

SOUVENIR PROGRAM

14TH
REEL RECOVERY
FILM FESTIVAL[®]
OCT. 21-27, 2022



- ★ **FEATURES**
- ★ **SHORTS**
- ★ **DOCS**
- ★ **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Laemmle NoHo Theatre

5240 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601

www.reelrecoveryfilmfestival.org

WRITERS IN TREATMENT

Writers In Treatment (WIT) offers free referrals to local and national treatment providers for individuals suffering from alcoholism and/or addiction. We publish the weekly Addiction/Recovery eBulletin® and produce the national REEL Recovery Film Festival & Symposium® and the Experience, Strength & Hope Awards Show.®

Writers In Treatment produces and presents culturally significant events dedicated to improving the quality of recovery by reducing stigmas associated with alcoholism and addiction. 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.

The REEL Recovery Film Festival & Symposium®

A multi-city event celebrating films that focus on addiction, alcoholism, mental health issues and recovery. The festival and symposium offer direct interaction with filmmakers, addiction specialists, people in recovery, their loved ones and others who share an appreciation for films that honestly portray the journey through addiction to recovery, and the valuable life lessons learned.

Writers in Treatment

Leonard Lee Buschel: Founder/Director
Ahbra Kaye Schiff: Producer/Programmer
Chris Lukather: Graphic Designer
Adam Nimoy: Consultant/Judge
Michaela Baxter: Staff

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

www.writersintreatment.org

Special 2022 Honoree **DANNY TREJO**



The 12th Annual **{ Experience Strength and Hope Award }**

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022

Skirball Cultural Center



HOST:
ED BEGLEY, JR.



COMEDY STYLINGS OF
PAULA POUNDSTONE



MUSICAL GUEST:
SINGER/SONGWRITER
PHILIP LAWRENCE

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Joe Pantoliano • Mackenzie Phillips • Pat O'Brien • Jane Velez-Mitchell • Jodie Sweetin • Leigh Steinberg • Courtney Friel

Call for Tickets: (818) 762-0461

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 21

OPENING NIGHT EVENT - \$25 AT THE DOOR



5:00 PM Opening Night Filmmaker/ Networking Party The Federal NoHo

5303 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601
(across the street from Laemmle NoHo Theatre,
validated parking located at 11144 Weddington St.
one block north of the theatre)



7:00 PM Gray Area

(2021) Kate Gray struggles with a full-time career as a therapist, raising four young children, past personal traumas, and marriage. To hold it all together, she turns to alcohol. Directed by Adria Dawn, David Tarleton. 17 minutes

IN PERSON: Talkback with psychotherapist, best-selling author, and regular contributor on the Today show Kelley Kitley.



8:00 PM Bridge to the Other Side

(2022) In a world that's falling apart, the grieving widow of a firefighter lost to COVID fights to save young people struggling with mental health issues. Directed by KT Curran. 100 minutes

IN PERSON: Q&A with Director KT Curran

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 22

Shorts Block 1: Love...Actually?



1:00 PM First Date

(2019) Newly sober and an absolute wreck on his first blind date, Kap has to use every tool at his disposal when a bottle of wine comes into play. Directed by Brian Gallagher. 14 minutes

IN PERSON: Producer, Actor and Co-founder, Of Substance, Alex Kaplan



Home

(2019) Sammy and Mara have been in a beautiful coveted interracial relationship. Their love is tested when they move to Mara's hometown in the German countryside triggering a crisis in Sammy's mental health. Directed by Joseph Akwasi. 15 minutes



Sweat

(2015) When Jamie (Matthew McNulty) first encounters Mia (Bonnie Wright aka Ginny Weasley, Harry Potter series) shoplifting he's captivated. An intense relationship develops and Jamie's jealousy emerges. Directed by David Allain. (UK) 20 minutes

Schedule subject to change



Trauma & Addiction Treatment in Ocala, Florida

The Guest House Ocala provides unparalleled, premier-quality treatment to those who suffer from self-defeating behaviors brought on by trauma and its underlying issues. We are uniquely equipped to help our guests heal from trauma-induced substance abuse, process addiction, anxiety, or depression in a safe, comfortable, and confidential setting.

