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OAK / CLIFF / FILM / FESTIVAL

OAK CLIFF FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2019 FEATURE PROGRAMMING

*The 8th annual edition of the festival returns to the historic Texas Theatre and other venues in Dallas' Oak Cliff neighborhood June 6 - 9, featuring the surreal suburban American Dream Parody **GREENER GRASS** as Opening Night film; The Texas Premieres of Sailor Bear's **LIGHT FROM LIGHT** and A24's **THE FAREWELL**; A Special Screening of Danny Boyle's **YESTERDAY**; the Dallas Premieres of **THE MOUNTAIN** starring Jeff Goldblum and **STRANGE NEGOTIATIONS**, the story of Pedro The Lion's frontman Dave Bazan; a 35mm print of Ozu's silent gangster film **DRAGNET GIRL** with Live Score; plus much more!*

Festival badges and tickets on sale now at OakCliffFilmFestival.com

DALLAS, TX - May 9, 2019 - Oak Cliff Film Festival is excited to announce the Feature Program lineup for the 8th annual edition of the festival, taking place *June 6-9, 2019* at the historic Texas Theatre, Bishop Arts Theatre Center, Kessler Theater, and numerous other venues around Dallas' vibrant Oak Cliff neighborhood. Featuring the very best of Oak Cliff's historic theater venues, the festival also highlights the area's popular restaurants, bars, and small businesses, and seeks to showcase and cultivate the best of independent and brave filmmaking in Texas and beyond. This year's schedule is comprised of 28 feature-length films, with 13 of the films having their Texas premiere at this year's festival. The festival also includes 36 short films, opening and closing night parties, filmmaking workshops, live music events with sets from E.B. The Younger (featuring Eric Pulido of Midlake) and Jacob Metcalf, and much more!

"We welcome movie goers and film fans to another Oak Cliff Film Festival! The diverse neighborhood of Oak Cliff is the perfect context for the varied programming the festival seeks to introduce to new audiences" said Barak Epstein and Jason Reimer, Oak Cliff Film Festival Co-Founders.

Kicking off proceedings with this year's opening night film are directors and stars Jocelyn DeBoer and Dawn Luebbe (*Upright Citizens Brigade*) in attendance for the DFW premiere of

GREENER GRASS, an absurdist satire of suburban American life. The screening will be followed by a DJ Set by maximalist electronic composer Dan Deacon.

Additional festival highlights include: a 35mm screening of Ozu's 1933 silent gangster pop drama DRAGNET GIRL with Live Score by deliberate ambient musicians Coupler; THE MOUNTAIN starring Jeff Goldblum as a famous lobotomist on a tour of rural mental hospitals; STRANGE NEGOTIATIONS, the music doc which finds Pedro The Lion frontman David Bazan on a journey during which he has become a reluctant prophet of sorts to young Americans struggling to reconcile their faith; plus A24's THE FAREWELL, Danny Boyle's YESTERDAY, and the new Sailor Bear Production LIGHT FROM LIGHT.

For the 2019 festival, Oak Cliff Film Festival has once again partnered with with the Austin Film Society, Sailor Bear film collective, Tim Headington's Ley Line Entertainment, and the Dallas Producers Association to provide up and coming North Texas filmmakers with grant funds specifically to make feature films and is proud to promote the North Texas Pioneer Film Grant of \$35,000 as part of the 2019 AFS Grant. These funds are reserved for emerging filmmakers who reside in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, with an emphasis on underrepresented perspectives.

See below for the Oak Cliff Film Festival 2019 Feature Program lineup. The full schedule, including the Shorts Programs, is available [online](#).

OAK CLIFF FILM FESTIVAL 2019 FEATURE PROGRAM

OPENING NIGHT SELECTION

GREENER GRASS (USA, 96 mins)

Dir. Jocelyn DeBoer and Dawn Luebbe

DFW PREMIERE - Directors Jocelyn DeBoer and Dawn Luebbe in attendance.

Jill and Lisa live in their perfect homes in their idyllic suburban community with their happy families. Their days are spent in the grocery store exchanging fashion tips and at birthday parties complimenting their neighbors' potluck dips. As the women desperately vie for validation, they struggle to maintain pleasantry and normalcy, even when things get weird. And they do get weird. When Jill gifts Lisa her newborn baby in an altruistic gesture, paranoia overwhelms Jill while her fears and anxieties quickly unravel.

