

SHORTS TV



DOCUMENTARY



COLETTE

USA/25 MINS/2020

Native Title: COLETTE

Director: ANTHONY GIACCHINO

Producer: ANNIE SMALL, ALICE DOYARD, AARON MATTHEWS

Synopsis: Ninety-year-old Colette Marin-Catherine is one of the last surviving members of the French Resistance. As a young girl, she belonged to a family of Resistance fighters that included her 17-year-old brother Jean-Pierre. The last time Colette saw Jean-Pierre was in 1943, when he was arrested by the Gestapo and “disappeared” into the Nazi concentration camp system, never to be seen by his family again. The family was inwardly shattered, but outwardly stoic. No tears. Never permitted.

For the past 74-years, Colette has never allowed herself to put one foot in Germany. But that’s all about to change when a young history student named Lucie enters her life. Lucie is researching the camp in Germany where Jean-Pierre died. Tracing the story of Jean-Pierre is, in fact, her special assignment. The film follows Colette as she travels with Lucie to what remains of the forced labor camp near Nordhausen, Germany.

It’s a journey of discovery on many levels, but the film’s greatest revelation is Colette herself, who at 90, is finally ready to let go of what she has, for over seven decades, held so tightly inside. Lucie’s youth and genuine concern has pierced the armor. The ultimate discovery of the film is Colette’s to make. That some wounds can only be healed if we allow them to be re-opened.

Director’s Biography: Anthony Giacchino, Director, is an Emmy Award winning filmmaker living in New York. His last documentary, **THE GIANT’S DREAM** (Warner Bros), tells the story behind Academy Award winning director Brad Bird’s first feature film, **THE IRON GIANT**. His first feature-length documentary, **THE CAMDEN 28**, aired on the PBS series POV, and was nominated for a Writers Guild of America award for outstanding achievement in writing for the screen. Giacchino is a former Fulbright Scholar at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität in Freiburg, Germany.

Awards:

Academy Award® Nominee - Best Documentary Short Subject 2021

Best Documentary Short - Big Sky Documentary Film Festival 2020

Best Documentary Short - St Louis International Festival 2020

Young Cineastes Award - Palm Springs ShortFest 2020

Best Director - Fargo Film Festival 2021

Festivals/Screenings:

Big Sky Documentary Film Festival 2020

Palm Springs ShortFest 2020

Mountainfilm in Telluride 2020

Nevada City Film Festival 2020

Walla Walla Movie Crush 2020

Fargo Film Festival 2021



A CONCERTO IS A CONVERSATION

USA/13 MINS/2021

Native Title: A CONCERTO IS A CONVERSATION

Director: KRIS BOWERS, BEN PROUDFOOT

Producer: BEN PROUDFOOT

Synopsis: **A CONCERTO IS A CONVERSATION** tells the story of virtuoso jazz pianist and film composer Kris Bowers as he tracks his family's lineage through his 91-year-old grandfather from Jim Crow Florida to the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Directed by Emmy-winning filmmaker and entrepreneur Ben Proudfoot and Emmy-winning composer Kris Bowers (**GREEN BOOK**, **WHEN THEY SEE US**, **BRIDGERTON**), and executive produced by Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning filmmaker Ava DuVernay, **A CONCERTO IS A CONVERSATION** had its festival debut at the all-virtual 2021 Sundance Film Festival.

Kris Bowers is one of Hollywood's rising young composers. At 29, he scored the Oscar-winning film **GREEN BOOK** (2018), and this year he premiered a new violin concerto, **FOR A YOUNGER SELF**, at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Bowers also scored DuVernay's Emmy-winning limited series **WHEN THEY SEE US**. For all that success, though, he says that as a Black composer, "I've been wondering whether or not I'm supposed to be in the spaces that I'm in."

In the 13-minute film **A CONCERTO IS A CONVERSATION**, Bowers traces the process of breaking into new spaces through generations of sacrifice that came before him, focusing on the story of his grandfather Horace Bowers.

As a young man, he left his home in the Jim Crow South, eventually ending up in Los Angeles. Encountering discrimination at every turn, he and his wife, Alice, nevertheless made a life as business owners. Today, their legacy lives on through their family and community in South Los Angeles, where a stretch of Central Avenue was recently designated Bowers Retail Square — in case any question remained about whether it's a place they belong.

