



SXSW FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2019 FEATURES AND EPISODIC PREMIERES

Austin, Texas, January 16, 2019 — South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conference and Festivals announced the features and episodic premieres lineup for the 26th edition of the Film Festival, running March 8-17, 2019 in Austin, Texas. The acclaimed program draws thousands of fans, filmmakers, press, and industry leaders every year to immerse themselves in the most innovative, smart and entertaining new films of the year. Jordan Peele's *Us* was previously announced as the Festival's Opening Night film, while Olivia Wilde, Jessica Brillhart and Marti Noxon have been announced as this year's Film Keynotes.

The 102 features and episodics in this release will be shown across the nine days of SXSW, with dozens of additional titles to be announced February 6. The complete SXSW Film Festival program typically includes between 320 and 340 total projects. The 2019 program was selected from 2,351 feature-length film submissions, with a total of 8,490 films submitted this year.

"As we head into our 26th edition, we couldn't be more excited to once again share a completely fresh SXSW 2019 slate with our uniquely smart and enthusiastic SXSW audience," said Janet Pierson, Director of Film. "As always, we looked for a wide range of work, contemplating scale, style, tenor and tone. We hope that this year's outstanding array of films from accomplished to emerging talent will entertain, surprise, and provoke."

Interactive, Film, and Music badges include expanded access to more of the SXSW Conference and Festivals experience. With one unified conference that spans 25 tracks of programming SXSW offers more opportunities for networking, learning, and discovery than ever before. SXSW's next registration deadline is January 18, 2019 at 11:59pm PT. Early registrants benefit from discounted rates. Platinum badges give primary access to all SXSW programming.

Feature films in the SXSW lineup screen in the following categories: Narrative Feature Competition; Documentary Feature Competition; Headliners; Narrative Spotlight; Documentary Spotlight; Visions; Midnighters; 24 Beats Per Second; Global; Festival Favorites; and Special Events. The Episodic program consists of Episodic Premieres and the Episodic Pilot Competition.

Films screening in Festival Favorites, Midnighters, Shorts, Virtual Cinema, Episodic Pilot Competition, Title Design Competition, Music Videos and late-breaking Features will be announced on February 6. All categories, with the exception of Special Events, will be eligible for section-specific Audience Awards.

A selection of feature highlights include: *The Beach Bum* directed by Harmony Korine; *Booksmart* directed by Olivia Wilde; *Breakthrough* directed by Bill Haney; *The Garden Left Behind* directed by Flavio Alves; *The Gift: The Journey of Johnny Cash* directed by Thom Zimny; *Good Boys* directed by Gene Stupnitsky; *I Love You, Now Die: The Commonwealth Vs. Michelle Carter* directed by Erin Lee Carr; *J.R. "Bob" Dobbs and The Church of the SubGenius* directed by Sandy K Boone; *Pink Wall* directed by Tom Cullen; *Sakawa* directed by Ben Asamoah; *Long Shot* directed by Jonathan Levine; and *Us* directed by Jordan Peele. **Episodic premiere highlights:** *David Makes Man* directed by Michael Francis Williams; *NOS4A2* directed by Kari Skogland; *Shrill* directed by Jesse Peretz and Carrie Brownstein; *Ramy* created by Ramy Youssef, Ari Katcher and Ryan Welch; and *What We Do In the Shadows* directed by Taika Waititi and Jemaine Clement.

The Narrative Feature Competition includes: *Alice* directed by Josephine Mackerras; *Extra Ordinary* directed by Mike Ahern and Enda Loughman; *Go Back to China* directed by Emily Ting; *Mickey and the Bear* directed by Annabelle Attanasio; *Ms. White Light* directed by Paul Shoulberg; *Pig Hag* directed by Sam Probst and Colby Holt; *Porno* directed by Keola Racela; *Saint Frances* directed by Alex Thompson; *South Mountain* directed by Hilary Brougher; and *Yes, God, Yes* directed by Karen Maine.

The Documentary Feature Competition includes: *Ernie & Joe* directed by Jenifer McShane; *For Sama* directed by Waad al-Kateab and Edward Watts; *Museum Town* directed by Jennifer Trainer; *Nothing Fancy: Diana Kennedy* directed by Elizabeth Carroll; *Stuffed* directed by Erin Derham; *Tread* directed by Paul Solet; *Vision Portraits* directed by Rodney Evans; *We Are The Radical Monarchs* directed by Linda Goldstein Knowlton; *Well Groomed* directed by Rebecca Stern; and *Why Can't I Be Me? Around You* directed by Harrod Blank and Sjoerd Dijk.

The 2019 SXSW Film Festival will include:

NARRATIVE FEATURE COMPETITION

Ten world premieres, ten unique ways to celebrate the art of storytelling. Selected from 1,346 narrative feature submissions in 2019.

Alice (France)

Director/Screenwriter: Josephine Mackerras

Alice, a happy and perfect wife and mother has her life turned upside down when she discovers her husband is living a secret life. She is left abandoned with a child and is ruined financially. Her fight back leads her into a world of discovery, not only about her husband but also about herself. *Cast: Emilie Piponnier, Martin Swabey, Chloe Boreham (World Premiere)*

Extra Ordinary (Ireland)

Directors/Screenwriters: Mike Ahern, Enda Loughman

Rose, a mostly sweet and mostly lonely small-town driving instructor, must use her supernatural talent to save the daughter of Martin (also mostly sweet and lonely), from a washed-up rockstar who is using her in a satanic pact that will reignite his fame. *Cast: Maeve Higgins, Barry Ward, Will Forte, Claudia O'Doherty* (World Premiere)

Go Back to China (China, U.S.)

