

**MAURICE  
KANBAR  
INSTITUTE OF  
FILM AND  
TELEVISION**

**FIRST RUN  
FILM FESTIVAL  
2011**

**TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS • NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**



**PARTICIPATING FILMS BY TITLE**



## **FILMS BY DIRECTOR**

### **9/12 - Brian DePasquale**

15:00 min

Four lives intersect with dire consequences when an AWOL soldier is blackmailed by a misguided comrade.

### **Abe Aldron: A Lab Drone - Evan Geary**

14:55 min

Honeybees communicate by dancing. So do Abe's co-workers. They are trying to solve the bee colony collapse crisis, but Abe has his own crisis - and it is frustratingly similar to the plight of a bee.

### **After All - Margaret Shin**

10:00 min

A troubled teenager goes down a deep hole in the woods while his family falls apart.

### **Afternoon Rain - Nadiah Hamzah**

15:00 min

For the longest time, Zaki has dreamed about coming to America. He enrolls himself in a business course and finds himself in New York City - in an apartment with two illegal Indonesian immigrants; Ferdy and Mira, in Flushing, Queens. As he grapples with the harsh reality of living in the city, he finds himself slowly attracted to Mira. She helps him realize the possibilities of starting life anew - possibilities that are threatened by an impending marriage and his awaited return to Malaysia.

### **Ama at Sea - Mahalia Cohen**

19:00 min

Ama at Sea is a story of loss and rediscovery. After living within the confines of an abusive relationship Ama suddenly finds herself free. The unknown is at once terrifying and exhilarating.

### **Apparition - Liam Brady**

10:20 min

The foreman of a construction crew makes an enigmatic discovery in the basement of a Brooklyn cathedral.

## **Baby Ruth - Jeremy Reitz**

19:00 min

After dropping out of college to support his pregnant girlfriend, a young man reluctantly goes out one winter night to find chocolate to satisfy her craving.

## **Bad Apples - Paul Langston Kahn**

15:00 min

An Arabic linguist transferred to Abu Ghraib, Laura Wilkes struggles to deal with soldiers who treat her variously as a soldier, sister, bitch and slut. When asked to assist in interrogating a detainee, possibly involved in 9/11, Laura must see how far she can go to further her career and serve her country amidst the murky moral boundaries of war.

## **Benachin - Chloé Zhao**

10:00 min

The annual Chinese spring festival dinner gets a little complicated when the family's only son brings home his Senegalese girlfriend.

## **Birds of a Feather - Gabriel Flaksman**

13:00 min

A young slacker who is a caretaker for his pigeon-loving grandmother must try as hard as he can to keep her from being sent to a nursing home, which would ruin his dreams of fleeing to Mexico.

## **The Birds Upstairs - Christopher Jarvis**

8:26 min

Frustrated attempts to bear children overwhelm the lives of an aristocratic, avian couple in the early nineteenth century.

## **Blacktruffle - Katelyn Howes**

15:00 min

Sometime in the 20th century, at the height of the Red Scare, Harold B. is sent to investigate the Myer family for possible communist ties. However, he quickly finds that more than just a case file brought him to the Myer house.

## **Borderland - Alexander Smolowe**

15:00 min

A dramatic exploration of mercy and survival when two American soldiers in WW2 discover their enemy atop a live landmine.

## **Bowling Balls - John Langan**

16:47 min

Two working-class teenagers from New Jersey attempt to steal an unpublished short story by J. D. Salinger from the Princeton University library. Along the way they discover underground passageways, secret societies and the true meaning of Art.

## **Braid - Chun-Yi Hsieh**

15:00 min

Bian Zi (Braid) is a short dramatic narrative addressing themes of loss, endurance and parenthood. Following the accidental death of his wife and recent unemployment, Jie is unable to cope with her absence and the idea of raising his daughter, Ting, in a poor and motherless world. Having decided it is better to end their lives than continue hiding the truth from Ting and living with the pain of his wife's memory, Jie plans to show her the happiest day of her life. After several attempts to be a good father, some more successful than others, Jie must execute the fatal decision he has made in the presence of his daughter.

