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Out Film CT

P.O. Box 231191
Hartford, CT 06123

33rd CONNECTICUT LGBTQ
FILM FESTIVAL

A VIRTUAL FESTIVAL
OCTOBER 2-10, 2020



33RD
CONNECTICUT
LGBTQ FILM
FESTIVAL

OUTFILMCT.ORG



NEW THIS YEAR!

Three films will be screened at the
Manchester Parkade Drive-in
(Parkade Cinemas - located behind the Manchester Parkade
Shopping Center - 416 Middle Turnpike W, Manchester, CT 06040)
THERE IS A 60-CAR LIMIT AT THE DRIVE-IN.
BE SURE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT IN ADVANCE!

Stage MotherOCTOBER 2, 2020 • 7:30 PM
Ahead of the CurveOCTOBER 7, 2020 • 7:30 PM
Breaking FastOCTOBER 10, 2020 • 7:30 PM

www.OutFilmCT.org

MAJOR SPONSORS:



Supported in part by the Greater Hartford Arts Council's United Arts Campaign with major support from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

2020 CONNECTICUT LGBTQ VIRTUAL FILM FESTIVAL LINEUP

FRIDAY 10/2/20 • 7PM
OR AT THE DRIVE-IN: 7:30 PM
Stage Mother

Dir. Thom Fitzgerald, 2020, Canada, 93 min
When conservative, Texas church-choir director Maybelline (Jacki Weaver) inherits her recently deceased son's drag club, she surprises her closed-minded husband and everyone else she knows by moving alone to San Francisco to save it from bankruptcy. In this raucous, racy new environment, she finds new meaning for her life, even becoming a mother figure to the club's flamboyant performers. This dance-in-your-seat, music-infused dramedy boasts a sensational supporting cast, including Lucy Liu, Adrian Grenier, Mya Taylor and drag superstar Jackie Beat.



SATURDAY 10/3/20 • 7PM
Summerland

Dir. Jessica Swale, 2020, UK, 99 min
It's World War II and Germany's London Blitz is making the city unsafe for children. Reclusive writer Alice Lamb (Gemma Arterton) is forced to take in a young boy who has been evacuated to the English countryside. Completely lacking any maternal instinct, and preoccupied with her writing, Alice finds the boy to be a bothersome distraction and hopes to be rid of him as soon as possible. Meanwhile, she starts to remember happier times – her college days and the love she shared with a beautiful young woman. The incomparable Penelope Wilton (*Downton Abbey*) plays an older Alice in this time-shifting drama of love, loss, discovery and redemption.



SUNDAY 10/4/20 • 2PM
Emerging Voices: Youth Shorts

Program includes:
The One You Never Forget • *Ayaneh* • *LoverGirl* • *Misdirection* • *Teddy Mate* • *Bubble* • *Amateur Dramatics* • *Lolo* • *Show & Tell*



SUNDAY 10/4/20 • 4:30PM
I've Looked at Life From Both Sides Now: Bisexual Shorts

Program Includes:
A Single Evening • *Side Hustle* • *Treacle* • *Kiko's Saints* • *Dinner for 4* • *The Proposal*



SATURDAY 10/3/20 • 2PM
Around the World: International Shorts

Program includes:
Revolv • *Soba-chan's morning* • *Madrid-Stockholm* • *XY* • *After that Party* • *Project Baby* • *A Monsoon Date* • *I-1*



SATURDAY 10/3/20 • 4:30PM
Color Me Queer: Shorts Featuring Queer People of Color (QPOC)

Program includes:
The Cypher • *Acuitzeramo* • *Behind The Drag* • *Miss Toto* • *Dirty* • *The Departure* • *Where My Girls* • *When In Rome*



SATURDAY 10/3/20 • 7 PM
Cicada

Drs. Matthew Fifer & Kieran Mulcare, 2020, USA, 93 min
Something isn't quite right with Ben, a polysexual millennial who bounces frequently from gig to gig and from lover to lover. After a string of unsuccessful and awkward encounters with women, he goes "back on the dick" (in his sister's colorful words) and develops an intense relationship with Sam, a man of color who is struggling with deep wounds. As their intimacy grows, Ben and Sam come to understand that they are both survivors, and Ben finds the strength he needs to face a childhood trauma he has long suppressed. One review says the film "examines buried traumas, cultural divides and religious stigma with dark humor and tender introspection." (Jude Dry, *IndieWire*)



SATURDAY 10/3/20 • 7PM
Alice Júnior

Dir. Gil Baroni, 2019, Brazil, 87 min, in Portuguese & French with English subtitles
Alice Júnior is a teenage transgender Youtuber who is carefree, spoiled and totally endearing. More than anything, she longs to have her first kiss with a certain someone special, and it has to be just right. But her life is about to be upended when her father announces that they will be leaving the vibrant Brazilian city of Recife and moving to a small, conservative town in the south, which Alice is sure will be prudish and small-minded. Alice doesn't let the initial hostility she encounters get her down. With her dazzling personality, the self-confident and charismatic Alice shows her new schoolmates and teachers how to rethink their conservative ways.



