

9th ANNUAL



**COBB INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL**



August 3 – 6, 2023

Earl Smith Strand Theater

117 North Park Square

Marietta, Georgia 30061

Presented by Long Shot Productions
and East Coast Talent Agency



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WELCOME



We would like to welcome you to the Seventh Annual Cobb International Film Festival at the beautiful Strand Theater on historic Marietta Square.

Marietta has a rich history and has been featured in a number of films over the years. The Strand Theater has its own place in theatrical history, hosting such celebrities as Alfred Hitchcock, Maureen O'Hara, Linda Evans, Fess Parker, George Stevens and many others for red carpet events.

The goal of the Cobb International Film Festival is to allow independent filmmakers from around the world to showcase their works. The films being screened during this year's festival include films from across the United States and 12 other countries. Among these films are many by some very talented Georgia filmmakers.

We hope you enjoy the slate of films we have selected this year. There are films from many different genres – comedy, drama, action, horror, documentary, sci-fi/fantasy, experimental - something for everyone. Many of these films have won numerous awards worldwide at other festivals.

We invite you to attend the awards ceremony on Sunday afternoon, when you will have the opportunity to ask questions of the attending filmmakers about their films.

Thank you for being a part of the 9th Annual Cobb International Film Festival.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Tavernaro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Richard Tavernaro
Founder/Executive Director
Producers Guild Member

HISTORY OF MARIETTA, GA

Before there was an Atlanta or a Chattanooga, there was Marietta, Ga. A small cluster of homes near the Cherokee town of Kennesaw were reported as early as 1824. An early road in what would become Cobb County crossed the "Shallow Ford" of the Chattahoochee and ran just south of these settlers.

In 1832, the state of Georgia formed 10 counties from what had been Cherokee land. Cobb County was named for Thomas Willis Cobb, U.S. representative, US senator and Supreme Court judge. In 1837 the Georgia Gazetteer reported that the city of Marietta was named for Cobb's wife. The Georgia legislature legally recognized the town on Dec. 19, 1834, but by that time a sizable community already existed. The first plat for the city, since destroyed, was laid out by James Anderson in 1833, who had worked extensively in north Georgia. Like most towns, Marietta had a square in the center with a modest courthouse.

Three years later, the state assembly approved a bill creating the Western and Atlantic Railroad. Colonel Stephen Long, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, was chosen to head the project, and he selected Marietta as home base. The impact of locating near Marietta Square was significant. Business began to boom and three taverns sprang up around the center of town to accompany the early stores and a nearby tanyard.

As crews began to clear and grade north of the town, a new pastime became popular. The roadbed was perfect for horse racing, and the sport grew quite popular, taking place in the approximate area of the present-day Marietta Welcome Center and Visitors Bureau. The Western and Atlantic began to operate from Atlanta to Adairsville in 1845 and through to Chattanooga in 1850.

In 1848, John Glover quickly became a successful businessman and popular politician. So popular that when the town incorporated in 1852, Glover was elected its first mayor. Although the Glovers would be successful at many endeavors through the years, among the earliest successes were a tanyard and warehouse. Also moving to the city were Dix Fletcher, who managed the Howard House, which served as a stagecoach stop, and Henry Greene Cole who ran Cole's, a "bed and breakfast" of the day. In the Howard house register, one

of their guests was Zachary Taylor of Washington City. Cole ran a hotel called the Marietta Hotel on the south side of the square. It was known as the finest in Marietta.

To the west of the city, near the base of Kennesaw Mountain, a "Dr. Cox" offered treatment with his "water cure." Although visitors described it as "invigorating," most probably just came to get away from the bug-infested coast and to enjoy the good food; however, by 1861, Cox began what would develop into a substantial tourist industry. "Dr. Cox" was a real medical doctor, named Dr. Carey Cox, and practiced what is known as homeopathic medicine today. The Cobb Medical Society recognizes him as the first physician.

The Georgia Military Institute was built in 1851 about a mile from the square on Powder Springs Road. Classes began in July with just seven students. By the end of the first year, 28 men were in attendance.

John Denmead, a contractor who helped build the railroad, stayed on and opened the first bank in the city in 1855.

By the time the Civil War began in 1861, Marietta was booming. Early in the morning of April 13, 1862, a group of 23 men boarded a train at Marietta Station – minutes later, they commandeered the train in Big Shanty. The next 50 miles of the ride has been dramatically recreated for generations and is now generally referred to as "The Great Locomotive Chase."

