

# Virginia Film Festival

## Films of 2021

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### **9/11: Inside the President's War Room**

Culbreth Theatre

**Friday, October 29 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

This insightful documentary explores the hours immediately after the attacks on 9/11 from the angle of President George W. Bush and those around him. Featuring never-before-seen footage and interviews with the former President as well as other members of the Bush administration including Dick Cheney, Condoleezza Rice, and Karl Rove, *9/11: Inside the President's War Room* is a relevant look into how governments respond to crises. **Discussion with Former White House Chief of Staff Andy Card and Former Deputy Chief of Staff Karl Rove (via live video conference) as well as former White House Correspondent for ABC News Ann Compton, moderated by Director and CEO of the Miller Center William Antholis** Supported by The Miller Center

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### **A Choice of Weapons: Inspired by Gordon Parks**

Culbreth Theatre

**Thursday, October 28 3:45 pm - 5:30 pm**

*A Choice of Weapons: Inspired by Gordon Parks* follows the life of filmmaker and photographer Gordon Parks alongside the advancements in racial, social, and economic equality happening through history. A polymath who directed major films like *Shaft* and was one of the pioneers of the "Blaxploitation" genre, he is best remembered for his portraits of Black Americans experiencing the trials of everyday life. Parks inspired a generation of photographers, filmmakers, and activists—many of whom are featuring in the film. This documentary is an inspirational story about a man who used a camera to change the world and advocate for social justice. **Introduction by John Edwin Mason (UVA) Presented by United Way of Greater Charlottesville Presented by Charlottesville Radio Group** Supported by WarnerMedia and Verizon

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# A Critical Eye Panel

Violet Crown 5

**Saturday, October 30 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm**

Join nationally recognized journalists and film critics for a discussion on the current state of film criticism. Panelists will include the following leading critics and will be moderated by Jack Hamilton (UVA)

- **Carlos Aguilar:** Originally from Mexico City, Carlos Aguilar was chosen as one of six young film critics to partake in the first Roger Ebert Fellowship organized by RogerEbert.com, the Sundance Institute and *Indiewire* in 2014. Aguilar's work has appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Variety*, *The New York Times*, *The Wrap*, *Indiewire*, *Vulture*, *RogerEbert.com*, *MovieMaker Magazine*, *Remezcla*, *Filmmaker Magazine*, *Slate*, *Bustle*, *Americas Quarterly*, among others. He is a member of the Los Angeles Film Critics Association.
- **Robert Daniels:** Robert Daniels is a Chicago-based film critic with freelance bylines in *The New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*, as well as on *RogerEbert.com*, *Polygon*, and *The Playlist*. He has written widely about Black American pop culture and issues of representation.
- **Roxana Hadadi:** Roxana Hadadi is a film, television, and pop culture critic. She is the film editor of *Pajiba.com* and a regular contributor to *RogerEbert.com*, *Crooked Marquee*, *The A.V. Club*, *Polygon*, *Vulture*, and various other publications. She is a member of the Washington D.C. Area Film Critics Association, the Alliance of Women Film Journalists, and the Online Film Critics Society.
- **Brian Truitt:** From the biggest Star Wars movie to the weirdest Oscar-bait flick, Brian Truitt (*USA Today*) will give anything a try as he brings two decades of entertainment reporting experience to covering film, TV and the occasional YA novel.

**Supported by The Jefferson Trust This is a free, unticketed event. Please arrive fifteen to thirty minutes before the listed start time to find a seat.**

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# A Suite of Short Films by Kevin Jerome Everson

Violet Crown 5

Friday, October 29 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

From internationally renowned filmmaker and recent 24th Heinz Award in the Arts and Humanities recipient Kevin Everson comes a selection of short films that combines historical observations with contemporary, socially-relevant narratives. Everson's films, richly abstracted and artfully constructed, are rare in their ability to find the extraordinary and theatrical in the ordinary and every day. This collection of films includes the following: ***Pride***, co-directed with Claudrena Harold, is about the publishing of the University of Virginia's African American newspaper in the 1990's. ***Hazel*** is a fictitious reimagining of the recording process that produced underrated guitarist Eddie Hazel's amazing ten-minute guitar solo on the title track to Funkadelic's 1971 album *Maggot Brain* – including a purposefully misleading strategy by George Clinton to bring out a Hazel's transformative performance. ***Flak-Kaserne Ludwigsburg*** was the US Army base in Germany where Pleas Everson served in the 1960s. ***Opel*** is about teenagers learning from army recruiters that it was cheaper to buy a car in Panama or West Germany and ship the car back the States than buying a car in the USA. ***May June July*** are represented with peonies, fireflies, and the year 2020. ***Rekord C***, the Opel muscle car, makes its way around and around the Olympic stadium in Berlin, Germany. ***July*** has fireflies luminating their very temporary surroundings. **Introduction by Kevin Everson (UVA). Discussion with filmmaker Kevin Everson and co-director Claudrena Harold (UVA)** This shorts package is part of the **Spotlight on Virginia Filmmaking series** presented by Virginia Film Office.

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# All My Friends Hate Me

Violet Crown 5

Sunday, October 31 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

**Preceded by the short film [The Acolyte](#).** All Pete (Tom Stourton) wants is to spend his birthday weekend with his old friends and his girlfriend, catching up, drinking, and having fun. But his relationships may not be as tight-knit as he believed, and Pete starts to think that the ribbing may not be just jokes, and the awkwardness may not be just from time spent apart. Andrew Gaynord's witty dark comedy aptly portrays the tension and social drama of friendships going sour.

**Supported by Crutchfield.**

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## Aloners

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Saturday, October 30 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm**

**Preceded by the short film [BJ's Mobile Gift Shop](#).** Jin-ah prefers to be on her own. She does her job well, but she walks to work alone, she lives alone, and she does her best to block out the world at any given moment. Her perspective shifts when her neighbor dies alone in his apartment. Now, Jin-ah must face what it is that caused her desire for loneliness in the first place. In a time when isolation has been the world's normal, *Aloners* unpacks the consequences lack of social interaction can cause, and the difficult yet rewarding experience of human connection.

