Writers In Treatment Presents:



Quad Cinema

34 W. 13th St., New York, NY 10011 www.reelrecoveryfilmfestival.org

Writers In Treatment

P.O Box 1745, Studio City, CA 91614 · (818) 762-0461

Mission

Writers In Treatment helps individuals suffering from alcoholism, drug addiction and other self-destructive behaviors get treatment for their disease. We produce educational and cultural events that celebrate recovery, reduce the stigma of addiction and the anonymity of recovery.

Vision

Rebuilding one's life need not be a solitary effort. Our vision is to provide the treatment and support individuals need to take their first step toward recovery. We believe it's important for people in recovery and those on the cusp, to have entertaining and culturally stimulating events that inspire enthusiasm for clean and sober living.

About Us

Writers In Treatment is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization grounded in recovery and the arts. W.I.T.'s primary purpose is to save lives by providing scholarships for treatment, as the best first-step solution for addiction. We also offer referrals to local and national treatment providers. Our program is funded by individual contributions and sponsored events.

Board of Directors:

Leonard Buschel Founder, Chairman
Robert Downey Sr. Vice Chairman
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Paul Moen Darren Kavinoky

www.writersintreatment.org

REEL Recovery Film Festival - 2014

Director: Leonard Buschel Art/Design/Web: Chris Lukather



Upcoming REEL Recovery Film Festivals

Los AngelesOct. 24-30, 2014Laemmle NoHoNorth Hollywood, CADelray BeachNov. 7-9, 2014Movies of DelrayDelray Beach, FL

Vancouver, BC Dec. 2014 TBD Vancouver, BC

Denver May 29-31, 2015 SIE Film Center Denver, CO















FRIDAY

1_{PM} The Struggle

(1931) Before THE LOST WEEKEND. Before ON THE BOWERY. Before DAYS OF WINE AND ROSES, there was THE STRUGGLE. Pioneering filmmaker D.W. Griffith's final feature depicts, in glorious black & white, the gritty story of a real alcoholic. This unwavering and non-judgmental view of addiction shows how employers, family members and society dealt with a man and his alcoholism before it was recognized as a disease. The entire audience will qualify for Alanon after seeing this film. Starring Hal Skelly, Zita Johnson and Evelyn Baldwin. Director: D.W. Griffith. 87 Minutes

3PM The Fix (Special Screening)

(2013) Junior, a young father trying to turn his life around after years of heroin addiction, joins forces with a group of fellow hepatitis-C-infected former junkies in the Bronx to fight the disease. The Fix explores the concept of storytelling as an instrument of change and gives a powerful voice to typically silenced and marginalized members of society. Director: Laura Naylor. 70 minutes IN PERSON: Director Laura Naylor and special guests

5_{PM} Maybe Me

(2014) Bobby wakes up from a dream in Washington Square Park haunted by the loss of his friends and heroes, and encounters his own near death experience and subsequent challenges of survival. *Maybe Me* is an experimental short film inspired by those iconic artists and local addicts who have tragically died way too young. Director: Robert Rabinovitz. 13 minutes IN PERSON: Robert Rabinovitz

6_{PM} Opening Reception

GRAPE VINE RESTAURANT AT THE JADE HOTEL

52 West 13th Street (a few doors down from The Quad) NYC, NY 10011 Join us for strong coffee and delectable treats.

8_{PM} **Grace** (New York Premiere)

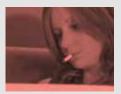
(2014) Gracie knows hangovers. She's intimately acquainted with them. This time she woke up, half-undressed, on a Florida beach, 1100 miles from home. Suspicious and distrustful of everyone, including a café owner with a troubled history of her own, Gracie prefers the relief of alcohol - which had always worked for her. But when she's arrested for public drunkenness, Gracie is given a choice of jail or 90 meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. Starring Annika Marks, Sharon Lawrence, Cindy Joy Goggins. Director: Heath Jones. 92 minutes IN PERSON: Producer Sylvia Caminer, Creator/Star/Ex.Producer Cindy Joy Goggins