Director/Screenwriter: Emily Ting

After spoiled rich girl Sasha Li (Anna Akana) blows through half of her trust fund, she is cut off by her father (Richard Ng) and forced to go back to China and work for the family toy business. *Cast: Anna Akana, Richard Ng, Lynn Chen, Kelly Hu, Kendy Cheung, Aviva Wang* (World Premiere)

Mickey and the Bear

Director/Screenwriter: Annabelle Attanasio

Faced with the responsibility to take care of her addict, veteran father, headstrong teen Mickey Peck keeps her household afloat. When she has the opportunity to leave for good, she must choose between familial obligation and personal fulfillment. *Cast: Camila Morrone, James Badge Dale, Calvin Demba, Ben Rosenfield, Rebecca Henderson* (World Premiere)

Ms. White Light

Director/Screenwriter: Paul Shoulberg

Lex Cordova's business is dying. She has a unique ability to connect with her clients that are terminally ill. It's just everyone else that she has a problem with. Valerie is a no bullshit woman who loves living her life. Her only way out is thru Lex. *Cast: Roberta Colindrez, John Ortiz, Judith Light, Carson Meyer, Zachary Spicer* (World Premiere)

Pig Hag

Directors: Sam Probst, Colby Holt, Screenwriter: Colby Holt

Jodie, a woman in her mid-thirties, struggles with the pressure to find a partner and have children. When she attends a Guns N' Roses concert, she thinks she may have met a potential match — until he immediately ghosts on her. *Cast: Anna T Schlegel, Tony Jaksha, Pete Zias, Michael Henry, Nate Stoner, Maxwell Esposito, Amanda DeSimone, Alex Myerchin, Andrew Kudla* (World Premiere)

Porno

Director: Keola Racela, Screenwriters: Matt Black, Laurence Vannicelli

When a group of naive teens working at a movie theater in a small Christian town discover a mysterious film hidden in its basement, they unleash an alluring succubus who gives them a sex

education...written in blood. *Cast: Evan Daves, Larry Saperstein, Jillian Mueller, Glenn Stott, Robert Tann, Bill Phillips, Katelyn Pearce, Peter Reznikoff* (World Premiere)

Saint Frances

Director: Alex Thompson, Screenwriter: Kelly O'Sullivan

At the start of the summer, Bridget has an abortion just as she lands a much-needed job in affluent Evanston, Illinois — nannying a six-year old. *Cast: Ramona Edith-Williams, Kelly O'Sullivan, Lily Mojekwu, Charin Alvarez, Jim True-Frost, Max Lipchitz, Mary Beth Fisher, Francis Guinan, Bradley Grant Smith* (World Premiere)

South Mountain

Director/Screenwriter: Hilary Broucher

When her teenagers head off to camp and her husband abruptly leaves her to begin a new family, Lila is left to her own curious and chaotic devices for a summer in her rural home in the Catskill mountains. *Cast: Talia Balsam, Scott Cohen, Andrus Nichols, Michael Oberholtzer, Naian González Norvind, Midori Francis, Macaulee Rusnak Cassaday, Isis Masoud, Violet Rea, Guthrie Mass* (World Premiere)

Yes, God, Yes

Director/Screenwriter: Karen Maine

After an innocent AOL chat turns racy, a Catholic teenager in the early 00s discovers masturbating and struggles to suppress her urges in the face of eternal damnation. *Cast: Natalia Dyer, Timothy Simons, Wolfgang Novogratz, Francesca Reale, Susan Blackwell, Parker Wierling, Alisha Boe, Donna Lynne Champlin* (World Premiere)

Narrative Feature Competition Jury: Barbara Chai, Senior Editor for the *Wall Street Journal*; **Ira Madison III**, Writer and Host of the podcast *Keep It!*; **Jada Yuan**, Inaugural 52 Places Traveler for the *New York Times*

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE COMPETITION

Ten world premieres: ten real world stories that demonstrate innovation, energy and bold voices. Selected from 1,005 feature documentary submissions in 2018.

Ernie & Joe

Director: Jenifer McShane

Ernie & Joe follows two officers with the San Antonio Police Department mental health unit who are diverting people away from jail and into mental health treatment — one 911 call at a time. (World Premiere)

For Sama (United Kingdom)

Directors: Waad al-Kateab, Edward Watts

For Sama tells the epic story of a young woman's journey through love, war and motherhood across five years of the uprising in Aleppo, Syria. (World Premiere)

Museum Town

Director: Jennifer Trainer, Screenwriters: Noah Bashevkin, Pola Rapaport, Jennifer Trainer
From the ashes of a deserted factory, an ambitious center for contemporary art has emerged. With MASS MoCA, a familiar story of deindustrialization in a rural American town finds an unconventional route to recovery. (World Premiere)

Nothing Fancy: Diana Kennedy (Mexico, U.S.)

Director: Elizabeth Carroll
Award-winning cookbook author, diehard environmentalist and feisty British nonagenarian Diana Kennedy reflects on an unconventional life spent mastering the cuisines of Mexico. (World Premiere)

Stuffed (Canada, U.S.)

