

Logan House Media and Addiction/Recovery eBulletin Present:

**Schedule**

7th Annual

**Oct. 23-29  
2015**

# **REEL RECOVERY FILM FESTIVAL™**

- FEATURES
- SHORTS
- DOCS
- FELLOWSHIP
- SPECIAL EVENTS

**Laemmle's NoHo Cinema**

5240 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601  
[www.reelrecoveryfilmfestival.org](http://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 an 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
Travis Koplou, Ph.D.	Secretary
Glenn W. P. Major	Treasurer
Paul Moen	
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[www.writersintreatment.org](http://www.writersintreatment.org)

### REEL Recovery Film Festival - 2015

Founder and Director: Leonard Buschel

Associate Producers: Alexandra Brell, Allyson Weinhold

Design: Chris Lukather



## 2015 REEL Recovery Film Festivals

Denver	May 29-31, 2015	Denver Film Society	Denver, CO
San Francisco	June 11-14, 2015	New People's Cinema	San Francisco, CA
Houston	Sept. 25-27, 2015	Sundance Cinema	Houston, TX
New York	Oct. 16-21, 2015	Cinema Village	New York, NY
Los Angeles	Oct. 23-29, 2015	Laemmle NoHo	Los Angeles, CA
Ft. Lauderdale	Nov. 6-8, 2015	Gateway Cinema	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Las Vegas	2016	TBA	Las Vegas, NV

[www.reelrecoveryfilmfestival.com](http://www.reelrecoveryfilmfestival.com)



# FRIDAY



## 1 PM **Bill W.**

(2012) Bill W. tells the story of William G. Wilson, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous with Dr. Bob Smith. Bill W. was included in TIME Magazine's "100 Persons of the 20th Century." Interviews, recreations, and rare archival material reveal how Bill Wilson, a hopeless drunk near death from his alcoholism, found a way out of his own addiction and then forged a path for countless others to follow. **Directors Dan Carracino and Kevin Hanlon.** Starring Bill Wilson, Dr. Bob, Lois Wilson, Ebby Thatcher. 104 Minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Dan Carracino**



## 3 PM **Royal Hangover**

(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

## 5:00-6:30 PM **Evening Shorts**



### **Family Unit**

(2015) A female inmate receives her husband for a 3-day conjugal visit on prison grounds. She soon discovers that her husband unknowingly brought contraband into the prison. This leads to a fracture in their relationship, which they desperately try to repair before the end of their visit. **Director Zach Marion.** 15 minutes



### **Grace**

(2015) Janice will face her high powered ex-husband in family court for the custody of their daughter. Staying clean is her priority but her unaccommodating boss stands in the way of Janice trying to do right. She has to face her demons of addiction and the possibility of losing custody of her daughter. Starring Marisa Vitali. **Director Chris Ordal.** 15 minutes



### **Reset**

(2015) Rylee, a mixed-race teen descends into drug addiction while struggling with her difficult childhood. After entering treatment at a rehab facility, working through issues of identity both physical and emotional, Rylee learns recovery is a life-long process that holds no guarantees. Exploring the effects of addiction on family, Maya, Rylee's South Asian mother, struggles to understand Rylee's disease while coping with her own family history of substance abuse. **Director Arun Vir.** 30 Minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Arun Vir**



## 7 PM **How I Got Over**

HOW I GOT OVER follows 15 formerly homeless and/or incarcerated women- now living in N Street Village, a community for addiction recovery- as they craft an original play, based on their harrowing true-life stories. As observers of their creative process to the rehearsals for their Kennedy Center performance, we bear witness to their transformations from victim to artist, and to the performing arts' capacity to heal trauma, create connection, and start a conversation. **Director Nicole Boxer.** 87 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Nicole Boxer**

Schedule subject to change

**TICKETS \$10.00 AT THE DOOR**



# SATURDAY

**1:00 PM**

## Shorts on a Saturday Afternoon



### Higher Power

Music video. **Director Mark Rosella.** 4 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Mark Rosella**



### Take Care

(2014) In this dramatic short, a young girl comes of age sooner than she should as she watches her mother cope with her tough life by drinking. **Director Danielle Dunnigan.** 10 minutes



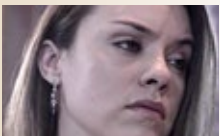
### Good Words

(2014) This short and poignant film traces the story of Elizabeth, a gifted and highly qualified candidate attending a job interview. All appears to be going well until the conversation turns towards the subject of mental illness. **Director Robby Reis.** 10 minutes