**Introduction by Hyeyon Moon (UVA)** This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. **This film is part of the Korean Film Series supported by Korean Cultural Center – Washington, D.C. and UVA Korea Society. This film is also part of the Women in Film series.**

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## Beans

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Saturday, October 30 5:30 pm - 7:15 pm**

In her debut feature, Tracey Deer recounts the 1990 Oka Crisis, a 78 day land dispute between the Mohawk people and the Canadian government in Oka, Quebec, Canada through the eyes of a young Mohawk girl nicknamed Beans. This semi-autobiographical coming-of-age story gives viewers a glimpse into the struggle of finding one's identity while enduring trauma. **Introduction by Dr. Adriana Greci Green (VAFF)** This film is part of the **Indigenous Americans in Film Series presented by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. This film is also part of the Women in Film series.**

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## Belfast

Violet Crown 5

**Thursday, October 28 8:30 pm - 10:15 pm**

*Belfast*, the 2021 winner of the Toronto International Film Festival Audience Award, is set in Northern Ireland during the late 1960s, this film follows the story of Buddy (newcomer Jude Hill) as he and his family grow and change over the course of the tumultuous events of The Troubles. The latest film from acclaimed filmmaker Kenneth Branagh, this semi-autobiographical black and white film is an ode to the bonds of family. **Supported by Wegmans Food Market Inc.**

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# Blind Trust: Leaders & Followers in Times of Crisis

Violet Crown 5

**Thursday, October 28 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

*Blind Trust: Leaders & Followers in Times of Crisis* celebrates the life and work of psychiatrist and psychoanalyst Dr. Vamik Volkan, a five-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee and emeritus professor of Psychiatry at the University of Virginia, who has spent over four decades bringing enemy groups together in areas of conflict all over the world. This look into his pioneering fieldwork and peace-building missions in Europe, the Middle East, and the US sheds light on how large-group identity and shared trauma can both unite us and divide us for generations. **Discussion with subject Dr. Vamik Volkan moderated by Stephen Mull (UVA)**

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# C'mon C'mon

The Paramount Theater

**Sunday, October 31 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm**

**Preceded by the short film *Blush*.** When Johnny (Joaquin Phoenix), a burnt out radio journalist, is left to take care of his precocious young nephew Jesse (Woody Norman), they embark on a cross-country road trip as Johnny interviews children from around the country, asking them what they think the future will hold. Over the course of the road trip, both Johnny and Jesse bond and come to understand each other and their complicated relationship. *C'mon C'mon* explores family, grief, and the bonds that bring us together in this touching black and white film directed by Mike Mills. **Introduction by Provost Liz Magill (UVA) and Jody Kielbasa (VAFF) Presented by The Paramount Theater**

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# Cafe Americano

Violet Crown 4

**Saturday, October 30 9:30 pm - 11:30 pm**

*Cafe Americano* follows the story of Mikey Phillips (Alex Scheinman) as he ventures to make his first feature film. Over the course of filming, the cast and crew of the film deal with Mikey's antics, emotions, and delusions as they all struggle to get through the shoot. This witty and darkly funny mockumentary gives viewers an inside look into the difficulties and joys of a movie production. **Introduction by filmmaker Alex Scheinman**

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## Citizen Ashe

Violet Crown 5

**Saturday, October 30 6:00 pm - 7:45 pm**

*Citizen Ashe* follows legendary African American tennis player, activist, and Virginia native Arthur Ashe as he dominates in a predominantly white sport and creates a trail of activism for racial justice. Narrated by Ashe himself, the film not only gives a glimpse into Ashe's life but also offers a sociological look into the sport of tennis and the racial trauma surrounding it. **Discussion with President and CEO of United Way of Greater Charlottesville, Ravi Respeto, and Marketing Director of United Way of Greater Charlottesville, Price Thomas Presented by United Way of Greater Charlottesville**

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## Dachra

Culbreth Theatre

**Sunday, October 31 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm**

Tunisia's first horror movie, *Dachra* follows three young journalism students who venture to an isolated village to solve a gruesome criminal case that has gone cold. Over the course of their stay, they become trapped in the village and discover something far more sinister than they could have ever imagined. **Introduction by Samhita Sunya (UVA)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Middle Eastern and South Asian Sidebar supported by the UVA Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures and the UVA Department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures.*

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# Dopesick

The Paramount Theater

**Saturday, October 30 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm**

*Dopesick* weaves together multiple tales to show a broader picture of how the opioid crisis came to be. Dr. Samuel Finnix (Michael Keaton) is suspicious of a new miracle drug being pushed by a young pharmaceutical rep (Will Poulter), while a distressed Virginia mining community develops a devastating addiction. DEA agent Bridget Meyer (Rosario Dawson) is trying to fight the impending crisis from the inside. All the while, Purdue Pharma's Richard Sackler (Michael Stuhlbarg) is looking for ways to get his new drug into as many hands as possible. Inspired by a true story, *Dopesick* examines how one company triggered the worst drug epidemic in American History. The limited series takes viewers to the epicenter of America's struggle with opioid addiction in an intense ride to take down the corporate forces behind this national crisis. **Discussion with showrunner Danny Strong and author Beth Macy moderated by Ted Johnson (Deadline)** This film is part of the **Spotlight on Virginia Filmmaking series presented by Virginia Film Office. This film is also part of the American Perspectives series.** You can purchase a copy of the book by Beth Macy through the UVA Bookstore: [Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company That Addicted America](#) Our screening of *Dopesick* will be preceded by a short presentation with Virginia Film Office director Andy Edmunds honoring the three winners of the 2021 Virginia Screenwriting Competition. Over thirty years ago, the Virginia Screenwriting Competition was created to celebrate the accomplishments of Virginia writers, including past winners Vince Gilligan (*Home Fries, Breaking Bad*) and Megan Holley (*Sunshine Cleaning*), and to promote the future of filmmaking in Virginia.

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# Dracula

Drive-In at Morven

**Thursday, October 28 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

Count Dracula (Bela Lugosi) has just arrived in London with his thralls, bent on hunting down innocent victims. After turning the young Lucy Weston into a vampire, he sets his eyes on her friend Mina Seward. Unbeknownst to him, he draws the attention of Dr. Van Helsing, who decides to get rid of the count once and for all while protecting Mina. Celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, this classic horror film is a reminder of the lasting power of cinema. **This film is part of the Drive-In Movie Series presented by Morven Farm and UVA Arts: Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts.**

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# End of the Line: The Women of Standing Rock

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Sunday, October 31 11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

Set during the Standing Rock protests of 2015, this intimate documentary follows four women: Sky Roosevelt-Morris, Wašté Win Young, Phyllis Young, and LaDonna Brave Bull Allard. In the process of protesting the Dakota Access Oil Pipeline, their identities and thoughts on leadership are transformed. Featuring interviews and footage from the protests, *End of the Line* explores the rise of indigenous and feminine power during one of the great political events of the 21st century.

**Introduction by Dr. Adriana Greci Green (VAFF) Supported by Piedmont Environmental Council and UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion This film is part of the Indigenous Americans in Film Series presented by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. This film is also part of the Women in Film series.**

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## Fighter

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Sunday, October 31 1:15 pm - 3:00 pm**

*Fighter* follows Jin-ah, a North Korean refugee who is struggling to earn enough money to bring her father to South Korea. She takes a job as a cleaner at a boxing gym, where it's discovered that she is actually a decent boxer. Portraying the physical and mental fight of a woman plagued by prejudice, Jero Yun's second film is realistic, emotionally raw, and sure to pack a punch.

