



SHORTS LISTED BY SHOWCASES/SYNOPSES

DC Shorts Film Festival 2016

131 films 33 countries screened in 18 unique showcases from September 8-18, 2016.

SHOWCASE #1 - Life's a Journey, Not a Race

Thursday, September 8 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Sunday, September 11 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Wednesday, September 14 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

WHERE WE BEGIN

DIRECTOR: MITSUYO MIYAZAKI. 20 MINUTES . DRAMA/ROMANCE . USA . DC PREMIERE

Nearing the end of her life, Sophia reflects on her journey through an elaborate dance performance.

ANOTHER EVEREST

DIRECTOR: ALEK KOSINSKI. 4 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

A retired mountain climber triumphs over new challenges.

TALLEST RACE ON TWO WHEELS

DIRECTOR: JOSH DAVIDSBURG. 4 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . WORLD

PREMIERE . LOCAL FILM

A one-of-a-kind high-wheel bike race attracts thousands of participants to Maryland from serious bike racers to costumed riders atop a "penny farthing" bicycle.

ON THE RUN

DIRECTOR: GIANGUIDO SPINELLI . 12 MINUTES . COMEDY . FRANCE . DC PREMIERE

Jacques has ten minutes to race home and prove to his wife that he did not spend the night in a hotel room with his mistress.

SPLIT TICKET

DIRECTOR: ALFRED THOMAS CATALFO. 20 MINUTES . DRAMA/FANTASY . USA . DC

PREMIERE

In 1947, future Presidents John F. Kennedy (age 29) and Richard Nixon (age 34) travel together by train to Pennsylvania where they must make a fateful decision.

LOVE IS A STING

DIRECTOR: VINCENT GALLAGHER. 18 MINUTES . FANTASY/ROMANCE . IRELAND . DC PREMIERE

A struggling children's book writer gains an unexpected house guest in the form of an ageing, hyper-intelligent mosquito named Anabel.

THE SHINING STAR OF LOSERS EVERYWHERE

DIRECTOR: MICKEY DUZYJ. 18 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . JAPAN/USA . DC PREMIERE

After enduring a losing streak of epic proportions, Japanese racehorse Haru Urara became a national icon and a symbol of perseverance and inspiration during a time of economic crisis.

SHOWCASE #2 – Lend a Helping Hand

Thursday, September 8 @ 9:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Sunday, September 11 @ 5:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Wednesday, September 14 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

LEND A HAND FOR LOVE

DIRECTOR: JOHN THOMPSON. 14 MINUTES . ROMANCE/COMEDY . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

Two timid people break free from their joyless lives to find love while their hands break free to elope in a love affair of their own.

PERFECT HOUSEGUEST

DIRECTORS: RU KUWAHATA and MAX PORTER . 2 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . LOCAL FILM

A house is visited by a clean and well-organized little guest.

PICKLE

DIRECTOR: AMY NICHOLSON. 15 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . WORLD PREMIERE

A couple recounts the various injured animals they have adopted as pets over the course of their marriage, including a paraplegic possum and a fish that couldn't swim.

SELF PORTRAIT

DIRECTOR: IVAN SAYON . 5 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . WORLD PREMIERE

A teenage girl afflicted with cancer learns to cope with her illness by relating with a friend.

EVERYTHING

DIRECTOR: R.J.DANIEL HANNA. 16 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . LOCAL FILM . DC PREMIERE

A mom fights the medical and legal establishment to save her daughter's life when a bone marrow donor backs out.

CARLO

DIRECTOR: AGO PANINI . 12 MINUTES . ANIMATION . ITALY . DC PREMIERE

Carlo is just a regular guy who keeps a secret world hidden inside his closet.

BLACK SWELL

DIRECTOR: JAKE HONIG. 9 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE

A man checks into a motel to kill himself but gets interrupted by an unexpected visitor.

THE CHOP

DIRECTOR: LEWIS ROSE . 12 MINUTES . COMEDY . UK . DC PREMIERE

Yossi, a charismatic Kosher butcher who loses his job, pretends to be Muslim in order to get work at a Halal butcher shop.

SHOWCASE #3 – War and Peace

Friday, September 9 @ 6:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Sunday, September 11 @ 7:30pm @ E Street Cinema

REVERSE SHOT

DIRECTOR: MICHAEL DE NIJS. 20 MINUTES . DRAMA/ROMANCE . BELGIUM. WORLD PREMIERE

In the footsteps of her recently deceased war-reporter father, Lydia makes her first steps as a photojournalist during the bicentennial of the Battle of Waterloo.

ARAAN

DIRECTOR: JORGE DAYAS . 6 MINUTES . ANIMATION . SPAIN . DC PREMIERE

While two enemies fight each other on the battlefield's front lines, their respective daughters await their homecoming.

