



American Museum
of Natural History

MARGARET MEAD

FILM FEST IVAL

WE ARE THE STORY

May 9–12, 2024

amnh.org/mead



WELCOME

Land Acknowledgment

The American Museum of Natural History is located within Lenapehoking, the ancestral land of the Lenape. We acknowledge and honor the present-day Lenape for their ongoing, restorative relationship with their homeland and important contributions to the cultural life of the City of New York and the region.

About the Museum

The American Museum of Natural History is one of the world's preeminent scientific and cultural institutions. Since its founding in 1869, the Museum has advanced its global mission to discover, interpret, and disseminate information about human cultures, the natural world, and the universe through a wide range of programs.

The Margaret Mead Film Festival is a celebration of voices and perspectives from around the world. It invites attendees to come together to explore the rich, vibrant tapestry that is our shared human experience.



AWARDS

The Margaret Mead Filmmaker Award

The Margaret Mead Filmmaker Award recognizes documentary filmmakers who embody the spirit, energy, and innovation demonstrated by anthropologist Margaret Mead in her research, fieldwork, films, and writings.

The award is given to a filmmaker whose feature-length documentary displays artistic excellence and originality in storytelling technique while offering a new perspective on cultures and communities.

Audience Award

The Audience Award, voted on by Margaret Mead Film Festival attendees, celebrates the power of community engagement and the diverse perspectives that enrich the cinematic experience, fostering a vibrant dialogue between filmmakers and their audience.

Films making their New York premiere at the festival are eligible.

Awards Contenders

23 Mile

Directed by Mitch McCabe

Above and Below the Ground

Directed by Emily Hong

Agent of Happiness

Directed by Arun Bhattacharai, Dorottya Zurbó

Meanwhile

Directed by Catherine Gund

Mother Suriname - Mama Sranan

Directed by Tessa Leuwsha

Nocturnes

Directed by Anupama Srinivasan, Anirban Dutta

Porcelain War

Directed by Brendan Bellomo, Slava Leontyev

Pure Unknown

Directed by Valentina Cicogna, Mattia Colombo

Ozogoche

Directed by Joe Houlberg Silva

Rising Up at Night

Directed by Nelson Makengo

Sugarcane

Directed by Julian Brave NoiseCat, Emily Kassie

The Buriti Flower

Directed by Renée Nader Messora, João Salaviza

This Is Going to Be Big

Directed by Thomas Charles Hyland

Їїїїї (We Will Speak)

Directed by Schon Duncan, Michael McDermit



Jury

Harjant Gill is an associate professor of anthropology at Towson University. Gill is also an award-winning filmmaker and has made several ethnographic films that have screened at international film festivals and on television channels worldwide including BBC World News, Doordarshan (Indian National TV), and PBS. Gill is the president of Society for Visual Anthropology (SVA) and co-directed the SVA Film & Media Festival (2012–2014; 2021–2022).

A. S. Hamrah is the author of *The Earth Dies Streaming: Film Writing, 2002-2018*. He is the film critic for *n+1* and writes for a number of other publications, including *Harper's*, *Bookforum*, *The Nation*, and *The New York Review of Books*. He has worked as a movie theater projectionist, a semiotic brand analyst in the television industry, a political pollster, a football cinematographer, a zine writer, and for the film director Raúl Ruiz.

Tabitha Jackson is the first woman and person of color to have been appointed director of the Sundance Film Festival. Between 2013 and 2020 she led the Documentary Film Program at the Sundance Institute. Throughout her career in film and public broadcasting, and as an Emmy-winning director-producer, executive producer, commissioning editor, and non-fiction author she has demonstrated an unshakeable belief in the vital role of independent film, and the arts as a public good.

Billy Luther (Navajo, Hopi, and Laguna Pueblo) is the director/producer of the award-winning documentary *Miss Navajo and Grab*. In 2018, he launched his web series *alter-NATIVE* for PBS' Indie Lens Storycast. He is a writer and director for the AMC series *Dark Winds*. His debut directorial feature, *Frybread Face and Me*, was selected as part of SXSW 2023's Narrative Spotlight and TIFF 2023's Discovery and New Wave Selects.

