESTIVAL EVENTS
*Feel the Festival Excitement!*

### SPOTLIGHT EVENT
**Cinema Art Theater Anniversary Member Spotlight**
**Mon., 11/2 | 4:45 pm - 6:30 pm**
**$50 RBFS Members / $75 Non-Members**
**RBCC | Rehoboth Beach**

### RED CARPET WELCOME COCKTAIL SOIRÉE
**Thurs., 1/6 | 8:30pm - Midnight | $75**
**ABOVE THE DUNES | Rehoboth Beach**

### GLASS WAVE AWARD BREAKFAST CEREMONY
**Sun., Nov. 8 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | $60**
**HYATT DEWEY BEACH | Dewey Beach**

## FESTIVAL HUB:
## HYATT HOUSE
LEWES | REHOBOTH BEACH
17254 Five Points Square,
Lewes, DE 19958
Phone: (302) 783-1000

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## FILM VENUES FREE PARKING AT ALL SITES

**CAT - Cinema Art Theater, Main & JEMS**
**17701 Dartmouth Drive, Lewes, DE 19958 | 302-313-4032**

**UUSD - Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware**
**30486 Lewes - Georgetown Highway, Lewes, DE 19958**
**302-313-5838**

**LPL - Lewes Public Library**
**111 Adams Avenue, , Lewes, DE 19958 | 302-645-2733**

## TICKETING & SEATING POLICY

All ticket holders must be in line at least 30 minutes prior to their scheduled screening time. Boardwalk and VIP badge holders receive priority seating. General Admission will follow.

Late arrivals are not guaranteed seating

Rush seating will be available beginning 5 minutes before showtime, subject to seat availability, until full capacity.

PURCHASE TICKETS & PASSES
AT **REHOBOTHFILM.ORG**
or scan the QR code below:

Follow us for the latest Festival news!

**Patrons are encouraged to purchase tickets online. If seats are available, tickets can be purchased at the CAT box office or by calling the Cinema Art Theater at 302 - 313-4032.**

# RBIFF AT - A - GLANCE

Screening Times Subject to change

## SUN NOV 1 (PG. 9)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 12:30 pm | *Queen at Sea* | CAT - Main |
| 3:00 pm | *Animation* (Shorts) | CAT - JEMS |
| 3:45 pm | *Hollywood and Hitler* | CAT - Main |
| 7:30 pm | *Jimmy* | CAT - Main |

## MON NOV 2 - Delmarva Day (PG. 10)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10:15 am | *Crab Theory* | CAT - Main |
| 11:00 am | *Donostia* | CAT - JEMS |
| 12:35 pm | *Service and Sacrifice* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 2:10 pm | *Sustainability, Food, and Fashion* (Short & Feature) | CAT - Main |
| 3:00 pm | *California Scenario* | CAT - JEMS |
| 5:45 pm | Ben'Imana* | CAT - JEMS |
| 6:00 pm | *Delmarva* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 8:00 Pm | *Nina Roza** | CAT - MAIN |

## TUES NOV 3 - Documentary Day (PG. 11)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:00 am | *Disposable Humanity* | CAT - Main |
| 11:30 pm | *Fathers and Mothers** | CAT - JEMS |
| 1:30 pm | *The Meltdown* * | CAT - Main |
| 3:50 pm | *Earth and Appetite* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 4:30 pm | *The Cover Up* | CAT - JEMS |
| 5:30 pm | *Love, Loss and Care* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 7:30 pm | *Everybody to Kenmure Street** | CAT - Main |

## WED NOV 4 (PGS. 12, 13)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:00 am | *Soil - Toprak* | CAT - Main |
| 12:45 pm | *A Woman's Work* | CAT - JEMS |
| 1:20 pm | *Congo Boy* | CAT - Main |
| 3:10 pm | *The Condor Daughter** | CAT - Main |
| 4:15 pm | *I've Got You* | UUSD |
| 5:30 pm | *Hope, Transformation, and Grace* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 6:00 pm | *The Opposite Road* | CAT - JEMS |
| 8:00 pm | *Frampton* | CAT - Main |

## THU NOV 5 (PGS. 14, 15)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:00 am | *Identity and Belonging* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 12:40 pm | *Industry Behind the Scenes ( Feature & Short)* | CAT - JEMS |
| 1:00 pm | *The Food Club: Home Again* | CAT - Main |
| 1:15 pm | *Mallory's Ghost* | UUSD |
| 3:20 pm | *First Snow* (20th Anniversary) | CAT - Main |
| 4:00 pm | *Anorgasmia - All The Things We Do To Survive* | CAT - JEMS |
| 4:15 pm | *4000 Days* | UUSD |
| 6:20 pm | *Flood** | CAT - Main |
| 7:00 pm | *Thrills After Dark* - (Shorts) | CAT - JEMS |
| 9:00 pm | *Murderous* | CAT - Main |

## FRI NOV 6 - Industry Education Day (PGS. 16, 17, 18, 19)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:00 am | *Student Shorts 1* - Sponsored by Final Draft | CAT - JEMS |
| 11:10 am | *Women Behind the Lens* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 11:15 pm | *The Essence of Eva* | UUSD |
| 12:40 pm | *Student Shorts 2* - Sponsored by Final Draft | CAT - JEMS |
| 1:15 pm | PANEL - *My Brain Fell, Now What with Amy Ferris* | LPL |
| 1:45 pm | *Nandauri* | CAT - Main |
| 2:15 pm | *The Hand That Holds the Line* | UUSD |
| 2:20 pm | PANEL - *Inside the Story: A Conversation with Mark Fergus* | LPL |
| 3:10 pm | *The Wait* | CAT - JEMS |
| 4:00 pm | PANEL - *Pathways to Distribution* | LPL |
| 5:20 pm | *Children of Men* (20th Anniversary) | CAT - Main |
| 6:00 pm | *Beautiful Pam* | CAT - JEMS |
| 6:00 pm | PANEL - *Reviewing Movies* | LPL |
| 6:15 pm | *Whistle Down Wind* | UUSD |
| 7:30 pm | *The Squirrel** | JEMS |
| 8:00 pm | *Clarissa* | CAT - Main |

## SAT NOV 7 (PGS. 19 , 20)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:00 am | *Cinematography of Excellence* (Shorts) | CAT - Main |
| 11:15 am | *The Badgers* | UUSD |
| 12:45 pm | *Golden Years, Fierce Hearts* (Feature + Short) | CAT - JEMS |
| 1:35 pm | *Where the Wind Comes From* | CAT - Main |
| 2:15 pm | *Transforming the Beautiful Game: The Clyde Best Story* | UUSD |
| 3:20 pm | PANEL - *Cinematography: The Art of the Image* | CAT - JEMS |
| 3:45 pm | *Dancing on the Elephant* | CAT - Main |
| 4:15 pm | *Coffee Cups and Wine Glasses:* Live Table Script Reading | UUSD |
| 5:40 pm | *Filipiñana** | CAT - Main |
| 6:00 pm | *Golden Years, Fierce Hearts* (Feature + Short) | CAT - JEMS |
| 8:00 pm | *How to Divorce During the War** | CAT - Main |

## SUN NOV 8 (PG. 21)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:30 am | *All of a Sudden** | CAT - Main |
| 3:10 pm | *Mahler in New York* | CAT - Main |
| 5:45 pm | *Test* | CAT - Main |

***INTERNATIONAL OSCAR CONTENDERS**

# SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 1
## OPENING DAY

### *QUEEN AT SEA* USA, UK | 121 min | Dir. Lance Hammer | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL
12:30 PM - 2:31 PM MAIN HOSTED BY MARYANNE MANZI

As advanced dementia erodes an older woman's ability to communicate her inner life, her husband and daughter struggle to act in her best interests, navigating love and the fragile boundaries between care, protection and autonomy.