**Introduction by Hyeyon Moon (UVA) This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Korean Film Series supported by Korean Cultural Center – Washington, D.C. and UVA Korea Society.**

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## Flee

Culbreth Theatre

**Sunday, October 31 11:15 am - 1:00 pm**

**Preceded by the short film [There Was Nobody Here We Knew](#).** This animated documentary from Executive Producer Riz Ahmed follows the story of Amin, an Afghan man who arrived alone in Denmark when he was 16. Now 36 and on the verge of marriage, a secret from his past threatens to ruin the life he has built for himself. This innovative documentary explores a harrowing immigrant experience that remains relevant to this day. *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the LGBTQIA+ Focus series.*

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## Hive

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Saturday, October 30 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

In her first feature film, writer-director Blerta Basholli delves into the true story of Fahrije Hoti, a mother who must find a way to overcome economic hardship several years after her husband's disappearance during the Kosovo War. Hoti, who is shackled by the restraints of womanhood in a patriarchal society, decides to gather the women of the town to make and sell honey and ajvar, a roasted red pepper spread that is common in the Balkans. While her goal is merely to make enough money to survive, Hoti's actions are viewed by many, including her family members, as a revolt. Though she faces both verbal and physical attacks, Hoti is determined to persevere. This empowering tale, told in a simplistic and plain style, comments on the journey to overcoming hardship and finding power in a town rampant with misogyny and judgement. **Introduction by Ilya Tovbis (VAFF)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Women in Film series.*

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## How the Monuments Came Down

Culbreth Theatre

**Saturday, October 30 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

*How the Monuments Came Down* is a deep dive into the history of Richmond, Virginia through the lens of the confederate monuments that served as a constant reminder of the white supremacy and Black resistance that shaped the city. Directors Hannah Brown Ayers and Lance Warren speak with activists, descendants, and historians about why the monuments went up and how they came down in this poignant, timely documentary. **Introduction by President and CEO of VPM Jayme Swain, discussion with filmmakers Hannah Ayers and Lance Warren and story advisor and descendant Joseph Rogers, moderated by Dr. Andrea Douglas (Jefferson School African American Heritage Center).** *This film will be presented with Open Captions and the on stage presentations will include ASL interpretation. Presented by VPM Supported by UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion This film is part of the Spotlight on Virginia Filmmaking series presented by Virginia Film Office. This film is also part of the Women in Film series.*

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## I Don't Fire Myself

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Friday, October 29 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

Jeong-eun, a tenacious young woman, refuses to submit to her company's blatant attempts to have her quit her job. Despite being sent to work for a small subcontracting company filled with skeptical men who refuse to help her and being forced to face her fear of heights on the job, she perseveres. *I Don't Fire Myself* unpacks inequity in the workplace, and shows one woman's attempts to fight back. **Introduction by Hyeyon Moon (UVA)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Korean Film Series supported by Korean Cultural Center – Washington, D.C. and UVA Korea Society.*

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## In Front of Your Face

Violet Crown 4

**Sunday, October 31 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**

The newest film from Korean auteur Hong Sang-soo, *In Front of Your Face* follows an actress as she re-adjusts to life in Korea after moving back in with her sister. Meanwhile, a certain director has asked her to join his latest film, and at first, she refuses. After some time, she decides to meet him in downtown Seoul to discuss the project, but as rainfall begins in the city, the night takes an unexpected turn. *In Front of Your Face* is another introspective film from one of cinema's most fascinating auteurs. **Introduction by Hyeyon Moon (UVA)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Korean Film Series supported by Korean Cultural Center – Washington, D.C. and UVA Korea Society.*

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## Jockey

Violet Crown 5

**Saturday, October 30 9:00 pm - 10:45 pm**

An aging horse jockey attempts to win one last title on a championship horse, but past injuries and age make him question his future in the races. His goals are further complicated by the arrival of a rookie rider claiming to be his son. *Jockey* is a beautifully timeless tale of a man coming to grips with the realities of aging against the competitive backdrop of horse racing. **Supported by Three Notch'd Brewing Company** *This film is part of the American Perspectives series.*

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## Julia

Violet Crown 5

**Sunday, October 31 4:00 pm - 5:45 pm**

Chronicling the life of world renowned cook, author, and TV personality Julia Child, *Julia* uses never-before-seen footage to tell the inspiring tale of a woman who changed the way people think about food. Directed by Julie Cohen and Betsy West, directors of the documentary *RBG*, this is a story of how one woman brought French cooking to the world. **Supported by Westminster-Canterbury of the Blue Ridge and The Whiskey Jar** *This film is part of the Women in Film series.*

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## Jump, Darling

Violet Crown 6 & 7

Friday, October 29 8:45 pm - 10:45 pm

**Preceded by the short film [Playing the Game](#).** Russell (Thomas Duplessie), an actor who moonlights as a drag queen under the name of Fishy Falters, finds himself at personal and career crossroads and decides to move to the country to care for his grandmother Margaret, played by the late Cloris Leachman in what would be the final role of her legendary career. The move gives Russell a landing spot while protecting the steeply-declining Margaret from her biggest fear of ending up in a nursing home. He performs drag at the local dive bar, finding new friends and familiar faces in this vibrant portrayal of a family in transition. **This film is part of the LGBTQIA+ Focus series.**

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## Last Night in Soho

The Paramount Theater

Thursday, October 28 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

In the latest from acclaimed filmmaker Edgar Wright, Eloise (Thomasin McKenzie), an aspiring fashion designer, is mysteriously able to transport between the 1960s and the modern day. While in the 60s, Eloise finds herself in the body of a dazzling wannabe singer, Sandie (Anya Taylor-Joy), who inspires her designs. But eventually, the glitz and glamour of her hidden world become a dark, twisted nightmare, and the dreamworld is not all it appears to be. As Eloise starts to uncover the secrets of the past, they also begin to haunt her present. *Last Night in Soho* is filled with unexpected moments, a constantly changing plot, and secrets that can only be uncovered by viewing the whole film. **Supported by Woodard Properties**

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## Little Shop of Horrors

Drive-In at Morven

Saturday, October 30 7:00 pm - 8:45 pm

Florist Seymour Krelborn (Rick Moranis) has his life completely upended when he finds a mysterious plant he dubs Audrey II, after his longtime flower shop crush, who has an insatiable craving for blood. Seymour's star begins to rise as news of the wondrous never-before-seen plant travels. However, Audrey II begins to grow beyond Seymour's imagination, and Seymour must find a way to stop the mess he created in this classic musical celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. **This film is part of the Drive-In Movie Series presented by Morven Farm and UVA Arts: Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts.**