Horace Bowers tells his grandson: "Never think that you're not supposed to be there."

Director Biographies: Kristopher Bowers (born 1989) is an American composer and pianist who has composed scores for films, video games, television and documentaries including, **GREEN BOOK**, **MADDEN NFL**, **DEAR WHITE PEOPLE**, and Kobe Bryant's **MUSE**. He has recorded, performed, and collaborated with the likes of **JAY-Z**, **KANYE WEST**, and **JOSÉ JAMES**. He won the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition in 2011 and a Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Music Direction and Composition in 2017 for **THE SNOWY DAY**. Bowers worked on the score of Ava DuVernay's Netflix mini-series **WHEN THEY SEE US** as well as the current Netflix hit **BRIDGERTON**.

Ben Proudfoot (born 1990) is a Nova Scotia born filmmaker and founder of Breakwater Studios, an emerging leader in the short documentary space. A former sleight of hand magician, Ben has pioneered alternative models of short documentary financing and distribution including noteworthy and award-winning collaborations with The New York Times, Charles Schwab, Annapurna Pictures and the LA Phil, earning him a spot on the 2020 Forbes 30 under 30 list. In addition to his work as an entrepreneur, Ben is an award-winning artist and filmmaker, having directed over fifty noteworthy original short documentaries. Ben's work as a director has been selected by HotDocs, Sundance, Tribeca and Telluride.

He resides in Los Angeles.

Awards:

Academy Award® Nominee - Best Documentary Short Subject 2021

Festivals/Screenings:

Sundance Film Festival 2021



Native Title: DO NOT SPLIT

Director: ANDERS HAMMER

Producer: ANDERS HAMMER, CHARLOTTE COOK

Synopsis: Told from within the heart of the Hong Kong protests, **DO NOT SPLIT** begins in 2019 as a proposed bill allowing the Chinese government to extradite criminal suspects to mainland China escalated protests throughout Hong Kong. Unfolding across a year, **DO NOT SPLIT** captures the determination and sacrifices of the protesters, the government's backlash, and the passage of the new Beijing-backed national security law.

Director's Biography: Anders Hammer is an award-winning filmmaker and investigative journalist who directed the series **OUR ALLIES** from Iraq and Syria for Field of Vision. He directed and produced **ESCAPE FROM SYRIA: RANIA'S ODYSSEY**, which was published by The Guardian and won a Webby Award and a One World Media Award for best refugee reporting in 2018. He is one of the directors of **EXIT AFGHANISTAN** published by Netflix. He has directed seven documentaries for the Norwegian investigative journalism program NRK Brennpunkt and many short documentaries.

Awards:

Academy Award® Nominee - Best Documentary Short Subject 2021

2021 Norway Photo of the Year winner - Video report / documentary, long

DOC NYC 2020 - Special Jury Recognition for Courage under Fire

AFI DOCS 2020 - Special Jury Prize

Festivals/Screenings:

ACT Human Rights Film Festival 2020

CPH:DOX 2020

Denver Film Festival 2020

DOC NYC 2020 - Short List

Guanajuato International Film Festival 2020

HUMAN International Documentary Festival 2021

Indy Shorts International Film Festival 2020

Meet The Press Film Festival with AFI 2020

New Orleans Film Festival 2020

PEN Norway 2021

Sundance Film Festival 2020

SFFILM Doc Stories 2020



HUNGER WARD

USA/40 MINS/2020

Native Title: HUNGER WARD

Director: SKYE FITZGERALD

Producer: SKYE FITZGERALD, JODY ALLEN, VULCAN PRODUCTIONS

Synopsis: Filmed from inside two of the most active therapeutic feeding centers in Yemen, **HUNGER WARD** documents two women health care workers fighting to thwart the spread of starvation against the backdrop of a forgotten war. The film provides an unflinching portrait of Dr. Aida Alsadeeq and Nurse Mekkia Mahdi as they try to save the lives of hunger-stricken children within a population on the brink of famine.

