

IO QFEST LGBT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OFFICIAL SELECTIONS Friday Night, October 7

6PM

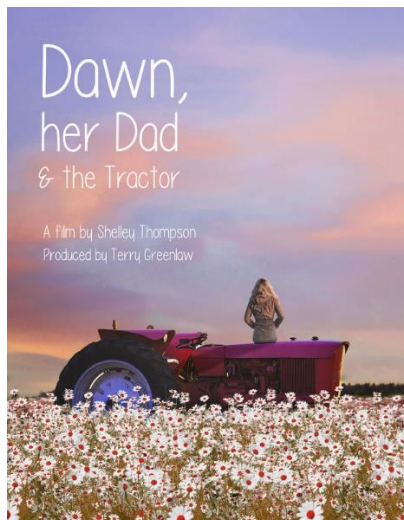
Sparks



Set in 1994, homophobic Amit returns home; a year after the death of his twin brother, Yoni, who died of AIDS. Amit is surprised to find that his family and Yoni's former partner are going to a drag show in Yoni's memory.

8PM

Dawn, Her Dad, and the Tractor

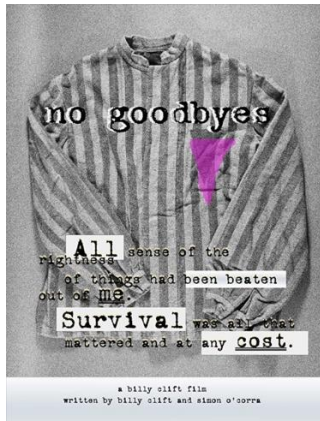


A young trans woman returns home after the death of her mother to keep a promise to repair her relationship with her estranged Dad. As they begin to restore the old family tractor, they cautiously rebuild their relationship and come to understand the mechanics of the heart.

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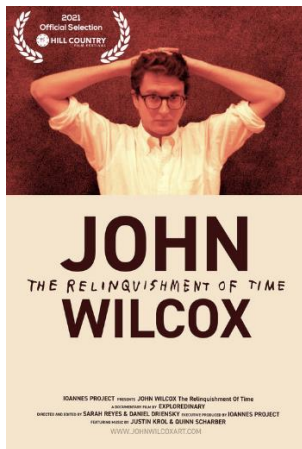
10PM

No Goodbyes



Love in a concentration camp. A young Jewish gay man, Otto, is protected by a KAPO, "a fellow prisoner," and an SS Guard who unexpectedly ends up saving his life.

John Wilcox-The Relinquishment Of Time



When an artist dies, what happens to their artwork? This is the story of one man's journey to posthumously archive and exhibit his brother's artistic estate, and a window into the personal motives behind minimalist art.

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Things That Might Have Been



A movie theatre cashier is haunted by memories of her dead girlfriend returning home. A hybrid of fantasy, dance, and fine art aesthetics.

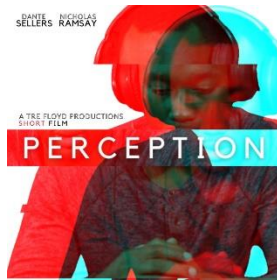
The Binary Reconstruction



The Binary Reconstruction is a Poetic Documentary that uses personal interviews, choreography and staged visual moments to commentate on the complexities of gender identity and expression within the Queer community.

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Perception



A simple touch isn't so simple when enacted by the wrong hands. If intention makes the difference between desirable and offensive contact, perhaps Devin's perception of Ty's actions is a little skewed, and his judgement is beyond cloudy.

Father Why Have You Forsaken Me



After the death of his father, an Episcopalian priest, a teenage ice skater is lost in grief and god's silence. He begins to form a relationship with a non-binary photographer and starts to find a purpose in life. As he skates memories flow through him in a kaleidoscopic depiction of time and he comes to terms with death, religion, and life.

11PM

Flu



An alcoholic tattoo artist struggles to tattoo her ex AA sponsor.

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The Confessional



When a conflicted seminary student struggles with his desires that call his moral integrity into question he enlists the help of a new AI, Reba.