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SATURDAY — OCTOBER 22



Shorts Block 1: Love...Actually? continued

1:00 PM DANNI

(2016) Danni goes on a journey to explore relationship addiction and seeks to find out at what cost does one become 'clean'? Directed by Peter Jensen. 25 minutes



And I Miss You Just Like A Little Kid

(2022) Isolated and depressed during lockdown, Jason rushes into a psychologically abusive relationship with an older woman. Directed by Benjamin Hosking. 28 minutes



Shorts Block 2: From the Fringes

3:15 PM Phone Gal

(2021) A 3-minute modern retelling of "The Little Match Girl" with Barbies! — a cautionary tale about addiction and losing oneself. Directed by Laura Lewis-Barr. 3 minutes



Sid Penrose

(2021) Charlie is presented with an escape from his deep depression when the mysterious man that he has been drawing suddenly knocks on his door. Directed by Drew Dull. 11 minutes



The Sprayer

(2022) In a not-so-distant dystopian future, no one is allowed to grow plants in public or private lest the Sprayer's army find it. "Visually stunning" Directed by Farnoosh Abedi. (Iran) 9 minutes



Fringes

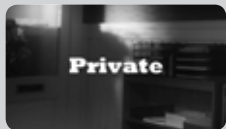
(2022) A preacher goes to extreme lengths to save his son's life after he learns it is in danger as a result of a bet gone awry. Directed by Brittany A Scott. 12 minutes

IN PERSON: Director, Brittany A. Scott



Finding 'Appiness

(2022) After 70 years of keeping a devastating secret, eccentric fashionista Allan Bradbury is opening up about his childhood trauma. Can he now find true 'appiness in later life? Directed by Natasha Hawthornthwaite. (UK) 12 minutes



Private

(2022) A stark look at repressed social and sexual abuse issues, through the eyes of a private detective and his sultry client. Styled as an homage to the 40's and film noir. Directed by Steve Blackwood. (US) 20 minutes

IN PERSON: Actor, Sandy Bainum



Saturday Nite Shorts

5:30 PM Burned In

(2022) How do we keep our inner light burning when surrounded by so much darkness? Can we keep that flame alive? Directed by Vivienne Dejon. (Austria) 2 minutes




Bar Napkin Portraits

(2021) Struggling painter Dusty, sober for thirteen days, has a choice: finish the three paintings commissioned by a millionaire or... Directed by Walter Vincent. (US) 6 minutes

IN PERSON: Actor Gloria Mann

Schedule subject to change

A woman wearing a blue headscarf and a young girl with long brown hair wearing a pink shirt are looking at a smartphone together. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, golden light source on the left creating a soft glow on their faces and the phone. The background is dark and out of focus.

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you on set –
where *action*
takes on a
whole new
meaning.

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SATURDAY — OCTOBER 22

Saturday Nite Shorts continued

5:30 PM **BABS**

(2021) A dark, twisted, surreal film. Like a slow motion train wreck we watch Detective Becky Rawlings plunge into the depths of alcohol psychosis and its grim consequences. 12 minutes (US)

IN PERSON: Director/Star Brette Taylor

Orchid

(2022) A young woman faces the death of her younger sister who battled substance abuse, when an old flame shows up on the anniversary of her passing, igniting painful memories. Directed by Haley Rimblas. (US) 18 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Haley Rimblas

Fruckus

(2021) Animated short film about the life of Chuck LaVallee. Street Hustler turned Hollywood Hustler... One man's journey of sex, drugs, rock stars and mobsters! Director/Animator/Writer/Producer Evan York. (US) 26 minutes

IN PERSON: Artist/Director/Animator/Writer/Producer Evan York

Dream Chasers: The Fit To Recover Story

(2021) FTR uses fitness, nutrition, creative arts and community service to help people stay sober and reclaim their lives. Directed by Austin Reed Heywood, Lexi Kaili. (US) 39 minutes

