



EMBARGOED UNTIL FEBRUARY 5, 2025 12PM CENTRAL

FEBRUARY 5, 2025 - TRUE/FALSE FILM FEST ANNOUNCES 2025 FILM LINEUP

Columbia, Missouri—True/False Film Fest is proud to announce its full slate of 30 new feature films, 24 new short films, and two repertory titles. These films were selected from roughly 1,200 submissions and hundreds more scouted from festivals around the world. Unfolding Feb. 27-March 2 in Columbia, Missouri, the festival highlights bold cinematic visions from filmmakers experimenting with the possibilities of representing reality.

The 22nd edition of True/False will present seven world premieres, one international premiere, and three North American premieres in the feature lineup. Fourteen of the feature films are from first-time feature directors. The feature-length films launching their world premieres at True/False are *A Body to Live In*, directed by Angelo Madsen (USA); *How Deep is Your Love*, directed by Eleanor Mortimer (U.K.); *Land With No Rider*, directed by Tamar Lando (USA); *May the Soil Be Everywhere*, directed by Yehui Zhao (USA, China); *River of Grass*, directed by Sasha Wortzel (USA); *The Track*, directed by Ryan Sidhoo (Canada, Bosnia); and *WTO/99*, directed by Ian Bell (USA).

Four feature-length films will hold their U.S. premieres at True/False: *A Want in Her*, directed by Myrid Carten (Ireland); *Make it Look Real*, directed by Danial Shah (Pakistan, Belgium, Netherlands); *Valentina and the MUOSters*, directed by Francesca Scalisi (Switzerland, Italy); and *The Undergrowth*, directed by Macu Machín (Spain).

Artistic Director Chloé Trayner said, "This year, we were introduced to so many incredible voices working in nonfiction, and our lineup offers a selection of bold, audacious, and deeply affecting work from around the world. This year's films run the gamut when it comes to form, tone, and perspective, but the one thing that unites them is their unwavering commitments to their artistic visions. The lineup is a kaleidoscope of reflections on our modern world, embracing past, present, and future in beautiful, devastating, and hopeful ways. We can't wait to share these films with our audience soon."

In keeping with the core values of the Ragtag Film Society, True/False is committed to inclusion and transparency and continues to track demographic data. Of the 67 filmmakers, 34 self-identify as women or nonbinary and 31 self-identify as people of color.

This year's festival was programmed by Film Programmers Amber Love and Amada Torruella and RFS Artistic Director Chloé Trayner. Full schedule and screening details will be available Feb. 7, 2025.

True/False Film Fest, a project of Ragtag Film Society, will take place Feb. 27-March 2, 2025, in downtown Columbia, Missouri. For more information, please visit truefalse.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Chloé Trayner, RFS Artistic Director, chloe@truefalse.org

Emily Edwards, RFS Communications Director, emily@truefalse.org

TRUE/FALSE FILM FEST 2025 FEATURE FILMS

A Body to Live In | Dir. Angelo Madsen; 2025; USA; 98 min

An exploration into the life of Fakir Musafar, a monumental and controversial figure in the queer art of body modification.

A Want in Her | Dir. Myrid Carten; 2024; Ireland; 81 min

A filmmaker turns the camera on her mother in this formally shapeshifting portrait of addiction and familial love pushed to their limits.

Abo Zaabal 89 | Dir. Bassam Mortada; 2024; Egypt, Germany; 83 min

A filmmaker excavates his family history to better understand the intergenerational wounds he has carried for years.

Blue | Dir. Derek Jarman, 1993; U.K.; 76 min

Against a static blue screen, a soundtrack of voices and music paints a portrait of the filmmaker's experiences with AIDS.

Deaf President Now! | Dirs. Nyle DiMarco & Davis Guggenheim; 2024; USA; 100 min

Over eight intense days in 1988, a student protest at the world's only deaf university changed the course of history.

Family Album | Dir. Laura Casabé; 2024; Argentina; 73 min

A fervent ode to Claudia Pía Baudracco told through community reflections and precious archives of Argentina's trans rights movement.

How Deep is Your Love | Dir. Eleanor Mortimer; 2025; U.K.; 100 min

Scientists explore the mysterious deep sea to collect and name undiscovered species in this whimsical and mesmerizing oceanic odyssey.

How to Build a Library | Dirs. Maia Lekow & Christopher King; 2025; Kenya; 103 min

Two fearless women take on the colossal task of transforming and revitalizing a formerly colonial library in downtown Nairobi.

John Lilly and the Earth Coincidence Control Office | Dirs. Michael Almereyda & Courtney Stephens; 2025; USA; 89 min

An archival recitation of John C. Lilly's controversial scientific legacy tells a tale of animal experimentation, counterculture, and human consciousness.