### *ANIMATION* (SHORTS) HOSTED BY DAVID ROSENBAUM
3:00 PM - 4:41 PM MAIN Q & A

***BACKSTREET BIRDS*** LITHUANIA | 7 min | Dir. Gertruda Nemcauskaite| INTERNATIONAL

***SUNFLOWERS IN SORROW*** FRANCE | 19 min | Dir. Léa Krawczyk | INTERNATIONAL

***SULAIMANI*** FRANCE | 20 min | Dir. Vinnie Ann Bose | INTERNATIONAL

***A GAME OF CHANCE*** USA | 4 min | Dir. Gordon LePage

***PENGUIN*** ESTONIA | 15 min | Dir. Kaspar Jancis | INTERNATIONAL

***SURVIVOR*** UK | 17 min l Dir. Zoom Rockmanl INTERNATIONAL

***CONDUCTOR*** LATVIA | 8 min | Dir. Antanas Skuča

***BRIDGE, MY LITTLE FRIENDS*** JAPAN | 9 min | Dir. Kazuyuki Ishihara

### *HOLLYWOOD AND HITLER* FRANCE | 54 min | Dir. Clara & Julia Kuperberg | DOCUMENTARY, INTERNATIONAL
**DelMarVa Premiere**

3:45 PM - 4:39 PM JEMS

As early as 1933, in the face of the rise of Nazism, Hollywood adopted an ambiguous stance. Driven by economic and diplomatic considerations, the studios censored scripts and images to preserve the German market. Through previously unseen archival material, this film reveals an industry torn between ideals and compromise. At the heart of the story, Léon Lewis organizes a network to monitor Nazi activity in Los Angeles and unsuccessfully attempts to alert the authorities. The documentary questions what Hollywood was able to say, what it chose to remain silent about, and at what cost.

## OPENING NIGHT FILM

### *JIMMY* USA | 92 min| Dir. Aaron Burns | DRAMA Q & A
7:30 PM - 9:02 PM MAIN & JEMS HOSTED BY DAVE BEVER

The untold true story of America's most beloved actor and the iconic role that saved him, *Jimmy* focuses on the most transformative season in Jimmy Stewart's life from winning the Academy Award® for Best Actor in *The Philadelphia Story* to enlisting and becoming a combat pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps at the beginning of World War II. He flew twenty missions over Europe, rising to the rank of colonel by the end of the war, only to return home broken and disheartened. Then George Bailey and *It's a Wonderful Life* came calling. Actress Jen Lilley will be in person post screening for a Talk Back with special guests.

# MONDAY - NOVEMBER 2
## DELMARVA DAY

### *CRAB THEORY* USA I 45 min I Dir. Willy Conley I COMEDY I Closed Captions I World Premiere
**10:15 AM - 12:15 PM** MAIN

At a traditional crab feast on the shores of Deal Island, Maryland, a group of Deaf friends and family gather for food, laughter, and reflection; until one guest's simmering resentments and cultural blind spots threaten to tear the community apart, forcing each of them to confront the traps that keep them from truly lifting one another up.

### *DONOSTIA* SPAIN I 75 min I Dir. Daniel Cummings I DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL I East Coat Premiere
**11:00 AM - 12:16 PM** JEMS Q & A

On a short trip to Donostia, Spain, Anna struggles with the recent loss of her mother and the quiet unraveling of her long-term relationship. Sleepless and emotionally adrift, she begins wandering the city at night, where she meets a mysterious woman who challenges her to confront the life she's been avoiding. As reality blurs, Anna must choose between holding on to comfort or stepping into the unknown.

### *SERVICE AND SACRIFICE* (SHORTS)
**12:35 PM - 1:43 PM** MAIN Q & A

***A PLACE OF HONOR*** USA I 31 min I Dir. Vanessa Roth I DOCUMENTARY I DelMarVa Premiere

***FORWARD*** USA I 37 min I Dir. Alex Luchsinger I DOCUMENTARY, LGBTQIA+

### SUSTAINABILITY, FOOD, AND FASHION (SHORT & FEATURE)
**2:10 PM - 4:01 PM** MAIN Q & A

**HOSTED BY MARTY ROSENSWEIG, DIANE BARLOW & HISTORIC LEWES FARMERS MARKET**

***FARM TO FASHION*** USA I 23 min I Dir. Oliver Halfin I DOCUMENTARY

***FORK IN THE ROAD*** USA I 88 min I Dir. Jonathan Nastasi & Vivian Sorenson I DOCUMENTARY

Through compelling stories from independent farmers across the United States, from Alaskan kelp harvesters to dairy farmers in Kentucky, the film reveals the lived realities and growing challenges faced by those resisting the tide of industrialized agriculture. Featuring Nick Offerman, a passionate champion of regional agriculture and the American farmer, the film brings humor and authenticity to the movement supporting sustainable, regenerative farming. Featuring insights from chefs, activists, and experts, Fork In The Road expands the conversation beyond the farm, showing how food sustainability is deeply connected to our kitchens, communities, health, and future. More than a call to environmental action, the film illuminates how regenerative food practices can nourish our bodies, strengthen local communities, and help heal the Earth.

### *CALIFORNIA SCENARIO* USA I 100 min I Dir. James Takata I DRAMA I DelMarVa Premiere Q & A
**3:00 PM - 4:39 PM** JEMS

When single parents Jacob and Laura separately bring their struggling children to Isamu Noguchi's sculpture garden to grapple with shared family legacies of survival, they discover the possibility of building something new together, one day.

# MONDAY - NOVEMBER 2
## DELMARVA DAY

### RBFS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT EVENT:
### Cinema Art Theater 10th Anniversary Celebration & World Premiere of the Documentary "Lewes, DE: Drawn by the Sea"
Rehoboth Beach Convention Center, Tuesday November 2 | 4:45 PM - 6:45 PM

## *BEN'IMANA*
RWANDA | 101 min | Dir. Marie-Clémentine Dusabejambo | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | East Coast Premiere | Oscar Contender

5:45 PM - 7:26 PM JEMS

Rwanda, 2012. The country is emerging from an era of silence after the 1994 Tutsi genocide, and people's courts are being set up with the aim of bringing justice and reconciliation. Veneranda, a survivor, is convinced of the need for these trials. Despite pressures, she organises discussion sessions between victims and the families of the executioners. Therapy for some, an act of betrayal for others, these testimonial sessions revive and reveal the traumas that each of them try to overcome, in their own way. The wounds of Veneranda's past are exposed again when she learns of her daughter's unexpected pregnancy and the identity of the father. Veneranda has to face her own contradictions and the dark parts of her past.

## *DELMARVA* (SHORTS)
6:00 PM - 7:11 PM MAIN Q&A

***BABESMILK*** USA | 12 min | Dir. Elisha Mlotek | COMEDY

***THE ESCORT*** USA | 15 min | Dir. Joshua Michael Payne | COMEDY | DelMarVa Premiere

***TRACKER*** USA | 10 min | Dir. Gordon Delgiorno & Tania Romero | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***THE TRAVELER*** USA | 14 min | Dir. Kaitlyn Diehl | DRAMA Q&A

***A PRETTY PASS*** USA | 14 min | Dir. Chelsea Smith Hall | DRAMA Q&A

***CITIZEN PHOTOGRAPHER*** USA | 6 min | Dir. Andre' L Wright Jr | DOCUMENTARY

***PIANISSIMO*** USA | 20 min | Dir. Andres Cruz | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

## *NINA ROZA*
CANADA, BELGIUM | 103 min | Dir. Geneviève Dulude-De Celles | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | Mid Atlantic Premiere | Oscar Contender

8:00 PM - 9:43 PM MAIN HOSTED BY GARY FISHER

A viral video of an 8-year-old Bulgarian artist catches the eye of a major art collector, and Mihail is sent there, 30 years after leaving his home country, to assess the value of the girl's work and confront ghosts from his past.