### Christmas Carol

(2015) Carol lives on the streets of Liverpool. It's two days before Christmas and we find her struggling with her addictions and homelessness. She finds a discarded Santa outfit and Carol's life changes. This film explores the possibility that sometimes we are what we wear and what we wear is key to how we are perceived and treated by others. **Director Damien Ward.** United Kingdom. 11 minutes



### Redemption 101

(2014) Thalia abuses drugs and has resorted to prostitution to support the habit that she began as a teen. Thalia enters a sober house for women to get clean. She's in a women's sober house and has four days clean when reality strikes. She is faced with losing custody of her infant daughter. **Director Sebastian Rothwyn.** 40 minutes



**3:00 PM**

## Lambert & Stamp

(2014) Aspiring filmmakers Chris Stamp and Kit Lambert set out to find a subject for their underground movie, one that will reflect the way it feels to be young and dissatisfied in postwar London. The duo finally discover a band called the High Numbers with that perfect rebellious restlessness. Abandoning their plans to make a film, they instead decide to mentor and manage this group, later called, **The Who**. The result was rock 'n' roll history. **Director James D. Cooper.** 117 minutes

**IN PERSON: Jean Campbell LCSW, TEP, and guests**

Schedule subject to change

**TICKETS \$10.00 AT THE DOOR**

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OCT.  
**24**

# SATURDAY



**6PM** **Slipstream**  
**Special 10th Anniversary Screening**

(2005) In this experimental update of Jack and the Beanstalk, a streetwise pot dealer is catapulted on a mystical adventure when he trades his father's gold watch for a pair of psychotropic seeds. **Director Marc Grant.** 85 minutes  
**IN PERSON: Producer Sam Siegel and cast members**



**8PM** **Amy**

(2015) AMAZING FILM from BAFTA Award-winning director Asif Kapadia (Senna), AMY tells the incredible story of six-time Grammy-winner Amy Winehouse - in her own words. Featuring extensive unseen archival footage and previously unheard tracks, this strikingly modern, moving and vital film shines a light on our culture and the world we live in today. **Director Asif Kapadia.** 128 minutes

Schedule subject to change

**TICKETS \$10.00 AT THE DOOR**

{ **Experience  
Strength and  
Hope Award** }

**FEBRUARY 25, 2016**

**Skirball Cultural Center  
Los Angeles, CA**

**Host, Ed Begley, Jr.**  
**Special Guests to be announced**

**Previous Honorees:**

Christopher Kennedy Lawford • Lou Gossett Jr.  
Buzz Aldrin • Duran Duran's John Taylor  
Carrie White • Joe Pantoliano

**Previous Participants:**

Danny Trejo, Tony Denison, Robert Downey, Jr., Ione Skye,  
Bobcat Goldthwait, Joanna Cassidy, Alonzo Bodden

**Our 2016 Honoree**  
**Mackenzie Phillips**  
*for her book, **High on Arrival***



**CALL FOR TICKETS:**  
**310-762-0461**

OCT.  
25

SUNDAY



## 1PM **Come Back Jeetu**

(2015) Filmed in India, Director Jaswant Singh Mintu made this exotic film in dedication of those innocent girls, daughters, sisters, and mothers who are being "compelled to walk on the razor's edge and burning flames of drug addiction through no fault of their own. **Director Jaswant Singh Mintu.** 147 minuttess



## 4:30PM **Straight Outta Tompkins**

(2015) A forlorn teenager's life spirals out of control in New York City. He transforms from a troubled kid to an accidental addict after mistaking the welcoming embrace of a Lower East Side drug dealer for the love of family. Offering a humorous take on the absurdity of the junkie lifestyle, **STRAIGHT OUTTA TOMPKINS** also presents a fearlessly honest portrayal of the violence and danger that come with teen drug use. **Director Zephyr Benson.** 92minutes



## 7:00PM **Evening Shorts**

### **Veterans Affairs**

(2013) Known best for his viral, controversial documentaries made while serving as a Marine during the U.S. invasion of Iraq. In **Veterans Affairs**, Kenneth Anderson pours his own experiences into this short that sees a veteran struggling when he returns to the States. **Director Kenneth Anderson.** 14 minutes



