

**3<sup>rd</sup>  
annual  
2018**

**WOMEN  
TEXAS  
FILM FESTIVAL**  
LEADERS. RADICALS. STORYTELLERS.

August 15-19

Presented by  
**STUDIO  
MOVIE GRILL**

# Women Texas Film Festival Venues

- All films shown at: Studio Movie Grill, 13933 N Central Exp, Dallas, TX 75243
- August 15 Opening Night Party: WAAS Gallery, 2790 Logan St, Dallas, TX 75215
- All other parties and events: AC Hotel by Marriott Dallas at the Galleria, 5460 James Temple Dr, Dallas, TX 75240

## How to Fest

Welcome to the 2018 Women Texas Film Festival. This year's festival includes five days of films, parties, red carpets and panels. In this program, you will find our schedule and summary of films. Check our website [www.womentxvf.org](http://www.womentxvf.org) or follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook for updates. Happy Viewing!

### Passes and Tickets

Festival passes and individual tickets can be purchased online before the festival at [Prekindle.com](http://Prekindle.com) or on our website, [womentxvf.org](http://womentxvf.org), or on the day of the show at our ticketing booth inside Studio Movie Grill located at 13933 North Central Expressway Dallas, Texas 75243

### Pricing

**Festival Pass \$75\*** Gets you into all screenings, panels and parties.

**Student Pass \$65\*** Same as above. Must show current school ID when picking up pass at our box office.

**Individual tickets \$11**

\*Please note that a \$4.74 handling charge applies to each festival pass.

Passes purchased online must be picked up at our ticket booth. Individual tickets purchased online can be printed at home and presented upon entry to the theater or picked up at our ticket booth.

Please note: due to limited occupancy and high demand, a festival pass does not guarantee admission. We recommend arriving as early as possible to secure a seat: at least 30 minutes prior to screening time. Ticket holders in line 15 minutes prior to screening, but denied admission due to limited occupancy will receive a full refund or credit towards another screening.

### Rush Lines

A screening becomes "Rush Line Only" when the number of seats reserved for passholders and individual ticket holders equals the number of seats in the theater. All pass and ticket holders should be in line no later than 15 minutes prior to the start of each screening. Passholders are allowed entry into the theater first, followed by ticket holders. After all pass and ticket holders are seated, additional tickets may be available for purchase.

All ticket sales are final. There are no refunds or exchanges except in the event a ticket holder is denied admission due to limited occupancy as stated above. Not all screenings are rated; festival-goers should exercise discretion. Screenings not in English are presented with subtitles except when otherwise stated. Screening times and locations are subject to change.

# Hello!

My name is Kim Cousin, and I am the new Executive Director of Women Texas Film Festival. As a lifetime film buff, I am thrilled to join forces with a group of professionals dedicated to providing more opportunity to female writers, producers, directors, cinematographers, editors and composers.

In my new role, on behalf of our wonderful Board of Directors, I have the distinct pleasure to personally welcome each of you to the 2018 Women Texas Film Festival!

The Women Texas Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) designed to showcase the range of female Talent. We provide the opportunity for female storytellers to project their voices and build a community that is safe, empowering and impactful. We support these bold women by providing screenings, panels, and social events to encourage partnerships that push them towards success.

I am so excited about our journey to introduce you to the women behind the camera. This year you will be treated to a range of styles, genres, subjects and creativity that is truly phenomenal.

The Festival begins on August 15, 2018 and runs through August 19, 2018. Your presence is an honor and we hope you will make it an annual event on your calendar.

I also want to sincerely thank our sponsors and volunteers. Together, we are creating history! Again, welcome to our festival.

Kim Cousin  
**Executive Director**

## 2018 August 15-19

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**Teresa Nguyen**, Special Events Manager

# Third Annual Women Texas Film Festival 2018

## Presented by Studio Movie Grill

### OPENING NIGHT FILM

#### PARIS WINDOW

Wednesday, 7 pm

Director: Amanda Kramer; Writers: Amanda Kramer, Noel David Taylor

Country: USA, Running Time: 83 minutes

Set entirely in the apartment of adult siblings Julian and Sunny, Paris Window follows the damaging effects of a series of hypnosis infomercials on the socially and emotionally stunted pair. With creeping intensity, the delusional and codependent brother and sister turn on each other as Julian believes something is afoot when Sunny begins dating a man who looks exactly like him. Paris Window blends the single set claustrophobia of Polanski's Repulsion with the doppelgänger obsession of Dostoyevsky's The Double and the hallucinatory paranoia of Cronenberg's Videodrome.



