

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES



DARK MONEY Dir. Kimberly Reed USA 99 min APR 15 4:00 PM

A century ago corrupt money scarred Montana's democracy and landscape, but Montanans voted to prohibit corporate campaign contributions. Today, after the Citizens United ruling, dark money floods elections nationwide, but Montanans are standing up to stop history from repeating itself in a struggle that has the potential to change the way elections happen nationwide.

KIM SWIMS Dir. Kate Webber USA 75 min APR 12 7:30 PM

Kim Swims is a documentary film about the inspiring story of an accomplished open water swimmer's attempt to become the first woman to swim 30 miles through a stretch of cold, rough and shark-inhabited waters off of the San Francisco coast.

MANKILLER Dir. Valerie Red-Horse USA 74 min APR 11 7:15 PM

Mankiller examines the legacy of the formidable Wilma Mankiller, who defied all odds to become one of the most influential leaders in the United States. Mankiller overcame rampant sexism and personal challenges to emerge as the Cherokee Nation's first woman Principal Chief in 1985. Mankiller's humble leadership style and her strength remind audiences of the true meaning of servant leadership. The film reunites the team of Gale Anne Hurd and Valerie Red-Horse Mohl for their third and most powerful documentary.

RBG Dir. Julie Cohen, Betsy West USA 97 min APR 10 7:00 PM

OPENING NIGHT - At the age of 84, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has developed a breathtaking legal legacy while becoming an unexpected pop culture icon. But without a definitive Ginsburg biography, the unique personal journey of this diminutive warrior's rise to the nation's highest court has been largely unknown, even to some of her biggest fans - until now. *RBG* is a revelatory documentary exploring Ginsburg's exceptional life and career from Betsy West and Julie Cohen, and co-produced by Storyville Films and CNN Films.

SOUFRA Dir. Thomas Morgan. Lebanon/USA 73 min APR 12 7:00 PM

CULINARY CINEMA SERIES - *Soufra* follows the inspirational story of intrepid social entrepreneur, Mariam Shaar - a refugee who has spent her entire life in the Burt El Barajneh refugee camp south of Beirut, Lebanon. The film follows Mariam and a diverse team of fellow refugee women who share the camp as their home as they set out to change their fate by launching a catering company, "Soufra," and then expanding its reach outside the camp with a food truck business. Together, they heal the wounds of war through the unifying power of food while taking their future into their own hands.

➤ **Post reception with food provided by The Preservery and Comal Heritage Food Incubator**

THE RAPE OF RECY TAYLOR APR 14 7:00 PM

Dir. Nancy Buirski USA 91 min

The numbers of women raped in Jim Crow South were staggering. In danger for their lives, they did not report the crimes and their stories went hidden. Not Recy Taylor, a 24-year-old mother who was gang raped by six white boys in 1944 Alabama. Unbroken, she spoke up, and with the help of Rosa Parks and legions of women spreading the word, they worked to get Recy Taylor justice.

THIS IS HOME Dir. Alexandra Shiva USA/Jordan 91 min APR 14 4:00 PM

This is Home is an intimate portrait of four Syrian refugee families arriving in America and struggling to find their footing. Displaced from their homes and separated from loved ones, they are given eight months of assistance from the International Rescue Committee to become self-sufficient. As they learn to adapt to challenges, including the newly imposed travel ban, their strength and resilience are tested. It is a universal story, highlighted by humor and heartbreak, about what it's like to start over, no matter the obstacles.

NARRATIVE FEATURES



20 WEEKS APR 15 2:00 PM

Dir. Leena Pendharkar USA 90 min

20 Weeks is a romantic drama about a couple who finds out that their baby may have a serious health issue at their 20-week scan. As they're faced with tough decisions about their pregnancy, they recount their relationship and love for one another.

BLUE SKY (1994) APR 13 7:00 PM

Dir. Tony Richardson USA 101 min

Long before *Mad Men* delved into the gender dynamics and political upheaval of the 1960s, *Blue Sky* (1994) created a fascinating portrait of an emotionally volatile marriage set against the backdrop of U.S. nuclear testing in 1962.

Pre-film introduction and post-film discussion led by Melinda Bartow, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Film Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

NIGHT COMES ON APR 13 7:30 PM

Dir. Jordana Spiro USA 90 min

Angel LaMere is released from juvenile detention on the eve of her 18th birthday. Haunted by her past, Angel embarks on a journey with her 10 year-old sister to avenge her mother's death.

★ **Director Jordana Spiro & Producer Danielle Renfrew In-Person!**

THE DIVINE ORDER APR 14 6:30 PM

Dir. Petra Volpe Switzerland 96 min

Winner of the Audience Award for Best Narrative Film at the Tribeca Film Festival, *The Divine Order* is set in Switzerland in 1971 where, despite the worldwide social upheavals of the previous decade, women were still denied the right to vote. When unassuming and dutiful housewife Nora (Marie Leuenberger, winner of a Best Actress award at Tribeca) is forbidden by her husband to take a part-time job, her frustration leads to her becoming the poster child of her town's suffragette movement.

THE SOUNDINGS APR 15 7:00 PM

Catherine Eaton USA 93 min

CLOSING NIGHT - On a remote island off the coast of Maine, Liv, after years of silence, begins to weave a language out of Shakespeare's words. A driven neurologist, brought to the island to protect her, commits her to a psychiatric hospital. She becomes a full-blow rebel in the hospital; her increasing violence threatens to keep her locked up for life as she fights for her voice and her freedom. At a tipping point for otherness in our current climate, *The Soundings* champions it.

