



NEW YORK INT'L CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES COMPLETE 2018 SHORTS SLATE

Festival dates: Feb 23 - Mar 18, 2018

2018 SHORT FILM PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

OSCAR® NOMINEE FOR BEST ANIMATED SHORT FILM 2018: *NEGATIVE SPACE*
WORLD PREMIERE OF DREAMWORKS SHORTS' FIRST FILM: *BIRD KARMA*
INAUGURAL EDITION OF NEW SHORTS PROGRAM: *BOYS BEYOND BOUNDARIES*
OVER 50 PREMIERES, 24 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED, 50% WOMEN FILMMAKERS

NEW AND RETURNING JURY MEMBERS INCLUDE ZOE SALDANA, ROSIE PEREZ, TAIKA WAITITI, IRA SACHS, JULIANNA MARGULIES, SOFIA COPPOLA, UMA THURMAN, AND OTHERS

NEW YORK (February 6, 2018) – The Oscar-qualifying New York Int'l Children's Film Festival announces its complete 2018 short film lineup. Established in 1997, the acclaimed Festival is the nation's largest for children and teens and will present new animated, live action, documentary, and experimental shorts and features from approximately 30 countries from Feb 23 - Mar 18, 2018. Tickets are on sale at www.nyciff.org.

The Festival's signature short film programs showcase selections from around the globe and are curated from thousands of submissions, and celebrate the many international animators and filmmakers who dedicate themselves to the short film form as an art and craft unto itself. Among the Festival's most popular offerings, these programs represent a thoughtful, innovative range of the year's finest shorts for young audiences and are consistently sold-out in advance. Throughout the Festival, audiences are encouraged to vote on their favorite films at every screening, as Festival-goers of every age determine several of the 2018 award winners.

Alongside age-based **Shorts for Tots**, **Short Films One**, **Short Films Two**, and **Short Films Three**, the 2018 Festival will also premiere exciting, all-new lineups for its theme-driven shorts programs: **Heebie Jeebies**, an introduction to edgier genre films for kids, and **Girls' POV**, in which viewpoints from girls and women around the world are front and center. NYICFF is also proud to present the inaugural edition of pioneering shorts program **Boys Beyond Boundaries**. Taking a cue from *Girls' POV*, these shorts celebrate the exploration and expansion of what it means to be a boy—challenging a media landscape in which they are often as narrowly cast as girls. **Friends & Neighbors** returns for its second year, spotlighting Mexico and its Morelia International Film Festival with a showcase of shorts that innovatively highlight Latin American culture. The final shorts program added this year is **Animal Jubilee**, a salute to German filmmaker Julia Ocker, whose animal-centric animations have garnered acclaim and Festival Audience Awards in 2015 and 2016.

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“In the process of curating this year’s shorts selections, a thematic emerged: Find your story,” said Programming Director Maria-Christina Villaseñor. “NYICFF encourages our young audiences to discover stories that strongly resonate with them, but the films themselves also make clear that kids have the agency to craft their own stories and shape their futures. The art of film is a powerful tool of response... to growing up, to change, to an unsettling global moment. It’s so important for kids to see stories that mirror their experiences as well as ones that expand their world views. Thus we’re thrilled to share over 100 films that playfully and artfully expand the possibilities of animation and live action storytelling, cross cultures, and expand the dialogues around gender in new programs such as Boys Beyond Boundaries and Friends and Neighbors: Mexico, and throughout all of NYICFF’s long-standing programs.”

The Festival will culminate with the Best of the Fest Screening + Awards Party, which will include the announcement of the 2018 award winners and a special program of the Best of the Fest short films. The Festival is an Oscar-qualifying festival, and winners of its Jury Awards qualify for consideration for the 2019 Academy Awards in the Live Action and Animated Short Film categories. This year’s esteemed jury includes Zoe Saldana, Taika Waititi, Ira Sachs, Sofia Coppola, Uma Thurman, Rosie Perez, and Christine Vachon, who along with others comprise a total of 18 key industry and academic media leaders.