Featured Presentation

8:00 PM **I Fall**

(2022) A dance film that explores the carnage and chaos of addiction focusing on the twisted love story between two addicts. Directed by Dan Thorburn. Created and Choreographed by Fallen Angels Dance Theatre. (UK) 11 minutes

The Creative High

Nine Artists in recovery from addiction are transformed by creativity in their turbulent search for identity and freedom. **IN PERSON** Director Adriana Marchione, Producer Dianne Griffin, Musician Wes Geer and Performance Artist Luis Canales (US) 76 minutes

Director Adriana Marchione, Producer Dianne Griffin, Musician and Co-Founder of Rock to Recovery Wes Geer and Performance Artist Luis Canales

SUNDAY — OCTOBER 23

Block 1: 2nd Chances

1:00 PM **A Short Story About Kore**

(2021) Kore is an alcoholic at rock bottom, faced with the life-or-death questions, "do you want to recover? Do you want to live?". Directed by Michael Fogerty. (US) 17 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Michael Fogerty

Schedule subject to change



Block 1: 2nd Chances continued

1:00 PM DO-OVER

(2022) An alcoholic who has reached the last stages of his disease loses his family, job and friends. Will he get a 2nd chance? Directed by Sharvi. (INDIA) 84 minutes (in Tamil with English subtitles)



Block 2: Take it Easy

3:15 PM Dad's Escape

(2022) A woman recounts her relationship with her father. A story where between the kitchen and the outdoors forgiveness begins. Directed by Hélène Matte (CANADA) 8 minutes (in French with English subtitles)



Don't Worry About It

(2021) After her father's death, a young woman's obsessive-compulsive disorder spirals out of control. Will intensive therapy help her deal with his death and her OCD before it takes over her life. Directed by Melissa Kong. (US) 13 minutes



Bonus Time

(2021) A stubborn and self-centered Latino cancer survivor returns home determined to make amends with the people he's wronged - whether they like it or not. Directed by Alexander Hanno. (US) 21 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Alexander Hanno

2 Films by Kids In The Spotlight

KITS is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help inner city and foster youth confront, address, and overcome their trauma through the power of transformative filmmaking.



The Inheritance

(2021) After the death of their father, three estranged brothers are forced to meet for lunch in order to receive information about their inheritance. Directed by: Julia Verdin Written by: Gregory Naylor, Lafawn Taylor. (US) 8 minutes



Don't Get Comfortable

(2021) Three siblings trapped in the foster care system must do everything they can to stay together as a family. Written by: Dimitri Dunn, Stephanie Martinez, Jonathan Tabanera. Directed by: Brandon Broadly (US) 12 minutes

Sunday Special Events

5:00 PM The Jewish Jail Lady and The Holy Thief

(2022) He was a convict turned Rabbi, she was a sex-addicted housewife... Together, they saved thousands of lives in recovery. Directed by Victor Velle. 60 minutes

IN PERSON: Producer Barry Rosenthal. Harriet Rossetti (Jewish Jail Lady) and Rabbi Mark Borowitz (Holy Thief)



WESTWIND

Outpatient Treatment Center

Community | Collaboration | Commitment



SUNDAY

OCTOBER 23

Sunday Special Events continued



6:45 PM **Authentics**

(2020) A young photographer struggling with addiction books a shoot at an engagement party. She meets a man who introduces her to SMART recovery, inspiring her to change. (US) 30 minutes. **Sponsored by Rising Act films**

IN PERSON: Writer/Director/Producer Daniel Stine, Ted Perkins, Lead Actor Linden Ashby and Lead Actress Haley Leary

Sponsored by Rising Act films

Sunday Night Recovery Stories

Sponsored by Redemption Stages



8:00 PM **Heroin(e) In Love**

(2021) She loves him. He loves her... and heroin. Directed by Stefanie Black. (US) 15 minutes

IN PERSON: writer/producer/actor Danielle Thorpe



Family Week

(2020) Three families whose lives are upended by addiction, send their kids to rehab and find hope in family week. (US) 34 minutes