SPOTLIGHT FEATURES

THE MOUNTAIN (USA, 106 mins)

Dir. Rick Alverson

DFW PREMIERE - Writer Dustin Guy Defa in attendance.

The year is 1953. Andy, a young, introverted teenager, works as a Zamboni driver at an ice rink where his father is a flamboyant skating instructor. Andy's mother is institutionalized. When Andy meets Dr. Wallace Fiennes (Jeff Goldblum), a famous lobotomist now in the sad decline of his career, the shy young man joins the doctor on a tour of rural mental hospitals. As Fiennes

desperately evangelizes for the lobotomy procedure to drum up business, Andy becomes infatuated with a patient and her father and immerses himself in the surreal, burgeoning New Age movement of the American West.

STRANGE NEGOTIATIONS (USA, 91 mins)

Dir. Brandon Vedder

DFW PREMIERE - Director Brandon Vedder in attendance.

After renouncing his long-held evangelical Christian beliefs and walking away from critically-acclaimed band Pedro the Lion, David Bazan retreated into a solitary life of touring solo, struggling to rebuild his worldview and career from the ground-up, and trying to support his family of four. Strange Negotiations finds David a decade into his journey, during which he has become a reluctant prophet of sorts to young Americans struggling to reconcile their faith, politics, and doubts amidst the 2016 elections.

THE FAREWELL (USA, 98 mins)

Dir. Lulu Wang

TEXAS PREMIERE

After learning their beloved matriarch has terminal lung cancer, a family opts not to tell her about the diagnosis, instead scheduling an impromptu wedding-reunion back in China. Headstrong and emotional writer Billi (Awkwafina) rebels against her parents' directive to stay in New York and joins the family as they awkwardly attempt to rekindle old bonds, throw together a wedding that only grandma is actually looking forward to, and surreptitiously say their goodbyes.

CASSANDRO, THE EXOTICO! (France, 73 mins)

Dir. Marie Losier

TEXAS PREMIERE - Star Cassandro in attendance.

After 26 years of spinning dives and flying uppercuts in the ring, Cassandro, the star of the gender-bending cross-dressing Mexican wrestlers known as the Exoticos, is far from retiring. But with dozens of broken bones and metal pins in his body, he must now reinvent himself.

SATANIC PANIC (USA, 91 mins)

Dir. Chelsea Stardust

TEXAS PREMIERE - Director Chelsea Stardust in attendance.

In the new FANGORIA movie SATANIC PANIC: A pizza delivery girl at the end of her financial rope has to fight for her life - and her tips - when her last order of the night turns out to be for high society Satanists in need of a virgin sacrifice.

THE GRAND BIZARRE (USA, 61 mins)

Dir. Jodie Mack

TEXAS PREMIERE - 35mm Print

A postcard from an imploded society. Bringing mundane objects to life to interpret place through materials, THE GRAND BIZARRE transcribes an experience of pattern, labor, and alien[ation]. A pattern parade in pop music pairs figure and landscape to trip through the topologies of codification. Following components, systems, and samples in a collage of textiles,

tourism, language, and music, the film investigates recurring motifs and how their metamorphoses function within a global economy.

YESTERDAY (UK, 112 mins)

Dir. Danny Boyle

SPECIAL SCREENING

Jack Malik (Himesh Patel) is a struggling singer-songwriter in a tiny English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie (Lily James). Then, after a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed — and he finds himself with a very complicated problem, indeed. Performing songs by the greatest band in history to a world that has never heard them, and with a little help from his steel-hearted American agent, Debra (Kate McKinnon), Jack's fame explodes. But as his star rises, he risks losing Ellie — the one person who always believed in him. With the door between his old life and his new closing, Jack will need to get back to where he once belonged and prove that all you need is love.

SWORD OF TRUST (USA, 88 mins)

Dir. Lynn Shelton

DFW PREMIERE

When Cynthia & Mary (Jillian Bell & Michaela Watkins) show up to collect Cynthia's inheritance from her deceased grandfather, the only item she's received is an antique sword that was believed by her grandfather to be proof that the South won the Civil War. The two attempt to unload the object to a curmudgeonly pawnshop owner (Marc Maron) & his man-child sidekick Nathaniel (Jon Bass). When Mel and Nathaniel discover there's a black market for the relic, the two pairs reluctantly join forces to sell this rarefied 'prover item' to the highest bidder. The adventure that ensues takes the four of them on a wild journey into the depths of conspiracy theory and Southern disillusionment.

