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**THE 3RD ANNUAL DESERTSCAPE  
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
ANNOUNCES OFFICIAL 2021 FILM SELECTIONS AND TICKET INFO!**

[#diff2021](#) | [#desertscape2021](#)

**Presented by Film and Media Alliance of Southern Utah (FMASU)**

**St. George, UT**--The nonprofit, [Film and Media Alliance of Southern Utah](#) has announced official selections for the 2021 Desertscape International Film Festival. DIFF 2021 will take place in beautiful St. George, UT from Wednesday, June 23rd thru Saturday, June 26th at the historic Electric Theater. This celebration of independent cinema will feature **over 60 titles--shorts and features**-- from all around the world-- and **nearly 40 Utah Premieres**. Categories will include; Features, International, Comedy, After Dark, Family and Relationship Dynamics, Sights and Sounds, Made in Utah, Student Films, Guerilla Showcase, and more.

**Desertscape International Film Festival 2021 Official Selections;**



## FEATURES

### **“Sara”**

U.S. Feature (Utah)  
Directed by Kyle Plummer

### **“Weirdos: A Homeschool Documentary”**

U.S. Feature Documentary (Utah)  
Directed by Matt Black

### **“Take Out Girl”**

Utah Premiere  
U.S. Feature (Nevada)  
Directed by Hisonni Mustafa

### **“Zero Gravity”**

Utah Premiere  
U.S. Feature Documentary (California)  
Directed by Thomas Verrett



# SHORTS

## **"0110"**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (California)  
Directed by Taehoon Park

## **"Afflatus"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Germany)  
Directed by Andre  
Westerholt

## **"Astral Plane Drifter"**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (California)  
Directed by Mike Caravella  
and Joe di Gennaro

## **"Awake"**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (Colorado)  
Directed by Andre Wright

## **"Bambirak"**

Int'l Short (Germany)  
Directed by Zamarin  
Wahdat

## **"Birdie"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Canada)  
Directed by Alexandre  
Lefebvre

## **"A Brother's Letter"**

World Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Spencer Murray

## **"Camera Obscura"**

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Jon Smith (With  
an assist by SUU Students)

## **"Controversial Convergence"**

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Jenny Mair

## **"Danger in the Front"**

Int'l Short (Canada)  
Directed by Alexis  
Chartrand

## **"The Desecrated"**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (New York)  
Directed by John Gray

## **"Ditch"**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Blade Sabovcik  
and Devi Strill

## **"Dustin"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Canada)  
Directed by Naila Guiguet

## **"Ecorce"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Switzerland)  
Directed by Samuel Patthey  
and Silvain Monney

## **"Exit Package"**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (New York)  
Directed by John Gray

## **"Excuse Me, Miss, Miss, Miss"**

Int'l Short (Philippines)  
Directed by Sonny Calvento

## **"Five Tiger"**

Int'l Short (South Africa)  
Directed by Nomawonga  
Khumalo

## **"Flex"**

Int'l Short (Sweden)  
Directed by Josefin Malmen  
and David Strinberg

## **"Flick"**

U.S. Short (California)  
Directed by Ariel Zengotita

## **"Heirs"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Spain)  
Directed by Txema Ballano

## **"Home of My Memories"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Mexico)  
Directed by Javier Mendez  
Lafon

## **"The Human and the Human"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Iran)  
Directed by Zahra Shafiei  
Dehaghani

## **"I Am Afraid to Forget Your Face"**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Egypt)  
Directed by Sameh Alaa