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## Love and Fury

Violet Crown 5

**Saturday, October 30 2:45 pm - 4:45 pm**

Following Native artists as they navigate their careers in the US and abroad, this documentary explores the immense complexities involved in understanding their own identity as Native artists while advancing Native art into a post-colonial world. Bold and personal, the film challenges both the art world and historical misrepresentations of Native people. **Virtual introduction by director Sterlin Harjo, discussion with subject Yatika Fields moderated by Dr. Adriana Greci Green (VAFF)** This film is part of the Indigenous Americans in Film Series presented by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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## Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom

Violet Crown 4

**Sunday, October 31 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Shot on solar powered batteries on location at the world's most remote school, director Pawo Choyning Dorji's heartwarming film is proof that sometimes we find what we seek in the place we least expect it. Ugyen has one more year of service to earn his teaching degree and pursue his dreams of musical stardom in Australia. When he is sent to this Himalayan outpost, the students (played by the school's real students) teach him that finding true fulfillment can be a two-way street. **Introduction by Samhita Sunya (UVA)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles.* **This film is part of the Middle Eastern and South Asian Sidebar supported by the UVA Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures and the UVA Department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures.**

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## Mass

The Paramount Theater

**Saturday, October 30 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

In the wake of a school shooting, two sets of parents gather in a church basement to try and make sense of the senseless. An intensely powerful film shot almost entirely in one room, *Mass* gives a look into the grueling attempts to move on in the wake of unspeakable tragedy. Featuring standout performances from Ann Dowd, Martha Plimpton, Jason Isaacs, and Reed Birney, Fran Kranz's directorial debut is a tragic exploration of gun violence and its lingering effects. **Introduction by Chandler Ferree (VAFF), discussion with actor Martha Plimpton, moderated by Brian Truitt (USA Today)**

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## Mayor Pete

Culbreth Theatre

**Friday, October 29 5:45 pm - 8:00 pm**

Directed by Jesse Moss (*Boys State*), this film uses unprecedented access to South Bend, Indiana mayor Pete Buttigieg, his husband Chasten, and members of their campaign team from the days before he becomes the first openly gay presidential candidate, through his historic Iowa Caucus victory and campaign, and to his joining the Biden administration as the nation's first LGBTQIA+ cabinet member. This film is a fascinating look inside one of the most intense campaign cycles of our time, and a powerful story of perseverance and politics. **Discussion with filmmaker Jesse Moss moderated by Ted Johnson (Deadline) Supported by UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion This film is part of the LGBTQIA+ Focus series.**

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## Medicine Man: The Stan Brock Story

Violet Crown 5

**Sunday, October 31 1:30 pm - 3:15 pm**

British-born Amazonian cowboy turned US TV star, Stan Brock, sacrificed everything to bring free healthcare to people in need. This timeless documentary adventure is a heart-warming tribute to the unifying power of volunteerism and an exploration of a perennial outsider's search for meaning through giving of himself, while navigating the complexity of the US healthcare crisis.

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## Memoria

Violet Crown 5

**Friday, October 29 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

When Jessica (Tilda Swinton), a Scottish woman living in Columbia, hears a loud boom that disturbs no one but herself, it sets off a series of events and questions that lead her down a path that she never intended to travel. The latest of Apichatpong Weerasethakul's beautifully crafted masterpieces, *Memoria* is a vibrant and breathtaking piece of art. **Supported by The Jefferson Theater**

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## Mending Walls

Culbreth Theatre

Thursday, October 28 6:30 pm - 8:15 pm

“Good fences make good neighbors.” - Robert Frost, *Mending Walls*. In the wake of the social unrest following George Floyd’s death, artist Hamilton Glass brings together 30 artists from different walks of life to collaborate, connect, and heal through art and storytelling. Based in Richmond, Virginia, the Mending Walls project pairs up artists of different backgrounds to complete a public art project that is meant to incite discussion not only amongst viewers but also between the artists themselves. Directed by Pam and Todd Hervey, this film follows the collaborative journey of some of the artists involved in the project and gives a glimpse into the healing process and educational growth that is taking place in the current day. **Introduction by President and CEO of VPM Jayme Swain, discussion with producer Pam Hervey, co-producer Hamilton Glass, and subject Matt Lively, moderated by Marc Cheatham (The Cheats Movement) Presented by VPM and support by UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion This film is part of the Spotlight on Virginia Filmmaking series presented by Virginia Film Office.**

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## Monkey Beach

Violet Crown 6 & 7

Sunday, October 31 9:15 pm - 11:15 pm

**Preceded by the short film [Searching for Luke](#).** *Monkey Beach* is the story of Lisa (Grave Dove), a rebellious young woman who must accept her heroic nature to save her brother Jimmy, who is lost at sea. Over the course of the journey, she encounters ghosts, Sasquatches, and Haisla cultural stories, and comes to a better understanding of her dysfunctional family. Featuring supernatural imagery and set in an Indigenous perspective rarely seen, *Monkey Beach* is an exploration of identity and family set in the Pacific Northwest. **Introduction by Dr. Adriana Greci Green (VAFF) This film is part of the Indigenous Americans in Film Series presented by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. This film is also part of the Women in Film series.**

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## Mothering Sunday

Violet Crown 5

Sunday, October 31 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

This sultry film, based on the Grahame Swift novella of the same name, pairs up-and-coming stars Odessa Young (*Assassination Nation*) and Josh O’Connor (*The Crown*) with the Academy Award-winning trio of Olivia Colman, Colin Firth, and Glenda Jackson in a bittersweet story of secret love in post WWI England. When housemaid Jane Fairchild (Odessa Young) sneaks off to see her wealthy neighbor and longtime lover (Josh O’Connor) before his wedding to another woman. Their idyllic hours together are overshadowed by recent and looming tragedies that will change both of their lives forever. **Supported by 200 South Street Inn and Jamie White Real Estate This film is part of the Women in Film series.**

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## Neighbours

Violet Crown 4

**Sunday, October 31 7:30 pm - 9:45 pm**

In a little village on the Syrian-Turkish border in the early 80s, six-year-old Sero experiences his first year in an Arab school and sees how his world is radically changed by nationalism. While his new teacher preaches hate of the Jewish enemy, Sero struggles to accept those teachings because of his long-time neighbors, a loving Jewish family. Inspired by the director's personal experience, this satirical film depicts a childhood that manages to find light moments between dictatorship and dark drama, connecting his memories of the Syrian tragedy to the present.