THE INFILTRATORS (USA, 95 mins)

Dir. Lynn Shelton

DFW PREMIERE

*This docu-thriller tells the true story of young immigrants who get arrested by Border Patrol, and put in a shadowy for-profit detention center — on purpose. Marco and Viri are members of the National Immigrant Youth Alliance, a group of radical Dreamers who are on a mission to stop deportations. And the best place to stop deportations, they believe, is in detention. However, when Marco and Viri try to pull off their heist — a kind of 'prison break' in reverse — things don't go according to plan. By weaving together documentary footage of the real infiltrators with scripted re-enactments of the events inside the detention center, **THE INFILTRATORS** tells this incredible true story in a boundary-crossing new cinematic language.*

JULES OF LIGHT AND DARK (USA, 90 mins)

Dir. Daniel Laabs

DFW PREMIERE - Director Daniel Laabs in attendance.

Maya has only recently emerged into full adulthood, but already there's so much about her life that feels tentative, half-formed. Her relationship with her girlfriend Jules, though exciting, is more a source of mystery than security. Surrounded by free spirits, she longs to be tied down. Her state of hesitation comes to an outright halt after an accident leaves her battered and Jules nearly comatose. Help comes in the form of Freddy, a hard-drinking oilfield surveyor whose own will to change may be awakening for both of them.

TOO LATE TO DIE YOUNG (Chile/Brazil/Netherlands/Argentina/Qatar, 110 mins)

Dir. Dominga Sotomayor Castillo

TEXAS PREMIERE

Summer 1990. The dawn of a new, post-dictatorship era in Chile. In the mountains, a commune of like-minded idealists is determined to live in harmony off the land. But the outside world encroaches. Sofia, on the verge of adulthood, longs to be independent, in love, and living in the city with her singer mother. This atmospheric drama evokes the tumultuous emotions of growing up and the ephemeral promise of childhood and utopia.

NARRATIVE FEATURE COMPETITION

KNIVES AND SKIN (USA, 111 mins)

Dir. Jennifer Reeder

TEXAS PREMIERE

An inexperienced local sheriff investigates a young girl's disappearance in the rural Midwest. The ripple of fear and suspicion among the small-town residents destroys some relationships and strengthens others. This mystical teen noir presents coming of age as a life-long process and examines the profound impact of grief as the teenagers experience an accelerated loss of innocence while their parents are forced to confront adulthood failures.

A GREAT LAMP (USA, 77 mins)

Dir. Saad Qureshi

TEXAS PREMIERE - Director Saad Qureshi in attendance.

Max wheat pastes pictures of their dead grandma, Howie listens to fountain pennies and grants wishes, and Gene lives out of his car in exile from his family, when they each discover the prophetic coming of a fabled rocket launch in this heartfelt kaleidoscope of pain and friendship.

HAM ON RYE (USA, 85 mins)

Dir. Tyler Taormina

TEXAS PREMIERE - Director Tyler Taormina in attendance.

A bizarre rite of passage at the local deli determines the fate of a generation of teenagers, leading some to escape their suburban town and dooming others to remain.

LIGHT FROM LIGHT (USA, 82 mins)

Dir. Paul Harril

TEXAS PREMIERE - Producing Team and Director Paul Harril in attendance.

Shelia, a single mom and sometime paranormal investigator, is asked to investigate a possible "haunting" at a widower's farmhouse in East Tennessee. After failing at investigating on her own, Shelia enlists Owen, her underachieving teenage son, and one of his classmates, a bright girl named Lucy. Together, Shelia, the widower, and the two teens attempt to understand the mystery.

DANIEL ISN'T REAL (USA, 96 mins)

Dir. Adam Egypt Mortimer

DFW PREMIERE - Director Adam Egypt Mortimer in attendance.

Traumatized 8-year old Luke invents an imaginary friend named Daniel who leads them both into a world of fantasy and imagination. After Daniel tricks Luke into doing something terrible, Luke is forced to lock him away. Twelve years later, Luke brings Daniel back -- and he now appears as a charming, manipulative young man with a terrifying secret agenda.