Director: Erin Derham
Stuffed is a documentary feature film about the surprising world of taxidermy and the passionate artists across the world who see life where others only see death. (World Premiere)

Tread

Director: Paul Solet
Pushed to his breaking point, a master welder in a small town at the foot of the Rocky Mountains quietly fortifies a bulldozer with 30 tons of concrete and steel and seeks to destroy those he believes have wronged him. (World Premiere)

Vision Portraits

Director/Screenwriter: Rodney Evans
A feature-length documentary that chronicles the creative paths of blind and visually impaired artists including a photographer (John Dugdale), dancer (Kayla Hamilton), writer (Ryan Knighton) and the film's director, Rodney Evans. (World Premiere)

We Are The Radical Monarchs

Director: Linda Goldstein Knowlton
Meet the Radical Monarchs, a group of young girls of color at the front lines of social justice. Set in Oakland, the film documents the journey of the group as they form, grow, and earn badges for units like "Black Lives Matter" and "Radical Beauty" (World Premiere)

Well Groomed

Director/Screenwriter: Rebecca Stern
Well Groomed travels the humorous, visually stunning world of Competitive Creative Dog Grooming alongside the colorful women transforming their beloved poodles into living sculptures. (World Premiere)

Why Can't I Be Me? Around You

Directors/Screenwriters: Harrod Blank, Sjoerd Dijk

Rusty, a male race enthusiast, decides at 53 to get breasts. His father cuts his pay, his motorcycle friends abandon him and the women he dates all reject him. Rusty pursues her new identity and only hopes to gain acceptance from others. (World Premiere)

Documentary Feature Competition Jury: **Karen Han**, Entertainment Reporter at *Polygon*; **Adam B. Vary**, Senior Film Reporter for *BuzzFeed News*; **Katie Walsh**, Film Critic for the Tribune News Service

HEADLINERS

Big names, big talent: Headliners bring star power to SXSW, featuring red carpet premieres and gala film events with major and rising names in cinema.

The Beach Bum

Director/Screenwriter: Harmony Korine

The Beach Bum follows the hilarious misadventures of Moondog (Matthew McConaughey), a rebellious rogue who always lives life by his own rules. Co-starring Snoop Dogg, Zac Efron, and Isla Fisher, *The Beach Bum* is a refreshingly original and subversive. *Cast: Matthew McConaughey, Snoop Dogg, Isla Fisher, Stefania Lavie Owen, Jimmy Buffett, Zac Efron, Martin Lawrence* (World Premiere)

Booksmart

Director: Olivia Wilde, Screenwriters: Emily Halpern, Sarah Haskins, Susanna Fogel, Katie Silberman

Told from a wildly original, fresh and modern perspective, *Booksmart* is an unfiltered comedy about high school friendships and the bonds we create that last a lifetime. Capturing the spirit of our times, the film is a coming of age story for a new generation. *Cast: Kaitlyn Dever, Beanie Feldstein, Jessica Williams, Will Forte, Lisa Kudrow, Jason Sudeikis* (World Premiere)

Good Boys

Director: Gene Stupnitsky, Screenwriters: Lee Eisenberg, Gene Stupnitsky

The writers of *Superbad* and the producers of *Sausage Party* take on sixth grade in Universal Pictures' *Good Boys*, an R-rated comedy about three friends on an epic one-day odyssey of bad decisions. *Cast: Jacob Tremblay, Keith L. Williams, Brady Noon, Molly Gordon, Midori Francis, Josh Caras* (World Premiere)

The Highwaymen

Director: John Lee Hancock, Screenwriter: John Fusco

The outlaws made headlines. The lawmen made history. From director John Lee Hancock (*The Blind Side*), *The Highwaymen* stars Kevin Costner and Woody Harrelson in the untold true story of the legendary detectives who brought down Bonnie and Clyde. *Cast: Kevin Costner, Woody Harrelson, Kathy Bates, Kim Dickens* (World Premiere)

Long Shot

Director: Jonathan Levine, Screenwriter: Dan Sterling

An ambitious diplomat with a spotless reputation and a hard-partying journalist hilariously redefine “international relations” as they try to keep their red-hot romance under wraps. *Cast: Seth Rogen, Charlize Theron, O’Shea Jackson Jr., Andy Serkis, June Diane Raphael, Ravi Patel and Alexander Skarsgård* (World Premiere)

Us

Director/Screenwriter: Jordan Peele

An original nightmare from Oscar-winner Jordan Peele (*Get Out*), starring Lupita Nyong’o and Winston Duke, *Us* pits an average American family against a terrifying opponent: doppelgängers of themselves. *Cast: Lupita Nyong’o, Winston Duke, Elisabeth Moss, Tim Heidecker, Yahya Abdul-Mateen II, Anna Diop, Evan Alex, Shahadi Wright-Joseph, Madison Curry, Cali Sheldon* (World Premiere)

NARRATIVE SPOTLIGHT

High profile narrative features receiving their World, North American or U.S. premieres at SXSW.

Adopt a Highway

Director/Screenwriter: Logan Marshall-Green

After being released from prison following a twenty year sentence for a minor offense, an ex-con must learn to navigate the world while coming to terms with his own life which has moved on — all while caring for an abandoned baby he finds in a dumpster. *Cast: Ethan Hawke, Elaine Hendrix, Diane Gaeta, Betty Gabriel, Mo’Nique, Chris Sullivan, Nate Mooney, Christopher Heyerdahl, Anne Marie Johnson* (World Premiere)

The Art of Self-Defense

Director/Screenwriter: Riley Stearns

The Art of Self-Defense stars Jesse Eisenberg and is set in the world of karate. Eisenberg plays a man who is attacked on the street and enlists in a local dojo, led by a charismatic Sensei (Nivola), in an effort to learn how to defend himself. *Cast: Jesse Eisenberg, Alessandro Nivola, Imogen Poots* (World Premiere)

