

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

2:30 PM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
SECRETS OF PR PROS

Top film publicists share their tips and insights into the often misunderstood world of film publicity.

Emma Griffiths, Emma Griffiths PR, President  
Annie Jeeves, Cinematic Red, Publicist & Founder  
RJ Millard, Obscured Pictures, President

Moderated by Sylvia Desrochers, Big Time PR, President & Owner

6:00-8:00 PM

MEMBER COCKTAIL PARTY

THURSDAY, MAY 16

11:00 AM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
PRODUCING FOR VR

Explore strategies and practical approaches to creating Virtual Reality content that is both compelling and considers the financial ramifications.

Ash Greyson, Ribbow Media, VR investor  
Adrien Moisson, The Wild Immersion VR  
Danilo Moura, Simulated Reality, LLC, Founder  
Jenna Seiden, Zambezi Partners, Co-Founder  
Will Stackable, Springboard VR

Moderated by Maxim Jago, Futurist, VR consultant, and author of manuals for leading editing software platforms - Adobe Premiere Pro and Avid Media composer

12:30 PM | IN CONVERSATION:

JOHN CARPENTER

Legendary filmmaker, composer, and master of the horror genre, John Carpenter (*The Thing, Halloween, Christine*) will receive the 2019 Golden Coach Award at Directors' Fortnight and then join us at AmPav for a conversation with IMDb's Keith Simanton.

Moderated by Keith Simanton, IMDb, Senior Film Editor

2:00 PM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
IT'S CALLED SHOW BUSINESS

A panel of experts connect the dots on independent film financing. Topics include finding investors, properly setting up your production company in order to receive investor's money, and the do's and the don'ts of film financing.

Jonathan Gray, Producer and entertainment attorney (*Moonlight*)

Julie Goldman, Oscar nominated producer (*One Child Nation*)

Krysanne Katsoolis, Financing & acquisitions (*The Cove*)

Corky Kessler, Attorney and EP (*Sum of Us, Driveways, Human Capital*)

Ramfis Myrthil, Producer (*Mary Pickford biopic*)

Fredrik Zander, Producer (*The Dead Don't Die*)

Moderated by Dave DeBorde, Producer & Film Professor

4:00 PM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
STORYTELLERS AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS

At the heart of every great film is the story. A group of accomplished filmmakers come together to discuss the creative process and their take on what makes for a truly good story.

Noah Lang, Producer, Witchcraft Motion Picture Company (*The Climb, Here Alone, Red, White & Wasted*)

Natalie Metzger, Vanishing Angle, VP of Development & Production (*Greener Grass, Thunder Road*), Director

Iram Parveen Bilal, Filmmaker (*Wakhri/One of a Kind*, 1 of 15 projects at Cinefondation Latelier)

Ross Fremer, COO, Cinetic Media

Moderated by Ryland Aldrich, Screen Anarchy

FRIDAY, MAY 17

11:00 AM  
BUILDING A GLOBAL VILLAGE,  
FRAME BY FRAME

Presented in partnership with Film Independent

For over 35 years, Film Independent has cultivated the careers of filmmakers and built a community of artists across the US. As we broaden our scope globally, we explore with some of our international filmmakers, mentors, and partners the role of mentorship in building bridges of collaboration between visual storytellers across international borders.

Eric d'Arbeloff, Co-President, Roadside Attractions LLC and Board Member, Film Independent

Mohamed Hefzy, President of the Cairo International Film Festival, Producer (*Clash, Sheikh Jackson*)

Myriam Sassine, Producer, Abbout Productions (*Amal, Panoptic, Tramontane*)

Ryan Zacarias, Producer (*Give Me Liberty, Bull, The Mountain*)

Moderated by Maria Raquel Bozzi, Film Independent, Senior Director of Education & International Initiatives

12:30 PM

AMERICAN DIRECTORS  
AT CANNES

The directors of some of the hottest titles at Cannes discuss their process, their careers, and their experience at the world's most prestigious film festival.

Pippa Bianco, Writer & Director, *Share*

Michael Covino, Director, *The Climb*

Robert Eggers, Director, *The Lighthouse*

Danielle Lessovitz, Director, *Port Authority*

Kirill Mikhanovsky, Director, *Give Me Liberty*

Annie Silverstein, Director, *Bull*

Moderated by Aaron Hillis, Cinedigm

3:00 PM | IN CONVERSATION:

XYZ

XYZ Films' partners are here to talk about their filmmaker-driven independent films from around the world and how they get them made within today's independent film financing models. Credits include *The Raid, The Raid 2, The Invitation, I Don't Feel At Home in This World Anymore, Mandy, Apostle*, the upcoming *Stowaway*, starting production in June.