**Introduction by Ilya Tovbis (VAFF)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Jewish and Israeli Film Series.*

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## Not Going Quietly

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Friday, October 29 12:00 pm - 1:45 pm**

When 32-year-old activist Ady Barkan is diagnosed with ALS and given four years to live, he falls into a deep depression as he struggles to connect with his newborn son. After a chance encounter with Senator Jeff Flake goes viral, Barkan decides to dedicate the rest of his life to fighting for healthcare justice. Featuring hours of up close, powerful, and personal footage as Barkan travels across the country, *Not Going Quietly* is a testament to the power of collective action as a source of hope for the future. **Supported by Hirschler**

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## Nudo Mixteco

Violet Crown 4

**Friday, October 29 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm**

**Preceded by the short film [La Utopía de la Mariposa](#).** Three stories intertwine during a celebration in San Mateo, a village of the Mixtec Oaxaca governed by local practices and customs. The women of San Mateo deal with love, abuse, and a struggle for empowerment in a village that continues to push them down. What started as three monologues of women returning to their homes after a long time away has become a universally relatable and gut wrenching depiction of the female struggle. **Introduction by Federico Cuatlacuatl (UVA)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Women in Film and Indigeneity in Mexico series.*

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## Parallel Mothers

Violet Crown 5

**Friday, October 29 8:30 pm - 10:45 pm**

Described as “a little bundle of joy” by critics, *Parallel Mothers* is the story of two women who meet in the hospital, both about to give birth. Though they share the trait of being single mothers, their journeys up to this moment have been incredibly different. Janis, a middle-aged woman who is ecstatic to have a child, must comfort young Ana, who is traumatized and terrified of motherhood. The few words they share during this life-changing moment will create a strong link that connects them beyond their differences. Starring Aitana Sanchez-Gijon and Penélope Cruz, who was awarded Best Actress at the Venice Film Festival for her portrayal, the newest film from Academy Award-winning filmmaker Pedro Almodovar is an exploration of the different forms of motherhood. *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. Presented by Violet Crown Cinema*

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## Passing

The Paramount Theater

**Friday, October 29 5:00 pm - 6:45 pm**

*Passing* follows two mixed-race women who choose to live on opposite sides of the color line in 1920s New York. Irene (Tessa Thompson) identifies as African American and is married to a black doctor (André Holland), while Claire (Ruth Negga) “passes” as white and is married to a prejudiced white man (Alexander Skarsgård). Though they were friends in high school, their differing lives and social circles as adults reveal a jarring dissonance that threatens both of their carefully constructed realities. Based on the 1929 novel of the same name, *Passing* is a sensitive and compelling piece that serves as Rebecca Hall’s directorial debut. This film navigates questions of race, identity, and freedom in the 20s in a way that is still deeply relevant to audiences 92 years later. **Introduction by Sandhya Shukla (UVA).** *This film will be presented with Open Captions and the on stage presentations will include ASL interpretation. This film is part of the Women in Film series.* You can purchase a copy of the book by Nella Larsen through the UVA Bookstore: [Passing](#)

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## Persian Lessons

Violet Crown 4

**Saturday, October 30 4:00 pm - 6:15 pm**

An unconventional friendship grows between the German chef of a concentration camp kitchen and a young Belgian Jew, Gilles, who falsely claims to be Persian in order to survive a mass shooting and is now obliged to teach the chef a language he only pretends to know in order to survive. **Introduction by Ilya Tovbis (VAFF)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Jewish and Israeli Film Series.*

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## Petite Maman

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Saturday, October 30 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm**

After the death of her grandmother, eight-year-old Nelly joins her parents in taking stock of her grandmother's home. While exploring the surrounding woods, she meets a girl her age building a treehouse. As the girls' friendship quickly blossoms, their similarities become more apparent, merging events of the past with those of the present and future. This coming-of-age fantasy walks the line between a ghost story and a family tale with precision and joy. Created by the internationally acclaimed writer/director of *Portrait of a Lady on Fire*, *Petite Maman* weaves together grief, life transitions, and childhood wonder in this tender story of intergenerational connection. *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles. This film is part of the Women in Film series.*

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## Red Rocket

Culbreth Theatre

**Saturday, October 30 9:30 pm - 11:45 pm**

Mikey Davies, aka "Mikey Saber," is a washed up adult film star who is forced to move back to his small hometown in Texas that he thought he'd escaped for good. Hoping to find his next big break by convincing a young, pretty local woman to work with him in the industry, Mikey's unique blend of charisma and sleaziness shines throughout the course of the film. The newest film from Sean Baker, director of *Tangerine* and *The Florida Project*, is a darkly funny, raw, and humane portrait of a uniquely American hustler and a hometown that barely tolerates him. **Introduction by Chandler Ferrebee (VAFF) This film is part of the American Perspectives series.**

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## Scream

Drive-In at Morven

**Friday, October 29 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

A year after her mother's death, Sidney Prescott (Neve Campell) and her friends are terrorized by a killer who uses horror film trivia as part of a deadly game. As teenagers in the town are killed, Sidney attempts to connect the clues between this killer and her mother's murderer. Clever and humorous, this horror classic takes the stereotypes of the genre and satirizes them, paying tribute to past films while turning them on their heads. **This film is part of the Drive-In Movie Series presented by Morven Farm and UVA Arts: Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts.**

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## Short Films: Being Human

Violet Crown 6 & 7

Friday, October 29 2:45 pm - 4:30 pm

Curated by our guest programmer, Joe Fab, this collection of shorts includes: [Calf Rope](#), [Feeling Through](#), [Weep Not](#), and [When We Were Bullies](#). Introduction by Joe Fab (VAFF)

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## Short Films: Facing Reality

Violet Crown 6 & 7

Thursday, October 28 4:00 pm - 5:45 pm

Curated by our guest programmer, Joe Fab, this collection of shorts includes: [Full Picture](#); ["Hello," We Lied](#); [Saving Juliette](#); and [Still Home](#). Introduced by Joe Fab (VAFF)

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## Socks on Fire

Violet Crown 5

Thursday, October 28 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

*Socks on Fire* follows filmmaker Bo McGuire as he returns to his hometown of Hokes Bluff, Alabama to find that his Aunt Sharon—his favorite childhood relative—had locked her gay, drag-queen brother, his Uncle John, out of the family home. Through a series of stylized reenactments spun in with family VHS footage, *Socks on Fire* documents the fluidity of identity, personality and performance in his hometown among his kin and the many women who have been a force in Bo's life. **Discussion with filmmaker Bo McGuire, moderated by Chandler Ferrebee (VAFF)**  
**Supported by IX Art Park This film is part of the LGBTQIA+ Focus and America Perspectives series.**

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## Spencer

The Paramount Theater

Friday, October 29 8:30 pm - 10:30 pm

During her Christmas holidays with the royal family at the Sandringham estate in Norfolk, England, Princess Diana reexamines her marriage with Prince Charles and wrestles with the decision to leave the royal family for good. Featuring Kristen Stewart as Diana Spencer, this biographical film is an introspective reimagining of how a woman decides, somehow, not to be the queen over the course of three fateful days in history. With stunning cinematography and a gorgeous backdrop, this film is an expressionistic, intimate examination of one of the 20th century's most iconic figures. **Introduction by Jody Kielbasa (VAFF) Presented by UVA Gamma Knife Center**