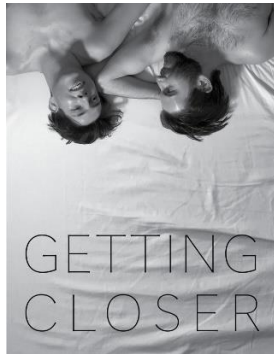
The Virtual Connection



A MAN, of a certain age, newly single after a long relationship, finds himself navigating dating and romance through the mediator of the smart phone. Along the way, he meets A YOUNGER MAN, a native born resident of the virtual world, and ANOTHER MAN, also of a certain age. The Virtual Connection presents opportunities he never knew he'd get out of life.

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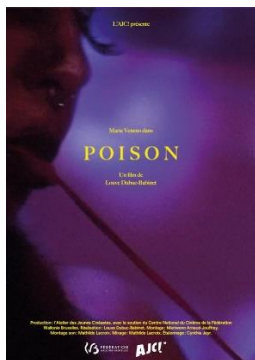
Getting Closer



Two stoned boyfriends navigate unexpected vulnerability (as well as the giggles) while attempting to get off.

A micro-budget chamber piece, GETTING CLOSER utilizes the immediacy of iPhone cinematography to explore modern intimacy and what it takes to get there.

Poison



In a world where the working system is falling apart, Poison is a porn performer and actress. Away from the monetary and working system, she uses the stage to express her fears, her doubts, her anger, and to empower herself.

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Saturday, October 8

1030AM

Rainbow Flag Flying High



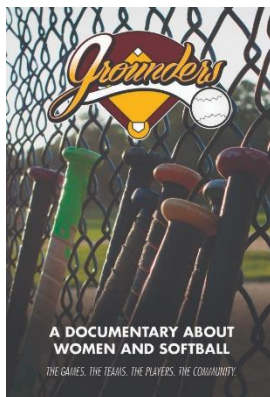
The world is black and white. He used the years of his life to smear the world with that colorful rainbow. For 30 years, Chi Chia-Wei, who has devoted himself to gay sports, was once the focus of the media and an outlier in society, but now he is gray-haired, Incarnate as the most dazzling rainbow flag is an existence that cannot be ignored at the gay parade in Taiwan.

Journey To Shore



A gay couple, Minha and Sangbeom, goes on a journey to the shore. They hide a secret from each other.

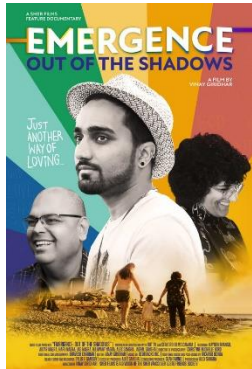
Grounders



An inside look at The Prospect Park Women's Softball League which was formed in 1981 with a radical vision to welcome all women to play regardless of prior experience. It remains a place where women meet across differences of race, economic class, sexual orientation, education, religion, and gender identity to play softball.

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Emergence: Out Of The Shadows



For Kayden, Jag, and Amar, awakening to and expressing their sexuality within conservative South Asian families was a lonely and terrifying experience. Denial, shame and despair haunted their youths, even threatening their lives. Yet, they've emerged. In the feature documentary *Emergence: Out of the Shadows*, the disparate journeys of Kayden, Jag and Amar converge around a shared sense of compassion and healing as they bravely convey their often heart-wrenching stories. Confronted with tradition and taboo in their Punjabi Sikh cultures, Jag's parents and Amar's mother choose love and support for their children, offering courage and inspiration to individuals and communities struggling with acceptance.

Proud People



This film shares the life of Lori Lozano, a queer, chicana barber living in Austin, Texas. She has cut my hair for five years. Lori has a magnanimous, larger-than-life charisma that drew me in like so many other customers. Beneath that outward presentation, she is a struggling business owner, someone living with a harrowing medical diagnosis and no insurance, someone digging deep to understand her native heritage and her identity.

2PM

The Long Night

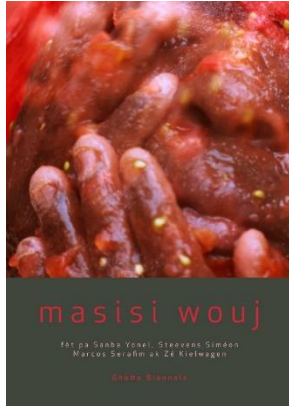


A girl spends the night at her gay dad's house and keeps him up all night when she can't sleep.