SUNDAY 10/4/20 • 2PM
Welcome to Chechnya

Dir. David France, 2020, USA, 107 min, in English, Russian and Chechen with English subtitles
This searing investigative documentary from Academy Award-nominated director David France (*How to Survive a Plague*, *The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson*) is a powerful and eye-opening look at a group of activists risking their lives to confront the ongoing anti-LGBTQ persecution in the repressive and closed Russian republic of Chechnya. With unfettered access and a commitment to protecting anonymity, this documentary exposes Chechnya's underreported atrocities while highlighting a group of people who are confronting brutality head on.



SUNDAY 10/4/20 • 7PM
Making Sweet Tea

Drs. John L. Jackson, Jr. & Nora Gross, 2019, USA, 90 min
This feature-length documentary explores the lives and loves of southern gay Black men. It chronicles the journey of southern-born, Black gay researcher and performer, E. Patrick Johnson, as he travels home to North Carolina to come to terms with his past; and then on to Georgia, New Orleans, and Washington, D.C. as he reconnects with six Black gay men he interviewed for the book, *Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South—An Oral History*.



SUNDAY 10/4/20 • 7PM
Sequin in a Blue Room

Dir. Samuel Van Grinsven, 2019, Australia, 80 min
Sequin is a striking 16-year-old gay boy in Sydney who is addicted to a hookup app and constantly pursues anonymous sex with older men. He desires only the instant gratification that comes from anonymous sex and blocks his tricks after just one encounter before moving on to the next. But then, after a chance encounter at an anonymous sex party, he becomes obsessed with a mysterious stranger. Sequin sets off on an exhilarating and perilous mission to track him down in this up-to-the-minute coming-of-age story that beats with the pulse of an erotic thriller.



SCREENINGS ARE
AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR AT LEAST 72 HOURS
AFTER THE START TIME LISTED

MONDAY 10/5/20 • 7PM

For They Know Not What They Do

Dir. Daniel Karslake, 2019, USA, 92 min
This thought-provoking documentary is a powerful exploration of the intersection of religion, sexual orientation and gender identity in America. Using interviews with LGBTQ+ people from devout backgrounds (including a survivor of the Pulse nightclub massacre), their families, and religious leaders, it aims to show that people of faith are not necessarily the enemy of LGBTQ+ people, nor do they necessarily have malicious intent. While people of faith may have caused harm in the name of religion, we should not paint with too broad a brush, because in many cases, they know not what they do. OutFilmCT said, "This doc about families loving their LGBTQ+ kids is necessary viewing," and Queerforty.com said, "This should be a contender for Best Documentary at the Oscars. It's that good."



MONDAY 10/5/20 • 7PM

Boy Meets Boy: Gay Shorts 1

Program includes:
Thrive • Cuban Heel Shoes • Query • Lesson #8 • The Big Snore • One More Please • Unexpected • Sunday • Limp • South of Heaven • Next Level Shit



TUESDAY 10/6/20 • 7PM

Goodbye Mother (Thua me con di)

Dir. Trinh Dinh Le Minh, 2019, Vietnam, 106 min, in English & Vietnamese with English subtitles
Van lives in the U.S. and hasn't been back home to Vietnam in nine years—and a lot has changed. On the anniversary of his father's death, he returns with his boyfriend, Ian, to help move his father's tomb, come out to his mother, and introduce Ian to his family. But he's unable to find the right moment or the right words. In the meantime, his grandmother, who has senile dementia, mistakes Ian for her grandson, which complicates matters in hilarious ways; and Van discovers that his mother is seriously ill. With aunts, uncles, and cousins, there's abundant family drama, love, anger and laughter that combine to make this a coming-out story like no other.