During the summer of 1864, forces under the command of William Tecumseh Sherman moved in and occupied the town. For the next five months, federal troops would pillage by day and ravage by night. In November 1864, men under the command of Union General Hugh Kilpatrick, Sherman's "merchant of terror," set the town on fire. "Uncle Billy's" boys were leaving for the heart of Georgia on "The March to the Sea."

During World War II, Marietta's Rickenbacher Field served as home base for the Bell Bomber factory where 669 B-29 Bombers were built for use by the American forces. After the war, the plant was initially abandoned but was rescued by the Lockheed Corporation in 1951

(now known as Lockheed-Martin) and is one of the major employers in the county and state.

HISTORY OF THE EARL AND RACHEL SMITH STRAND THEATER



The Strand Theatre, a noted landmark on the historic Marietta Square in Cobb County, got its start as a major motion picture house in 1935. The Strand provided movie entertainment to thousands of people of all ages until it closed its doors as a movie house in 1976.

In 1935, Manning-Winks Theatre Company officially announced the opening of their new Art Deco movie theatre after seven months of construction. Embracing “modern technologies” such as heating and air conditioning, acoustical sound system, seating for 1,000 and a fireproof projection room, The Strand was the most modern theatre outside of Atlanta and cost \$150,000. The Strand opened its doors on September 24 at 2 o’clock. All of Marietta attended the premiere of *Top Hat*, a musical starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

In 1936, a slogan contest was announced in June and the winner would receive free tickets. The winning slogan “The House of Smart Attractions” was selected but the contest winner was anonymous. The Strand’s one-year anniversary was celebrated in September with the premiere of the movie *Swing Time*, starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

By 1947, television and drive-in theaters were quickly gaining popularity. Manning-Winks Theater Co. sold The Strand to the Martin Theater Chain. Martin Theatre Chain owned and operated the Strand up until the late 1950’s when The Georgia Theatre, Inc. bought them out.

In 2002, the theatre was vacated and a “FOR RENT” sign was displayed in the box office window. The building deteriorated as it waited for a happy beginning. Community leaders explored the possibility of restoring The Strand Theatre. Shortly thereafter, the group was formally organized as Friends of The Strand, Inc. and

started a capital campaign that eventually raised \$5,700,000 for a complete renovation of the Strand, including the addition of two reception rooms and a roof top terrace. The Strand’s Official Grand reopening was in **January of 2009**.

Over the years, many celebrities have walked the red carpet at The Strand Theatre, including Alfred Hitchcock, Maureen O’Hara, Linda Evans, Fess Parker, George Stevens, among many others.

THE BIG CHICKEN



“The Big Chicken” is a well-known Marietta landmark that rises above a KFC restaurant at the intersection of Cobb Parkway and Roswell Road. It is a large steel-sided structure with a moving beak and eyes.

The Big Chicken was built in 1963 for a restaurant called *Johnny Reb’s Chick-Chuck-’N’-Shake*. The owner, Stanley R. “Tubby” Davis, created the seven-story tall structure as a way to advertise his restaurant. Soon the towering landmark was used as a reference point and phrases like “turn left at the big chicken” or “just one mile south of the big chicken” became common. These phrases are still commonly used today – over half a century later.

A few years after construction of the big chicken, Davis sold Johnny Reb’s to his brother who turned it into a franchise of KFC. In 1993, after years of deterioration and recent storm damage, the famous landmark was in danger of being torn down. When news of this plan reached the public, the outcry was so great that KFC agreed to rebuild the entire structure and restore it to its former glory.

The Big Chicken is located at the intersection of Cobb Parkway (U.S. Highway Route 41) and Roswell Road (Georgia State Route 120 Loop). There is



a small gift shop inside if you would like to purchase souvenirs, or stop by the Marietta Museum of History for some Big Chicken merchandise.

To get to the Big Chicken from Marietta Square, head 1.9 miles east on Roswell Street to the intersection with Hwy 41 (Cobb Parkway) – you can't miss it.

OTHER THINGS TO DO ON/NEAR MARIETTA SQUARE:

Marietta Gone With The Wind Museum
18 Whitlock Ave, Marietta GA 30064

Marietta Museum of History
1 Depot Street, Suite 200, Marietta GA 30060

Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art
30 Atlanta Street, Marietta GA 30060

Six Flags White Water
250 Cobb Parkway N., Marietta GA 30062

Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History
2829 Cherokee Street, Kennesaw GA 30144

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive, Kennesaw GA 30152

Marietta Farmers Market
Saturday mornings on the street in front of The Strand

Marietta Confederate Cemetery
North 120 Loop & Cemetery Road, Marietta, GA 30067

Marietta National Cemetery
500 Washington Ave NW, Marietta, GA 30060

William Root House Museum and Garden
80 N Marietta Pkwy NE, Marietta, GA 30060

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

1200: *For Who I Am* [Documentary Film from Florida] - One community shares their homeless experience and current success inside Gospel Inc., a program housing chronically homeless at no financial cost.