Come As You Are

Director: Richard Wong, Screenwriter: Erik Linthorst

Three young men with disabilities embark on a road trip to a brothel in Montreal catering to people with special needs to lose their virginity and embrace their independence. Inspired by a true story and remake of the Belgian film *Hasta La Vista*. *Cast: Grant Rosenmeyer, Hayden*

Szeto, Ravi Patel, Gabourey Sidibe, Janeane Garofalo, C.S. Lee, Jennifer Jelsema, Martha Kuwahara, Delaney Feener, Asta Philpot (World Premiere)

The Day Shall Come (United Kingdom, Dominican Republic)

Director: Chris Morris, Screenwriters: Chris Morris, Jesse Armstrong

An impoverished preacher who brings hope to the Miami projects is offered cash to save his family from eviction. He has no idea his sponsor works for the FBI who plan to turn him into a criminal by fueling his madcap revolutionary dreams. *Cast: Marchánt Davis, Anna Kendrick, Danielle Brooks, Denis O'Hare (World Premiere)*

Frances Ferguson

Director: Bob Byington, Screenwriter: Scott King

A small town's reaction to scandal. *Cast: Kaley Wheless, Nick Offerman, Keith Poulson, David Krumholtz (World Premiere)*

I'm Just F*cking With You

Director: Adam Mason, Screenwriters: Gregg Zehenter, Scott Barkan

A young man and his sister endure a night of increasingly frightening practical jokes while spending the night at a secluded motel. *Cast: Keir O'Donnell, Hayes MacArthur, Jessica McNamee (World Premiere)*

Mother's Little Helpers

Director/Screenwriter: Kestrin Pantera

When Joy Pride, a groovy 70's burn-out on the caboose of the flower power movement learns she has weeks to live, her estranged children come together to do right by a mother who always did them wrong. *Cast: Milana Vayntrub, Breeda Wool, Melanie Hutsell, David Giuntoli, Sam Littlefield, Kestrin Pantera (World Premiere)*

Olympic Dreams

Director: Jeremy Teicher, Screenwriters: Alexi Pappas, Jeremy Teicher, Nick Kroll

In the Athlete Village at the Olympic Winter Games, Penelope (Alexi Pappas), a cross-country skier, befriends Ezra (Nick Kroll), a volunteer dentist, after a disappointing finish in her race. Penelope and Ezra share a special but limited time together. *Cast: Nick Kroll, Alexi Pappas, Gus Kenworthy, Morgan Schild, Jamie Anderson (World Premiere)*

The Peanut Butter Falcon

Directors/Screenwriters: Tyler Nilson, Michael Schwartz

A young man with Down syndrome runs away from the retirement home where he lives to chase his dream of becoming a professional wrestler. *Cast: Shia LaBeouf, Dakota Johnson, Zack Gottsagen, John Hawkes, Bruce Dern, Thomas Haden Church, Jon Bernthal, Jake "The Snake" Roberts, Mick Foley, Yelawolf. (World Premiere)*

Pink Wall (United Kingdom)

Director/Screenwriter: Tom Cullen

Six scenes. Six years. Six moments that shaped the relationship of Jenna and Leon. *Pink Wall* examines what defines us, the pressures of gender expectations, and our perpetual struggle between life and ambition. *Cast: Tatiana Maslany, Jay Duplass* (World Premiere)

Run This Town (Canada/U.S.)

Director/Screenwriter: Ricky Tollman

A political aide tries to corral his brash, outspoken boss when a young researcher at a newspaper gets word of a scandal that could make or break both of their careers. *Cast: Ben Platt, Nina Dobrev, Mena Massoud, Damian Lewis, Jennifer Ehle, Scott Speedman* (World Premiere)

Sword of Trust

Director: Lynn Shelton, Screenwriters: Lynn Shelton, Mike O'Brien

A curmudgeonly pawnshop owner and his man-child sidekick team up with an out of town couple to cash in on a family heirloom: a sword believed by alt history conspiracy nuts to be proof that the South won the Civil War. *Cast: Marc Maron, Jon Bass, Michaela Watkins, Jillian Bell, Toby Huss, Dan Bakkedahl, Tim Paul, Whitmer Thomas* (World Premiere)

Villains

Directors/Screenwriters: Dan Berk, Robert Olsen

When a pair of amateur criminals break into a suburban home, they stumble upon a dark secret and two sadistic homeowners who will do anything to keep it from getting out. *Cast: Bill Skarsgard, Maika Monroe, Kyra Sedgwick, Jeffrey Donovan* (World Premiere)

The Wall of Mexico (U.S., Mexico)

Directors: Zachary Cotler, Magdalena Zyzak, Screenwriter: Zachary Cotler

A young white handyman, hired by a wealthy Mexican-American family to upkeep their ranch, finds himself caught between disgruntled locals and the family's outrageously decadent daughters and discovers that something quite unusual is happening at the ranch. *Cast: Jackson Rathbone, Esai Morales, Marisol Sacramento, Carmela Zumbado, Alex Meneses, Moises Arias, with Mariel Hemingway, and Xander Berkeley* (World Premiere)

DOCUMENTARY SPOTLIGHT

Shining a light on new documentary features receiving their World, North American or U.S. premieres at SXSW.

