

CONTACT:

Rina Thaler

The Art League of Ocean City

Ocean City Center for the Arts

rthaler@artleagueofoceancity.org

410-524-9433

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OC Film Festival to free stream movies from 2020 festival on Facebook Live starting Friday, April 10

OCEAN CITY, MD — April 5, 2020 — In response to stay-at-home orders, the Ocean City Film Festival and the Art League of Ocean City will stream short films from the March 2020 festival on Facebook Live every Friday beginning April 10 and every third Saturday of the month beginning April 18. There is no charge to watch the movies.

“The 4th Annual Ocean City Film Festival in March was a huge success, and we were extremely fortunate to have been able to hold the festival and welcome filmmakers and guests to town before the shutdown,”

William Strang-Moya, creative director of the Film Festival, said. “Since our March event, we've been in close contact with our featured filmmakers, and see this as an opportunity to once again share their work with our community.”

Every Friday at 7 p.m., Facebook pages for both the Ocean City Film Festival and the Art League of Ocean City will live stream one short film, some as brief as five minutes, some as long as 20 minutes.

On the third Saturday of the month – typically the day \$5 Film Night takes place at the Ocean City Center for the Arts - beginning April 18 at

7 p.m., both Facebook pages will stream a block of short films from the 2020 festival, approximately 30-45 minutes in total length.

Strang-Moya will introduce the films and welcome viewers, and, where possible, filmmakers will share their stories before the films stream. All films are independently produced, and many were made by local filmmakers or have local themes. The films are not rated, and viewer discretion is advised.

A complete schedule of films is posted at OCMDFilmFestival.com and ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org.

The Art League of Ocean City is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. Financial support comes primarily through membership dues from individuals and corporate sponsors. Funding for exhibits is also provided by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts, organizations dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

###

EDITORS: A synopsis of the films to be streamed is below. Poster images for the films are attached.

SHORT FILM FRIDAY STREAMING

4/10

“Go-Go Boy” directed by Oriana Oppice. Winner of best Feel-Good short. A boy discovers his fabulousness while dancing in his bedroom. 6 minutes. Chicago IL.

4/17

“Crisis on the Half Shell” by Michael Watts and Louise Schiavone. Winner of best Short Doc. With its temperate climate and at one time, a seemingly endless supply of oysters, crab, and seafood in general, the Chesapeake Bay was a haven for early settlers. With overfishing and industrialization, modern farming and deadening fertilizer run-off, parasitic outbreaks and climate change, the Chesapeake now turns to man for survival. 14 minutes. Alexandria VA.

4/24

“Bella Blue” by Guillaume Quere. Winner of best Aquatic film. 6 weeks far from everything. 5 friends go through the sea, sailing a catamaran named “Bella Blue.” They sail from one atoll to another in French Polynesia. The story of a personal and collective experience, an idyllic and inward-looking travel. 5 minutes. Paris France.

5/1

“Insomnia Nights” by Richie Wenzler. Winner of best Dramatic short. Over the course of one fateful night, a young man reflects on the time he spent with his friend while roaming around the city. 20 minutes. Zionsville IN.

5/8

“Table by the Window” by Rob Waters. Winner of best Funny short. Two childhood friends meet each other for lunch to introduce their significant other. The lunch takes a strange and tense turn as they are confronted by one of the boyfriend’s ailments. 10 minutes. Lewes DE.

5/15

“The Hobbyist” directed by George Vatisstas. Winner of best Horror short. A short neo-noir thriller centered around a mysterious druggist visited by Sangstrom, a seemingly ordinary man in search of an undetectable poison. Yet Sangstrom winds up getting more than he bargained for from the sagacious alchemist. 9 minutes. Brooklyn NY.

5/22

“Selfish” by Po Chien Chen. Winner of best Animation. In an izakaya, a chef notices a group of special guests. He decides to serve them a variety of signature dishes. 3 minutes. Oakville Ontario.