## **Breaking the Way - Anya Leta**

14:36 min

Traveling from her tranquil ashram into urban India proves a necessary challenge for an American widow.

## **Capeman '59 - Eric Yue**

15:00 min

Set in 1959 at the peak of juvenile gang violence, Capeman '59 is about a 16 year-old teenager Salvador Agron, who murdered two teenagers in a 'rumble' at a New York City Park. Inspired by true events, Capeman '59 is a portrait of an inner-city youth caught amidst the perils of masculinity within an unforgiving city.

## **Cesar Y Birdy - William Wohleb**

15:00 min

A poetic day trip through California's central valley on a historic day for both César Chávez and his youngest son Birdy. (Based on the recollections of César and Birdy Chávez)

## **The Choi Family - Jason Stefaniak**

7:27 min

'The Choi Family' is an intimate look at a Korean-American family's attempt to reconcile with their son's involvement in a tragic school shooting.

## **The Chosen - Kris Brown**

15:00 min

400 years ago there was a great war - only The Chosen survived. In their most sacred tradition the Head Elder must choose two teenage girls each year to be trained, educated and become part of the community elite. But when the head Elder selects his own daughter, Alice; Alice's grandfather, Samuel, must stop the tradition he spent his life protecting.

## **Clearview - Angad Aulakh**

14:00 min

A struggling playwright must come to terms with his past when he moves back to his childhood home.

## **Close. - Tahir Jetter**

Close. tells the story of a young couple struggling to make sense of feelings that emerge after their one-night stand.

## **Cold Place, Warm Tale - Vincent Hon**

3:50 min

In a desolate snow plain, a lone girl in her house expects her grocery delivery, but only to be unexpectedly snatched by a mysterious creature. Motivated by her hunger, the girl chases after its footprints far into a light forest...

## **Cold War Children - Marcus Castillo**

11:15 min

Akbar, a Muslim African immigrant, is finding it more difficult to assimilate to life in the U.S. after the death of his best friend; the only person he can turn to for help is the same person recruiting him to join the extremist rebel groups in his home country.

## **Couch Potatoes - Jessie Goldenberg**

15:00 min

Recently uncoupled couple, Libbie London and Sheridan Crane, recount the ups and downs of their relationship as they battle over possession of their beloved couch.

## **Cousins - Sally Kewayosh**

17:00 min

It's the last week of Mary and Delilah's first year of high school. This year has been full year of new experiences - including burgeoning love interests. When the girls fall for the reservation heartthrob, Jimmy, tensions arise and the two BFF's have to navigate the craziness of young love.

## **Cross Your Heart - Michael Wood**

12:00 min

Andre returns home after three years in prison to learn that being a good father takes more than just showing up.

## **Curiouser - Brittany Shaw**

20:00 min

Thirteen-year-old Alice is searching for inner peace somewhere between her imagination and her rural Pennsylvania existence.

## **Die School Reunion - David Sidorov**

15:00 min

Sam's high school reunion gets even more awkward and uncomfortable when the girl of his dreams shows up with her new boyfriend. Oh, and also when someone starts murdering everybody.

## **Disappearing Days - Bruce Cheung**

11:00 min

In, DISAPPEARING DAYS, Mickey takes his son, Dash, on a road trip to the Atlantic Ocean. Mickey's reckless behavior increasingly undermines this effort at bonding. Though the distance between them seems to grow across their journey, they are ultimately brought to a moment of mutual recognition and understanding before they return home.

## **Duet - Toshimichi Saito**

12:57 min

A young oboist keeps failing auditions due to his stage fright. The only thing that cheers him up is the duet through the window with an elderly violinist, who plays outside his apartment everyday. They play together without ever knowing each other. One day, the oboist finally decides to go outside to meet the violinist.