MY ALEPPO

DIRECTOR: MELISSA LANGER . 18 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . SOUTH AFRICA/USA . DC PREMIERE

In South Africa, a young family of Syrian refugees huddle around a laptop in their one-bedroom apartment, awaiting news from home.

IT WAS DAMP, DARK AND SMELLED LIKE WOOD

DIRECTOR: PETER MEISTER . 12 MINUTES . COMEDY . GERMANY . NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

The last 12 minutes before the Greek heroes are going to leave their wooden horse to conquer Troy.

PATRIOT

DIRECTOR: EVA RILEY . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA . UK . DC PREMIERE

Hannah's life changes forever when she meets a boy from a forbidden part of town.

OPERATION COMMANDO

DIRECTOR: JAN CZARLEWSKI . 21 MINUTES . DRAMA . SWITZERLAND. EAST COAST PREMIERE

Brothers separated on different sides of a summer camp "war game", will test the bonds of their brotherhood...and only one can be victorious.

SHOWCASE #4 – Prisoners of Circumstance

Friday, September 9 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Sunday, September 11 @ 8:00pm @ E Street Cinema

TWO SISTERS

DIRECTOR: KEOLA RACELA . 17 MINUTES . DRAMA . KOREA/USA . DC PREMIERE

After their parents are taken to a prison camp, two sisters attempt a breath-stopping journey of defection from North Korea.

BUILT TO SERVE

DIRECTOR: DYLAN CHASE . 2 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

An on-the-run service-robot gets his leash yanked when the only thing between him and freedom is a little girl and her dead dog.

MONSTERS

DIRECTOR: STEVE DESMOND . 12 MINUTES . DRAMA/SCI-FI/THRILLER . USA . DC PREMIERE

Jenn lives in an underground bunker with her family, protected from the monsters that now ravage the world. This is the day that she goes outside...

GOODBYE CHARM CITY

DIRECTOR: CHRISTIAN GRIER . 18 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . LOCAL FILM . NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

A mother must decide whether she wants to encourage capital punishment upon the man who murdered her son.

PEOPLE LIKE US

DIRECTOR: TINA GHARAVI . 11 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . UK . EAST COAST PREMIERE

Resurrection After Exoneration, a charity based in the US, battles to release those condemned to death in the US where scientific evidence can contradict the verdict.

T.P

DIRECTORS: BOB BLEVINS AND BRADLEY WERLEY. 10 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA .
A naïve roll of toilet paper in a gas station bathroom resolves to escape after the horrifying realization of what fate has in store.

WILDFIRE

DIRECTOR: ADAM MEEKS. 20 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE
A dangerous forest fire threatens the faith and safety of a religious community in the Rocky Mountains.

HELP I'M TRAPPED IN A MOVIE

DIRECTOR: RILEY MADINCEA. 9 MINUTES . COMEDY . UK . WORLD PREMIERE
A man wakes up in his dream of becoming the star of a Hollywood blockbuster, but it quickly becomes a nightmare when he finds he can't control the plot.

SHOWCASE #5 - Shifting Perspectives

Friday, September 9 @ 9:00pm @ E Street Cinema
Monday, September 12 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema
Wednesday, September 14 @9:00pm @ E Street Cinema

BALCONY

DIRECTOR: TOBY FELL-HOLDEN . 17 MINUTES . DRAMA . UK .DC PREMIERE
In a neighborhood rife with racial tension, a local girl falls for a recent arrival who is the victim of prejudice and shame.

DCDC

DIRECTOR: CHRIS TUSS . 8 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . LOCAL FILM
The "DC Downhill Club" are a group of skateboarders from the Washington, DC area have made it their mission to seek out backyard pools to drain and skate - making unique friendships along the way.

ON THE ROOF

DIRECTOR: DAMIA SERRA . 11 MINUTES . DRAMA . SPAIN . DC PREMIERE
When a group of boys on a roof start peeping on a woman sunbathing, one of the boy's gaze begins to drift elsewhere.

GOOD COP, GOOD COP

DIRECTOR: KEEGAN KARNES. 5 MINUTES . COMEDY . USA . DC PREMIERE . LOCAL FILM
Officer Lane is a dedicated but no so bright police officer who just can't seem to understand the concept of good cop bad cop.

FROGMAN

DIRECTOR: TYLER TRUMBO . 15 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . DC PREMIERE .
LOCAL FILM

As a child, Patrick Humphrey had no idea his father was a spy. How much we can really know someone through the stories we inherit?

HARDER NOT SMARTER

DIRECTOR: MARC HAVENER . 1 MINUTE . ANIMATION . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE
An ER receptionist adopts the misguided mantra of "working harder, not smarter."