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# TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 3
# DOCUMENTARY DAY

## DISPOSABLE HUMANITY
USA | 95 min | Dir. Cameron S. Mitchell | DOCUMENTARY | DelMarVa Premiere Q & A

11:00 AM -12:35 PM MAIN HOSTED BY JIM LESKO

A family's investigation into the history and memory of the Nazi Aktion T4 program, which targeted over 300,000 disabled people and catalyzed the Holocaust.

## FATHERS AND MOTHERS
DENMARK | 97 min | Dir. Paprika Steen | COMEDY, INTERNATIONAL | Oscar Contender

11:30 PM - 1:07 PM MAIN

Follows Piv and Ulrik, who are trying to become part of the parent group in their daughter's new school class, going to great lengths to be admitted.

## THE MELTDOWN
CHILE, USA | 110 min | Dir. Manuela Martelli | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | Oscar Contender

1:30 PM - 3:20 PM MAIN

1992, Chile. Inés parents are away on business, and she is left in the care of her grandparents, who own a hotel at the foot of a ski resort. Inés befriends Hanna, a European skier who has come to train in Chile. One night, Hanna disappears. The process of her search will unveil a series of hidden situations.

## EARTH AND APPETITE (SHORTS)

3:50 PM - 4:50 PM MAIN Q & A

**PIEGIRL** USA | 6 min | Dir. Daniel Quiyu | DOCUMENTARY

**ONE LAST ORDER** USA | 22 min | Dir. Lauren DeFilippo & Sam Soko | DOCUMENTARY | DelMarVa Premiere

**WOMEN OF WAMPUM** Canada | 12 min | Dir. Dr. Kelsey Leornard & Alejandro Miranda | DOCUMENTARY | Mid Atlantic Premiere

**AIR HORSE ONE** Belgium, Switzerland | 21 min | Dir. Lasse Linder | DOCUMENTARY | DelMarVa Premiere

## THE COVER UP
CANADA | 85 min | Dir. Jeremy Torrie | DOCUMENTARY, INTERNATIONAL | North Atlantic Premiere Q & A

4:30 PM - 5:55 PM JEMS HOSTED BY KEN CURRIER

The Cover Up reveals how Canada and its churches have worked together to assimilate multiple generations of Indigenous children through the residential school system. It also exposes the living priests, nuns, and clerics who have yet to face justice.

## LOVE, LOSS, AND CARE (SHORTS)

5:30 PM - 6:55 PM MAIN Q & A

**COOKIES** USA | 22 min | Dir. Stewart Lewis | COMEDY

**TREASURE** Pakistan | 19 min | Dir. Basir Ahmed | INTERNATIONAL, DRAMA

**UNDER ONE ROOF** USA | 12 min | Dir. John Gebhart | COMEDY | DelMarVa Premiere

**THUMBPRINT** USA | 22 min | Dir. Chris Naoki Lee | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

**I GUESS THIS IS GOODBYE** USA | 11 min | Dir. Chad Mathews | DRAMA

## EVERYBODY TO KENMURE STREET
UK | 95 min | Dir. Felipe Bustos Sierra | DOCUMENTARY, INTERNATIONAL

7:30 PM - 9:05 PM MAIN HOSTED BY ANTONIA BLUCHER

In May 2021, a U.K. Home Office dawn raid triggered one of the most spontaneous and successful acts of civil resistance in recent memory. In Scotland's most diverse neighborhood, hundreds of residents rush to the streets to stop the deportation of their neighbors. An inspiring and profoundly moving portrait of what "normal" citizens are capable in the face of injustice, this film reminds us of the power that is always inherent in the people.

# WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 4
## MUSIC DAY

### *SOIL - TOPRAK* Türkiye | 106 min | Dir. Sevgi Hirschhäuser | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | East Coast Premiere Q & A
**11:00 AM - 12:46 PM MAIN**

*Soil* is the dramatic story of a simple family in rural Turkey dealing with poverty, family traditions, and religious heritage. Since the death of his parents, the teenage Burak has lived with his Uncle Cemil and grandmother in a remote Turkish village. While the religious Cemil is satisfied to live his life in poverty, Burak struggles to leave for the city and attend university. When grandmother falls sick, both Burak and Cemil have to make tough decisions that will change their lives forever.

### *A WOMAN'S WORK* USA | 92 min | Dir. A. R. Ephraim | DRAMA Q & A
**12:45 PM - 2:17 PM JEMS**

A young woman in rural Kentucky works as a coal miner to provide for her two younger sisters after losing her parents to the opioid epidemic.

### *CONGO BOY* Africa, France | 93 min | Dir. Rafiki Fariala | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL
**1:20 PM - 2:53 PM MAIN**

Bangui, Central African Republic. 17-year-old Robert dreams of a career in music, but civil war is tearing the country apart. When both his parents are thrown into prison, he is left to look after his four younger siblings on his own, juggling daily life, odd jobs, school exams, and concert stages, determined to follow his dream.

### *THE CONDOR DAUGHTER* BOLIVIA | 109 min | Dir. Álvaro Olmos | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | Oscar Contender
**3:10 PM - 4:59 PM JEMS**

Clara is a teenager growing up in a small indigenous community high in the Andes. Her adoptive mother, a midwife who took her in as a baby, has taught her the ancient songs used to guide women through childbirth, melodies passed down for generations, believed to bring new life safely into the world. But while her voice carries on this tradition, her dreams lie elsewhere: she longs to leave the mountains behind and become a folkloric music star in the big city.

### *I'VE GOT YOU* USA | 109 min | Dir. Joshua B. Porter | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere
**4:15 PM - 6:04 PM UUSD**

A young man's final wish sends his estranged brothers back to the mountain cabin of their childhood. There, they must confront a painful past as one battles his own demons and the other finds an unexpected chance at love. I've Got You is a heartfelt story of grief, forgiveness, hope, and family.

### *HOPE, TRANSFORMATION, AND GRACE* (SHORTS)
**5:30 PM - 7:07 PM MAIN Q & A**

***KATTI (Un-friend)*** India, USA | 27 min | Dir. Kanishka Aggarwal | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL
***A REASON*** USA | 30 min | Dir. Eric Koenig | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere
***COUNTING TO TEN*** GERMANY | 22 min | Dir. Ileana Cosmovici | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL
***NOTES ON A PAGE*** USA | 14 min | Dir. Jennifer A. Uihlein | DOCUMENTARY | Mid Atlantic Premiere
***THE LABOUR OF LOVE*** UK | 13 min | Dir. Maxim Dunn | COMEDY | East Coast Premiere
***TWO TEARS*** USA | 19 min | Dir. Josefina Pieres | DRAMA | DelMarva Premiere

## *THE OPPOSITE ROAD* Argentina | 78 min | Dir. Daniel Flores & Martin Wain | Documentary | North American Premiere

6:00 PM - 7:18 PM JEMS

"The best voice in Argentine rock." That's how Hernán Reyna, leader of El Corte, a cult post-punk band from the 1980s, is remembered. *The Opposite Road* reconstructs his story with home movies and testimonies, adding a missing chapter to Argentine rock.

