

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 7th Annual ITSA Film Festival takes place on Friday, November 11 through Sunday, November 13, 2016 at the Historic Sonora Opera Hall

Over 66 films from all over the globe are being screened during the 3-day festival. Saturday and Sunday are FREE to the public.

Friday night features David Vassar's Academy Award Nominated film "Generation on the Wind". This is the first time in 30 years that the film has been screened in its entirety. This 2-hour event not only includes the film, but David will be in-person discussing his film afterwards. From 6 pm to 8 pm and tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Guest speakers this year include Alexis Nichols, Chad McCord, Ciara Flynn and Sally Kaplan.

Alexis Nichols - A versatile actor, voiceover talent, and model whose young career promises great things. She most recently appeared as Lucille Ball in "Becoming Lucy" which premiered at the Festival De Cannes Court Mètrage this past May. While in New York City, Alexis proved both her comedic and dramatic abilities, appearing on stage in Something Outrageous at the Michael Chekhov 45th St. Theatre and another Neil Simon play Rumors at the Mount Carmel Theatre Co. She also added several film credits to her resume, including lead roles in Mary Jane's Last Dance, Details, and Vicky Karma.

Chad McCord - a Los Angeles based writer, director, acting coach, and author with over 25 years of experience in the entertainment industry. He is currently writing the comedy television pilot JOKES ON YOU! Chad has been the recipient of multiple awards for his directorial projects. He also directed and co-produced the television comedy pilots: THE MEAN BEAN, and WILDLIFE. Additionally, he created the satirical web-series: CLASS WITH CHADWICK CHUBB. In 2006, he opened the highly successful Chad McCord Actors' Studio in Hollywood, CA where he coaches and conducts acting classes for many established actors working in film and television. He recently completed his book PRIVATE HELL ~ Cautionary Tales for Adults. The book consists of original illustrations and related tales, with topics ranging from AIDS and anorexia, to reincarnation and beyond. Chad is planning performance art fundraising events in conjunction with the book launch to raise money for at-risk LGBT youth. His acting book, Life Line; an Actors Guide to Acting and Auditions in Hollywood will be available in 2017.

Ciara Flynn - Began acting in Austin, TX at the age of 12 when she dragged her parents to a local youth theatre program. Before leaving Texas, Ciara filmed the lead role in "Lumberjack Man", a horror comedy, alongside Michael Madsen and Adam Sessler for After Dark Films. She has appeared in two films on Lifetime Network ("Online Abduction" and most recently, "Honeymoon From Hell"), several music videos including one that aired on MTV UK, and countless short films and online series. While acting is her primary focus, she also works frequently as an art director, helping to realize creative visions on set. Currently, she is preparing to act in a new drama series distributed on Amazon Prime, "Private Sales", and is co-writing a short film slated for next year with director Matt Walker.

Live music by Felice LaZae during 2nd Saturday night. LaZae is an LA based singer/songwriter whose sound has roots in Blues, R&B and a dash of rock 'n roll. Her debut EP, Prologue, was released on October 14, 2016. Her song off the EP, "I Need to Feel," was featured by HGTV to promote their show, "Flip or Flop," and was also a "keeper" on the Los Angeles Rock Radio station, 95.5 KLOS' "Stay or Go" segment on the Heidi & Frank Show. Most recently, she rocked the stage at **The Killers'** decennial anniversary celebration of the multi-platinum selling album Sam's Town for which she graced the cover and was featured in articles for **Rolling Stone Magazine** and **Noisey**. Other notable appearances include her feature in the 2015 GRAMMY promo video sponsored by Ciroc, and performances at ESPN's Fan Fest Pre-Super Bowl XLIX event and LA Fashion Week's "Art Hearts Fashion" Official After Party.

Also set to perform is local hip-hop artist, **Oscar Goldman**. He is also a fast-tracker in the music industry having just received an award in Modesto this past month.