[Q&A with Amanda Kramer and Noel David Taylor to follow](#)  
[Community Partner: Oak Cliff Film Festival](#)

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#### ALASKA IS A DRAG

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Director: Shaz Bennett; Writer: Shaz Bennett

Country: USA, Running Time: 88 minutes

This is a fish out of water story – literally. Everyone who slices fish all day daydreams – his are just glamtastic. He's had to learn to fight to survive. And his boss who is also an amateur boxer takes note. When a new kid offers to be his sparring partner, he and his twin are forced to confront the real reason they're stuck in fish guts. Starring Martin L Washington Jr with appearances by Margaret Cho and Jason Scott Lee.



[Community Partner: AGLIFF, Dallas International Film Festival \(DIFF\)](#)

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#### BLACK HOLLER

Friday, 9:30 pm

Director: Jason Berg; Writers: Heidi Ervin, Rachel Ward Heggen, Jason Berg

Country: USA, Running Time: 93 minutes

Street-smart Laquita Johnson has high hopes for a fresh start at her new school, but those hopes are halted when the dean forces her on a field trip with the cheese-loving, dim-witted students of "Archeology 101" led by the daffy Professor Thompson. On the bus, each 80s student archetype is in attendance, but once the group makes it to the haunted woods of Black Holler, roll call becomes impossible! Laquita has to confront her troubled past in order to fulfill her destiny, escape the horrors of Black Holler, and save some of the students along the way. It's about to get campy in this comedic homage to the horror movies and pop culture of the 1980s!



## **ALL SMILES (Short Film preceding Black Holler)**

Director: Samantha McDanel; Writer: Samantha McDanel

Country: USA, Running Time: 7 minutes

A dental assistant is afraid that a patient might bite off her finger.

[Q&A with Heidi Ervin \(Black Holler\) and Samantha McDanel \(All Smiles\) to follow](#)

[Community Partners: Bacon Samurai, Dallas Comedy House](#)



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## **HILLBILLY**

Saturday, 2:30 pm

Director: Ashley York, Sally Rubin

Country: USA, Running Time: 87 minutes

Hillbilly goes on a personal and political journey into the heart of the Appalachian coalfields, exploring the role of media representation in the creation of the iconic American “hillbilly,” and examining the social, cultural and political underpinnings of this infamous stereotype. Filmed in Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia, hillbilly uncovers an unexpected set of artists, poets, activists, queer musicians, “Affrilachian” poets and intersectional feminists – all unexpected voices emerging from this historically misunderstood region. Hillbilly is a timely and urgent exploration of how we see and think about poverty and rural identity in contemporary America, offering a call for dialogue during this divisive time in U.S. history.



[Q&A with Ashley York to follow](#)

[Community Partner: Dallas Video Fest/Docufest](#)

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## **LEZ BOMB**

Friday, 7 pm

Director: Jenna Laurenzo; Writer: Jenna Laurenzo

Country: USA, Running Time: 90 minutes

Lez Bomb is a multigenerational comedy of errors featuring a young woman (Lauren) who comes home for the holidays with some life-changing news. Little does Lauren know, the eccentric cast of characters have their own stirring surprises as well. The result is a hilarious turn of events forcing the family to come together in a ceremonious series of coincidences. As it turns out, there is no good time to drop the Lez Bomb. Starring Academy Award Winner Cloris Leachman, Academy Nominated Bruce Dern, Emmy Award Winner Kevin Kane, and an ensemble cast that includes Steve Guttenberg, Kevin Pollack, Brandon Michael Hall, and brought to you by the producer of There’s Something about Mary and Dumb and Dumber, Bobby Farelly.