Kouté vwa (Listen to the Voices) ; Dir. Maxime Jean-Baptiste; 2024; Belgium, France, French Guiana; 77 min

A family attempts to reconcile its complex grief in this coming-of-age story exploring loss, friendship, and healing in community.

Land with No Rider | Dir. Tamar Lando; 2025; USA; 76 min

A verité portrait of cattle ranchers in southwestern New Mexico as they ruminate on what might be the end of a generation.

Light Memories | Dir. Misha Vallejo Prut; 2024; Ecuador, Germany; 80 min

A tribute to the art of photography, this carefully crafted family portrait illustrates the importance of preserving the archive.

Make it Look Real | Dir. Danial Shah; 2024; Pakistan, Belgium, Netherlands; 68 min

A photographer in Pakistan sells two-dimensional fantasies to his clients and allows his own dreams to develop in his studio.

May the Soil Be Everywhere | Dir. Yehui Zhao; 2024; USA, China; 96 min

A filmmaker journeys to her family's remote Chinese village to unearth the multigenerational story of its relationship to the land.

Middletown | Dirs. Jesse Moss & Amanda McBaine; 2025; USA; 111 min

In the '90s, a high school teacher transforms his classroom into an investigative journalism unit in pursuit of environmental justice.

Mountain Village | Dir. Hu Sanshou; 2013; China; 70 min

An intimate portrait of the filmmaker's ancestral village interwoven with the community's testimony about its memories of the Great Famine.

Predators | Dir. David Osit; 2025; USA; 96 min

A provocative deep dive into the complicated legacy of *To Catch a Predator* and the world of vigilante justice.

Requiem for a Tribe | Dir. Marjan Khosravi; 2024; Iran, Spain, Qatar; 70 min

A 55-year-old family matriarch from the nomadic Bakhtiari tribe in Iran is forced to abandon her home and begin anew.

Resurrection | Dir. Hu Sanshou; 2024; China; 113 min

A filmmaker returns to his hometown, where villagers honor the deceased by excavating and transporting the bodies to their new resting grounds.

River of Grass | Dir. Sasha Wortzel; 2024; USA; 83 min

A lyrical journey traversing the Florida Everglades through the stories of those who live to protect the delicate ecosystem.

Sally | Dir. Cristina Costantini; 2025; USA; 103 min

An immersive portrait of American astronaut Sally Ride told from the perspective of her life partner, Tam O'Shaughnessey.

Seeds | Dir. Brittany Shyne; 2025; USA; 122 min

With stunning black-and-white cinematography, *Seeds* is a tender verité portrait of Black farmers in the U.S. South.

The Dating Game | Dir. Violet Du Feng; 2025; USA, U.K., Norway; 90 min

Three men look for love in contemporary China, where, in the aftermath of the One Child Policy, men far outnumber women.

The Silence of My Hands | Dir. Manuel Acuña; 2024; Mexico; 80 min

Rosa and Sai are committed to one another despite distance separating them in this sensory journey spoken entirely in sign language.

The Track | Dir. Ryan Sidhoo; 2025; Canada, Bosnia; 91 min

A coming-of-age story of three teen boys chasing their Olympic dreams, set against the backdrop of postwar Sarajevo.

The Undergrowth | Dir. Macu Machín; 2024; Spain; 72 min

Three sisters reunite to divide up their family's inheritance in this poetic and tender portrait set in the Canary Islands.

The Wolves Always Come at Night | Dir. Gabrielle Brady; 2024; Mongolia, Australia, Germany; 96 min

A poetic docufiction portrait of a family cast out of the Mongolian grasslands it calls home.

Valentina and the MUOSters | Dir. Francesca Scalisi; 2024; Switzerland, Italy; 80 min

A young woman in rural Italy yearns for a different future amidst imposing military satellites and familial pressures.

Wishing on a Star | Dir. Peter Kerekes; 2024; Italy, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Austria, Croatia; 99 min

An astrologer dispatches clients on birthday trips to be reborn under a different star sign and to change their fate.

Writing Hawa | Dirs. Najiba Noori & Rasul Noori; 2024; France, Netherlands, Qatar, Afghanistan; 85 min

A story of three generations of women in an Afghan family as the U.S. withdraws from the country and their hopes for the future are overshadowed by politics.

WTO/99 | Dir. Ian Bell; 2025; USA; 100 min

A chronicle of the Seattle World Trade Organization protests in 1999, told entirely through firsthand archival video.

Zodiac Killer Project | Dir. Charlie Shackleton; 2025; USA, U.K.; 92 min

A speculative essay about an abandoned Zodiac Killer film that unravels into an exploration of our cultural obsession with true crime.

TRUE/FALSE FILM FEST 2025 SHORT FILMS

Animal Eye | Dir. Carlo Nasisse; 2024; USA, Costa Rica; 13 min

Scientists and philosophers work to understand animal vision in this multi textured rumination exploring our relationship to the nonhuman world.

