



# SPIFFEST

14th Annual

San Pedro

International

Film Festival

Nov 7-9th 2025

[spiffest.org](http://spiffest.org)

## *Dear Cinephiles and Filmmakers*

### **Welcome back to SPIFFest in San Pedro!**



Ziggy Mrkich  
*Executive Director*

Welcome back to the San Pedro International Film Festival! We've come a long way since our humble beginnings in 2012. Over the years, SPIFFest has been proud to host an incredible range of guests — from Friday the 13th director Sean S. Cunningham and The Usual Suspects director Bryan Singer, to Chief Sitting Bull's great-grandson Ernie La Pointe, and the late, beloved Saginaw Grant, and animal rights activist and musician Moby.

We've celebrated milestones such as the 50th Anniversary of The Endless Summer with a special exhibition of John Van Hamersveld's artwork, and paid tribute to legendary filmmaker Stanley Kramer with It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World — filmed right here in San Pedro. We've also honored our own local icon, Charles Bukowski.

We're kicking off this year's festival with the very first Second Saturday Art Walk, showcasing local artists and galleries in downtown San Pedro.

We're also proud to continue our partnership with the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, presenting the award winning Out Of Plain Sight, a documentary about the ongoing issue of the DDT barrels just off our coastline.

Thank you for being part of our journey. We can't wait to share this year's films, stories, and community spirit with you. See you at the screenings!

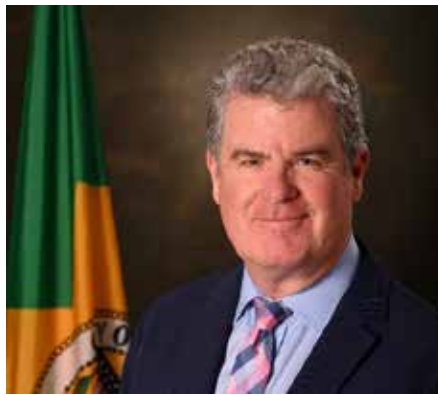
Ziggy Mrkich  
*Executive Director*

Art In Motion + Radio KCLA +SPIFFest



TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District



November 8, 2025

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles and the One-Five, welcome to the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual San Pedro International Film Festival.

Thank you to SPIFFest for its unwavering commitment to showcasing films that celebrate San Pedro's diverse culture and community while providing inspiring entertainment. Through their dedication, they have connected Hollywood and international filmmakers the local community with Hollywood and international filmmakers by presenting works that convey global perspectives and enlighten audiences.

Best wishes!

TIM McOSKER  
Councilmember, 15th District



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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**JANICE HAHN**

Board of Supervisors

November 3, 2025

Dear fellow cinephiles,

It is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the 14th Annual San Pedro International Film Festival!

For more than a decade, SPIFF has been a source of pride for our community, bringing together filmmakers, artists, and audiences to celebrate the power of storytelling through film. Each year, this festival showcases an incredible range of voices and perspectives, and I am so proud that it continues to thrive right here in San Pedro, a place that has long been home to creativity, culture, and innovation.

I applaud the organizers and curators of SPIFF for their thoughtful selection of films that not only entertain, but also challenge, inspire, and spark meaningful conversations. The diversity of stories represented here reflects the best of our community, one that values art, inclusion, and connection.

Congratulations to everyone who helped make this year's festival possible and thank you to the filmmakers for sharing your talents and vision with us. Your work enriches our cultural landscape and reminds us of the beauty of seeing the world through someone else's eyes.

Here's to the dreamers, the storytellers, and everyone who believes in power of the movies.

Sincerely,

JANICE HAHN

Supervisor, Fourth District  
County of Los Angeles

# SCHEDULE

|        | FRIDAY                                | SATURDAY                                                                       | SUNDAY                                                 |
|--------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 11am   |                                       | Out of Plain Sight<br>Panel Discussion<br>Afterwards<br>At Cabrillo Auditorium |                                                        |
| 1pm    |                                       | Shorts Takes 2<br>At Starlight Terrace                                         | Shorts Takes 3<br>At Starlight Terrace                 |
| 3pm    |                                       |                                                                                | Eco Docs 2<br>At Starlight Terrace                     |
| 3:30pm |                                       | Doc Shorts<br>At Starlight Terrace                                             |                                                        |
| 5pm    |                                       |                                                                                | A Rare Grand<br>Alignment<br>At Starlight Terrace      |
| 6pm    | Short Takes 1<br>At Starlight Terrace | Swallowtail and<br>Dragonfly<br>At Starlight Terrace                           |                                                        |
| 7pm    |                                       |                                                                                | My Movie Starring<br>Paul Dano<br>At Starlight Terrace |
| 8pm    |                                       |                                                                                |                                                        |
| 8:30pm | EcoDocs 1<br>At Starlight Terrace     |                                                                                |                                                        |



Short Takes



Features



EcoDocs



Doc Shorts

## VENUES



### **Cabrillo Marine Aquarium** **3720 Stephen M White Dr.** **San Pedro, CA 90731**

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks with support from FRIENDS of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. SPIFFest is excited to partner in promoting Eco Documentary Films with a purpose at the festival held at the aquarium, a trusted resource that inspires exploration, respect and conservation of Southern California marine life.