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Masisi Wouj



Haitian artist and activist Sanba Yonel creates a queer tribute to the Lwa, Vodou gods and goddesses who once inspired a revolution. In Haiti, men perceived as feminine are known as masisi. The word is often used as a slur on gay men, transvestites and non-binary folks. Sanba Yonel comments on the plight of the masisi who, faced with prejudice and hostility, find shelter in the religious context of Vodou.

Intrinsic Moral Evil



Intrinsic Moral Evil seems to be a tale of identity and coming of age. But above all, the three dancers play with the viewer's perception and expectations. The layered story gradually develops; revealing its last secrets just before the end credits start. Inviting the audience to make its own interpretation.

Histoire D'Une Larme



Based on the book "Ocean Terminal" by Piergiorgio Welby.

"When a terminally ill patient decides to give up his affections, his memories, his friendships, his life and asks to put an end to his cruelly 'biological' survival, I believe that his will must be respected and embraced with the pietas that constitutes the strength and coherence of secular thought."

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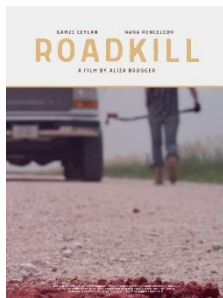
4PM



Ekai-Short

A short documentary depicting the story of young transgender boy Ekai Lersundi, who took his own life in 2018 after struggling with the bureaucracy surrounding hormone replacement therapy assignment.

Roadkill



Tillie's lonely life as a roadkill removal worker is destabilized when Wanda, a lively stranger, comes to town.

At Last



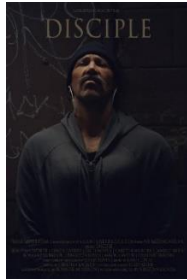
My grandmothers Jane and Eileen finally tie the knot of their 4-decade long relationship. Their journey in love, faith, socialist activism, and family reconciliation culminates in a wedding unlike any other.

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Disciple



A different kind of coming out. When a young moody Millennial reveals his HIV status in a queer support group, it sends Poe, a not so traditional gay priest who mentors the group, in search of his own inner truth.

This Is Jessica



From her earliest years, when Jessica Bair was being raised as a boy named Jonathan, she knew she was a girl. But born into the Mormon church, she also knew that saying so out loud could cause her to lose everything—her family, her faith, her life on earth and her eternal soul. This is Jessica is the story of a woman faced with an impossible choice between the life into which she was born, and the one she was born to live.

I Just Wish You Told Me



Jessie and Karen have been a same sex couple for thirteen years. When Karen goes into surgery and unexpectedly dies, a traumatized Jessie can't make sense of it. In her search, Jessie discovers hidden truths that disrupt and shake her confidence in their entire relationship.

Based on a true story, I Just Wish You Told Me, shows how betrayals in long term relationships, can lead to wounds that never heal.

Of Our Trespasses



A religious girl begins to question the faith she has known all her life when she discovers a secret her best friend has been hiding.

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Iftah

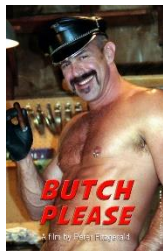
Iftah deals with the life of a gay man who tears his family apart due to his sexual orientation.

Fall Back Down



A depressed ex-activist takes a job in a sweatshop where he and his coworker make a grim discovery.

Butch Please



An exploration of gay masculinity at the International Mr. Leather weekend.

8,000



When Ryann has yet another painful orgasm, her best friend Noor finally convinces her to visit a local Chicago sex shop, Early to Bed. At Early to Bed, Noor introduces Ryann to a plethora of toys and lubricants. She teaches Ryann that sex should be fun, can be less painful and even pain free. Featuring local Chicago hip hop and indie artists, this light hearted comedy focuses on a serious issue: chronic pelvic pain.