10_{PM} Stories Forlorn

(2014) **HONG KONG** Struggling to find answers to his brother's questionable suicide, a 16-year-old aspiring writer is lured into the underground world of Hong Kong. As the Chinese march their way over the border during the last summer under British rule in 1997, this coming of age drama and thriller tells a story about teens, drug addiction, naiveté and love. Starring Angie Palmer, Glen Chin, Jason Tobin, and Oliver Williams. Director: Uri L. Schwarz & Jason A. Sankey. 85 minutes

"A fresh, eye-opening voice and perspective, rarely, if ever examined in HK cinema" —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER















SATURDAY

1:00 PM Saturday Shorts

Easy Silence

(2014) Set in the backwoods of the American South, Easy Silence is the tale of Jade Sway, a young woman who suddenly finds herself a single mother after the father of her infant son is killed in action. As her addictions and demons threaten the future of both Jade and her baby, she must decide whether she can overcome the person she was in order to become the mother her child deserves. Starring, Ashley Reign, Michelle Bernard, James Haven. John Henry Whitaker and Max Randleman. Director: Stephen Anthony Bailey. 28 minutes IN PERSON: Ashley Reign

Maybe Me

(2014) Bobby wakes up from a dream in Washington Square Park haunted by the loss of his friends and heroes, and encounters his own near death experience and subsequent challenges of survival. *Maybe Me* is an experimental short film inspired by those iconic artists and local addicts who have tragically died way too young. Director: Robert Rabinovitz. 13 minutes

No Real Than You Are

(2014) A brilliant fictional short film unraveling the mystic connection among the legend of Sara De Soto, the legacy of William Whitaker, and the present day tragedies of the Oxycodone epidemic. We see the world through the eyes of 18-year-old Sasha Whitaker as she spirals into an opiate addiction with her lover. Starring Steve McAllister, Jaime Day and David Abolafia. Director: Vincent Dale. 20 minutes

Return

(2014) **IRAN** This inventive and compelling animated short tells the story of an athlete who lost everything to addiction and uses his love of boxing to turn his life around. "Many years ago when I was a kid my uncle took me to a local boxing club and that made me interested in boxing," said director Yahya Ghobadi. "Boxing is very attractive, it could release my energy instead of using drugs!" Director: Yahya Ghobadi. 14 minutes

Serenity Prayer

(2014) This short film depicts an alcoholic guided by the Serenity Prayer embarks on a journey from addiction to sobriety in an effort to save his relationship with his son. Director: Alex Miranda. 4 minutes

New Life

(2014) New Life: Stories of Addiction and Recovery is animated short in which six people share their journey from addiction to their new lives in recovery. Director: Matthew Roth; Producer: Alex Miranda. 2 minutes

3:00 pm Saturday Afternoon

The Holding Cell

(2014) The story of one teenage girl's free-fall into the harrowing world of prescription drug abuse and addiction. Based on true stories of teenagers in Sarasota, Florida, the movie begins as Skylar is dragged kicking and screaming into the county jail. She spends the night locked in a holding cell and relives her past and dangerous romance with a drug dealer and tries to untangle the web of her darkest days. Starring Christina Norcia, Tsadok Porter and Jack Polubinski, Jr. Director: KT Curran. 34 minutes

IN PERSON: Director KT Curran, Exec. Producer Lisa Brandy, Supporting Actor Frankie LaPace

Shorts on a Saturday Afternoon

The B Word **













Saturday Afternoon - Continued

The B Word

(2014) The B Word depicts two sisters on conflicting paths, both leading to a destructive cycle of fear, blame and uncertainty. The story is set around the disease of Bulimia Nervosa and it's debilitating factors that transform a sisterly bond into one of dysfunction and toxicity. This short takes on the growing epidemic in the African-American community that has yet to be addressed on a grand scale. Starring Lamon Archey, Desirae Whitfield, Shema Jones-Alamin and Shayla Hale. Writers: Nakisha Celistan, Nakisha Celistan, Directed by Jermaine Spencer. 19 minutes