FRAGILE STORM

DIRECTOR: DAWN FIELDS . 10 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE
A scared young woman goes to extreme measures to escape the clutches of a terrifying older man only to realize the shocking truth about who she is and why she's really there.

THE QUANTUM LIGHTER

DIRECTOR: PAU ESCRIBANO . 5 MINUTES . COMEDY/FANTASY . SPAIN . DC PREMIERE
How can we prove that we actually time-traveled?

YOUTH

DIRECTOR: BRETT MARTY . 18 MINUTES . DRAMA/SCI-FI . USA . EAST COAST
PREMIERE

After fifty years of marriage a couple decide to undergo a procedure to transplant their minds, souls, and personalities into bodies decades younger.

SHOWCASE #6 – Slightly Sexy

Friday, September 9 @ 9:30pm @ E Street Cinema
Monday, September 12 @ 9:00pm @ E Street Cinema
Wednesday, September 14 @ 9:00pm @ E Street Cinema

A BOMB

DIRECTOR: GUILLAUME HARVEY. 17 MINUTES . COMEDY/DRAMA . CANADA . EAST
COAST PREMIERE

Maxime helps his best friend Guérin make a bomb in an attempt to get closer to Guérin's sister, the seductive Joëlle.

RESET

DIRECTOR: JEREMY LUTTER . 16 MINUTES . DRAMA . CANADA . DC PREMIERE

A female android discovers she has feelings for her owner and must put her life on the line to gain a human connection.

POKEY POKEY

DIRECTOR: JUNJIE ZHANG. 7 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

A father starts a journey to figure out the best way to protect his son from seeing the filthiness in a crime-ridden city.

LOVE IS BLIND

DIRECTOR: DAN HODGSON . 7 MINUTES . COMEDY . UK . DC PREMIERE

After succumbing to the temptation of a passionate love affair, Alice must negotiate her lover's escape when her husband returns home early to make amends.

LIMBO LIMBO TRAVEL

DIRECTORS: ZSUZSANNA KREIF and BORBALA ZETENYI . 16 MINUTES . ANIMATION . FRANCE/HUNGARY . EAST COAST PREMIERE

A group of solitary and disillusioned women take the "Limbo-Limbo" Bus to a distant exotic country to find the happiness they desire.

BEAT AROUND THE BUSH

DIRECTOR: BRIANNE NORD-STEWART. 12 MINUTES . COMEDY . CANADA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

A 75-year-old widow with Alzheimer's decides it's time to have her very first orgasm ever.

TOMMY AND DAVID

DIRECTOR: SARA JOE WOLANSKY. 4 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA/ITALY. EAST COAST PREMIERE

Tommy sells humorous "penis shorts" modeled after Michelangelo's David in order to pay tribute to his favorite work of art.

HOPE

DIRECTOR: AIDA SENNA . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA . MOROCCO . DC PREMIERE

While Sonia and Hicham prepare for their wedding celebrations, they seem to be hiding a secret about their relationship in conservative Moroccan society.

SHOWCASE #7 – Express Yourself

Saturday, September 10 @ 2:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Monday, September 12 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

BUCK

DIRECTOR: BERNHARD WENGER. 16 MINUTES . DRAMA . AUSTRIA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

On the morning after a night out at the disco, 18 year old Michael has to go hunting with his father where their fundamental differences come to light.

AIR-MAIL

DIRECTOR: ISABELLA FAVEZ . 6 MINUTES . ANIMATION . SWITZERLAND/FRANCE . DC PREMIERE

A girl falls in love with a boxer she can never hope to meet; but will the letter-birds change her destiny?

POEM TO GO

DIRECTOR: NINA HOCHRAINER . 7 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Street poet Lynn Gentry writes poems on a typewriter for passers-by on a street corner in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

A DONE DEAL

DIRECTOR: PIERRE-MARC DROUIN . 10 MINUTES . COMEDY . CANADA . DC PREMIERE

Remy, a hitman for a small-time Montreal mobster, has to kill Fernand, an old associate who talks too much.

THE REAL AMERICAN

DIRECTOR: DARYA ZHUK . 13 MINUTES . DRAMA/COMEDY . USA/BELARUS/RUSSIA . DC PREMIERE

Russian exchange student Alya struggles to fit into what it means to be an American teenage girl in 1994 when she realizes her host father has a crush on her.

MAST QALANDAR

DIRECTOR: DIVIJ ROOPCHAND . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA . INDIA/UK . DC PREMIERE

Montek is a Sikh Boy who is about to turn thirteen but he doesn't want to tell his mother what he wants for his birthday.