## **Exclusive - Elan Golod**

13:00 min

This is the story you won't hear on the nightly news. (Based on a short story by Israeli author Etgar Keret)

## **The Fifth Column - Vatche Boulghourjian**

29:00 min

The Fifth Column chronicles desperation and mourning in the Armenian quarter of Beirut through a weave of allegorical narratives. In a panic, Hrag has stolen his father's gun and fled home. As father searches for son, both discover paths to personal freedom in a city that offers no escape.

## **Figs - Anu Valia**

19:40 min

After being rejected by her friends and family, a mentally unstable girl develops an odd friendship with a strange young boy.

## **The Finger - Kelly Harper**

8:30 min

An accidental millionaire takes on an unusual hobby to cope with the boredom of being rich.

## **The First Time - Emmanuel Osei-Kuffour**

13:00 min

After a 15 year old Japanese girl experiences physical intimacy for the first time, her desires subtly and gradually change the way she sees herself.

## **Flagpole - Matt Kazman**

21:00 min

A film about boners and salami nipples...Just a typical day for 13-year old, Zack - getting ripped on by his friends, ridiculed by the girls he's afraid to hook up with, and constantly thinking about his crush, Maddy Cohen. Quiet on the outside, he keeps his thoughts to himself, until today..

## **For the Record - Sarah Rudoy**

15:00 min

In 1968 Arizona, the Cain family finds a used Ouija Board in a thrift store and begins using it, listening to its prophecies. What they don't know is whether or not they will truly believe what it has to say and follow it to the other side of the world.

## **The Four Fur Coats - Nicole Sanders**

16:23 min

The Four Fur Coats is about the eccentric but lovable Grandma Lucia who creates whimsical fantasies in order to cope with a difficult past. Enchanted by these fantasies since she was a little girl, her granddaughter, Danielle, grows up with an even bigger imagination than Grandma Lucia. Frustrated when realizing her dreams are conflicting with her teenage social life, Danielle confronts her grandmother only to realize that sometimes the fantasy is better than the reality.

## **Frequent Flyers - Matthew Troy**

16:40 min

Ian is a seasoned paramedic who struggles with the hospital he's employed with, placing a patient's life in the balance and Cooper, his ride-along trainee, left to learn more than he ever expected. Inspired by true events.

## **Frustrated - Sam Thonis**

8:50 min

Michael is frustrated. He's young, he's afraid, and he's got something inside of him that just won't come out.

## **A Glimpse of Stocking - Chi Laughlin**

6:22 min

A young boy witnesses his father's assignation with a mistress. Later, when the boy's mother requests that he draw a picture for her, his resulting work of art risks exposing the father's infidelity.

## **Going Home - Greg Gordon**

15:30 min

Paul's father is dying. Reluctant and bitter, he returns home to say goodbye, and also to rediscover the family that he's pushed away. But Paul's trip becomes complicated when he begins to uncover a dark family secret.

## **Goodbye Winter - Fred Guerrier**

15:00 min

An aging escape artist goes over the edge when he suspects his lady friend of being unfaithful.

## **Gravity - Pamela Romanowsky**

13:00 min

Mae's quiet life in the north woods is changed by the arrival of a wounded rabbit.

## **The Great Bill and Belle Slater - Seth Hagenstein**

14:00 min

The Great Bill and Belle Slater is a family drama centering around the relationship between Bill, a terminally ill B-Movie Action star, and his estranged daughter Belle. As Bill's health turns for the worst, both characters are forced to come to terms with their past and face an uncertain future.