Sweet Dreams

(2013) **IRELAND** Based on the hit one-woman play, this true story portrays a day in the life of Paula Richards who works as a prostitute in order to feed her drug addiction. She battles between the love for her daughter and the harsh reality of her tragic circumstances which will either give her the incentive to turn her life around or destroy all chances of a relationship with her daughter. Starring: Suzanne Lakes; Director: Rachel Sian O'Connor. 15 minutes **TRIGGER WARNING-Graphic scenes of drug use.**

5:00 PM Saturday Shorts Neal Hemphill Trilogy:

Top of the World — Two men, carrying two beers, knock on a stranger's door. He summons them to come. Little does he know what he started. With Neal Hemphill, Pete Bradbury and Nabil Vinas. Director: Ela Thier. Producers: Neal Hemphill and Christine Ness. 13 minutes

Dressed — A wealthy woman makes a phone call. A young man, a world away, answers. The only way they can communicate is by speaking the Language of the Heart.. With Pat Nesbit and Nabil Vinas. Writer/Director: Neal Hemphill. Producers: Neal Hemphill and Laura Durkay. 7 minutes

Julien — Death is not a reason. It's an excuse. And it's up to you. Written and. With Virginia Bryan and Neal Hemphill. Writer/Director: Neal Hemphill. Producers: Neal Hemphill and Laura Durkay. 8 minutes

How to Touch a Hot Stove

(2014) featuring narration by actor John Turturro and exclusive interviews with Nobel Prize laureate Eric Kandel, Oliver Sacks and others. How to Touch a Hot Stove is a film that points to complex variations in human experience and differences in thinking, feeling, and perception; identifies the new civil rights movement that has emerged to combat the marginalization of those with 'mental disorders' and explores why that movement is more complex than other civil rights movements. It challenges audiences to go 'beyond the movement' and make a difference. Director: Sheryll Franko. 23 Minutes

7:30_{PM} The Wisdom to Know the Difference

(2014) Best Picture Jury Award and Best Picture Audience Award at the San Antonio Film Festival, and Best Picture, Best Editing, Best Original Song and Best Supporting Actress at the Long Beach International Film Festival. Wisdom is a story about a man's journey to bring his sobriety full circle and help a young Latino girl lick a serious drug problem in an unorthodox manner. In this quest, Bob disregards the tremendous dangers he encounters and puts his own life at risk at the request of old friend. Starring Daniel Baldwin, Lou Diamond Phillips, Mayra Leal. Writer/Director: Daniel Baldwin. 114 minutes IN PERSON: Special Guests

10_{PM} Meth Head

(2013) In his 30's—stuck in a dead end job, engaged to a lover who is more successful than he, Kyle Peoples is also saddled with a family that doesn't get him at all. When an innocent night of partying leads to a new family of friends and debauchery, Kyle sees an opportunity to escape from his reality. But Kyle's new friendship with Maia and Dusty, and the trio's love of crystal meth eventually cost him everything. When he finally bottoms out, he must make the choice: life or meth. Starring Lukas Haas, Necar Zadegan, Blake Berris. Director: Jane Clark. 108 minutes

TRIGGER WARNING: Graphic scenes of sex, and drug use













Philip Seymour Hoffman Tribute Day (with an homage to Robin Williams) Host: Robert Downey. Sr.

1 PM Boogie Nights

(1997) A young man working in a nightclub, is discovered by porn director Jack Horner, and is renamed Dirk Diggler. His awesome "talent" propels him to top of the porno industry. But when the 1980s arrive, Dirk and his colleagues must cope with a new era of sex, cocaine and overdoes. Starring Mark Wahlberg, Julianne Moore, Heather Graham and Philip Seymour Hoffman. Director: Paul Thomas Anderson. 155 Minutes

4_{PM} Owning Mahowny

(2003) Philip Seymour Hoffman stars as a bank manager with a very serious gambling problem and access to a multi-million dollar bank account. Based on the true story of the largest, one-man bank fraud cases in Canadian history, Mahowny takes an unflinching gaze in to a window of addiction, the sort not often portrayed honestly in films. Also starring Minnie Driver and John Hurt. Director: Richard Kwientniowski. 104 Minutes