DATES: February 23 - March 18 – Full schedule available at www.nyciff.org

LOCATIONS: Alamo Drafthouse, Cinépolis Chelsea, IFC Center, Museum of the Moving Image, Scandinavia House, SVA Theatre

2018 SHORT FILM PROGRAMS

- Shorts For Tots (Ages 3-6)
- Short Films One (Ages 5-10)
- Short Films Two (Ages 8-14)
- Short Films Three (Ages 12+)
- Girls’ POV (Ages 10+)
- Boys Beyond Boundaries: (Ages 10+)
- Heebie Jeebies (Ages 10+)
- Friends and Neighbors: Mexico (Ages 7+)
- Animal Jubilee (All Ages)

Shorts for Tots

A BIT LOST

FRANCE - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Helene Ducrocq, 2017, 5 min

We all get turned around sometimes, but Little Owl will have to search the forest far and wide with a squirrely friend to get back to Mama in this colorful tale.

DARK, DARK WOODS

DENMARK - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Emile Gignoux & Mik Lovenbalch Kirchheiner, 2017, 6 min

Royal life’s not always so magnificent and can be tiring for a little one—so Maria trades in a tiara for a wilder kind of fun.

HENRIYETI: SOCK IT TO ME, YETI!

USA - EAST COAST PREMIERE

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Animation, Greg Walter, 2017, 2 min

Henriyeti—a little bit girl and a little bit Yeti—demonstrates that great matches go beyond appearances. It's just about teaming up and putting one fearless foot in front of the other.

THE HIGHWAY RAT

UK - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Jeroen Jaspaert, 2017, 30 min

Gluttony and greed are never good traits, as this ratty shake-down artist learns when the community of creatures finally fights back.

JAZZOO

SWEDEN - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Adam Marko Nord, 2017, 9 min

Koalas, hippos, elephants, and fish find their own groove in this melodic menagerie of a film, set to jazz sounds from the award-winning Oddjob quintet.

TINIEST MAN IN THE WORLD: CHOPSTICKS

FRANCE - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Juan Pablo Zaramella, 2016, 1 min

Scaling the food pyramid one delicious meal at a time is easy—unless you're bite-sized yourself!

TWO TRAMS

RUSSIA - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Svetlana Andrianova, 2016, 10 min

Devoted Klick and Tram work valiantly together to stay on time and on track in this lovely stop-motion city symphony.

Short Films One

ANIMATION (ACCORDING TO CHILDREN)

CANADA - US PREMIERE

Live Action/Animation, Daniela Monzon Leotaud, 2016, 2 min

In English and French with English subtitles

You'll get loads of imaginative and hilarious answers when you ask an eclectic group of kids: "What do you think animation is?"

BIG BLOCK SINGSONG: DUCK

Canada - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Warren Brown, 2017, 2 min

This is a quack attack. You better stand back.

FILL AND MOO

JAPAN - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Toshiko Hata, 2017, 7 min

A mushroom-like sprite dwells on the forest floor until his filmstrip cap pulls him magically through the fourth wall. In the colorful world of cinema, he makes a splash, *Singin' in the Rain* style!

FUNNY FISH

FRANCE - WORLD PREMIERE

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Animation, Krishna Nair, 2018, 6 min

Even schools of fish have stars and less-than-bright pupils, and when this one tries to help a new red creature who suddenly appears in their waters, it will take all of their collective smarts to figure it out!

GOKURŌSAMA

FRANCE - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Clémentine Frère, Aurore Gal, Yukiko Meignien, Anna Mertz, Robin Migliorelli & Romain Salvini, 2016, 7 min

From escalators to robotic vacuums, automation helps this slightly surreal Japanese megamall hum along. But sometimes a little human touch goes a long way...

THE HOUSE

CZECH REPUBLIC - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Veronika Zacharova, 2016, 6 min

Moving on is never easy—sometimes you've got to roll with the changes. Other times you have to chase your dreams, as the House and its inhabitants hilariously find out.

PARTY MOUTH

USA - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Hunter Gatherer, 2017, 2 min

We guarantee this catchy dubstep tune will stay in your head while you take your grooming game to a whole other level!

PAWS N CLAWS

USA - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Gabrielle Kash, 2017, 1 min

No need for guitar picks when you have claws! Shred in style with this shaggy band.

