

USC School  
of Cinematic Arts  
*Industry Relations*



**FIRST**  
**LOOK**  
**2020**



# WELCOME to FIRST LOOK 2020

Welcome to the **2020 First Look Festival!** As Dean of the USC School of Cinematic Arts, it is always my great pleasure to introduce you to this annual showcase of student work. These films are truly the culmination of their tireless passion and effort. I am so proud of each and every one of them, and am honored to be able to share the final product with you here.

Today, you will see the talent and diversity of our students on full display, their unique voices brought to life on the screen. Some of the work you see here today will go on to win awards, make headlines at festivals worldwide, and help launch careers. I have no doubt that this is not the last you'll hear of these talented young professionals.

Of course, every film takes a village. Beyond just a showcase of their skills as filmmakers, First Look is a testament to the deeply held bonds that students have cultivated during their time here at USC, and that will continue to spur them forward throughout their professional careers. That starts with you, the family and friends whose support has helped propel them to this point. Thank you for encouraging them through this early chapter in their creative lives, and for joining us to celebrate their work and this important milestone today. I hope you enjoy First Look 2020.

**Elizabeth M. Daley**

Steven J. Ross/Time Warner Professor and Dean  
USC School of Cinematic Arts

I firmly believe that film has been the major art form of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and will continue to have a powerful influence on our culture and society. So please enjoy this exposure to the “Learning Exercises” of some of tomorrow’s important artists. I’m proud to be a participant in this program.

Sincerely,  
**Marcia Lucas**

Sponsorship for this program is made possible by a grant from The Ohana Foundation, a private foundation funded by Marcia Lucas.

Watch **USC First Look** films  
at ***IndustryRelations.usc.edu***  
Invite Code: ***FIRSTLOOK***

# 2020 FILMS

Watch **USC First Look** films  
at [IndustryRelations.usc.edu](http://IndustryRelations.usc.edu)  
Invite Code: **FIRSTLOOK**

