

CINEQUEST™

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CINEJOY FEATURING THE ARTISTS & MOVIES OF CINEQUEST 111 WORLD AND U.S. PREMIERES

March 9, Silicon Valley—[CINEJOY](#), featuring the Artists & Films of **CINEQUEST**, occurs March 20-30 virtually and offers a breathtaking lineup of live events, community gatherings, and movies. Line-up includes 111 World or U.S. Premiere Films & Television. Offerings span an array of perspectives and emotions, representing independent powerhouses and studio masterworks from 55 countries.

FEATURE FILMS: WORLD PREMIERES

[A Beautiful Curse](#) | **Drama, Sci-Fi** | **Category: Love** | *Director(s): Martin Garde Abildgaard* | A whole island affected by an unexplainable sleep phenomenon is closed off from the mainland. Photographer Samuel heads there undetected to document the events, whereupon he finds Stella deep in slumber, and his attraction grows. He soon discovers the sleep affliction is more dangerous and personal than expected. **Country: Denmark (World Premiere)**

[A Handful of Water](#) | **Drama** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Inspiration** | *Director(s): Jakob Zapf* | Jürgen Prochnow (Das Boot, Dune) stars as Konrad, a man who has plenty of reasons to be grumpy. But, with the appearance of 12-year-old Thurba, Konrad's reclusive life is about to take a turn. Will it be for the better? **Country: Germany (World Premiere)**

[A Hard Problem](#) | **Drama, Sci-Fi** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): hazart* | Ian's been living a life he didn't realize he was living. With the passing of his mother, whom he cared for, Ian is about to discover just how fragile existence is. **Country: USA (World Premiere)**

[A Little Italian Vacation](#) | **Rom-Com** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Felipe Torres Urso* | Hannah van der Westhuysen (star of one of Netflix' hottest shows "Fate: The Winx Saga") lights up this romantic comedy following Rome and Amber Jane who, after a break-up, refuse to cancel their Mediterranean vacation with friends. Can they rekindle their love? **Country: Honduras (World Premiere)**

[Adventures in Success](#) | **Comedy** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Jay Buim* | A sex-cult masquerading as a wellness startup settles in the Catskills to build their utopia. Their mission is to prioritize female pleasure, which they believe will heal Mother Earth. **Country: USA (World Premiere)**

Agua Rosa | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s) Ca Silva & Miguel López Valdivia* | A beautiful and powerful journey of two young people falling further in love, while they search for who they are and their place in the world. Country: Mexico (**World Premiere**)

Anchor Point | **Documentary** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Inspirational** | *Director(s): Holly Tuckett* | Women have been a force in wildland firefighting since 1942. Whether their peers treat them as such, they are heroes. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Beneath the Banyan Tree | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Nani Li Yang* | A tender and unforgettable family drama following the matriarch of the Woo family and her desire to uphold her family. Four people, three generations forced to start a new life together, what could go wrong? Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Biomass | **Horror-Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): Anthony Riazzi* | What's happening in the mysterious facility in the New Mexico desert? In spite of the apparent risk, a young and ambitious news reporter jumps at the opportunity to investigate why people are disappearing. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Bitter Sugar | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Malik Isis* | After joining a prestigious NYC dance company, Hala, a young Tunisian dancer, meet Sandrine, a fellow Tunisian who introduces Hala to a new world. However, Hala's world is soon turned upside down. A story of friendship, uncertainties, and fierce independence. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Carver | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director: Evgeny Yablokov* | Ernesto is a security guard at a supermarket. But, at night, he changes out of his uniform and into his Carver suit and becomes the neighbourhood vigilante, until Alicia gives him a real case: to hunt down the drug dealer who killed her brother. Country: Spain (**World Premiere**)

Demon | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): George Louis Bartlett* | A dark comedy in which a temporary hideout becomes a nightmarish purgatory for a British officer who must confront the ghosts of his past. Country: United Kingdom (**World Premiere**)