Elizabeth Povinelli is Franz Boas Professor of Anthropology and Gender Studies at Columbia University, where she has also been the director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender and the co-director of the Centre for the Study of Law and Culture. She is also Corresponding Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and a founding member of the Karrabing Film Collective.

SPECIAL EVENTS



MAY 9

7 PM | LEFRAK THEATER

Soundtrack '63

Soundtrack '63 is a live music and multimedia retrospective of the Black experience in the United States. It is an artistic survey of the past that gives context to the present and asks important questions about the future. The full sensory experience is a journey from the African continent through milestone events in African-American history. Immersive video of archival footage and animation accompany a sequential soundtrack of spirituals, protest songs, hip-hop, and other popular music performed by a dynamic ensemble and vocal chamber.

8:30 PM | GRIFFIN EXPLORATION ATRIUM, GILDER CENTER
FOR SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND INNOVATION

Welcome Toast

Join us for a welcome toast in celebration of the start of the Margaret Mead Film Festival. Engage with fellow film enthusiasts, filmmakers, and industry professionals in the Gilder Center's Griffin Exploration Atrium, a five-story space with a design informed by the ways in which wind and water carve out landscapes.



ALL DAY, MAY 9–12 | GRIFFIN EXPLORATION ATRIUM, GILDER CENTER
FOR SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND INNOVATION

ICE COLD: The Untold Story of Hip Hop Jewelry

This four-part documentary series serves as an exploration of one of rap music's most elaborate forms of personal expression—jewelry. *ICE COLD* delves deeply into the cultural significance and craftsmanship behind hip hop jewelry, exploring its evolution from a symbol of status to a form of self-expression. In celebration of the Museum's opening of *Ice Cold: An Exhibition of Hip-Hop Jewelry* in the Melissa and Keith Meister Gallery within the Museum's new Allison and Roberto Mignone Halls of Gems and Minerals, **this documentary will be on view throughout the entirety of the festival.**

Please note: This film contains adult language that may not be suitable for children.

Courtesy of Polygram Entertainment

2021 | 85 min | USA

DIRECTOR
Karam Gill

A close-up photograph of a classical marble statue, likely depicting a religious scene such as the Virgin Mary holding the Christ Child. The statue is heavily splattered with red paint, which is applied in a chaotic, splatter-like manner across its surface. The woman's face is on the left, looking down with a serene expression. The child is positioned in front of her, also looking down. The background is a clear, pale blue sky. The overall composition is a vertical shot, emphasizing the height and detail of the sculpture.

OPENING NIGHT

MAY 10



7 PM | LEFRAK THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Sugarcane

Saint Joseph's Mission in British Columbia was one of over 500 so-called "residential schools" for Indigenous children in North America, designed to isolate children from their languages and cultural practices. Thirty years after its closure, authorities are finally ready to talk about what happened there. While investigators uncover craters of pain and abuse buried just under the surface, this film hints at a deeper journey—toward healing.

NEW YORK PREMIERE
2024 | 111 min | USA

DIRECTORS
Julian Brave NoiseCat,
Emily Kassie

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

RECURRING FILMS

ALL DAY, MAY 11–12 | MILSTEIN HALL OF OCEAN LIFE

Earth in Focus

Through these six family-friendly shorts, which will play on loop throughout the day, we celebrate the intricate relationship between humanity and the natural world and remember our duty to cherish, protect, and preserve the Earth for generations to come.

AIKĀNE

Wounded in battle, a valiant island warrior discovers love in a mysterious underwater realm. Together with the shape-shifting octopus that saved his life, the warrior embarks on an epic adventure against colonial invaders. Rooted in Hawaiian legends, this love story explores “aikāne,” the Hawaiian term of respect for intimate friends of the same sex. This supernatural romance offers a vibrant vision of love's triumph over the forces of evil.

