

We Like 'Em Short
Festival Program
Baker City, OR

112

years

August 12-15, 2021

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Marketing support for We Like ‘Em Short was generously provided by



We Like ‘Em Short Film Festival

First off thank you to all you filmmakers for taking our minds off of our trouble, well most of you did that, there are a few films that reflect on the pandemic and life in 2020 very wonderfully.

Selecting and preparing for the 2021 WLES was even harder than in 2020. Even though we have been at this for 12 great years, I found it incredibly difficult to finalize and put together the program before, even with the tremendous help for our selection committee, it felt as if I had never done this before.

171 films were submitted from 29 different countries, including Uruguay (a first for us at WLES). Like always the wonderful selection committee had lots to consider and we think that another fantastic selection of films both from regional and international filmmakers are part of this year's official selection. I couldn't do it without the help of these dedicated movie loving volunteers.

For 10 years due to the generosity of Teresa and Dan McQuisten the home of WLES has been at the historic Eltrym Theater in downtown Baker City. They are tremendous supporters of the arts and we couldn't do what we do in Baker City without them. This year again we will be hosting the screenings at Churchill School. Thursday night will again be free to the public in our Drive In parking lot theater, all other screenings will be in our Dancehall.

WLES is funded in part by donations and Baker County Tourism. We are so pleased you came to enjoy one of the many great events Baker County has to offer and now it's time to enjoy the shorts!

Sincerely,

Brian Vegter
WLES Festival Director

Thursday, August 12th

Sunset screening 8:00 pm *Family Appropriate*

Opening Night is a first come first parked Drive In screening!!!
(you are also welcome to bring lawn chairs and sit outside your vehicle)



“Bisogno” (run time 1:12m - country of origin Italy) Director Matteo Zallocco

Lockdown. A slow vertical tracking shot that spying on a small building, at night, reveals contrasting situations and emotions, even in the same apartment, between people and animals, to end up on the roof of the building where two pigeons reveal their “need”.



“Showdown” (3:47m - USA) Director Holly Schroeder

A solitary UFO lands in a ghost town but tension mounts when a more sinister character arrives on the horizon.



“Misfit” (5:16 m - USA) Directed by Steve Segal


A piece of a jigsaw puzzle gets separated from the other members of his puzzle so he attempts to join other puzzles.




“A[CHRONO]mation” (2:38m - South Africa) Director Bronwyn Horne

An academic creative research project that explores Chronophotography as a medium for conceptual and aesthetic inspiration.

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Thursday, August 12th screening (continued)



“Social Distance: Maybe It’s a Good Idea” (1:09m - USA)

Director Andrew Doran Wilson

“Social Distance: Maybe It’s a Good Idea” is an Animated Public Service Announcement Dedicated to the Year 2020. Completed during March - May Quarantine.



“Matt Dusk - “Summer Wind.”” (2:43m - Canada) Director Ward Anderson

“Summer Wind,” is a throwback to the 1960s, courtesy of jazz artist Matt Dusk. A tribute to Frank Sinatra and the animation style of the day, “Summer Wind,” recalls both the Rat Pack and cartoons made famous by the likes of UPA and Hanna Barbera.



“On / Off” (7:00m - Argentina) Director Nicolas P. Villarreal

Endless distractions threaten to destroy creativity.



“Main Ballet Tank” (3:35m - Singapore) Director Bernhard Schmitt

Machines of War are reassigned for a more meaningful task than destruction: Dancing the CanCan. A group of T54 Main Battle tanks lets the hair down and get into some serious track-shaking, cannon-spinning and turret-twerking.



“Concoction” (2:55m - USA) Director Jon Frier

An at home inventor attempts to concoct something that will make her rich



“Once There Was a Girl” (4:09m - Canada) Directed by Deb Ethier

Why do stories we read as children stay with us through our lives and become broken bits of dreams, jumbled images from fairy tales that are always in the back of our minds?

Thursday, August 12th screening (continued)



“The Witch & the Baby” (4:45m - Russian Federation) Director Evgenia Golubeva

An ageing witch needs a baby for a spell to make her young again. But when she brings home an infant princess things don't go to plan.