1210: *Hangnail* [Short Film - Romance/Psychological Thriller/Horror/Drama from St Augustine, Florida] - Gage and Hannah are a young couple making a new home off the coast of Florida. Their marriage has been rocky, but all of that changes when the new girl, Julie, moves in next door. As Gage becomes intrigued with Julie, the pressure of pursuing what he's found or losing what he already has takes its toll as he's pulled between two worlds. As the inevitability of the situation becomes clear, only time will tell if it sets him free or tears him apart.

1230: *The New Norm* [Feature Film - Drama - from Richmond, Virginia] - As a divorced dad and veteran, Norm holds on too tightly to his teenage son, Gary. When Norm receives an invitation to a high school class reunion, his predictable answer is "I'm too busy." While not completely true, he is busy ignoring his past. When roped into joining the reunion, he is intrigued by former valedictorian and millionaire Eli's pitch for a contest promising the winner a dream prize: a paid job for life. When Gary loses all hope for college, Norm must enter the contest to earn his son's respect after becoming stalled in life. Personalities clash and schemes develop as William, Steve, Norm, and Olivia compete for the grand prize. As Steve's ego grows, so does Norm's desire to win both the contest and Olivia. For Norm's good deeds, he finally helps his veteran friend Sam with rides. Sam's wisdom is the catalyst for change in Norm. The contest brings some characters closer while driving others farther apart. Steve and Norm add their own competition to win Olivia's affections. When confronted with more loss, Norm searches for answers that will lead him to the New Norm.

1415: *Before We Break* [Short Film - Drama - from the United States] - When a young journalist accidentally reports a fake story, he must carry on the lie to further grow his career.

1500: *One of Us* [Feature Film - Crime Drama - from Tirane, Albania] - Sula, a traumatized veteran of the Kosovo conflict, gets accepted into the police academy in neighbouring Albania capital city, Tirana. Devoted in his studies, Sula graduates in the rank of inspector. Sula suffers from chronic insomnia. Coming into direct contact with Tirana's evil and corrupt nature, his condition deteriorates. Rejected by a young woman he tries to seduce, Sula takes all his frustration, insomnia, headaches, his post-traumatic stress disorder and turns it into violence. Sula organises a crime of passion that involves corrupt politicians and makes it look like the perfect crime. Sula files a request for a rank promotion, from inspector to chief inspector then sets about solving the crime that he, himself, committed. (in Albanian with English subtitles)

1650: *Mother of Lost Things* [World Premiere Short Film - Horror - from Columbus, Georgia] - A young boy (Alex), has a penchant for being a tad selfish and whose mother, Tina, deployed active-duty military, is Missing in Action (MIA), finds a mystical creature in the deep forest behind his family's home.

1700: *The Rise of Elsie Matthews* [Short Film - Drama - from Middleton, Ohio] - An overbearing "Stage mom" pushes her 13-year-old daughter Elsie forward into a film career. However, relationships with crew members are tense, as they love what Elsie brings to the table, but question if working with her is worth dealing with her mother. Elsie must find a way to move forward to achieve her goals and move past her mother.

1720: *The Service* [Short Film - Drama - from the Canton, Georgia] - A woman of a certain age becomes invisible. Especially when she's serving your hors d'oeuvres, renewing your library card or cleaning your house. Ruby counts on that.

1725: *Inside the Mind* [World Premiere Documentary Film from Atlanta, Georgia] - "Inside the Mind" explores how mental health affects millions of people every day. The conditions not only affect the person struggling with mental health, but those around them as well. This micro documentary series dives deep into these people's lives and those who are battling mental health with them.

1730: *Jouska* [Short Film from Miami, Florida] - Jouska shows what being an Artist in today's society is like. Feeling unsupported and dependent to a job that they hate in order to make a living causes Lola to lose touch with their reality. (in English and Spanish with English subtitles)

1745: *The Locked Trunk* [Short Film - Thriller/Mystery - from Flowery Branch, Georgia] - Struggling author August Bell receives a random key in the mail. After going on a hunt, he finds a lost trunk in the woods. Will his key open it? And what may lie inside?