[Q&A with Jenna Laurenzo to follow](#)

[Community Partners: AGLIFF, Women in Film Dallas](#)

“The ensemble cast delivers wall-to-wall funny and heartfelt performances, highlighting writer, director and star Jenna Laurenzo’s fast-paced and witty dialogue.” Laura Henneman for Frameline42

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## PAST IMPERFECT

Friday, 4:30 pm

Director: Nathalie Teirlinck; Writer: Nathalie Teirlinck

Country: Belgium, Running Time: 110 minutes

When Alice's ex-boyfriend dies in a car accident, she's unexpectedly confronted with her six-year-old son, whom she had abandoned at birth. His presence not only threatens her routine existence as a luxury escort but also exposes strongly suppressed emotions. Doubt strikes again. Will she be able to be a mother this time? Starring Evelyne Brochu (Orphan Black).



Community Partner: [Alliance Française Dallas](#)

"Nathalie Teirlinck shows no signs that Past Imperfect is her debut feature - creating an emotionally resonant story, marked by poetic and arresting images, as well as tremendous heart for the characters she brings to life." Michael Rabehl for Cinequest

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## RICH KIDS

Saturday, 4:30 pm

Director: Laura Somers; Writers: Laura Somers, David Saldaña

Country: USA, Running Time: 97 minutes

A group of troubled teens from a low-income community break into "Los Ricos," the local mansion with a border fence, and spend the day pretending to be rich in order to forget their difficult lives. Rich Kids is a film that sympathetically views the modern day and ongoing challenges of economic disparities, gentrification, displacement and evictions faced through the lens of Latino and Afro-Latino American youth. At its heart, Rich Kids is about a young man's transformation from the person he thinks he's supposed to be into the person he really is, as he comes to terms with the realities and consequences of living in a community ravaged by the wealth gap and income inequality.



[Q&A with Laura Somers and David Saldaña to follow](#)

Community Partners: [Dallas International Film Festival](#), [Asian Film Festival Dallas](#)

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## THE REST I MAKE UP

Thursday, 7 pm

Director: Michelle Memran

Country: USA/Cuba, Running Time: 79 minutes

Maria Irene Fornes is "America's Great Unknown Playwright." When she stops writing due to dementia, a friendship with a young writer reignites her visionary creative spirit, triggering a film collaboration that picks up where the pen left off.

Community Partners: [Unity of Dallas](#), [The Aging Mind Foundation](#), [AWARE](#), [Triumph Over Alzheimer's](#)

"The film is an unusual and valuable catalyst towards reckoning with the realities of aging artists..." Katie Pearl for HowlRound

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## WHEN JEFF TRIED TO SAVE THE WORLD

Thursday, 9 pm

Director: Kendall Goldberg, Writers: Rachel Borgo, Kendall Goldberg

Country: USA, Running time: 93 minutes

When the manager of an old-school bowling alley discovers the owner's plans to sell, saving Winky's World means pulling himself out of the gutter, too. An endearing film about fighting for what you love starring Jon Heder (Napoleon Dynamite).

"[Heder] is quite endearing as Jeff in a movie that lived up to my expectations of a dramatic film with humor. When Jeff Tried to Save the World is one of the most entertaining independent films I have seen in quite some time." Fanboy Nation



## UNITED SKATES

Friday, 5:30 pm

Directors: Dyana Winkler and Tina Brown

Country: USA, Running Time: 90 minutes

Roller-skating has played a critical role in modern African-American culture, with rinks serving as both a haven of community and of artistic expression, and a flashpoint in the civil rights movement. UNITED SKATES chronicles the fight to save these rinks and the souls of communities nationwide.

[Q&A with filmmaker to follow](#)

[Community Partner: Dallas Video Fest/Docufest, Southern Skates, Asian Film Festival Dallas](#)



## CLOSING NIGHT FILM

### THE RANGER

Saturday, 8 pm

Director: Jenn Wexler; Writers: Giaco Furino, Jenn Wexler

Country: USA, Running Time: 77 minutes

Teen punks, on the run from the cops and hiding out in the woods, come up against the local authority – an unhinged park ranger with an axe to grind.

**FANGORIA**

[Community Partners: Cinestate and Bacon Samurai](#)



### INAPPETENCE (Short Film preceding The Ranger)

Director: Katarzyna Babicz; Writer: Katarzyna Babicz

Country: Poland, Running Time: 7 minutes

Under the influence of a weight loss substance, a young girl experiences delusions. Her body begins to change.