IN PERSON: Writer/Director Lisa Poggi, Writer/Producer Don Anderson and Cast and Crew from the film



Die Pretty

(2022) Arin Jacobs battles heroin addiction and the curse of 33 — the age her mother and grandmother both died. (US) 39 minutes

IN PERSON: Writer/Producer Scott Langer & Actor Ashley Fountain

MONDAY

OCTOBER 24

Opioid Awareness Day

Block 1: Looking for a Solution



1:00 PM **Introduction by Anthony H. Brown**

Founder and director of Coordinating & Assisting Recovery Environments (CARE) to help people with substance use disorder and mental illness. He is the author of *From Park Bench to Park Avenue* which details his life from abuse, addiction and homelessness to becoming a nurse, author and inspirational speaker.



Once I Had Nowhere to Go

(2022) A short, animated film about surviving childhood abuse, addiction, incarceration, and homelessness to finding God and being changed through education and service. Directed by Kati Angelov, Dennis Wright. (US) 2 minutes

IN PERSON: Author Anthony H. Brown

Schedule subject to change

MONDAY

OCTOBER 24



The Addict's Wake – Los Angeles Premiere

(2021) After a crippling series of overdose deaths, rural Brown County, Indiana decides to "Do Something" differently to fight addiction. Directed by Michael Husain. (US) 1 hour 45 minutes

IN PERSON: Writer/Director Michael Husain, Exec. Producer Lisa Hall



3:30 PM Homefront

(2021) A woman in Scottsburg, Indiana fights addiction in her family and her community. Directed by Josiah Croasdell. (US) 10 minutes



10th Anniversary Screening of Behind The Orange Curtain

(2012) a documentary that delves into the staggering problem of teenage drug abuse in one of the most affluent counties in the country, Orange County, CA. Directed by Brent Huff. (US) 1 hour 28 minutes



5:30 PM Narcan Training & Distribution

Supervised by **END OVERDOSE** Gianna Uy and volunteers. Learn how to administer Naloxone nasal spray. Samples will be given out after the demonstration. "whoever saves one life saves the world entire" - *The Talmud*



Block 2: In Love with the Problem

6:30 PM Infliction

(2021) In the midst of a drug deal gone wrong, both characters have to come to terms with what and who they are while time plays with their minds. Directed by Kameron Basseri. (US) 6 minutes



The James Dean Effect

(2022). Movie star Jimmy Hudson wakes in the Bardo. If he repeats his past behaviors he'll end up right back where he started. Directed by Chris Vernale, Elliot Butler. (US) 6 minutes



One

(2021) Ruth Jenkins, a 50 year old Christian woman in Jessup, Texas when a homeless man breaks into her house. Ruth and the intruder are both challenged to find compassion and do what's "right." In Person Director Paul Babin and actor Heather McPhaul. (US). 19 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Paul Babin and actor Heather McPhaul



Profaned

(2022) Profaned explores the relationships between the homeless and society through expressionism. The film aims to make the audience feel ambivalence towards the vagrant. Directed by Steven Paul Wolf, Ryan Simmons. (US) 30 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Steven Paul Wolf



Featured Presentation

8:00 PM Heavy: A Tale of Two Junkies

(2022) Go on a journey with two heroin addicts, Brain and Dead, as they scrape together enough money to get a fix, by any means necessary. Director Benjamin Rummans. (US) 11 minutes

Schedule subject to change

MONDAY

OCTOBER 24



Featured Presentation continued

8:00 PM **A Thousand Junkies**

(2017) "A 'drug' movie with no drugs, and a 'road' movie that goes nowhere, A THOUSAND JUNKIES is a dark, visceral comedy about the 9 to 5 job of being a junkie." – The Hollywood Reporter. Director/Actor Tommy Swerdlow. (US) 1 hour 21 minutes
IN PERSON: Director/Actor Tommy Swerdlow, Writer/Actor TJ Bowen