ROUFF

GERMANY - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Benjamin Brand, Johannes Engelhardt, Markus Eschrich, Johannes Lumer & Julius Rosen, 2017, 7 min

Any good artist will tell you that characters sometimes take on a life of their own, as resourceful *Rouff* demonstrates.

SHERBERT ROZENCRANTZ, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL

AUSTRALIA - WORLD PREMIERE

Live Action, Natalie van den Dungen, 2017, 11 min

Ten-year-old Milly is quite content in the company of her carrot-colored guinea pig, Sherbert. Why can't others understand that, she wonders, in this sweet sherbet-hued ode to the 1980s and finding your own path.

TIGER, TIGER

USA - WORLD THEATRICAL PREMIERE

Animation, Rhea Dadoo, 2017, 4 min

A family takes a wrong turn in the jungle and must summon all their calm to get out—but might that just be a Bengali tiger in the shadows?

UNDISCOVERED

USA - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Sara Litzenberger, 2017, 3 min

Sasquatch. Bigfoot. Call him what you will, if you can catch him on camera, that is, in this surprising look behind his elusive nature.

THE UNICORN

FRANCE/BELGIUM - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Remi Durin, 2016, 13 min

In French with English subtitles

Who wouldn't be entranced by this majestic creature? But don't forget the most noble thing of all is to respect its elusive nature.

Short Films Two

BANGO VASSIL

GERMANY/BULGARIA - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Milen Vitanov & Vera Trajanov, 2016, 9 min.

In Bulgarian with English subtitles

Two children share an altogether different kind of New Year's Eve, taking an icy journey where they must cross waters and cultures to make a fresh start.

BIRD KARMA

USA - WORLD PREMIERE

Animation, William Salazar, 2017, 5 min

In this World Premiere that kicks off Dreamworks' exciting new series of theatrical shorts, a leggy bird discovers that you get as good as you give.

FLY LADY FLY

USA

Live Action, Lucien Flores & Michela M. Smith, 2017, 12 min

Dani has almost cracked the code to set her drone on a very important mission. Will her dad Juan put up a roadblock or let her ideas soar?

HOME

SOUTH KOREA - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, MinYung Jung & KyoungJin Kim, 2017, 7 min

In Korean with English subtitles

One family learns you can't always judge a book by its cover—or a sheep by its skin—in this woolly stop-motion tale.

IF YOU FALL

CANADA

Animation, Tisha Deb Pillai, 2017, 6 min

Eight-year-old Lila takes on the daunting task of learning how to cycle, while she and her beloved Baba must also balance Mom's work, his art, and everyone learning to grow and let go.

IRON HANDS

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USA/CHINA

Live Action, Johnson Cheung, 2017, 11 min

In Mandarin with English subtitles

As a 12-year-old preps for her final try-out for the traditionally all-boys Chinese youth Olympic weightlifting team, she gets some valuable pointers from a surprising source.

SAMEDI CINEMA

SENEGAL - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Live Action, Mamadou Dia, 2016, 11 min

In Fulani, Wolof & French with English subtitles

Two young film lovers, Baba and Sembene, pool skills and resources to raise enough cash to see a movie at their local cinema before it closes its doors forever.

THE THEORY OF SUNSET

RUSSIA - US PREMIERE

Animation, Roman Sokolov, 2017, 9 min

Deep at night, a dedicated cyclist traverses the wintry forest. The challenge: make sure this new day gets off to a fresh and timely start.

ZARA AND THE OTHERS: GORILLA BRAINS FOR DINNER

NORWAY - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Nils Johan Lund & Bjørn Sortland, 2017, 8 min

In Norwegian with English subtitles

Zara's a little self-conscious about sharing her unusual family with her friends. But dinnertime is here, and why not make the playdate last just a little longer?

Short Films Three

THE FANCIES (EPISODES 1 & 2)

USA - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Stephen Neary, 2017, 4 min

The Fancies are brainless, peaceful prehistoric fungi with hollow bodies and an ability to 'eat' through their feet. They enjoy singing, dancing, and living happily in an isolated place called Fancytown.

FIRED UP!

COLOMBIA/ISRAEL/USA - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Dan Fipphen & Elyse Kelly, 2017, 4 min

Never underestimate the power of one voice to change things, as wittily illustrated by 14 artists from around the world in this animated speech by Barack Obama.

