

# PHILADELPHIA ENVIRONMENTAL FILMFESTIVAL

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival Brings the Planet to the City of Brotherly Love**

*Presenting an international slate of environmentally-focused shorts and features,  
the Festival will showcase 54 inspiring and engaging films from 16 countries —  
April 5-7 at the Philadelphia Film Center*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Philadelphia, PA, March 14, 2019** – The **Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival** is pleased to announce the full programming line-up for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Festival, which returns to the City of Brotherly Love during the first weekend of April (April 5 – 7), at the Philadelphia Film Center in downtown Philadelphia.

The Festival opens with the Pennsylvania Premiere of the thrilling, action-adventure journey following the late filmmaker Rob Stewart, **Sharkwater Extinction**. The Opening Night feature showcases the Pennsylvania Premiere of director Matthew Testa's new visually-rich and arresting documentary, **The Human Element**, and closes on April 7<sup>th</sup> with the Pennsylvania Premiere of Asgeir Helgestad's riveting true story told over the course of four years between a beautiful polar bear mother and a Norwegian wildlife filmmaker in **Queen Without Land**. This year's Festival will feature 41 new shorts and 10 features from international and American filmmakers to kick off Earth Month. All ten feature films are Pennsylvania Premieres.

"As Philadelphia continues to progress forward in the global sustainability movement, we are thrilled to bring the Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival back for a third year," said the Festival's **Executive Director Debra Wolf Goldstein**. "Our mission to bring the planet to Philadelphia through thought-provoking and engaging films that inspire Philadelphians of all ages is more important now than ever. This year's Festival has three action-packed days of entertainment and information about critical environmental issues.. We are thankful to Natural Lands for continuing as lead sponsor of the Festival!"

“Our juried panel selected this year’s outstanding film lineup from over 320 international submissions from a total of 47 countries,” said **Alexandra Drobac Diagne, Artistic Director**. “We are showcasing the best of the best in environmental entertainment that will draw audiences in with their artistically rich visuals and inspire action with the films’ captivating and impactful narratives on the current state of our planet.”

The Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival will honor **Matthew Testa**, Director of the powerful documentary feature, **The Human Element**, on Opening Night with the Festival’s Environmental Advocacy Award.

Debuting a new interactive experience at the Festival this year, guests will be invited to experience **My Africa**, a 10-minute Virtual Reality journey to Northern Kenya, where the futures of wildlife and people are intertwined. Stand in the midst of a thundering wildebeest migration, witness a lioness snatch her prey, go nose-to-trunk with an inquisitive baby elephant – and meet a community dedicated to saving Africa’s wildlife. Brought to the Festival courtesy of Conservation International.

The 2019 Festival includes films by 15 female filmmakers, a student film competition, many post-screening Q&As with filmmakers, juried awards, as well as an Opening Night Red Carpet Reception..

Weekend passes and single tickets are on sale now and can be purchased on the Festival website [www.philaenvirofilmfest.org/festival/buy-tickets/](http://www.philaenvirofilmfest.org/festival/buy-tickets/) or in person at the Philadelphia Film Center box office (1412 Chestnut Street; open Mon. – Sat. noon to 5:00 pm).

**Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival** brings the planet to Philadelphia through the power of environmental films. The Festival showcases exceptional new shorts and features that entertain, inform, and inspire personal action and environmental stewardship.

For more information, visit [www.philaenvirofilmfest.org](http://www.philaenvirofilmfest.org)

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### **Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival Line-up**

**Program [PLEASE MAKE THIS WORDING CHANGE TO ALL BELOW] 1 -- Festival Opening Feature and Shorts, Friday, April 5, 5:30 – 7:30 pm**

- **On The Cover**, Director Yegane Moghaddam
- **Great White**, Director Manolo Mendieta
- **Flin**, Director Catherine Valle
- **Feature: Sharkwater Extinction**, Director Rob Stewart (Pennsylvania Premiere)

**Opening Night Red Carpet Reception, Friday, April 6, 6:00 – 8:00 pm**

**Block 2 -- Opening Night Feature, Friday, April 5, 8:00 – 10:00 pm**

- **Big Boom**, Director Marat Narimanov
- **Greenland Melts**, Director Jason van Bruggen
- **Feature: The Human Element**, Director Matthew Testa (Pennsylvania Premiere); Post-Screening Discussion with Matthew Testa moderated by Scott Cooper, PhD, President & CEO of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University.

