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| **Out Film CT announces complete lineup for****the 32nd Connecticut LGBTQ Film Festival,****﻿May 31-June 8, 2019** |

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| **Connecticut's Longest-Running Film Festival's Globetrotting Lineup of 65+ Films Highlights Diversity of LGBTQ Stories** |

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| Matt Smith in *Mapplethorpe.* |

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| **April 30, 2019/Hartford, Conn. – Out Film CT,** which presents the Nutmeg State's longest-running film festival, released the full lineup for the **32nd Connecticut LGBTQ Film Festival**. Running **May 31 through June 8, 2019**, the festival offers a wide spectrum of short films and full-length features that highlight the inclusivity and the diversity of the LGBTQ community. There’s something for everyone, with dramas, comedies and documentaries, plus talk backs and parties, mainly at the festival's longtime home at **Cinestudio** on the campus of Trinity College with special screenings at **Real Art Ways,** **Spotlight Theatres at Front Street** and **Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art**, all located in Hartford.Festival Director **Shane Engstrom** states, "For the past thirty-one years, we have presented some of the most entertaining, groundbreaking and thought-provoking LGBTQ films available. We invite audiences of all sexual orientations and gender identities to expand their horizons and join us for these remarkable films."**Complete 32nd Connecticut LGBTQ Film Festival Lineup:****Friday, May 31 at 7:30pm at Cinestudio followed by Opening Night Party*****Tell it to the Bees***Dr. Jean Markham returns to the small town she left as a teenager to take over her late father's medical practice. When young Charlie comes to her for care, she invites him to visit the hives in her garden and encourages him to tell his secrets to the bees. Charlie’s mother is soon drawn into Jean's world, and in the sanctuary of the doctor’s house the two women find themselves attracted to one another in a way that Jean recognizes and fears, and Lydia could never have expected. Starring Oscar-winning Anna Paquin (*The Piano, True Blood).***Preceded by short films: *La Serenata* and** ***My Little Princess.*****Saturday, June 1 at 2 p.m. at Cinestudio*****It’s a Small World: International Shorts***Audiences are invited to get out their passport for a virtual trip around the world with this globetrotting collection of international short films. Program includes: ***From Mars and Venus, The Nest (World Premiere), Infinite While It Lasts, Down, The Things You Think I'm Thinking, Under Tension***, and ***Manivald***.**Saturday, June 1 at 4:30 p.m. at Real Art Ways*****Fresh Faces: Youth Shorts***Presented in collaboration with **True Colors**and **Real Art Ways**, this collection of short films was selected especially for teens, but will also appeal to adults. Experience these stories of young people coming out, sharing their journeys, and claiming their space in modern society. A talk-back will follow the program. Free admission for people ages 18 and younger. Program includes: ***My Grandson, Charlotte* (World Premiere); *Beauty, Dario, I Put the Bi in Bitter* (3 Episodes), *Brothers, OUT on the Streets, Listen***, and ***Welcome to the Ball***.**Saturday, June 1 at 7:30 p.m. at Cinestudio*****Mapplethorpe***This engaging biopic is an intimate portrait of the celebrated, influential and often shocking photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, whose relationship with Patti Smith and other icons of the 1970s New York scene influenced his ambitious photos while he explored his emerging sexuality. Although Mapplethorpe craved mainstream recognition, he was best known for his photographs of artists, musicians, socialites, film stars, and members of the S&M underground that displayed eroticism in a way that had never before been examined nor displayed publicly.**Saturday, June 1 at 9:30 p.m. at Cinestudio*****Wild (Sauvage)****in French with English subtitles*This is a harrowing and erotic tale of 22-year-old Leo, a male prostitute who searches for love while trading in sex. He is constantly in danger of physical harm and frequently taken advantage of, but he wanders through his life without rules or restrictions and manages to survive on the streets. After stumbling through a series of encounters, he thinks he has found his soul mate and protector, his hustler friend Ahd. But Ahd, who claims to be straight, prefers the stability he finds in the arms of a wealthy, older client. **Preceded by short films: *Window Shopping* (World Premiere) and *Threesome.