## **Gun Hill Road - Rashaad Ernesto Green**

87:00 min

After three years in prison, Enrique returns to the Bronx to find his wife estranged and his teenage son stumbling towards a sexual transformation that will put the fragile bonds of their family to the test. ENRIQUE is a true product of the Bronx, its flavor and its pitfalls have shaped his understanding of the world and defined his sense of manhood. After serving three years in prison, Enrique comes home to find that his son has changed. 16 year-old MICHAEL, is not the same boy he left behind when he went to prison. Michael is beginning to explore a sexual transformation that tears at the very core of who Enrique believes himself to be. The street-hardened father is incensed, but his questions are only met with protective silence from wife ANGELA, who finds herself caught in the middle of the ensuing battle of wills between the two people she loves most in the world. She is desperately

clinging to the love she once had for Enrique while trying to protect her son from his father's unrelenting campaign to force him into the kind of man men are supposed to be. If Enrique makes one false move, he will be back in the system, but his inability to control his money, the love of his wife or the life of his son have built up a sweltering frustration inside him that results in his breaking the law again. And even though stealing from his wife's former lover, and assaulting an old enemy may brand him a man in the eyes of the street, it will not be enough to Enrique until he can learn to be a father to his son.

### **A Hand In Love - Emily Reese**

12:00 min

Gabe gets trapped in a reform program.

### **Hello, Phillip - Sehaj Sethi**

12:00 min

Unrappd follows the comedic journey of its heroine, Shay, as she struggles to find a balance between her ordinary life as a timid, young schoolteacher, and her alter ego as a confident, intimidating rap diva.

### **Herkimer DuFrayne 7th Grade Guidance Counselor - Shaka King**

10:58 min

The worst day in the worst life of the worst Guidance Counselor in America.

### **The Highest Mark - Sherman Lai**

10:30 min

In urban China, a smart teenage girl must learn to confront and question the actions of her father when he declares that between her and her brother, only one person can return to school the next day. Based on a true story.

### **The Hole - Shijie Tan**

17:30 min

"The Hole," is a story of a mother and son. Long-widowed Ka-san (Mother) feels compelled to have her only son Kenji marry, to his stubborn refusal - he is happy to keep things as they have been. On the day they are to visit Father's grave, Ka-san broaches the subject again, and during their journey Kenji begins to understand his mother's hopes and fears.

### **Home Game - Suzannah Herbert**

30:00 min

Each week on New York City's Randall's Island, a group of homeless men come together at their shelter to play soccer with the hope of re-integrating into society, obtaining a job, and moving out of the shelter.

## **Hotel Traveler - Alexis Lancer**

11:50 min

A comedy about two teenage boys mission to get rid of a dead body.

## **I Don't Want 2 B Ur Friend - Daniel Belkin**

15:15 min

Down and out and about to turn thirty, Vincent finds unexpected romance after crashing a neighbor's party. A sad comedy.

## **Iguana - Kyle Haskett**

12:49 min

A twelve year-old expat boy living in an emotionally abusive household in Singapore struggles to break free of a cycle of emotional abuse despite schoolyard fistfights, intolerance, domestic violence, and the killing of a large iguana by his brother.

## **In The Other Room - John Reilly**

14:00 min

Void of interviews, voiceovers, and onscreen commentary, "In The Other Room" documents a major transition in the life of a Pennsylvania caricature artist and his wife.

## **In Virtual - Seth Paradox**

10:50 min

A young woman -- Sappho -- searches for her little sister -- Dolphin -- in a cybernetic dream-world with the aid of an erratic friend -- Tea Cake.

## **Infallible - Jaclyn Gramigna**

17:00 min

A dark fairytale about the struggle between a dentist and an ice cream man for control over the town they live in and a young girl, the dentist's niece.

## **Jolly Bankers - Eric Goldberg**

15:00 min

When Renee lands an internship with a high profile investment firm, she quickly learns that if she wants to play with the boys then she'll have to play rough.

## **Knock Knock - Hye Na**

9:35 min

A knock on the door brings in unexpected visitors.

## **The Kook - Gregory Mitnick, Nat Livingston Johnson**

20:30 min

The Kook centers around Fa, a gentle and unassuming member of an eccentric religious sect. On the eve of their scheduled mass suicide, Fa discovers that their leader, who appears to them as a hologram, is a phony. Her world turned inside-out, Fa sets out into the 'real world' to find the con-man, and save her 'family' from imminent peril.