1800: *Chameleon* [Short Film - Drama - from Woodstock, Georgia] - When a seasoned therapist (Modlish) and his struggling client (Chunn) begin meeting, their lives start to change in unexpected ways.

1820: *Moonlight Sonata, with Scissors* [Short Film - Thriller - from Tucker, Georgia] - A reluctant young woman agrees to help a former criminal associate dispose of a dead body with unexpected results.

1830: *The Story of the 5/18 Gwangju Uprising*

[Documentary Film from Korea] - In 1980, hope for Democracy came to Korea, in the "Spring of Seoul. However, on May 18 this hope was brutally trampled by a military coup - resulting in the death of over 200 people. (in English and Korean with English subtitles).

1845: *B Positive* [Short Film - Drama - from Atlanta, Georgia] - A young girl is plagued by nightmares following a life-saving transplant.

1900: *One Night in Squatchtown* [Short Film - Comedy - from Gainesville, Georgia] - A teenage camping trip goes awry when a failed Bigfoot prank results in an accidental concussion.

1930: *The Dock* [*World Premiere* Short Film from Marietta, Georgia] - After running into his mother, who abandoned him at a young age, a recovering alcoholic tries to reconnect with her while struggling to overcome his addiction as a result of childhood trauma.

2000: *Bo Legs: Marvin Arrington, Sr – An Atlanta Story* [Documentary from Atlanta, Georgia] - Marvin Arrington, Sr. is one of Atlanta's most significant, yet one of its least recognized, political leaders. Born in Atlanta, then a segregated, provincial town of the Deep South Arrington grew up to help galvanize the city of his birth into the international, cosmopolitan metropolis that it is today. This documentary takes viewers on the journey of one man's love for a city and his visionary work for its eventual transformation. Battling through the blows of racism and meshing with political opponents over the years Marvin "Bo Legs" Arrington not only found his way but made his mark in civic duty and social justice. By telling his story this film tells the story of Atlanta. The people who worked with Arrington and knew him best help narrate this seminal figure's storied impact in public service to a modern Atlanta community. No other person's biography parallels so harmoniously with the successful growth of the city of Atlanta than Marvin Arrington, Sr.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

1200: *A Christmas Chance* [*World Premiere Short Film - Drama - from Atlanta, Georgia*] - It's Christmas in a small town. Candace has given up on the holidays when a Christmas party hosted by Tony sparks an interest. Will these two people who knew each other from high school find a connection? Will they learn to enjoy the holidays again?

1215: *An American Sunset* [*World Premiere Short Film - Crime Drama - from Marietta, Georgia*] - It's July 25, 2002 - a year prior to the passing of Mamie Till and the birthday of Emmett Till. Rev. Wheeler Parker, Jr., cousin and last living witness, accounts the day before the abduction and lynching of Emmett Till that not only a boy was lost in the midst of tragedy but a friend and a young man beyond his years.

1230: *YABÁ* [Short Film - Drama - from Portugal] - In a fishing village whose ancestors came from Africa, enslaved, ancient ancestral beliefs and cults remain. Neide (Jari Nass) is a former resident looking for ways to save her business, threatened by the decline of fish due to the oil spill in the region. The relations between the old forms of fishing work and their beliefs are contrasted with the need for collective work. (in Portuguese with English subtitles)

1245: *While We Are Here* [Short Film from the United States] - During WWII, a stubborn spirited girl finds the pitfalls of judging by first appearances when her family's ration book goes missing.

1300: *Manufactured Luck* [Short Film - Family Drama from Powell, Tennessee] - *Manufactured Luck* dives into the day-to-day life of a young Appalachian girl and her grandfather as the two attempt to win a bike in a local grocery store sweepstakes. *Manufactured Luck* follows Ash and her grandfather Jim as the two introverts from vastly different generations try to bond. A semi-successful local "sweeper", Jim spends most of his retired life entering local grocery store sweepstakes, radio contests, and the occasional church raffle. To Ash, Jim is ancient. Someone who she doesn't really understand, and someone with who she has little in common. The two are able to bridge the gap between their generations when Ash notices a sweepstakes display with a new bike at a local supermarket. Jim, seeing this as possibly his last chance to connect with his granddaughter, works diligently to win the bike. However, what they both learn, is that the connection they've made in the last days of Jim's life is far more valuable than any bike or contest could ever be.

1320: *Canton Abbey* [Short Film - Comedy - from Marietta, Georgia] - A Household Comedy about a "Hollywood of the South" Producer's wife who has had a lifelong obsession with everything British and period dramas on BBC TV. He surprises her by hiring a British Butler, Cook and Ladies Maid to help live her fantasy. Everyone quickly realizes there are many differences and comedic similarities with living with folks from across the pond. Filmed in Georgia with British parts.