*****Sunday, June 2 at 2 p.m. at Cinestudio*****Socrates****in Portuguese with English subtitles*After his mother’s sudden death, 15-year-old Socrates must learn how to fend for himself on the mean streets of São Paulo. When he lands a small construction job, he meets a troubled young man and forms a relationship with him that simmers, then smolders, and then takes a consequential turn. Co-written, produced and acted by young people from low-income communities in Brazil, this is a profoundly moving study of grief, determination and acceptance, anchored by an extraordinary breakthrough performance from Christian Malheiros in the title role. **Preceded by short films: *Rubber Dolphin* and *How I Came Out*.****Sunday, June 2 at 4:30 p.m. at Cinestudio*****Erik & Erika****in German with English subtitles*World skiing champion Erika Schinegger, who won the gold medal in the women's downhill competition in 1966, had been declared female at birth and raised as a girl. But a newly-introduced genetic test proved that Erika was actually male. When the truth comes out, everyone is shocked and overwhelmed, including Erika. The joy of victory gives way to heartbreak as Erika is disqualified, accused of fraud and prevented from competing in the 1968 Olympics unless she undergoes a medical procedure to become fully female. **Preceded by short films: *Oh No Pedro* and*Sequins*.****Sunday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Cinestudio*****I’ve Got to Be Me: Transgender Shorts***The strength, courage and aspirations of transgender people of all ages are depicted in these stories about challenge, determination and affirmation. Program includes: **T*exas Strong, Something About Alex, The Things That Make Us, Silvia in the Waves, Briella*(U.S. Premiere), *Guarding Santos, Tell-by Date*(U.S. Premiere), *Paperock,***and ***Princess.*****Monday, June 3 at 7:30 p.m. at Cinestudio*****Boys Will Be Boys: Gay Shorts***The boys are back and they’re hotter and doper than ever! You’ll laugh, you’ll be surprised, maybe even a little titillated! Program includes: ***The Handyman, Uninvited, The Curse, ruok, Malik, Clothes & Blow, Guillermo on the Roof, Vertical Lines*,**and***Come at Me Bro*.****Tuesday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. at Cinestudio*****Wonder Women: Lesbian Shorts***What’s it like to be a modern lesbian? Take a look at these amazing short films for a wide range of answers. Breaking up, making up, finding your way in the world … it’s all here, told through the voices of some wonder women. Program includes:***Time & Again, Heather Has 4 Moms, F\*\*k, Adeline, Bucket List, Tamagotchi, Home Girl*,**and***Hidden*.****Wednesday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m. - Centerpiece Film at Cinestudio*****Gay Chorus Deep South***Following the divisive 2016 presidential election and a wave of anti-LGBTQ laws in southern states, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus embarks on a tour of the American Deep South to try to set the record straight about LGBTQ people. With allies in the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, they use music to bring a message of love, hope and acceptance to communities and individuals confronting intolerance. The journey brings them into people's homes, churches and concert halls, and reveals the powerful backstories of several chorus members and their leader.**Preceded by short films:** ***In a Moment, Turn It Around*and *Pepitas.*****Thursday, June 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Cinestudio*****Canary (Kanarie)****in English and Afrikaans with English subtitles*It’s 1986 in South Africa, and when Johan is called up for compulsory military service at the age of 18, he is accepted into the military choir, the *Canaries*. At a time when law and religion oppress individuality, and apartheid separates whites from blacks, Johan and the Canaries must first survive military training and then promote both church and state on a national tour of duty. Along the way, Johan falls in love with a choir mate and begins to question everything about himself and his world, including religion and patriotism. **Preceded by short film: *Delivery Boy*(U.S. Premiere)****Friday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. – Double Feature at Cinestudio*****Dykes, Camera, Action!