## **L'Asilo di Brea - Dae Hoon Kim**

16:50 min

Colonialism, Korean Civil War, Comfort Women, American Military, Adoption & Diaspora, Los Angeles Race Riots - a bastard combination of Spanish and Italian, L'Asilo di Brea means Asylum of Tar and is an indulgence in the fantasy of extinction.

## **Lena and Me - Blerta Basholli**

15:00 min

Lena and Ardi have to get married. As immigrants in America they agree to an arranged marriage by their parents. The comic and ironic moments between them start when they make another arrangement. Until it lasts.

## **LET THERE BE SOL - Daniel Pfeffer**

14:30 min

Marisol and Josiah are two seniors attending a Prep school in Manhattan. Although they come from very different neighborhoods, they spark a love affair that is flipped around when Sol's ex-boyfriend, Edgar, comes back home from Rikers Island.

## **Little Horses - Levi Abrino**

17:30 min

Little Horses is a bittersweet comedy about a divorced small town postal worker, Dave, who tries to win his family back by getting his son a pony for his 8th birthday.

## **Little People - Maria Dyer**

15:00 min

Janie and her younger sister, Boo, discover little people living in their backyard. Will the little people help their sick mother?

## **Lost Samurai - Angelo Perrino**

9:11 min

A wannabe Yakuza gang finds out the meaning of honor and loyalty when one of their members lives is threatened by their own code of conduct. Can they break their rules to do what is right? Tetsuo is

a young eager wannabe Yakuza who keeps trying too hard to impress his older friends to the point where things go horribly wrong. In the midst and chaos of getting their gang leader caught by the police, Tetsuo decides to commit seppuku. The problem is that he is too weak and he fails half way through leaving his friends with the decision of killing him or saving him.

## **Marina of the Zabbaleen - Engi Wassef**

70:00 min

Enter the extraordinary world of seven-year-old Marina. Through her magical eyes, you'll be led into the never-before-seen Muqqattam garbage recycling village in Cairo, Egypt. Marina spends her days riding flying elephants, befriending mystical pigeons, and dodging out of control butcher knives -- she even confronts an evil witch. Despite common misconceptions, all this can happen in a documentary. Marina of the Zabbaleen transforms a squalid landfill village into a beautiful, dream-like portrait of family, childhood, and spirituality.

## **A Marine's Guide to Fishing - Nicholas Brennan**

14:00 min

On the one-year anniversary of the day he didn't die, a young veteran returns to the dockyards of Maine trying to hold on to the part of himself he left behind.

## **Men or Mice - Kiara Jones**

16:05 min

A quiet evening at home turns into a night of terror for Jade. When she reaches out to the men of her life for help, she discovers an unconventional hero - she hopes.

## **Merhaba - Lauren Brady**

20:00 min

When a girl flew over 5,000 miles to Istanbul, Turkey to visit her father, she never expected his neurodegenerative disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, to have progressed so quickly. She is now faced with the impossible task of convincing her stubborn "baba" to seek assistance before returning to New York City, where her life and future await.

## **My Mom and Other Monsters - Kate Tsang**

8:30 min

A young boy tried to escape his overbearing mother with the help of two imaginary monster friends.

## **Michael Koehler - The Sheol Express**

28:00 min

Tired of traveling the underworld, Owen Turner boards The Sheol Express, a fantastical train that ferries souls to their final resting place at the End of the Line. Once aboard, Owen must choose where to disembark: at the End of the Line or at the second-to-last stop near the alleged paradise of Araboth.

## **Nightlife - Shandor Garrison**

12:00 min

Hector, a troubled teen from the Harlem projects, forms a bond with Lily, a lonely girl who feels trapped in the restrictions of her Upper East Side life.

## **Nose Job - Desiree Akhavan**

8:45 min

Nothing says "I love you" like rhinoplasty.