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 25



Block 1

1:00 PM **So it Goes**

(2021) In a rural town, the shocking death of a teenage boy devastates his family. The boy's father Tom wrestles with grief and guilt yet finds little solace in his homophobic family. Directed by Hudson J. Howes. (Australia) 13 minutes
Trigger warning: Homophobia/violence



February's Dog

(2022) Working class colleagues stricken by sudden unemployment grapple with anxiety, depression, and isolation while they cope with the reality that everything has changed. Directed by Paul Jared Chinook, Candace Schmidt-Gonzalez. (Canada) 1 hour 27 minutes
Trigger warning: Suicide/self-harm



Block 2

3:15 PM **Lenny**

(2021) A prisoner of war in Vietnam befriends a spider to help him combat the loneliness of isolation. Directed by Kristen McNaule. (Canada) 12 minutes



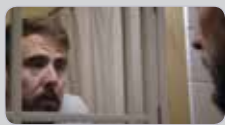
Come Clean

(2021) Follows four addicts through 19-days of in-treatment and 18 months following release to try to break the habits that brought them to the brink of ruin. Directed by Derreck Roemer, Neil Graham. (Canada) 90 minutes

Block 3

5:30 PM **Bundle of Nerves**

(2022) A spotlight on addiction and depression via the relationship between two roommates, where does helping end and enabling begin? In Person Writer/Producer/Lead Actor Lucas Elliott. (US) 12 minutes
IN PERSON: Writer/Producer/Lead Actor Lucas Elliott



Borrowed Light

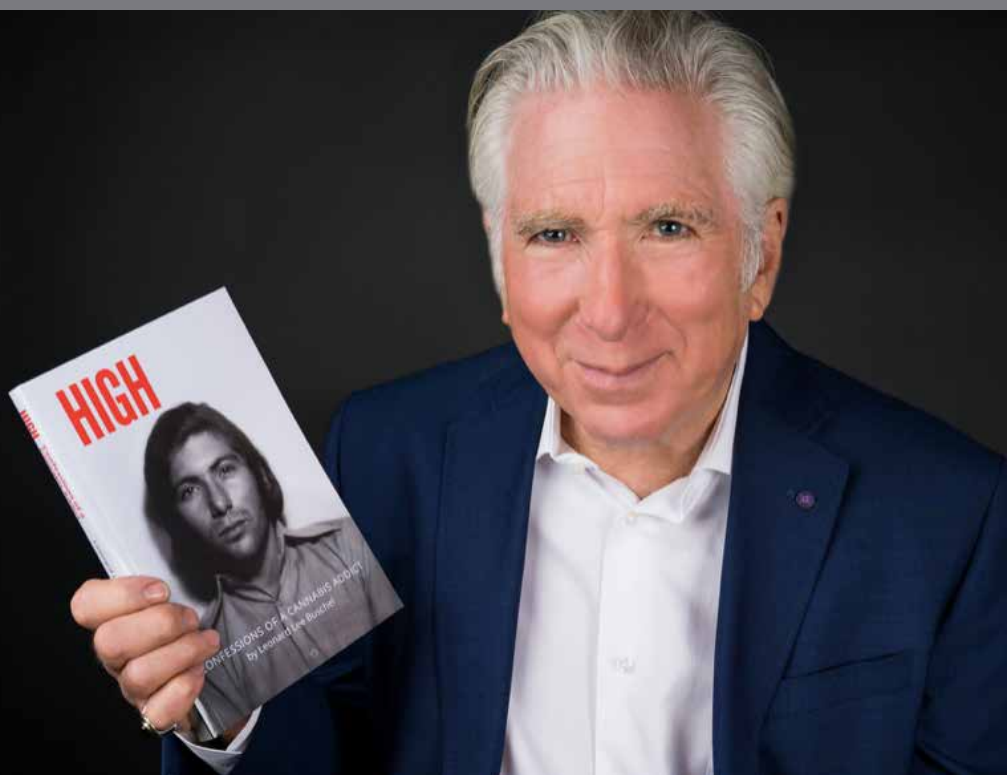
(2021) Two best friends grow apart when one moves away to college and suffers a mental breakdown. Directed by Madison Paige Kennedy (US) 16 minutes