Drive All Night | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): Peter Hsieh* | Dave is a reclusive swing-shift taxi driver. His nights are pretty uneventful. But, tonight is different, and his mysterious passenger, who holds a dark secret, takes them on one wild journey. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Echoes of Violence | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): Nicholas Woods* | Sometimes, forgiveness isn't an option. An immigrant travels from Sedona to Los Angeles to seek revenge against the immigration lawyer who ruined her life. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Granada Nights | **Romance** | **Feeling: Feelgood** | **Category: Love** | *Director(s): Abid Khan* | After a sudden break-up, a British-Pakistani tourist is looking to restart his life in the colorful and romantic city of Granada, Spain. Will he find a way to mend his broken heart? Country: United Kingdom (**World Premiere**)

Help | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): Blake Ridder* | A painful break up prompts Grace to visit her friend Liv who lives in the idyllic English countryside with her boyfriend. However, their weekend soon turns into something much darker, as well-kept secrets are exposed. Country: United Kingdom (**World Premiere**)

Hunting Bigfoot | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Taylor Guterson* | Did he really see it? Or was it just in his head? Is there a Sasquatch? John is determined to find out, even if it means those around him call him crazy. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Icon | **Romantic Drama** | **Category: Love** | *Director(s): Tony Ahedo* | A coming of age story about fatherhood, legacy, and the male side of teenage pregnancy. As a senior in high school, Sam struggles with what his future will be. When his girlfriend Ana becomes pregnant, Sam begins to struggle: can he become the father he never had? Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

I'm An Electric Lampshade | **Comedy** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): John Clayton Doyle* | An offbeat, heart-warming portrait of the world's least likely rock star. It's a mind-bending musical odyssey in the tradition of "Stop Making Sense" and "Searching For Sugar Man." Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

In the Dark of the Valley | **Documentary** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Nicholas Mihm* | "When my daughter, Grace Ellen, was diagnosed with a very rare form of cancer at age four, I thought that our family had the worst, most devastating luck. But we would soon learn that she was one of over fifty children who may have been poisoned by one of the worst nuclear meltdowns in America." Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Last Night in Rozzie | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Sean Gannet* | Starring Jeremy Sisto (Suburgatory, Clueless, FBI), Neil Brown, Jr. (Insecure, SEAL Team), and Nicky Whelan (Hall Pass, The Wedding Ringer) light up the screen for the story of a NY lawyer returning to his hometown to reunite his dying friend with his young son. But while there, he will be forced to confront something darker about his past. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Later Days | **Comedy** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Brad Riddell & Sandy Sternshein* | All Pam wants for her 40th birthday is a nice meal, sexy time with her stay-at-home husband, Mike, and to close a life-changing business deal at work. Too bad Mike didn't get the memo. Featuring a killer 80s soundtrack, LATER DAYS is a coming-of-middle-age comedy about the reckoning between who we are now, who we once were, and what we still aspire to be. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Lune | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Aviva Armour-Ostroff & Arturo Perez Torres* | Miriam is a South African born Jew raising her seventeen year old daughter Eliza in Canada. Nelson Mandela's election triggers something in Miriam, who has spent years fighting apartheid. Miriam's mania escalates as she navigates politics, religion, the mental health care system, and parenting. Country: Canada (**World Premiere**)

Making the Day | **Comedy** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Michael Canzoniero* | A comedy about a has-been character actor attempting to complete a movie, when divine intervention leads him to an aspiring, free-spirited actress that just might be his perfect leading lady. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Mirage | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): David Ben Ari* | A one night journey of two extremely different men: Ami, a killer turned state's witness, and Itzhak, the head of an ultra-orthodox Jewish Yeshiva. Together they are searching for Moria, Itzhak's daughter, who was kidnapped by the criminals Ami was set to testify against. What are they all willing to sacrifice? Country: Israel (**World Premiere**)