## Animation

### **A HOLE**

**9:30**

Animation, Post-Apocalyptic, Sci-Fi/Thriller

### **GO! GO!**

**4:41**

Animation, Family, Adventure

### **I NEVER PICKED COTTON**

**3:38**

Animation, Documentary, African-American

### **THERE WERE FOUR OF US**

**6:47**

Animation, Drama, Experimental

## Comedy

### **CARAMEL**

**14:18**

Drama, Coming of Age, Family

### **FLOUR BABY**

**11:56**

Social Change, Women

### **PHANTOM SPECTRE**

**19:19**

Thriller, Action

### **PIGGY BANK PROPOSITION**

**13:29**

Drama, Family

### **PSYCHO SALLY**

**17:55**

Social Change, Latinx

### **SAD ORANGUTANS ROB A BANK**

**13:07**

Thriller, Crime, Mental Health

### **THE ACADEMY**

**21:42**

Drama, Women, Social Change, MeToo

### **THE BEE**

**13:35**

Action, Drama, Family, Crime

### **UNSCHOOLED (TV PILOT)**

**33:00**

Family, Social Change, Education

# Documentary

## **BREACH OF TRUST**

**24:46**

*Social Change, Women, MeToo*

## **BREAKING AND ENTERING: WOMEN OF THE LAPD**

**20:25**

*Social Change, Women*

## **DREAM WITH ONE EYE OPEN**

**23:05**

*Drama, Art, Disability*

## **DRIVEN**

**18:24**

*Action, Disability*

## **GOD BLESS THE COOK**

**20:25**

*Family, Women, Food*

## **LETTERS: THE ART OF GRIEVING**

**20:00**

*Social Change, Drama, Family, Art*

## **THE DOPE YEARS: THE STORY OF LATASHA HARLINS**

**19:37**

*Social Change, African-American, Women*

# Drama

## **A SIDEWALK BECOMES A STREET**

**13:59**

*Family, Asian-American*

## **ANATHEMA**

**14:35**

*Thriller, Family*

## **BLACKBIRD**

**18:00**

*Coming of Age, Women, African-American*

## **CLARITY**

**20:00**

*Family, Mental Health*

## **DIG**

**14:00**

*Family, Disability*

## **HANGER'S LIMB**

**18:22**

*Period Piece, War, Mental Health*

## **KINDLING**

**13:59**

*Coming of Age, Women, Social Change*

## **MIRANDA'S MARIONETTES**

**21:18**

*Women, Art*

## **PRACTICE FUNERAL**

**13:56**

*Family*

## **SHADES OF JADE**

**12:08**

*Family, Social Change, Immigration*

## **THE GREEN SEA**

**28:58**

*Family, Mental Health*

## **THE TIES THAT BIND US**

**12:01**

*Family*

## **TUESDAY**

**14:32**

*Social Change, Friendships, Education*

# Horror/Suspense/Sci-fi/Thriller

## **AFTERIMAGES**

**13:15**

Family, Drama, Elderly

## **CODE\_SWITCH**

**18:50**

Coming of Age, Sci-Fi, African-American

## **HAUNTING**

**16:58**

Horror, Drama, Relationships

## **IMPLANT**

**13:14**

Drama, Family, Sci-Fi

## **LAND OF PYRITE //**

## **LAND OF GOLD**

**17:57**

Drama, Thriller, Crime

## **MILK TEETH**

**13:54**

Horror, Drama, Fantasy, Children

## **MOONCHILD**

**18:39**

Drama, Family, Sci-Fi, Coming of Age

## **MR. THISFORTHAT**

**14:05**

Horror, Drama, Family

## **SUNSHINE ROOM**

**13:09**

Drama, Coming of Age, Sci-Fi, Latinx

## **THE DEVIL'S SON**

**18:10**

Fantasy, Drama, Poverty

## **THE GATEKEEPER**

**19:45**

Drama, Action, War, Family

# Social Change

## **A SUNBURNT SUMMER**

**19:49**

Social Commentary, Immigrants, Sexual Assault, Drama

## **C'EST PARFAIT**

**19:35**

Immigrants, Police Brutality, Drama

## **IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT**

**9:57**

Abortion, Sexual Assault, Women's Rights

## **LA RUTA**

**20:00**

Drama, Private Detectives, Land Use

## **LESSONS LIVED**

**17:06**

Gun Violence, Drama, Forgiveness

## **LIMELIGHT**

**13:43**

LGBT, Rebellion, Unacceptance

## **MIDSUMMER**

**18:58**

Coming of Age, Teenage Boy, Conservative

## **SWEET POTATOES**

**29:53**

Pregnancy, Birth Control, Religion, Self-Doubt

## **THE BALL METHOD**

**18:49**

Racism, Drama, Sexism

## **THE CYPHER**

**14:57**

Coming Out, LGBT, Love

## **TIME'S UP**

**7:04**

Sexual Harassment, Feminism, Women's Issues

## **VARIABLES**

**24:00**

Violence, Drama, War Zone

## **WELCOME BACK**

**20:00**

Family, Deportation, Communism

# First Look

# WINNERS & NOMINEES

## INDUSTRY

### Winners & Nominees

#### **Animation:**

A HOLE

**Go! Go! - Winner**

I Never Picked Cotton

#### **Comedy:**

Caramel

Phantom Spectre

**Piggy Bank Proposition - Winner**

#### **Documentary:**

**Breach of Trust - Winner**

Dream With One Eye Open

The Dope Years: The Story of Latasha

Harlins

#### **Drama:**

Clarity

Dig

**Kindling - Winner**

#### **Horror/Sci-fi/Thriller:**

Afterimages

**Moonchild - Winner**

Sunshine Room

#### **Social Change:**

**La Ruta - Winner**

Limelight

Welcome Back

## Faculty Awards

#### **Directing:**

**Letia Solomon** for *The Cypher*

#### **Cinematography:** (Tie)

**Hark Xu** for *Dream With One Eye Open*

**Chaochen Li** for *Mr. Thisforthat*

#### **Editing:**

**Roy Arwas** for *Welcome Back*

#### **Producing:**

**Miles Alva** and **Wes Akwuobi** for  
*Variables*

#### **Production Design:**

**Pimvenus Clark** for *Hanger's Limb*

#### **Sound**

**Lucas Bohlinger** and **Vern Hass** for  
*Milk Teeth*

