



UNAFF (UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL) SCREENS AT ROXIE THEATRE, SAN FRANCISCO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Four Documentaries, with Filmmakers and Musical Performance by the Legendary Rock Group FANNY, The First All-Women Rock Band with LP on Major Record Label, Make the Roxie a Highlight of the 24th Annual Documentary Film Event

The 24th United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF) program in San Francisco, hosted at the Roxie Theatre, is announced, with tickets on sale. After having a virtual festival last year because of COVID-19, UNAFF organizers are happy to hold the film festival in-person again. Considering the safety of our community UNAFF is requiring all attendees, guests, panelists, staff and volunteers to be fully vaccinated or tested and wear masks at all times. Additionally, the festival staff will scan temperatures at the door, provide sanitizers and spare masks, while moving all receptions outdoors.

This year's theme MOVING FORWARD continues UNAFF's two-decade-long celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, emphasizing our readiness to resume resolute strides towards lasting solutions. UNAFF 2021 will be held in total over eleven days, October 21-31, presenting 60 documentaries, in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Stanford University, and San Francisco. The film programs are announced and online, with tickets on sale, at <http://www.unaff.org/2021/films.html>.

United Nations Association Film Festival at the Roxie

Roxie Theater, 3117 16th Street, San Francisco

Tickets: \$13 per film, and \$20 for all four films, at <https://bit.ly/unaffroxie>

For more information: www.unaff.org

Press photos are available at <http://www.unaff.org/2021/press.html>

Wednesday, October 27

6:30 PM THE LEAF (China/US, 4 min)

Director/Producer: Will Zang

It is a personal, poetic, documentary about director Will J. Zang's experience as both a filmmaker and a gay immigrant during this pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic changed and destroyed everything in daily life, including filmmaking. Jobs in the art and film communities, may not be available for months or years. Will is part of the San Francisco's filmmaking community and is experiencing this dilemma. As an immigrant from China, he struggles financially as a filmmaker in the U.S. At the same time, he is uncertain about whether he could be his true authentic self, a gay man if he moves back to China. However, in the U.S., he faces the uprising of racism against immigrants, especially Asians. The film is composed of footage of

San Francisco during the pandemic with voice-overs from news clips as well as friends in China to express the filmmaker's depression.

IN PERSON: filmmaker Will Zang

6:45 PM COVISIONS: QUARANTINE DIARY (US, 7 min)

Director: Yesica Prado / Producer: Marcia Jarmel

Yesica lost her housing in San Francisco while she was a graduate student. She came to the Berkeley Marina and joined a community of vehicular residents already residing there. They created a network of support for one another, showing the empathy, resilience, and kindness present even in the face of precarious living. Prado captures these elements in her most recent work, Quarantine Diary, which she completed in collaboration with visual storytelling nonprofit Catchlight as an inaugural CatchLight Local Bay Area Fellow for the San Francisco Public Press.

IN PERSON: filmmakers Yesica Prado, Marcia Jarmel

7:10 PM THE BROTHERS (LOS HERMANOS) (Cuba/US, 84 min)

Directors: Marcia Jarmel, Ken Schneider

Virtuoso Afro-Cuban-born brothers—violinist Ilmar and pianist Aldo—live on opposite sides of a geopolitical chasm a half-century wide. Tracking their parallel lives in New York and Havana, their poignant reunion, and their momentous first performances together, Los Hermanos/The Brothers offers a nuanced, often startling view of estranged nations through the lens of music and family. Featuring an electrifying, genre-bending score, composed by Cuban Aldo López-Gavilán, performed with his American brother, Ilmar, and with guest appearances by maestro Joshua Bell and the Harlem Quartet.

IN PERSON: filmmakers Marcia Jarmel, Ken Schneider

8:50 PM FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK (Canada/US, 92 min)

Director: Bobbi Jo Hart

Sometime in the 1960s, in sunny Sacramento, two Filipina-American sisters got together with other teenage girls to play music. Little did they know their garage band would evolve into the legendary rock group Fanny, the first all-women band to release an LP with a major record label. Despite releasing 5 critically-acclaimed albums over 5 years, touring with famed bands from SLADE to CHICAGO and amassing a dedicated fan base of music legends including David Bowie, Fanny's groundbreaking impact in music was written out of history... until bandmates reunite 50 years later with a new rock record deal. The film includes interviews with Def Leppard's Joe Elliott, Bonnie Raitt, The Go-Go's Kathy Valentine, Todd Rundgren, The Runaways' Cherie Currie, Lovin' Spoonful's John Sebastian, The B52's Kate Pierson, Charles Neville and David Bowie guitarist and bassist Earl Slick and Gail Ann Dorsey. Fighting early barriers of race, gender and sexuality in the music industry, and now ageism, the incredible women of Fanny are ready to claim their hallowed place in the halls of rock 'n' roll fame.

IN PERSON: filmmaker Bobbi Jo Hart and film subjects Brie Darling and Ruby Ibarra
MUSICAL PERFORMANCE: by Fanny band member [Brie Darling](#) joined by Bay Area rapper & spoken word artist [Ruby Ibarra](#), in a special intergenerational collaboration of Filipina American artists.

For the full program, press material, photos and other details visit www.unaff.org

The award-winning United Nations Association Film Festival has grown to be one of the oldest and most respected documentary film festivals in the United States. UNAFF was originally conceived to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was founded by Stanford educator and film critic Jasmina Bojic. In addition to providing early outlets for films, many of which have gone on to win major awards and accolades, UNAFF takes pride in creating a community forum for discovery and dialogue about different cultures, social issues and solutions. Over the years UNAFF has screened some of the most awarded and talked about documentaries in the industry, including eight that went on to win Academy Awards and thirty two that were nominated. In 2014 the ICFT (International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication of UNESCO) presented the UNESCO Fellini Medal to Jasmina Bojic, Founder and Executive Director of UNAFF, in recognition of her exceptional contribution in promoting the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through the art of documentary film.

UNAFF's mission has expanded to broad, year-round programs that augment its reach. In addition to the annual film festival, UNAFF organizes panel discussions, initiates programs that engage children, students, seniors, veterans, hosts a traveling festival which keeps the films alive well beyond their initial festival showings and opens its doors to documentary film students and researchers.