31 SUPERFEST

INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY FILM FESTIVAL

LIGHTHOUSE
FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY · 1899 ·
SF STATE

PAUL K. LONGMORE
Institute on Disability

The Paul K. Longmore Institute on Disability & LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired are thrilled to welcome you to

Superfest 2017

The Superfest team is particularly proud of this year's program because, more than ever before, people with disabilities are telling their own stories through film.

Our Best of Festival: Feature, Deej, embodies this value as a one-of-a-kind collaboration between a veteran filmmaker and a nonspeaking autistic person. Director and producer, Robert Rooy and subject and producer DJ Savarese share editorial control as they attempt to navigate the challenges of representing autism.

The Chili Story is a true story about arousal and taboo told in hilarious detail by filmmaker and narrator Patty Berne. In only three minutes, The Chili Story will make you cringe in terror and burst with laughter—this is quintessential Superfest.

These are just two of the 15 films featured in this year's festival. We're screening films shot and produced in nine countries—Myanmar, Colombia, Germany, Vietnam, Australia, Japan, Canada, Italy and the United States. We are welcoming filmmakers from more than half of these films in dialogue with our local community and each other to deepen the global conversation and movement around disability film.

Should you be moved by the importance of the films you experience, the Superfest team would be honored by your support or the support of your organization. Please email Jennifer Sachs at jsachs@lighthouse-sf.org (LightHouse) or Emily Beitiks at beitiks@sfsu.edu (Longmore) to discuss how you can support our work.

In community,

Bryan Bashin
LightHouse for the Blind
and Visually Impaired

Catherine Kudlick
Paul K. Longmore Institute
on Disability at
San Francisco State

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FOUNDATION support

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NEDA NOBARI FOUNDATION

FESTIVAL accessiblity

- Open audio description
- Open captions for all live dialogue
- ASL interpretation for all live dialogue
- Audience-integrated wheelchair seating
- Close-up seating for people with low vision
- Seating for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing
- A chemical free / scent free area environment
- A quiet space
- Gender neutral restrooms
- Easy access to public transportation
- Ramp access to stage
- Audio description-free screening room

Contact beitiks@sfsu.edu for additional access requests.

AUDIO description

Audio description is an additional narration track that describes important visual cues happening on screen. It informs blind and low vision viewers where scenes are taking place, what characters look like, what important actions are happening and more. Superfest screens with open audio description not only to benefit our blind and low vision audience, but to lend our sighted audience the chance to experience film in a new way.

> **"The description for blind people drew my attention to things that I had overlooked or didn't realize were so powerful.**
>
> Superfest audience member, 2016

FESTIVAL line-up

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

THE MAGNES COLLECTION | BERKELEY

2 PM

Chief | Mind/Game | When Brenden Met Hiroe | The Barber of Augusta

Panel Moderator | Rosemarie Garland-Thomson

6 PM

Traveller | On the Outs | Sign | In Crystal Skin | Stab

Panel Moderator | Karen Nakamura

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

THE CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSEUM | SAN FRANCISCO

1 PM

Deej | On Beat | Lefty & Loosey | Rhizophora | Well Done | The Chili Story

Panel Moderator | Lawrence Carter-Long

All screenings are followed by a filmmaker panel discussion moderated by a disability community leader.

CHIEF

AMIR JAFFER

USA / 2016 / 17 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 2 PM / MAGNES

This reverent ode to the service dog tells the story of German immigrant Sonja Ohldag, who is diagnosed with a seizure disorder after moving to the U.S. in 1999. Unable to afford a service animal from an organization, Sonja trains her dogs herself and takes a chance on Chief, who is not your average service dog.

IN ATTENDANCE

writer Sonja Ohldag

DEEJ

ROBERT ROOY

USA / 2017 / 54 MINS

SUN NOV 5 / 1 PM / CJM

BEST OF FESTIVAL: FEATURE

After being abandoned by his birth parents, DJ found not only a loving family but a life in words through a text-to-voice synthesizer. Told by DJ himself, Deej was filmed over six years in the American Midwest and chronicles his journey to become Oberlin's first non-speaking, autistic student.

IN ATTENDANCE

writer / producer / subject
DJ Saverese

ON BEAT

CHENG ZHANG
REID DAVENPORT

USA / 2015 / 7 MINS

SUN NOV 5 / 1 PM / CJM

This documentary short follows the lives of a deaf couple with hearing children and the unexpected outlet that brings their family closer together.