5/29

“Far from Ordinary” by Paul Bugarin. Winner of best Social Commentary short. David Thompson is an unassuming outsider who is about to embark on a big time project that will change his life forever. He updates his social media followers of his progress every step of the way. Meanwhile, his carefree and outgoing older brother Evan pays him a visit, and shows him the cold, empty realities of today’s high paced, technologically dependent world. Now faced with a deadline, does Dave have the will and resolve to go through with his plan and finish his project? 14 minutes. New York NY.

6/5

“Strange Fruit: Taking a Stand Through Song” by Sam Seliger. Winner of best Youth short. The history of the iconic song “Strange Fruit” and how its incredible power, stemming from the horror of its lynching theme, Billie Holiday’s tremendous rendering and its haunting melody, helped eradicate the practice of lynching in America. Over 40,000 African-Americans were lynched from the late 19th century through World War II, yet lynching remained a taboo subject for White America. The song was a catalyst for the Civil Rights movement, and ignited a culture of protest in the music industry, inspiring artists such as Nina Simone. Both the song’s author, Abel Meeropol, and its singer Billie Holiday, cared so deeply about the heinous impact of lynching, that they were willing to promote the song at great personal and professional risk, both ultimately suffering as a result. 15 minutes. Columbia MD.

THIRD SATURDAY – 4/18 – BLOCK OF SIX FILMS

4/18

“Terry & Owen” directed by Victor Olivera. A short comedy that follows two best friends as they prepare for a local tournament in their favorite fantasy strategy miniature game and the documentary filmmaker who captures it all. 7 minutes.

“This is Not a Love Song” directed by Jasia Kaulbach. Music video for Sammy G’s “Not a Love Song.” 3 minutes.

“The Milky Way Galaxy, Our Home as seen from the Eastern Shore” directed by Jim Baugh. This four-minute film highlights four never before published dark sky sites ranging from bortle class 1-4. The

locations are: Magothy Bay, Wachapreague, Cape Charles, and Red Bank. 4 minutes.

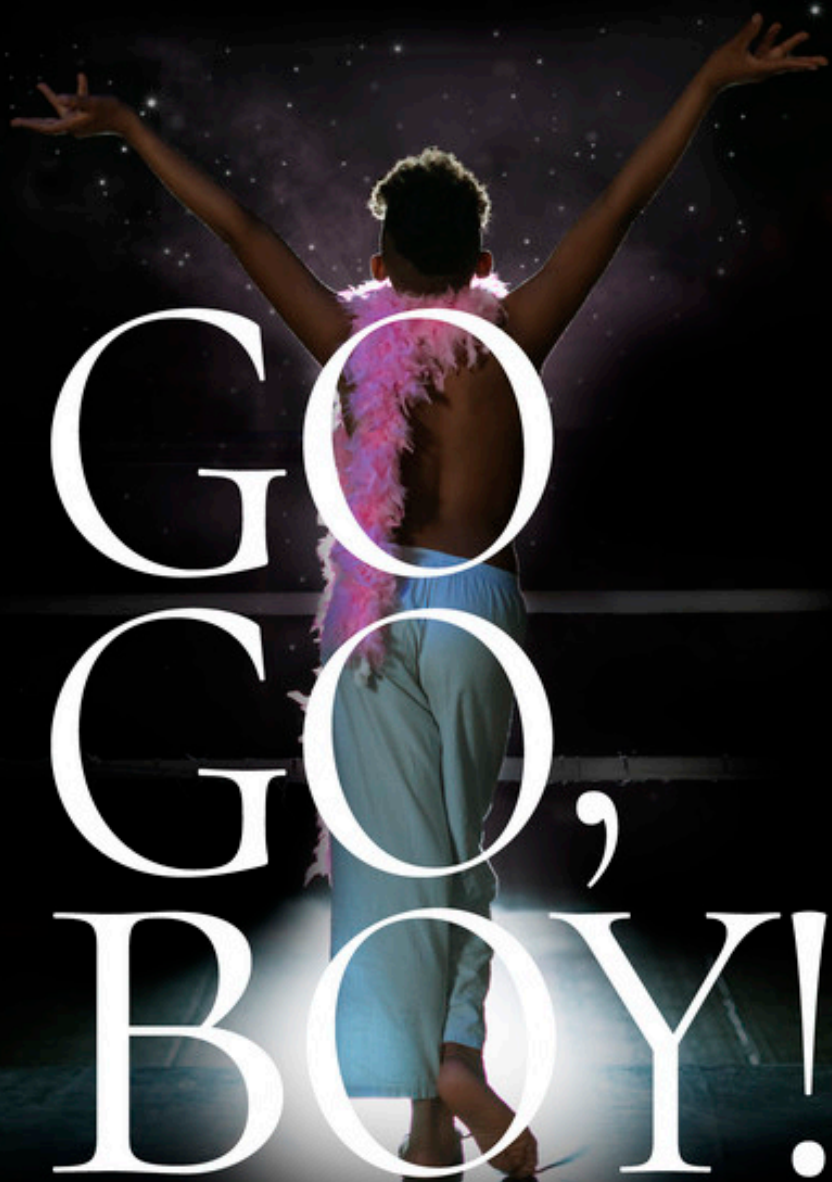
“Street Surfers” directed by Arther Neumeier. Frank Solomon, a big wave surfer and marine activist from Cape Town South Africa, travels to meet two exceptional men, Thabo and Mokete, who indirectly serve the environment through recycling as a means of income. This is the untold story of new friendships, shared experiences, and common interest between individuals that are worlds apart. For anyone that has cruised the streets of Johannesburg, the site of the city’s street surfers is as much a part of the landscape as is that of the high rise metropolitan skyline. 9 minutes.