TUESDAY 10/6/20 • 7PM

Girls Still Wanna Have Fun: Lesbian Shorts 1

Program includes:
The Passing • A Family Affair • Bar and Girl • Abby and Emily Go To Palm Springs • Pineapple • Feminist Theory and How It Relates to the Patriarchal Dividend • Boarding Room • Quest for Jasmine



TUESDAY 10/6/20 • 7PM

Connecticut Connections: Shorts with Ties to the Nutmeg State

Program includes:
A Spirit In Flight • SORRY WE MISSED YOU: John Boswell • Diary Room • Dream House • Kapaemahu • Maggie Mysteries



WEDNESDAY 10/7/20 • 7PM

(CENTERPIECE)

OR AT THE DRIVE-IN: 7:30 PM

Ahead of the Curve

Dir. Jen Rainin, 2020, USA, 95 min
From its start in 1990, *Curve* magazine was a visionary and unapologetic celebration of lesbian life from cover to cover. Facing the magazine's possible demise in 2019, director Jen Rainin and *Curve* founder Franco Stevens explore questions of lesbian visibility, legacy, and current day issues through interviews with contemporary LGBTQ+ tastemakers and celebs, including Melissa Etheridge, Jewelle Gomez, Denise Frohman, Kate Kendall, and Lea DeLaria, along with rich archival footage recounting the formation of a lesbian cultural institution.



WEDNESDAY 10/7/20 • 7PM

Be True To You: Trans/Non-Binary Shorts

Program includes:
Waking Hour • #Unheard Stories Part 2 • Behind The Drag: Jupiter Velvet • Vert • Fred • Plunge • Skin • Vuelta al Sol • Orin & Anto



THURSDAY 10/8/20 • 7PM

A Perfectly Normal Family (En Helt Almindelig Familie)

Dir. Malou Reymann, 2020, Denmark, 93 min, in Danish with English subtitles
Emma, age 11, thinks she has a perfectly normal family until one day Mom announces that she and Dad are getting a divorce "because Dad wants to be a woman." As Thomas becomes Agnete, both father and daughter struggle to hold on to what they once had, while accepting that everything has changed. Loosely based on the director's own experiences with her transgender father, the film captures her memory of what she felt at the time when her world changed suddenly and totally.



THURSDAY 10/8/2020 • 7:00PM

Two of Us (Deux)

Dir. Filippo Meneghetti, 2019, France/Luxembourg/Belgium, 99 min, in French and German with English subtitles
Two retired women, Nina and Mado, have been secretly in love for decades. Everybody thinks they are just neighbors, sharing the top floor of their building, coming and going between their two apartments, enjoying the affection and pleasures of daily life together. But then, an unforeseen event turns their relationship upside down and puts their devotion to a cruel test. Can their love survive in a world that isn't ready to accept the truth?



THURSDAY 10/8/20 • 7PM

The Girls are Back! Lesbian Shorts 2

Program includes:
Crush • Summer Vacation • Butch • Wake Up Call • Two Questions • U for Usha • All This Time • Almost • Enclosure



THURSDAY 10/8/20 • 7PM

The Boys are Back! Gay Shorts 2

Program includes:
Sweater • Deceased Ones • Altruistic • You Say Hello • Rushes • On the Ride • The Last Letter • Public Life • Full Disclosure • Jeff Drives You



FRIDAY 10/9/20 • 7PM

Music for Bleeding Hearts (Música Para Morrer De Amor)

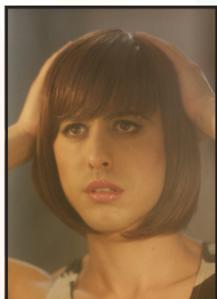
Dir. Rafael Gomes, 2019, Brazil, 102 mins, in Portuguese with English subtitles
This endearing ensemble romcom explores gay, bisexual, and lesbian relationships with depth, humanity, and a symphony of charm. In present-day São Paulo, a trio of young hearts are about to break. Ricardo has both a steady boyfriend and a wandering eye for a new coworker. Isabella is taking a break from both her boyfriend and best friend Ricardo. And hopeless romantic Felipe has suddenly found himself caught between the two of them. These three have big dreams, yearning passion, and opinionated acquaintances, but they're all unprepared for what Cupid has in mind.



FRIDAY 10/9/20 • 7PM

Lupe

Dir. Andre Phillips & Charles Vuolo, 2019, USA, 79 min, in English and Spanish with English subtitles
A Cuban immigrant with a boxing background struggles with their transgender identity while searching for their estranged sister in New York City's underground sex industry, with sometimes violent consequences. This trifeata of emotional drama explores family, immigration and being transgender. It's a knockout!