#### **Writing:**

**Jono Seneff** for *Dig*

# Our JURY



**Anna Berthold**

**UTA**

**Animation/Documentary**

Berthold is an agent in the Motion Picture Literary department at United Talent Agency representing writers, directors and producers in film and television. Anna also oversees the Animation department at UTA, which is the leading agency in animation, with a client list that includes Brad Bird, Chris Nee, Phil Lord & Chris Miller, Andrew Stanton, Rich Moore, Alex Hirsch, Rough Draft Studios, and The Jim Henson Company, among others. Anna is a veteran of the nonprofit industry and before joining UTA, worked with organizations around the world on issues of digital media and community engagement. Originally from Fort Worth, Texas, Anna graduated from USC with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations and later received her Master's of Public Diplomacy, also from USC



**Angela Boisvert**

**KCET/PNMG SoCal**

**Comedy**

Angela Boisvert is an award-winning television producer whose credits include: *Artbound: Lula Washington*, *Open Your Eyes*, *Writers Block Presents: Linda Ronstadt*, *Lost LA*, and *Fine Cut: Festival of Films*. Boisvert has worked in the film and television industry for over 15 years and serves as the Associate Director of Production for KCET/PBS SoCal/LinkTV. She is a member of the Producer's Guild of America as well as the Academy for Television, Arts and Sciences.



**Maryann Garger**

**Producer**

**Animation**

Garger is a producer currently developing the animated feature *Groove* along with Jamie Foxx, Michael Becker and Bob Logan directing and writing. She's also developed and producing the animated short *If Anything Happens I Love You* by Will McCormack (*Toy Story 4*) and Michael Govier. She currently has two other movies and two TV shows in development. Past titles she's produced include *Lego Ninjago* for Warner Bros. Studios, and *Flushed Away* for DreamWorks and Aardman. Garger began her career at Disney, on the feature animated movie *Pocahontas*, before segueing to a 20-year tenure at DreamWorks. There, she was among the founding first employees to build DreamWorks' animation division and rose through the ranks from Production Manager to Executive of Production, working on such memorable titles as *Madagascar*, *Shrek*, *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*, and *Prince of Egypt*. Following that, she worked for several years at Warner Bros.



**Sophie Carroll**

**Alter**

**Horror/Sci-fi/Suspense/Thriller**

Carroll graduated from the University of Warwick, England with a BA in Film Studies. After working at a variety of production companies in production management in London, Sophie joined Gunpowder & Sky and spearheaded the development of their ALTER brand. ALTER showcases innovative horror short films from diverse filmmakers on their platforms and has quickly amassed over 4 million fans since launching in August 2018.



### **Audrey Clinet**

**Eroïn**

**Social Change**

Clinet is a multi-talented woman. After graduating in Communication, she was accepted at the prestigious French theater school Les Cours Simon and then acted in various theater and cinema projects. In 2012, she wrote her first short film *Parallele*, that became the first step of her life project: Eroïn. She organized the first screening of Eroïn, a selection of 9 short films directed by women filmmakers, in the Champs Elysees in Paris in October 2012. In 2016, she decided to open her film company Eroïn Productions, the first French production and distribution company for women filmmakers. In 2018, the American chapter Eroïn US was born and Audrey officially became a manager for filmmakers. Since, Audrey has distributed 70 short films in 150 countries, produced 2 digital campaigns, and managed the careers of 3 women directors. Additionally, Audrey has directed two short films and one commercial.

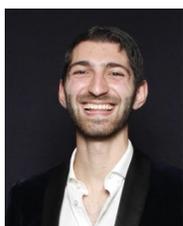


### **Michael Fimognari**

**Director of Photography**

**Horror/Sci-fi/Suspense/Thriller**

Fimognari is an American director and cinematographer, best known for his work on two of Netflix's most popular franchises: the *To All The Boys I've Loved Before* trilogy and *The Haunting Of Hill House*. A graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and the USC School of Cinematic Arts, Fimognari directed and produced an Emmy Award-winning dramatic short film before beginning his professional career as the cinematographer for numerous independent features, among them Shawn Ku's *Beautiful Boy*. Fimognari worked with Mike Flanagan and Trevor Macy on *Oculus*; and Jason Blum, Matt Kaplan and Robyn Marshall on *The Lazarus Effect*. His recent work includes two Flanagan-directed Stephen King adaptations (*Gerald's Game* and *Doctor Sleep*). Fimognari directorial debut is the second film in the *To All The Boys* trilogy, *P.s. I Still Love You*, and he is in post-production on his sophomore directorial effort, the third and final *TO ALL THE BOYS* film, *Always And Forever Lara Jean*, both for Netflix.