ONE MAN DIES A MILLION TIMES (USA, 97 mins)

Dir. Jessica Oreck

DFW PREMIERE

Caught in the grip of a war-torn Russian winter, the city is starving to death. Despite their hunger, Alyssa and Maksim heroically work to preserve the treasures of the world's most important seed bank - treasures that hold the key to the future of their country's food supply - even though its sustenance could mean their survival.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE COMPETITION

RECORDER: THE MARION STOKES PROJECT (USA, 87 mins)

Dir. Matt Wolf

TEXAS PREMIERE

Marion Stokes secretly recorded television 24 hours a day for 30 years from 1975 until her death in 2012. For Marion taping was a form of activism to seek the truth, and she believed that a comprehensive archive of the media would be invaluable for future generations. Her visionary and maddening project nearly tore her family apart, but now her 70,000 VHS tapes are being digitized and they'll be searchable online.

BRAINIAC: TRANSMISSIONS AFTER ZERO (USA, 108 mins)

Dir. Eric Mahoney

DFW PREMIERE

This feature length documentary explores the seminal 90's rock band Brainiac from Dayton, OH and its creative force Tim Taylor. Just days before signing a major record contract, Taylor was killed in a bizarre auto accident leaving his family, friends and fans to pick up the pieces. The film celebrates the life and creativity of one of rock music's unsung heroes and how people cope with extreme and sudden loss and life changes.

LOVE, ANTOSHA (USA, 92 mins)

Dir. Garret Price

TEXAS PREMIERE - Director Garret Price in attendance.

From a prolific career in film and television, Anton Yelchin left an indelible legacy as an actor. Through his journals and other writings, his photography, the original music he wrote, and interviews with his family, friends, and colleagues, this film looks not just at Anton's impressive career, but at a broader portrait of the man. Love, Antosha explores his successes and his struggles, and lets viewers get to know this extraordinary person the world was cheated from seeing grow old.

WE ARE THE RADICAL MONARCHS (USA, 97 mins)

Dir. Linda Goldstein Knowlton

DFW PREMIERE

A group of tween girls chant into megaphones, marching in the San Francisco Trans March. Fists clenched high, they wear brown berets and vests showcasing colorful badges like "Black Lives Matter" and "Radical Beauty." Meet the Radical Monarchs, a group of young girls of color at the front lines of social justice. Set in Oakland, a city with a deep history of social justice movements, the film documents the journey of the group as they earn badges for completing units including being an LGBTQ ally, preserving the environment, and disability justice. Started by two fierce, queer women of color, we follow them as they face the challenge to grow the organization, both pre/post the 2016 election.

OTHER MUSIC (USA, 85 mins) - Special Record Shop Screening at Top Ten Records!

Dir. Puloma Basu and Rob Hatch-Miller

TEXAS PREMIERE - Directors Puloma Basu and Rob Hatch-Miller in attendance.

Other Music was not just a record store in the village. It was a place where a generation discovered groundbreaking artists who became larger than life icons in the music scene. It was a destination for music lovers, musicians, and industry representatives, where bands were formed and careers were launched. Other Music was and remains a symbol of independent music. It was a place that not only spotlighted those in independent music, but also served as a great influence on the music scene in New York City. The film chronicles the store's 20-year history, featuring bands such as Animal Collective, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Vampire Weekend, Interpol, TV On The Radio, and more. As retail stores continue to disappear, the film is an example of how the community and spirit of one much-loved independent record store lives on.

PAHOKEE (USA, 112 mins)

Dir. Ivete Lucas and Patrick Bresnan

DFW PREMIERE - Directors Ivete Lucas and Patrick Bresnan in attendance.

Four high-school students, Na'Kerria, Jocabed, Junior, and BJ, embark on their senior year in Pahokee, a small Florida town on the shores of Lake Okeechobee. The teens navigate all of the sometimes exciting, sometimes heartbreaking rite-of-passage rituals as they make profound decisions about their futures. As they do, the pressure of Pahokee's economic hardships weighs

heavily on their shoulders—the community has placed all hopes for opportunity on them, the next generation.