Miss Lillian – More Than A President’s Mother | **Documentary** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Vivian Winther* | An intimate and inspiring look at the life of Lillian Carter, her life as a nurse in the rural South, and how that shaped her progressive views on race in America—beliefs she passed on to her son, President Jimmy Carter. Featuring never-before-seen interviews with President Jimmy Carter, First Lady Rosalynn Carter, Tommy Lasorda, and Sam Donaldson. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Mister Candid Camera | **Documentary** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Peter Funt* | The story of the life and career of comical genius Allen Funt, and his legacy as the mastermind of Candid Camera. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Moving in 2008 | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Calogero Carucci* | The ups and downs of the world will never steal from us what is most important: Family. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

My Childhood, My Country - 20 Years in Afghanistan | **Documentary** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Phil Grabsky & Shoaib Sharifi* | A real-life epic of boyhood and manhood – filmed over twenty years in one of the most embattled corners of the globe—a moving new film capturing the strength of our human spirit. Country: United Kingdom (**World Premiere**)

My Dad is a Sausage | **Family Films** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Anouk Fortunier* | 12-year-old Zoë is best buddies with her father. When Dad, suddenly and inexplicably, decides to become an actor, the rest of the family thinks he’s having a burnout. Zoë is the only one who believes her dad is an amazing actor waiting to be discovered. Country: Belgium (**World Premiere**)

My True Fairytale | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): D. Mitry* | After three teens are in a car crash, one of them goes missing. As the entire town searches for her, one of the three friends, Angie, decides to fulfill her fantasy of becoming a Superhero and embarks on a mysterious journey. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

One Moment | **Comedy** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Deirdre O’Connor* | Danny Aiello (Do the Right Thing) stars in this humorous, heartwarming story of middle-age siblings struggling to manage their own lives while also caring for their recently widowed aging father. Welcome to the "Sandwich Generation." Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Outside | **Romantic Drama** | **Category: Love** | *Director(s): Farahd Abdullah Wallizada* | An agoraphobic young artist, living in isolation, begins an unlikely relationship with a mysterious escort, who's revealed to be more than she seems. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Pretenders | **Comedy** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Tristen Stafford* | Jasper and Hannah are two "hometown heroes" who never fully grew up. Reuniting with Nick, their childhood friend, the trio takes a road trip where Hannah and Jasper come out to Nick as an item. But life is much different now, and things don’t have the same fun they used to. Solution? Pretend to be other people. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Range Roads | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Kyle Thomas* | Kyle Thomas's *Range Roads* follows a family tragedy that finds a woman returning home, where old wounds are reopened and family secrets uncovered. An exploration of the beautiful complexities of what it means to be a family. Country: Canada (**World Premiere**)

Since August | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Diana Zuros* | Haunted by her past, Elizabeth begins spying on her neighbor, Vendette. Learning Vendette is deaf, Elizabeth does all she can to communicate with her—even by learning ASL. But, as their bond grows, what will be learned as tensions surface? Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Slapface | **Horror-Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): Jeremiah Kipp* | A young boy deals with the loss of his mother by creating a relationship with a dangerous monster rumored to live in the woods. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Sons of the Sea | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): John Gutierrez* | Tracked by a corrupt government official for a minor theft, two poor brothers from a South African fishing village find themselves in a fight for survival in the mountainous region of the fabled Cape of Good Hope. Country: South Africa (**World Premiere**)

The Boys in the Red Hats | **Documentary** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Jonathan Schroder* | Nick Sandmann became a household name after he "smirked" at Nathan Phillips in a viral video. This film informs the world what REALLY happened at that event in Washington DC. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

The Runner | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): Michelle Danner* | A captivating and gripping thriller that finds a Aiden forced by become a police informant after his mother turns him in for using drugs. Not so cut and dry, and Aiden's already crazy life is about boil to a point where he is faced with the hardest decision he's ever had to make. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