Poly Andrew



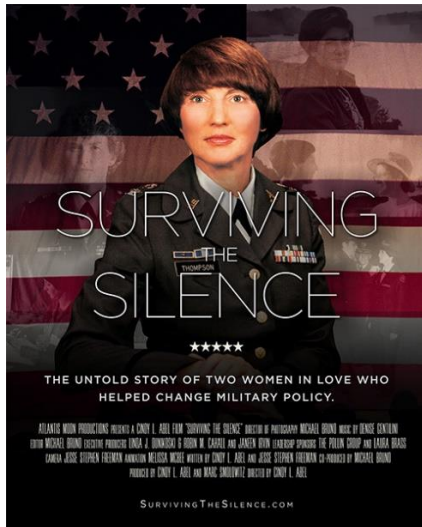
Andrew and Trevor are a happy gay couple, until Andrew's secret girlfriend - who also happens to be Trevor's best friend - shows up, and Andrew is forced to come to terms with his sexual identity.

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Sunday, October 9

12PM

Surviving The Silence



Surviving the Silence tells the story of two women in love who played a part in changing military policy, shining light on the unknown history of how a closeted colonel forced to expel an Army hero for being lesbian did so in a way resulting in re-instatement via federal court.

Years before Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Colonel Patsy Thompson presided over the review board that dismissed Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer for being a lesbian. Although she had been in tough spots over the course of her 28-year service, this was the toughest. Presiding over this case forced Patsy to confront her own moral dilemma and her own secret: she too was a lesbian.

Perfect Peach Summers



Peach Summers (she/her/they/them), a beginner drag queen, prepares to host their first show in their hometown. A wig is snatched, however, when the last person they expect arrives hours before the event: Peach's father.

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Sorry We Missed You



Every day people are born and every day people die.

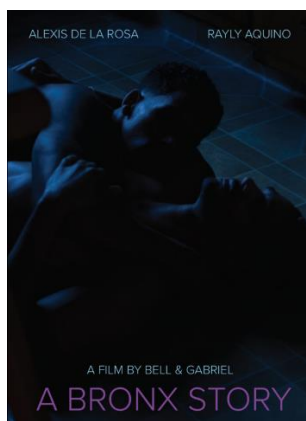
What we're able to accomplish in our relatively short lives can have a profound effect on others and even on society and the world.

These are the stories of some of those who contributed greatly and for whatever reason aren't exactly front-of-mind in our collective consciousness.

SORRY WE MISSED YOU.

2PM

A Bronx Story



Two queer Dominican men living in Bronx, New York, navigate modern-day relationship's trials and tribulations while trying to keep their love afloat.

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Together



Somewhere in the city, Mason lures his boyfriend Kelly off his seat to dance, leading them to create a happy memory. Jump forward to present day, Kelly is attending a late AA meeting while Mason is drinking at a party, elsewhere in the city. Mason receives a phone call with some distressing news. Back at the AA meeting, Kelly listens to Mason's voicemail, in which he claims to have been drugged and needs help. Kelly leaves the AA meeting to go find Mason despite it being late in the evening.

No Colour Darker Than Black



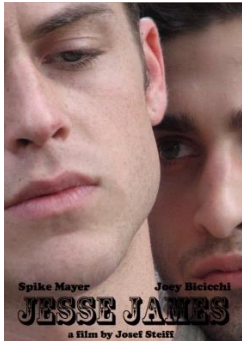
“Nach Schwarz kommt keine Farbe mehr” tells the story of a young Iranian man, who finds out that he feels attracted to other men. To protect his family, he leaves his home and is from that point on his own. On his journey, he faces both understanding and acceptance as well as violence and repression.

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Jesse James



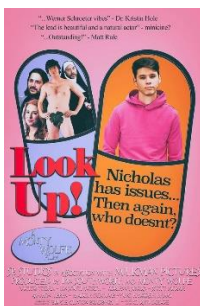
"Jesse James" traces the moments between a neighbor's phone call and the arrival of the police, when Jesse and his lover test the boundaries of their relationship and come face to face not just with what they are losing but with what they have already lost -- when Jesse can no longer save his relationship but only himself.

Gospel Island



Born and raised in the south, Mare is a young queer woman unpacking generational trauma in hopes of leading her most authentic life. Now living alone she begins to organize her internal account of past relationships, while simultaneously preparing for a cross country move. Through uncomfortable and incredibly intimate dreams, Mare's younger self literally revisits past moments, piecing together the fragments that are responsible for how she moves through the world today. Mare begins her long journey to a totally unfamiliar landscape and is now open to the vast possibilities that ultimately open to those who search for more.