6_{PM} Capote

(2005) Philip Seymour Hoffman won the Oscar for his extraordinary portrayal of Truman Capote. While covering a murder story, Capote, drink perpetually in hand, finds he is troubled and fascinated by the event. The problem is that the story he wants to tell will suffer unless he can learn the truth of the circumstances surrounding the crime. Over another martini, he also struggles with the unanswerable question of what compels him to be so intrigued by it all. If you never seen this film is a theater, you are for a rare treat. Also starring Clifton Collins, Jr., Catherine Keener and Chris Cooper. Director: Bennett Miller. 114 Minutes

8:30_{PM} Patch Adams

(1998) Hunter Adams (**Robin Williams**) was a troubled man who voluntarily committed himself to a mental institution and finds that helping his fellow inmates gives him a purpose. Inspired, he leaves the asylum and vows to become a doctor. What he finds at med school is a sickeningly callous philosophy that advocates an arms-length attitude to patients without addressing their emotional needs. "Patch" Adams is determined to find a better way to help them, although the consequences of his defiance of rules and authority are severe. Also starring **Philip Seymour Hoffman** and Monica Potter. Director: Tom Shadyac. 115 Minutes

www.REELRecoveryFilmFestival.org



















1PM Do you Think I'm Pretty?

(2014) We see a young woman curled up on a metal chair with her face buried in her arm; a man asks: "Do you know why you're here?" Angel Stone's story begins with a turbulent relationship with a stranger who rescued her from an alley, and ends with her imprisoned in this room. Low self esteem and insecurity leads Angel to ask a question filled with doubt and pain fueled by her addiction. Starring: Marian Elaine, Amy Bettina and Darryl Sorrentino. Director: David Wasson. 102 Minutes

3_{PM} Caleb's Gift

(2013) A 50-year-old equine veterinarian and his 18-year-old son have become bitterly estranged. A car accident, triggered by the son's drug addiction, compels them both to confront their wounded relationship. Starring Kenneth Fedorko, Matt Starr and Josh Henderson-Cox. Director: Robert Bates. 14 Minutes IN PERSON: Director Robert Bates, Director of Photography Steve Becker, Actor Joshua Henderson-Cox

Blackout

(2014) Taylor a 27-year-old alcoholic musician falls into a momentous, downward spiral by getting arrested, being forced to attend AA with her now sober mother Sarah and the return of her ex-boyfriend Chris. With nowhere to run, Taylor is faced with the choice of continuing her life on a self-destructive path or taking a step towards recovery. Starring: Lindsey Lantz, Mackenzie Phillips, Don Jeanes. Director: Alana Waksman. 15 Minutes

A Ravaged Soul

(2013) **CANADA** An intimate and emotional biographical account of the "four souls." Brad, a broadcaster who begins stepping out to Vancouver's skid row on his lunches to meet up with his drug dealer. He continually comes close to death, but denial is a convincing friend. Director: Brian MacDonald. 56 Minutes

IN PERSON: Director Brian MacDonald

6_{PM} Behind the Orange Curtain

(2012) Behind the Orange Curtain delves into the staggering epidemic of teenage prescription drug deaths in one of the most affluent counties in America. Who is to blame? Doctors? Pharmaceutical Companies? Parents? Or Our Society? Director: Brent Huff. 90 MInutes

8_{PM} Dear Albert

(2014) **GREAT BRITAIN** A character driven, observational documentary about recovery from addiction. Following the life and work of Recovery Consultant and recovering addict Jon Roberts over a period of three years. Director: Nicholas Hamer. 85 Minutes

10_{PM} Anonymous People

The Anonymous People is told through the faces and voices of the citizens, leaders, volunteers, corporate executives, and public figures who are laying it all on the line to save the lives of others just like them. With Kristen Johnson, Tara Conner, Chris Herren and William Cope Moyers. Director: Greg Williams 55 Minutes













ADDICT







TUESDAY

1 PM Dispossessed

(2013) After being brutally raped and losing herself in a series of reckless relationships, and excessive drinking, Jill takes her video camera on a road trip in an attempt to capture her thoughts, feelings and voice. Based on true events. Starring Cheyanne Kane, Jeffrey Wm. Laham, Dr. Judi Bloom and Elias Cecil. Director: Cheyanne Kane. 13 Minutes

IN PERSON: Director Cheyanne Kane

Sweetness

(2013) Both dreamy and brutal, magical and true, Sweetness is a window into the world of two lovers—Tore and Arianna—who are torn apart by alcoholism. Starring Veraalba Santa, Carson Lee, Chelsea Vance and Philip Mershon.