2023 | 14 min
Hawai'i

DIRECTORS

Daniel Sousa, Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson



Munkha

Experience the charm of the “Munkha,” or ice-fishing ceremony, as Niukku, a lively toddler, tags along for the first time. Despite sibling squabbles and parental pressures, the family unites for a bountiful catch. Niukku learns that everyone has a role to play in the ceremony that sustains her community in the harsh landscape of far-eastern Russia. Join a heartwarming journey of community and tradition in this short, animated delight.

2024 | 11 min
Sakha Republic
(Russia)

DIRECTORS

Alexander Moruo, Markel Martynov



Nangulvi

Follow the journey of an Andean bear and an Afro-Ecuadorian musician in a stop-motion animated short that blends folklore, friendship, and activism. The pair team up with a group of magical allies and embark on a quest to support the Indigenous women battling a mining corporation in the Intag-Ecuador valley. *Nangulvi* invites viewers into a whimsical world where storytelling and traditional music inspire a fight for environmental justice.

2022 | 6 min
Ecuador

DIRECTOR

Wayra Ana Velásquez



Balam

Itzel, a young girl of Mayan descent, joins her astronomy-obsessed father on a camping trip that turns into a perilous coming-of-age voyage. Bored and disinterested at first, Itzel wanders off into the jungle in search of Wi-Fi signal. Instead, she finds and rescues a jaguar held captive by a poacher. Guided through an ancient Mayan city by Balam, a magical jaguar spirit, Itzel must find her way back to her father and to herself.

2023 | 11 min
Mexico

DIRECTOR
Guillermo Casarin



Hanina/Homesick

A young Nubian girl embarks on a journey back in time to reconnect with her drowned homeland. Guided by the Nile Egret, she travels underwater within the lake created by Egypt's Aswan High Dam to visit Nubia's mountains and palm trees, water wheels and houses, men and women. She bids farewell to her people as they board the boats that will take them to their resettlement villages. Returning to her own time, she carries the strength of knowing that Nubia will always live on inside her.

2023 | 8 min
Egypt

DIRECTOR
Yasmin Moll



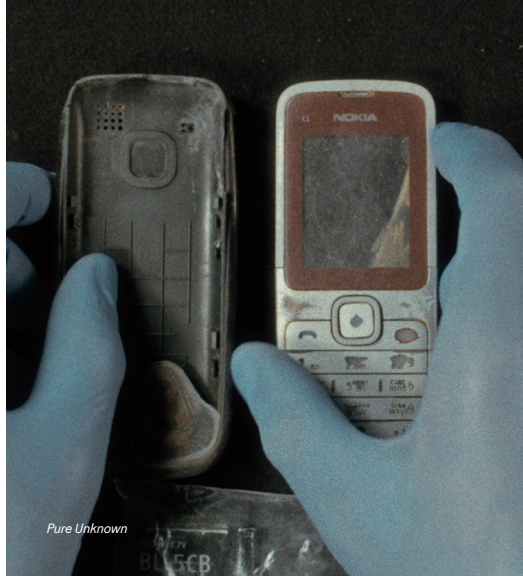
Tiny

'Nakwaxda'xw Elder, Colleen Hemphill, tells the story of her childhood. The film portrays modern-day Colleen as she reflects on her past and re-enacts the stories she tells of her youth, as a young girl growing up on a float-house in the wild and unpredictable Pacific Northwest and its waters. As she retells her story, Colleen notices how different her way of life was when she was young—and how much more harmonious her community was with nature.

2023 | 16 min
Canada

DIRECTORS
Ritchie Hemphill, Ryan Haché





MAY 11

NOON | KAUFMANN THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Ozogoche

Many in the Ozogoche Lake Region of Ecuador feel pulled to migrate north in spite of the enormous risks associated with the journey. In *Ozogoche*, filmmaker Joe Houlberg Silva draws a parallel between human and avian voyages and shows the annual migration of the mysterious “Cuvivi” sandpiper bird to the remote Andean lakes. Don’t miss this poignant story of cultural identity, trust, and the profound beauty of the Ecuadorian highlands.