### **Samuel Fischer**

**Paradigm**

**Comedy**

Fischer is currently an Agent Trainee at Paradigm Talent Agency, originally working in their New York office while attending New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. After graduating, Sam relocated to the Beverly Hills office where he now helps represent writers, directors, and producers in the Television, Motion Picture, and Podcast spaces.



### **Alex Gruszynski**

**WME**

**Social Change**

Gruszynski was born and raised in Los Angeles, CA to parents working in the movie business. His mother a writer/producer and father a cinematographer. He attended Campbell Hall in the valley for high school and went on to the University of Southern California where he graduated from the Marshall School of Business. During his time at USC, he interned at various entertainment entities such as Common Sense Media as well as Anonymous Content. Upon graduation, Alex decided to take a job at William Morris Endeavor in order to further develop his knowledge of all facets of the industry. He currently works for Motion Picture Lit Agent Meyash Prabhu who reps auteur filmmakers such as Christopher Nolan, David Ayer, and Fede Alvarez.



**Jeremy Lambert**  
**Breakwater Studios**  
**Documentary**

Lambert attend the USC School of Cinematic Arts where he studied screenwriting and tried (in vain) to major in Miniatures Effects. Upon graduation, Jeremy became a casting assistant at Rich King Casting, and was promoted to casting director shortly thereafter, working on set and casting extras for *La La Land*, *Wolverine*, *Furious 7*, *True Detective*, and *Magic Mike*, among many others. He's been a producer on all of Breakwater's films over the past four years and continues to lend his production experience to the Breakwater team as Head of Production. Jeremy is also a writer of comic books, co-writing *Doom Patrol* for DC Comics, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Hellmouth* for Boom! Studios, and *Goosebumps: Monsters at Midnight* for IDW Publishing, among others.



**Peter Kuplowsky**  
**Tiff/Fantastic Fest**  
**Horror/Sci-fi/Suspense/Thriller**

Kuplowsky is a film curator, producer, writer and hat enthusiast based in Toronto. Since 2005, he has established a career championing genre cinema and outsider art at various international film festivals, including Toronto After Dark, Fantastic Fest in Austin, Texas, and in the Toronto International Film Festival's Midnight Madness section. Over the past few years, Kuplowsky has helped develop and produce a number of critically acclaimed short and feature films with emerging filmmakers that he supported on the festival circuit as a programmer. His producer credits include the concluding segment *Z is for Zygote* in the anthology film *The ABCs of Death: Part 2*, *The Interior*, *The Void*, *Climate of the Hunter*, and *PG: Psycho Goreman*. He also co-hosts The Laser Blast Film Society, a monthly eccentric film series at Toronto's Royal Cinema that culminates annually with a contemporary outsider cinema programme entitled What The Film Festival.



**Nikki Li**  
**Tencent**  
**Animation**

Li is an award-winning filmmaker. She graduated in 2018 from the USC School of Cinematic Arts. Her thesis documentary went on to win a Student Academy Award and 6 other awards. Her film has been showing around the world in more than 30 film festivals. Currently, she is the U.S. representative of Tencent TiMi Studios N1 center., a Chinese multinational conglomerate holding company founded in 1998, whose subsidiaries specialize in various Internet-related services and products, entertainment, artificial intelligence and technology both in China and globally. N1 Center is the creative force behind Tencent TiMi Studios..