## **"Intel"**

World Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Braxton Paas

**“Knock”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (New York)  
Directed by Ricardo J.  
Varona

**“La Adelita”**

Int'l Short (Mexico)  
Directed by Caleb Hatton

**“Landgraves”**

Int'l Short (Canada)  
Directed by Jean-Francois  
Leblanc

**“Lost Rhoades”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Rickey Jewkes

**“Mabel and George”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Nathan Steve  
Smith

**“Malakout”**

Int'l Short (Iran)  
Directed Farnoosh Abedi

**“The Maroon Bomber”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (California)  
Directed by Joshua M.  
Thomas

**“Maybe Tomorrow”**

U.S. Short (Nevada)  
Directed by Sunny Bonner

**“Mister Cachemire”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Canada)  
Directed by Jouri Philppe  
Paille

**“The Moon and the  
Hummingbird”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Luis Fernando  
Puente

**“MoonSugar--Spinning  
Out”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Mickelle  
Mitchell

**“Neighborhood”**

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Michael Merrell

**“Pilar”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Netherlands)  
Directed by Yngwie Boley,  
J.J. Epping, and Diana van  
Houten

**“Potted Palm Trees”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Austria)  
Directed by Rosa Friedrich

**“Rán”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Iceland)  
Directed by Fjolnir  
Baldursson and Baldur  
Smari Olafsson

**“Raspberry”**

U.S. Short (California)  
Directed by Julian Doan

**“Rendang of Death”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Indonesia)  
Directed by Percolate  
Galactic

**“Returning Home”**

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed Bhushan Thakkar

**“Shooting Star”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Canada)  
Directed by Ariane  
Louis-Seize

**“Sleep Tight”**

U.S. Short (California)  
Directed by Michael Seabolt

**“Snowy”**

U.S. Short (Pennsylvania)  
Directed by Kaitlyn  
Schwalje and Alexander  
Lewis

**“Space Vamps”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (New York)  
Directed by Cooper Troxell

**“Springs Joy”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short VR (Florida)  
Directed by Oscar J Corral

**“Stephanie”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Belgium)  
Directed by Leonardo Van  
Dijl

**“Ty”**

U.S. Short (Utah)  
Directed by Bruno Miotto

**“Underdogs”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (California)  
Directed by Alex Astrella

**“The Washing Machine”**

Utah Premiere

Int'l Short (Austria)

Directed by Dominik Harti

**“Widow’s Peak”**

World Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)

Directed by Bryan Fugal

**“You Wouldn’t Understand”**

U.S. Short (New York)

Directed by Trish Harnetiaux

**“Zacharias”**

Utah Premiere

U.S. Short (Utah)

Directed by Hunter Abarca

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Additionally, DIFF 2021 received dozens of screenplay submissions. After weeks of combing through the best of the best, the Desertscape 2021 Screenplay Committee is pleased to announce the semi-finalists in both feature and short screenplay categories.

**Desertscape International 2021 Feature Screenplay Semi-Finalists;**

**“Good Enough”**

Written by Dean Jones

**“Grimply’s Dark Lanterns”**

Written by Rob York and Scott Baird

**“Infirm”**

Written by Paul Amstone

**“The Last Grizzly”**

Written by Scott Baird and Rob York

**“The Last Stage, Or Wyatt Earp’s Dying Dream”**

Written by Bruce Scivally

**“Orion’s Pants”**

Written by Michael Blomquist

**“Rip Van Winkle”**

Written by Julie Johnson Oliver

**“Whispers of the Night”**

Written by Trey Paterson

**Desertscape International 2021 Short Screenplay Semi-Finalists;**

**“Dolores”**

Written by Michael Seabolt and Greg Schroeder

**“Spaceman”**

Written by Jeff Roth

**“Dead Man’s Hand”**

Written by Trey Paterson

**“The Preposterous Wanderer”**

Written by Adam Weber

Screenplay finalists will be announced on June 7th, 2021 with winners being revealed in both feature and short categories on June 15th, 2021.

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While Desertscape International Film Festival: Year Three will pride itself on a wonderfully diverse slate of films and screenplays of multiple genres, programmers promise a variety of several other noteworthy film-centric activities and events as well. Included; Filmmaker Q&A's, storyteller panels, a live script read, VR stations, a 3D movie alley, a 16mm pop-up theater, live music, food, an opening night party, and a closing night Awards Gala.