Another Rapid Event | Dir. Daniel Murphy; 2024; USA; 8 min

Radiant energy beams down from the sun, enabling telegraph operators to communicate warbling, Earthly messages etched in tree rings.

Biir | Dirs. Bentley Brown & Tahir Ben Mahamat Zene; 2025; Chad; 6 min

Severe drought in Chad is the context for this exploration of climate emergency told through immersive sound and visceral thirst.

Chimera | Dirs. Martin Andre & Gael Jara; 2024; Chile; 11 min

A journey through Chile's bureaucracy. A filmmaker seeks to obtain the country's first nonbinary identity card in this distinctive animated film.

Correct Me If I'm Wrong | Dir. Hao Zhou; 2025; Germany, USA; 23 min

A filmmaker undergoes a series of home remedies and spiritual interventions as their family attempts to purge their gender-fluid identity.

Daily Worker | Dir. Ting Su; 2024; USA; 10 min

Digitizing union newspapers in the quiet of a dark room, a filmmaker reflects on their relationship to labor.

David (for now) | Dir. Humberto Flores Jáuregui; 2024; Mexico; 15 min

Amidst games of soccer and roving bike rides, a young boy writes a letter of goodbye to his friends.

Entre le Feu et le Clair de Lune | Dir. Dominic Yarabe; 2024; Côte d'Ivoire, USA; 18 min

A father and daughter preserve the family archive when they collaborate on finishing a book that was started over a decade ago.

Expression of Illness | Dir. Bryn Silverman; 2024; USA; 21 min

After receiving a thyroid cancer diagnosis, a woman becomes a relentless advocate for her health and body.

Hold Me Close | Dirs. Aurora Brachman & LaTajh Simmons-Weaver; 2025; USA; 19 min

Corinne and Tiana have built a sacred home together. Welcomed into their day to day, we delicately enter their loving universe.

Hope Chest | Dir. Lily Franck; 2024; USA; 4 min

A mother's hope chest becomes a catalyst for her daughter's reconsideration of traditional gender roles in this charming stop-motion animation.

How the West Was Fun | Dirs. Sarah Garrahan & Sue Ding; 2025; USA; 14 min

At a photography studio in a Wild West theme park, visitors masquerade as modern visions of the American West.

Lanawaru | Dir. Angello Faccini Rueda; 2024; Colombia, Mexico, USA; 15 min

A sensory collective documentation of rituals that take place following the disappearance of a community member.

My Exploding House | Dir. Liberty Smith; 2024; U.K.; 17 min

A trip down memory lane for a filmmaker and her mother in search of the truth behind a memory from three decades ago.

No se ve desde acá (You Can't See It From Here) | Dir. Enrique Pedráza-Botero; 2024; USA, Colombia; 19 min

Using archive and spatial exploration of Miami as a point of departure, this film confronts us with contrasting experiences of migration.

Piñata Prayers | Dir. Daniel Larios; 2025; USA, El Salvador; 24 min

Breaking down the colonial tradition of piñatas, this personal film probes into a loss of faith while retracing a family history.

Psychedelic in the Sky | Dir. Matthew Salton; 2024; USA; 11 min

A filmmaker explores the nature of belief and his childhood fascinations in the context of a man's personal UFO experience.

Razeh-del | Dir. Maryam Tafakory; 2024; U.K., Iran, Italy; 28 min

This filmic collage unearths Iran's first women's newspaper and reveals a rich, colorful archive of stories and community correspondence.

Sunset and the Mockingbird | Dir. Jyllian Gunther; 2025; USA; 29 min

The love story of Gloria Clayborne and jazz pianist Junior Mance as they face Junior's diagnosis of dementia.

Te Amo Tanto, Pero Eres Tan Difícil (I Love You So Much, But You Are So Difficult) |

Dir. Berenicé Brino; 2024; USA, Dominican Republic; 14 min

Through a collaborative art performance and open dialogue, a daughter and mother explore their tense and nuanced relationship.

Tessitura | Dirs. Lydia Cornett & Brit Fryer; 2024; USA; 18 min

Three trans opera singers refine their unique vocal talents and contemporize the history of gender-fluid performances in the art form.

The Flowers Stand Silently, Witnessing | Dir. Theo Panagopoulos; 2024; Scotland, U.K.; 17 min

In an act of reclamation, a filmmaker reinterprets an unearthed archive of wildflower fields in Palestine.

Trapstarz | Dir. Gonçalo Loureiro; 2024; Portugal; 23 min

On the precipice of adulthood, three aspiring trap stars see their big dreams falter when faced with a harsh reality check.

Your Harvest May Be Delayed | Dir. Ahmad Al-Zu'bi; 2024; Jordan; 15 min

A gift of childhood archives sends the filmmaker on a quest to understand what was saved and what was lost.