**Jason Lubin**  
**Manager**  
**Comedy**

Lubin is a manager-producer and the principal at First Story Entertainment, which he founded in 2018. The lit management company represents a diverse roster of talented writers and directors with fresh voices in all genres for Film and TV. He is also developing both feature film and television projects under the company's banner. Prior to starting First Story, Jason was a seasoned development executive. He worked as the Head of Production & Development at Lynda Obst Productions, whose credits include *Interstellar*, *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*, *Contact* and the television shows *Good Girls Revolt* and *The Hot Zone*. Prior, Jason worked at Lionsgate for seven and a half years where he rose to Story Editor in the Motion Picture Group and served as the junior creative executive on multiple feature projects. Jason cut his teeth as the assistant to CEO Jon Feltheimer and was named one of Variety's Ten Assistants to Watch in 2013. A graduate of USC's School of Cinematic Arts, Jason currently sits on the board of the Trojan Entertainment Network where he was elected President of the organization for the 2018-2021 term.



**Christina Piovesan**

**Producer**

**Drama**

Piovesan is the founder and principal of First Generation Films, a film and tv production company based in Toronto. Past films include the Cannes Winner *Amreeka* directed by Cherien Dabis; *The Whistleblower* directed by Larysa Kondracki, *Mouthpiece* directed by Patricia Rozema, *Paper Year*, written and directed by Rebecca Addelman and *American Woman* directed by Semi Chellas which had its Canadian premiere as a Gala Presentation at TIFF 2019. Her collaboration with Elevation Productions, the production arm of Elevation Pictures, has Christina in post-production on *The Exchange* directed by Dan Mazer and *French Exit* directed by Azazel Jacobs. Most recently, Christina was producer on *The Nest* directed by Sean Durkin which had its premiere at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival.



**Greg Sorvig**

**Heartland Film festival**

**Drama**

Sorvig leads the film programming department and artistic vision for Heartland Film and its Academy Award-qualifying Indy Shorts International Film Festival and Heartland International Film Festival events in Indianapolis; the organization is currently on a five-year short film Oscar winning streak. Greg is also a member of the Tribeca Film Festival shorts screening team and recently served as an Arts Works II 2019 grants panelist for the National Endowment of the Arts.



**Ania Trzebiatowka**

**Sundance**

**Documentary**

Ania Trzebiatowska is a programmer for the Sundance Film Festival, focusing on US and World documentary features. Most recently, she was the Sales & Acquisitions Executive for doc sales agency, Outlook Filmsales. Prior to that she was with the NYC-based agency, Visit Films, where she served as Senior Director of Acquisitions since 2015. Aside from her work at Sundance, Ania is also the artistic director of Off Camera IFF (Krakow, Poland), which she has been programming since 2008. She trained in production and post-production at the BBC and the British Museum, and holds a Master's degree in film studies as well as an M.A in Digital Culture and Technology.

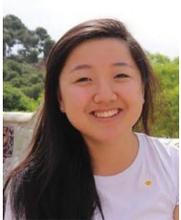


**Dea Vazquez**

**Film Independent's Project Involve Manager**

**Social Change**

Vazquez joined Film Independent in 2014 and oversaw the application process and coordinated day-to-day operations for the Artist Development labs and programs. Currently, she serves as Project Involve Manager, the signature mentoring program that fosters the future generations of visual storytellers with the goal of a more inclusive industry. Before joining Film Independent, Dea was the Coordinator at The Murtha Skouras Agency, a top Below-the-Line talent agency representing award-winning cinematographers, production designers, editors, costume designers, and producers, where she tracked all feature projects in development and pre-production in both the independent and studio spaces, and prior to that, the in-house Production Coordinator at Colibri Films, a commercial production company for the Hispanic Market. She holds a BA in English Literature from Boston University.



**Connie Yan**

**CAA**

**Drama**

Connie Yan is an assistant in the motion picture department at Creative Artists Agency in Los Angeles where she has worked closely with talents such as Natalie Portman, Reese Witherspoon and Ava DuVernay. She graduated from Harvard in 2016 with a degree in psychology & began her career as a research assistant at Harvard Business School and later in the mailroom at Creative Artists Agency.

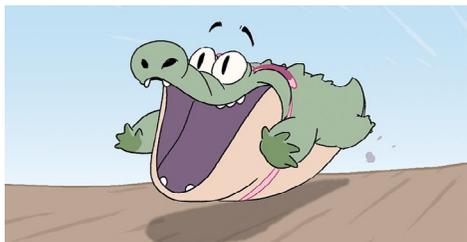
# ANIMATION



## **A HOLE**

9:30

In a black hole apocalypse, one man holds the answer. His name? Rob Bilford.