## *FRAMPTON* US, UK | 104 min | Dir. Rob Arthur | DOCUMENTARY | Mid Atlantic Premiere Q & A

8:00 PM - 9:44 PM MAIN HOSTED BY BRUCE RIDOLFO

**Featuring a conversation with director Rob Arthur, producer Dan Catullo, and special guests following the film**

Commemorating the 50th anniversary of his *Frampton Comes Alive* record, this career retrospective documentary of Peter Frampton is an uplifting portrait of the legendary guitarist and singer as he continues performing today. Directed by Frampton's own longtime bandleader Rob Arthur, the film allows the British musician to recount, in his own words, how he first came to prominence in the bands The Herd and Humble Pie before becoming a solo artist and experiencing a meteoric rise to selling out stadium shows in 1976. Mixing archival footage with interviews and performance from Frampton's latest tour, this documentary shows not only where the musician has been but where he is and hopes to go, charting out all the trials and victories along the way. Follows a rock icon who lost everything and fought his way back, again and again. "*Frampton* is a stirring celebration of artistry, endurance, and the enduring power of music to outlast even the hands that play it."

# THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 5

# THRILLS & CHILLS DAY

## *IDENTITY AND BELONGING* (SHORTS)

11:00 AM - 12:29 PM MAIN Q & A

***CLAY*** Switzerland | 10 min | Dir. Kevin Haefelin | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | Mid Atlantic Premiere

***GHOST IN THE MACHINE*** USA | 17 min | Dir. Tony Schwartz | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***JIMMY WON'T BE AT WORK TODAY*** UK, Ireland | 19 min | Dir. Mark Kavanagh | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL

***ARMAN*** USA | 11 min | Dir. Farzad Kiyafar | DRAMA | Mid Atlantic Premiere

***CATS CRADLE*** USA | 11 min | Dir. Aaron Newman | COMEDY | DelMarVa Premiere

***THE LAST DAY OF BYRON BRAY*** USA | 20 min | Dir. Michael Borrelli | DRAMA | DelMarva Premiere

## Industry Behind The Scenes (SHORT & FEATURE) 12:40 PM - 2:39 PM JEMS

***LOCK IT UP*** USA | 20 min | Dir. Laura Colella | COMEDY | DelMarVa Premiere Q & A

## *AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER: THE STORY OF GOODFELLAS*

UK | 99 min | Dir. Lisa Downs, Ashley Pugh | DOCUMENTARY | East Coast Premiere Q & A HOSTED BY VIRGINA RODINO

This feature is the fourth feature documentary in the "Life After" series, offering an intimate look at Scorsese's 1990 masterpiece from the inside, with exclusive insights from cast, crew, and the real-world figures who inspired the film. Culminating in a reunion, 35 years in the making. Through exclusive behind-the-scenes material and brand-new interviews with the people who made it, lived it, and continue to carry its legacy, this insightful documentary explores how the movie *Goodfellas* was created; the real story behind it. Featuring interviews with Lorraine Bracco, Samuel L. Jackson, Nicholas Pileggi, Illeana Douglas, Debi Mazar, Barbara De Fina, Irwin Winkler, Tony Darrow, Mike Starr, Kevin Corrigan, and local resident Barry Wetcher.

**Featuring a Talk Back after the screening with the filmmakers and special guests.**

# THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 5

## THRILLS & CHILLS DAY

### THE FOOD CLUB: HOME AGAIN
**Denmark | 89 min | Dir. Charlotte Sachs Bostrup | COMEDY, INTERNATIONAL**

**1:00 PM - 2:29 PM** MAIN

The three friends, Marie, Berling, and Vanja, are back home. They've moved in together in a large, beautiful house with high ceilings and a weekly dinner club. Marie is getting used to life as a newly divorced woman, the new grandmother, Vanja, takes care of both child and grandchild, while Berling has been forced into retirement. But with their usual impressive energy, the three women — led by Berling — decide to create Funen's biggest local food festival! A decision that doesn't go unnoticed, either within or around their small household.

### MALLORY'S GHOST
**USA | 87 min | Dir. Arabella Oz | COMEDY, THRILLER**

**1:15 PM - 2:41 PM** UUSD

Mallory, tormented by a fear of being insignificant, accompanies her playwright boyfriend Sam to a retreat on the coast of Maine. She learns that he once took his glamorous ex-girlfriend there. She is overcome by an obsessive curiosity.

### FIRST SNOW (20th Anniversay)
**USA | 101 min | Dir. Mark Fergus | DRAMA | SPECIAL PRESENTATION** Q & A

**3:20 PM - 5:01 PM** MAIN

Jimmy, a traveling salesman falls into deep paranoia after a fortune teller predicts he will die when the first snow falls. NY Times says, "A pointed little thriller with metaphysical pretensions. " A special 20th anniversary screening, starring Guy Peace, J.K. Simmons, Shea Whigham, Piper Perabo, Adam Scott, and William Fichtner. Writer-director **Mark Fergus and cinematographer Eric Edwards will be in person for a Talk Back after the screening with other special guests from the film.**

### ANORGASMIA - ALL THE THINGS WE DO TO SURVIVE
**Iceland | 92 min | Dir. Jon Einarsson Gustafsson | COMEDY, INTERNATIONAL | DelMarVa Premiere** Q & A

**4:00 PM - 5:32 PM** JEMS

After a failed attempt at a hostel luggage room hook up, Sam and Naomi think they will never see each other again. When a volcano erupts, grounding all flights, they suddenly find themselves stranded. The ensuing road trip into the Icelandic highlands uncovers their vulnerabilities as they navigate their fears of commitment, the weight of their secrets, and the thrills of connection in a world where they can no longer swipe left.

### 4000 DAYS
**USA | 111 min | Dir. Daniel E. Catullo III | DOCUMENTARY**

**4:15 PM - 6:06 PM** UUSD

Chronicles the relentless fight of three families—Gary and Julie DeVercelly, Linda and Eric Oakes, and TJ and Kim Burch—who turned their personal tragedies into a nationwide movement for change. After losing their sons to fraternity hazing, the families found themselves up against a deeply entrenched system that thrived on secrecy, denial, and silence. Refusing to accept that their children died in vain, they joined forces and waged a years-long battle to expose the dangers of hazing, challenge university and fraternity accountability, and push for sweeping legislative reform.

# THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 5
## THRILLS & CHILLS DAY

### *FLOOD* SLOVAKIA | 103 min | Dir. Martin Gonda | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | OSCAR CONTENDER | North America Premiere Q & A
**6:20 PM -8:03 PM MAIN HOSTED BY DOUGLAS LINGENFELTER**

In communist Czechoslovakia in 1980, 15-year-old Mara dreams of leaving her village to study in the city and become a pilot. But her father, a widowed Ruthenian farmer, insists she stay and work the land. When her village faces destruction due to a new dam, their generational conflict intensifies, revealing the struggle between tradition, identity, and the desire for freedom in a context of historical change.

### *THRILLS AFTER DARK* (SHORTS)
**7:00 PM - 8:43 PM JEMS Q & A**

***NIGHTFACES*** Austria | 23 min | Dir. Stefan Langthaler & Martin Winter | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | DelMarVa Premiere

***ICE ICE BYE BYE*** France | 11 min | Dir. Sebastien Abdelhamid Godelu | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL

***ARCHANGEL*** USA | 16 min | Dir. Sam Platizkay | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***PYRE*** USA | 19 min | Dir. Dylan Miller | HORROR

***THE DISPROPORTIONATE MAN*** USA | 7 min | Dir. Emily Ginnona | HORROR

***HIDE*** USA | 16 min |Dir. Brenden Hubbard | HORROR

***THE DRIVE*** USA | 12 min | Dir. David Arrow | DRAMA

### *MURDEROUS* USA | 106 min | Dir. Neil LaBute | COMEDY, THRILLER Q & A
**9:00 PM - 10:46 PM MAIN**

*Murderous* follows the exploits of an emerging female filmmaker—who has had a breakout hit with her first feature—as she negotiates successive visits from very two different people who may know a lot more about her past and her work than she would ever want them (or the rest of the world) to know. Funny, chilling and deadly, *Murderous* is a 'chamber piece' in the grand tradition of *Rope, Sleuth* and *Dial 'M' for Murder* (with nods toward *Psycho* as well). Gia Crovatin (*I Feel Pretty*) as Marion, her ex Norman, played by Thomas Sadoski (*The Newsroom, John Wick*), from the director of *In the Company of Men, Your Friends & Neighbors* and *Nurse Betty*.



# FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 6
# INDUSTRY EDUCATION DAY

## *STUDENT SHORTS 1* - Sponsored by Final Draft

11:00 AM - 12:07 PM JEMS Q & A

***MY DEAR WATSON*** USA | 12 min | Dir. Jacob McKee | COMEDY

***GROSSNESS OF CLOSENESS*** Ireland, USA | 24 min | Dir. Cathal Power | COMEDY | DelMarVa Premi

***A STORY OF NANJING*** USA | 6 min | Dir. L-J ShenFilerman | DRAMA

***DONGMEI*** China | 12 min | Dir. Rubing Zhang | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***ARROW*** USA | 14 min | Dir. Daniel Connell | COMEDY

## *WOMEN BEHIND THE LENS* (SHORTS)

11:10 AM - 12:59 PM JEMS Q & A

***SHE'S NONBINARY*** Canada | 11 min | Dir. Jess McLeod | COMEDY

***PEANUT*** USA | 11 min | Dir. Sheila Sawhny | COMEDY

***SYLVIA*** USA | 12 min | Dir. Jessie Barr | COMEDY

***LINER NOTES*** USA | 7 min | Dir. Rahel Grunder | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***RUN WILD*** USA | 21 min | Dir. Roxanna Lewis | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***RARE BIRDS*** USA | 10 min | Dir. Lily Weisberg | COMEDY

***LITTLE GENES*** USA | 16 min | Dir. Amy Redford & Skye Emerson | DRAMA | Mid Atlantic Premiere

***INSENSIBLE LOSSES*** USA | 8 min | Dir. Amanda Williams | DRAMA

***SAVERIO*** USA | 14 min | Dir. Ellen Ancui | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL

## *THE ESSENCE OF EVA* Ireland | 85 min | Dir. Alex Fegan & Malcolm Willis | DOCUMENTARY

11:15 AM - 12:37 PM UUSD

Featuring unheard songs and exclusive archive footage, *The Essence of Eva* is a portrait of legendary singer Eva Cassidy from the perspective of her parents, family and friends. Critic Alex Ward wrote a feature article for the *New York Times*, entitled "In Death, a Shy Singer Finally Grabs the Spotlight." It was published August 12, 2002. "In some ways, the explanation for Eva Cassidy's popularity – all told, her records have sold about four million copies, according to Bill Straw, the president of Blix Street – is simple: she possessed a silken soprano voice with a wide and seemingly effortless range, unerring pitch and a gift for phrasing that at times was heart-stoppingly eloquent. In an industry where not much is simple, however, Cassidy's celebrity and the success of her records qualify as aberrations..."

## *STUDENT SHORTS 2* - Sponsored by Final Draft

12:40 PM - 1:58 PM JEMS Q & A

***NIGHT OF MELANCHOLIA*** USA | 14 min | Dir. Fozhan Gharib | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***PARTLY PARTED PARTY*** USA | 10 min | Dir. Ryan DeSalvo | COMEDY

***BLUE BLOOD*** UK | 23 min | Dir. Neeve Ó Flynn-Mundin | DOCUMENTARY

***WHAT'S THERE TO CELEBRATE?*** USA | 12 min | Dir. Sophia Mendoza De Lima | DRAMA

***TRUANT*** USA | 19 min | Dir. Robyn Wholey | DRAMA

# FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 6
# INDUSTRY EDUCATION DAY

## PANEL DISCUSSION

***My Brain Fell Out, Now What? Working Through Creative Blocks, Kicking Ass in a Burning Room...***

1:15 pm -2:00 pm | LEWES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Filmmaker Susan Ruth joins renowned author, editor, screenwriter, playwright, and renegade truth-bomber Amy Ferris to discuss how to dismantle fear, stay true to your work, empower your creative voice, and honor your diabolical, unfiltered truth.

**Panel Guests: Susan Ruth, Moderator Amy Ferris, Author, Novelist, Screenwriter**

## *NANDAURI*

**Georgia | 93 min | Dir. Eti Tsicko | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL**

1:45 PM - 3:18 PM MAIN **HOSTED BY FRED MITZNER**

In the dead of night, a strange woman arrives in a forgotten village in northern Georgia. Marina (Neta Riskin- Shtisel, Saving Neta), an Israeli lawyer who has spent her life in denial about her past and identity, returns to Georgia to bring back to Israel an 11-year-old boy who was abandoned by his mother Nino as a baby. She meets Dato, Nino's brother, who has cared for the boy his entire life. Despite the hostility she arouses in him, he agrees to help her. The journey of Dato and Marina, two strangers, melts the walls of alienation and anger and changes their perspective on the world and themselves.

## *THE HAND THAT HOLDS THE LINE*

**USA | 80 min | Dir. Geoff Bassett | DOCUMENTARY | DelMarVa Premiere** Q & A

2:15 PM - 3:35 PM UUSD **HOSTED BY JOHN ZINSMIESTER & DAVID STABILE**

Fishermen live a life that's deeply connected to nature, shaped by the rhythm of the tides, the temperament of the sea, and the unpredictability of the catch. Their work is both physically demanding and emotionally rewarding, driven more by passion than profit. This documentary shines a light on Cape Cod fishermen who have devoted their lives to one of the most challenging and dangerous professions in the world

## PANEL DISCUSSION

***Inside the Story: A Conversation with Hollywood Screenwriter - Mark Fergus***

2:20 PM -3:40 PM | LEWES PUBLIC LIBRARY

What does it take to turn a bold idea into a compelling film? Join us for an in-depth conversation exploring storytelling collaboration, the writer-director relationship, creating unforgettable characters, building cinematic worlds, and the realities of bringing script to the screen, working with independent producers and within the studio system. Oscar-nominated screenwriter-filmmaker Mark Fergus, along with his long-time writing partner Hawk Ostby, have penned some of the coolest successful films and TV series from *Iron Man*, *Cowboys and Aliens, First Snow, The Last Vermeer*, and the critically acclaimed TV series *The Expanse*.

**Panel Special Guest: Aku Louhimies, Award Winning Finnish Director**

## *THE WAIT*

**Finland | 100 min | Dir. Aku Louhimies | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | SPECIAL PRESENTATION** Q & A

3:10 PM - 4:51 PM JEMS

Elli lives in an idyllic and isolated archipelago with her husband, Miko, as the pandemic spreads around the world. Elli's life is shaken when her childhood love, Miko's old student friend, Olavi, arrives for a visit from France. Special in-person Talk Back with writer-director Aku Louhimies and co-writer Inka Kallén.

# FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 6
# INDUSTRY EDUCATION DAY

## PANEL DISCUSSION
***Pathways to Distribution: From Festivals to Streaming and Everything in Between***
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | LEWES PUBLIC LIBRARY

A panel discussion with experienced executives and filmmakers who have successfully seen projects through from festival to wider distribution (streaming, theatrical, etc.). How are streaming platforms, virtual cinemas, and social media reshaping indie film access and profitability?

**Presented by Jon McConnell, Delaware local and film acquisitions executive, with distribution executives Jennifer Liang, Sana Soni, and Ian Stimmler, and producers Daryl Freimark, Kyle Olson and Mark Maxey. Moderated by Heather Brittain, actress, filmmaker, and owner of Film Festival Insider.**

## *CHILDREN OF MEN* (20th Anniversary)
**USA, UK | 109 min | Dir. Alfonso Cuarón | DRAMA | SPECIAL PRESENTATION**
5:20 PM - 7:09 PM MAIN Q & A **HOSTED BY UMBERTO VELTRI**

In 2027, in a chaotic world in which humans can no longer procreate, a former activist agrees to help transport a miraculously pregnant woman to a sanctuary at sea, where her child's birth may help scientists save the future of humankind. For this 20th Anniversary special screening, Oscar-nominated writer Mark Fergus will be present for a Talk Back after the screening.