Any One Of Us

Director: Fernando Villena

Through the inspiring journey of a recovering athlete, *Any One of Us* offers an unprecedented glimpse into the traumatic world of spinal cord injuries. (World Premiere)

Autonomy

Director: Alex Horwitz

A feature documentary about the emerging technology of self-driving vehicles and the big questions they raise: what is control and who do we become as we relinquish it to machines? (World Premiere)

Bellingcat — Truth in a Post-Truth World (Netherlands)

Director/Screenwriter: Hans Pool

Bellingcat — Truth in a Post-Truth World explores the exclusive world of Bellingcat, a highly-skilled and controversial collective of “citizen investigative journalists” dedicated to redefining breaking news in the 21st century. (North American Premiere)

Breakthrough

Director/Screenwriter: Bill Haney

Breakthrough tells the story of a renegade, blues-playing, Nobel prize-winning Texas scientist who created a cure for the world’s deadliest disease. Narrated by Woody Harrelson with a country-blues soundtrack. (World Premiere)

Building the American Dream

Director: Chelsea Hernandez

In Texas, construction workers face the deadliest conditions in the country. *Building the American Dream* follows three immigrant families who are rising up to seek justice and equality in an industry rife with exploitation. (World Premiere)

Community First, A Home for the Homeless

Director: Layton Blaylock

Community First, A Home for the Homeless, is a feature documentary about a totally unique concept for mitigating homelessness. Conceived and created in Austin, Texas, Community First! Village is truly transforming the lives of homeless people. (World Premiere)

Human Nature

Director: Adam Bolt, Screenwriters: Adam Bolt, Regina Sobel

A once-in-a-lifetime scientific discovery called CRISPR gives us the power to change what it means to be human. Now it’s up to us to decide how far we should go. (World Premiere)

I Love You, Now Die: The Commonwealth Vs. Michelle Carter

Director: Erin Lee Carr

Teen Michelle Carter's actions shocked a nation — but what really happened behind closed doors? This HBO special showcases the prosecution's point of view and alternately the defense's. Which side do you fall on? (World Premiere)

It Started As a Joke

Directors: Julie Smith Clem, Ken Druckerman

It Started As a Joke documents the decade-long run of the Eugene Mirman Comedy Festival. The film celebrates Eugene's unique brand of humor and reminds us of the healing properties of comedy — even in the most challenging of life's circumstances. (World Premiere)

Jump Shot

Director: Jacob Ryan Hamilton

Jump Shot uncovers the inspiring true story of Kenny Sailors, the developer of the modern day jump shot in basketball, and how he defined the game, but why the game never defined him. (World Premiere)

Kathy Griffin: A Hell of a Story

Director: Troy Miller, Screenwriter: Kathy Griffin

In her first ever comedy concert film, Comedian Kathy Griffin details the aftermath of lost work and being the subject of a federal investigation following the release of her now infamous photo depicting President Donald J Trump. (World Premiere)

Qualified

Director: Jenna Ricker

In the world of motorsports, the Indianapolis 500 has long been considered the only race. In May 1977, Janet Guthrie — the first woman to attempt Indy — earned herself a spot in the prestigious field of 33. (World Premiere)

Red Dog

Directors: Casey Pinkston, Luke Dick

In the early 1980's, the only family that toddler Luke knew were the strippers, bouncers, and outcasts that made OKC's rowdiest strip club their home. (World Premiere)

The River and the Wall

Director: Ben Masters

Five friends venture into the unknown wilds of the Texas borderlands to document the environment before a wall is built. As the wilderness gives way to the bustling Rio Grande Valley, they encounter the unexpected and enter uncharted emotional waters. (World Premiere)

Running with Beto

Director: David Modigliani

Follow Beto O'Rourke behind the scenes of his breakaway campaign to unseat Ted Cruz in the US Senate. With intimate access to the candidate, his family and team, the film captures Beto's rise from a virtual unknown to a national political sensation. (World Premiere)

Sunset over Mulholland Drive (Germany)

Director: Uli Gaulke, Screenwriters: Uli Gaulke, Marc Pitzke

The vital power of creativity — a behind the scenes look into Hollywood's retirement home. (North American Premiere)

VISIONS

Visions filmmakers are audacious, risk-taking artists in the new cinema landscape who demonstrate raw innovation and creativity in documentary and narrative filmmaking.

Becoming Leslie

Director: Tracy Frazier, Screenwriters: Sandra Guardado, Tracy Frazier

Becoming Leslie reveals the inner and bizarre world of Leslie Cochran, a cross-dressing homeless misfit who became the most iconic and unlikely civic symbol of Austin, Texas. (World Premiere)

The Garden Left Behind

Director: Flavio Alves, Screenwriters: John Rotondo, Flavio Alves

A Mexican trans woman struggles to build a life for herself as an undocumented immigrant in New York City. *Cast: Michael Madsen, Ed Asner, Carlie Guevara, Danny Flaherty, Alex Kruz, Anthony Abdo, Dawn Young, Tamara M. Williams, Miriam Cruz, Brock Yurich* (World Premiere)

J.R. "Bob" Dobbs and The Church of the SubGenius

Director: Sandy K Boone, Screenwriters: Sandy K Boone, Jason Wehling

This film explores the underground movement that has galvanized the imaginative, the artistic, the nerdy, even the deranged – to examine the simmering dystopia in their culture, and do absolutely nothing about it... except, maybe, poke fun at it all. (World Premiere)

Jezebel

Director/Screenwriter: Numa Perrier

A true story. In the last days of her mother's life, 19-year-old Tiffany crashes with five family members in a Las Vegas studio apartment. In order to make ends meet, her sister, a phone sex operator, introduces her to the world of fetish cam girls. *Cast: Tiffany Tenille, Numa Perrier, Stephen Barrington, Bobby Field, Brett Gelman, Rockwelle Dortch, Zoe Tyson, Dennis Jaffee, Jessa Zarubica* (World Premiere)

Leave the Bus Through the Broken Window (Hong Kong, U.S.)