1330: *Nonna* [Short Film - Drama - from Lugo, Spain] - Set in Spain two weeks after the alarm state began due to covid-19, Mercedes, an 80-year-old-woman, continues to live confined, alone in her home. One night, she has an accident slipping in the shower. Despite all her efforts to try and reach her family asking for help, they in turn will have a tough time trying to help her soon enough.

1350: *Gummy* [*World Premiere* Short Film - Student/Comedy from Georgia] - After cops discover that she has eaten a mysterious gummy, Elora must dodge the law as the world around her becomes... weird.

1400: *Unfriending* [Feature Film - Dark Comedy/Drama - from Toronto, Canada] - Blake and his girlfriend, Simone, host a dinner party at Blake's parents home for their closest friends, including Blake's oldest friend, Isaac. The dinner party is actually a set up for a life intervention for Isaac, where the friend group tells him all the reasons he has become a burden to them and society in general, and that he should really just kill himself already. This black comedy is a razor-sharp satire on cancel culture and the me generation in general.

1515: *Price Realized* [*World Premiere* Short Film - Drama/Science Fiction/Speculative Fiction - from Pittsboro, North Carolina] - Bored with traditional paintings and sculptures, the rich buy and sell preserved bodies for their art collections. When a striking body goes up for auction, his widow must navigate the characters of high society to reclaim her husband's remains.

1530: *Sweet Star Grief* [Short Film - LGBTQ/Drama/Transgender/Love Story - from Cumming, Georgia] - Sweet Star Grief is a dramatic transgender love story between two childhood best friends reunited by circumstance. Nick is a recently widowed father of a young daughter, and Jodi is a transgender woman who has returned home to care for her elderly mother who has severe dementia.

1600: *Coup de Grâce* [Short Film - Drama - from Marietta, Georgia] - An elderly couple, stuck in a monotonous cycle at an assisted living facility, decide to "feel alive" one last time by sticking up their local bingo night.

1615: *Passion* [Documentary Film from Tyre, Lebanon] - A short documentary showing the rehabilitation process of Rivoli Cinema by young volunteers, bringing it back to life after being closed for 30 years. (in Arabic with English subtitles)

1630: *Look Up!* [Documentary Film from Nashville, Tennessee] - The Factory at Franklin was left for dead - and about to be exploded for a movie effects company. Local businessman and metaphysical man of action Calvin LeHew stepped in, sacrificed everything he had ever worked for to save it - and created a space for new art, while keeping community memories alive - passing the torch of creativity to the next generation.

1700: *The Bunker* [Short Film - Thriller - from Atlanta, Georgia] - A man wakes up in a bunker, unsure of how he got there. As he learns more about his situation, he realizes it's much worse than he ever could have imagined and that Hope can be a dangerous thing.

1735: *Petty* [Short Film from Georgia] A man visits his ex-girlfriend and discovers what's changed, for better or worse.

1810: *Consent* [Short Film from Atlanta, Georgia] A bitter, newly divorced ex-wife is forced to navigate the boundaries of her new life as the resistant owner of her ex-husband's dog.

1830: *Lizards for Girls, Turtles for Boys* [Short Film from Atlanta, Georgia] A young woman's dream leads her to an abandoned home and a surprise meeting with her absentee brother and a nefarious collector.

1845: *Reflections* [Short Film from Canton, Georgia] - Public bathrooms can be dirty, dark, or dangerous; sometimes all three. Really needing to pee, Tyler, finds out in the worse way when he has to decide between a dirty bathroom or a dark bathroom.

1855: *The Light of Pip* [Short Film from Atlanta, Georgia] An 8-year-old girl named Pip befriends lonely, homeless Mr. Jesse and presents salvation at just the right time.

1910: *Code Boys* [Short Film - Sci-Fi/Drama from Canton, Georgia] With the clock ticking, two hacker boys must penetrate an unforgiving database before the whole system busts.

1915: *The Other Side* [Short Film from Atlanta Georgia] Two close friends find themselves in a world of guilt and isolation after a fatal car crash that is until they find the portal that brings everything together.

1930: *Jesse's Gift* [Feature Film - Drama - from Atlanta, Georgia] A washed-up musician, on the brink of losing everything that matters, finds new hope from the gift of a dying father.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

1000: *Night Voices* [Short Film - Psychological Thriller/Drama - from Landisville, Pennsylvania] - A jaded talk radio host in a cycle of hopeless and demoralizing monotony makes a life-altering decision while on-air.