SHORTS PACKAGE



APR 14 1:30 PM

COUNTERFEIT KUNKOO

NARRATIVE SHORT Dir. Reema Sengupta India 15 mins

In a city that houses millions, Smita finds herself fighting beasts of a different kind as she discovers a strange pre-requisite to renting a house in middle-class Mumbai. She would make an ideal tenant - except for one glaring flaw. She is a middle-class Indian woman without a husband. An intimate perspective on the 'ideal Indian female' in urban India.

EVE **NARRATIVE SHORT** Dir. Susan Nimoy USA 22 mins

EVE exposes a 74 year old woman's journey through grief, sexual passion, and renewal.

JESSZILLA

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Dir. Emily Sheskin USA 6 mins

Jesselyn "JessZilla" Silva is serious about boxing, and at 10 years old trains seriously with dreams of becoming a professional fighter. Her father, Pedro, finds himself caught in between supporting her dream and worrying about her future in boxing.

LILY 'N' ROSE

NARRATIVE SHORT Dir. Sheryl Glubok USA 13 mins

Imagine your first best friend. The one you knew so long that you couldn't even remember meeting. That's Lily and Rose. Then Holly arrives and captures Rose's attention with boys, bands, and fashion. Now Lily is presented with a choice: grow up, or be left behind.

★ **Director Sheryl Glubok In-Person!**

THE PLURAL OF BLOOD

NARRATIVE SHORT Dir. Mary-Lyn Chambers USA 22 mins

In her journey to support her husband's career as a police wife on the verge of adopting a newborn black baby boy, an African American woman wrestles with the complexities of police violence within her own community and her loyalty to the THIN BLUE LINE within hours of the shooting of an unarmed teenager.

★ **Director Mary-Lyn Chambers In-Person!**

SURVIVING NEW YORK

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Dir. Megan Miller USA 21 mins

In an effort to use her tragic story as a catalyst for change, Ana Wagner began advocating for children's civil rights in New York State. Despite the demands of motherhood, the demands of marriage, cultural oppression, and the haunting memory of her devastating experience, Ana is doing what she once wasn't able to as a child - fight.

YOURS SINCERELY, LOIS WEBER

DOCUMENTARY SHORT Dir. Svetlana Cvetko USA 6mins

Lois Weber was one of the most successful directors in Hollywood. Today she has been all but forgotten.

FESTIVAL BRUNCH!

Sunday, April 15 11:00 AM



Mingle with filmmakers and fellow festival-goers over mimosas, Bloody Marys and brunch from Three Tomatoes Catering at the Women+Film Festival Brunch, a sit-down affair in Henderson's Lounge at the Sie FilmCenter. Very limited seating!

Visit **DENVERFILM.ORG** to claim your ticket!
\$25 GA \$20 DFS members

WOMEN IN HOLLYWOOD

BY THE NUMBERS



JOIN THE WOMEN+FILM PREMIERE CIRCLE

By joining the Women+Film Premiere Circle you help Denver Film Society continue to find and showcase films by and about women to engage with the audience, build community, educate and inspire.

Contact **Holly Porterfield** for more details!
holly@denverfilm.org (970) 673-7446

YOUR \$500 CONTRIBUTION ENTITLES YOU TO:

- One (1) *Women+Film Mini-Festival Pass* - \$100 value
- Access for one (1) to the *Women+Film Brunch* - \$25 value
- *Premiere Circle Recognition Slide* before all films during Women+Film Fest. (Gift must be received by March 30th to be included)
- Invitation for one (1) to the *Women+Film Reception during the Denver Film Festival*
- Invitation for one (1) to a *Women+Film Year-round Event*

*\$375 of your gift is tax deductible. There are no membership benefits attached to this gift.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Barbara Bridges



SAG-AFTRA

JUDITH B. WAGNER

CAZ MATTHEWS



women+film festival

APRIL 10 - 15 2018

PROGRAM GUIDE

*All receptions below and brunch will be in Henderson's Lounge at the Sie FilmCenter

SPECIAL EVENT SCREENING

10:00AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM 4:00PM 5:00PM 6:00PM 7:00PM 8:00PM 9:00PM 10:00PM

TUESDAY
10

THE BEST WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE WOMEN+FILM FESTIVAL IS WITH A **FESTIVAL PASS!**



WEDNESDAY
11

THURSDAY
12

FRIDAY
13

SATURDAY
14

SUNDAY
15

RBG 7:00PM OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION 8:30 PM

MANKILLER 7:15PM

SOUFRA 7:00PM CULINARY CINEMA RECEPTION 8:30 PM

KIM SWIMS 7:30PM

BLUE SKY 7:00PM

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THE RAPE OF RECY TAYLOR 7:00PM

BRUNCH 11:00 AM

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DARK MONEY 4:00PM

THE SOUNDING 7:00PM

CLOSING NIGHT RECEPTION 5:30 PM

WELCOME from Barbara Bridges!

If there's anything we've learned in this past year, it's the power that lies in numbers. We've seen it in many ways, like the #TimesUp movement and the Women's Marches. It's the unity of our voices that brings power to our messages.

Numbers can also show us where we are weaker. One – the number of women in the last 90 years that have been nominated for a Best Cinematography Oscar and that was only this year. Thirty – the percentage of speaking parts by women in the movies, which hasn't changed in the last 50 years.

At the Women+Film Festival, we gather as a community to watch movies, by and about women. By doing this, we support the women working behind the camera who make these films. And we see the stories of the women on the screen who lead or struggle with strength and courage. We learn, we feel, and we are entertained.

It is with great pleasure and with much gratitude that we welcome you to our 8th Annual Women+Film Festival.

We hope you enjoy the show!

RBG
OPENING NIGHT
APR 10 7:00 PM



THE SOUNDING
CLOSING NIGHT
APR 15 7:00 PM



BUY YOUR FESTIVAL PASS AT DENVERFILM.ORG