## *BEAUTIFUL PAM*
**USA | 63 min | Dir. J.R. Stokes | DRAMA | Mid Atlantic Premiere** Q & A
6:00 PM - 7:04 PM JEMS

*Beautiful, Pam* follows a queer sex-worker, named Pam, in the midst of a mid-life crisis during the week of their son's 18th birthday.

## PANEL DISCUSSION - $35
***Reviewing Movies: Film Criticism in the Modern Age***
6:00 PM- 7:00 PM | LEWES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fancy yourself a film critic? Learn what it takes to become a filmmaker's best friend...or worst enemy.

In this session, **panelists Shelby Cooke (Film East Editor-in-Chief, *Art/Film*), Bill Newcott (*The Saturday Evening Post, AARP Movies for Grownups*), and James Willey (*Movie Good Or Movie Bad*)** will discuss their varied careers and the paths they took to find success in their field. They will explore topics such as what makes good film criticism, how to produce a compelling review, and what role the critic plays in the wider film industry. Bring your questions related to writing about movies, as time will be allocated for an audience Q&A.

## *WHISTLE DOWN WIND*
**USA | 87 min | Dir. Andie Morgenlander | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere**
6:15 PM - 7:42 PM UUSD

When a drunken teenage kiss propels Janie and Alex's quirky friendship into a hidden love affair, the conservative ideologies of their hometown force them to confront the truth about their sexualities, and the bitter future of their relationship.

## *THE SQUIRREL*
**Finland | 93 min | Dir. Markus Lehmusruusu | COMEDY, INTERNATIONAL | Oscar Contender**
7:30 PM - 9:03 PM JEMS **HOSTED BY SALLY PACKARD & DINAH REATH**

Pasi, a lonely but kind-hearted designer of artificial animals, lives in a world where nature is just a memory and human well-being is organized with perhaps too much care. One day, Pasi accidentally finds the world's last living squirrel and meets Emilia, an official who enforces the rules of well-being. Pasi decides to defy society's rules and help the squirrel, but something unexpected happens—the squirrel becomes depressed and Pasi falls in love.

## *CLARISSA* Nigeria, USA | 134 min | Dir. Chuko Esiri & Arie Esiri | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | Mid Atlantic Premiere

**8:00 PM - 10:14 PM MAIN HOSTED BY SALLY PACKARD & DINAH REATH**

A modern reimagining of the Virginia Woolf novel *Mrs. Dalloway*. Follows society woman Clarissa as she prepares to host a party at her home in Lagos, Nigeria, where she will unexpectedly encounter once-intimate friends from her youth. As the group reflects on their shared past over the course of a single night, memories of their intricate relationships, passionate love, hidden desires, and lost aspirations give rise to bittersweet reckoning. Sophie Okonedo plays the titular character with restraint opposite a star-studded Black cast that includes David Oyelowo, Ayo Edebiri, and India Amarteifio.




## *CINEMATOGRAPHY OF EXCELLENCE* (SHORTS)

**11:00 AM - 12:50 PM MAIN Q & A**

***BROTHER TROLL*** Faroe Islands | 30 min | Dir. Gudmund Helmsdal | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL

***WHERE I'M CALLING FROM*** UK | 7 min | Dir. Shaun Hughes | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL

***KANSAS, 1989*** USA | 13 min | Dir. Clayton Dean Smith | DRAMA

***SENSE OF SIGHT*** USA | 15 min | Dir. Isaac Latimer | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

***DEJA VU*** Australia | 30 min | Dir. Pete Bridges | DRAMA | East Coast Premiere

***BECOMING*** USA | 15 min | Dir. Aidan Forte | COMEDY | DelMarVa Premiere

## *THE BADGERS* Norway | 105 min | Dir. Paul Magnus Lundø | COMEDY, INTERNATIONAL | North America Premiere

**11:15 AM - 1:00 PM UUSD**

When Berny (11) joins a motley scouting troop called the Badgers, he resolves to win the Golden Scout Trophy, which his deceased father had won. However, when Berny's radicalized foster mother, Gerdy, weasels her way into becoming the Badgers' new co-leader, she cancels all future competitions. This year's competition is Berny's only chance at the trophy, so he cheats through the trials to become the Badger's selected contestant. This sparks rivalry with junior troop leader, Lars (13), and ignites a battle for the throne between Gerdy and her naive co-leader, Gunnar. Now Gerdy leads a coup d'état and is about to seize the rights to the scout house. Unless Berny confesses his charade, the Badgers will lose everything. Will he sacrifice winning the trophy and risk losing his newfound friends?

## Golden Years, Fierce Hearts (SHORT & FEATURE) TWO SCREENINGS!

**12:45 PM - 2:22 PM & 6:00 PM - 7:37 PM JEMS Q & A**

***IT'S OUR BALL*** USA | 11 min | Dir. David Morrison | DOCUMENTARY

## *SPINSTERS* USA | 86 min | Dir. Rahel Grunder | COMEDY | Delaware Premiere

A bittersweet comedy about two middle-aged, estranged besties who find themselves back in their hometown, struggling with aging parents, paths not taken and each other as they give up the traditional idea of "happily ever after" to embrace their own.

## *WHERE THE WIND COMES FROM* USA | 99min | Dir. Amel Guellaty | DRAMA | DelMarVa Premiere

**1:35 PM - 3:14 PM MAIN HOSTED BY RHODA GANZ, IN MEMORY OF DR. JOEL GANZ**

Fearless spirit Alyssa and sensitive artist Mehdi, best friends since childhood, feel cramped in their life in the outskirts of Tunis. When Alyssa discovers an artist contest in Djerba that might be their ticket out, she pulls Mehdi into a fantastical journey across Tunisia which will put their friendship to the test.

# SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 7

## TRANSFORMING THE BEAUTIFUL GAME: THE CLYDE BEST STORY

**Bermuda, UK, USA | 99 min | Dir. Dan Egan | DOCUMENTARY, INTERNATIONAL | DelMarVa Premiere** Q & A

### 2:15 PM - 3:54 PM UUSD HOSTED BY IK START FC & JEAN BLEY

In 1969, Bermudian teenager Clyde Best broke into England's First Division Football (Soccer) and became the first Black superstar of football/ soccer's modern television era. Enduring racism while inspiring millions, Best emerged as the Jackie Robinson of English football, breaking barriers through his on-field excellence and quiet resilience. Overcoming adversity, inspiring a generation of young Black athletes, and later starring in the North American Soccer League, his influence still echoes across the global game. Featuring Clyde Best himself alongside notable interviewees such as Sir Geoff Hurst and Viv Anderson.

## PANEL DISCUSSION: *The Art of Image: A Conversation with Hollywood Cinematographers*

### 3:20 PM - 4:30 PM | JEMS THEATER

From the magic of light and composition to the creative collaboration that brings a director's vision to life, this distinguished panel offers a rare glimpse into the artistry behind some of the screen's most compelling films! A conversation with seasoned award winning cinematographers about visual storytelling across genres and budgets. This panel has collectively worked on over 500 Hollywood films and Independent darlings, spanning fifty years of industry knowledge.