1030: *Disconnected* [Short Film from Savannah Georgia] - A young man goes hiking to get away from it all shortly after he lost his father. An accident on the trail causes a significant shift in his life. He just doesn't want his mother to disconnect him.

1100: *Uncle Ivan* [Short Film - Drama/Thriller - from Suwanee, Georgia] - When one girl loses everything she has to the hands of a stranger, she must choose to become an avenger under the influence of her uncle or to maintain her innocence.

1115: *Thanks for Coming* [World Premiere Short Film - Comedy/Thriller - from Madison, Alabama] - A group of friends reunite a year after their friend's death to celebrate her life. What was expected to be a celebration turns into a party gone awry where secrets are revealed.

1130: *The Dwell Hotel* [Short Film - Drama - from Chattanooga, Tennessee] - Penny, a young vivacious aspiring dancer, works as a bellhop/clerk at a forgotten retro hotel. She encounters an elitist guest whose questionable past takes Penny down a rabbit hole of chaos. This forces Penny to examine her future and herself.

1200: PRESENTATION – “The Actor’s Journey” (with Jeff Rose and Alpha Trivette) [Main Theater]

1300: *Jubowski* [Feature Film - Coming of Age/Comedy/Drama - from the United States] - Chaz Jubowski and Wen Benson have known each other for years and have stuck by one another through thick and thin. Now, during their senior year of high school, Chaz is ready to coast through until graduation. However, Wen's motivation to make a student film before graduation and involve most of their school's student body throws a curveball into Chaz's plans.

1500: Breakout Session – “Sit and Chat with the Casting Director” (with Brandon Suave – Stilwell Casting) [Second Floor Lounge]

1500: *Fetal Position* [Short Film - Sci-Fi/Comedy/Horror - from Stockbridge, Georgia] - A man tries to abort his alien pregnancy, in violation of the pro-life "Heartbeat Bill.

1510: *The Sprayer* [Short Film - Animation/Drama - from Tehran, Iran] - In the land occupied with the sprayers army, no one has the right to grow any kind of plants either in public or private. So many of the people and soldiers do not even know how dose a plant grows or look like, until one day one of the soldiers finds a seed buried deep down in the dust and his curiosity is just the beginning of something extraordinary, something big, something revolutionary. (in Persian with English subtitles)

1520: *Pizza Time!* [Short Film - Comedy/Suspense - from Marietta, Georgia] - A mob boss has a normal day at the office, but when a pizza girl unexpectedly comes bearing the gift of cheese, his whole world gets flipped on its head.

1530: *The Gouda News* [Short Film - Comedy - from Savannah, Georgia] - A little girl in efforts to sell cheese for a school fundraiser stumbles upon an ingenious marketing approach.

1540: *Around Again* [Short Film - Drama - from the England] - A family flee for their lives in wartime France.

1550: *The Loop* [*World Premiere* Short Film - Drama/Mystery/Suspense/Action - from Grapeland, Texas] - Imagine a situation where every day you wake up, you see the prior day's versions of you doing what you did the days before. Each day you see an additional version of yourself. And no matter what you do, they always seem to randomly appear and disappear. That's the exact thing that happens with our main protagonist.

1620: *Progression* [Short Film - Drama/Dance/Experimental - from Cumming, Georgia] - A man mourning the death of the love of his life is trying to move forward but is haunted by her memory.

1630: *Junko* [Short Film - Drama - from Kathmandu, Nepal] - A newlywed girl is left to live with her mother when her husband leaves to find work in India. He gives her a mobile phone as he departs, and this is to be the sole method of communication between the couple. She waits patiently for her husband to call, but it is in vain. As days pass, longingness turns to loneliness, then resignation to resolve. The girl and her mother ultimately find solace in each other in this affecting film about solitude, abandonment, and self-actualization. (in Nepali with English subtitles)

1645: *The 4 of Us* [*World Premiere* Short Film - Psychological Thriller/Horror - from New York, New York] - A relationship is threatened when inner-egos emerge as shapeshifting apparitions.

1700: PRESENTATION – “**What Every Actor Needs to Know to Succeed in This Industry**” (with Two-Time Emmy Award-Winning Actor Gregory Alan Williams) [Main Theater]

1800: *Xpendable* [Short Film - Film Noir - from Medford, Oregon] - 1957. Two crime organizations. Two people sent in to avert a war. Who will walk away?

1830: *Whiskey Sour* [*World Premiere* Short Film from Elberton, Georgia] - Three siblings lose their grandmother's ashes after an estate sale and have to find them before the funeral.