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## Stay Prayed Up

Culbreth Theatre

**Saturday, October 30 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

*Stay Prayed Up* is a foot-stomping, soul-stirring documentary that follows the Branchettes, a legendary North Carolina gospel group led by the force of nature that is Lena Mae “Sister” Perry. Now in her 50th year as bandleader, Perry and her group have packed churches and lifted hearts throughout the South and as far away as Ireland. The film follows the Branchettes as they record their first, fully live album, a hallmark in the canon of Black gospel groups. Producer Phil Cook, a white Wisconsin-born gospel enthusiast half Perry’s age is eager to capture the spirit of the group, particularly given healthy concerns with longtime and long-fingered pianist Wilbur Tharpe. A film full of shared prayer, laughter, friendship, love and soaring voices, *Stay Prayed Up* is a testament to the fact that music, and faith, are nothing without the fire that fuels them. **Discussion with Mother Lena Mae Perry, producer Phil Cook, and filmmakers Matt Durning and D.L. Anderson, moderated by Joe Fab (VAFF). Supported by UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

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## Storm Lake

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Thursday, October 28 9:00 pm - 10:30 pm**

In the small town of Storm Lake, Iowa, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Art Cullen and his family run the only local newspaper, *The Storm Lake Times*. A liberal voice in a conservative county, Cullen and his family struggle to keep their 3,000 readers, as they contend with high costs and a reader base that might be find it more convenient to read their social media feed. A tender and timely documentary, *Storm Lake* is an ode to local journalism, the power of the truth, and the small communities that make up the United States. **Presented by The Daily Progress This film is part of the Women in Film and American Perspectives series.**

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# Sudanese Film Group Shorts

Violet Crown 4

Friday, October 29 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

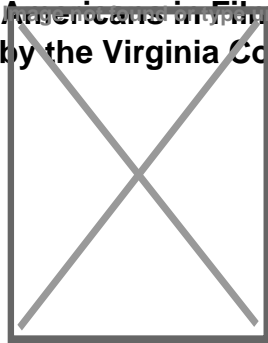
During the 1970s and 1980s, as a myriad religious and political factions waged an endless civilwar in Sudan, a group of filmmakers banded together to make a series of compelling short films. This program of eight shorts shines a light on a forgotten chapter of film history. ***Afrika, Dzungli, Baraban I Revoljucija (Africa, The Jungle, Drums, and Revolution)*** 1979. USSR. 12 min. Director: Suliman Elnour. Suliman Mohamed Ibrahim Elnour's diploma film from VGIK in Moscow, explores representations of Africa in Soviet society. ***Wa Lakin Alardh Tador (It Still Rotates)*** 1978. USSR. 18 min. Director: Suliman Elnour. Suliman Elnour's graduation film depicts everyday life in 1978 at a school in Yemen. ***Al Dhareeh (The Tomb)*** 1977. Egypt. 16 min. Director: Eltayeb Mahdi. *Al Dhareeh* tells the story of a man who claims to be able to heal people. ***Al Mahatta (The Station)*** 1989. Sudan. 15 min. Director: Eltayeb Mahdi. Set in Sudan in the late 1980s, where people cross the desert on foot or cover long distances by car and truck, this film shows encounters at one of the large crossroads between the central capital, Khartoum, and Bur Sudan on the Red Sea. ***Arba'a Marat Lil Atfal (Four Times For Children)*** 1979. Sudan. 20 min. Director: Eltayeb Mahdi. *Arba'a Marat Lil Atfal* depicts the everyday life of children in facilities and schools for children with physical and mental disabilities. ***Al Habil (The Rope)*** 1985. Sudan. 31 min. Director: Ibrahim Shaddad. Two blind men make their way through the desert accompanied by a donkey. Connected by a rope, sometimes the two men decide the way, and sometimes the donkey leads them. ***Jamal (A Camel)*** 1981. Sudan. 13 min. Director: Ibrahim Shaddad. A report from the life of a camel, most of which plays out in the dreary, small setting of a sesame mill. ***Jagdpartie (Hunting Party)*** 1964. East Germany. 40 min. Director: Ibrahim Shaddad. A Western-inspired treatise on racism made as a graduation project at the German Academy of Film Art in Potsdam-Babelsberg, this film was shot in a forest in Brandenburg, and portrays a white mob's hunt for a black farmworker. **Introduction by Samhita Sunya (UVA) This film is part of the Middle Eastern and South Asian Sidebar supported by the UVA Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures and the UVA Department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures.**

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## Tekahionwake, Pauline

Thursday, October 28 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

E. Pauline Johnson was a powerful wordsmith who traveled the North American continent sometimes in vaudeville-esque stages to Britain. Here she confronted the King of England. She used her voice and words as a weapon against the effects of colonization. Her mother was British and her father was Mohawk Chief from the Six Nations of the Grand River. When she passed away her influence was strong and wide. She was a proud Mohawk/British woman. Her capacity for change towards the perception of Indigenous people in North America was the beginning for a long struggle. **Virtual discussion with filmmaker Shelley Niro, moderated by Dr. Adriana Greci Green (VAFF)** This live virtual screening and discussion is co-presented by The Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia and the Virginia Film Festival and is part of the VAFF's 2021 Indigenous Americans in Film Series. The VAFF's Indigenous Americans in Film Series is presented by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National



Endowment for the Arts.

Shelley Niro is a member of the Six Nations

Reserve, Bay of Quinte Mohawk, Turtle Clan. Niro is a multi-media artist, involving photography, painting, beadwork, and film. She graduated from the Ontario College of Art, Honours, and received her Master of Fine Art from the University of Western Ontario. Niro was the inaugural recipient of the Aboriginal Arts Award presented through the Ontario Arts Council. In 2017, she received the Governor General's Award for the Arts from Canada Council, the Scotiabank Photography Award, and The Hnatyshyn Foundation REVEAL Award. Niro received an honorary doctorate from the Ontario College of Art and Design University and is the 2019 Laureate of the Paul de Hueck and Norman Walford Career Achievement Award for Art Photography.