THE GENEVA CONVENTION

FRANCE - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Live Action, Benoît Martin, 2016, 15 min

In French with English subtitles

When tensions run high at the school bus stop, a budding diplomat steps up to broker peace.

NEGATIVE SPACE

FRANCE

Animation, Max Porter & Ru Kuwahata, 2017, 6 min

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The art of packing bags—and memories—is beautifully examined in this 2018 Oscar® nominee for Best Animated Short Film.

OLD BEAR

FRANCE

Animation, François Heiser, 2016, 11 min

A girl and a bear share an apartment, and, like most roommates, they try to balance their own quirky habits to make harmony. But they may need to reexamine what's polite and what's way too wild in order to become true friends.

POLES APART

UK - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Stop Motion Animation, Paloma Baeza, 2017, 12 min

Nanuk, a tough-talking polar bear, meets Aklak, an enthusiastic grizzly, when he encroaches on her own dwindling turf, and she's understandably a little less than patient with his clueless cheer.

SCENT OF GERANIUM

USA

Animation, Naghmeh Frazaneh, 2016, 5 min

When you are new to a country, even the simplest things can trip you up, until you learn that blossoming on your own time is just fine.

TIS

FRANCE - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Chloë Lesueur, 2016, 9 min

Are you a cut-out, or will you define the contours of your character and shape your own path?

Girls' POV

Each film in the Girls' POV program features a strong female lead or an issue faced by girls around the world.

BLACK BARBIE

GHANA - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Comfort Arthur, 2016, 4 min

Confronting limited mainstream media depictions, this artful animation poetically explores the filmmaker's challenges with self-acceptance growing up.

FLIP THE RECORD

PHILIPPINES/USA

Live Action, Marie Jamora, 2016, 15 min

It's 1984, the dawn of the DJ era, and Vanessa's had it with piano lessons and the constraints of her conservative Filipino-American family. Slowly, on the sly, she sets about learning how to scratch on her older brother's turntables and spins herself a new persona.

GAME

USA

Live Action, Jeannie Donohoe, 2017, 15 min

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A.J. Green, a new kid in town, shows up at boys' basketball tryouts and instantly makes an impression. Can it be sustained?

SAFIA'S SUMMER

NETHERLANDS

Documentary, Els Van Driel, 2016, 15 min

In Dutch with English subtitles

Displaced from her home in Libya, Safia must take on the tricky balancing act of growing up without knowing where she and her family will settle.

SCRAMBLED

NETHERLANDS - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Bastiaan Schravendeel, 2017, 7 min

Whenever Esra misses her train, her go-to for killing time is playing a game on her smartphone. But soon, a classic Cube challenges her attention.

SLEEPOVER

SPAIN - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Live Action, Susana Casares, 2016, 14 min

In Spanish with English subtitles

Silvia throws a sleepover party, but things can be complicated when your house doesn't quite match what they think of as a home.

SUPERPERSON

AUSTRALIA

Animation, Philip Watts, 2017, 2min

A citizen needs rescuing. Luckily, there's a superhero on hand who just needs somewhere to get into costume...

TOUGH

UK

Animation, Jennifer Zheng, 2016, 5 min

English and Mandarin with English subtitles

A Chinese mother and her British-born daughter trade perspectives as they look back in order to move forward in this culturally-nuanced story.

Boys Beyond Boundaries

These films expand and explore perspectives on what it means to be a boy.

ALBERT & AIDAN SYKES

USA

Animated Documentary, Richard O'Connor, 2016, 3 min

Aidan starts this poignant animated interview with his dad by asking: "Do you remember what was going through your head when you first saw me?"

CAT DAYS

GERMANY/JAPAN - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Jon Frickey, 2018, 11 min

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In Japanese with English subtitles

Jiro feels sick. When his father takes him to the doctor, tests reveal it's nothing serious, and yet make for surprising news about Jiro. But who says you can't challenge the results?

THE DAY I BEAT THE SKY

FRANCE - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Hugues Valin, 2016, 3 min

In French with English subtitles

One boy finds a creative way to tap into his anxieties and transform them into art.