Schedule subject to change

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or order at Barnes & Noble Booksellers**

HIGH

**Confessions of a Cannabis Addict
by Leonard Lee Buschel**



**Vastly entertaining and incredibly honest—
a captivating memoir of addiction and recovery**

HIGH is far more than a vastly entertaining recovery memoir. It is an open emotional summons, a sincere invitation to a life lived awake and alert, a life vibrating at a higher frequency of increased creativity and joy, and if you so desire, social inclusion, fun, fellowship, and plenty of free coffee.

TUESDAY — OCTOBER 25



5:30 PM Saving Faith

(2021) Bill, a successful N.Y. stockbroker, is at a lunchtime AA meeting after his drunk drinking has injured an 8-year old girl and left her father in critical condition. Directed by Jordan P. Jordan. (US) 15 minutes

IN PERSON: Randy Messersmith



Awaken

(2022) A single mother's battle with addiction and the lasting effect it has on her and her son. (Based on a true story.) Directed by Ty Jones. (US) 22 minutes

Trigger warning: Child Abuse/Drug Use/Suicide



Bill W and Jimmy K

(2021) Two icons of the recovery movement meet for the first time. Shot entirely at the historic home of Bill and Lois Wilson in Westchester County New York. Directed by Andrew Matthews. (US) 15 minutes



Ebullient

(2022) The only thing Ross Edmonds wanted to do was ride bulls, even after he broke his neck twice. Using alcohol and drugs to cope, he nearly killed himself. Directed by Autie Carlisle. (US) 20 minutes



Skin On Fire

(2022) Skin on Fire is a documentary short film about Topical Steroid Addiction (TSA) and Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome (TSWS). Directed by James Keach. (US) 30 minutes

Featured Presentation



8:00 PM Finding Wilson

(2021) A young girl's life is changed forever when she meets a stranger in a quiet, woodland clearing. Directed by Emily M. Smith (UK) 9 minutes



Forest for the Trees

(2021) This visually and artistically unique documentary explores the physical and emotional aspects of a community of Canadian west coast tree planters. In Person Directed by Rita Leistner. (CANADA) 1hour 31 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Rita Leistner

WEDNESDAY — OCTOBER 26

Block 1



1:00 PM Every 8th of December

(2022) Benedetta, a 15-year-old teenager, faints every December 8. Why? Directed by Alessia Ambrosini. (Italy) 8 minutes *(in Italian with English subtitles)*

Schedule subject to change



Block 1 continued

1:00 PM **Schizo**

(2022) A visual essay on life with schizotypal personality disorder. Directed by Dennis Rothwell. (US) 19 minutes



In the Mind's Garden

(2021) On the shores of Lake Como patients, psychiatrists, and photojournalists gather from around the world to offer a unique view on mental health. Directed by Matteo Balsamo (Italy) 1 hour 32 minutes *(in Italian with English subtitles)*

Block 2

3:15 PM **Dysthymia**

(2022) The Speaker presents her case in court before an invisible judge and jury to describe and defend her mental health history. Directed by Eva-Marie Kung, Tim Willrich. (UK) 8 minutes



The Secret Sobriety Society

(2021) The film explores the quiet side of sobriety—private moments and the connection and support the sober community creates for each other. Directed by Claire Kinnen. (US) 7 minutes



Mazoji

(2022) Told through the perspective of a toddler, this is a story of a family's first encounter with their teenage son's schizophrenia. Directed by Aistė S. Gram. (Lithuania) 12minutes. *(in Lithuanian with English subtitles)*



Promises

(2022) A Latina single mother of two is struggling to keep her head above water and regain custody of her kids while keeping the needle out of her arm. Directed by Faye Ann Brenner (US) 14 minutes



No Last Words

(2022) When her brother, fresh out of rehab, suddenly breaks into his little sister's life (and apartment) she's not sure she can trust him but may not have a choice. Directed by Anthony Ocasio. (US) 7 minutes