IN ATTENDANCE

director Reid Davenport

IN CRYSTAL SKIN

MICHAELA O'BRIEN

USA / COLOMBIA / 2016 / 18 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 6 PM / MAGNES

BEST OF FESTIVAL: SHORT

In Bogotá, Colombia, a charismatic 11-year-old named Maria lives with the limitations imposed by a rare skin disease. Her fierce bond with her mother is tested and strengthened as they struggle to preserve Maria's swiftly passing childhood.

LEFTY & LOOSEY

ZICO ABRAR

USA / 2016 / 5 MINS

SUN NOV 4 / 2 PM / MAGNES

In this techy ode to film noir, two amputee veterans turned private investigators uncover a diabolical plot and must overcome their fears to crack the code and save the world.

IN ATTENDANCE

writer / producer / cast
David Harrell

MIND/GAME:
the unquiet journey of Chamique Holdsclaw

RICK GOLDSMITH

USA / 2015 / 57 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 2 PM / MAGNES

Basketball star Chamique Holdsclaw faced six felony counts, the possibility of prison and public attacks on her character. Her rollercoaster attempts at recovery from near suicide reveal an uphill battle against the stigma of psychiatric disability and show a deep journey that is powerful, revelatory, instructive and real.

IN ATTENDANCE

sound editor James LeBrecht
writer Sharon Wood

ON THE OUTS:
re-entry for people with disabilities

JORDAN MELOGRANA

USA / 2016 / 34 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 6 PM / MAGNES

On the Outs follows three inmates with disabilities as they prepare for reentry, get discharged and navigate the challenges of returning to their old lives. Produced by the Amplifying Voices of Inmates with Disabilities (AVID) Prison Project, this documentary scrutinizes the prison institution and its treatment of inmates with physical and emotional disabilities.

IN ATTENDANCE

editor Peter Rand

RHIZOPHORA

JULIA METZGER-TRABER
DAVIDE DE LILLIS

GERMANY/VIETNAM / 2015 / 16 MINS

SUN NOV 5 / 1 PM / CJM

Forty years after the Vietnam War, the toxic remnants of Agent Orange have not faded. In this dreamlike meditation on the impact of war and the resilience of humanity, Rhizophora follows 11 disabled Vietnamese youth on a whimsical, poignant and whirling journey through a day in their lives.

audio description donated by Michele Spitz

SIGN

ANDREW KEENAN-BOLGER

USA / 2016 / 15 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 6 PM / MAGNES

Two men meet on a train—and a tender and unspoken love story unfolds. Through vignettes, music and sign language, Sign follows the relationship between Ben (hearing) and Aaron (Deaf) as they navigate life's milestones side by side.

STAB:
life as a voodoo doll

JEANETTE CASTILLO

USA / 2017 / 10 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 6 PM / CJM

An animated comic medical memoir dedicated to all those who live with chronic illness or disability. Writer and director Jeanette Castillo pairs her tongue-and-cheek personal account of living with Type 1 diabetes with criticism of the American healthcare system.

IN ATTENDANCE

writer / director / producer Jeanette Castillo

THE BARBER OF AUGUSTA

MICHÈLE HOZER

CANADA / 2016 / 26 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 2 PM / MAGNES

LIANE YASUMOTO JURY'S CHOICE

Toronto native Matthew Genser goes to great lengths to find his unexpected superpower: cutting hair. Like all superheroes, he has a dark side; but in his costume, he's invincible. Put on your cape and get lined up!

audio description donated by Michele Spitz

THE CHILI STORY

PATTY BERNE

USA / 2014 / 3 MINS

SUN NOV 5 / 1 PM / CJM

P.K. WALKER INNOVATION IN CRAFT AWARD

A true story about desire and the arousal of taboo on a BART train.

IN ATTENDANCE

writer / director Patty Berne

TRAVELLER

NWAYE ZAR CHE SOE MINE AUNG LIN TUN PYAE ZAW PHYO

USA / 2016 / 24 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 6 PM / MAGNES

DISABILITY JUSTICE AWARD

A young woman born with a disability searches for a career despite rampant discrimination. She travels to Japan where she finds strength in disability activism and community, and returns home with a newfound sense of pride.

IN ATTENDANCE
director Pyae Zaw Phyo

co-presented with CAAMfest

WELL DONE

RICCARDO DI GERLANDO

ITALY / 2016 / 11 MINS

SUN NOV 5 / 1 PM / CJM

A sharply-dressed young man with Down syndrome sneaks out of his house to visit an art museum and causes a disruption. Through humor and irreverence, this film reminds us that art can be interpreted by everyone, not just the "experts."