**Block 3 -- Saturday, April 6, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

- **Black & White World**, Director Jasminka Bijelic Ljubic
- **The Black Mambas**, Director Bruce Donnelly
- **Global Warming - Surreal Will Be Real**, Director Dimitri Pantchev
- **Feature: Love & Bananas**, Director Ashley Bell (Pennsylvania Premiere)

**Block 4 – Shorts - Saturday, April 6, 12:00 – 2:00 pm**

- **Fire Followers**, Director Steven Bumgardner
- **Flipping the Switch**, Directors Will Parrinello, John Antonelli, Matt Yamashita
- **Wolf Call**, Director Ramey Newell
- **The Fight For Flight**, Director Jason Whalen
- **The Good Cup**, Director Sabine Schwab
- **60 Minutes Toxic**, Director Susan Lamontagne
- **The Science of Collective Discovery**, Director Brett Abramsky
- **Leafcutters**, Director Catherine Chalmers

**Block 5 -- Feature and Shorts, Saturday, April 6, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

- **Or Else Everybody Does**, Director David Nast Cole
- **Who's Your Farmer**, Director Kelly Marshall
- **Feature: The Need To Grow**, Director Rob Herring (Pennsylvania Premiere); Post-Screening Discussion with Rob Herring moderated by Emily Moose, Director of Communications & Outreach for A Greener World.

**Block 6 -- Feature and Shorts, Saturday, April 6, 3:00 – 5:00 pm**

- **Gasoline, Gasoline**, Director Billiam James
- **Carbon Weevils**, Director Tim Britton
- **Ashes to Ashes**, Director Kelly Marshall
- **Everything Connects**, Director Dylan D'Haeze
- **Feature: Current Revolution**, Director Roger Sorkin (Pennsylvania Premiere); Post-Screening Discussion with Roger Sorkin moderated by Dr. Patrick Gurian, Dept. of Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering, Drexel University.

**Block 7 -- Feature and Shorts, Saturday, April 6, 5:00 – 7:00 pm**

- **Beebox**, Director Edward M. Rogueta
- **River of the Kukamas**, Director Burnham Aldridge
- **Feature: Patrimonio**, Director Sarah Teale (Pennsylvania Premiere); Post-Screening Discussion with Sarah Teale moderated by Dr. Mira Olson and Dr. James Tangorra of the Drexel University Peace Engineering Program.

**Block 8 -- Feature and Short, Saturday April 6, 5:30 – 7:30 pm**

- **Global Warming - Surreal Will Be Real**, Director Dimitri Pantchev
- **Kitty Crag**, Directors Holly Friesner, Ryan Hodgkins, Maddie Juby, Tim Smith, Joel Todd and Tom Weaver
- **Mountain Yellow-Legged Frogs**, Director Steven Bumgardner

- **Feature: Serengeti Rules**, Director Nicholas Brown

**Block 9 -- Feature and Shorts, Saturday, April 6, 8:00 – 10:00 pm**

- **Now You See It**, Director Rebecca Manley
- **The Black Mambas**, Director Bruce Donnelly
- **Feature: When Lambs Become Lions**, Director Jon Kasbe (Pennsylvania Premiere); Post-Screening Discussion with Jon Kasbe moderated by Dr. Koren Bedeau, Vice Provost for Academic Programs & Strategic Initiatives and interim Vice Provost for Global Engagement at Drexel University.

**Block 10 -- Shorts, Saturday, April 6, 8:15 – 10:15 pm**

- **Heat Death**, Director XXXXX
- **eviving the Delaware**, Director Kimberly Paynter
- **Now You See It**, Director Rebecca Manley
- **Legacy**, Director Barry Mitchell
- **Givers & Takers**, Director Peter Byck
- **Sankofa, Remembering Our Future**, Director Mitchell Smith
- **A Place in the Garden**, Directors Jeff Buss, Christina Ciano
- **The Last Green Thread**, Director Daniel Schmidt
- **After The Fire**, Director Derek Knowles

**Block 11 -- Feature and Shorts, Sunday April 7, 2:30 – 4:30 pm**

- **Now You See It**, Director Rebecca Manley
- **Dignity At A Monumental Scale**, Director Kelly Whalen
- **Feature: Cooked: Survival By Zip Code**, Director Judith A. Helfand (Pennsylvania Premiere); Post-Screening Discussion with Judith Helfand moderated by Prof. Alex Geisinger, Drexel University Kline School of Law.

**Block 12 -- Feature and Shorts, Sunday April 7, 3:00 – 5:00 pm**

- **On The Cover**, Director Yegane Moghaddam
- **Mosquito Metamorphosis**, Director Celestina Wright
- **God Has Already Gone Ahead**, Director Peter Böving
- **Feature: The Silver Branch**, Director Katrina Costello (Pennsylvania Premiere)

**Block 13 -- Closing Feature and Shorts, Sunday April 7, 5:00 – 7:00 pm**

- **Every Nine Minutes**, Directors DJ O'Neil, Oliver Hamilton
- **Climate Liars**, Director Adam Crockett
- **Derrick Pottle, Keeper of the Flame**, Director Jason van Bruggen
- **Feature: Queen Without Land**, Director Asgeir Helgestad (Pennsylvania Premiere)

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