

Thursday: October 11, 2018 - Opening Night

6:00P

Welcome Message – Tonyai Palmer, MPAC Board Member, Film Screening & Submissions Director

Hosted by Alfred Cervantes, Deputy Director of the Houston Film Commission

Young Filmmaker Spotlight

Special Presentation

Special Screening

Selection Screenings

“ * ” Denotes Director Talk back

NOTE: All times run approximate due to Talk Backs

6:05P

BEAST FACTOR

by Michael Myles Haynes*

Country of Origin: USA (Houston)

Runtime: 5:47 minutes

*** Houston Premiere ***

** Young Filmmaker Spotlight **

Connor McFarland goes in for a flu shot with his parents, but the doctor's poor hygiene causes the standard shot to morph into a strange serum that causes little boys to grow beast-like tendencies when taunted or angered.

6:25P

THAT SMELL

by Kyle Lavore

Country of Origin: USA

Runtime: 11:29 minutes

*** Houston Premiere ***

This unusual comedy takes us into the secretive and persecuted world of book sniffing. Nate is an awkward man who is pulled into the world by Trisha, the underground movement's leader. She teaches him the ways of the book sniffer while avoiding the villainous shadow men hell bent on stopping them.

6:35P

MIXED SIGNALS

by Tracie Laymon

Country of Origin: USA

Runtime: 7:00 minutes

*** Houston Premiere ***

A man and a woman misunderstand each other.

6:45P

FIFO (First In First Out)

by Sacha Ferbus

Country of Origin: Belgium

Runtime: 12 minutes

*** Houston Premiere ***

Unanimous recommendation

First in first out (FIFO) is a shelving technique used in supermarkets. Stephan must place the freshest products behind the oldest ones. Products nearing their sell-by date must be destroyed. When going to the bins in the basement, Stephan will have to face those who could still benefit from them, but who are excluded by the system. He will also have to confront who he was before getting a job.

7:10P

CANAL STREET

Clips & Conversation with Rhyan LaMarr*

Executive Producer, Director & Writer

Country of Origin: USA (Chicago)

Distributed by Smith Global/Sony

In theaters in January 2019

Special Presentation

Canal Street is a modern-day thriller telling the story of a teen, Kholi Styles, trying to get by in an unwelcoming new world. After the mysterious death of a classmate, all eyes fall on Kholi, the new kid his high school. It's up to his father, Jackie Styles, an up-and-coming lawyer from the slums of Chicago, to defend his son in court and battle an outraged public before time runs out. Jackie fights to keep his faith and prove his son is not the monster the world has made him out to be.

7:45P

HIM

by Daniel Montoya

Country of Origin: USA (Dallas)

Runtime: 8:10 minutes

Based on real events

*** Houston Premiere ***

A look into the life of a transgender rights activist, Ethan, as he fights for equality in conservative Texas.

7:50P

SPECIAL DELIVERY

by Tonyai Palmer

Country of Origin: USA (Houston)

Runtime: 18:03 minutes

****Special Presentation****

****Unanimous recommendation****

Haunted by guilt and regret, an unyielding Real Estate Mogul reluctantly seeks help from an unconventional therapist whose unorthodox practices teeter somewhere between life and death.

His dilemma — Can he trust her with the demons of his past? Her challenge — Can she handle the pain fueling his twisted truth? Only time will tell. Nonetheless, there is one thing we know for certain. Once the box is opened everything changes.

8:10P

THE SALVATION

by Christopher Satola

Country of Origin: USA

Runtime: 9:53 minutes

***** Houston Premiere *****

****Unanimous recommendation****

Under a supervision of a 'Guru' group of people meets to find courage either to die or live again.

8:20P

5th WARD TV SERIES

EP-1

Talk Back with Greg Carter*

Creator & Showrunner

Country of Origin: USA (Houston)

Runtime: 51:32 minutes

Distributed by UMC

*****Special Screening*****

The Fifth Ward is a historic black neighborhood in Houston in the midst of cultural change. Experience crime, passion, and love through the eyes of three generations.

9:25P

THE RING

by Brandon Curless/Eric Jones*

Country of Origin: USA (Houston)

Runtime: 11:57 minutes

A grieving teenager must make a life altering choice when she receives a multi-dimensional ring from her deceased father.

9:35P

DAVID

by LaKisha Lemons*

Country of Origin: USA (Houston)

Runtime: 17:36 minutes

****Unanimous recommendation****

David a loving father and husband suffers throughout the day battling to keep his addiction under control. In his profession as a trusted tax preparer he is enlightened by a new client seeking excitement. Will she be the solace he needs to keep his addiction under control?

9:50P Directors of Talk Back for The Ring & David