US PREMIERE

2023 | 77 min | Ecuador

DIRECTOR

Joe Houlberg Silva

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

NOON | LINDER THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Pure Unknown

Every night, anonymous bodies land in Dr. Cristina Cattaneo's Sicilian autopsy room. She calls these bodies, their identities lost, “the Pure Unknown.” As thousands of migrants wash ashore every year in Italy, denied dignity in death, Cattaneo fights to restore their identities. Her quest to help the families of forgotten people find closure brings her to the highest halls of power in Europe. *Pure Unknown* pulses with urgency to confront the stories of marginalized people.

US PREMIERE

2023 | 93 min

Italy / Switzerland / Sweden

DIRECTORS

Valentina Cicogna,
Mattia Colombo

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE



1 PM | WALLACH ORIENTATION CENTER

Revolutionizing Representation: The Significance of Native-Led Stories in Today's Media Landscape

With the critical and commercial success of series like FX's *Reservation Dogs*, AMC's *Dark Winds*, and Disney+'s *Echo*, Native-led series with Native-centered stories are hitting a stride in popular culture. What is the significance of this moment in Native storytelling? What kinds of narrative change does the streaming era make possible? What work lies ahead? This discussion will include Sterlin Harjo, Erica Tremblay, and Steven Paul Judd.

Sterlin Harjo (Seminole/Muscogee) is an award-winning filmmaker from Holdenville, Oklahoma. Now based in Tulsa, Harjo is the co-creator and showrunner of FX's *Reservation Dogs*, a comedy series following four Indigenous teenage friends living on a reservation in Oklahoma. After its first season, *Reservation Dogs* won a 2022 Peabody award, 2022 Television Academy Honors award, 2022 Independent Spirit Award for Best Comedy Series, was an American Film Institute Awards Honoree, and won Best Breakthrough Series under 40 minutes at the 2021 Gotham Awards. The series completed its third and final season. Currently, Harjo's series *The Sensitive Kind* and *Poster Girls* are in development with FX Productions. Paramount+ recently acquired his series *Yellowbird*, which he co-created with Erica Tremblay.

Erica Tremblay is a filmmaker from the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. Her feature film *Fancy Dance*, starring Academy Award nominee Lily Gladstone, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was acquired by Apple Original Films. The film is set to be released in theaters and on Apple TV+ this year. Tremblay is currently writing for Season 3 of *Dark Winds* at AMC and has previously written for FX's *Reservation Dogs*, where she also directed two episodes. In 2021, she was accepted into the Sundance Directors and Screenwriters Lab, and was awarded the Walter Bernstein Screenwriting Fellowship, the Maja Kristin Directing Fellowship, the SFFILM Rainin Grant, and the Lynn Shelton Of a Certain Age Grant. Her short film *Little Chief* premiered at Sundance in 2020. Tremblay lives on Cayuga Lake in upstate New York, where she studies her Indigenous language.

Steven Paul Judd is a prominent Kiowa-Choctaw visual artist, filmmaker, and writer known for his innovative and thought-provoking work that blends pop-culture and traditional Native American motifs into a unique perspective on contemporary Indigenous identity. Known for his work on *Search for the World's Best Indian Taco* (2010), *Dark Winds* (2022) and *Echo* (2023), Judd is also the subject of the 2016 documentary *Dig It If You Can*.



2 PM | LEFRAK THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Nocturnes

High in the Eastern Himalayas, a team of biologists observes the mysterious world of moths. Through mesmerizing visuals and soundscapes, *Nocturnes* unveils the ecological importance and unexpected beauty of these creatures. The enchanting moths grace the screen like strokes from an impressionist painter's brush, igniting curiosity about the limits of human understanding. Discover the resilience of a creature whose existence spans hundreds of thousands of years in this spellbinding film.

Presented in partnership with Prismatic Ground.