# SHORTS

## HA HA BRUNCH

Saturday, 12 pm

[Q&A with filmmakers to follow](#)

Community Partner: Women in Film Dallas, Dallas Comedy House

### **BITCH'S TIT**

Director: Sarah Grodsky; Writer: Sarah Grodsky

Country: USA, Running Time: 7 minutes

Work. Music. Milestones. Shelby and Mo do everything together.

### **CIVIC DUTY**

Director: Sarah Adams; Writers: Sarah Adams,

Maggie Rieth Austin

Country: USA, Running Time: 11 minutes

Still working the local beat of her hometown newspaper, Kate Sutherland is married, pregnant, and really bored.

### **FOXY TROT**

Director: Lisa Donato; Writer: Lisa Donato

Country: USA, Running Time: 15 minutes

A married couple unexpectedly faces their relationship issues when they take ballroom dance lessons in a very heteronormative class.

### **MIXED SIGNALS**

Director: Tracie Laymon; Writer: Tracie Laymon

Country: USA, Running Time: 7 minutes

A man and a woman misunderstand each other.

### **PANIC ATTACK!**

Director: Eileen O'Meara; Writer: Eileen O'Meara

Country: USA, Running Time: 3 minutes

You know the nagging thoughts that start with "did I leave the coffee on?" and turn in to "am I pregnant with a devil-baby?" This hand-drawn animation explores anxiety, obsession and one woman's slippery hold on reality.

### **SCATTERED**

Director: Ellie Harvie; Writer: Audrey Martin

Country: Canada, Running Time: 10 minutes

Two women venture into the woods to scatter their friend's ashes and fumble for a way to say good bye.

### **SLEEPOVER**

Director: Susan Busa; Writer: Susan Busa

Country: USA, Running Time: 5 minutes

When a middle-aged woman spends the entire night with her lover for the first time, she gets to know him in the most unexpected way, after he falls asleep.

### **THE DOOR**

Director: Nathan Guerra; Writer: Nathan Guerra

Country: USA, Running Time: 6 minutes

Two women face off against what could quite possibly be the end of the world...or not.

### **THE FINAL SHOW**

Director: Dana Nachman; Writer: Dana Nachman

Country: USA, Running Time: 10 minutes

A woman who has lived a long life full of love and loss has to decide, based on all that she has learned, who to take along to eternity.

## WOMEN

Saturday, 11:30 am

[Q&A with filmmakers to follow](#)

### **DOG YEARS**

Director: Tyler Russell; Writer: Tracee Beebe

Country: USA, Running Time: 5 minutes

An old dog does what he can to shelter a little girl during the darkest moments of her life.

### **EUDAEMONIA**

Director: Julia Ngeow; Writer: Julia Ngeow

Country: USA, Running Time: 15 minutes

A talkative Australian traveler and a reclusive artist form an unlikely bond after an accidental 'break and enter' in Brooklyn.



## SEASON OF PASSAGE

Director: Catherine Cobb Ryan

Writer: Catherine Cobb Ryan

Country: USA, Running Time: 14 minutes

Cate has suffered secondary infertility for years and now finds herself pregnant again. Having long given up on her dream of having another child, she grapples with this new hope. But when Cate suffers a miscarriage, she finds herself silently grieving a life that will never be.

## WHAT HAPPENED TO EVIE

Director: Kate Cheeseman

Writer: Carol Younghusband

Country: UK, Running Time: 11 minutes

A girl's fractured memories distort the truth of a sexual assault in this multi-layered thriller.

## WILLOW

Director: Suzanne Racz; Writers: Suzanne Racz, Anthony W. Gutierrez

Country: USA, Running Time: 15 minutes

As young Willow's discordant childhood unfurls, she is carried from home to home by her restless and spirited mother. Her early fixation on Bunny initially allows her to find a refuge among the chaos. As she grows and faces a life on her own, her sanctuary becomes an insulation from the outside world.

## WILLOW CREEK ROAD

Director: Francesca Mirabella

Writers: Francesca Mirabella, Jenna Ciralli

Country: USA, Running Time: 16 minutes

A lonely, Montana ranch hand is unexpectedly drawn into the lives of two children.

## WORK

Director: Sam Griffith; Writer: Tricia Aurand

Country: USA, Running Time: 11 minutes

A young mom questions her choices and identity while raising her daughter on a farm.