The judges for the 7th Annual ITSA Film Festival include David Codeglia, James Codeglia and Denita Wolf.

James Codeglia - James is a Director of Photography who has shot hundreds of projects for the web, television, and the silver screen. Recently he captured behind-the-scenes material for **Star Wars: The Force Awakens** as well as **Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation** and **Star Trek Into Darkness**. Narrative highlights include "Krantz" by Christopher Cantwell (creator of Halt and Catch Fire), the award-winning film "Thumb," and the recent music video "Alive" by Empire of the Sun which has 45 million views on YouTube. He also spent four years as a full-time employee for Disney, shooting viral videos and TV ads with such icons as Mickey Mouse in New York and Darth Vader in Disneyland!

David Codeglia - David has been directing movies for over 15 years, and has worked on countless viral videos and commercials for Disney, Universal, and Bad Robot. He and his twin brother James shot bonus material for **Star Trek Into Darkness** and **Star Wars: The**

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Force Awakens, and Dave recently worked on **Star Wars: Episode VIII**. Together, David and James operate their own studio Ghostlight, where they offer their services in Directing, Cinematography, Editing, and Visual Effects. David recently directed “Our RoboCop Remake - Scene 9”, in which a giant robot goes bezerk and murders a puppet. David’s short film “Key Change” won Best Comedy at ITSA Film Festival 2011, and his music video “Awkward” has won several awards including Best Music Video at San Diego Indie Fest.

Denita Richards -Wolf became interested in film as a child in New Mexico when the NM Film Industry didn’t exist. She spent the first 20 years of her career working to improve health outcomes as a nurse in primary care clinics, managed care organizations, and as the Bureau Chief of the Family Health Bureau for New Mexico Department of Health. This experience has enhanced her passion to work to improve the health of Native Americans, people living in poverty, and those suffering with addiction. Denita is a freelance writer with a focus on human resiliency. The doors of the NM Film Industry opened to Denita in 2015 when she started working as background on the Netflix film **Longmire**. Since that time, Denita had a background role and worked behind the scenes with Robert Baxter and Rodrigo Tactaquin of Robert Baxter Casting to assist in finding background talent for the soon to be released movie “Woman Walks Ahead”. Denita is passionate about the film industry and anxious to dive into more opportunities in 2017.

Be sure to catch these standout **Nominated Films** during the festival:

DRAMA

Omessa - Directed by Charlene Favier

Muscle - Directed by Heidi Miami Marshall. Produced by Frank Oz (Muppets/Star Wars)

Restart - Directed by Olga Osorio

The Dishwasher - Directed by Matt David Johnson

Four Day Weekend - Directed by Nicole Jones. Starring Ben Koldyke (How I Met Your Mother/Masters of Sex)

ANIMATION

Pearl - Directed by Patrick Osborne (Feast) and Produced by David Eisenmann (Finding Nemo, Ratatouille, Toy Story 3 and more)

Peak Phosphorus - Directed by Michael Mehring

Parade de Satie - Directed by Koji Yamamura

YOUTH (19 years old and under)

4242 - Directed by Sara Eustaquio

The Control Room - Directed by Calvin Herbst

Attached at the Soul - Directed by William Leon

Ellie - Directed by Morgana McKenzie

MUSIC VIDEO

Bodies

Fallin’ Free

I Need to Feel

Take My Heart Away

REEL SCARY

Save - Directed by Iván Sáinz-Pardo

Vexed - Directed by Marc Cartwright

Nite Fix - Directed by Trevor Dillon

Soul Breaker - Directed by Judson Vaughan

COMEDY

Gridlocked - Directed by Scott Brown and Zack Gold (starring Richard Reihle, Andrew Keegan, Jon Lindstrom)

Uncle Max - Directed by Albert Fry Jr.

(FYD) Follow Your Dreams - Directed by Chad McCord (starring John Larroquette)

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Find out the complete schedule, ticket purchases and more information at www.ITSAFilmFestival.com