Director: Andrew Hevia

A broken-hearted filmmaker navigates an unfamiliar city, an international art fair and his personal baggage in this intimate, playful and unexpectedly comedic documentary. (World Premiere)

One Man Dies a Million Times (U.S., Russia)

Director/Screenwriter: Jessica Oreck

Set in the future, a story about seeds and genetic diversity, about growth and decay, about love and war, and about hunger of all kinds. *Cast: Alyssa Lozovskaya, Maksim Blinov* (World Premiere)

Red 11

Director: Robert Rodriguez, Screenwriters: Robert Rodriguez, Racer Rodriguez

Rob, an independent filmmaker, loses his investor's money only to find out his investors are the Cartel. He checks himself into a medical research facility to pay off his debt, but quickly realizes it won't be that easy. *Cast: Roby Attal, Lauren Hatfield, Carlos Gallardo, Alejandro Rose Garcia, Rebel Rodriguez, Racer Rodriguez, Eman Esfandi, Steven Brudniak, Brently Heilbron, Pierce Foster Bailey* (World Premiere)

Romantic Comedy (United Kingdom)

Director: Elizabeth Sankey

Musician and writer Elizabeth Sankey investigates the past, present and future of romantic comedies, assisted by a chorus of critics, actors and filmmakers. (North American Premiere)

Sakawa (Belgium, Netherlands)

Director/Screenwriter: Ben Asamoah

What human story lies behind the phenomenon of 'internet fraud'? In *Sakawa* we meet three Ghanaian youngsters who, out of desperation, turn to internet scamming with the help of black magic. (North American Premiere)

Tito (Canada)

Director/Screenwriter: Grace Glowicki

A desperate man seeks refuge from the predators hunting him by befriending a cheerful intruder. *Cast: Grace Glowicki, Ben Petrie* (World Premiere)

EPISODIC PREMIERES

Presenting world premieres of prestige serials slated for release and accompanied by show-runners, directors and cast members featuring extended Q&As.

David Makes Man

Showrunner: Dee Harris-Lawrence, Screenwriter: Tarell Alvin McCraney

A richly layered, deeply personal work about a 14-year-old prodigy from the projects who is haunted by the death of his closest friend. Set in South Florida, the series is inspired by events in McCraney's own life, exploring childhood trauma and the power of imagination. *Cast: Akili McDowell, Nathaniel McIntyre, Isaiah Johnson, Ade Chike Torbert, Cayden Williams, Jordan Bolger, Travis Coles, Phylicia Rashad, Alana Arenas* (World Premiere)

NOS4A2

Showrunner/Screenwriter: Jami O'Brien

NOS4A2 introduces Vic, a young woman who has a supernatural ability to find lost things. This ability puts her on a collision course with the evil and immortal Charlie Manx, a supernatural villain who feeds off the souls of children. *Cast List: Zachary Quinto, Ashleigh Cummings, Jahkara J. Smith, Olafur Olafsson, Virginia Kull, Ebon Moss-Bachrach* (World Premiere)

Ramy

Showrunner: Bridget Bedard, Screenwriter: Ramy Youssef

Ramy, a first generation American Muslim on a spiritual journey, explores the challenges of being caught in between an Egyptian community that thinks life is moral a test, and a millennial generation that thinks life has no consequences. *Cast: Ramy Youssef, Mohammed Amer, Hiam Abbass, Amr Waked, May Calamawy, David Merheje, Laith Nakli, Steve Way* (World Premiere)

Shrill

Showrunner: Alexandra Rushfield, Screenwriters: Alexandra Rushfield, Lindy West and Aidy Bryant

From Executive Producers Lorne Michaels and Elizabeth Banks comes *Shrill*, a comedy series starring Aidy Bryant (*Saturday Night Live*) as Annie, a fat young woman who wants to change her life — but not her body. Annie is trying to start her career while juggling bad boyfriends, a sick parent, and a perfectionist boss. *Cast: Aidy Bryant, Lolly Adefope, Luka Jones, Ian Owens, John Cameron Mitchell* (World Premiere)

What We Do in the Shadows

Showrunners: Jemaine Clement, Paul Simms, Screenplay: Jemaine Clement

Based on the feature film of the same name from Jemaine Clement and Taika Waititi, FX's new comedy *What We Do in the Shadows* follows vampire roommates who have lived together for hundreds and hundreds of years. *Cast: Matt Berry, Kayvan Novak, Natasia Demetriou, Harvey Guillén, Mark Proksch* (World Premiere)

24 BEATS PER SECOND

Showcasing the sounds, culture and influence of music and musicians, with an emphasis on documentary.

