Away From Home

These films analyze the minds of people who have been uprooted for their original home, whether that be of their own accord or by someone else. The night will end with the SCFF prizewinner panel and the announcement of the Viewer’s Choice award.

The Snake Charmer

The Snake Charmer is a short ethnographic documentary outlining the family history and magical roots of a group of nomadic Rajasthani snake charmers, or Madari, living in rural Gujarat, northwest India.

These scenes were shot in the summer of 2005 on the outskirts of the town of Dhrangadhra, Gujarat. The Madari live in tents on the edge of town, in an enclave known as Vadipara, or “snake charmers' alley.” Despite the abolition of the caste system after the establishment of the Republic of India in 1947, the snake charmers remain on the fringes of Hindu society; they belong to the "Madari Varna", a sub-caste of the Untouchable caste.

This video was produced, directed, photographed, and edited by Alex Goldblum as part of coursework in the Visual Anthropology program of Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. The principal ethnographer on the project was Dr. Jayasinhji "Bapa" Jhala, a native-son of the Kingdom of Halvad-Dhrangadhra, in the modern Indian state of Gujarat.

Director - Alex Goldblum

A Date in the Dark

A Date in the Dark narrates the Last day journey of a Husband with his blind wife and it is a Virtual Audio Telugu Short film.

Virtual Audio film is nothing but a film that gives us a realistic experience with just audio and sounds.

Director - Singara Mohan
Dafa Metti

Under Paris’ glittering Eiffel Tower, undocumented Senegalese migrants sell miniature souvenirs of the monument, to support their families back home.

Far from their loved ones and hounded by the police, each day is a struggle through darkness in the City of Lights.

Director - Tal Amiran

Tal Amiran is a multiple award-winning documentary filmmaker and editor based in London, UK.

His first short documentary Seven Days a Week (2016) was screened at 27 festivals including AFI DOCS and Big Sky Documentary Film festival, winning 7 awards including Best London Short at the London Short Film Festival. It was described by director / critic Mark Cousins as “classical, moving and profound”.

Tal’s second short documentary Sand Men (2017) was screened at 41 festivals including Cinequest, SCAD and Brooklyn Film Festival, winning 10 awards including Best Documentary Short at Sarasota Film Festival.

Tal’s short documentaries have been showcased by Vimeo Staff Pick, Filmmaker Magazine and Nowness, and have been acquired by the BFI National Archive.

Tal is also a lecturer on the Film and Moving Image BA at Norwich University of the Arts, UK.

Dafa Metti is Tal’s third short doc.

Revolution from Afar

In 2019, after months of protests across Sudan, the military removed thirty-year dictator Omar al-Bashir and cracked down in a violent fashion on the civilian sit-in outside its headquarters. The Internet was shut down, leaving those outside Sudan to voice a plea for peaceful transition to civilian government. An ocean away, Sudanese-American poets and musicians, whose families left Sudan for America in decades past, gather in major American cities to perform in support of the revolution. At the heart of the film is a conversation around identity, belonging, and the uncertain future of Sudan, from which they have been physically cut off. What happens when they can only watch from afar?
Director Biography - Bentley Brown

Bentley Brown is an American-Chadian director whose film Oustaz premiered at Berlinale 2016. From 2015 to 2018 he taught filmmaking and interactive media in Saudi Arabia’s first university-level filmmaking program, where he also began an underground film screening series and worked on several feature films. Working frequently in Arabic, French, he is currently enrolled in a PhD program in Emergent Technologies and Media Art Practice at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

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