### **Starlight Terrace Cinemas** **28901 S. Western Ave.** **Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275**

One of six theaters across three counties within Southern California. This location in Rancho Palos Verdes serves the San Pedro and surrounding communities with new releases as well as special events. November 7-9th.

*Coming Soon to the Grand Annex Music Hall*

#### **THE NIGHTCAPS HOLIDAY LOUNGE**

\* ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **FRIDAY, DEC 5 | 8 PM** ❄️ ❄️ \*



Kick off the season in style with a night of jazzy, mid-century cool. Phenomenal Vocalist Mark Kopitzke and his all-star band bring the swing with tunes from the Great American Songbook and your favorite holiday classics.



#### **New Year's Eve with ANDY & RENEE & HARD RAIN**

🍾 **WEDNESDAY, DEC 31 | 8:30 PM** 🍾



Ring in 2026 in downtown San Pedro with award-winning Southbay favorite folk-rockers! Enjoy three high-energy sets of hits from across the decades, complete with dancing, late-night appetizers, party favors and a New Year's toast!



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FOUNDATION**

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**THE GRAND ANNEX MUSIC HALL | 434 W 6th St., San Pedro, CA 90731 | 310.833.4813 | [grandvision.org](http://grandvision.org) | [@grandannex](https://www.facebook.com/grandannex)**



## OUT OF PLAIN SIGHT

Directed by Daniel Straub and Rosanna Xia  
USA, 2025, 1 Hour 30 minutes

From the Los Angeles Times and Pulitzer Prize-finalist Rosanna Xia, *OUT OF PLAIN SIGHT* is a cinematic exposé of an environmental disaster lurking just off the coast of Southern California. Not far from Catalina Island, aboard one of the most-advanced research ships in the world, David Valentine discovered a corroded barrel on the seafloor that gave him chills. The full environmental horror sharpens into greater clarity once he calls Xia, who pieces together a shocking revelation: In the years after World War II, as many as half a million barrels of toxic waste had been quietly dumped into the ocean – and the consequences continue to haunt the world today.

**At Cabrillo Marine Aquarium: Jon Olguin Auditorium**

### Panel Discussion to follow screening:

- **Nancy Shrodes, Heal the Bay**
- **Mark Gold, Director of CalCOFI (California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations) at UC San Diego Scripps Institution of Oceanography.**
- **Daniel Straub, director and producer of Out of Plain Sight**
- **Austin Straub, director, producer and cinematographer of Out of Plain Sight**
- **Rosanna Xia, director and producer of Out of Plain Sight**

*Buy tickets at [spiffest.org](https://spiffest.org)*

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## SWALLOWTAIL AND DRAGONFLY

Directed by Julia Pierrepont  
Written by Julia Pierrepont  
USA, 2024, 1 Hour 47 minutes

Swallowtail and Dragonfly is based on the true story of one courageous woman's journey from glittering stardom as a gifted artist in glamorous 1930's Shanghai, through the ravages of war and revolution and back again, sustained by her exquisite gift for beauty and an epic love that would not die.

Q&A with filmmakers after screening

**At Terrace Starlight Cinemas**



## A RARE GRAND ALIGNMENT

Directed by Cinque Lee  
Written by Cinque Lee  
USA, 2024, 1 Hour 33 minutes

In the winter of 1982 three American boys found themselves stranded in a cable car with a dead body, midair in the mountains of Norway, during a rare celestial event.

Q&A with filmmakers after screening

**At Terrace Starlight Cinemas**



## MY MOVIE STARRING PAUL DANO

Directed by Joe Bartone  
Written by Joe Bartone  
USA, 2024, 1 Hour 33 minutes

The famous actor comes to Herman in a dream, convincing him to make his feature "Bear Naked Amazonians from Mars." If he makes the deadline, the film will take Best Feature at South by Southwest, making Herman an international celebrity.