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## The Addams Family

Drive-In at Morven

Sunday, October 31 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Gomez Addams (Raul Julia), the patriarch of the Addams family, is thrilled when his estranged brother Fester (Christopher Lloyd) returns after 25 years. As the entire family, a collection of bizarre and macabre characters, begin to grow closer to Fester, Gomez's wife, Morticia Addams (Anjelica Huston), begins to suspect that Fester is not who he says he is. When Fester gets the Addams family evicted from their estate, the family must work together to protect their home and each other. Based on the 1960's television show of the same name, the film was nominated for an Academy Award for Costume Design and has become a cult classic in the 30 years since its release. **This film is part of the Drive-In Movie Series presented by Morven Farm and UVA Arts: Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts.**

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## The Electrical Life of Louis Wain

The Paramount Theater

**Sunday, October 31 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Based on a true story, *The Electrical Life of Louis Wain* follows Louis Wain (Benedict Cumberbatch), an eccentric artist who struggles to find love while supporting his large family, until he meets Emily (Claire Foy), his sister's governess. Over the course of their relationship, Louis begins to paint wild and beautiful portraits of cats, gaining recognition from late 1800s British society and popularizing the concept of the house cat. This unique film is an ode to the power of art and the often tormented creators of it. **Presented by Watermark Design Supported by Wells Fargo**

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## The First Step

Culbreth Theatre

**Sunday, October 31 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

In a divided America, Van Jones controversially works across party lines for landmark criminal justice reform and a more humane response to the addiction crisis. Attempting to be a bridge builder in a time of extreme polarization takes Jones deep into the inner workings of the Trump administration, from internal debates within both parties to the lives of frontline activists fighting for their communities. This timely and intimate documentary examines the various issues that divide the country, as well as the people striving to make this country better. **Introduction by Chandler Ferree (VAFF), discussion with filmmakers Brandon and Lance Kramer and criminal justice reformer Louis Reed Presented by United Way of Greater Charlottesville Supported by CBS19 News**

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## The French Dispatch

The Paramount Theater

**Wednesday, October 27 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

The latest in a series of idyllic, fantastical pieces by Wes Anderson, *The French Dispatch* takes us to the fictional French village of Ennui-sur-Blasé to follow the lives of journalists at an outpost of an American magazine. Inspired by the magazine *The New Yorker*, the film plays out like an issue of a magazine itself, and is a colorful, unique ode to journalism and the stories within all of us. **Introduction by Jody Kielbasa (VAFF) and President Jim Ryan (UVA) Presented by UVA Arts: Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts**

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## The French Dispatch at Morven

Drive-In at Morven

**Wednesday, October 27 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

The latest in a series of idyllic, fantastical pieces by Wes Anderson, *The French Dispatch* takes us to the fictional French village of Ennui-sur-Blasé to follow the lives of journalists at an outpost of an American magazine. Inspired by the magazine *The New Yorker*, the film plays out like an issue of a magazine itself, and is a colorful, unique ode to journalism and the stories within all of us.

**This film is part of the Drive-In Movie Series presented by Morven Farm and UVA Arts: Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts.**

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## The Girl and the Spider

Violet Crown 4

**Saturday, October 30 7:00 pm - 8:45 pm**

After living with her friends Mara and Markus for years, Lisa is finally moving into her own apartment. For Lisa, it is an exciting moment, but for Mara, it stirs up a rollercoaster of emotions. As people arrive to help Lisa move out of the apartment, tensions and emotions begin to rise, and Mara and Lisa's relationship is stretched to the limit. *The Girl and the Spider* is a poetic and experimental journey of loneliness and missed connections in the 21st century. *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles.*

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## The Hand of God

Culbreth Theatre

**Friday, October 29 9:00 pm - 11:30 pm**

From Academy Award-winning filmmaker Paolo Sorrentino, comes the story of Fabietto Schisa, a boy growing up in 1980s Naples, Italy. Over the course of the film, he experiences heartbreak and liberation, coinciding with major events like the arrival of football legend Diego Maradona, the filming of a Fellini picture, as well as an unexpected tragedy. A story of loss and love, *The Hand of God* is Sorrentino's most personal film to date, and a coming of age story like no other. *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles.* **Supported by WTJU 91.1 FM**

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## The Harder They Fall

The Paramount Theater

**Thursday, October 28 8:30 pm - 10:45 pm**

When outlaw Nat Love (Jonathan Majors) discovers that Rufus Buck (Idris Elba), the man who murdered his parents, is being released from prison, he rounds up a gang to track the man down and get his revenge. At the same time, Rufus assembles his own fearsome crew to confront Love. Fueled by passion and bent on destruction, both gangs move toward a deadly face off in this action-packed revisionist Western. Idris Elba, Jonathan Majors, Zazie Beetz, and Regina King portray real historical cowboys with the intensity and ruggedness that embodied the times. *The Harder They Fall* captures the classic hallmarks of the Western genre in a way that is both fun and refreshingly modern. *This film will be presented with Open Captions.* **Pre-recorded discussion with director Jeymes Samuel**

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## The Kids

Violet Crown 4

**Saturday, October 30 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm**

When Larry Clark's *Kids* first premiered in 1995, it instantly became one of the most beloved and maligned films of the 1990s for its depiction of New York City teenagers, most of whom were non-actors. Despite the controversy, the film became a launching pad for the careers of Harmony Korine, Chloe Sevigny, and Rosario Dawson. But what became of the rest of the kids? This insightful documentary, set years after the original film's release, checks in with the rest of the cast, exploring the legacy of one of the most divisive and landmark films ever made.

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## The Lost Daughter

The Paramount Theater

**Sunday, October 31 4:30 pm - 6:45 pm**

Based on the novel by Elena Ferrante, Leda (Olivia Colman) is a middle-aged divorcée devoted to her work as an English teacher and her two children. When her children go to be with their father, she decides to take a vacation to a small coastal town in southern Greece, hoping to take a break from her life. Over the course of her stay, she encounters a family whose brash and overwhelming presence forces Leda to reflect on her own life. When the daughter of the family goes missing, Leda is forced to remember the traumas of her own childhood and her time as a young mother. The directorial debut of Maggie Gyllenhaal, *The Lost Daughter* is an exploration of the difficulties of motherhood and the dangers of leaving one's past unsettled. *This film will be presented with Open Captions.* **This film is part of the Women in Film series.** You can purchase a copy of the book by Elena Ferrante through the UVA Bookstore: [The Lost Daughter](#)

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## The Machinery of Dreams

Culbreth Theatre

**Saturday, October 30 11:00 am - 1:30 pm**

**Preceded by the short film [The Beekeeper](#).** When her mother is hospitalized after a car crash, eight-year-old Lily goes to live with her aunt and grandmother, who suffers from dementia. Lily's grandmother begins to tell her a fairytale to pass the time, but when the lines between reality and fantasy begin to blur, Lily ventures into the fairytale to find a way to save her mother. Combining fantasy elements with a human story of grief and acceptance, *The Machinery of Dreams* is a sweeping portrayal of the bonds that tie a family together. **Discussion with director Eric Hurt and actor Cora Metzfield, moderated by producer Jack Steinberg Supported by Charlottesville and Albemarle Convention and Visitors Bureau This film is part of the Spotlight on Virginia Filmmaking series presented by Virginia Film Office.**