1845: *Bleached* [*World Premiere* Short Film - Drama/SciFi - from Marietta, Georgia] - In a world where the government requires clothes to be bleached white for safety a man discovers a burned book which shows him history has repeated itself.

1900: *Reunion* [*World Premiere* Feature Film - Thriller - from Atlanta, Georgia] - Vanessa James things a charming old stranger may hold the key to her husband's secret past. Instead, she comes face to face with pure evil and the greatest terror imaginable.

2030: *The Duppy Man's Walk* [*World Premiere* Short Film - Drama - from Atlanta, Georgia] - Upon failing to show proper respects at the edge of a mysterious marsh, two young men pay a horrific price for their encroachment, when a restless entity makes its displeasure known. Following the 1920's disappearance and assumed murder of Dirty Nat's Father, he and his family were forced from their rural homestead. Now almost a century later, Nat has managed to orchestrate the reunification of the family's land. He recruits his Great Nephew Vallon and his friend Byron to help him piece together the remains of his father's fledgling black community, burned down during the racial animus of the Post Reconstruction South. Vallon, after being warned by his Great Uncle “Dirty Nat”, to pay his proper respects at a centuries old Hanging Tree before entering a mysterious marsh, finds himself on the wrong side of history. Vallon, In

brushing it off as superstition he is seen as a trespasser and incurs the wrath of a restless spirit known as the Duppy Man. Vallon becomes psychically attached and possessed by the Entity and must be rescued by his friend Byron and flee the marsh before Sundown or incur the full wrath of the protective spirit.

1530: *Forgotten Song* [Short Film from Warsaw, Poland] - A young boy comes to the Friendship Settlement, where the Soviet builders of the Palace of Culture and Science lived in the 1950s, in search of accommodation for his grandparents from Ukraine. Here he meets a girl singing in the choir, who becomes his guide. Seemingly, it is a story about love that cannot happen because of the war in Ukraine, but more deeply it is a story about finding your identity. Music is an integral part of the film. It is not only the background of the events narrated in the film, but its equal protagonist. (in Polish with English Subtitles)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

1000: *Sunday, Sunday, Sunday* [Feature Film - Slice of Life/Action/Sports - from Valley Stream, New York] - Two brothers inherit a 67 Dodge Dart and go drag racing. Shot on an iPhone this story is about overcoming obstacles on the track and in life. Being the slowest car at the track the brothers do whatever they have to, to win. (Entire film was shot on an iPhone)

1200: PRESENTATION – “PRODUCERS PANEL” (a panel of experienced producers from the Producers Guild of America will discuss a variety of topics of interest to indie filmmakers) [Main Theater]

1300: *ALIVE: Inside the Paradox* [Short Film - Sci-Fi/Drama - from Waxhaw, North Carolina] - Robotic repairman, FRED-187, discovers a defect in the programming of pleasure droid, HOLLY-813.

1315: *A Country Funeral* [Short Film from Savannah, Georgia] - An aging woman seems to be losing her mind. She only wants her family to take care of her dogs. No one has seen any dogs. They later discover her brilliant secret.

1330: *The Great Panic of 1999* [Short Film - Comedy - from Atlanta, Georgia] - The clock is ticking on December 31, 1999, as a group of high school seniors gather in their doomsday shelter to watch the world explode.

1345: *Nur and Abir* [Short Film - Drama/Comedy/Romance - from Madrid, Spain] - This summer is special, Abir is finally going to the beach thanks to her friend Nur, and behind the back of her dictatorial parents. Together they have come up with a plan to fulfill their dream of swimming together in the sea. (in Arabic with English subtitles)

1400: *Edgar, Evicted* [Short Film from the United States] - After being kicked out of their house by his son, an aging retiree sets out to make a new home for himself before his oxygen tank expires.

1430: *Bouncing Baack: The Eric Highsmith Story* [Documentary from Marietta, Georgia] - After a near fatal accident a college track star loses everything, only to bounce back in a most unexpected way. His journey to recovery is one of the greatest stories of redemption in all of sports... and life!

1500: *Breakout Session – “Sit and Chat with the Casting Director”* (with Brian Beegle – Brian Beegle Casting) [Second Floor Lounge]

1500: *Cage: Between Two Battles* Cage is the story of the transformation of a nationalist and macho man, defeated by the system, trying to heal the traumas of the war in his soul with other wounds, in the graveyard of the orphans, against the backdrop of a misty, cold and poor Istanbul. (in Turkish with English Subtitles)

1630: *Baseball with Dad* [Short Film - Coming of Age - from Knoxville, Tennessee] - A misguided father forces his unwilling son to spend a day with him learning to play the family pastime of baseball. A tradition that goes back further than he could ever imagine. With the help of an old family bat, both sides learn more about each other and what a relationship means between a father and son.