Q&A with filmmakers after screening

**At Terrace Starlight Cinemas**

## REALITYCHECK

Written by Quinn Shannon

Two young adults lost in life, Jason and Alan take to the internet for the possibility of viral fame and an escape from their dead-lives. What starts as live streaming their payback for getting stiff pay from their job, escalates to dangerous stunts like robbing a bank alongside their friend Mark leading the charge and into a destructive spiral.

## GOLD, GLOVES AND GLORY

Written by Michelle Lynn

In 1926, the boxing event of Gene Tunney and Jack Dempsey led to the downfall of America's most powerful mobsters, Lucky Luciano and Arnold Rothstein. A drama that dives into the explosive tale of the Italian Mafia in New York City, and the corrupt world of bootlegging. Magnolia known as "Goldie" in the world of entertainment rises the ranks of mobster's fiancée to Movie Star as she lands her first role next to The John Gilbert, America's, "The Great Lover."

## FOOS

Written by James Bock

A fifty five year-old widower, brewer, and foosball bar owner reunites with a college friend who recently became a widower himself. Together, they find therapy in playing table soccer, and marketing their own beer. -A product so good, they wanted it to be launched at a major foosball tournament. A fun cast of characters that want that trophy, beer, and prize money.

## ONE CAME BACK

Written by Austin Williams

An aspiring filmmaker unites with a disgraced producer to shoot a horror movie in the historic Civil War town of Sharpsburg, only to uncover secrets more disturbing than anything they could hope to capture on camera.

## MY WORLD AT NIGHT

Written by Zoë Greenbaum

Unexpectedly interconnected lovers in London find themselves in a distressing triangle, inextricably bound by a mysterious painting and a cafe that is only open in the middle of the night.

## THE SPREAD EAGLE

Written by Darko Martinovski

Three recently paroled thieves are desperate to get arrested in time to get back in prison for Christmas by holding up a diner near a police station, unaware that the police are on strike.

## LOVE IS IN THE HAIR

Written by Matt Everts

After a mild shark attack while she was saving a sea turtle, Laura's hair-model ex-husband visits, unknowingly becomes her caregiver. Apart 12 years, he stills has clothes at her house. After his hair catches fire, they fall in love again.

## THE BUTTERFLY KEEPER

Written by Guy Mayfield

A young British soldier sent on mission via the Royal signals, finds himself trapped behind enemy lines with his new found American ally. Together they overcome the harrows of war, attack and their unrelenting need to find Mussolini and hold to the promises they made to their loved ones back home. Based on a true and untold story

## CAMP INIPI

Written by Martina Sisson

The Spirit Hunters, a tongue-in-cheek paranormal YouTube show, is used to faking hauntings and staging scares. On their way to Tehachapi, a blown tire lands them in the overgrown ruins of Camp Inipi—a forgotten lodge hidden deep in the woods.

## CHAINED TO YOUR GHOST

Written by Amanda Lemberg

After losing his older brother in a sudden accident, seventeen-year-old Waylon Kennard dwells on guilt and isolation. Unable to cope with the weight of what happened, he turns to self-destruction, pushing away his family and sinking deeper into addiction. Chained to Your Ghost is a haunting exploration of what it means to carry the weight of someone you loved — and feel like you don't deserve to survive them.

## THE MANHATTAN PROJECT

Written by Janet Walker

The Manhattan Project a riveting, fast-action, suspense thriller that travels from the concrete jungles of Manhattan and the halls of justice to the cocaine factories in the jungles of Columbia, to the pristine beaches of the Bahamas and Miami.

## BURY

Written by Flynn Fletcher, Doug Mellard

Danny, a frustrated voice-over artist stuck in a dead-end corporate job, embarks on an unexpected road trip with his estranged friend Eli to bury Eli's father in New Orleans, all while dealing with a surreal mission to bury a man's ashes next to a Nicolas Cage mausoleum.

## AT THE MERCY OF FAITH

Written by Samuel Taylor

When a devout young preacher's faith is shattered by a traumatic childhood tragedy, his attempts to rebuild his life as an adult are upended by haunting visions, supernatural warnings, and the reemergence of unresolved guilt, forcing him to confront the demons of his past... before they destroy his family.

## THE SIXTH SUN

Written by Matthew Karram

In a frozen post-apocalyptic world where humanity survives in underground volcanic caves, Cita, a devoted wife and mother, embarks on a dangerous journey to the underworld to save her injured husband Acopa from exile into the dead-ly wasteland.

## LOST & FOUND

Written by Nathan Burt

Two friends - one gay, one straight - meet at a funeral after a seven-year absence from each other. What starts as an unintentional reunion quickly evolves into a conversation where the individual personal stakes could not be higher.