Director: Joe Lueben. 15 Minutes IN PERSON: Director Joe Lueben

Kids Are Dying

(2014) The drug overdose epidemic in New Jersey is worse than it has ever been. More state residents have died from drug overdoses than in car accidents. New Jersey has the purest heroin in the country. In setting out to tell this story, the filmmakers quickly learned that this problem not only exists in New Jersey, but the entire country. Director: Michael DeLeon. 46 Minutes IN PERSON: Director Michael DeLeon and guests

You Are Not Alone

(2013) A young girl is torn between telling the authorities that her mother is a drug addict, but she never knows when an angel just might be guiding her. Written and produced by Kids in the Spotlight, a non-profit organization that provides a safe environment for kids to express themselves while cultivating interest in film industry careers. Starring Claudia Wells. Director: Kids in the Spotlight. 12 Minutes

3_{PM} American Addict 1

(2012) American Addict unveils how America has gone from the land of the free to the land of the addicted. America represents 5% of the world's population but consumes 50% of the world's prescription pills and over 80% of the world's prescription narcotics. This film reveals the relationships between the FDA, big Pharma, physicians and the media that ensure that medical problems are treated with pills and not ethics. Voiced by Producer Dr.Gregory Smith.

Director: Sasha Knezev. 89 Minutes

5_{PM} A Royal Hangover (New York Premier)

(2014) **UNITED KINGDOM** A relevant portrait of a nation and its love of the drink. Critically acclaimed independent filmmaker and accomplished non-drinker, Arthur Cauty, serves up a documentary fireball, in equal parts shocking, hilarious, sympathetic and thought provoking; a film we can all toast to. Featuring Russell Brand. Director: Arthur Cauty. 101 Minutes IN PERSON: Special guests

7:30_{PM} Thanks for Sharing

(2013) Adam has just reached the 5-year mark in his sex addiction sobriety, when meets Phoebe who might be perfect for him. But Phoebe doesn't date addicts. Adam must now honestly embrace romance the way he did abstinence. Starring Mark Ruffalo, Gwyneth Paltrow and Tim Robbins. Director: Stuart Blumberg. 113 Minutes IN PERSON: Stuart Blumberg

9рм Oslo, August 31st

(2012) NORWAY "Oslo, August 31st is quietly, profoundly, one of the most observant and sympathetic films I've seen." —ROGER EBERT. A coolly observed yet boundlessly compassionate day in the life of a recovering drug addict. Anders takes a brief leave from his treatment center to interview for a job and catch up with old friends in Oslo. At 35, he being asked to step back into the world and he has no idea where to put his feet. Starring: Anders Danielsen, Johanne Kjellevik Ledang and Ingrid Olava. Norwegian with subtitles. Director: Joachim Trier. 95 Minutes













Without a Home 7 РМ

(2012) Growing up in Los Angeles, a city whose homeless population exceeds 90,000, filmmaker Rachel Fleischer always felt a deep connection to the homeless. Her desire to understand that connection takes twenty-three year old Fleischer on an extraordinary four-year journey into the lives of six homeless individuals and families as they struggle to find homes, get clean, and survive. Director: Rachel Fleischer. 74 Minutes

3_{PM} On Life's Terms

(2014) This film follows five mothers struggling with substance abuse in a unique residential treatment program in San Rafael, CA, as told through the eyes and candid scenes with their children. The women learn responsibility and integrity as they strive to overcome addiction, domestic violence, prostitution and incarceration to make life better for their family. Director: Sheila Ganz. 57 Minutes IN PERSON: Director Sheila Ganz

My Names is Al

(2011) My Name is Al is a mini bio about a ponytailed, grizzly old-timer who started the Committee on Drug and Alcohol Dependence, a recovery program for doctors and dentists. Filmed in a lush New England setting. Director: Kristin Alexander, 14 Minutes