NEW YORK PREMIERE

2024 | 82 min | India/USA

DIRECTORS

Anupama Srinivasan,
Anirban Dutta

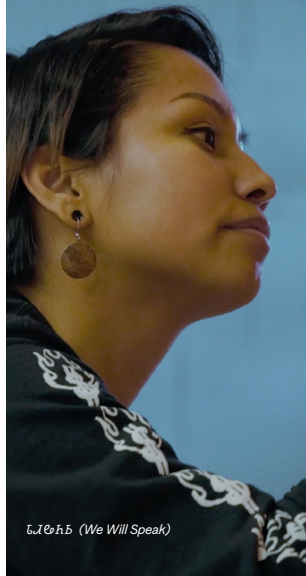
DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE



Mother Suriname - Mama Sranan



The Buriti Flower



ᏊᏊᏊᏊ (We Will Speak)

2:30 PM | LINDER THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Mother Suriname - Mama Sranan

Abandoned at birth in 1905, Fancelyne Cummings lived out her life as a mixed-race washerwoman in Dutch-controlled Surinam. Her granddaughter, filmmaker Tessa Leuwsha, celebrates her and some of the other women who forged a national identity in the shadow of European colonialism.

US PREMIERE

2023 | 71 min
Suriname/Netherlands

DIRECTOR

Tessa Leuwsha

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

2:30 PM | KAUFMANN THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

ᏊᏊᏊᏊ (We Will Speak)

With fewer than 1,500 fluent speakers remaining, Cherokee activists rally against time to safeguard their endangered language. Shot over three years following the 2019 declaration of a Cherokee language state of emergency, this gripping film captures the passion of those fighting to preserve the early written language of an Indigenous culture in North America.

NEW YORK PREMIERE

2023 | 94 min | USA

DIRECTORS

Schon Duncan,
Michael McDermit

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

5 PM | KAUFMANN THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

The Buriti Flower

The Buriti Flower weaves land disputes in 1940 into the scars of dictatorship in 1960 and the contemporary movement for Indigenous rights. A dreamlike narrative which echoes the oral traditions of Indigenous storytelling introduces us to the young protagonists carrying the stories and rituals of resilience and faith to a new generation.

US PREMIERE

2023 | 124 min
Brazil/Portugal

DIRECTORS

Renée Nader Messoria,
João Salaviza



This Is Going to Be Big



Meanwhile

5 PM | LINDER THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

This Is Going to Be Big

Step into a world of friendship, courage, and creativity at a school outside Melbourne, Australia, for kids diagnosed with intellectual disabilities. Thomas Charles Hyland's heartfelt documentary takes us behind the scenes of the rural school's production of "The Time-Travelling Trio," a musical retrospective on the life of Australian pop icon John Farnham. Experience the magic of art and community as the students put their humor, grief, wisdom, and hope center stage.

US PREMIERE

2023 | 101 min | Australia

DIRECTOR

Thomas Charles Hyland

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

6 PM | WALLACH ORIENTATION CENTER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Meanwhile

with live performances

"This is not a love letter to this country. But to us inside this country." Author Jacqueline Woodson narrates *Meanwhile*, a docu-poem about white supremacy and a community of artists who share visions of resistance. *Meanwhile*, an immersive, nonlinear cinematic journey—where artists' expressions blend with historical and observational footage—unveils the profound impact of white supremacy on our human connections.

The event will feature in-process works by artists from the film, including dance by Shamel Pitts and Tushrik Fredericks, wisdom and cookies by Juli Vanderhoop, and music by Mel Chin and Josh Quat, and more. *Meanwhile* is composed by Meshell Ndegeocello and produced by Erika Dilday.

This film is supported in part by Ford Foundation/JustFilms, National Endowment for the Arts, and Brown University/CSREA. Aubin Picture's programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

NEW YORK PREMIERE

2024 | 89 min
USA

DIRECTOR

Catherine Gund

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE



8 PM | LEFRAK THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Porcelain War

Meet Slava and Anya, porcelain artists whose ordinary lives are made extraordinary by the terrors of the war in Ukraine. In *Porcelain War*, their art serves as a poignant metaphor for the nation’s resilience amid chaos. Filmed entirely by Ukrainians resisting Russian occupation, this visually stunning documentary earned the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance. Discover how, even in the bleakest moments, the flames of life and art burn bright.