## **NOW HERE - Joey Kuhn**

11:58 min

With AIDS ravaging the gay community in 1985 New York City, Franco engages in reckless behavior on his birthday after the love of his life, Brett, falls ill with the virus.

## **Oh Mother - Cassandra Evanisko**

20:00 min

In an attempt to understand love and womanhood, thirteen-year-old Mena ventures into a strange and physically dangerous relationship with her next-door neighbor, a troubled, young war vet, completely unprepared for the profound effect it will have on her.

## **Old Married Couple - Christopher Broe**

15:00 min

performing. passion. adventure. this was the life scot gave up when he got married, quit the band, and moved to singapore. now, just as he is adjusting to the routine of an old married man, John Tatman, an unsettled ex-band mate, shows up like a spark in the night expecting to enjoy a nibble of the life left behind. scot's loyalty to his friend and his wife are both put to the test.

## **Only Meal of the Day - Shang-Sing Guo**

8:00 min

Noodle vendor Bird witnesses six-year-old Pum and his mom begging from a foreign couple that fights over whether they should give money or food to the boy. Money or food? A former monk himself, Bird stays awakening to that dilemma.

## **Onnie - Pepe Ávila del Pino**

12:30 min

Three generations trapped in the confinement of a small house struggle to find freedom from the emotional walls they have built around them.

## **Passed Down - Zachary Goldberg**

15:00 min

A single dad rebuilds his own late father's model train set as a way of mourning the death, only to become stuck in the world he has created.

## **Picture Perfect - Benjamin Halstead**

14:48 min

Delving into the psyches of the Bell family on the day they take their family portrait, music guides us through each familial interpretation. Complete with a June-Cleaver-wannabe matriarch, a distant dad, and a daughter imprisoned by her eating disorder.

## **Pitrats - Amanda Laws**

15:00 min

Blue and Zip run away from the suburbs seeking excitement, but get trapped in an adventure more dangerous than either had prepared for.

## **The Pool - Zelmira Gainza**

25:40 min

Teenage Ana is awkward, shy and not interested in boys or growing up. That is, until she meets Diego, an old friend of her mother's.

## **Puppy Love - Duncan Moore**

14:30 min

Little Kelly Salmon will do whatever it takes to get a puppy, even if it means killing her Dad... with cuteness in this adorably tragic tale of family, ping pong, and puppies.

## **RAJU - Shiva Bajpai**

12:25 min

During the credit crisis of 2008, Raju, an undocumented immigrant in New York City, works for a debt relief agency and must choose between his work visa and the girl he's falling for.

## **The Rake - Ash Bhalla**

10:00 min

Antonio pursues Lucia using the medium of poker to distinguish himself from the other men that populate her strange casino world in New York City. Antonio challenges Nick in an illegal high stakes game, observed closely by Silver; whilst his desire for Lucia intensifies, the stakes on the table grow.

## **Real Talk - Patrick Ng**

14:50 min

An Asian American teenager discovers the true alliance of his African American "best friend."

## **The Reflexes of a Survivor - Ben Altarescu**

12:00 min

Leo is the owner of a struggling jewelry store in the Lower East Side. Chris is a local, disenchanting, 20 something looking for a way out of his neighborhood. When Chris convinces his younger cousin Jeffrey to help him rob the store it is unbeknownst to them that Leo has bought a pistol the day before.

## **RICO - Alex Noschese**

23:05 min

RICO is a portrait of the self-proclaimed "Artist of Greenwich Village" who struggles to maintain what is left of his art career, and deals with his not-so-glamorous and somewhat dark private life.

## **Ripe - Paloma Nafarrate**

10:00 min

This is the story of a daughter who comes back to Singapore to her old home with the excuse of finding her childhood painting and ends up confronting her estranged father after years to find a land of memories and emotional misunderstandings.