Director's Biography: Skye Fitzgerald founded Spin Film to bear witness to unfolding crises with the intent to deepen empathy and understanding. He is currently directing a trilogy of films on the global refugee crisis. The first, **50 FEET FROM SYRIA** focused on doctors working on the Syrian border and was voted onto the Oscar® shortlist. The second, **LIFEBOAT DOCUMENTS SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS OFF THE COAST OF LIBYA** and was nominated for an Academy Award® and national Emmy® award.

The third, **HUNGER WARD**, explores the impact of the war and famine in Yemen on children, families, and healthcare workers. As a Fulbright Research Scholar Fitzgerald directed the film **BOMBHUNTERS** and has worked with the Sundance Institute, the U.S. Institute of Peace, the State Department, and Mountainfilm. As a Director of Photography, Fitzgerald lenses work for clients including Dateline, VICE, Mercy Corps, CNN, the Discovery, etc.

Fitzgerald was recently inducted as an honorary member into SAMS (Syrian American Medical Society) for his work with Syrian refugees and named a Distinguished Alumnus at his alma mater EOU for documentary work. Fitzgerald is a member of the Documentary Branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Before filmmaking, Fitzgerald cut fire-lines as a Hotshot crew-member on a wild-land fire-fighting crew. He continues to ride his bicycle to ruin and hugs two dogs on a daily basis.

Awards:

Academy Award® Nominee - Best Documentary Short Subject 2021

Best Short Documentary Critics' Choice Awards 2020

Festivals/Screenings:

Holly Shorts Film Festival 2020



A LOVE SONG FOR LATASHA | USA/19 MINS/2019

Native Title: A LOVE SONG FOR LATASHA

Director: SOPHIA NAHLI ALLISON

Producer: JANICE DUNCAN FAM UDEORJI AND SOPHIA NAHLI ALLISON

Synopsis: The injustice surrounding the shooting death of 15-year-old Latasha Harlins at a South Central Los Angeles store became a flashpoint for the city's 1992 civil uprising. As the Black community expressed its profound pain in the streets, Latasha's friends and family privately mourned the loss of a vibrant child whose full story was never in the headlines. Nearly three decades later, director Sophia Nahli Allison's **A LOVE SONG FOR LATASHA** removes Latasha from the context of her death and rebuilds an archive of a promising life lost. Oral history and memories from Latasha's best friend and cousin converge in a dreamlike portrait that shows the impact one brief but brilliant life can have.

Director's Biography: Sophia Nahli Allison (Director/Cinematographer/Editor/Producer) is a black queer radical dreamer, experimental documentary filmmaker + photographer from South Central Los Angeles. She disrupts conventional documentary methods by reimagining the archives and excavating hidden truths. A meditation of the spirit, her work conjures ancestral memories to explore the intersection of fiction and non-fiction storytelling. She is a 2020 United States Artists Fellow in Film and has held residencies at MacDowell, The Camargo Foundation in Cassis, France, The Center for Photography at Woodstock, and POV Spark's African Interactive Art Residency.

She is currently working on her long-term project Dreaming Gave Us Wings.

Awards:

Academy Award® Nominee - Best Documentary Short Subject 2021
Cinema Eye Honors, Outstanding Nonfiction Short 2021
DOC NYC, Directing Award Short List: Shorts 2020
AFI Film Festival, Grand Jury Prize Documentary Short 2019
New Orleans Film Festival, Best Documentary Short 2019
BlackStar Film Festival, Best Documentary Short 2019
Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, Best Documentary Short 2019
IDA Documentary Awards Nominee - Best Short Documentary 2019

Festivals/Screenings:

Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020
World Premiere Tribeca Film Festival 2019
International Premiere Sheffield Doc/Fest 2019
Official Selection AFI Film Festival 2019
Official Selection New Orleans Film Festival 2019
Official Selection BlackStar Film Festival 2019
Official Selection Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival 2019
Official Selection Reel Sisters of the Diaspora 2019
Official Selection Camden International Film Festival 2019
Official Selection AFI DOCS 2019
Official Selection Meet The Press Film Festival with AFI 2019
Official Selection Indy Shorts International Film Festival 2019
Official Selection Nashville Film Festival 2019