Look Up!

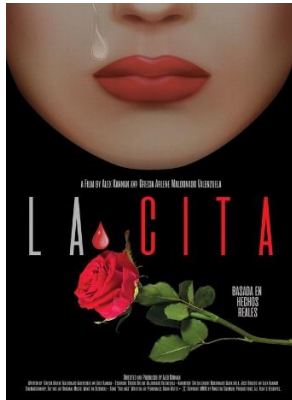


A misanthropic teenager manipulates those around him in search of attention and affection.

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La Cita-The Appointment



Grecia, a transgender woman, writes a letter to her friend Jeanine.

From remembering her childhood to her daily struggles, Grecia gives us a glimpse into the life of a transgender woman navigating the cruel streets of Tijuana, Mexico.

From her family to the church, the world has turned its back on Grecia. She lives on the fringes of society, selling her body as the only means of survival. Faced with brutal violence, Grecia dreams of being reunited with her friend “in a world where they don’t hate us.

As Simple As That

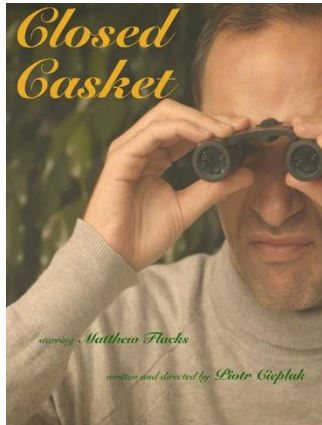


Suspicious that her son is gay, Joana shares her doubts with her husband. To her surprise, the boy's father knows much more about the subject than she imagined. After all, why was she the last to know?

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Closed Casket



Derek lives in a soulless newly-built block of flats. He doesn't belong in this new brave world of glass and steel. Craving company, Derek spends most of his time peering into his neighbours' windows and having a good old judge at what they're up to.

When his dishy beau, Keon, has an unfortunate accident, Derek is summoned to the police station where he meets his ultimate frenemy, PC Susan. Faced with some direct questions about his love life, Derek lets Sue into his disturbing and idiosyncratic world, including his love of the occult and the unusual nature of his "modern" relationship with Keon.

Derek's innermost thoughts are funny, acerbic and witty but also marked by moments of touching reflection on his loneliness. Think Alan Bennett on steroids.

6PM

Becoming_____



This video is a short documentary about transgender awareness and Transgender Day of Remembrance. The purpose of this video to cultivate more love and support for transgender people in hopes of reducing transphobia violence.

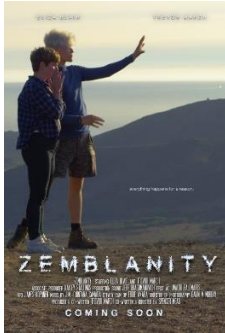
Once Upon A Txme



A boyish princess and a girly prince are each other's best friends. They hang out every night having fun in their true colors in a secret magical chamber. However, one night, the prince is kidnapped by the evil witch. Can the princess and the prince defeat the witch and live happily ever after?

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Zemblanity



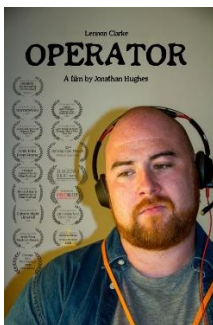
Zemblanity is a slice of life film that questions the idea that everything happens for a reason. While on what seems to be a normal day out for a hike, two friends get confronted by what very well might be the hands of fate.

Safe Distance



Olek returns to Poland after a few years. He must be in quarantine, but his family refuses to let him in. He has nowhere to go, so he sits in the staircase. Władzio wants to walk his dog, which is about to blow up, but he cannot pass. He has to keep two meter distance and Olek doesn't even have a mask. Arguing with his former neighbor, Olek confronts his lost love, learns to close this relationship and is ready to face the unknown.

Operator



A self-obsessed call centre worker deals with a personal heartbreak while on shift as the world crumbles around him... due to a zombie apocalypse.