“Starfish” directed by Sofia Ameti. Stan the Starfish enjoys the simplicity of life until one day Sally the Starfish is brought into his life and he must now embark on an epic journey to be with his one true love. 5 minutes.

“The Adventures of Zack and Molly” directed by Jim Toomey. Zack is more interested in the small world of his smartphone than the larger world around him. His online request for a roommate is answered by Molly, a tech-savvy dumbo octopus on a mission to tell the world about the importance of the deep ocean. Molly wants to use Zack’s apartment for her global communications headquarters, but Zack is skeptical. To win Zack over, Molly takes him to her deep ocean home in the Gulf of Mexico to see its unique features and diverse marine life, and to help him understand how human activities threaten its health. 11 minutes.

Elaine Bean
Marketing & Communications Director
Art League of Ocean City
Ocean City Center for the Arts
cell 443-944-3398

DANCE LIKE NO ONE'S WATCHING



GO GO, BOY!

TESTA DURA MEDIA AND TRINACRIA PICTURES PRESENT "GO GO, BOY!"
STARRING MARCUS OWENS PRODUCED BY ORIANA OPPICE JANE BARBARA JOHN W. BATEMAN
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DEREK COX WRITTEN BY JOHN W. BATEMAN DIRECTED BY ORIANA OPPICE



THE MILKY WAY GALAXY OUR HOME

PREMIERS AT THE REEL & RAW

FILM SCREENING

PRESENTED BY

EXPERIMENTAL FILM VIRGINIA

ON JUNE 29TH AT 7:30 PM IN CAPE CHARLES VIRGINIA.

STARFISH

Under assault, the oysters of the Chesapeake Bay
turn to man for survival....



CRISIS ON THE
HALF SHELL
THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

PRODUCED BY LANDMARK MEDIA PRODUCTIONS IN ASSOCIATION WITH LOUISE L. SCHIAVONE AND THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY CAREY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

DIRECTOR
MICHAEL WATTS

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
PETER HARTOGS

PRODUCER & NARRATOR
LOUISE L. SCHIAVONE





STREET SURFERS

a film by EYEFORCE

FRANK
SOLOMON

MOKETE
MOKETE

THABO
MOUTI