REPERTORY

AMERICAN MOVIE (USA, 1999, 107 mins)

Dir. Chris Smith

35mm Print

The Oak Cliff Film Festival is proud to bring a 20th Anniversary Screening of this cult-favorite documentary. AMERICAN MOVIE is the story of filmmaker Mark Borchardt, his mission, and his dream. Spanning over two years of intense struggle with his film, his family, financial decline, and spiritual crisis, AMERICAN MOVIE is a portrayal of ambition, obsession, excess, and one man's quest for the American Dream.

A TRIBUTE TO JONAS MEKAS AND CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN (65 mins)

A curated retrospect screening of works by these influential experimental filmmakers and promoters we lost this year.

WALDEN: REEL 1 (USA, 1969, 43 mins)

Dir. Jonas Mekas

16mm Print

Walden was Mekas' first diary film, and it was edited as a collection of images gathered between the years 1964 and 1969.

FUSES (USA, 1967, 22 mins)

Dir. Carolee Schneeman

16mm Print

A silent film of collaged and painted sequences of lovemaking between Schneemann and her then partner, composer James Tenney; observed by the cat, Kitch.

DRAGNET GIRL with Live Score Accompaniment (Japan, 1933, 100 mins)

Dir. Yasujirō Ozu

New Restoration - Live score accompaniment composed and performed by the Coupler Band.

The great Japanese filmmaker Yasujirō Ozu is best known for the stately, meditative domestic dramas he made after World War II. But during his first decade at Shochiku studios, where he dabbled in many genres, he put out a trio of precisely rendered, magnificently shot and edited silent crime films about the hopes, dreams and loves of small-time crooks. Heavily influenced in narrative and visual style by the American films Ozu adored, these movies are revelatory early examples of his cinematic genius.

This formally accomplished and psychologically complex gangster tale pivots on the growing attraction between Joji, a hardened career criminal, and Kazuko, the sweet-natured older sister of a newly initiated young hoodlum—a relationship that provokes the jealousy of Joji's otherwise

patient moll, Tokiko. With effortlessly cool performances and visual inventiveness, DRAGNET GIRL is a bravura work from Yasujiro Ozu.

Coupler is Deliberate Ambient Music from Nashville lead by Ryan Norris (Lambchop) which blends organic and electronic elements into enchanting, immersive sounds.

THE IRON GIANT (USA, 1999, 130 mins)

Dir. Brad Bird

FREE Outdoor Screening

A young boy befriends a giant robot from outer space that a paranoid government agent wants to destroy in this BAFTA Children's award winning film written by Texas filmmaker Tim McCanlies. The Iron Giant is also the first feature directed by Brad Bird (The Incredibles, Ratatouille) and features pre-Groot Vin Diesel voice acting! We dare you to keep your tears in with The Iron Giant spouts "I am not a gun."

ATTEND

VIP Badges and tickets for individual screenings are available for purchase [here](#). Tickets for individual screenings will also be available at the door for each venue at a later date.

For the latest festival developments and announcements, visit the Oak Cliff Film Festival [website](#) and follow on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

PRESS CREDENTIALS

We are now accepting press credential applications for Oak Cliff Film Festival 2019. To apply, please send your name and outlet as well as a letter of assignment from your editor or a business card to brad@fonspr.com for consideration. The deadline to apply for press credentials is Tuesday, June 4th. Please note all applications are subject to approval.

OAK CLIFF FILM FESTIVAL Links

Facebook: [Facebook.com/FilmOakCliff](https://www.facebook.com/FilmOakCliff)

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Instagram: [Instagram.com/FilmOakCliff](https://www.instagram.com/FilmOakCliff)

Website: OakCliffFilmFestival.com

OAK CLIFF FILM FESTIVAL Media Inquiries:

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About OAK CLIFF FILM FESTIVAL

The Oak Cliff Film Festival was established in 2012 as a regional film festival in the Oak Cliff area of Dallas, Texas. The festival has been received national acclaim from prominent sources including *The New York Times*, *Filmmaker Magazine*, and *Moviemaker Magazine*. The Oak Cliff Film Festival is the main program of the 501 3(c) Oak Cliff Film Society. The Oak Cliff Film Festival, headquartered at the legendary Texas Theatre, features the very best of Oak Cliff's historic theater venues, highlights the popular restaurants and bars of the area, and seeks to showcase and cultivate the best of independent and brave filmmaking of all stripes from Texas

and beyond. If you would like to get more information about the Oak Cliff Film Festival or its line-up, visit www.filmoakcliff.com or follow us – @filmoakcliff.

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