## **GO! GO!**

4:41

An alligator gets loose and spends his day in an amusement park, hoping to see the fireworks.



## **I NEVER PICKED COTTON**

3:38

Yolanda Morgan recalls her experiences with racism and the impact it has had on her.



## **THERE WERE FOUR OF US**

6:47

In a room, there are four people.

# COMEDY



## **CAMEL**

14:18

A teenager comes to terms with his place in the world when he learns of his mother's immoral past on the day before his grandfather's funeral.



## **FLOUR BABY**

11:56

In a world where a woman must prove that she is capable of caring for a child before she's allowed to conceive, a hopeful mom recruits the help of her BFF to pass the state's rigorous test: to take care of a bag of flour for an entire year.



## **PHANTOM SPECTRE**

19:19

Gene, a fading superhero unwilling to let go of his glorious past, struggles to latch onto his nocturnal alter-ego as his day-life plunges into a steep down-spiral.



## **PIGGY BANK PROPOSITION**

13:29

A precocious little girl strikes up a friendship with the hitman she propositions to kill her stepfather.



## **PSYCHO SALLY**

17:55

Inspired by an outrageous true story from director David Aguilar's Latinx family, *Psycho Sally* is a breakup comedy that follows Sally Garcia's quest to get her man back by any means necessary... even if that means getting her ex's new lover deported.



## **SAD ORANGUTANS ROB A BANK**

13:07

Walden and his friends are hopelessly depressed living the carefree life of an affluent orangutan in Los Angeles until he decides to do something about it - they're going to rob a bank.



## **THE ACADEMY**

21:42

*The Academy* is about two philosophers who go out for drinks and wind up accusing each other of rape



## **THE BEE**

13:35

Fed up with the violence and bullying in her city, Sydney dresses up like a bee to fight crime, but to reach her full potential she must first overcome a tragic event from her past.



## **UNSCHOOLED (TV PILOT)**

33:00

Teachers at a local underfunded public school are faced with a sudden question: to strike or not to strike.

# DOCUMENTARY



## **BREACH OF TRUST**

**24:46**

Survivors of sexual misconduct in USC's Student Health Center discuss institutional cover-ups and their fight for accountability and change.



## **BREAKING AND ENTERING: WOMEN OF THE LAPD**

**20:25**

Breaking and Entering profiles three groundbreaking women as they change the culture of law enforcement in Los Angeles.



## **DREAM WITH ONE EYE OPEN**

**23:05**

*Dream With One Eye Open* is an impressionistic portrait of an autistic girl who creates an artistic world populated with one-eyed characters through whom she expresses her joys and her tears.



## **DRIVEN**

**18:24**

In a world of adrenaline and speed, a quadriplegic race car driver pushes to keep his dream of racing alive.



### ***GOD BLESS THE COOK***

**20:25**

Chef Roslyn Spence trained at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, but her biggest critic remains her mother, a 94-year-old self-taught cook for Hollywood's biggest stars.



### ***LETTERS: THE ART OF GRIEVING***

**20:00**

*LETTERS* is an epistolary documentary about the powerful transformations of grief into art.



### ***THE DOPE YEARS: THE STORY OF LATASHA HARLINS***

**19:37**

A personal retelling of the life and death of Latasha Harlins, the forgotten spark igniting the Los Angeles uprising of 1992, popularly known as the LA riots.

# ***DRAMA***



### ***A SIDEWALK BECOMES A STREET***

**13:59**

After a fight with his single mother, a Korean American teenager struggles to understand his role in the family as he sets out on the streets of Los Angeles with his little sister.



## **ANATHEMA**

**14:35**

On the island of Cyprus, an insomniac is haunted by hallucinations that his mother believes are a message from his dead father.



## **BLACKBIRD**

**18:00**

A young woman is torn between two worlds, her job cleaning planes and her dream of being a pilot. When she attempts to get time off to pursue aviation, she is met with resistance and must fight against the odds to get her wings.