THE POSTMODERN PIONEER PLAQUE

DIRECTOR: BORIS KOZLOV . 8 MINUTES . ANIMATION . SPAIN . EAST COAST PREMIERE

Four decades after Carl Sagan created the "Pioneer Plaque" as Humanity's first message to extraterrestrial civilizations, the World gets together to collectively compose a new message.

SING FOR YOUR SUPPER

DIRECTOR: MU SUN . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA/FANTASY . USA . DC PREMIERE

In a totalitarian world where one only eats as well as they can sing, a man must overcome his bout of laryngitis if he ever wants to eat again.

SHOWCASE #8 – Overcoming Oppression

Saturday, September 10 @ 2:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Monday, September 12 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

THE BESPOKE TAILORING OF MISTER BELLAMY

DIRECTOR: ALEXANDER JEFFERY . 16 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

At the integration of the job market in 1964 Louisiana, a posting for a janitorial position at a local law firm and the discovery of an old sewing machine ignites a buried passion in old Bellamy...

OUT OF THE BAG

DIRECTOR: AIDAN BRADBURY-ARANDA . 14 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . DCPREMIERE

Artists are re-appropriating the surplus of single-use plastic bags to create artworks with varying intentions: from raising environmental awareness, to expressing the conflict of personal emotions.

SEIDE

DIRECTOR: ELNURA OSMONALIEVA . 14 MINUTES . DRAMA . KYRGYZSTAN . DC PREMIERE

Young Seide loses her childhood and her beloved horse when faced with an arranged marriage.

ARIA FOR A COW

DIRECTOR: DAN LUND . 7 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

Aria, a bovine diva, demands to be respected for more than just her dairy products.

MILK

DIRECTOR: GABRIELLA MOSES . 12 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

Nina, an 8 year-old outcast girl with albinism, finds herself the target of a jealous classmate's witch hunt.

CRY OF THE FOX

DIRECTOR: JASON RONA ZANI and NING XU . 5 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

A boy tries to save a baby fox from two bullies who upset a threatening presence in the forest.

TWISTED

DIRECTOR: STUART BOWEN . 6 MINUTES . COMEDY . AUSTRALIA . DC PREMIERE

At a school reunion, our socially awkward hero must win the girl of his Middle School dreams through a balloon battle with his old bully and school nemesis.

RED FOLDER

DIRECTOR: BEN KALLAM . 10 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE

14-year-old Joseph sets out to find his teacher's red folder only to discover the unsettling futility and implications of his task.

BREAKER BREAKER

DIRECTOR: TRAVIS BOGOSIAN. 10 MINUTES . DRAMA/COMEDY . USA . DC PREMIERE

An eccentric police officer patrols a remote hiking trail in hopes of making a new friend... but is he who he appears to be?

SHOWCASE #9 – Blood is Thicker Than Water

Saturday, September 10 @ 4:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Monday, September 12 @ 9:00pm @ E Street Cinema

JADA

DIRECTOR: DOUG ROLAND . 16 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE

A day in the life of 7-years-old Jada, a runaway who lives alone on Venice Beach, and the man who is searching for her.

SECOND WORDS

DIRECTOR: JAKE HULL . 18 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE

An aging farmer tries to cook his late wife's beloved meatloaf when a mysterious young woman threatens to upend his memories.

THE BATHTUB

DIRECTOR: TIM ELRICH . 13 MINUTES . COMEDY/DRAMA . AUSTRIA/GERMANY . DC PREMIERE

Three brothers try to recreate a childhood memory through an old family picture in the bathtub.

HER & ME

DIRECTOR: SHELBY HADDEN . 15 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . DC PREMIERE

A film about a set of identical twin sisters living identical lives.

OUT OF THE VILLAGE

DIRECTOR: JONATHAN STEIN . 17 MINUTES . DRAMA . GHANA/USA . DC PREMIERE

The social and cultural impact of the Ebola epidemic from the perspective of an orphaned brother and his sister.

ROXY

DIRECTOR: FABIAN COLAS. 9 MINUTES . DRAMA . LUEMBOURG . EAST COAST PREMIERE

An aging prostitute working in a lovemobile on the German-Luxembourgish border is rescued from a brutal rape by a young man whose intentions are unclear to her.

SEMELE

DIRECTOR: MYRSINI ARISTIDOU . 13 MINUTES . DRAMA . CYPRESS/GREECE . DC PREMIERE

11-year-old Semele will do anything to spend time with her long-absent father, and a note from school becomes just the excuse she needs to see him.