The Yellow Wallpaper | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Kevin Pontuti* | A contemporary adaptation of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's well-known and controversial gothic feminist horror story about patriarchy and mental health. USA (**World Premiere**)

Triple Threat | **Drama** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Stacey Maltin* | Just as the life-long Broadway dream of three friends is coming true, one decides that he wants to be a father and not just to art babies. With three friends, two babies, and one messy love affair, personal and professional lines become crossed in irreversible and life-changing ways. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Walk With Me | **Drama** | **Category: Love** | *Director(s): Isabel del Rosal* | Romance is in the air, as a woman braves life after divorce and challenges herself to take some personal risks, after finding love in an unexpected place. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Welcome to the Show | **Comedy** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Dorie Barton* | An invitation to a mysterious theatre piece, "The Show," sends four best friends down a rabbit hole of mistrust and madness as they try to figure out who are the actors, who is the audience, who is doing this to them, and why. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Woman in Car | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Vanya Rose* | A psychological drama that examines class, family, desire and deception, through the story of a woman whose obsessions with her privileged life are further enhanced when her son brings home a new girlfriend. Country: Canada (**World Premiere**)

Zero Gravity | **Documentary** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Thomas Verrette* | A diverse group of middle-school students go on the journey of a lifetime when they compete in a nationwide competition sponsored by MIT to code satellites aboard the International Space Station. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

FEATURE FILMS: US PREMIERES

A Lullaby for the Valley | **Documentary** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Ben Shani* | After years of capturing the art and life of Eli Shamir, director Ben Shani's beautiful film became a transformative story of how a man uses art to have positive effects on not only others, but on himself after being diagnosed with Parkinson's. Country: Israel (**United States Premiere**)

All-In Madonna | **Drama** | *Director(s): Arnold Lim* | A bi-racial teenager discovers dark secrets about her father and must reconcile herself with the father she thought she knew and the man he may actually be. Country: Canada (**United States Premiere**)

Busking | **Documentary** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Timo Vergauwen* | An uplifting celebration of life and music through the road tour of two folk musicians, driving from Arkansas to Argentina in their veggie-oil-propelled bus. Country: Belgium (**United States Premiere**)

Echoes | **Sci-Fi, Romance** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Tommy Llorens* | Jordi travels to La Palma to fulfill a promise. It is there where he will meet Linda. But, circumstances ensure they will never leave that island again. Country: Spain (**United States Premiere**)

Either Side of Midnight - One Night in New York | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Roger Spottiswoode* | Director Roger Spottiswoode (Tomorrow Never Dies, Shoot to Kill) presents his love letter to New York with this lyrical snapshot and celebration of life in the Big Apple—as told through four stories that collide over one Friday night. Country: USA (**United States Premiere**)

Events Transpiring Before, During, and After a High School Basketball Game | **Comedy** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Ted Stenson* | A high school basketball team is about to play the most low-stakes game of their lives. Unfortunately, the dramas around the game are more of a focus than the final score. Country: Canada (**United States Premiere**)

F-Word | **Comedy** | **Feeling: Feelgood** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Heidi Germiane Schnappauf* | Turns out men dressing in women's clothing in public isn't welcomed with open arms by all the parents at Woodward West Middle School...even if it's just for his theatrical passions. Mike Gallagher is just an All-American boy—a boy who can sing and walk well in heels. Country: USA (**United States Premiere**)

Family Matters | Drama | Category: Life | Director(s): Shohei Shiozaki | After Kana is driven from her home, she joins a nearby commune of misfits, where she falls under the spell of their charismatic leader, Seiji. However, Kana begins to see that Seiji's plans for the future are weirder and more dangerous than she thought. Country: Japan (United States Premiere)

Go To Kill | Comedy | Category: Laughs | Director(s): Nam-won Park | A clever black comedy that finds a spirited woman, in a dead end job, suddenly met with the opportunity of earning forty million Wons. All she has to do: murder someone. Country: Republic of Korea (United States Premiere)