“Guard Duty” (4:25m - Israel) Director Noam Keasar

A brave soldier guards a remote military base. Mysterious forces shift his guard duty from its expected course.



“Star Crossed” (1:31m - USA) Director Jon Frier

A VERY long distance love story



“You May Feel” (2m - USA) Director Joe Greenwell

With a powerful narration by Dylan Tacker, this brief animated short exploring four different characters experiencing a variety of reactions to the grief of loss. You May Feel shows a few of the many ways someone might express their emotions as they attempt to process them in such a dark time.



“The Boy and The Mountain” (11:23m - Chile)

Directors Santiago Aguilera, Gabriel Monreal

Hernán is a child who likes to daydreaming, but in his studies he is not doing well at all. His father constantly urges him to improve, advising him that he must reach very high to succeed in life.



“Pigeon” (1:31m - USA) Director Shuting Zhong (Phoebe)

Breakfast interrupted by hungry pigeons.

Friday, August 13th

7 PM screening



“Wet and Soppo” (4:02m - Ireland) Director Cliona Noonan
Best Picture Nominee

A weather-tormented man who just wants to dry his underwear is forced to use the local laundromat each evening.



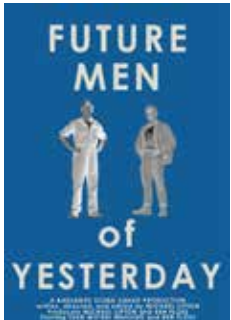
“WEE?” (1:32m - USA) Director Scottie Meyers

I gotta go, out of the way.



“Reconnecting...” (9m - USA) Director Matthew Hittle

Reconnecting... is a short film about consumption, relationships, and the infinite capacity to waste our limited attention. Set in a corpo owned retro future, an andriod attempts to navigate the intricacies of interpersonal relationships in a world designed to distract.



“Future Men of Yesterday” (4:48m - USA) Director Michael Lipton

In 1962, an amateur race car driver and a Soviet ex-pat attempt history. A vainglorious tale of grand ambitions and crushing gravity told at breakneck speed.



“Blanes st and Muller” (15m - Uruguay) Director Nicolás Botana

A few days after he moved in with his girlfriend, Jorge receives the visit of his futureself who traveled through time to warn him that she is going to leave him for another guy, and proposes him a plan to avoid it.



“The Rat King’s Wife” (5:16m - USA) Director Chloe Bristol

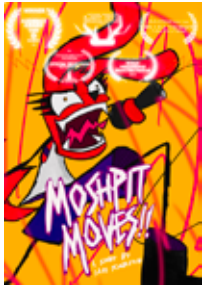
A clumsy youth loses her tooth. But what she finds next, she never expects.

Friday, August 13th (continued)



“Coming Clean” (5:29m - USA) Director Bara Kim

A young man confess his love to his friend only to be met with some interesting news.



“Moshpit Moves!” (2:45m - UK) Director Jake Pemberton

A heavy metal gig kicks off to hilarious results



“Playtime” (1:29m - USA) Director T.J. Barkwill

A young woman negotiates the love of two men.



“I am not an Angel” (10:46m - Canada) Director Joe Chang

I am not an Angel is a 11-minute animated short film with no dialogue, and is about a very ordinary female nurse named Amy, who does everything in her power to help save a patient from succumbing to Covid-19. It is a testament to the health care workers who are the heroes in this fight against an unseen enemy infecting people all over the world.



Friday, August 13th (continued)



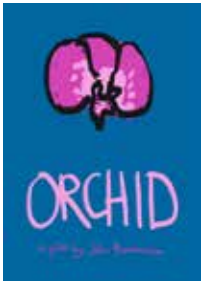
“Swiped” (3:43m - Canada) Director Edward J Douglas

When Melody decides to swipe a few hot guys on her augmented reality dating app, she meets her match in a man who may be more—or less—than meets the eye...



“Faleminderit” (13:22m - Luxembourg) Director Nicolas Neuhold

In 1921, a Luxembourgish cartographer visited Albania, preparing the border for the newly independent country. He went on to take part in the chaotic Paris conference of Ambassadors, where an observation he made would change the outcome of the diplomatic gathering.