Nate Bolotin, Founder, XYZ Films

Todd Brown, Producer, XYZ Films

Nick Spicer, Founder, XYZ Films

Aram Tertzakian, Founder, XYZ Films

Moderated by Mike Hostench, Deputy Director, Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival

4:00 PM

BREAKING THROUGH TOGETHER:  
CONNECTING EMERGENT VOICES,  
CREATING ALLIANCES,  
TRANSFORMING STRUCTURES

Sponsored by Lizzy Bentley of Marginalia Media and Tim Disney of Uncommon Productions.

This conversation will focus on sharing strategies and creating alliances among non-traditional filmmakers, curators and industry thought leaders.

Marianne Khoury, (Egypt, Director/Producer) *The Times of Laura, Women Who Love Cinema* and *Zelal*. Currently finishing feature, *Ehekeely*

Rose Kuo, (USA/China, curator), Founder of Festworks, former Executive Director of Film Society of Lincoln Center and Artistic Director of AFI FEST

Nina Menkes, (USA/Germany, Writer/Director/Producer), *Queen of Diamonds, The Bloody Child* and *Phantom Love*. Her work has screened at Sundance, Toronto, Locarno and the Berlinale.

Sandra De Castro Buffington, (USA/Brazil, Advocacy and Policy), Founding Director of UCLA's Global Media Center for Social Impact. Previously directed *Hollywood, Health and Society* at the USC Norman Lear Center.

Moderated by Lizzy Bentley, (USA, Writer/Producer), producer of *A Hidden Life*, (dir. Terrence Malick) premiering in competition. Previous films, *Beautiful Darling* and *Nanking*.

6:00-8:00 PM

STAGE32.COM MEETUP

Join the Stage32.com creative community (the largest online community of filmmakers in the world) as we have a happy hour meetup at the American Pavilion. This meetup is open to all creatives with a Marche due Film badge (cash bar). Network with Stage 32ers that have films screening at Cannes and collaborate with each other on future projects. Everyone who has an American Pavilion badge will receive a free Stage 32 webinar.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

11:00 AM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
THE FUTURE OF CROWDFUNDING

The practice of raising money online is no longer a novelty but what's next? Can we maintain the status quo or is there something bigger on the horizon?

Benjamin Wiessner, Vanishing Angle

Ash Greyson, Ribbow Media, VR investor

Tom Bancroft, Disney animator/producer (*The Lion King, Mulan*)

Natasha Marshburger, Exec Director, London Independent FF



12:30 PM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
DISTRIBUTION THROW-DOWN  
- NETFLIX VS. THEATERS

Filmmakers have more opportunities than ever when it comes to distributing their work and every film's success story is unique. The challenge is finding the right release strategy for each project in a sea of options.

Brian Beckmann, Arlight Films, CFO (*First Reformed, Hotel Mumbai*)

Chris Charalambous, Entertainment Studios' Freestyle Releasing, Head of Acquisitions

Cassian Elwes, Producer & President of Elevated Films (*Mudbound, The Butler, Dallas Buyers Club*)

Matt Miller, Vanishing Angle (*Thunder Road, A Bread Factory Part 1 & Part 2*)

Tom Quinn, NEON, Founder & CEO

Harris Tulchin, Entertainment Attorney/Producer's Rep

Moderated by Anne Thompson, Indiewire

2:00 PM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
THE GOLDEN AGE OF  
DOCUMENTARIES

Documentaries are more popular than ever, with boffo box office and visibility on streaming services worldwide. How did we get here, what's the current landscape, and what does the future hold for nonfiction storytelling?

Dan Braun, Submarine, Sales Agent & Producer (*Wild Wild Country, Evil Genius, Pick of the Litter*)

Ben Braun, Submarine

Midge Costin, Director/Producer, USC Professor (*Making Waves: The Art of Cinematic Sound*)

Julie Goldman, Oscar nominated Producer (*Abacus, Life, Animated, One Child Nation*)

Noah C. Haeussner, Producer

Tom Quinn, NEON, Founder & CEO

4:00-5:15 PM

SPEED DATING WITH CASTING  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA

A rare opportunity for filmmakers to make contact and seek casting advice in one-on-one meetings with casting directors. Participation is by invitation only. Interested filmmakers should contact info@castingsociety.com

5:30 PM

THE AMPAV AND LE BALLON  
ROUGE BEACHSIDE PLAYDATE

The American Pavilion celebrates Le Ballon Rouge Initiative: Where Kids are the New VIPs

We welcome all the kids and parents in Cannes to be part of a beach playdate at The AmPav. Enjoy cocktails on the beach with other parents. Kids are welcome (though not required). Building sandcastles encouraged.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

11:00 AM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
THE MUSIC OF THE CANNES  
FILM FESTIVAL

Presenting the power of music in storytelling and the creative process of composers collaborating with filmmakers.