Hidden in the Spotlight | Drama | Category: Life | Director(s): Jelle Nesna | Singer Sonne is unexpectedly confronted with the death of her older sister, who leaves behind 12-year-old Hannah. Sonne drops everything in her life to ensure she gains custody of Hannah, to keep her safe, especially from the man who ruined all their lives. Country: Netherlands (United States Premiere)

Horse Tail | Comedy | Category: Laughs | Director(s): Manoj Leonel Jahson & Shyam Sunder | An alcoholic bank employee from Chennai has to solve a strange mystery: why did he wake up one morning with a horse's tail? Country: India (United States Premiere)

In the Shadows | Sci-Fi | Category: Thrills | Director(s): Erdem Tepegöz | Numan Acar (Aladdin, Homeland) stars in this visionary tale. In a dystopia of undefined time, dominated by primitive technology, a group of people is being controlled by an omnipresent surveillance system. When one of them contracts a mysterious disease, everything begins to change. Country: Turkey (United States Premiere)

Non Western | Documentary | Category: Inspirational | Director(s): Laura Plancarte | A Native/Non-Native couple in Montana, ahead of their wedding. Through their struggles we explore how gender and identity issues affect different generations in Montana. Country: Mexico (United States Premiere)

Our Little Secret | Drama | Category: Life | Director(s): Yuri Zeltser | Everybody has a secret. Two young sisters abandoned by their mother. A strange woman sleeping on their couch. A sinister fugitive hiding in their barn. FBI agents snooping around. And the world seems to be coming to an end - with a bang, not a whimper. Country: USA (United States Premiere)

Rolling Marbles | Drama | Category: Life | Director(s): Kenichi Ugana | Shibuya is an ever-changing section in Tokyo. Ai, Mizuho, and Erika—dreamers, living together. Things may not always be easy or perfect, but what is always certain is their connection with each other. Country: Japan (United States Premiere)

The Dinner | Drama | Category: Life | Director(s): Matti Harari & Arik Lubetzky | Emma and Gregory, Russian immigrants, find it hard to survive Israeli reality. A chance encounter with an Israeli couple, full of good intentions, starts out with much hope and ends in a tragic maelstrom. Country: Israel (United States Premiere)

The First Death of Joana | Drama | Category: Life | Director(s): Cristiane Oliverira | While unravelling the secret behind the virginity of her great-aunt, Joana discovers how the women in

her family live out their sexuality and begins a journey into her own imagination to explore what her own desires mean. Country: Brazil (**United States Premiere**)

[The Magnitude of All Things](#) | **Documentary** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Jennifer Abbott* | When Jennifer Abbott lost her sister to cancer, her sorrow opened her up to the profound gravity of climate breakdown. For the people featured in her beautiful film, climate change is not happening in the distant future: it is kicking down the front door. Country: Canada (**United States Premiere**)

[The Squad #NOTHERETODANCE](#) | **Documentary** | **Feeling: Feel Good** | **Category: Inspirational** | *Director(s): Stephanie Gillard* | The Olympique Lyonnais women's football team has become one of the best football teams in the world. This amazing film takes an up-close look at these exceptional players and how they inspire. Country: France (**United States Premiere**)

[The Strawman](#) | **Thriller** | **Category: Thrills** | *Director(s): Jonathan Safir* | After being dragged into a gang of thugs, a man will leave the ordinary to enter the extreme. Country: France (**United States Premiere**)

[Trouble Will Find Us](#) | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Alexander Milo Bischof* | Love is fragile. Tess and Henry are about to find out just how much. And, no matter what happens, they are on the journey together. Country: United Kingdom (**United States Premiere**)

[Working Girls](#) | **Drama** | **Category: Life** | *Director(s): Anne Paulicevich & Frédéric Fonteyne* | Axelle, Dominique and Conso share a secret of a double life. Every morning they meet up to commute to work together on the other side of the border. There, in a brothel, they become Athena, Circe and Hera. But, when danger befalls one of them, they must join forces to overcome adversity. Country: Belgium | France (**United States Premiere**)