IN PERSON: Kristin Alexander

Easy Silence

(2014) Scene: backwoods of the American South. As her addictions and demons threaten the future of both herself and her baby, Jade must decide whether she can overcome temptation in order to become the mother her child deserves. Starring, Ashley Reign, Michelle Bernard, James Haven. John Henry Whitaker and Max Randleman. Director: Stephen Anthony Bailey. 28 minutes IN PERSON: Ashley Reign

No Kidding, Me Too

(2009) Actor Joe Pantoliano steps behind the camera to direct this documentary exploring the devastating effects of mental illness, and the stigma that goes with it. In this film, JP attempts to shatter the stigma by speaking with researchers working towards a cure for such maladies as clinical depression and ADHD, and encouraging people affected by those disorders to speak out about their struggles and experiences. Starring Joe Pantoliano. Devon Gearhart, Director: Joe Pantoliano, 75 minutes

Schedule subject to change



7:30_{PM} Chasing the Muse...Stone Cold Sober Sponsored by Hazelden & Writers Guild of America East **Host: Susan Cheever**

Writers In Treatment and Hazelden have come together to offer an honest dialogue among some of New York's most creative professionals who have been impacted by drugs and alcohol. While the panelists have endured personal struggles, they've also enjoyed successful careers. Event attendees will learn more about the panelists' individual stories, what they've done to overcome addiction, how the battle has impacted their careers and advice for those in the audience facing the same struggles. Live On Stage

Confirmed guests: Bill Clegg ... Steve Geng ... Joe Pantoliano ... Sacha Z. Scoblic











THURSDAY

2_{PM} May I Be Frank

(2010) It is the life of Frank Ferrante, 54-years-old weighing 290 lbs; abuses drugs and alcohol; and has contracted Hepatitis-C. He's now sober, but on multiple medications (including anti-depressants,) is undergoing chemo, and drinks 10 espressos a day to stay awake. One day, Frank hands his life over the owner of a raw food café in San Francisco. Watch as Frank's friends help him tackle his weight, health, relationships and self-loathing -- in just 42 days. Director Gregg Marks. 90 Minutes

4_{PM} The Honour of All: The Story of Alkali Lake

(1985) This is the true story of how a few people took control of their lives and generated a new atmosphere of dignity and hope for all. The Honour of All recreates the events that took place in the small northern B.C. Indian community of Alkali Lake between 1940-1945. With the level of alcoholism at virtually 100%, a few brave individuals transform the community 360-degrees into a life of sobriety. Starring Andy Chelsea, Phyllis Chelsea and Fred Johnson. Director Phil Lucas. 60 Minutes

6_{PM} Sober Indian, Dangerous Indian

(2014) Sober Indian, Dangerous Indian tells the story of four Lakota men who left their homes on the dry Pine Ridge, South Dakota reservation to feed their alcohol addiction across the state line in Whiteclay, Nebraska – a town of 14 residents and four liquor stores that sell 4 millions cans of misery every year. Director: John Maisch. 85 Minutes

IN PERSON: Director John Maisch

8_{PM} CLOSING NIGHT WORLD PREMIER: American Addict 2

(2014) American Addict 2 picks up where the first film left off and breaks even more new ground; it continues to expose the "pills for problems" mentality of our medical system by showing the tragic lives of chronic pain patients hooked on prescription pills in the US, the marketing of pills to children and the link between mass shootings and prescription drugs. Created and written by Gregory Smith, MD. Director: Sasha Knezev

IN PERSON: Director Sasha Knezev and Gregory Smith, MD

Schedule subject to change

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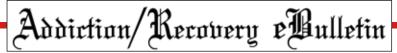




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Chasing THE Muse

OCT. 1, 2014 - 7:30pm Susan Cheever (Moderator) Bill Clegg **Steve Geng Joey Pantoliano** Sacha Z. Scoblic

A CANDID CONVERSATION ABOUT CREATIVITY AND RECOVERY

Presented by Writers In Treatment & Writers Guild of America East with the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation

Quad Cinema, 34 West 13th Street., New York, NY 10011