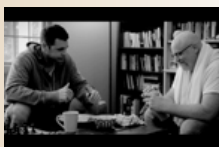
### **Conversation With a Cigarette**

(2014) A cat-and-mouse game ensues between a man and his greatest enemy, an addiction that has a stranglehold on the man. Can he break free? **Director Russell Brown.** 18 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Russell Brown**

### **Recovery**

(2013) Recovery follows a retired boxer with a troubled past as he considers whether to train a young, ambitious Mixed Martial Arts fighter who comes armed with a message to the old boxer. **Director Robert Waters.** 8 minutes



### **Lapse**

(2012) A broken man goes through a single day of his life, reliving the dark turns that brought him to his substance riddled present. A dark, jarring opening quickly descends into a long dark night of the soul for one man who must face his demons and if he can, return to the light. **Director Anthony Salerno.** 30 minutes



## 8:15PM **AS I AM: The Life and Times of DJ AM**

(2015) **AS I AM: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DJ AM** covers the late, great mash-up pioneer's entire life from seed to sorrow: his meteoric rise to become the first million dollar DJ in the U.S., his storied personal life including a long-running struggle with addiction, titanic efforts to help others in recovery, his tabloid romances as well as his survival from a fiery plane crash with Blink 182 drummer Travis Barker, which is all a lead-up to his controversial and untimely death in 2009. **Director Kevin Kerslake.** 97 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Kevin Kerslake**



Schedule subject to change

TICKETS \$10.00 AT THE DOOR

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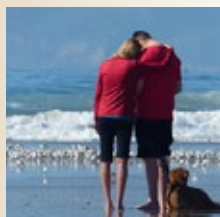
MONDAY



### 1 PM **An American Epidemic**

(2015) From the Director of, "Kids Are Dying" comes a 'talking-head' documentary film that took one state's problem to a national level. "An American Epidemic" grew out of a New Jersey project exposing the opioid and heroin epidemic and uncovers the far-reaching effects of America's most serious public social health crisis through the eyes of parents, siblings and recovering addicts. **Director Michael DeLeon.** 90 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Michael DeLeon**



### 3 PM **The Other Side of Cannabis: Negative Effects of Marijuana On Our Youth**

(2015) We warn our youth about alcohol and prescription and illegal drugs, yet, our kids believe marijuana is safe and natural with no health risks. This documentary tells the stories of individuals of all ages, as well as interviews with top researchers across the United States who elaborate on the effects of marijuana facing our adolescents, teenagers and young adults, all with still-developing brains. **Director Jody Belsher.** 72 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Jody Belsher**



### 5 PM **Archie's Final Project**

(2011) Archie Williams is a 17-year old media geek who has suddenly found himself the most talked-about kid in school. He has announced that he's going to kill himself- on camera- for a class project. His classmates, parents, the most beautiful girl in school, and a "Shady Bunch" of shrinks, doctors, pill-pushers, and counselors descend on Archie. Some are hoping to save him, some want to imitate him, others try to push him over the brink. **Director David Lee Miller.** 110 minutes.

**IN PERSON: Special guests**



### 8 PM **Girl on the Edge**

(2014) A powerful, true story about the journey of a troubled teenage girl who finds healing in the most unlikely of places, and who must choose to either invest in her own recovery or succumb to the trauma of her past. Starring Taylor Spreitzer, Gil Bellows, Peter Coyote and Mackenzie Phillips. **Director Jay Silverman.** 105 Minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Jay Silverman and guests**

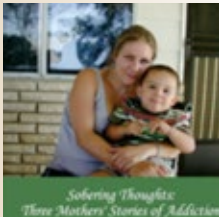
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TICKETS \$10.00 AT THE DOOR

OCT.  
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TUESDAY



## 1 PM **Sobering Thoughts: Three Mothers' Stories of Addiction**

(2015) This documentary that tells the story of three mothers who used drugs and alcohol during their pregnancy. Drinking and using while pregnant is an unfortunate reality that many women face alone, this film highlights women who have walked through this very painful experience giving a voice to healing, focusing on recovery, relapse, motherhood and spirituality. **Director Kristen Bornhorst.** 25 minutes