1645: *One Last Drink* [Short Film - Drama - from Asheville, North Carolina] After running into his mother that abandoned him at a young age, a recovering alcoholic tries to reconnect with her while struggling to overcome his addiction as a result of childhood trauma.

1700: *The Librarian* [*World Premiere* Short Film - Drama - from Turkey] - Mazhar, who works in a library and is so fond of books and languages that he knows the location of all the books in the library by heart, lives alone with his parrot, but cannot be at work on time the next morning because he reads until late. Determined to read even the poet Federico Garcia Lorca in Spanish, Mazhar feels “stuck” by the arabesque culture around him and the discomfort created by the Arabic signs and another language that has entered his life. There is another person who will listen to the character of Mazhar, who cannot tell his troubles to anyone and is alienated, and who is shaken by the tragic news of the refugees he encounters in the media, and that is the other Mazhar who often comes across him. After losing his job, he will not only look for a new job, but will make an inner journey that he will not say ‘yes’ to the result, but that he must accept involuntarily. (in Turkish with English subtitles)

1730: *The Fox* [World Premiere Short Film - Drama - from Woodstock, Georgia] - Two political parties emerged and overthrew the current government. The parties were The Vulpes (represented by a fox) and The Falx (represented by a falcon). Every citizen is forced to align with one party -- neutrality is not an option. The two sides continue to wage war against each other, with the founding beliefs of each party long forgotten. In order to survive and help each other, two women hide which side they are aligned to as they cautiously began to trust each other.

1745: *Zero Day* [Short Film - Suspense/Comedy - from Atlanta, Georgia] - Jay's "Days Since Last Oopsie" counter remains at 0 after he drunkenly runs over a man.



1800: 24 Hour Film Race 2023 Films

(These films were written, filmed edited and submitted in only 24-hours as part of an International Filmmaking Competition called “Film Racing”)

Local Non-Finalist Films

- **Dig**
- **El Chamaquito**
- **Electronically Naked**
- **Haunted House Walkthrough**
- **Limitedly Executed**
- **The Neighbor**
- **You’re Gonna Love It Here**

Top Ten International Finalist Films

- **A Final Session**
- **Escape Way**
- **Flicker**
- **How to Escape Heartache**
- **Jane**
- **Learning**
- **Out**
- **Rapture**
- **Red Flags**
- **Window of Opportunity**

2000: AWARDS PROGRAM



PLACES TO EAT ON MARIETTA SQUARE

Australian Bakery Cafe

48 South Park Square

Boru Ramen Noodle and Poke

154 Roswell St NE

Cool Beans Coffee Roasters

31 Mill St

Douceur de France (French bakery)

South Marietta Pkwy SW

House of Lu Chinese & Vietnamese

89 Cherokee St NE

Johnnie MacCracken's Celtic Pub

15 Atlanta St SE

Kiosco (Columbian)

48 Powder Springs St

L On North

113 N Park Square

La Parrilla Mexican Restaurant

29 South Marietta Parkway SW

Mac's Chophouse

19 N Park Square

Marietta Pizza Company

3 Whitlock Ave SW

Marietta Square Market

Miss Mamie's Cupcake Bakery

156 Roswell St SE

Mojitos Cuban-American Bistro

29 West Park Square

Paul's Pot Pies (formerly

Traveling Fare)

10 Mill St NE

Piastra (Italian)

45 W. Park Sq

Pie Bar

60 Powder Springs St

Sara Jean's Ice Cream

109 N Park Sq

Sessions Stand

380 Sessions Street NW

Silla del Toro

30 South Park Square NE

Spring

90 Marietta Station Walk

Still on the Square

29 West Park Square

Stockyard Burgers & Bones

26 Mill St

Sugar Cakes Patisserie (French bakery)

101 North Park Square

Sweettreats (dessert bakery)

134 S Park Sq NE

Taqueria Tsunami (Latin-Asian fusion)

70 South Park Square

Thaicoon and Sushi Bar (Thai and sushi)

34 Mill Street

The Frozen Goose

34 Powder Springs Street

The Marietta Local (Gastropub)

148 Roswell Street

Two Birds Taphouse (Gastropub)

52 Powder Springs Street

WR Social House (new American)

25 N Park Sq NE, Marietta, GA
30060

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