## A CONTRACT FOR REDEMPTION

Written by Corinna Miller

River, a seasoned ex-CIA operative turned contract killer, finds herself on the run after a job goes fatally wrong. Hunted by assassins, River must rely on her tactical skills and instincts to survive a city soaked in rain and regret.

## THE GHOST OF DI AN (ZEE AHN)

Written by Taylor Hunt

A legendary tunnel rat in the Vietnam War fights for his life on the surface back home.

## THE HANUKAH GIFT

Written by Scott T Dennis, Douglas Braverman

When 6 elderly Holocaust survivors gather for their annual holiday dinner, their evening takes a dramatic turn as they discover a Neo-Nazi ringleader injured and incapacitated in their brownstone basement after being on the run for desecrating the local synagogue.

## THE PORTRAIT

Written by Susan Eileen Jizba

When a talented artist with psychic gifts is commissioned to paint the portrait of a skeptical British antique art dealer at his country manor, she must unravel the dangerous mystery of her own tragic past life in order to rediscover the love she lost and the home where she truly belongs.

## BUSH

Written by Maggie Doyle

Set against the rugged wild of the Pacific Northwest on a remote island where Jess, a young teen who was born on the island, is suddenly orphaned when her mother dies. She naturally steps into being the caretaker of her family's house, barn and animals and is content doing so until her older sister Nicole shows up to let her know she's going to sell and develop the land.

## THE POPPET

Written by Susan Eileen Jizba

When a popular teen is forced to move-in with her dad and weird, witchy stepsister, she rebels by creating a ritual doll said to have vengeful properties, which backfires horribly when the murderous Poppet doll becomes alive, forcing her to work with her despised sibling to destroy it.

## HOW THE COOKIE CRUMBLES

Written by Darren Haskins

A young man searches for purpose away from his current situation as a porn shop janitor, and tragically finds hope in a struggling snacks company looking to be saved.

## IT ENDS WITH ME

Written by Perry Power

After the sudden death of his father, a young man begins to unravel the truth about the silence that haunted his family for generations. As buried memories rise to the surface, he's forced to confront his past and find the courage to speak the truth, no matter the cost.

## FLEET WEEK

Written by Theodore Carl Soderberg

FLEET WEEK is the sequel to BLAZE. MOB CHICK Blaze opens a new chapter, when she takes on the US Navy as a helicopter pilot during San Francisco's Fleet week, get's the ultimate test, when North Korea threatens to launch ICBM'S, and San Francisco is struck from the sky by a meteor and asteroid shower.

## VOODOO VALENTINOS

Written by Michael Gould

When two teenage guys, misfits, on their way to a party in 1975, flag down a witch-doctor-driven taxi, their girl expectations for the night turn stratospheric. Comedy disaster ensues, courtesy of a powerful, self-image-boosting voodoo potion, the effects of which are life-scarring. There is no redemption, and nobody learns anything.

## THE FOURTH PSALM

Written by John Martins III

Dire consequences ensue when 2 Catholic priests at a New Mexico parish clash during the 1980s Sanctuary Movement, endangering the lives of three innocent Central American refugees.

## ANGELS DESIRED

Written by Lukas Sheja - Germany

In this "Fantastical Mythical Comedy" among the Minotaur-legend, the actress Iznasha, as the protagonist of a film production, dreams of her unknown parents in a living relationship making an impossible film within an ensemble of artistic friends.

## BENEATH THE UNDERCURRENT

Written by Rebekah Louisa Smith

BENEATH THE UNDERCURRENT is a psychological thriller set in the present day English countryside and explores the themes of mental illness and loss.

## ANGEL

Written by Jeff Kimball

After being adopted into a wealthy white family, a resilient Black teenager must survive a home built on silence, performative love, and buried abuse—where being good means never being heard, and survival comes at the cost of identity.

## ROCK TARPEIAN

Written by Salvatore A. Bono

When a mystical relic transforms archaeologist, Rock Tarpeian into a superhuman Cherokee Spirit Warrior, he must track down and prevent a shapeshifting demon, Raven Mocker, from consuming the hearts of the innocent, that would make him indestructible.

## LYNCH

Written by Peter Herman

Inspired by true events, LNCH follows Sergeant Joseph White, a kindhearted Union soldier stationed in South Carolina during Reconstruction. Committed to rebuilding a broken nation, Joe falls in love with Harriet—a compassionate Southern woman and sister to three former Confederate soldiers. Despite the scars of war, their love leads to marriage and the birth of a child, offering a rare hope for healing.