HELLO SALAAM

NETHERLANDS - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Documentary, Kim Brand, 2017, 15 min

In Dutch and Arabic with English subtitles

Two boys from Holland are headed on a big journey, traveling to a refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos where their mothers volunteer. How will the boys bridge such big differences in language, culture, and experiences to make friends and build meaningful bonds?

THE KING OF TWIRL

NETHERLANDS - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Documentary, Xander de Boer, 2016, 16 min

In Dutch with English subtitles

This dance-documentary follows 11-year-old Janero as he pursues competitive twirling and faces down both physical challenges and stereotypes about what most consider a girls' sport.

THE NUMBER ON GREAT-GRANDPA'S ARM

USA - WORLD THEATRICAL PREMIERE

Documentary, Amy Schatz, 2018, 19 min

Mixing documentary footage and hand-painted animation, this gentle yet powerful family story centers on Elliott's connection to his beloved great-grandfather Jack, an Auschwitz survivor. Jack relates his important history and forges an indelible, tender bond between generations.

PRINCESS

GERMANY - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Live Action, Karsten Dahlem, 2017, 16 min

In German with English subtitles

Behind Ole's harsh exterior is a kid who misses his mom and feels misfit. Fortunately, his schoolmate Davie is a lot tougher than she looks, and she uses all her strength to push back against his bullying to model another way for him.

SCRAP DOLLS

USA - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Live Action, Aúde Cuenod, 2017, 14 min

On the east side of Detroit, an 11-year-old boy discovers the transformative power of art over loss when he happens upon a self-fashioned conjurer of abandoned objects.

Heebie Jeebies

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Spooky, silly, and always off the beaten path, these films reward quirky-minded audiences with unique tales that go beyond the expected.

THE BURDEN

SWEDEN

Animation, Niki Lindroth von Bahr, 2017, 14 min

In Swedish with English subtitles

Upbeat, downbeat, and quirky beyond belief, this unique stop-motion short is filled with the unexpected, including catchy post-apocalyptic tap dancing, telemarketing, and auto-tune numbers that rattle your norm to the core.

DENTURES OF DEATH

UK - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Live Action, Elias Sommer, 2017, 14 min

When Tommy's parents go out, he's forced to spend a nervous night in the company of his very old great-uncle. With Tommy losing his first tooth and Great Uncle losing his last, all signs point to a harrowing conclusion in this comically dark tale of youthful misunderstanding.

THE DINNER PARTY

SWEDEN

Animation, Jacob Stålhammar, 2017, 6 min

In Swedish with English subtitles

A mysterious host invites guests to a dinner party. However, his strange friends have even stranger eating habits...

ELLE

USA - THEATRICAL PREMIERE

Animation, Wanjun Bei, 2016, 3 min

What's a monster—eerie, creepy, not a "normal" creature? *Ellee* challenges us to rethink difference and test our lenses.

ETERNAL HUNTING GROUNDS

NORWAY - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Elin Grimstad, 2016, 20 min

Two children play on an island. Their favorite game: to search under stones, on the beach, in the mud, and in the fields, hunting for creatures that have given up the ghost.

NOTES ON MONSTROPEDIA

JAPAN - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Koji Yamamura, 2017, 6 min

French and English text

A monsterologist in Medieval Europe crafts an intricate, illuminated bestiary. The result is a comprehensive monster archive, searchable by artful turns of phrase and set to the slightly creepy if classical strains of a harpsichord.

SHOCK THERAPY

UK - NEW YORK PREMIERE

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Animation, Matthieu Landour & Bali Engel, 2017, 7 min

Spiders, snakes, monsters... You name it, Jim's afraid of it. One day, he bravely decides to try a kind of shock therapy—facing your fears directly—by inviting the whole load of them into his home.

TOTEMS

FRANCE/BELGIUM - NEW YORK PREMIERE

Animation, Paul Jadoul, 2016, 8 min

A lumberjack is working in the forest when a tree falls on him and traps him. In his plight, his inner animal is awakened...

TWO SNAILS SET OFF

FRANCE - NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Jean-Pierre Jeunet & Romain Segaud, 2017, 3 min

A star-studded French voice cast joins in on this witty walk, or rather creep, to the dark side, which takes as its starting point a classic poem by Jacques Prévert.