NEW YORK PREMIERE

2024 | 90 min
Ukraine

DIRECTORS

Brendan Bellomo,
Slava Leontyev

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

MAY 12

11 AM | KAUFMANN THEATER

Emerging Visual Anthropologist Showcase

In this special showcase, we present exciting new ethnographic documentaries from emerging visual anthropology students. This screening is co-hosted by Faye Ginsburg, Director of NYU Center for Media, Culture and History, and NYU Kriser Professor of Anthropology, and Pegi Vail, anthropologist, filmmaker, and adjunct professor for the NYU Center for Media, Culture and History. It will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmakers.

Fighting Blind

Brazilian jiu-jitsu martial artist and family man Angel Adorno shares the victories and challenges of being blind in a sighted world, on and off the mat. Designed for blind audiences, this film explores Angel's resilience in overcoming a difficult past as he learns to trust himself and others.

2023 | 24 min
USA

DIRECTOR
Margarida Duque de Castela



Women of the Stony Shore: Shinnecock Kelp Farmers

A group of Indigenous women from the Shinnecock Nation fight for environmental restoration in the waters of their homeland through kelp farming. Their traditional ecological knowledge intersects with their struggle for sovereignty as these farmers protect lifeways and cultural practices for their tribe along the Long Island shore.

2023 | 28 min
USA

DIRECTOR
Nathaniel Cummings-Lambert



Ralph & Bug

Ralph James has traded in the street name "El Diablo" for the title of "The Urban Dad." Leaving behind a life of drug dealing, Ralph is now the sole caretaker of his daughter Bug and leader of his local dad's group in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn. Weaving together snapshots from Ralph and Bug's lives, this film highlights a father's sacrificial love for his child, promising to overcome anything that stands in his way.

2023 | 17 min
USA

DIRECTOR
Christine Thomas Yoon

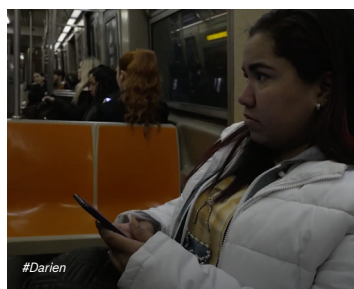


#Darien

Countless migrants make the treacherous journey from South and Central America to reach the United States—and many document it on social media. While Venezuelan filmmaker Tatiana Rojas Ponce struggles to find meaningful ways to help those arriving in New York from her home country, she meets Paola and Emily, who share stories, videos, and reflections about their harrowing passage through the Darien jungle en route to the United States.

2023 | 32 min
USA

DIRECTOR
Tatiana Rojas Ponce



Homegrown

Leroy Emmerich bought some land in the 1960s with money he earned from filmmaking. Leroy's son turned the land into a flower farm and now his grandson, Lee Emmerich, is making a film about the uncertain future of their family farm. *Homegrown* explores family cycles, parental expectations, and the connections between filmmaking and farming.

2023 | 17 min
USA

DIRECTOR
Lee Emmerich



Rimana Wasi: Hogar de Historias - Rimana Wasi: Home of Stories

Quechua stories reach the far-flung highlands from the city center of Puno, Peru as Chaska attempts to balance her career in radio with familial obligations. The film paints a tender portrait of community and a woman embracing modernity to promote her cultural roots. Produced by Watay Misita, a company born from a female film collective that highlights the stories of Andean women, this project won the Peruvian Bicentennial Shorts award and has screened in numerous festivals.

2022 | 20 min
Peru

DIRECTORS
Ximena Málaga Sabogal, Piotr Turlej



Above and Below the Ground



2:30 PM | LINDER THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Above and Below the Ground

Indigenous women and Christian punk rockers form a surprising alliance as they join to thwart a multibillion-dollar megadam project imperiling the landscape of northern Myanmar. Despite backing by the Burmese military and the Chinese Communist Party, the dam project was halted in 2011, largely by a karaoke album that catalyzed a country-wide environmental movement. Immerse yourself in the fight to save the Irrawaddy River in this tale of punk rock defiance and grassroots activism.



