

FESTIVALS & DISTRIBUTION NEWSLETTER

BAFTA 2018

Shortlisted students shorts:

- *Finding Home: Elabeh* directed by Abraham Troen
- *Hurria* directed by Travis Rush

• *One Small Step*
directed by Aqsa
Altaf

• *Wyrms* directed by
Christopher
Winterbauer

60 films were
selected out of over

460 submissions from 35
countries.

HBO

Amelia's Closet directed by Halima
Lucas, premiered on HBO in
February and is now available on
HBO Go and HBO Now.
Congratulations!

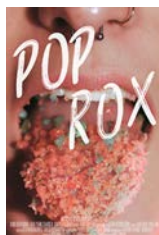
Berlinale

Generations

2018

Official selection:

- *Pop Rox*
directed by
Nate Trinrud



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CAA's Moebius Showcase

Moebius is CAA's two-day film series, created to highlight and foster new creative voices in Los Angeles, from USC, AFI & CAL ARTS. The following USC shorts were showcased:

- *A Cake for Lizzie* directed by Michel Kreisel
- *Dear Mama* directed by Jiayuan Liu
- *Finding Home* directed by Abraham Troen
- *Headshot* directed by Eva Ye
- *Karen* directed by Aqsa Altaf
- *My Ex Girlfriend Is a Shovel* directed by Dezi Gallegos



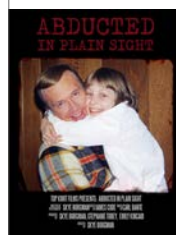
Cleveland International Film Festival

USC films had a huge presence at this year's CIFF. Our very own, Senior Director of Festivals and Distribution, Sandrine Faucher Cassidy, was a juror in the Nesnadny + Schwartz Portrait Documentary Competition.

- *Period. End of Sentence.* directed by Rayka Zehtabchi took the Best Doc short award in this Oscar® qualifying category.

Alumni Documentary Features in Competition:

- *Abducted. In Plain Sight* directed by Skye Borgman.



- *Kusama - Infinity* directed by Heather Lenz

Short Films:

- *Backpedals* directed by Maria Alvarez
- *Emergency* direct by Carey Williams
- *Half a Life* directed by Tamara Shogaolu
- *Pop Rox* directed by Nate Trinrud
- *Suitable* directed Thembi Banks

Cannes' American Pavilion: Emerging Filmmaker Showcase

- Student short *Haircut: The Musical!* directed by Jason Phillips
- Independent short *All the Marbles* directed by Michael Swingler

Screenwriting

Jeremy Palmer's scripts, *Stumble Through* (under option) was awarded the USC Jay Roach Endowed Scholarship and his thesis script, *The Valley of Dry Bones* received the Alfred P. Sloan Screenwriting Grant

Frameline Film Festival

Official Selection:

- *Masks* directed by Mahaliyah Ayla O
- *Pop Rox* directed by Nate Trinrud.

Netflix

Alumni Rajeev Dassani to executive produce *Jinn*, Netflix' first Arabic original series. The series will feature Middle Eastern talent, and be filmed in Jordan later this year. The six-episode series is expected to launch to all Netflix members all around the world in 2019.

- *The Suitcase* directed by Abi Damaris Corbin
- *We Home* directed by Rayka Zehtabchi
- *Wonder Buffalo* directed by Christine T. Berg

USC's First Look Awards

First Look is USC's annual advanced projects showcase. The Faculty Jury selected the following winners in:



- Cinematography: Madeline Leach and Tanmay Chowdhary for *A Craftsman*

- Directing: Aqsa Altaf for *One Small Step*

- Editing: Zachary Siegel for *Mammoth*

• Producing: Sam Frickleton and Madison Stevens for *Wolves* and Marc Mounier and Faissal Sam Shaib for *Wyrms*

- Production Design: Shannon McDonough for *One Small Step*

- Screenwriting: Chris Winterbauer for *Wyrms*

- Sound: Derek Sepe for *Wyrms*

The Industry Jury awards:

- Best Drama - *Mammoth* directed by Ariel Heller

- Best Comedy - *Falling* directed by Ewen Wright

- Best Documentary - *Finding Home* directed by Abraham Troen

- Best Animation - *Cradle* directed by Devon Manney

- Best Social Change - *G.I José* directed by Alexandro Marquez Vela

- Best Thriller/ Sci-fi/Horror - *The Plague* directed by Federico Torrado Tobón



Sundance Labs 2018

Two USC alumni were accepted in the Sundance Screenwriting Intensive Labs this spring:

- Clara Aranovich with *Mayacamas*

- Tory Kamen with *Eleanor, Invisible*

Golden Reel Awards

Congratulations to Alumni Joshua Paul Johnson for his award in Supervising Sound Editing for the film *Jane*.

HBO Access Writing Fellowship

Alumni Sara Alize Cross chosen to be one of 8 HBO access Writing Fellow to write an original half-hour pilot.

Like us on Facebook

Watch our films

Select student films are available for viewing on our films website. To view these films, please click on [this link](#).

To create an account to view the films please use the invite code: USC

Contact us

For more information about the USC School of Cinematic Arts Industry Relations office, please contact us at 213-740-4432 or email us at industryrelations@cinema.usc.edu

Film Independent 2018

Alumni accepted in the Film Independent Documentary Lab:

- Ryan Schwartz with *Untitled Claudia Sparrow Documentary*
- Florencia Krochik with *Pathways*

Dances With Films 2018

Official Selections in shorts categories:

- *Last Meal* directed by Austin Simmons
- *Lost in Aroncore* directed by Ryan Wagner
- *The Shiva List* directed by Ashley Hillis
- *Al Imam* directed by Omar Al Dakheel



Alumni Feature:

- *Deany Bean is Dead* directed by Michael Kreuzriegler

Palm Springs Short Fest

Official Selections in shorts categories:

- *A Craftsman* directed by Sanford D. Jenkins Jr.
- *Emergency* direct by Carey Williams
- *My Ex Girlfriend Is a Shovel* directed by Dezi Gallegos
- *Mammoth* directed by Ariel Heller
- *Suitable* directed Thembi Banks
- *Wrym* directed by Chris Winterbauer



Outfest Film Festival

Official Selections in shorts categories:

- *Ablution* directed by Omar Al Dakheel
- *Finding Home Trilogy* directed by Abraham Troen
- *Masks* directed by Mahaliyah Ayla O