“Orchid” (2:45m - UK) Director Julia Marchowska

An animation made in response to improvised comedy.



“Tony Bear” (9:11m - UK) Directed by Radheya Jegatheva

After a successful first date, Linda invites Kyle back to her flat but things get twisted when he discovers her loyal companion: a threadbare teddy called Tony. THE FUR WILL FLY!

Saturday, August 14th

1:00 pm screening *Family Appropriate*



“Mate” (5:45m - USA) Director Rusty Eveland

In a world without human beings, stray shopping carts search for purpose and companionship. This is a story about a cart, a scrap metal flower, and its search for a mate.



“Mama Nature” (1:39m - UK) Director Sally Gamble

A young girl is lost in the woods looking for her mum; however, she stumbles upon a different kind of mother...



“Cup of Joe” (2m - USA) Director Kyle Nelson

A man gets his morning coffee.



“Coco and Colby” (7:41m - USA) Directors Emma Sofia Fazzuoli, Clare O’Connor

Coco and Colby are two sisters with a ballet background...and a lot of baggage. When Coco has a documentary made about herself, Colby tries to one-up her by making her own.



“Jamaica - A Stop Motion Animated Music Video Event”

(6:30m - USA) Director Rett Bowers

A self-produced, stop motion animated music video

Saturday, August 14th

1:00 pm (continued) *Family Appropriate*



“WANTED” (2:43m - Poland) Director Julia Marchowska

A film about group power and obsession.



“my dear quarantine” (5:19m - Polan) Director Ewa Maria Wolska

“My dear quarantine” is a short, simple story from the time of pandemic—a poetic view of isolation, loneliness and boredom.



“Whale Fall Whale Rise” (6m - USA) Director Hualin Wang

A little red fish feels so sorrow after witnessing the death of a whale she admires. She follows some ghost fish to find the resting place of the whale. What she saw there taught her that death is not always be a bad thing.



“Alea jacta est” (3:17m - France) Director Hugo Mathias

Pierre is in danger, he has to make a choice. But what he’s got in mind does not please everyone. The conversation is likely to be tense...



“Sirius” (2m - Netherlands) Director Andrea Castillo

“Sirius” is the result of an improvisation exercise with the purpose of using the artist intuition as a starting point instead of a script or storyboard. The idea was to experiment with more a flexible intuitive process to do animation.



“Deep Fears” (3:23m - USA) Director Ryan Chu

A sea otter who is afraid of the ocean is challenged to face his fears when he loses his precious pink shell necklace at sea.

Saturday, August 14th

1:00 pm (continued)



“PrePAWsterous” (4:22m - USA) Director Areli Quinonez

When the going gets ruff, two rival pup scouts have to work together to investigate the mystery of their missing treats.



“(The Making of) Please Don’t Make Me Play Piano Man”
(13:09m - USA) Director Steve Nerangis

Inspired by the unsuccessful experimental Broadway shows of the 1970s, singer-songwriter-comedian Julian Velard has written a musical about his own life. A born Manhattanite living in Queens with a wife and child, Velard has quit the music business for the stable world of musical theater.

Saturday, August 14th

7 PM screening



“Dr. Pig” (0:40 seconds - USA) Director Joe Heinen

Medical prodigy Dr. Pig puts it all on the line to save an ailing patient.



“The Killer in Cursed Water” (14:50m - France)
Directors Laurent Ardoit, Stephane Duprat

Cindy and Quentin are spending a romantic week-end by a lake. But a killer is prowling and he could hide a greater threat.

Saturday, August 14th

7 PM screening (continued)



“Quarantine” (1:30m - Israel) Director Tara H_G

A relevant and funny reflection of the time and our behavior.



“Rhino N’ Bird” (9m - Germany)

Directors Bradley Oliver Wilkinson-Vega, Tamir Rawlings

A symbiotic relationship between a parasitic bird and a grumpy rhino, stuck together on the open plains of Africa. Their family kinships goes back generations, bringing them to modern day. Discussing topics like family, grooming, disease, and survival. the often funny but grizzly disposal of the deceased.