Just in Case

(2021) Rachel has bipolar disorder and the enormity of her condition has become too much to keep from her father. 'Just in Case' explores the harsh reality of what it's really like to live with bipolar disorder. Directed by Kirsty Robinson-Ward. (UK) 14 minutes



NUMB

(2022) A grieving widow's prescription to get through the death of her husband could cost her everything. What price will she pay to stay numb? Directed by Carlos Moreno, Jr. (US) 20 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Carlos Moreno, Jr., Writer Chong U Kim, and Star Luella Hill Kim



Her Hope Haven

(2021) A comedy-drama about a group of women in a treatment center in West Virginia working the steps toward their sobriety. Directed by Tijah Bumgarner. (US) 22 minutes

Schedule subject to change



REEL Recovery Film Festival & Symposium® 2009-2022

YEAR	CITY	MONTH	DATES
2009	Los Angeles, CA	April	7,21,28
2009	Los Angeles, CA	May	5,12,19,26
2010	Los Angeles, CA	May	20
2010	Los Angeles, CA	October	28-30
2011	Vancouver, BC	October	21-23
2011	Los Angeles, CA	December	8,9,10,11
2012	Seattle, WA	May	31
2012	New York City	September	28-Oct. 4
2012	Los Angeles, CA	October	25-28
2012	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	November	2-4
2013	Los Angeles/Skid Row	April	4
2013	Los Angeles/Skid Row	May	3-5
2013	New York City	September	27-Oct. 3
2013	Los Angeles, CA	October	18-24
2013	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	November	8-10
2013	Vancouver, BC	November	23-24
2014	Sedona, AZ	February	22
2014	Houston, TX	April	4-6
2014	San Francisco, CA	April	24-27
2014	New York City	September	26-Oct. 2
2014	Denver, CO	October	10-12
2014	Del Rey Beach, FL	November	7-9
2015	Denver, CO	May	29-31
2015	San Francisco, CA	June	11-14
2015	Houston, TX	September	25-27
2015	New York City	October	16-22
2015	Los Angeles, CA	October	23-29
2015	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	November	4-6
2016	New York City	September	23-29
2016	Los Angeles, CA	October	21-27
2016	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	November	4-6
2017	London, UK - iCAADE	May	1
2017	Austin, TX - NAATP	May	23
2017	Richmond, VA	August	25-27
2017	Denver, CO	September	15-17
2017	Los Angeles, CA	October	20-26
2017	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	November	3-5
2018	Los Angeles, CA	October	24-30
2018	New York City	November	2-8
2019	Denver, CO	September	20-21
2019	Los Angeles, CA	October	11-17
2019	New York City	November	1-7
2020	Virtual, Worldwide	November	6-12
2021	Virtual, Worldwide	November	5-11
2022	Los Angeles, CA	October	21-27

www.reelrecoveryfilmfestival.org



Block 2 continued

Special appearance by Nadia Davis

Nadia is an attorney, victim's rights advocate, mother of three, and author of *Home is Within You: A Memoir of Recovery and Redemption* (Girl Friday Books, Spring 2023). Nadia has a lifetime record of passionate work and dedication improving the lives of others. Her life now is dedicated to ending the judgement and shame that holds back so many victims from healing and improving their lives. Nadia has a Bachelor's degree from UCLA and JD from Loyola Law School. Find her at www.nadia-davis.com.

Block 3

6:00 PM My Dinner with Edie

(2022) After a breakthrough therapy session, a young woman invites her problematic friend over for dinner to end the relationship. Directed by Adrienne Picciotto. (US) 5 minutes



One More Meal

(2018) A life-altering decision is made after the chance encounter between a woman doing last minute shopping, and a butcher who is closing up shop for the evening. Directed by Dave Perry. (US) 6 minutes



IN PERSON: Director Dave Perry

Obtusion

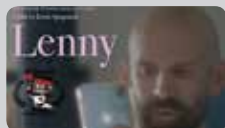
(2022) The film follows an older brother as he interviews his sister, 4 months after she is diagnosed with anorexia and body dysmorphia to find out why she refuses to get better. Directed by Nathan Cowles. (US) 13 minutes