SHOWCASE #10 – Guardian Angels

Saturday, September 10 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Tuesday, September 13 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Thursday, September 15 @5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

“T”

DIRECTOR: PHILIPPE RIOUX . 16 MINUTES . DRAMA . CANADA . WORLD PREMIERE

Antoine, a social worker starting in a new special needs class, faces the biggest challenge of his young career: to help a pupil successfully write a "T" letter.

THE ORCHESTRA

DIRECTOR: MIKEY HILL . 15 MINUTES . ANIMATION . AUSTRALIA .

In a world filled with beautiful music, Vernon always seems to strike the wrong note.

THE GNOMIST

DIRECTOR: SHARON LIESE . 20 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . DC PREMIERE

When fairy homes mysteriously appear in a suburban forest, three women find that believing in magic is the medicine they need to overcome their personal struggles and tragedies.

GNOME

DIRECTOR: SACHA GOEDEGEBURE . 4 MINUTES . ANIMATION . SINGAPORE . WORLD PREMIERE

After returning home from a day of collecting nuts, a gnome finds a caterpillar struggling to reach for leaves outside his house.

THE DIVINE STRATEGY

DIRECTORS: MARTIN FORGET and ELIOT LAPRISE. 7 MINUTES . COMEDY . CANADA . UNITED STATES PREMIERE

Frustrated by the Catholic Church's decline, a priest gets help from a charismatic marketing expert to bring people back to churches.

STAY AWAKE

DIRECTOR: JAMIE SISLEY . 13 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE . LOCAL FILM
Two brothers must deal with their mother's pill addiction and figure out way to get her into rehab.

PENNY FROM HEAVEN

DIRECTOR: MARLEK AL-HABIB . 8 MINUTES . COMEDY . UK . WORLD PREMIERE
Penny must save the souls of 1000 people before she can get her wings and become an angel.

SHOWCASE #11 – Viva Hispanica

Saturday, September 10 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema
Tuesday, September 13 @ 9:00pm @ E Street Cinema
Thursday, September 15 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

SOY CUBANA

DIRECTORS: JEREMY UNGER and IVAYLO GETOV . 17 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY .
CUBA/USA . DC PREMIERE
The unique sound and story of "The Vocal Vidas," a female acappella quartet from Santiago de Cuba.

BREAKFAST WITH TIFFANY

DIRECTOR: ANDREAS MOLANO MONCADA . 14 MINUTES . DRAMA . COLOMBIA . EAST
COAST PREMIERE
Rafael prepares a special birthday breakfast for the woman sleeping beside him.

EDEN HOSTEL

DIRECTOR: GONZAGA MANSO . 14 MINUTES . FANTASY/COMEDY . SPAIN . DC
PREMIERE
Hanging from the wall in one of the rooms at the Eden Hostel is a statuette of the Virgin Mary who narrates, from her peculiar point of view, the stories of the various guests who stayed there.

ROSA

DIRECTOR: ALEJANDRA PARODY . 20 MINUTES . DRAMA . COLOMBIA . DC PREMIERE
A devoted maid for an upper class family has a special place in the heart of Daniel, the family's six-year-old boy. But when tragedy strikes, she is reminded of her true place in the family.

LUCHADORA

DIRECTOR: RIVER FINLAY . 12 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . MEXICO/USA . DC
PREMIERE . LOCAL FILM
Luna Magica, a professional Lucha Libre wrestling star in Mexico, dreams of becoming a world wrestling champion while fighting to make ends meet as a single mom in Mexico City.

THE HOLY CAVE

DIRECTOR: ALEIX MASSOT . 15 MINUTES . COMEDY . SPAIN . DC PREMIERE

Carlos enlists the help of his friend Juan to win Sofia, the girl of his dreams, away from Angel, the hottest guy in the high school.

SHOWCASE #12 – The Price of Fame

Saturday, September 10 @ 7:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Tuesday, September 13 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Thursday, September 15 @7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

I USED TO BE FAMOUS

DIRECTOR: EDDIE STERNBERG . 15 MINUTES . COMEDY . UK . NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Two worlds collide on a bench in Peckham when Vince Denman, a has-been pop star trying to forge a comeback, meets Stevie, a talented young man who helps to show Vince the power and beauty of true music for the first time.

BOB DYLAN HATES ME

DIRECTOR: CAVEH ZAHEDI . 6 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

Independent filmmaker and provocateur Caveh Zahedi (The Shiek and I, I Am a Sex Addict) meets his childhood idol. It doesn't go well.

ENFANT TERRIBLE

DIRECTOR: RICKY TOLLMAN . 15 MINUTES . COMEDY . CANADA . WORLD PREMIERE

When two low-level employees at an art gallery realize a terrible mistake has been made, they race to fix it before anyone finds out.