## GRIT

Saturday, 2 pm

[Q&A with filmmakers to follow](#)

## BAD THINGS

Director: Mira K. Lippold-Johnson

Writer: Mira K. Lippold-Johnson

Country: USA, Running Time: 23 minutes

When her older sister gets suspended, an eight year old girl on scholarship at an elite private school starts to lose faith in the idea that hard work is all it takes to get ahead.

## CONTROL

Director: Kimmy Gatewood; Writer: Alison Becker

Country: USA, Running Time: 14 minutes

In this shockingly dark but utterly poignant comedy from Alison Becker and Kimmy Gatewood, a depressed woman contemplates ending her life, if she could just get everything in order first.

## GREEN SHOES

Director: Justin Giegerich; Writer: Jessica Ryan

Country: USA, Running Time: 20 minutes

In 1960's suburbia, a 14-year-old girl befriends a 47-year-old man to cope with the knowledge of her father's affairs.

## SKINNY

Director: Arianne Martin, Natalie Dickinson

Writer: Natalie Dickinson

Country: USA, Running Time: 9 minutes

A mentally unstable anorexic loses her grip on recovery.

## THE OTHER HAND

Director: Rachel Woods-Oshiro

Writers: Rachel Woods-Oshiro, AJ Strauman

Country: USA, Running Time: 13 minutes

Two estranged women reunite unknowingly plagued by demons. The Other Hand exploits the innate human fear of losing control and what might be making your choices when you aren't.

[continued next page](#)

## WHO DECIDES

Director: Mylissa Fitzsimmons

Writer: Mylissa Fitzsimmons

Country: USA, Running Time: 8 minutes

A sick woman and a young girl engage in a discussion about who decides when it's your time to die.

## WOMEN SHOULD

Director: Vanita Shastry; Writer: May Swenson,

Vanita Shastry, Virginia Sánchez Navarro

Country: USA, Running Time: 3 minutes

Featuring the powerful and derisive words of iconographic writer May Swenson, this 'cinematic poem' follows a woman as she attempts to go through her daily makeup routine, unaware of an ominous presence that threatens to strip away her own humanity.

## Presenting Sponsor

# STUDIO MOVIE GRILL

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## Grantors



### Special Thanks

Bryan Greene  
Betsy and Dan Healy  
Serena Simmons Connelly  
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Lisa Simmons  
Tommy Gaubert &  
Carla Woodcock  
Amanda Meyers  
Marjorie Stanfield

### Community Partners

AGLIFF  
Alliance Française Dallas  
AWARE  
Bacon Samurai  
Cinestate  
Fangoria  
Dallas Comedy House  
Dallas Video Fest/Docufest  
Oak Cliff Film Festival  
The Aging Mind Foundation

Triumph Over Alzheimer's  
Women in Film Dallas  
Asian Film Festival Dallas  
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Film Festival  
Southern Skates  
Unity of Dallas

# WOMEN TEXAS

## FILM FESTIVAL

LEADERS. RADICALS. STORYTELLERS.

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Dallas, TX 75206  
hello@womentxff.org  
womentxff.org

### AUGUST 15-19, 2018 | WTxFF SCHEDULE

#### Wednesday, August 15

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7:00 p.m. **Opening Night Film: Paris Window**

#### Thursday, August 16

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7:00 p.m. The Rest I Make Up  
9:00 p.m. When Jeff Tried to Save The World

#### Friday, August 17

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4:30 p.m. Past Imperfect  
5:30 p.m. United Skates  
7:00 p.m. Lez Bomb  
9:30 p.m. Black Holler

#### Saturday, August 18

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11:30 p.m. Women's Showcase Shorts  
12:00 p.m. Ha Ha Showcase Shorts  
2:00 p.m. Grit Showcase Shorts  
2:30 p.m. Hillbilly  
4:30 p.m. Rich Kids  
5:30 p.m. Alaska is a Drag  
8:00 p.m. **Closing Night Film: The Ranger**

#### Events/Parties

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8/15	Red Carpet	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
8/15	Opening Night Party (WAAS Gallery)	9:00 p.m.
8/18	Red Carpet	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
	Closing Night Party (AC Hotel by Marriott)	9:30 p.m.
8/19	Awards Brunch (AC Hotel by Marriott)	11:00 a.m.