FRIDAY 10/9/20 • 7PM

Makeover: Drag/Cross-Dressing Shorts

Program includes:
Wonder • Behind The Drag: BenDeLaCreme • Dress Up Like Mrs. Doubtfire • Cocky King • Behind The Drag: Serena Tea • Old Hen • Beauty Boys • Foundation • Sparks • Behind The Drag: Candy Sterling



SATURDAY 10/10/20 • 2PM

What's Up Doc? Short Documentaries

Program includes:
Stonewall: The Making of a Monument • Behind The Drag: The Vixen • Porn Yesterday • Out of the Shadows • When Pride Came To Town • perfectly FRANK • Our Service, Our Stories: The Evolution of the LGBT Military Experience • Behind The Drag: Aurora Sexton

SATURDAY 10/10/20 • 4:30PM

Cured

Dir. Bennett Singer & Patrick Sammon, 2020, USA, 81 min
This powerful new documentary by Bennett Singer (*Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin*) and Patrick Sammon illuminates a pivotal yet largely unknown chapter in the struggle for LGBTQ+ equality: the campaign that led the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to remove homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses in 1973. The riveting narrative takes you behind the scenes as it chronicles the strategy and tactics that led to a crucial victory in the movement for LGBTQ+ rights.



SATURDAY 10/10/20 • 7PM

Ellie & Abbie (& Ellie's Dead Aunt)

Dir. Monica Zanetti, 2020, Australia, 80 min
Ellie is a star student who can handle most things high school throws at her, but when it comes to finding the perfect way to ask her mega-crush Abbie to prom, she just can't get it together. Fortunately, the Universe intervenes, and Ellie gets her very own fairy godmother to lend a helping hand – her dead lesbian aunt, Tara. But Ellie doesn't want advice from someone who has never heard of Facebook and hasn't dated since the 1980s. This unique and witty take on the teen romcom is fun and joyous, and packs an emotional punch that will make you wish we all had a fairy godmother like Tara.



SATURDAY 10/10/20 • 7PM OR AT THE DRIVE-IN: 7:30 PM

Breaking Fast

Dir. Mike Mosallam, 2020, USA, 92 min, in English with some Arabic with English subtitles
Mo, a practicing Muslim living in West Hollywood, is learning to navigate life after a heartbreak. Then, along comes Kal, a cute All-American guy who surprises Mo by offering to break the fast with him during the holy month of Ramadan. Meal after meal, they learn more about each other, and fall in love over what they have in common and what they don't. Is it too good to be true?



SATURDAY 10/10/20 • 7PM

Rūrangi

Dir. Max Currie, 2020, New Zealand, 96 min, in English and Māori with English subtitles
In this multi-episode saga, burnt-out trans activist Caz Davis returns to Rūrangi, the rural New Zealand dairy community he grew up in and then fled ten years ago, hoping to reconnect with his father, who hasn't heard from him since before Caz transitioned. As father and son slowly reconcile, Caz finds himself swept up in the environmental fight that is dividing the town. In Rūrangi, he finds a new cause and an old friend.



TICKET PRICES (Note: Household pricing available for 50% more)

Individual tickets.....	\$8
for features, documentaries, or shorts programs	
Drive-In tickets	\$20 per car
Limit 60 cars. Reserve your drive-in ticket in advance!	
5-Show Pass (a \$40 value)	\$30
for features, documentaries, or shorts programs	
"All Shorts" Pass (a \$96 value)	\$40
includes viewing all 12 shorts programs	
Festi-Pass (a \$276 value)	\$100
includes all features, documentaries, shorts programs AND drive-in screenings	

A VIRTUAL FESTIVAL: HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Go to www.OutFilmCT.org and click on the link for this year's festival.
- Purchase a Pass (Festi-Pass, "All Shorts" Pass or 5-Show Pass) if you'd like to get the best value! ("Friends of the Festival" will receive an email explaining how to claim their passes/tickets).
- Browse the "Virtual Festival" schedule or the "Film Guide" to pick out the films you want to see.
- Click the "Pre-Order Now" button to buy your tickets in advance.
- Feature films and documentaries have a 72-hour (3-day) "unlock" period, starting at the time listed. The "unlock" period for Shorts programs begins at the time listed and lasts until the end of the festival. Once you start watching it, you have 48 hours to finish it.
- Watch the film on your computer/iPad, or connect to your TV via HDMI, AirPlay, Apple TV, Roku or Chromecast stick.
- Don't forget to submit Audience Award votes for the films you watched (including the shorts!)

TO SEE THE SCHEDULE, GET TICKETS AND VIEW THE FILMS ONLINE, GO TO

www.OutFilmCT.org

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR LIVE AND PRE-RECORDED Q&As AND SPECIAL EVENTS