[Yellow Sunglasses](#) | **Comedy** | **Category: Laughs** | *Director(s): Ivan Mora Manzano* | Spending her days in pajamase and eating excessively. No, Julia is not in a pandemic. This is just life after a break-up. Yet, after connecting with Enzo and Alejo, Julia's dreams are reginited, and she looks at reinventing herself. Country: Ecuador (**United States Premiere**)

SHORTS FILMS: WORLD PREMIERES

[A Young Tough](#) | **Drama** | *Director(s): Wang Pengwei* | A boy infatuated with blowing up beetles navigates the cracks of a violently disintegrating marriage while attempting to acquire a newly released Gameboy Advance, no matter the cost. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

[Americanized](#) | **Drama** | *Director(s): Erica Eng* | As her sophomore year of high school comes to an end, Eng tries to find a sense of belonging within the two worlds that don't accept her. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

[Asfixia](#) | **Drama** | *Director(s): Romeo López Aldana* | As soon as a positive case of a new virus is located at her workplace, Sofia is forced into quarantine. After days of Isolation and uncertainty, she begins to fall into a spiral of paranoia. Country: Guatemala (**World Premiere**)

[Aubrey Paints Faces](#) | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Sona Mkrtumian* | Everything is possible in little Aubrey's world. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Cross Currents | **Dazzlers** | *Director(s): Eli Berliner* | A stop motion animation finds beauty, abstraction, and movement in static electronic circuitry. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Deadlock | **Thriller** | *Director(s): John X. Carey & Aqsa Altaf* | The story takes place in a world where the living have imprisoned the spirits of the dead in a server facility called DEADLOCK. Riz, who works for Deadlock, is having a day from hell. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Egg Party | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Kersti Bryan* | In late spring, six powerhouse women gather together in a Brooklyn apartment for a not-so-sober egg decorating party to support one of their own struggling with fertility. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Footsteps on the Wind | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Gustavo Leal, Faga Melo, & Maya Sanbar* | Little Noor and her brother Josef see their lives torn apart when an unexpected event hits home, pushing them into a journey over the seas and mysterious lands. Country: United Kingdom (**World Premiere**)

Freezerburn | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Sarah Rattary-Maloney* | Because sometimes it takes a magical cat person to push you out of the heteronormative nest. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Greta | **Drama** | *Director(s): Sofie Verweyen* | An experimental, subjective journey into the mind of Greta Thunberg, before realizing her calling as a climate activist. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Interruptus | **Drama** | *Director(s): Misti Boland & Jeremy Osbern* | Our brains erase the darkness and blur the images to create motion. But what if you could expand those moments? Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

IRL (In Real Life) | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Rylee Jean Ebsen* | In the vein of Steve Martin's Roxanne and Twelfth Night, "In Real Life" explores the importance of honesty in a relationship. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Lion on the Mat | **Documentary** | *Director(s): Asali Schols* | A young Vietnamese-American single mother pours herself into martial arts as a way to overcome the trauma she's experienced in her life. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

Price of Water | **Drama** | *Director(s): Mohsen Mehri Darouei* | The tables turn after a woman and her sick grandchild are granted free water for a week. Country: Iran (**World Premiere**)

Puppet Me | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Annie Tippe* | Reeling from the sudden death of her celebrity ventriloquist father, a woman confronts her grief by performing her dad's puppet. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

The Background Question | **Documentary** | *Director(s): Leyla Bulatova* | When a Canadian immigrant is asked about her background, she reveals well-kept family secrets about the reality of being an ethnic minority in Russia and the Soviet Union. Country: Canada (**World Premiere**)

The Cow | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Colin Babcock* | A cursed food tv host offers his life fortune to a struggling Texas pit master to get the chance to eat a cow that is also a vessel for the devil. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