## 28 Days – Special 15th Anniversary Screening

(2000) After getting into a car accident while drunk on the day of her sister's wedding, Gwen Cummings is given a choice between prison or a rehab center. She chooses rehab, but is extremely resistant to taking part in any of the treatment programs, refusing to admit that she has an alcohol addiction. The path to recovery will not be easy, and success will not be guaranteed or even likely, but she is now willing to give it a try. Starring Sandra Bullock, Viggo Mortensen, Steve Buscemi. **Director Betty Thomas.** 103 Minutes

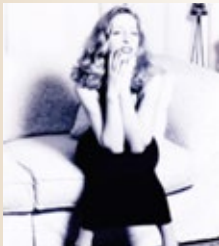
**SPONSORED BY NEW DIRECTIONS FOR WOMEN**



## 4 PM **The Courage to Love**

(2014) The Courage to Love is a personal documentary about sexual addiction from the perspective of four people who share their stories of addiction and recovery. The film looks into each of their pasts to see what contributing factors led to their addiction and looks at the variety of behaviors in which they acted out sexually. Each person talks about the treatment that helped them to overcome their sexual addiction so they could experience love and intimate relationships for the first time. **Director Paul Ginnocchio.** 57 Minutes

**IN PERSON: Paul Ginnocchio, MFT**



## 6 PM **Voices**

(2014) The award-winning documentary, Voices, features the stark and intimate portraits of three very different individuals and their struggle with severe mental illness in America. The stories of Sharon, Thomas and Aaron illuminate the challenges, realities, and complex emotions and choices that surround people with psychotic mental illness and those who love them. **Director Hiroshi Hara and Gary Tsai.** 56 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Dr. Gary Tsai**



## 8 PM **AfterParty Magazine Story Telling Time**

### **SPECIAL EVENT**

The women of AfterParty Magazine tell poignant and often hilarious stories about their experiences RE: Sex and Sobriety. You won't want to miss this! Starring Anna David, Danielle Stewart, and some surprised guests.



Schedule subject to change

**TICKETS \$10.00 AT THE DOOR**



OCT.  
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# WEDNESDAY

## 1 PM Afternoon Shorts



### Released

(2014) This first-time filmmaker's documentary short exposes dark familial secrets, a broken mental health system and the triumph of the human will over tragedy, trauma and self harm. *Released* casts an unflinching eye and lands a stinging blow against abusive authoritarians, stigma and insensitivity. **Director Susan Spangenberg.** 28 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Susan Spangenberg**



### Teaser

(2015) Teaser is an avant-garde style film about a young gay man's struggle with drug abuse and his revulsion or inability to deal with the fact that he is gay thanks negative messages from the media. This young man falls into the world of drugs as a way to es-cape or even forget who he is. The problem is no matter how hard or how often you try to escape yourself, you can't. **Director Adam Jones.** 8 minutes.

**IN PERSON: Director Adam Jones**



### SLLiP

(2015) Based on true events, SLLiP is a heartfelt yet disturbing look into the life of a hard-working, blue collar, family man, who is injured at work and is prescribed pain medication. What should have been benign pain treatment has become a painful addiction-one that could destroy what he cherishes most – his beautiful wife and his treasured baby girl. Original score. **Director Rob Lewis.** 13 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Rob Lewis**



### Methe

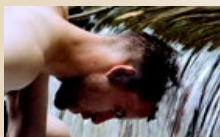
(2015) After what should have been an ordinary night out with his wife, a man struggles to keep his life on track despite his wife's denial of anything that is wrong with their lives. **Director Ron Trejo.** 16 minutes



### The 12th Step

(2015) A man searching for "something" enters an AA meeting. Watch what happens next. **Director Josh Auter.** 8 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Josh Auter**



### Exit Road

(2014) Dane thought he left his personal demons and his drug addiction in the prison cell where he did his time. But his first day as a free man challenges not only his promise to go clean, but his very survival. Dane's neighborhood does not welcome him back with open arms and an uncertain future lurks on every corner. **Director Yuri Alves.** 13 minutes

**IN PERSON: Yuri Alves**

Schedule subject to change

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# WEDNESDAY CONTINUED



## 4PM **Kansas St.**

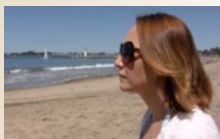
(2015) In an attempt to escape her dark past, Dorsey Jones runs deeper into a darker future until she is forced to face herself and heal the wounds of childhood.