## **CLARITY**

**20:00**

Tom returns home to his estranged abusive father, only to find out he has Alzheimer's and no longer remembers him or their past...



## **DIG**

**14:00**

When a neighbor's horse goes missing in their small Appalachian valley, 18-year-old Caleb (Jack Kilmer - Palo Alto, The Nice Guys, Hala) must cover for his autistic older brother Russell (Andrew Duff).



## **HANGER'S LIMB**

**18:22**

After surviving a brutal amputation during the Civil War, James Hanger returns home emotionally and physically broken. In order to survive his depression, he designs and builds the first prosthetic leg with knee and ankle joints.



## **KINDLING**

**13:59**

After a sorority girl asks her estranged childhood friend to drive her to an abortion clinic, the two confront each other on the road about who they were and what they have become.



## **MIRANDA'S MARIONETTES**

**21:18**

Miranda struggles to find her place as a puppeteer until she meets a unique mentor who will push her to strive in her creative world.



## **PRACTICE FUNERAL**

**13:56**

After being diagnosed with terminal testicular cancer, George, decides to throw a celebration of life party, despite his mother's protests.



## **SHADES OF JADE**

**12:08**

A young girl must bond with a new father figure in order to help her mother pass their fake green card marriage.



## **THE GREEN SEA**

**28:58**

Three young children save their mother from an abusive boyfriend with the help of their dad's ghost.



## **THE TIES THAT BIND US**

**12:01**

When her sister becomes terminally ill, she will do whatever it takes to save her.



## **TUESDAY**

**14:32**

On a typical Tuesday, two high school students form an unlikely bond as they face challenges in their daily lives.

# HORROR/SCI-FI/ THRILLER/SUSPENSE



## **AFTERIMAGES**

**13:15**

In a world where the Five most impactful memories of the deceased orally print as polaroids upon death, Sam uses her estranged grandfather's Five to learn more about his life despite her mom's refusal.



## **CODE\_SWITCH**

**18:50**

After losing a loved one, Ruby Oliver enters a broken VR game for a last chance to see the dead. Little does she know that this game treats all girls as a virus as she fights to get out.



## **HAUNTING**

**16:58**

After a traumatic event, Dr. Brian Goodman, a brilliant psychiatrist, returns to his practice and is confronted by a new patient, Cole Hinter, who claims to be haunted and a horrible secret awaits them.



## **IMPLANT**

**13:14**

In a world where the technology exists to hack into peoples' memories, a traditional housewife colludes with her close friend to expose her husband, who she suspects is unfaithful.



## **LAND OF PYRITE // LAND OF GOLD**

**17:57**

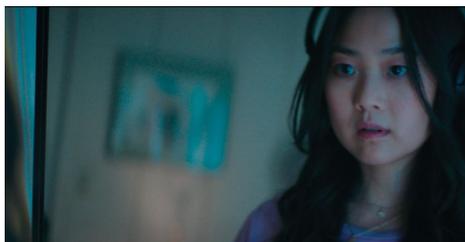
A young private detective is handed a case by a family friend, but soon finds himself in over his head and involved in unexpected ways.



### **MILK TEETH**

**13:54**

An orphanage spirals into mayhem when a boy discovers a shadowy creature who comes to collect more than just the children's teeth...



### **MOONCHILD**

**18:39**

After receiving a mysterious package on her birthday, 18 year old Lana goes on a journey to visit her father's grave, discovering the true significance of the package and her father's death.



### **MR. THISFORTHAT**

**14:05**

A girl from a broken home is visited in her closet by a mysterious creature who promises her anything she wants...for a price.



### **SUNSHINE ROOM**

**13:09**

Cutting-Edge technology allows a young woman to grow up alongside her beloved Abuela. However, on the brink of leaving for college, her financial realities threaten to erase their relationship for good.



### **THE DEVIL'S SON**

**18:10**

A poor farmer is cursed by the Devil with unrequited love after refusing to accept his role in the Devil's plans.



### **THE GATEKEEPER**

**19:45**

After awakening in a war-zone an Army First Sergeant must confront the causatum of his actions in combat in order to see his wife again.