“Cone” (20m - France) Director Sébastien Auger

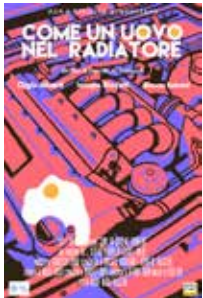
Best Picture, Best Director Nominee

Michel, a chronically depressive young man, is on his way to his native village. On the road, he makes a fortuitous and life-changing encounter: a signaling stud ! Despite himself, this new traveling companion, is going to push him to confront his fears and traumas.



“All Jerk, No Work” (3:51m - UK) Directed by Geoff Hecht

The story of a young man who “got in touch” with himself over lockdown



“Come un Uovo nel Radiatore (“Like an Egg in the Radiator”)”

(9:58m - Italy) Director Davide Maria Valsecchi

Best Actor Nominee

The story of how an omelette is made. Valentino, an aspiring actor, can’t wait to leave with his girlfriend Anna for their first trip together. Unfortunately, the car they are about to hit the road with belongs to her father, Carlo, a slightly gruff sixty-year-old man with a great passion for motors and whom Valentino has not yet meet.



“Slipping in Time” (3:09m - New Zealand) Director Anna Kong

In Victorian times, mad scientist Shelley, has to do whatever it takes to save her falling relationship with her science and life partner Mary.

Saturday, August 14th

7 PM screening (continued)



“Flip” (9:21m - Canada) Director Kevin T. Landry

A tribute to the therapeutic virtues of losing your s**t told in 6 scenes



“The Administration of the Internet” (4:42m - Germany)

Director Simon Schares

Best Student Film Nominee

A film about the chaotic everyday office life of “The Administration of the Internet”. The employees are responsible for order and organization in the network. They still work with outdated technology, only communicate with the outside world via a pneumatic tube and are obviously completely overwhelmed with their work.



“Roule Bécane” (20m - Belgium) Director Jeannot Alexis

In spite of himself, Léo finds himself drawn into a crazy adventure in order to fulfill his grandfather’s last wish.



“Chocolate” (4:12m - China) Director lili Zhang

Best Student Film Nominee

This film was inspired by a director’s little poem.

“You’re sweet He said,
Sweet, is a characteristic
Or, a reward Or, a desire
To be Your favorite
Chocolate”



“Act Like Me by Mark Bridges” (11:30m - UK) Director Dougie Baldwin

Best Actor Nominee

Mark Bridges teaches a workshop on how to be him.

Saturday, August 14th

7 PM screening (continued)



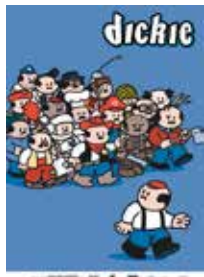
“Isolation Nation” (8:12m - UK) Director Davide Cantelmo

A series of comedy sketches following the trials and tribulations of lockdown.



“The Sleepening” (7:42m - USA) Directors Will Kingston, AJ Koch, Joe Cappa

How far will you go for a good night's sleep?

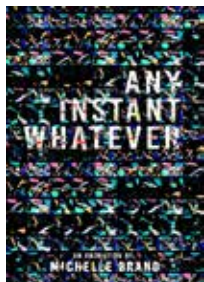


“Dickie” (2m - Belgium) Directors Wouter Bongaerts, Koen Saelemaekers, Simon Cornelis

Dickie is an animation series (52 eps of 2 minutes) based on a comic-strip character developed by Pieter De Poortere.

Sunday, August 15th

6PM Screening



“Any Instant Whatever” (5:12m - UK) Director Michelle Brand

Best Picture Nominee

A man in a room, in a film – it is the becoming of something and simultaneously becoming in itself. Nothing is as solid as we believe. The film explores our perception of time and change, bodies and objects, and our inability to comprehend the full motion of things.



“Sky Sun ,Tile Sun” (6:14m - Islamic Republic of Iran) Director Ziba Arzhang

Due to the intensity of the explosion and bombardment of the sun, the tiled wall breaks and it gets dark everywhere. People help each other to build a new sun for the sky.