WHEN BRENDEN MET HIROE

STEVE MAYER-MILLER

AUSTRALIA/JAPAN / 2016 / 23 MINS

SAT NOV 4 / 2 PM / MAGNES

A photographer from Australia returns to Japan to reunite with his friend Hiroe, who he met at a blind and deaf/blind workshop the year before. The pair spends an unforgettable day together.

IN ATTENDANCE
director / writer Steve Mayer-Miller:
writer / cast Brenden Borellini

THANK YOU
for joining us!

If you loved our 2017 festival, please consider supporting Superfest today. We rely on the donations of our community to bring you fresh, engaging, disability films every year.

superfestfilm.com

SUPERFEST
throughout the year

COMMUNITY

We hosted **6 showcases**, including: San Francisco Public Main Library, San Francisco Children's Day School, American Rehabilitation Counseling Association Annual Conference and the Veterans Memorial Building in Redwood City.

EXCHANGE

Emily Beitiks, Longmore's Associate Director, **traveled to New York, Los Angeles and Russia** with the Eurasia Foundation to exchange films, stories, and our international community. We connected with **disability film festivals in Australia and Russia** to grow the global conversation about disability and film.

EDUCATION

Superfest works locally to **educate non-disability film festivals** about accessibility and deepen the public understanding of disability.

EXPANSION

We received a grant from the Neda Nobari Foundation to host 10 new showcases. We had our **first official hire** and she's already lining up gigs all around the Bay Area and California.

SHOWCASES
bring Superfest to your community

Superfest Showcases bring the festival's dynamic films to communities year round. We help you choose the best films for your audience and assess your access needs. We'd love to work with you!

Book your showcase today! Contact Emily Beitiks at beitiks@sfsu.edu

SPONSORSHIP

For more than three decades, Superfest International Disability Film Festival has explored new frontiers in cinema and honored stories that go beyond Disability 101 to show the community's diverse and engaging facets. Your contribution provides a platform for disabled artists to share their work with the world. Your gift advances films that explore disability through a new lens and provides a platform for artists to share their stories with the world. Please make a difference today and join our community of supporters.

To inquire about sponsorship, please contact Jennifer Sachs at jsachs@lighthouse-sf.org or Emily Beitiks at beitiks@sfsu.edu.

Superfest Lead Sponsor

$10,000+

+ Ten premium seat tickets
+ Company name and logo in festival program, postcards, and outreach media
+ Announcement of your sponsorship from the podium at the film festival
+ Your support will be publicized in LightHouse and Longmore's newsletters to over 12,000 constituents.

Superfest Lead Sponsor

$5,000 to $9,999

+ Five premium seat tickets
+ Company name and logo in festival program, postcards, and outreach media
+ Announcement of your sponsorship from the podium at the film festival
+ Your support will be publicized in LightHouse and Longmore's newsletters to over 12,000 constituents.

Silverscreen Sponsor

$1,000 to $4,999

+ Two premium seat tickets
+ Company name in festival programs and postcards
+ Announcement of your sponsorship from the podium at the film festival
+ Your support will be publicized in LightHouse and Longmore's newsletters to over 12,000 constituents.

Big Screen Sponsor

Any amount

+ Company name on website
+ Announcement of your sponsorship on social media.
+ Your support will be publicized in LightHouse and Longmore's newsletters to over 12,000 constituents.

PRODUCERS

THE PAUL K. LONGMORE INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY AT SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY envisions a society where everyone believes the world is better because of disabled people. We study and showcase disabled people's experiences to revolutionize social views. Through public education, scholarship, and cultural events, the Longmore Institute shares disability history and theory, promotes critical thinking, and builds a broader community.

LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED provides education, training, advocacy and community for blind individuals in California and around the world. Founded and based in San Francisco since 1902, the LightHouse is one of the largest and most comprehensive blindness organizations in North America, with diverse programs to suit a wide variety of needs, as well as a rich network of blindness advocates and professionals.

THANK YOU

Superfest Committee: Bryan Bashin, Emily Smith Beitiks, Dagny Brown, Catherine Kudlick, Jennifer Sachs
LightHouse cCommunications Team: Will Butler, Camilla Sterne
Phase I: Alex Locust, Robyn Ollodort, Kate Amunrud, Jamielyn Williams, James LeBrecht
Superfest 2017 Art: Anne Slater, born 1959, has been an artist at Creativity Explored and the Arc - San Francisco. View more of her work at: www.creativityexplored.org/artists/anne-slater
Additional Thanks: The Contemporary Jewish Museum, Culture! Disability! Talent!, San Francisco State University's College of Liberal & Creative Arts and Disability Programs & Resource Center, Dr. Marcy Adelman, Erin Horne, Celina Gomez, Dominic Evans