## LITTLE ADULTS

Written by Mercedes Garcia

A resilient 7-year-old-girl is sent to live with her troubled father. She navigates his chaotic world by taking on grown-up responsibilities, only to discover that no amount of love can save someone unwilling to change.

## LIFEBOAT

Written by Mason Mendoza, Bill Baber

Three souls cheat death when they escape the destruction of their spaceship. Now their tiny "lifeboat" is adrift at the end of the universe. Their days are numbered. Every minute is precious. If you know the end, how will you spend your time?

## KICK ROCKS

Written by Peter Herlan

Inspired by a true story, Kick Rocks follows the unexpected and touching friendship between Nick, a well-meaning man in his 40s, and "Uncle Bob," an 84-year-old, free-spirited relic of the 1970s who finds himself lonely and forgotten in his twilight years.

## KILLER CRUSH

Written by Fernando A. Miller

A true-crime-obsessed woman falls for a charming criminal psychology student, unaware that he's a serial killer—and the key to unlocking her sister's traumatic past.

## AMERICAN VIGOR

Written by Ross Dumond Macartney

American Vigor follows the story of Alton Ford, a Cowboy farmer who gives his new neighbor and her son refuge after they escape her abusive ex-husband.

## SKULL CREEK CANYON

Written by Amanda Lemberg

After his car breaks down in a remote ghost town, a grieving cop vows to help a young blind girl who possesses an extraordinary gift.

## BEGIN AT THE BYGONES

Written by Kevin Silva

Begin At The Bygones is a noir-tinged fantasy thriller set in California 1968. Ian Garrett, haunted by the mysterious death of his girlfriend Sandra, stumbles into a web of secrets and lies while investigating her connection to a psychedelic-fueled underworld. As he navigates treacherous alliances with a detective and enigmatic strangers, Ian uncovers a dangerous conspiracy tied to an infamous LSD dealer and his coveted satchel - rumored to hold legendary stimulants.





## GIVEN

Directed by Marissa Vaughan

Written by Glory Simon

USA, 2025, 14 minutes 42 seconds

When an encounter 25 years ago that will set her life on an unknown course.

Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



## BURDEN

Directed by Hampus Svensson

Written by Hampus Svensson

Sweden, 2025, 11 minutes 40 seconds

Liv, a lone survivor in a post-apocalyptic world, makes her way through a desolate wasteland in search of her grand child. Her journey leads her to an old church where she expects to find answers.

Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



## UNSANCTIONED BOUNTY

Directed by Grant Anderson Matthew

Written by Grant Anderson

USA, 2025, 19 minutes 33 seconds

Six years ago, Los Angeles police officer Simone Mystik helped put her boyfriend, Cedric Brown, behind bars, leading to his 20-year sentence. The fallout cost Simone her career dedicated to raising their son.

Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



## HOLLYWOOD REX

Directed by Lauren Clinton Clark

Written by Lauren Clinton Clark

USA, 2025, 15 minutes 25 seconds

After a chaotic gig gets her band kicked out of a bar, punk bassist Rex is blamed by their manager for holding them back. Left behind when the band mistakenly leaves without her, Rex embarks on an eventful trek through the streets of Hollywood. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



## LIGHT BUNNY

Directed by Valerian Zamel

Written by Valerian Zamel Charlie Lyons

USA, 2025, 15 minutes

Six years ago, Los Angeles police officer Simone Mystik helped put her boyfriend, Cedric Brown, behind bars for 20 years. The fallout cost Simone her career, but she rebuilt her life as a skilled fugitive enforcement agent dedicated to raising their son. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



## GRIND

Directed by Mark Apicella

Written by Mark Apicella

USA, 2025, 15 minutes 50 seconds

When John, an aspiring sneaker designer in East Los Angeles, gets the opportunity of his life to be featured in his idol's pop-up shop, his best friend and business partner tries to pull him down his own divergent path as he promises John's shoe design to a gang.

Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened

SHORT TAKES CONTINUED



**7 Minutes**

Directed by Bryce Thomas Powell

Written by Bryce Thomas Powell

USA, 2025, 10 minutes 10 seconds

A group of strangers find themselves trapped in a convenience store with a dying generator, forced to confront their deepest fears as they battle both the darkness within and the creatures that lurk in the darkness outside.

Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



**EAT, PREY...LOVE**

Directed by Ben Kuker

Written by Ben Kuker

USA, 2025, 16 minutes 29 seconds

A cannibal's dark secret is revealed when his wife unexpectedly returns home early from her business trip. While he is preoccupied with the fallout of his marriage, his victim uses this opportunity to escape.

Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened

An advertisement for Lumiére Salon. On the left is a detailed, Art Deco-style illustration of a woman's face and flowing hair, adorned with ornate patterns and colors like gold, teal, and brown. On the right, against a black background, is the salon's name and contact information in elegant, stylized fonts.

  
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## DREAM TO CURE WATER

Directed by Cyril JazbekAlan Lacy  
SLOVENIA, 2025, 20 minutes

Peru is home to 70% of the world's tropical glaciers, but 40% of their surface area has disappeared in the last fifty years alone. The glaciers are a crucial water source in Peru. People are forced to adapt as they disappear. It is feared that all of them will be gone soon. According to Peru's Natural Institute of Natural Resources, all of the country's 200 glaciers are under threat. It is feared that all of them will be gone soon.

Q&A after all films have screened in this block



## THE KELP WE BREATHE

Directed by Tatum Kala David, Natalie Aymond, Jack Phillips, Taylor Ortiz  
Thailand, 2025, 15 minutes

The Kelp We Breathe dives deeper into questions of why kelp matters to us, unveiling culture, passion, and community. Q&A after all films have screened in this block

Q&A after all films have screened in this block



## UPSTREAM DOWNRIVER

Directed by Lea Rodbarry and Jonathan Mullen  
USA, 2024, 19 minutes 4 seconds

In the rivers that flow through our neighborhoods lives an unseen but important creature: the freshwater mussel. These mussels perform key ecosystem services, including a remarkable capacity to filter and clean water. Once almost extinct and now struggling to make a comeback in DuPage County's urban waterways, freshwater mussels need help.

Q&A after all films have screened in this block

**At Terrace Starlight Cinemas**

# WUNDERKAMMER

AT THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES



ODDITIES + VINTAGE  
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## SHORT TAKES 2 -SATURDAY - NOV 8 - 1pm



### **BARK**

Directed by Searit Kahsay Huluf

Written by Tristen Tarp

USA, 2024, 16 minutes 32 seconds

He stole her heart. She stole his dog. After a breakup, an obsessive woman steals her ex's dog in a desperate attempt to reconnect. Bark twists love, revenge, and grief into a visually striking exploration of emotional chaos. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



### **DADDA**

Directed by Aimee Hoffman

Written by Elinor Howells

USA, 2025, 18 minutes 28 seconds

Amidst his wife's flourishing career, a hotshot director turned stay-at-home dad, becomes convinced his hands are inexplicably shrinking. In a desperate search to re-enlarge his hands, he puts his family and sanity at risk as things grow out of control. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



### **FLOWERS**

Directed by Matthew Oquendo

Written by Matthew Oquendo

USA, 2025, 18 minutes 45 seconds

FLOWERS follows Candace Chapman, a struggling waitress trying to catch a brex. After a nightmare job interview she misses her bus, gets followed by a guy—a start to a terrible day until she meets Jeff, who just got stood up... on his anniversary. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



### **SIENNA AND THE SIT**

Directed by Scottie Thompson

Written by Scottie Thompson

USA, 2025, 16 minutes 30 second

A story about the lengths to which we go to avoid our pain, the community that helps us through to the other side, and ultimately our own inner strength. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



### **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT**

Directed by Charlie Lyons

Written by Charlie Lyons

USA, 2025, 11 minutes 38 seconds

When a female police detective sees a conflicted woman enter a house, the detective arrests her and forces her to make a hard choice. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened

## SHORT TAKES 2 -SATURDAY - NOV 8 - 1pm



### NEW BEGINNINGS

Directed by V.C. Rhone

Written by V.C. Rhone

USA, 2025, 5 minutes

A group of highly irreverent teens bond over Zoloft, hopes and dreams. Webisode Pilot  
Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



### BLOODY SHAME - LAUREN

Directed by Courtney King

Written by Courtney King

USA, 2024, 2 minutes 30 seconds

Set in 1948, Cinema City, our Gotham of Hollywood. Jane Barker, a fiesty and fiery screenwriter who is on a mission to take down the abusive and corrupt producer Jack Dandee after Jane's secret lover is the latest on Jack's long list of victims. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



### JOHNNY

Directed by Kwame Augustine and Stephanie Boateng

Written by Kwame Augustine

UK, 2025, 7 minutes

The series follows Johnny, a magnetic figure drawn to wild women and fast living. Haunted by his past, he spirals into turmoil, battling demons that blur memory and madness. As he unravels, Johnny's charm becomes both weapon and curse. Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



### BABE

Directed by Regan Patterson

Written by Regan Patterson

USA, 2025, 13 minutes 40 seconds

A young man forms an inseparable bond with his car. Over a decade of adventures and pivotal life events, he faces the bittersweet moment of parting ways with his cherished "friend". Q&A with filmmakers after all shorts have screened