THE BULLET

DIRECTOR: JORDAN BAHAT . 6 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . DC PREMIERE

A portrait of David "The Bullet" Smith Jr., the world's greatest human cannonball.

AN AVERAGE STORY

DIRECTOR: YANIV SEGALOVICH . 18 MINUTES . COMEDY . ISRAEL . NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

When Avi Cohen is told by the Central Bureau of Statistics that he is the most average man who ever lived, his life is turned upside down.

RATE ME

DIRECTOR: FYZAL BOULIFA . 17 MINUTES . DRAMA . UK . DC PREMIERE

A portrait of a teenage escort named Coco from many different points of view.

SOMEBODY ELSE

DIRECTOR: LAURENT KING . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA/ROMANCE . CHINA . DC PREMIERE
A car valet pretends to be a golden boy to charm a beautiful socialite.

SHOWCASE #13 – Be Careful What You Wish For

Saturday, September 10 @ 9:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Tuesday, September 13 @ 5:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Thursday, September 15 @9:00pm @ E Street Cinema

SUBOTIKA – LAND OF WONDERS

DIRECTOR: PETER VOLKART . 14 MINUTES . ANIMATION . GERMANY . DC PREMIERE

Subotika, a little-known island on the other side of the globe, is an enchanting country with extraordinary sights, grand visions and a couple of minor problems...Book your holiday vacation now!

40TH ANNIVERSARY

DIRECTOR: J. ENRIQUE SANCHEZ . 14 MINUTES . COMEDY . SPAIN . US PREIMERE

Forty years of marriage is time for a lot of things. Sometime too many things.

BOY-RAZOR

DIRECTOR: PETER PONTIKIS . 12 MINUTES . DRAMA/THRILLER . SWEDEN . DC PREMIERE

One fine summer's day, a bullied boy decides to use a waterslide to get even with his tormenters.

SUNDAE

DIRECTOR: SONYA GODDY. 7 MINUTES . COMEDY . USA . DC PREMIERE

A woman bribes her son with ice cream for information...if only he'll just point out the right house.

LAST DOOR SOUTH

DIRECTOR: SACHA FEINER . 14 MINUTES . ANIMATION . BELGIUM/FRANCE . DC PREMIERE

A child and his conjoined head are kept inside the family mansion by their mother since their birth.

RED ROVER

DIRECTORS: BROOKE GOLDFINCH . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA . AUSTRALIA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

Two teenagers from a remote religious community travel to town in search of shelter after being told by their Evangelical parents that an asteroid will soon destroy the earth.

ZERO M2

DIRECTOR: MATTHIEU LANDOUR . 18 MINUTES . COMEDY/FANTASY . FRANCE . EAST COAST PREMIERE

After a series of unsuccessful flat-huntings in Paris, Paul finds himself finally moving into a nice and affordable studio. But there's one small problem and it's becoming smaller by the second.

SHOWCASE #14 Comedy and Horror Genres Collide

Saturday, September 10 @ 10:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Thursday, September 15 @9:00pm @ E Street Cinema

THE HOUSE IS INNOCENT

DIRECTOR: NICHOLAS COLES . 13 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . DC PREMIERE

Tom and Barbara's new home has a notorious past and it's going to take more than a fresh coat of paint to whitewash its macabre history.

PHOBIAN

DIRECTOR: JULIA DUNN . 1 MINUTE . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

Phobian is a girl who is afraid of everything in the most ridiculous ways possible.

ZOMBRIELLA

DIRECTOR: BENJAMIN GUTSCHE . 15 MINUTES . COMEDY/HORROR . GERMANY . EAST COAST PREMIERE

8-year-old Miko has attracted the attention of little Zombriella who follows the boy doggedly.

STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT

DIRECTOR: CONOR MACMAHON . 12 MINUTES . COMEDY/HORROR/ROMANCE . IRELAND . EAST COAST PREMIERE

Granny Fitzgerald has heard the dreaded scream of the banshee, but when her grandson Damien catches the spirit's fancy something unexpected happens.

WHAT'S EATING DAD

DIRECTOR: MICHAEL GOLDBURG . 11 MINUTES . COMEDY/HORROR . USA . DC PREMIERE

When Chloe meets her boyfriend's parents for the first time, what's really for dinner is something she never imagined.

MINE

DIRECTOR: SIMON BERRY, 8 MINUTES . COMEDY/THRILLER . UK . EAST COAST PREMIERE

When Walter steps on a live land mine in a remote field in England, he finds himself at the mercy of his wife Diane, who has recently unearthed a deadly secret buried in their past.

PORTAL TO HELL

DIRECTOR: VIVIENO CALDINELLI . 12 MINUTES . COMEDY/HORROR . CANADA . DC PREMIERE

A crusty old superintendent has his hands full when cultists use his basement to open a portal to the watery tomb of a slumbering demon.