**Panel Guests: Barry Wetcher - Moderator, Eric Alan Edwards, Anthony "Tony" Jannelli , Diana Matos, David J. Thompson, and Florian Ballhaus, ASC**

## DANCING ON THE ELEPHANT

**Canada | 93 min | Dir. Julia Neill & Jacob Z. Smith | COMEDY | DelMarVa Premiere**

### 3:45 PM - 5:18 PM MAIN Q & A HOSTED BY JENNIFER VARONE

When Nora's son drops her off at Shady Rest Retirement Home, she's pretty sure there's not much left to hope for. That is, until unfiltered firecracker Edna wheels into her life and reminds her it ain't over till it's over. The pair kindle a friendship around a love of Fat Archies cookies, disdain for "Chair-xercise," and Edna's quest to escape the "fox farm." Edna's failing memory eventually lands her in the secure memory care wing, leaving Nora to plot one last grand adventure in hopes of reminding her friend there are still elephants left to dance on.

## COFFEE CUPS & WINE GLASSES: A LIVE TABLE SCRIPT READING

### 4:15 PM - 5:18 PM UUSD

RBIFF hosts a live table read of a new independent script early in its development phase. If you are curious about the writing process or an aspiring actor-actress, come listen to this live table reading, presented by Fuzzy Pancakes Productions in association with, Norm Golden, Joan Barber and seasoned SAG actors and teachers. Leave your dignity at the door and join writer Debbie Seagle with director E. Stuelke (RBIFF ALUMNUS ) for a live table read of the script for the feature comedy film, hear the story take its first breath through dialogue, laughter, narrated and nuanced readings by the actors.

## FILIPIÑANA

**Philippines | 101 min | Dir. Rafael Manuel | COMEDY, INTERNATIONAL | Oscar Contender**

### 5:40 PM - 7:21 PM MAIN HOSTED BY ARIEL DELEON

While working at an elite country club outside Manila, a 17-year-old Ilocana worker uncovers the violent truths of her workplace, her country, and her own past after attempting to return a lost golf club to the club's president.

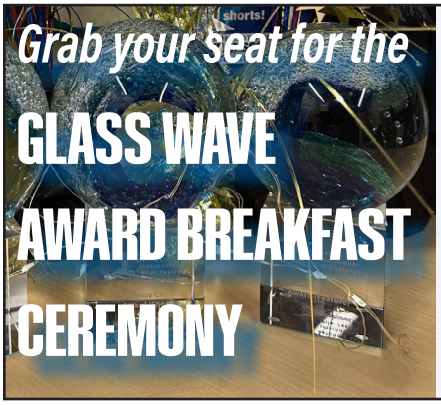
## HOW TO DIVORCE DURING THE WAR

**Lithuania, Czech Republic | 108 min | Dir. Andrius Blaževičius | COMEDY, INTERNATIONAL | Mid Atlantic Premiere | Oscar Contender**

### 8:00 PM - 9:48 PM MAIN

Vilnius 2022. High-flying executive Marija chooses the worst possible moment for an honest conversation with her husband Vytas about divorcing - just one day before Russia's invasion of Ukraine goes into full scale. Now they must navigate the process of separation as it collides with a refugee and mid-life crisis.

# SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 8
## CLOSING DAY




**Sunday, Nov 8, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
**HYATT Dewey Beach | 1301 Coastal Hwy**

See which of your favorite films receive the coveted art glass wave award! 14 awards in total including the Audience Choice Awards! Red Carpet, step and repeat with the winners! Mix with the nominees and RBFS Board members and our VIP special guests!

FREE ADMISSION for ALL PASS HOLDERS and FILMMAKERS with advanced reservations. Single Tickets $60 and must be purchased in advance (no walk-in's).

### ALL OF A SUDDEN
**Japan, France | 196 min | Dir. Ryusuke Hamaguchi | DRAMA, INTERNATIONAL | Oscar Contender**

**11:30 AM - 2:48 PM MAIN HOSTED BY SARO DEDEYAN**

Marie-Lou Fontaine, director of a nursing home in the Paris suburbs, defies convention by adopting the 'Humanitude' method despite her team's resistance. Her encounter with Mari Morisaki, a terminally ill Japanese playwright, transforms her life. Together, they turn the facility into a symbol of resistance and humanity against the system's limits.

### MAHLER IN NEW YORK
**USA | 93 min | Dir. Hilan Warshaw | DOCUMENTARY**

**3:10 PM - 4:43 PM MAIN HOSTED BY GARY MOORE & BONNIE TAMRES-MOORE**

A sweeping, symphonic journey follows the final, transformative years of one of Europe's most influential composers who fled Vienna's rising antisemitism to discover startling artistic rebirth in Manhattan. From 1907 to 1911, Gustav Mahler reshapes New York's musical life through bold leadership at both the New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera, while composing his monumental Symphonies No. 9 and 10. Amid the Upper West Side bustle, he pushes into daring new territory while facing personal tragedy and mounting health challenges. Lush musical performances, rare archival materials, and insights from conductors, scholars, historians, and descendants illuminate a story of reinvention, belonging, and the ever-resonant power of Mahler's legacy. This film brings Mahler's final years vividly to life, weaving together archival recordings, contemporary interviews, intimate musical performances, and evocative footage of Manhattan. It captures not only the creative genius of a man at the height of his powers but also the personal and artistic struggles that defined his last chapter. Through this journey, viewers gain a new appreciation for how Mahler's music continues to echo through New York's streets and concert halls, bridging the past and the present with its timeless power.

### TEST
**USA | 113 min | Dir. Sam McConnell | DRAMA** Q & A

**5:45 PM - 7:40 PM MAIN HOSTED BY JON KAPLAN** Special Film Sponsor - NOVUS MEDICAL SERVICES

Eddie Owens, a young small-town bodybuilder chasing a coveted professional card, lives under the intense devotion of his religious mother Joanne, who manages his career and frames his ambitions through faith. After a painful loss at a local competition, Eddie's confidence fractures, revealing the pressure behind his carefully curated physique. Seeking an edge, he turns to veteran bodybuilder Mike, whose brutal training pulls him deeper into the dangerous world of performance-enhancing drugs. As Mike becomes his mentor and gatekeeper to the elite bodybuilding world, Eddie develops a confusing attraction to him that clashes with the rigid masculinity and conservative church culture shaping his life. At the same time, he reconnects with his ex-girlfriend Abby, whose presence revives memories of a simpler self. Torn between ambition, faith, and identity, Eddie spirals further into obsession, ultimately accepting the extreme physical cost of chasing greatness.

# FESTIVAL SOCIAL EVENTS

## MEET & GREET AT THE FESTIVAL HUB EVERY EVENING, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM AT THE BAR OR FIREPIT!

FESTIVAL BADGE PICK-UP: At the Cinema Art Theater ONLY on Sun, Nov 1. (9:00 AM - 7:00 PM)
AT THE FESTIVAL HUB: Mon, Nov 2 - Sat, Nov 7 (9:30 AM - 4:00 PM)

**SUN NOV 1** 5:45 PM - 6:45 PM
**OPENING FILM NIGHT SOCIAL HOUR**
**Before the film JIMMY, Meet Jen Lilley & cast**
Cinema Arts Theater (CAT)
Free for *JIMMY* ticket purchasers

**MON NOV 2** 4:45 PM - 8:15 PM
**CAT ANNIVERSARY & MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**
Rehoboth Beach Convention Center
Tickets: Non-Members $100/Members $75 at rehobothfilm.org