## **The Road to Montana - Caitlyn Coady**

15:00 min

After discovering his secret true love is leaving for college, Stanley finally builds up the courage to introduce himself and maybe, just maybe do the unthinkable - ask her out on a date.

## **Rockaway - Melanie Schiele**

20:00 min

As a young woman struggles to break free of her past, she unintentionally relives the pain of it.

## **Round on Both Sides - Marquette Jones**

16:40 min

Shot on location in Youngstown, Ohio, Round on Both Sides follows Niecy Bridges as she struggles to keep her dream of fame and fortune alive while still trying to be a good mother her young daughter - but it may be one struggle too many.

## **Running Water - Alfredo Alcantara**

8:00 min

## **Rustic Dunes - Tiffany Chung**

18:00 min

An elderly widow returns to her childhood vacation home where she meets a provocative teenager who inspires her to reexamine her life's path.

## **Saeng-il (Birthday) - Jennifer Suhr**

11:04 min

On the cusp of adulthood, 18-year-old Jae Lee finds himself at a crossroads with his father when he is invited to his crush's birthday party. one winter night to find chocolate to satisfy her craving.

## **The Sailor - Raquel Cedar**

19:17 min

Icmad, a sailor on a tanker ship, returns from one of many extended tours to discover that his family is better off without him.

## **Say Grace Before Drowning - Nikyatu Jusu**

17:00 min

After meeting her African Refugee mother for the first time in six years, 8 year old Hawa is forced to coexist with a woman teetering on the brink of insanity.

## **Set in Grey Matter - Logan Lamson**

9:00 min

Seeking to maintain cleanliness and control, Minnie, the matriarch, combats the outpouring of "dust" from her daughter, her husband, and her over-thinking mind.

## **The Sheol Express - Ryan Patch, Michael Koehler**

28:00 min

Tired of traveling the underworld, Owen Turner boards The Sheol Express, a fantastical train that ferries souls to their final resting place at the End of the Line. Once aboard, Owen must choose where to disembark: at the End of the Line or at the second-to-last stop near the alleged paradise of Araboth.

## **Shudder House - Joey Dello Russo**

14:52 min

On a wealthy rural estate in 1951, a boy named Robby trudges through a meaningless childhood. Training on classical piano is his only chore dictated by unloving parents. But when a Southern farmhand named Emma returns to the farm with a guitar in hand, Robby faces his only opportunity to grow and feel beyond his boyish blues.

## **The Sierra Project - Gabriel de Urioste**

14:37 min

A scientist's lifelong quest reaches its end.

## **Six '55 - Ruth Du**

15:00 min

A historical interpretation of the first night Allen Ginsberg recited his poem Howl in San Francisco 1955.

## **Skwobble - Ashish Ghadiali**

14:00 min

A funky globalised rom-com about an unlikely teen romance that blooms across a scrabble board, featuring music from 'Disintegration' by The Cure.

## **Space-Age Rumrunners of the Roaring '20s - Elliott DiGuseppi**

24:03 min

Two bright-eyed youngsters con their town's local Rum-runner into funding the construction of a spaceship in prohibition-era New Jersey.

## **Margaret Shin - After All**

10:00 min

A troubled teenager goes down a deep hole in the woods while his family falls apart.

## **Speech Act - Emmeline Wilks-Dupoise**

14:30 min

Anna experiences sudden loss but avoids communicating grief in the presence of a close friend.

## **Stereopsis - Joseph Singer**

16:00 min

Three-year-old Jake is kidnapped by his grandparents and great aunt, who don't believe that he is safe in his father's care. Five years pass and Jake wants to know why his dad has not returned for him. Characters in an old stereoscope occupy his world, offering friendship and advice in his search for his father.

## **Stranger Things - Eleanor Burke, Ron Eyal**

77:00 min

SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING: Oona, a young woman dealing with the loss of her mother, reaches out to a stranger: Mani, a mysterious homeless man of Middle-Eastern origin, whom she invites to stay in her garden shed. Despite the space between them, Oona and Mani gradually form an unusual intimacy.