# ***SOCIAL CHANGE***



## ***A SUNBURNT SUMMER***

**19:49**

A single mother has to deal with the situation, in which her son was raped by the son of her boss.



## ***C'EST PARFAIT***

**19:35**

On the day and African family from Zaire is reunited in America, their world is torn apart when a family member is kidnaped and war from Rwanda, one of their neighboring countries crosses over into their country.



## ***IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT***

**9:57**

In 2022 after Roe v. Wade is overturned, a woman struggles to find the care that she needs after being sexually assaulted.



## ***LA RUTA***

**20:00**

A Guatemalan woman undertakes the journey to the U.S. border to seek asylum with her daughter, but first they must try and survive Mexico's infamous Route of Death.



## **LESSONS LIVED**

**17:06**

LESSONS LIVED is a story about a grandmother's search for understanding from the imprisoned killer of her grandson Jamison. Bertha suffers from an inner conflict between her religious beliefs of forgiveness and revenge.



## **LIMELIGHT**

**13:43**

In the midst of a rebellion in the Republic of Congo, two young women must grapple between their political allegiances and their love for each other.



## **MIDSUMMER**

**18:58**

Midsummer is the story of Liam McKay, a 17 year-old-boy from a conservative town in the Midwest. Over the next 48 hours we witness the transformation of a teenager as he is faced with life changing decisions.



## **SWEET POTATOES**

**29:53**

1951, Mexico City. After synthesizing the main component of the contraceptive pill, young scientist Luis Miramontes deals with the religious and personal consequences of his groundbreaking invention.



## **THE BALL METHOD**

**18:49**

Alice Ball, a 23-year-old African American chemist living in 1915 Hawaii fights against racial and gender barriers to find an effective treatment for leprosy. An almost forgotten true story of African American genius and contribution to world-health.



## **THE CYPHER**

**14:57**

With his reputation and a potential record deal on the line, Khalil fights to keep his secrets safe during an underground freestyle rap competition in Philadelphia.



## **TIME'S UP**

**7:04**

While Clara waits for the subway to arrive at the station, she has to deal with a man who starts harassing her.



## **VARIABLES**

**24:00**

In the middle of the Bosnian War, a teenage math-wiz is given a way out of the bloodshed when his math club gets an invitation to compete at the 1995 International Math Olympiad in Canada. Inspired by true events.



## **WELCOME BACK**

**20:00**

After being deported back to dangerous and communist Venezuela, Rosa and her daughter must find a way to escape to a nearby town in Colombia.

# Office of INDUSTRY RELATIONS

900 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street, SCA 235  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-2211  
Phone: 213.740.4432  
Fax: 213.740.5226  
[cinema.usc.edu/ir](http://cinema.usc.edu/ir)



[www.facebook.com/SCAIndustryRelations](https://www.facebook.com/SCAIndustryRelations)

#### **Post A Job or Internship**

[cinema.usc.edu/jobboard](http://cinema.usc.edu/jobboard)

#### **Professional Development Questions**

[careers@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:careers@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **Film Festival Questions**

[festivalsassistant@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:festivalsassistant@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **First Jobs Program**

[cinema.usc.edu/alumni/firstjobs](http://cinema.usc.edu/alumni/firstjobs)

## **INDUSTRY RELATIONS STAFF**

#### **Bonnie Chi**

Assistant Dean, Industry Relations  
[bchi@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:bchi@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **Lisa Fox**

Media Talent Development Manager  
[lfox@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:lfox@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **Cassie Balyas**

Industry Relations Coordinator  
[cbalyas@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:cbalyas@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **Torrie Rosenzweig**

Director of Talent Development  
(Industry Relations Event Questions)  
[trosenzweig@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:trosenzweig@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **Caroline Fraissinet**

Internship Coordinator  
[Cfraissinet@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:Cfraissinet@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **Sandrine Faucher Cassidy**

Senior Director of Festivals and Distribution and Talent Development  
[cassidy@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:cassidy@cinema.usc.edu)

#### **Clementine Leger**

Festival Coordinator  
[cleger@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:cleger@cinema.usc.edu)

Thank you for your support

# Marcia Lucas



**UNITED TALENT**  
AGENCY

**USC** School  
of Cinematic Arts  
*Industry Relations*