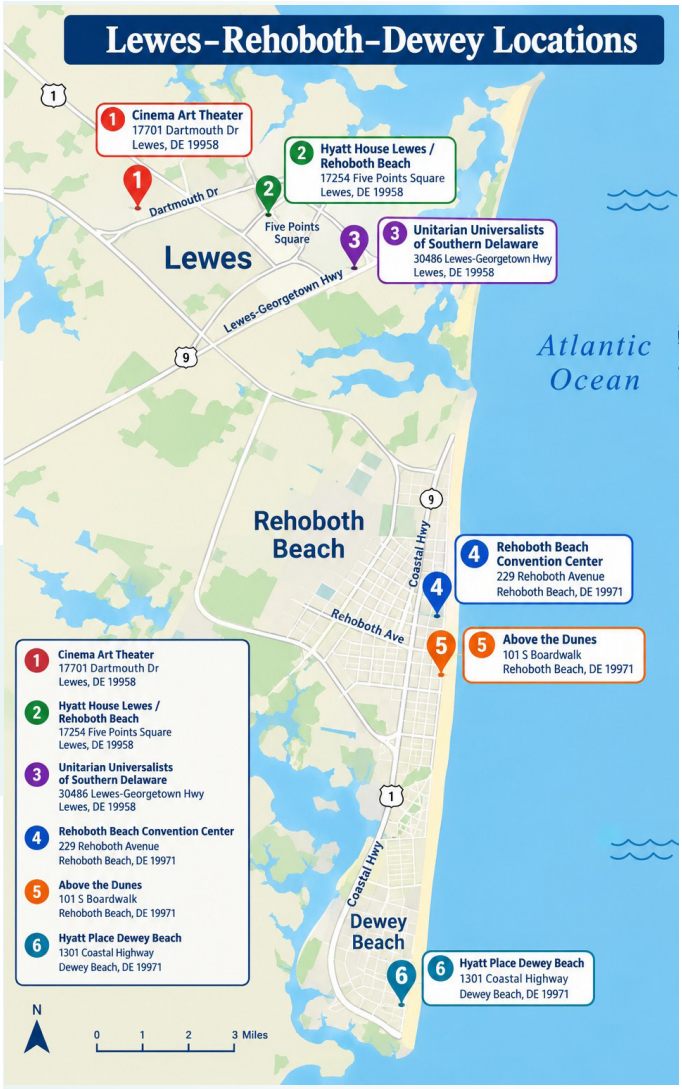
**MON NOV 2** ALL DAY
**LOCAL DELMARVA DAY**
Festival Hub - HYATT HOUSE | Lewes
Rehoboth Beach Convention Center

**THU NOV 5** 4:45 PM - 6:45 PM
**RED CARPET WELCOME COCKTAIL SOIREE**
Above the Dunes
Tickets $75 at rehobothfilm.org
(Included with Boardwalk, Filmmaker, VIP and Student Pass Only) Badges must be worn for admittance.

**FRI NOV 7** 9:30 PM - Closing
**KARAOKE**
Purple Parrot Grill Beach Haus & Biergarten
134 Rehoboth Ave, Rehoboth Beah
(Open to Festival attendees)

**SAT NOV 7** 10:45 AM - 12:15
**LEWES HISTORICAL WALK/ART GALLERY LUNCHEON**
107 W. Market Street
Hosted By George Farrah, Board Member/Treasurer
RSVP required - register at rehobothfilm.org

**SUN NOV 8** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
**GLASS WAVE AWARD BREAKFAST CEREMONY**
**HYATT HOUSE Dewey Beach**
1301 Coastal Hwy, Dewey Beach.,
Tickets: $60 at rehobothfilm.org




**FOR INFORMATION, CALL 302-313-4032 OR email: info@rehobothfilm.com**

**PURCHASE TICKETS AT REHOBOTHFILM.COM, AT THE THEATER OR BY CALLING: 302-313-4032**







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## IN MEMORIAM

## EDMUND T. GMOCH. JR.
**12/6/1945 - 2/3/2026**

***From your friend***
***Bill***

Ed was a long-time Rehoboth resident and known by many as the unofficial “Mayor of Rehoboth”.

He volunteered at the Rehoboth Beach Film Society and attended many of its Film Festivals. He and I poured over the catalogs and selected many of the same movies.
We did not always agree on their merits!

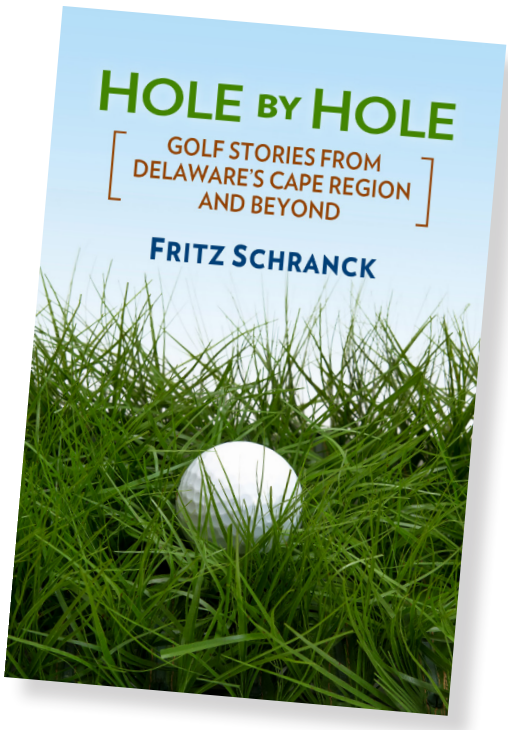
May Ed rest in eternal peace after a life well lived and may we rejoice in our memories of him.

AQUA
BAR & GRILL

Cape Gazette

CAMP Rehoboth Community Center

**Thomas Crowley & Minnie Shorter**



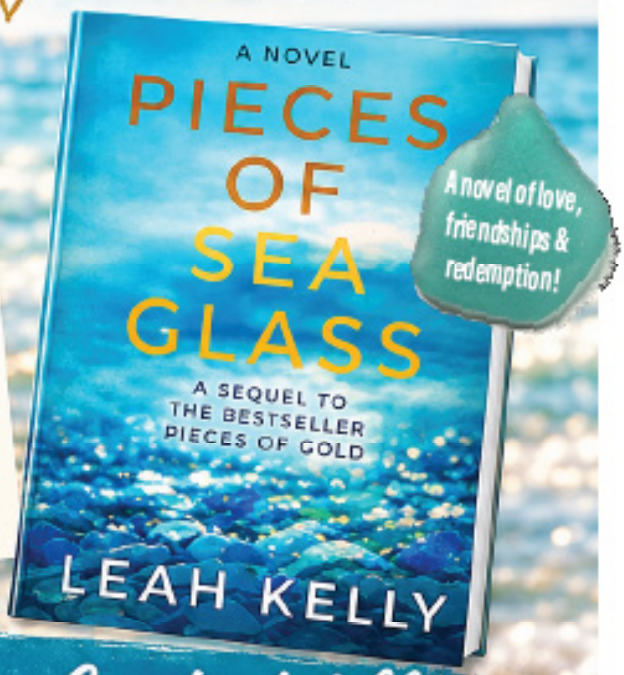

## *HOLE BY HOLE*
## By Fritz Schrank

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# AUTHOR MEET & GREET

## and book launch




## Meet Author Leah Kelly

**Sunday December 13 | 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm**

**Cinema Art Theater**

Join author Leah Kelly for the first launch
of her sequel to the bestseller

## "PIECES OF GOLD"

Purchase the book at the following stores
and bring to the MEET & GREET for a personal signing:
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Bethany Books (Bethany Beach)

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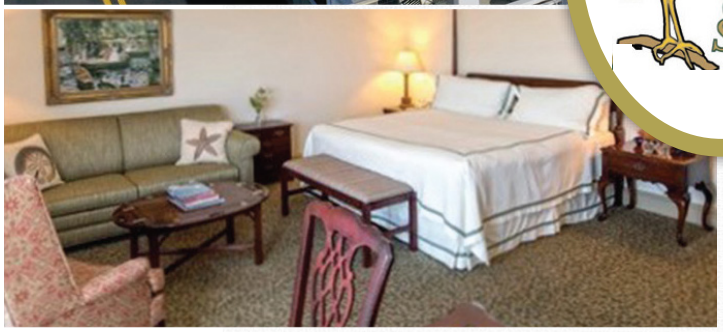
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