## **The Sunset - Misha Sundukovskiy**

15:00 min

The Sunset is a story of a Chinese teenager growing up in San Francisco and caught between his traditional older brother and the white kids from the neighborhood.

## **The Survival of the Family Unit - Kevin Huang**

20:00 min

After years of enduring his father's cold discipline, a son decides to rid his father by poisoning him. But, just as soon as his plan starts to take effect, the son begins to see his father for the first time as a human being.

## **Suu and Uchikawa - Nathanael Carton**

11:30 min

An elderly Japanese man and his young Burmese partner find their union at threat when the immigration services discover that she resides in Japan illegally.

## **Televisnu - Prithi Gowda**

15:00 min

A surreal tale of a young Indian women who works at a call center. Her computer breaks down and in an attempt to fix it she falls into a magical, mythical web of electronic wires where memories, secrets, and hidden desires reveal themselves.

## **Ten Years From Now - Jordan Schiele**

15:00 min

Amid the alleyway homes of Shanghai, a dinner-theater performer chases after her colleague as he struggles with his own sexuality."

## **These Empty Streets - Jarrah Gurrie**

29:00 min

While searching for her missing son Stuart, Susie encounters his crush- Pauly, a wayward traveler. Stuart meanwhile, is plotting his escape from small town melancholy. When all three are reunited, in a compromising situation, Susie is forced to face that her boy has grown up. She must let him go.

## **Thin Air - Kirsten Tan**

12:09 min

"Thin Air" is a whimsical tale chronicling the final days of Hector. Seated in a wheelchair parked on the roof of his apartment building, Hector flings fishing lines into the cold heights of New York City. He bids his time for the impossible catch, whilst reality bites in the form of Cecilia, his home-care aide.

## **Triangle - Janice Ahn**

13:08 min

A girl named Chelsea waits for her turn to play the triangle at the end of a Tchaikovsky symphony. A filmic tone poem.

## **Unrapped - Dena Greenbaum**

18:00 min

Unrapped follows the comedic journey of its heroine, Shay, as she struggles to find a balance between her ordinary life as a timid, young schoolteacher, and her alter ego as a confident, intimidating rap diva.

## **Waiting for Rusty - Matt Firpo**

13:45 min

A classic noir about three brash bankrobbers on the run, about long hours spent in bars, and about young love lost.

## **Wedding Cake Dance - Luke Howard**

13:00 min

When a pill-popping young man unwillingly visits a wedding cake store with his fiancé, he realizes the pill he took may not be the drug he thought it was...

## **The Wind Is Blowing On My Street - Saba Riazi**

15:00 min

A young girl in Tehran/Iran accidentally gets left on the street with no head scarf. She is forced to interact with a neighbor who keeps her company in an environment where her mishap could equal trouble.

## **Winter's Bone - Debra Granik**

1:40:00 min

17 year-old Ree Dolly (Jennifer Lawrence) sets out to track down her father, who put their house up for his bail bond and then disappeared. If she fails, Ree and her family will be turned out into the Ozark woods. Challenging her outlaw kin's code of silence and risking her life, Ree hacks through the lies, evasions and threats offered up by her relatives and begins to piece together the truth.

## **Words - Max Strebel**

1:43 min

A silhouetted figure struggles against a violent environment composed solely of written text. The faceless character can't escape the attacks and must consume the words in order to create an ideal world. "Words" is an experimental animation made up of over 800 paintings done directly on pages of text.

## **WWJD - Marc Parees**

12:30 min

George, a struggling pitchman for a religious pyramid scheme, stumbles upon an amazing opportunity to capitalize on a money laundering hand off. Now he must decide whether Jesus would take the money. His capacity for rationalization might be endless, causing as much trouble as it solves.

## **The Youth - Gordon von Steiner - Capeman '59**

8:30 min

April 30th, 1968. Six young adults lose sight of everything they know at a bourgeois party during the Columbia University riots.