## THE ARTISTRY SCHOOL OF FINE ART

**Rino Gonzalez**, the well known painter who shows his work all over the world will take you from a beginner to a 17th Century still life painter from the great schools of Amsterdam. Join us **Nov 8th at the 2nd Saturday Artwalk. 1-7pm** to meet **Rino, Lisa, Catherine, & James**. We offer *special workshops with Rino* as well as regular weekly classes, 1 day specialized classes like "How to Paint Your Dog", & Sip & Paint Nights. 491 W. 6th St, San Pedro, 90731  
rinogonzalez.com | 310.982.0523 | @rinogonzalezfineart



### FLAME OUT

Directed by Emily Grace Goldwyn

Written by EMILY Grace Goldwyn

USA, 2025, 14 minutes 55 seconds

When Grace, a serial people pleaser, double-books her night, she manages to accidentally buy out an entire Diptyque candle party and simultaneously end a friendship. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### LONELY

Directed by Bobby Bosky Grubic

Written by Miro Gavin

Croatia, 2025, 18 minutes 35 seconds

In the twilight of a life marked by disappointment and regret, an old man discovers a flicker of hope through an unexpected friendship. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### A CALL FROM YOU

Directed by Denise Gosdinski-Espinoza, Anneliese Gosdinski-Espinoza

Written by Anneliese Gosdinski-Espinoza

USA, 2020, 8 minutes 52 seconds

A woman is having a hard time accepting a major change. After a rough day at work and being misunderstood by her co-workers, a woman feels lonely. She vacillates on making a call to a person no longer in her life. When she does call, an unlikely interaction occurs. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### TROVA

Directed by Jake Ajamian

Written by Jake Ajamian

USA, 2025, 15 minutes 23 seconds

In 1935 Cuba, María Teresa Vera, a renowned troubadour, must confront her past and a society that doesn't accept female troubadours. With the help of a young guitarist, she makes a triumphant return to the stage, fighting for her voice, her legacy, and her place in Cuban music history. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### IT'S COME TO THIS

Directed by Ivo Raza

Written by Ivo Raza

USA, 2025, 3 minutes 20 seconds

Set to a great track by Billy Morrison, this short film tells the visual story of a driver who must deliver a soul to a collector (Joe Manganiello) in order to regain his freedom. Music Video Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### MAJI

Directed by Jimi Hall

Written by Jimi Hall

USA, 2025, 1 minutes 32 seconds

"Maji" is the Swahili word for water. Every day, 1000 children die because they do not have access to clean and safe water. The burden of collecting water falls on the women and children who daily collect it. Maji is a testament to the beautiful bonds of family during a crisis. Lurking beneath the surface of the imagery is the ugly truth about the struggle for this most basic Human Right. Music Video. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### LONESOME TOWN

Directed by Caleb Garrett

Written by Caleb Garrett

USA, 2025, 2 minutes 55 seconds

A cowboy flung forward in time becomes homesick.

Music Video Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### SHANGRI LOS ANGELES

Directed by Rachel Music

Written by Rachel Music

USA, 2023, 13 minutes 29 seconds

A moody rock take on the corrupting force of Hollywood offering a disturbing collage of the surreal highs and lows of LA along with behind the scenes clips of actors at work in the Good Story Guild production "In Media Res." Music video. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### IF YOU SHOW ME (ALICE) Annabel (lee)

Directed by Tyler Hubby

Written by Tyler Hubby

USA, 2024, 4 minutes 52 seconds

A grownup twist of Lewis Carroll's tale of rabbit-hole woes, via the journey of love-struck fools. Featuring David J (Bauhaus, Love & Rockets as the Mad Hatter, James Duval (Donnie Darko) as the White Rabbit and Darenzia as Alice. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### ANADOL AND MARIE KLOK- Quand Le Grenier Pris Feu

Directed by Utku Önal

Written by Utku Önal

France, German, Turkey, 2024, 6 minutes 12 minutes

"With Quand le grenier aura pris feu, Utku Önal has designed a poetic, multi-layered work that plays with surrealist nuances and at the same time refuses to be categorized. Image and sound complement each other in irritating and at the same time subtle ways, between daydream and nightmare, between tenderness and distress. Music video. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### BLOOD ON YOUR HANDS

Directed by Anastasia Bunci

Written by Grace Joy Howarth

UK, 2024, 15 minutes 31 seconds

It's Ukrainian ex-veterinarian Kostyantyn's first day at the slaughterhouse, where he meets Dan, a happy-go-lucky Welsh lad who cracks too many jokes for his own good. Despite their grim working conditions, an unexpected friendship begins to form. What is the human cost of working on the kill floor? Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### SECOND SUNRISE