Friends & Neighbors: Mexico

NYICFF welcomes Mexico's Morelia International Film Festival, who recently celebrated their 15th anniversary, with a co-programmed showcase that innovatively highlights Latin American culture and demonstrate that art has no borders.

BZZZ

MEXICO

Animation, Anna Cetti & Guicho Nuñez, 2017, 4 min

A little girl recognizes that buzz and hum are essential to all life in this cross-pollinating tale.

CREATIVITY DOES NOT RECOGNIZE WALLS

MEXICO - US PREMIERE

Animation, Fernando Campos, 2017, 2 min

Art knows no boundaries, as this lovely animation commissioned by the Pixelatl Festival seeks to show us.

ELENA AND THE SHADOWS

MEXICO

Animation, César Cepeda, 2016, 7 min

Elena's old neighborhood is empty and lonely until Félix enters her orbit and shows her how to access other universes.

FAR FROM HOME

MEXICO

Live Action, Mayra Veliz, 2016, 13 min

In Spanish with English subtitles

Risa is a Japanese teenager on a visit to Mexico. When she ends up lost in a restaurant in the middle of nowhere, a local boy tries to help her find her way.

A HOLE

MEXICO

Animation, Maribel Suarez, 2016, 5 min

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In Spanish with English subtitles

A little girl longs for a playmate in the garden. Her efforts go unnoticed—until they finally take root.

LUCY VS. THE LIMITS OF VOICE

MEXICO

Live Action, Mónica Herrera, 2012, 10 min

In Spanish with English subtitles

Lucy wonders if each person is born with a fixed number of words to expend in their lifetime and if that could be the reason why her grandpa stopped talking.

MATEO AND THE CINEMA

MEXICO - US PREMIERE

Animation, Luis Felipe Hernández Alanis, 2015, 4 min

In Spanish with English subtitles

A young boy gets help from his family committed to seeing his artistic talents gloriously unfold.

THE PIÑATA KING

UK - WORLD THEATRICAL PREMIERE

Documentary, Charlie Kwai, Chris Lee & Paul Storrie, 2017, 3 min

In Spanish with English subtitles

Over 50 years ago, on the outskirts of Mexico City, a family began making and selling piñatas to the local community. Now the whole town takes part in the tradition, in this colorful documentary demonstrating the art and quirks of the craft.

PIÑATA LOVE

USA - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Live Action, Joel Ramirez, 2017, 6 min

Mexican country craft meets-cute with NYC urban grit in this tale of a near-perfect mûche.

RAIN IN THE EYES

MEXICO

Animation, Rita Basulto, 2013, 9 min

In this fantastical story set amidst hides tough and tender, seven-year-old Sofía recalls the day she fractured her arm while being chased through the forest.

TINTICO'S AFTERNOONS

MEXICO

Animation, Alejandro García Caballero, 2012, 11 min

Under the beautiful Quebrada cliff in Acapulco, a group of mosquitoes crazy for tropical music desperately tries to bring happiness back into a rumba director's life.

Animal Jubilee

NYICFF presents a new program of shorts by Julia Ocker, perennial Festival favorite and Audience Award winner (NYICFF 2015-16). *All films are Animation by Julia Ocker (GERMANY) unless otherwise noted.*

ANGLERFISH

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

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2018, 4 min

It's bedtime for this anglerfish. When the lights go out, spooky shadows keep him from sleeping until help is reeled in.

BAT

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2018, 4 min

Whether hanging out all night or squawking all day, there's no doubt that noisy neighbors can drive you batty!

CRAB

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2018, 4 min

One's slap is another's tickle, but the crab and walrus work it out in a pinch, or two...

CROCODILE

2016, 4 min

A relaxing evening on the couch turns into a noshing nuisance for one peckish croc.

EARTHWORM

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2017, 4 min

You've hit pay dirt if you really believe that two heads are better than one.

ELEPHANT

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2018, 4 min

With an endlessly trumpeting trunk, this elephant's cool is about to blow.

I WANT TO LIVE IN THE ZOO

RUSSIA

Animation, Evgenia Golubeva, 2017, 6 min

At home you've got to clean up your room, clear your plate, and finish up homework. Wouldn't it be much more fun to relax and hang with some buddies at the zoo?