Amazônia Groove

Director/Screenwriter: Bruno Murtinho

Leaving Belem and crossing much of the Para State Amazon region, its towns and riverside villages, *Amazônia Groove* reveals artists and their traditions, faith and mysticism, music and life that pound in the northern region of Brazil. (North American Premiere)

Bluebird

Director: Brian Loschiavo

Discover the origin stories of megastars like Garth Brooks and Taylor Swift while following emerging singer-songwriters as they chase their dreams inside The Bluebird Cafe, Nashville's accidental landmark that has altered the course of music history. (World Premiere)

The Boy Band Con: The Lou Pearlman Story

Director: Aaron Kunkel

The Boy Band Con: The Lou Pearlman Story charts the life and crimes of boy band impresario Lou Pearlman. The film tracks his life from discovering NSYNC and Backstreet Boys, to his perpetration of one of the largest ponzi schemes in US history. (World Premiere)

Boy Howdy! The Story of CREEM Magazine

Director: Scott Crawford, Screenwriters: Scott Crawford, Jaan Uhelszki

Ripping back the curtain on legendary rock rag *CREEM Magazine's* wild and disruptive newsroom; a dysfunctional band of unruly outsiders who weren't all that different from the artists they covered. (World Premiere)

Brainiac: Transmissions After Zero

Director: Eric Mahoney

The film explores the seminal 90's band Brainiac from Dayton, OH and its creative force Tim Taylor. Just days before signing a major record contract Taylor was killed in a bizarre auto accident leaving his family and bandmates to pick up the pieces. (World Premiere)

Carmine Street Guitars (Canada)

Director: Ron Mann, Screenwriter: Len Blum

Five Days in the life of Greenwich Village guitar shop Carmine Street Guitars.

The Chills: The Triumph and Tragedy of Martin Phillipps (New Zealand)

Director: Julia Parnell, Rob Curry

The story of lyrical genius, Martin Phillipps and his band, The Chills, is a cautionary tale, a triumph over tragedy, and a statement about the meaning of music in our lives. (World Premiere)

David Crosby: Remember My Name

Director: A.J. Eaton

David Crosby reflects on his life of music stardom, while forging new paths to relevancy at his age of 77 in this deeply personal documentary. (World Premiere)

Everybody's Everything

Directors: Sebastian Jones, Ramez Silyan

Everybody's Everything is the story of artist Lil Peep (Gustav Ahr) from his birth in Long Island and meteoric rise as a genre blending pop star & style icon, to his death due to an accidental opioid overdose in Arizona at just 21 years of age. (World Premiere)

The Gift: The Journey of Johnny Cash

Director: Thom Zimny, Screenwriter: Warren Zanes

Johnny Cash stands among the giants of 20th century American life. But his story remains tangled in mystery and myth. This documentary brings Cash the man out from behind the legend. (World Premiere)

Mr. Jimmy

Director: Peter Michael Dowd

Akio Sakurai has dedicated his life to honoring Jimmy Page. For 30 years he recreated vintage Zeppelin concerts note-for-note in small Tokyo clubs. Moving to L.A. to pursue his tribute dream, cultures clash and Akio's idyllic vision meets reality. (World Premiere)

Nothing Stays The Same: The Story of The Saxon Pub

Director: Jeff Sandmann, Screenwriters: Jeff Sandmann, Jeffrey Brown, Lisa Kay Pfannenstiel

Nothing Stays the Same celebrates the last 30 years of live music in Austin, while also examining the challenges faced by musicians and music venues in one of the fastest-growing cities in the country, all through the lens of the legendary Saxon Pub. (World Premiere)

Show Me The Picture: The Story of Jim Marshall (United Kingdom)

Director: Alfred George Bailey

Jim Marshall was a maverick with a camera. An outsider who captured the heights of Rock'N'Roll music and the seismic changes of an era, from the Beatles and Jimi Hendrix, to the civil rights movements and some of the most iconic moments of the 60's. (World Premiere)

Strange Negotiations

Director: Brandon Vedder

A documentary exploring the existential, artistic and family life of musician and former evangelical, David Bazan (Pedro The Lion), set against America's own crisis of faith highlighted during the 2016 presidential election. (World Premiere)

Teen Spirit (United Kingdom)

Director/Screenwriter: Max Minghella

The film follows Violet, a shy teenager who enters an international singing competition with the help of an unlikely mentor. Driven by a pop-fueled soundtrack, *Teen Spirit* is a visceral and stylish spin on the Cinderella story. *Cast: Elle Fanning, Zlatko Buricteent, Rebecca Hall* (U.S. Premiere)

Who Let The Dogs Out (Canada)

Director: Brent Hodge, Screenwriters: Brent Hodge, John Diemer, Jasleen Kaur

The origin story of the smash hit "Who Let the Dogs Out" goes back further than anyone could have imagined; steeped in legal battles, female empowerment and artist integrity, which beckons the question: will we ever know who let the dogs out? (World Premiere)

Wild Rose (United Kingdom)

Director: Tom Harper, Screenwriter: Nicole Taylor

A musician from Glasgow dreams of becoming a Nashville star. *Cast: Jessie Buckley, Julie Walters, Sophie Okonedo* (U.S. Premiere)

GLOBAL

A diverse selection of international filmmaking talent, featuring innovative narratives, artful documentaries, premieres, festival favorites and more.

Aleksi (Croatia, Serbia)

Director/Screenwriter: Barbara Vekarić

A character piece about funny and troubled girl in her 20s, forced to move back in with her overbearing family. *Cast: Tihana Lazović, Goran Marković, Sebastian Cavazza, Nataša Janjić, Jason Mann, Aljoša Vučović, Neda Arnerić, Leon Lučev* (North American Premiere)

Aurora (Finland)

Director/Screenwriter: Miia Tervo

Aurora, a commitment-phobic party animal, meets Iranian Amir one night at a hot-dog stand in Lapland. Amir is running from death and Aurora is running from love. They need each other in order to finally stop running. *Cast: Mimosa Willamo, Amir Escandari, Oona Airola, Hannu-Pekka Björkman, Miitta Sorvali* (North American Premiere)

Being Impossible (Venezuela, Columbia)