But the cinematic greatness doesn't stop there. Desertscape will have special guests on hand. Actor/filmmaker **Colin Cunningham** ("[Falling Skies](#)," "[Preacher](#)," "[Centigrade](#)," and more) will be joining the festivities as a Desertscape Jury member. He'll also be part of an informative storytelling panel. Also making a grand appearance; Professional screenwriter **Jeff Robison** ("[The Scent of Rain of Lightning](#)," "[Rudderless](#)." ) Robison, too, will serve on the Jury.

Additionally, this veteran writer will open the festival with an optional screenwriting clinic as well as host a special screening of the underrated 2014 music-tinged father/son story. "Rudderless" starring Billy Crudup. Cunningham and Robison have plenty of insight on the business and both will engage Desertscape attendees by way of their own brand of infectious charm.

Desertscape International Film Festival tickets are currently on sale. All-Access Badges are \$75 (includes a swag bag) with single film block tickets at \$10 and special day passes available at \$25. For ticket sales and more info on the festival, log on to [www.fmasu.com/desertscape](http://www.fmasu.com/desertscape).

***\*The official 2021 Desertscape International Film Festival schedule will be announced no later than June 7th.***



Adam Mast--President of FMASU and Desertscape 2021 Festival Director said; "Desertscape has been a real labor of love for my colleague John Pugh and I. As you're probably already well aware, putting a film festival together is no easy task. That said, I love film with every fiber of my being so the stress is well worth it. Being able to aid in establishing a platform where storytellers can network, learn, evolve, and share their work is incredibly satisfying. Of course, we love to entertain and enlighten our attendees as well. Will the third time be a charm for Desertscape? You'll just have to attend to find out."

John Pugh-- Vice President of FMASU and Desertscape 2021 Festival Director said; "My hope is to see Desertscape become a household name for creatives who submit their work to festivals like Sundance, Tribeca, SXSW, and TIFF. My colleague Adam Mast and I have been working with the best people around the community and we've seen growth in support each year. We're hoping this year will help us spotlight these amazing films and the creators behind them. As hard as the work may be when putting on these festivals, nothing quite compares to the joy of the actual event."

Mark Bracich—Desertscape 2021 Screenplay Competition Coordinator said; "Everyone involved in Desertscape loves movies, and we all appreciate where those movies are born: in the mind of a screenwriter. Screenwriting is an art form in itself; however, our competition doesn't treat the screenplay as an end-product, but as a tool storytellers uses to relate their story to a diverse team of other talented folks who will rip it apart and reassemble it for the visual medium. We want to discover writers who not only have great stories to tell, but know how to tell them. We want screenplays that scream "MAKE THIS MOVIE!"

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**DESERTSCAPE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**-- Since 2019, the Desertscape International Film Festival has served as a platform for filmmakers from all over the world to share their work in a theatrical setting. Additionally, Desertscape prides itself on creating a source of grand entertainment and enlightenment for its many attendees. While Desertscape is still very much in its infancy it has grown exponentially over the last few years seeing an increase in both submissions and attendance from 2019 to 2020. The goal is to see Desertscape evolve and emerge as a Southern Utah staple for years to come.

**FILM AND MEDIA ALLIANCE OF SOUTHERN UTAH (FMASU)**-- Formed in 2017, FMASU is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit designed to encourage, inspire, nurture, and educate filmmaking talent and to preserve film history and the theatrical experience. FMASU does this by way of several film-related events throughout the year, including; Desertscape International Film Festival, HorrorFest International, The Electric Film Series, A Merry Movie Christmas, and the Guerilla Filmmaking Challenges--quick turnaround filmmaking competitions that take place three times per year. While FMASU prides itself on its Southern Utah roots, it is equally interested in championing storytellers from all around the world. Of course, the primary goal is to engage everyone through the culturally expansive nature of the world's greatest art form: Cinema!

To learn all about FMASU and or to donate, log on to [fmasu.com](https://www.fmasu.com).