Sunday, August 15th

6PM (continued)



“The Packages” (7:30m - Canada) Director Kevin Reeves

A husband and wife living in a remote Canadian farmhouse decide to order a couple of products online - leading to disastrous results.



“Geometry is Murder” (3:19m - USA) Director John Akre

You thought geometry was just a bunch of happy shapes. You were wrong. This combination of stop motion animation and direct film animation takes you into the dark heart of geometry.



“Gamut” (2:59m - USA) Director Sun Han

Best Student Film Nominee

A young adult struggles with their identity, and finds acceptance and peace once they embrace their true form.



“Bub” (m - USA) Director Case Jernigan and Todd Anderson

Bub, a work in progress adventure game / coming of age film about growing up in a repressed Christian culture in South Carolina. Made with stop-motion paper animation and mixed media paint techniques, Bub is an interactive story that references graphic novels and video games of the 80's and 90's.

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Sunday, August 15th

6PM (continued)



“Natural Selection” (9:51m - Cambodia) Director Robin Narciso

An instagram model, a zealot priest, and a woke cyclist couple, all suffering from amnesia, find themselves in the waiting room of a disgruntled scientist.
Soon they discover they have more in common than memory loss and have not been selected by chance.



“Hindered” (1m - USA) Director Edward Ramsay-Morin

An homage to 2020.



“My Tagalong” (6:40m - Canada) Director Jerry Wang

A story about two Gemini brothers’ journey on the earth. The Older brother wants to enjoy the trip himself, but his younger brother always follows him and makes a lot of troubles.



“Eye For An Eye” (6:10m - France) Directors Bernard de Corail, Emilio Ould Oufella

After a street brawl erupts between a bum and a stuck-up old man, the bum is visited by none other than the Devil, who offers him a deal to get his revenge...



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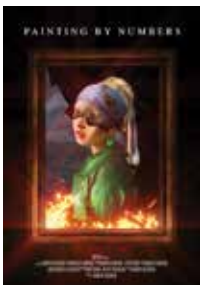
Sunday, August 15th

6PM (continued)



“Pile Poil” (20m - France) Director Lauriane Escaffre et Yvonnick Muller

In three days, Elodie is taking an exam to get a beauty therapy diploma. Her father Christophe, a butcher, would like more help from his daughter in his butcher shop. But at the moment, Elodie deals with an other issue, she has to found a model. A hairy model to pass her test.



“Painting by Numbers” (4:23m - Austrailia) Director Radheya Jegatheva

A child’s encounter with classic masterpieces triggers a confronting epiphany.



“Season” (7:51m - France) Director Giovanna Lopalco

A cortege of men dressed in white are walking a young woman to a strange procession. Around this dark landscape, a perpetually moving world will start the metamortphosis of her body.



“Asynchron” (7:30m - Germany) Directors Robin Schüllénbach, Jens Kipper

One job, one decision, two points of view.

Sunday, August 15th

2021 WLES Awards

Normally we do the traditional award show spin, talk about the nominees, show clips, if we have them and screen the Best Picture Winner and Audience Choice. However because of this year's format we won't be holding a ceremony for the awards, as time will not really allow for it. We will however announce the winners on Sunday night at somepoint during the screening. The nominees listed below have been voted on by our panel of judges. The winners will be awarded trophies custom made by the Natural Structures

The Audience Choice Award, is a tradition here, and voted on by you, the viewing public. To submit a vote for a film go to our Facebook page and in the comment section tell us what your favorite short was for the night. You the viewer vote for what you think is the BEST. It could be any of the 74 films you see this weekend. If you only go to one screening you're still welcome to vote for your favorite.

We Like 'Em Short Nominees

Best Picture

Best Student Film

Best Director



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Sunday, August 15th

2021 WLES Awards

(continued)

Best Cinematography

Best Actress

Best Actor



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WE LIKE 'EM SHORT FILM FESTIVAL



Churchill School is the 2021 home for WLES and we're excited to have you join us. Churchill was an elementary school from 1926 till 2002. In 2018 it was purchased and converted into a place for Arts, Music and Recreation. We're looking forward to the screenings here both outside and inside.

Churchill School
3451 Broadway St.
Baker City, OR