IN PERSON: Director Nathan Cowles

Lenny

(2022) When Lenny, a middle-aged actor struggling with an eating disorder, experiences a harrowing personal situation, things get messy. Directed by Jason Spagnoli. (US) 13 minutes



My Name is Moe

(2022) Socially awkward high schooler Moe has little connection with his peers. In Person Director/Lead Actor Kabir McNeely. (US) 14 minutes



IN PERSON: Director/Lead Actor Kabir McNeely

Equilibrium

(2021) Mika is celebrating her 27th birthday at the eating disorder where she lives. As relationships with her roommates deteriorate, food takes over her life. Directed by Brit Leibovitz. (Israel) 18 minutes



7:30 PM Special Event

REEL Recovery Film Festival presents A NIGHT OF COMEDY STARRING JOHN LEHR Featuring Stevie Mack and Abby Schachner

John Lehr: Lehr is one of the original Geico Cavemen from the wildly successful commercial campaign. He co-created, wrote, executive produced and starred in many well-received tv-shows on major platforms like HULU and TBS. He has 20 plus years clean and sober and draws on that experience for laughs in his stand-up show "Cold. Sober. Comedy."

Stevie Mack: Stevie made his Stand-Up Comedy debut in 1990 at the World-Famous Comedy Store in Hollywood, California. His award-winning one-man shows were launched at the Hollywood Improv and he continues touring to this day.

Abby Schachner: Comedian, writer, poet, artist, actress, brilliant!



Block 1: Careful Falling Rocks

1:00 PM **A Feast that Never Comes**

(2022) Four characters inhabit cycles within cycles of contentment, discontentment, inertia, movement, desire, and betrayal—told through dance. Directed by Maria Juranic. (US) 10 minutes

A Path of Stones

(2021) The film reflects on the relationships and social spaces built from the popularization of drugs like “crack” and “basuco” in the cities of Salvador and São Paulo, Brazil, and Bogotá and Medellín, Colombia. Directed by Harrison Araujo. (Brazil) 1 hour 55 minutes *(in Spanish and Portuguese with English subtitles)*

Trigger warning: contains drug use

Block 2: Addicts on Addiction & Recovery

3:30 PM **The Click & Components of Recovery**

(2021) Metaphors for addiction and recovery. Themes for this film were developed with individuals in recovery from addiction as part of a PhD project. Directed by Mary Smyth. (US) 11 minutes

Can't Talk a Movie's On

(2021) A young woman realizes that the world she has known is just an illusion. Somebody's watching her — but who? Directed by Anna Evtushenko. (Russian Federation) 13minutes *(in Russian with English subtitles)*

6:16

(2022) Two lovers and heroin users/dealers, Sophia and Nero, must decide whether or not to call emergency services after their friend overdoses in their apartment. Directed by Trevor Allem. (US) 13 minutes

Trigger warning: Drug use and paraphernalia

IN PERSON: Dir. of Photography Conner White and Producer Ken Sogabe

Disrupt

(2021) When a burglary goes wrong, a meth addict must choose between his family and his next fix. Directed by Jennifer Te Atamira Ward-Lealand. (New Zealand) 13 minutes

IN PERSON: Director Jennifer Te Atamira Ward-Lealand

Heading Away from the Ledge

(2022) A personal story about the director's brother and his lifelong struggle with mental illness, drug addiction and the dramatic effect it has had on his family. Directed by Henry A. Hopkins. (US) 70 minutes

Trigger warning: talk of suicide and self-harm

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 27



Special Event

1ST ANNUAL HALLOW-REEL COSTUME PARTY HORROR NIGHT

5:30-7:00 PM

CLOSING NIGHT CATERED RECEPTION

Sponsored by Westwind Recovery

Federal NoHo 5303 Lankershim Blvd.
North Hollywood 91601

(right across from the theater) *validated parking*



Schedule subject to change

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