Filmed in Los Angeles. **Director Norris Young.** 92 minutes

**IN PERSON: Director Norris Young**

## 6:30PM **Susan Whigham**

**Susan Whigham** is a student at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco studying Motion Picture and Television directing. Her films have appeared in over a dozen film festivals in the U.S. and internationally. The REEL Recovery Film Festival is proud to showcase four of her shorts that embrace the destruction of addiction and the hope and light of recovery: **Cling, The Danger in Happiness, Her Undying, Self in Silence and Solitude.** **Director Susan Whigham.** 25 minutes



## **Deal With It**

(2015) Shamira Raphaëla lives a seemingly successful life as a documentary film director. But her reality is that her father and brother, who are both in and out of jail. Her dad Pempy, has used heroine and crack for more than thirty years, and has a long criminal record. Her brother Andy, is following in his fathers' footsteps. A extraordinarily raw and personal film about destructive family patterns and unconditional love. This film seems to prove addiction is not a disease. **Director Shamira Raphaëla.** 58 minutes **In Dutch with English Subtitles**



## 8:30PM **Imperfect Sky – Los Angeles Premiere**

(2015) Torn apart during adolescence, estranged brothers reunite. The younger, a 16-year old on the fast track to college with his entire life ahead of him. The older, a 21-year old heroin addict and street hustler who's settled for rock bottom. Starring Blake Scott Lewis and Sam Lucas Smith. **Director Graham Streeter.** 25 minutes

**IN PERSON: Graham Streeter, Producer Alex Lebosq, Blake Scott Lewis, Sam Lucas Smith and all cast members**



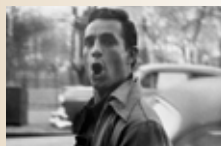
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OCT.  
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THURSDAY



### 1PM **Big Sur**

(2013) Sudden fame and a self-destructive lifestyle were taking a toll on Jack Kerouac following the unparalleled success of his groundbreaking novel, *On the Road*. Once a hero of the Beat Generation, Kerouac now sees only a vestige of his former self, ravaged by alcohol and drugs. Kerouac leaves New York for California, on a quest for redemption in Lawrence Ferlinghetti's isolated Big Sur cabin. What ensues in those fateful three weeks in August, 1960, is both terrifying and revelatory. **Director Michael Polish.** 81 Minutes



### 3PM **Under the Volcano**

(1984) Based on the extraordinary, groundbreaking novel (1947) by Malcolm Lowry. Geoffrey Firmin is a British consul living in alcoholic disrepair and obscurity in a small southern Mexican town. The Consul's self-destructive behavior is a source of perplexity and sadness to his nomadic, idealistic half-brother, Hugh, and his ex-wife, Yvonne. Starring Albert Finney and Jacqueline Bisset. **Director John Huston.** 112 minutes



### 5:15PM **Time's Up**

(2012) A film by Lance Juracka about two generations of a family dealing with alcohol addiction. The film was made when Lance was a film student at NYU. And 12 years later he died from alcohol addiction. Nancy Juracka, Lance's mother, wants to use to film to help other families that are struggling with this dreaded disease. **Director Lance Juracka.** 17 minutes

**IN PERSON: Lance's mother, Nancy Juracka**



### **Reaching Out**

(2015) This documentary takes a close look at the desperate phone call an addict makes for help. It's the first step. Those on the receiving end of that call will do anything to be of service and try to hang on to the soul that reaches out to them. **Director Matt Heckathorn.** 34 Minutes



## 7:30PM **SPECIAL CLOSING NIGHT EVENT**

**- LIVE! Sponsored by RecoveryAS.com**

### **"SAY EVERYTHING"**

#### **DR. GABOR MATÉ In Conversation with IONE SKYE**

A freewheeling discussion about addiction, modern culture, behavioral disorders, preventative health care techniques, Amy Schumer, the Beatles, classical music, safe injection sites, the therapeutic value of pets, literature, films, Rumi and Recovery.

Reserved seats available to private reception/buffet immediately after "SAY EVERYTHING"

In Conversation 7:30 – 8:45pm

Buffet 9:00 – 10:00

Buffet: Salomi Indian Restaurant, 5225 Lankershim Blvd.

Individual tickets: "SAY EVERYTHING" \$25

Reserved seats and reception / buffet \$65



*Live On Stage*

Schedule subject to change

**TICKETS \$10.00 AT THE DOOR**

# 7th Annual REEL Recovery Film Festival LOS ANGELES EDITION 2015

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