THE BABYSITTER MURDERS

DIRECTOR: RYAN SPINDELL . 22 MINUTES . COMEDY/HORROR . USA . DC PREMIERE

A dark and stormy night. An innocent babysitter all alone. An escaped psychopath out for blood. You know how this story will play out... Or do you?

TACKLING THE ISSUES: IMMIGRATION

Sunday, September 11 @ 12:30pm @ E Street Cinema

Tuesday, September 13 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

FRANKIE (ITALIAN ROULETTE)

DIRECTOR: FRANCESCO MAZZA . 17 MINUTES . COMEDY/DRAMA . ITALY/USA . US PREMIERE

The life and struggles of Frankie Tramonto, an Italian immigrant who comes to New York City to pursue the American dream.

JUNGLE

DIRECTOR: ASANTEWAA PREMPEH . 13 MINUTES . DRAMA . SENEGAL/USA . DC PREMIERE

The lines between trust, betrayal and forgiveness become gray and intertwined as we follow Amadou and Yaya, two Senegalese vendors working in New York.

EL COYOTE

DIRECTOR: JAVIER BARBOZA . 7 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY/ANIMATION . MEXICO/USA . DC PREMIERE

A human smuggler (also known as a coyote) describes his process and the mechanics of slipping between the Mexico and U.S. border.

DORIS

DIRECTOR: OSCAR RODRIGUEZ GORRIZ . 17 MINUTES . COMEDY/DRAMA .
MEXICO/USA . DC PREMIERE

An undocumented Mexican housemaid works for a spoiled family in exchange for their support with her green card application.

BOAT PEOPLE

DIRECTOR: PAUL MESCHUH . 28 MINUTES . DRAMA . GERMANY/CROATIA . EAST
COAST PREMIERE

On his journey from Somalia to Europe, shipwrecked Moussa is picked up by a wealthy couple on their luxurious catamaran.

TACKLING THE ISSUES: TECHNOLOGY ADDICTION

Sunday, September 11 @ 3:00pm @ E Street Cinema
Monday, September 12 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

GET THE F K OUT OF PARIS

DIRECTOR: GREG EMATAZ . 9 MINUTES . COMEDY/THRILLER . USA/FRANCE . EAST
COAST PREMIERE

A text message turns a depressing laundry night into a mad dash for survival.

LIFE SMARTPHONE

DIRECTOR: CHENGLIN XIE . 3 MINUTES . ANIMATION . CHINA . DC PREMIERE

While everyone stays deeply immersed in their screens, a domino effect of disasters is occurring. Look up!

SO GOOD TO SEE YOU

DIRECTOR: DUKE MERRIMAN . 10 MINUTES . COMEDY . USA . DC PREMIERE

Theo and Frances are an artsy downtown couple driving to a dinner party at their old friend Zoe's new house in a wealthy suburb of NYC. One overheard cell phone call may jeopardize their friendship forever.

VIDEO

DIRECTOR: RANDY YANG . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE

A woman's racist remark is captured on video by two teenage black girls.

RATED

DIRECTOR: JOHN FORTSON . 19 MINUTES . COMEDY . USA . DC PREMIERE

Maggie must find the courage to own up to her behavior when she wakes to find every adult has received a YELP-like star rating floating over their head.

A SOCIAL LIFE

DIRECTOR: KERITH LEMON . 8 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE

Meredith is an ambitious career girl who wants to have it all and she understands the importance of an online presence in this hyper-connected day and age. But will her obsession and need for validation take its toll?

MODERN LOVE

DIRECTOR: NICOLAS BEAUCHEMIN . 20 MINUTES . COMEDY/DRAMA . CANADA . DC PREMIERE

With the help of a blind dating app, a lonely routine guy falls in love online.

SYRAH

DIRECTOR: MIKE HOLT . 4 MINUTES . COMEDY . USA . DC PREMIERE

The Metro PCS version of "Siri" takes a hilariously unexpected detour en route to the nearest Arby's.

10% CINEMA – THE BEST IN LGBT SHORTS

Sunday, September 11 @ 12:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Tuesday, September 13 @ 9:00pm @ E Street Cinema

Thursday, September 15 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

PINK BOY

DIRECTOR: ERIC ROCKEY . 15 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA . DC PREMIERE

Butch lesbian BJ successfully avoided dresses her entire life until she adopted Jeffrey, who to her shock, starts to dance in gowns and perform for his parents.

VESSELS

DIRECTOR: ARKASHA STEVENSON . 15 MINUTES . DRAMA . USA . DC PREMIERE

A young transgender woman considers a dangerous black market surgery that may be her only option in gaining a more feminine body.