23 Mile

NEW YORK PREMIERE

2023 | 86 min

Myanmar

DIRECTOR

Emily Hong

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

4 PM | KAUFMANN THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

23 Mile

Prepare for an eye-opening journey into the heart of the American Midwest. Filmmaker Mitch McCabe returns home to Detroit to capture the essence of a nation divided during and after the 2020 presidential election. From anti-lockdown protests to post-election chaos, *23 Mile* shows the unraveling of societal norms through the lives of everyday Americans. With captivating scenes and unfiltered voices, the film challenges our preconceptions and urges us to confront our biases.

NEW YORK PREMIERE

2024 | 78 min

USA

DIRECTOR

Mitch McCabe

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE



Rising Up at Night



Agent of Happiness

5 PM | LINDER THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Rising Up at Night

In Kinshasa, a community fights to restore electrical power following the flooding of the Congo River. Shot during the week between Christmas and New Year's, *Rising Up at Night* feels like an Old Testament tale in which people shrouded in darkness and soaked in floodwaters unite around their faith and community. As residents raise funds to buy back stolen electrical cables, director Nelson Makengo captures their struggle for electricity as a symbol of hope.

US PREMIERE

2024 | 95 min

DRC / Belgium / Germany

DIRECTOR

Nelson Makengo

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

7 PM | KAUFMANN THEATER

MEAD FILMMAKER AWARD CONTENDER

Agent of Happiness

Discover Bhutan, the "happiest country on Earth," through the eyes of Amber, a bureaucrat who measures the nation's "Gross National Happiness." As Amber treks the lush Himalayas, he assigns a happiness score to everyone he meets, from dairy farmers to urban dancers. Does his own search for fulfillment complicate his job? Explore the meaning of belonging and purpose in this touching portrait of a nation constitutionally mandated to promote the happiness of its citizens.

NEW YORK PREMIERE

2024 | 94 min

Bhutan

DIRECTORS

Arun Bhattarai,
Dorottya Zurbó

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE



SPECIAL THANKS

Generous support for the Margaret Mead Film Festival has been provided by The Mead Trust.

A portion of the Margaret Mead Film Festival is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.



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Additional support for the Margaret Mead Film Festival is provided by National Geographic Documentary Films.

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Irene Devlin-Weiss

Natalie Drake-Maurer

Margarida Duque de Castela

Revantika Gupta

Marlene Josephs

Linda Lipson

Karen Minott

Carol Merrill

Christine Williams

Liz Weber

SPECIAL THANKS

Aaron Anleu

Joan Kelly Bernard

Catherine Brouillette

Katherine Cole

Bridgit Connors

Shivkumar Desai

Britney Fitzgerald

Stephanie Forbes

Rachel Haim

Constance Hart

Sally Holt

Roberto Lebron

Eugenia Levenson

Victoria Ludington

Danielle Mazzeo

Michael Molinari

Elijah Nadler

Thomas Norcott

Hewitt Pratt

Alexandra Revans

Hugh Sang

Joshua Schnakenberg

Miyako Singer

Lee Stevens

Dohini Sompura

Suzan Sumer

Rhiannon Tasker

Phil Thompson

Dushan Tripp

Megan Villa

Kristin Wahlberg

Amanda Witsaman

Museum Education Experience
Program (MEEP) Participants

American Museum of Natural History
Audio/Visual Team

American Museum of Natural History
Movers

2024 Mead Volunteers

FOOD AND DRINK AT THE MUSEUM

Museum restaurants will be open throughout the festival during regular hours.

Café on One is located on the first floor of the Museum, immediately on the left of the Futter Gallery on the way to the Kaufmann and Linder Theaters.

ACCESSIBILITY

If you have questions about accessibility at the festival or would like to request an accommodation, please contact us at meadfest@amnh.org or 212-769-5305.

* Film & Event Locations