Directed by Steven Dallas

Written by Steven Dallas

USA, 2024, 16 minutes 55 seconds

Constable agent Francis has spent years enforcing evictions, each day another family out on the streets. His personal life is in shambles especially with his daughter that he hasn't seen. He is a broken man trying to fix himself, he has been trying for years to reconnect to his daughter. As her birthday approaches, her birthday slips his mind, and it destroys him. Q&A with filmmakers after all films screen



### TO THE HANDS

Directed by Robert Istad

Produced by Alex Nelson

USA, 2023, 1 hour 6 minutes

A choral-theatrical exploration that lives between social consciousness and live acoustic performance. Anchored by Pulitzer Prize-Winning Caroline Shaw's 2016 eponymous work, itself responding to Buxtehude's Ad Manus cantata from 1680, the film draws out a centuries-old question made urgent again. Q&A with filmmakers to follow last film.



### STANDING THE HEAT

Directed by Steven Dallas

USA, 2024, 8 Minutes 44 seconds

I explore and compare how the Traditional Hoghan stacks up against modern engineering and the heat.

Q&A with filmmakers to follow last film.



### YONSEI

Directed by Rachel Michiko Whitney, Jeff Mizushima

Written by Jeff Mizushima, Rachel Michiko Whitney

USA, 2025, 36 minutes

Feeling stuck in her acting career, RACHEL decides to write and star in a film about her mother, who was a Japanese American actress in 1980s Hollywood. As she digs deeper into her grandmother's history being sent to and falling in love in a Japanese American incarceration camp during WWII, she is torn between exploiting her family and friends.

Q&A with filmmakers to follow last film.



### VOICES OF LITTLE TOKYO

Directed by Nana Nakano

USA, 2025, 14 minutes 57 seconds

Little Tokyo is one of the three remaining Japantowns in the United States. The community is home to small legacy businesses and low-income households. Developers want to redevelop Little Tokyo bringing up concerns about environmental, gentrification, and displacement

Q&A with filmmakers to follow last film.



### HANDS WRAPPED

Directed by Reef X Applebaum

USA, 2024, 10 minutes

Hands Wrapped is a raw cinematic documentary showcasing the mental and physical journey of Casey Macias as he prepares for and competes in his professional boxing debut. Through brutal training sessions, mental battles, and personal sacrifices, the film captures the unseen struggle.

Q&A with filmmakers after all films have screened.



## **GHOSTS OF THE PACIFIC**

Directed by Michelle Raabe

USA, 2024, 1 Hour 3 minutes

Ghosts of the Pacific, a captivating and visually stunning documentary that delves into the mysterious world of the white sea bass, a prized and elusive species that has captured the imagination of spearfishermen along the Pacific coast. Through breathtaking underwater cinematography and intimate storytelling, the film explores the challenges and rewards of pursuing these “ghosts” of the deep. Q&A with filmmakers after all screenings



## **THE MOST BIODIVERSE PLACE IN AMERICA**

Directed by John Fiske

USA, 2025, 45 minutes

Set in the sun-soaked canyons and coastlines of San Diego County, The Most Biodiverse Place in America is an intimate portrait of place, purpose, and generational connection. Told through the lens of John Fiske — a passionate naturalist and educator — and his sons Johnny and Charlie, the film explores the richest ecological county in the United States. Q&A with filmmakers after all screenings



## The 14th Annual San Pedro International Film Festival

(SPIFFest.org) is proud to announce a partnership with San Pedro's **2nd Saturday Art Walk**- 1pm to 7pm featuring galleries and businesses from the Downtown San Pedro Arts District including **Los Angeles Harbor Arts** (LAHA) on 4th St, **7th Street** artist studios and galleries, and **Open Studios Day at Angels Gate Cultural Center** 12pm to 4pm.

As part of the launch of the **2nd Saturday Art Walk**, **SPIFFest** will host a special screening of the locally important environmental documentary **"In Plain Sight"** at the **Cabrillo Marine Aquarium** on Saturday, November 8th at 11am aligning film, art, and community in a shared cultural experience.

### NOV 8th SCHEDULE

**11am - 1:30 Film Screening**

**Out of Plain Sight**

**12pm-4pm**

**Open Studios at Angels Gate**

**1pm-7pm**

**2nd Saturday Art Walk  
Downtown San Pedro**

## 14th ANNUAL SPIFFEST

# SAN PEDRO FILM FESTIVAL



**NOV 8th  
1-7pm**

# 2ND SATURDAY ART WALK