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## The Meaning of Hitler

Violet Crown 4

**Sunday, October 31 2:00 pm - 3:45 pm**

Documentary filmmakers Michael Tucker and Petra Epperlein explore our culture's morbid fascination with Hitler and the parallels between his regime and the current rise in white supremacy. With never before seen footage and historical interviews, this gritty documentary gives a multifaceted approach to facism and serves as a warning, as well as an explanation. **This film is part of the Women in Film series.**

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## The Noise of Engines

Violet Crown 4

**Friday, October 29 9:00 pm - 10:30 pm**

Placed on compulsory leave from a Canadian customs college, Alexandre takes the opportunity to make a surprise visit to his mother, owner of a drag strip 45 kilometers from Montreal. While Alexandre forms a friendship with a mysterious Icelandic female drag racer, he becomes the prime suspect in a case involving sexually explicit cartoons found on the door of the church. This semi-autobiographical film, based on the director's experiences working in customs, is full of unexpected turns, eccentric characters, and the personal journey of coming home. *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles.*

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# The Power of the Dog

The Paramount Theater

**Saturday, October 30 8:30 pm - 10:45 pm**

Phil and George Burbank (Benedict Cumberbatch and Jesse Plemons) are two of the wealthiest ranchers in 1925 Montana, with opposing personalities: Phil is charismatic yet cruel, while George is quiet yet empathetic. When George marries a young widow named Rose (Kirsten Dunst), he moves her and her son (Kodi Smit-McPhee) to the ranch he shares with Phil. Phil begins to torment the new arrivals, until he develops a relationship that he did not expect. The latest film in over a decade from Academy Award-winning filmmaker Jane Campion, *The Power of the Dog* is an exploration of the confines of masculinity against the backdrop of the American West.

**Introduction by Jody Kielbasa (VAFF)** *This film will be presented with Open Captions and the on stage presentations will include ASL interpretation.* **Presented by Truist This film is part of the Women in Film series.** You can purchase a copy of the novel by Thomas Savage through the UVA Bookstore: [The Power of the Dog](#)

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# The Raft

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Sunday, October 31 4:15 pm - 6:00 pm**

Four teenage die-hard soccer fans, construct a raft to sail from Israel to Cyprus to watch the world cup. When the normal perils of being a teenager are combined with the very real danger of sailing a DIY float across the Mediterranean, the relationships within the group are put to the test.

**Introduction by Ilya Tovbis (VAFF)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles.* **This film is part of the Jewish and Israeli Film Series.**

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# The Speech

Violet Crown 6 & 7

**Sunday, October 31 6:45 pm - 8:15 pm**

This comedic film d'auteur directed by Laurent Tirard follows 35-year-old Adrien at a disastrous family dinner rife with old grudges, and an over-excited soon to be brother-in-law. To make matters worse, Adrien has texted his ex, in an attempt to reconnect, and hasn't heard back yet. A story that explores male heartbreak through awkward and hilarious moments, this is a film that anyone who's ever been in a relationship or had a family meal can relate to. Based on a novel by Fabrice Caro, *The Speech* gives viewers a seat at this hilariously awkward table in this US premiere of a 2020 Cannes Official Selection. *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles.*

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# The Worst Person in the World

Culbreth Theatre

Thursday, October 28 9:00 pm - 11:15 pm

**Preceded by the short film [The Wind and the Kite](#).** The newest film from acclaimed director Joachim Trier, *The Worst Person in the World* follows the life of Julie (Renate Reinsve) as she struggles to navigate and reconcile her love life with her attempts to find a career path and herself. The winner of the Best Actress award at the 2021 Cannes Film Festival, *The Worst Person in the World* is a modern and unique look at relationships and how they shape us. **Introduction by Chandler Ferrebee (VAFF)** *This is a foreign-language film presented with English subtitles.*  
**Presented by C-VILLE Weekly**

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# Truth Tellers

The Paramount Theater

Sunday, October 31 1:15 pm - 3:00 pm

For activist Robert Shetterly, the divide between art and politics is a small one. A renowned artist who painted the series *Americans Who Tell The Truth* - a series of portraits that have been exhibited around the country over the past two decades - Shetterly started his art work as a response to the political climate in the early 2000s. Featuring interviews with artists and activists from around the country, *Truth Tellers* follows Shetterly as he explores the state of the country now and what it means to be a good American. **Discussion with filmmaker Richard Kane and subjects Robert Shetterly and Reggie Harris moderated by Andrea Douglas (Jefferson School)** *This film will be presented with Open Captions and the on stage presentations will include ASL interpretation.* **Presented by United Way of Greater Charlottesville Supported by UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion This film is part of the Spotlight on Virginia Filmmaking series presented by Virginia Film Office.**

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# Try Harder!

Violet Crown 6 & 7

Thursday, October 28 6:30 pm - 8:15 pm

**Preceded by the short film [In the Shadow of the Pines](#).** The students at San Francisco's predominantly Asian-American Lowell High School are high achievers. As one of the top high schools in the country, students from all around San Francisco are pulled into a deeply competitive environment. Over the course of the film, we follow seniors through the school as they try to impress admissions officers from elite universities with their stellar transcripts and even more charming personalities. *Try Harder!* is a portrait of students as they navigate the current education system while coming into their own. **Presented by United Way of Greater Charlottesville Supported by UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion This film is part of the Women in Film and American Perspectives series.**

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## **We Burn Like This**

Violet Crown 5

**Sunday, October 31 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

When 22 year-old Rae, a descendant of Holocaust survivors, is targeted by Neo-Nazis, her ancestors' trauma becomes real. Shortly afterwards, she returns home to her mother and uncovers the truth about a childhood accident. This coming-of-age story follows Rae on her journey to forgive herself, her mother, and the broken world while showing the inherited effects of historical trauma and the strength of survival and healing. **Discussion with filmmaker Alana Waksman, moderated by Ilya Tovbis (VAFF) This film is part of the American Perspectives series.**

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## **Zola**

Culbreth Theatre

**Sunday, October 31 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm**

Based on the greatest true story ever tweeted, this film follows Zola (Taylour Paige), a self-assured waitress and exotic dancer from Detroit, who is convinced by a stranger, Stefani (Riley Keough) into a weekend of stripping in Florida. But what starts out as a simple trip quickly turns into a sleepless 48-hour odyssey involving Stefani's idiot boyfriend and her nefarious roommate. **Discussion with and presentation of the American Perspectives Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cinema to writer Jeremy O. Harris moderated by Chandler Ferrebee (VAFF)** *This film will be presented with Open Captions and the on stage presentations will include ASL interpretation.* **Supported by 101 Jamz and UVA Department of Drama This film is part of the Women in Film and American Perspectives series.**