PENGUIN

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2017, 4 min

You'll go over the moon and under the ice for this brand new short.

SLOTH

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2017, 4 min

A slow groove just may be the answer when your energy is low.

SLUG

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2018, 4 min

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A shell of what he aims to be, this slug has made his own bed. Now he needs to figure out how to lay in it.

SNAKE

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

2018, 4 min

Practicing yogis go from sun salutation to the pits in this entangling laugh of a class.

ZEBRA

Julia Ocker, 2013, 4 min

Feeling snappy in stripes is great, but it's ok to embrace other patterns as well.

JURY:

- **John Canemaker** – Academy Award®-winning animator (*The Moon and the Son*)
- **Sofia Coppola** – Academy Award®-winning writer, director, and producer (*The Beguiled*, *Lost in Translation*)
- **Geena Davis** – Academy Award®-winning actor and Founder, the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media
- **Hope Davis** – Tony and Emmy Award-nominated actor (*About Schmidt*, *Captain America: Civil War*)
- **Madeleine DiNonno** – CEO, Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media and Chair of the Board of Directors for the Television Academy Foundation
- **Julianna Margulies** – Golden Globe, Emmy, and SAG Award-winning actor and producer (*ER*, *The Good Wife*)
- **Lynne McVeigh** – Associate Professor of Children's Media at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts
- **Matthew Modine** – Award-winning actor (*Full Metal Jacket*, *The Dark Knight Rises*)
- **Mark Osborne** – Academy Award®-nominated director, writer, producer, and animator (*Kung Fu Panda*, *The Little Prince*)
- **Richard Peña** – Director Emeritus New York Film Festival, Columbia University Professor of Film Studies
- **Rosie Perez** – Academy Award®-nominated actor, activist, and choreographer (*Do the Right Thing*, *Fearless*)
- **Ira Sachs** – Award-winning filmmaker (*Little Men*, *Love is Strange*) and founder and Executive Director of Queer/Art
- **Zoe Saldana** – Award-winning actor, producer/director, and entrepreneur (*Guardians of the Galaxy*, *Avatar*)
- **Uma Thurman** – Academy Award®-nominated actor (*Pulp Fiction*, *Kill Bill vol. 1 & 2*) and Board member, Room to Grow children's foundation
- **Christine Vachon** – Award-winning filmmaker (*Boys Don't Cry*, *Kill Your Darlings*)
- **Gus Van Sant** – Academy Award®-nominated director (*Good Will Hunting*, *Promised Land*)
- **Taika Waititi** – Academy Award®-nominated director (*Two Cars One Night*, *Thor: Ragnarok*)
- **Jeffrey Wright** – Award-winning actor (*Basquiat*, *Westworld*)

ABOUT NEW YORK INT'L CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL

Distinguished by its unique mission and high-caliber programming, New York International Children's Film Festival was founded in 1997 to support the creation and dissemination of thoughtful, provocative, and intelligent film for young people ages 3-18. Celebrating its 21st year, the 2018 Festival takes place February 23 - March 18. The Festival's dynamic film program, drawn from roughly 2,500 international submissions, boasts over 120 short and feature films, filmmaker Q&As, retrospective programs, parties, premieres, audience voting, and a Closing Night celebration. NYICFF is an Academy Award® qualifying festival, one of only two children's film festivals in the country,

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with the Festival's esteemed jury selecting the qualifying films. The largest film festival for children and teens in North America, NYICFF cultivates an appreciation for the arts, encourages active, discerning viewing, and stimulates lively discussion among peers, families, and the film community.

Goldfish® Colors is a Presenting Sponsor of the 2018 Festival. New York International Children's Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, with support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, a Humanities New York Action Grant, and a grant from the NYC & Company Foundation. Girls' POV programming is supported by EILEEN FISHER and Sony USA Foundation. Film-Ed is supported by AMC Cares.

In addition to presenting the annual event, New York International Children's Film Festival is a multifaceted arts organization that offers year-round engagement, including a nationwide touring program, filmmaking camps, and Film-Ed educational field trips for public and private schools, with free or reduced cost school programs offering equal access to the art of film for all.

NYICFF 2018 information:
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