Director: Patricia Ortega, Screenwriters: Patricia Ortega, Enmanuel Chávez

A young woman discovers she was submitted to several surgeries to correct her intersexual body as a baby. She has to find her own self outside gender binaries. (North American Premiere)

Cachada: The Opportunity (El Salvador)

Director/Screenwriter: Marlén Viñayo

Five Salvadoran saleswomen want to take their cruel life stories to the stage. During the rehearsal process of their play, they'll discover themselves as victims and victimizers in a cycle of violence that has plagued their families for generations. (World Premiere)

Days of the Whale (Colombia)

Director/Screenwriter: Catalina Arroyave Restrepo

Two young graffiti artists of Medellín defy a criminal gang when they decide to paint the mural of a whale over a threat written in a wall. *Cast: Laura Tobón, David Escallón, Carlos Fonnegra, Christian Tappan, Julián Giraldo, Natalia Castaño, Margarita Restrepo* (World Premiere)

La Mala Noche (Ecuador, Mexico)

Director/Screenwriter: Gabriela Calvache

She is the perfect woman until she decides to be free. *Cast: Nöelle Schönwald, Cristian Mercado, Jaime Tamariz, Ariana Freire* (World Premiere)

Vai (New Zealand)

Directors: Nicole Whippy, 'Ofa-Ki-Levuka Guttenbeil-Likiliki, Matasila Freshwater, Amberley Jo Aumua, Mīria George, Marina Alofagia McCartney, Dianna Fuemana, Becs Arahanga

Vai is a portmanteau feature film by nine Polynesian directors and filmed on seven different Pacific islands. It is about the journey of empowerment through culture, over the lifetime of one woman, Vai. (World Premiere)

X&Y (Denmark, Sweden)

Director: Anna Odell, Screenwriters: Anna Odell, Jakob Beckman

Swedish director and visual artist, Anna Odell (*The Reunion*), conducts a social experiment in which she aims to challenge the gender roles that men and women have in the society of today. *Cast: Anna Odell, Mikael Persbrandt, Trine Dyrholm, Vera Vitali, Shanti Roney, Sofie Gråbøl, Jens Albinus, Thure Lindhardt* (North American Premiere)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Live soundtracks, cult re-issues & much more. Our Special Events section offers unusual, unexpected and unique one-off film events.

How Rednecks Saved Hollywood with Joe Bob Briggs

Director/Screenwriter: Joe Bob Briggs

America's drive-in movie critic uses 200 video clips and photos to tell the 500-year history of the American redneck in a multimedia comedy performance.

Love, Death & Robots

Showrunners: David Fincher, Tim Miller, Josh Donen, Jennifer Miller

Love, Death & Robots, an animated anthology series presented by Tim Miller and David Fincher, is a genre orgy of Not-Suitable-For-Mainstream shorts. (World Premiere)
Followed by extended Q&A with with Tim Miller and David Fincher.

Ra: Path of the Sun God

Director: Lesley Keen

Austin based electronic and experimental label Holodeck Records is partnering with Austin Film Society for a special live re-score screening of the 1990 animated film *Ra: Path of the Sun God*, a beautiful re-telling of one of Ancient Egypt's most famous myths.

Rebel Without A Crew: Filmmaking Master Class with Robert Rodriguez

Join Robert Rodriguez as he gives a master-class in micro-budget guerilla filmmaking, featuring behind the scenes moments from his new \$7,000 film, *RED 11*. The event will be followed by the World Premiere of *RED 11*.

Shangri-La (Work-in-Progress)

Directors: Morgan Neville, Jeff Malmberg

An intimate look at the creative process through the lens of legendary music producer Rick Rubin.

True Stories

Director: David Byrne, Screenwriters: Stephen Tobolowsky, Beth Henley, David Byrne
David Byrne's 1986 musical comedy, inspired by theater director Robert Wilson, tabloid newspapers, and filmmakers Robert Altman and Federico Fellini, remains a unique artistic vision that celebrates the singular citizens of a fictional Texas town. David Byrne will appear in-person for Q&A following screening of new 4K restoration.

Midnighters, Festival Favorites, Shorts, Episodic Pilot Competition, Virtual Cinema, Music Videos and Title Sequence Competition will be announced on Wednesday, February 6, 2019.

SXSW is proud to be an official qualifying festival for the Academy Awards® Short Film competition. The Best Narrative Short, Best Documentary Short and Best Animated Short winners become eligible for the Academy Awards.

Film stills, director headshots here: <https://filmmaker.sxsw.com/media>

Publicists for projects in this release: [2019 Film Publicist List](#)

About SXSW

SXSW dedicates itself to helping creative people achieve their goals. Founded in 1987 in Austin, Texas, SXSW is best known for its conference and festivals that celebrate the

convergence of the interactive, film, and music industries. An essential destination for global professionals, the event features sessions, showcases, screenings, exhibitions, and a variety of networking opportunities. SXSW proves that the most unexpected discoveries happen when diverse topics and people come together. SXSW 2019 will take place March 8-17, 2019. For more information, please visit sxsw.com. To register for the event, please visit sxsw.com/attend.

SXSW 2019 is sponsored by Capital One, Mercedes-Benz, Bud Light, and *The Austin Chronicle*.

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Press Credentials: We are accepting applications for 2019 SXSW Press Credentials at sxsw.com/press. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, February 6, 2019 and walk-up requests will not be granted. Media approved for credentials will receive access to the limited block of hotel rooms held for Press at the discounted conference rates. Rooms are sold on a 'first come, first served basis'. The earlier you apply, the better your accommodation selections.

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