***Lesbians didn't always get to see themselves portrayed on the silver screen, at least not the way they wanted. But Stonewall, the feminist movement, and the experimental cinema of the 1970s ushered in a new age of lesbian power and visibility. What resulted was a rich body of lesbian films that transformed queer cinema. Filmmakers Barbara Hammer, Su Friedrich, Rose Troche, Cheryl Dunye, Yoruba Richen, Desiree Akhavan and Vicky Du, film critic B. Ruby Rich and others share moving and hilarious stories from their lives and discuss how they've expressed queer identity through film.***Mom + Mom (Mamma + Mamma)****in Italian with English subtitles*When Karole and Ali decide that that they want to be moms, they’re not fully aware of the challenges and the exhaustion they will face along the way. Their lives are complicated because they share a small flat with Ali’s annoying ex-boyfriend. But they put up with him because he has the secret ingredient they need to make a baby. After their enthusiastic first attempt, the women face many obstacles, but they’re determined to keep trying because they’re in love and miracles can happen.**Saturday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. – Closing Night Men’s Film at Spotlight Theatres*****The Shiny Shrimps (Les Crevettes Pailletées)****in French with English subtitles**Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*meets *The Mighty Ducks*in this hilarious and moving tale of loyalty, determination and forgiveness. Matthias is a straight Olympic swimming champion who wants one more chance at gold before ending his career, but he makes a homophobic statement on TV that gets him in trouble with the International Olympic Committee. His punishment: to coach the Shiny Shrimps, a flamboyant, amateur gay water polo team in their quest to qualify for the Gay Games. Preceded by short film:***XaveMePlease* (World Premiere)****Saturday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. – Closing Night Women’s Film at Wadsworth Atheneum*****Vita & Virginia***The legendary love affair between the literary icon Virginia Woolf and the scandalous, iconoclastic socialite Vita Sackville-West is beautifully brought to life in this sensuous chronicle. The two women run in different circles in 1920s London, but when they cross paths, Vita is determined that the beguiling and stubborn Virginia will be her next conquest, no matter what. They develop an unconventional affair, set against the backdrop of their contemporary and unconventional open marriages. Preceded by short films**: *Forget Me Not***and  ***A Ranchera Song.***There will be a Closing Night Party at the Wadsworth Atheneum following both films on Saturday, June 8th.**Connecticut LGBTQ Film Festival Dates:**Opens Friday, May 31, Cinestudio, Trinity College campusCloses Saturday, June 8 with evening shows at Spotlight Theatres at Front Street and Wadsworth Atheneum**Ticket Prices:**Opening Night/Closing Night, includes party (each night priced separately)General Admission, $20Student/Senior, $15Other showsGeneral Admission, $10Student/Senior, $8Festipass - All shows plus opening night and closing night parties, $753-Show Pass - Any three shows except opening and closing nights, $25**Tickets, passes and schedule are available at**[**www.OutFilmCT.org**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001llwdUzDAHE7_z2UpjrYKq5kIZcxCthfLzG0zAjabXNe4IGkasO51X4mf34kiw4gpBp33z68A9QxJu8ZUOgq07t0kNGBsR1umQJDWNG84sL6pFQDoKK-tLJ2pORPiDc059ehRDaOu_9F-24VoJ5AqUA==&c=jzNcrOpCCOhhT5EUspKb1icSu2k6_0RnxK6-B6uZ6qe1-mEdQ70DfA==&ch=1m0v0cxSe4MDdMPPOKbAvtMoCf3OFw-3zGnU6gv_w_J9gGfx1d2ZUw==)**About Out Film CT**Out Film CT’s mission is to entertain, educate and promote community through the exhibition of LGBTQ film. A volunteer, nonprofit cultural organization, Out Film CT is dedicated to presenting outstanding LGBTQ cinema and other theatrical events throughout the year, culminating in the nine-day Connecticut LGBTQ Film Festival. This springtime event, Connecticut’s longest-running film festival, holds a special place in our state’s cultural landscape, bringing the community together to introduce, celebrate and rediscover the ideas and values that make the LGBTQ community unique. Out Film CT also presents the monthly Queer Thursdays film series in partnership with Cinestudio, usually shown on the second Thursday of each month.### |

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