Nainita Desai, *For Sama*

Kristian Eidnes Andersen, *Vivarium*

Walter Mair, HBO's *The Hunt for Jihadi Jon*, *Balance not Symmetry*

Allyson Newman, *Making Waves: The Art of Cinematic Sound*

Moderated by Thomas Mikusz, White Bear PR

12:15 PM | IN CONVERSATION  
LUCA GUADAGNINO

The director behind some of the most exciting cinema of recent years - *Suspiria, Call Me By Your Name, A Bigger Splash* - visits AmPav to discuss his latest feature, *The Staggering Girl*, screening in Directors' Fortnight.

Moderated by Scott Foundas, Amazon Studios

2:00 PM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
STATE OF PLAY - ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE, BIG DATA AND THE  
FILM INDUSTRY

Can machine learning and algorithms make creating, discovering and releasing films better?

Mark Bessen, CTO, StoryFit

Juha Koski, Co-Founder and CEO, Itcher  
Angel Montesdeoca, Lead Product Manager, IBM Watson AI

Dev Sen, Co-Founder and CTO, Cinelytic

Adrian Zapata Foray, Product Manager, IBM Watson AI

Moderated by Zachary Soreff, President, Sawyer Studios

4:30-6:30 PM

EMERGING FILMMAKER LGBTQ  
SHOWCASE & RECEPTION

MONDAY, MAY 20

10:00 AM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
MAKING SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE  
FILMS - IMPRISONED

Equitas Entertainment Partners (EPP) shares model for socially responsible, fiscally responsible filmmaking and specifically gender pay equity with the Laurence Fishburne film *Imprisoned*.

Paul Kampf, Director, *Imprisoned*, Co-founder, EPP

Holly Levow, Exec.Producer, *Imprisoned*, Co-founder, EPP

Tom Sperry, Producer, *Imprisoned*; Co-founder, EPP

Moderated by Philippe Diaz, Cinema Libre Studio

2:00 PM | INDUSTRY IN FOCUS:  
THE ART OF THE PITCH

Best practices for pitching your project to investors, potential partners, and all the other gatekeepers.

Ryland Aldrich, Producer (*Folk Hero & Funny Guy*) and Film Festival Editor at Screen Anarchy

Tom Bancroft, Disney animator/producer (*The Lion King, Mulan*)

Joe Belcastro, Showrunner *WWE*

Lizzy Bentley, Producer (*A Hidden Life*)

Ramfis Myrthil, Producer

Moderated by Dave DeBorde, Producer & Film Professor

3:30 PM | FILM PANEL:  
FOR SAMA

*For Sama* is both an intimate and epic journey into the female experience of war. A love letter from a young mother to her daughter, the film tells the story of Waad al-Kateab's life through five years of the uprising in Aleppo, Syria as she falls in love, gets married and gives birth to Sama, all while cataclysmic conflict rises around her. Coming off wins at SXSW and HotDocs, the film is an official selection at Cannes.

Waad Alkateab, Director

Edward Watts, Director

Erika Howard, Frontline, Impact Producer

Moderated by Alissa Wilkinson, Vox

TUESDAY, MAY 21

11:00 AM-1:15 PM  
THE AMERICAN PAVILION STUDENT  
FILMMAKER SHOWCASE

4:00 PM-6:30 PM

THE AMERICAN PAVILION  
EMERGING FILMMAKER SHOWCASE  
& AWARDS CEREMONY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

1:00 PM  
FILM COMMENT PODCAST

In a special live edition of Film Comment's regular Cannes podcasts, editor-in-chief Nicolas Rapold and colleagues look at the selection through the lens of past films and the art of cinema.

Moderated by Nicolas Rapold, Editor-in-Chief of Film Comment

2:15 PM  
INDIEWIRE PODCAST

With Anne Thompson & Eric Kohn

\* Schedule and guests are subject to change without notice.



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