The Offer | **Thriller & Sci-Fi** | *Director(s): Sam Shapson* | A mysterious offer overshadows two sisters' last weekend together in the mountains. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

The Third Date | **Rom-Com** | *Director(s): Freddie Rupprecht & David Gelovani* | Two people getting ready for their exciting third date! Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

To Kill a Lily | **Horror** | *Director(s): Paul Cosby* | A college student struggles with guilt after a close friend took their own life. Country: USA (**World Premiere**)

SHORTS FILMS: US PREMIERES

A Cat Called Jam | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Lorraine Lordan* | Jam is not quite what he appears to be, but how do you make others see you the way you see yourself? Country: Ireland (**United States Premiere**)

Hands | **Drama** | *Director(s): Romy Murro* | A political short film that depicts a personal dilemma when a middle/young aged man is presented with the option of stability or morality. (**United States Premiere**)

Heart Breaker: Loss, Legacy & Lunacy | **Documentary** | *Director(s): Mike Johnston* | A short documentary film exploring Mike Johnston's cross-country journey to meet and document the rise and dramatic fall of pro wrestling's weed-dealing, cat-breeding phenom, Ted Hart. Country: Canada (**United States Premiere**)

I AM NORMAL | **Drama** | *Director(s): Olia Oparina* | A sane woman fakes the symptoms of a mentally unstable patient in order to be admitted into a mental institution for a secret psychiatric experiment. Inspired by the Rosenhan Experiment of 1973. Country: USA (**United States Premiere**)

Je suis ton père | **Comedy** | *Director(s): Justine Le Pottier* | Paul learns that he is the son of Gérard Depardieu, the French international star, and he decides to go looking for him. Country: France (**United States Premiere**)

Not a Wallflower | **Rom - Com** | *Director(s): Lianne Mackessy* | Living with autism is of no consequence for Ben! Except when it comes to his boss... and finding love. Country: Australia (**United States Premiere**)

Stairs | **Drama** | *Director(s): Zoljargal Purevdash* | A young man's dream to make a living in Ulaanbaatar is put to the test when he must navigate the social and physical obstacles in his path. Country: Mongolia (**United States Premiere**)

Through the Cymbals I Will Watch | **Fantasy** | *Director(s): Lorène Yavo & Karlo Corona* | Sometimes our journey shows more than just beginnings and endings. Country: (**United States Premiere**)

While We Stayed Home | Horror | Director(s): Gil Vesely | Boy meets girl during the Coronavirus quarantine, each hides a secret under their mask. Country: Israel (**United States Premiere**)

About Cinequest:

Cinequest fuses innovation with the arts to empower great creations and to connect audiences, youth, artists, and innovators with these creations and with each other—forging community, joy, and our future. Set in Silicon Valley, Cinequest’s uniqueness, impact, and legacy result from applying this powerful integration of creativity and technology to democratize opportunity and to transform lives. Cinequest does this through the **Cinequest Film & Creativity Festival**, **Mavericks Studio**, and **Picture The Possibilities** global youth programs.

Experience the JOY of cinema, artists, and community! Much more than a movie, **CINEJOY** is an online experience that brings you film and live events through a community and platform designed for discovery and engagement. **CINEJOY**, featuring the Artists and Movies of CINEQUEST, occurs March 20-30!

CINEJOY is hosted on the **CREATICS** platform that requires a quick, free registration that doubles as your registration and login when you purchase tickets to **CINEJOY** movies, events, and offerings.

Cinequest CINEJOY March 2021 Partners *(partial list)*

TJ & Valeta Rodgers, Clos De La Tech, Jennifer Krach, James Boyce Trust & Kris Otis, Eddie Lira, The Wolff Family, Applied Materials (NASDAQ: AMAT), ZOOM (NASDAQ: ZM), Tito’s Handmade Vodka, The Knight Foundation, Hint Water, Agile Ticketing Solutions, SV Creates, The Morrison & Foerster Foundation, and the City of San Jose.

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