SEEKING JACK TRIPPER

DIRECTOR: QUINLAN OREAR . 14 MINUTES . COMEDY/DRAMA . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE

Tucker and Lance attempt to break the monotony of their marriage by trying to seduce a stranger at their local bar only to learn just how rusty domestication has rendered their pick-up skills.

SPUNKLE

DIRECTOR: LISA DONATO . 11 MINUTES . COMEDY . USA . EAST COAST PREMIERE
A man contemplates fatherhood when his older sister and her free-spirited wife ask him to be the sperm donor and uncle of their baby.

THESE C*OCKSUCKING TEARS

DIRECTOR: DAN TABERSKI . 16 MINUTES . DOCUMENTARY . USA. DC PREMIERE
The man behind the world's first and only gay-themed country music album, 40 years after its release.

SPOILERS

DIRECTOR: BRENDON MCDONALL . 21 MINUTES . COMEDY/ROMANCE . UK . DC PREMIERE?
Two men meet at the end of a plane ride only to become entwined in the doubts of their own love story.

ANIMATION NATION

Sunday, September 11 @ 2:30pm @ E Street Cinema
Wednesday, September 14 @ 7:00pm @ E Street Cinema

TAKING FLIGHT

DIRECTOR: BRANDON OLDENBURG . 6 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA. DC PREMIERE
A boring day with Grandpa turns into a larger-than-life journey in this ode to the Radio Flyer red wagon.

ARAAN

DIRECTOR: JORGE DAYAS . 6 MINUTES . ANIMATION . SPAIN . DC PREMIERE
While two enemies fight each other on the battlefield's front lines, their respective daughters await their homecoming.

CARLO

DIRECTOR: AGO PANINI . 12 MINUTES . ANIMATION . ITALY . DC PREMIERE
Carlo is just a regular guy who keeps a secret world hidden inside his closet.

LAST DOOR SOUTH

DIRECTOR: SACHA FEINER . 14 MINUTES . ANIMATION . BELGIUM/FRANCE . DC PREMIERE
A child and his conjoined head are kept inside the family mansion by their mother since their birth.

POKEY POKEY

DIRECTOR: JUNJIE ZHANG. 7 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

A father starts a journey to figure out the best way to protect his son from seeing the filthiness in a crime-ridden city.

LIMBO LIMBO TRAVEL

DIRECTORS: ZSUZSANNA KREIF and BORBALA ZETENYI . 16 MINUTES . ANIMATION . FRANCE/HUNGARY . EAST COAST PREMIERE

A group of solitary and disillusioned women take the "Limbo-Limbo" Bus to a distant exotic country to find the happiness they desire.

T.P

DIRECTORS: BOB BLEVINS AND BRADLEY WERLEY. 10 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA .

A naïve roll of toilet paper in a gas station bathroom resolves to escape after the horrifying realization of what fate has in store.

ARIA FOR A COW

DIRECTOR: DAN LUND . 7 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

Aria, a bovine diva, demands to be respected for more than just her dairy products.

THE ORCHESTRA

DIRECTOR: MIKEY HILL . 15 MINUTES . ANIMATION . AUSTRALIA .

In a world filled with beautiful music, Vernon always seems to strike the wrong note.

FAMILY SHOWCASE

Saturday, September 10 @ 11:00am

Various Locations at DC Public Libraries in all 8 Wards

ANOTHER EVEREST

DIRECTOR: ALEK KOSINSKI. 4 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . DC PREMIERE

A retired mountain climber triumphs over new challenges.

HARRY AND THE CLOUDS

DIRECTOR: AYA SHIROI . 5 MINUTES . ANIMATION . JAPAN . DC PREMIERE

A baby sheep in heaven visits its mother on Earth.

RICEBALLS

DIRECTOR: SHINGO USAMI . 10 MINUTES . COMEDY . AUSTRALIA/JAPAN . DC PREMIERE

The story of a father and a son overcoming a death with their love and cultural identity firmly squeezed into a Japanese riceball.

PERFECT HOUSEGUEST

DIRECTORS: RU KUWAHATA and MAX PORTER . 2 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA . LOCAL FILM

A house is visited by a clean and well-organized little guest.

MOOM

DIRECTOR: ROBERT KONDO . 14 MINUTES . ANIMATION . JAPAN . DC PREMIERE

In a magical world where memories are still attached to forgotten objects, one little memory named Moom has a harder time letting go.

TAKING FLIGHT

DIRECTOR: BRANDON OLDENBURG . 6 MINUTES . ANIMATION . USA. DC PREMIERE

A boring day with Grandpa turns into a larger-than-life journey in this ode to the Radio Flyer red wagon.