

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reelout Queer Film Festival Official SHORTS Selections

### BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

#### ARGENTINA

*Artemis- Bárbara Cerro*

*Karaoke – Axel Rezinovsky*

*Broken Doll – Gaspar Aguirre & Roman Sovrano*

#### BRAZIL

*Infinite While it Lasts-Akira Kamiki*

*After That Party- Caio Scot*

*Dead Model, Life Model – Iuri Bermudes, Leona Jhovs*

*Dominique – Giovanna Giovanini*

#### CANADA

*Crooked- Briana Blades & Kristin Kent*

*Staging Face- Steph Young & Vie Jones*

*Wash Day – Kourtney Jackson*

*The Way We Are- Amanda Ann Min-Wong*

*The Garden Collective-Sara Wylie*

*Love Undivided- Clare Clovechok*

*I Want You To Live- Leah Renaud*

*Queer Fear- Carla Elizabeth Hernandez*

*Gathering Wool –Kelsey Burns*

*Italian 102- Emily Gutierrez*

*Hello Goodbye- Sarah Rotella*

*Spirit Glitch- Mary Galloway*

*Girls to the Front!- Erin Richardson*

*Girls Shouldn't Walk Alone At Night-Katerine Martineau*

*Main Squeeze- Brendan Prost*

*Mustard- Louise Kårsbo Svanerud*

*Contained- Yohann Thiou*

*I'd Rather Be Looking at Gay Porn – Jared Mitchell & RM Vaughan*

*Family – Mark Pariselli*

*The Big Snore- Matt Guerin*

#### CHILE

*The Nest- Fernando Campos*

#### CZECH REPUBLIC

*Must Be Painful- David Semler*

## **GERMANY**

**Soy Sauce** – *Sarnt Utamachote*

**Mourning Rites**- *Alejandro Mathe*

## **INDIA**

**I Will Also Get Married**- *Chandrashekhar Parab, Raunaq Sahni*

**The Lonely Prince**- *Shiven and Sunny*

**Bodies of Desire**- *Varsha Panikar & Saad Nawab*

## **IRELAND**

**Nova** – *Key Woodlock & Ciara Tyrrell*

## **NAMIBIA**

**Kapana**- *Philippe Talavera*

## **NETHERLANDS**

**Girlsboysmix** – *Lara Aerts*

**Otherland**- *Jan Pieter Tuinstra & Keren Levi*

**The People We Hold Dear**- *Alexander Hendricks*

## **NIGERIA**

**Ìfé** – *Uyaiedu Ikpe-Etim*

## **PAKISTAN**

**Stray Dogs Come Out At Night**- *Hamza Bangash*

## **SPAIN**

**Demisexuality** - *Jesús Martínez Asencio*

## **TAIWAN**

**The Rooftop**- *Teng Po-Cheng*

## **TUNISIA**

**Chromophobia**- *Bassem Ben Brahim*

## **UKRAINE**

**Armor: Let Them Stare**- *Ihor Chaikovskyy & Olexander Krupa*

## **UNITED KINGDOM**

**Dix Pix**- *Steven Fraser*

**Faith**- *Sahera Khan*

**Lesbian** – *Rosemary Baker*

**Other Voices** – *Sarah Brown (Sweatmother)*

**The Fabric of You** – *Josephine Lohaar Self*

## **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

*'IX – Sakinah Bowman*

**Two Questions-** Zachary Clarence & Juhi Sharma

**I Miss Dreaming Forward-** Derek Nguyen

**Boys Don't Wear Dresses –** Jason Weissbrod

**The Peach Scarf –** Del Segó

**Reminisce-** Kevelly Ferreira

## **BY PROGRAM (DATES TO BE DETERMINED BETWEEN JANUARY 29-FEBRUARY 8, 2021)**

### **Various Animated Shorts Preceding Features**

**Broken Doll –** *Gaspar Aguirre & Roman Sovrano/Argentina/4:20/2019* Ariel is a teenager who enjoys figure skating. Sometimes when he passes by the neighborhood football field, the boys who are playing make fun of him for being different. At school, he receives mockery and paper planes from his pals. One of those papers is the invitation to the prom party. He decides to assist. The night of the party, he is getting ready to go. Something triggers inside him and he makes a decision.

**The Fabric of You –** *Josephine Lohar Self/UK/10:32/2020* Set in the Bronx, in the era of 1950s McCarthyism, everybody wants to look the same. Michael a gay, twenty-something-year old mouse, hides his true identity while he works as a tailor. When Isaac enters the shop one day he offers the escapism and love Michael craves. In Michael's confined apartment, he becomes tormented by the memories of Isaac's tragic death. Michael's memories and flashbacks are triggered when he notices Isaac's jacket draped on the back of a chair. Haunted by the solace Isaac once offered, he struggles to come to terms with his loss.

**The People We Hold Dear-** *Alexander Hendricks- Netherlands-3:50-2020* Lucas lives with his boyfriend, but has to hide their relationship when his mother comes to visit. When his mother finds a picture of the couple, Lucas's fear to be discovered becomes a reality.

**Chromophobia-** *Bassem Ben Brahim-Tunisia- 6:31-2019* An animated history of a gay guy since birth, his different childhood, his different love, his path, the obstacles envisaged in society, the family and the law, and how he will manifest himself in the end to defend his life & his freedom.

**Nova –** *Key Woodlock & Ciara Tyrrell/Ireland/4:59* A young astronaut works in solitude on a spaceship, trying to avoid reminders of her life back on Earth. When an alien entity finds its way aboard her ship, she must face some difficult truths.

**Dix Pix-** *Steven Fraser/UK/3 :42* Dix Pix is a short, animated documentary that looks at the gay male/trans/non-binary body and why it is common for people to send naked pictures via dating apps.

**The Peach Scarf –** *Del Segó/US/3:32/2020* While browsing in the market, Daisy is distracted by a bird who has stolen a scarf from a pretty stranger, Camille. She hops to action to help reclaim the scarf for Camille, but runs into trouble along the way. Undeterred, Daisy finds her own way to restore the beloved peach scarf to Camille.

**Artemis- Bárbara Cerro/Argentina/1:04/2020** On the Moon, women have fun while they wait to be illuminated by the sun. They play volleyball with Neil Armstrong's astronaut helmet, they masturbate in the darkness of the cosmos, and constellations are tattooed on their backs. Sunlight begins to seep and the white surface lights up increasingly. Women come together and enjoy this solar bath. A beam of light shines on the bed where a girl sleeps, on Earth. The light disturbs her dreams; the unveiled girl looks through the window and discovers the full moon shining on her head.

**Reminisce- Kevelly Ferreira/USA/4 :18/2020** A docu-animated short film depicting the memories of LGBTQ-identifying individuals relating to love, sex, and identity.

### **AFRICAN FIRSTS DOUBLE BILL: ÌFÉ & KAPANA**

**Kapana- Philippe Talavera/Namibia/1:00:12/2020**

Namibia: a country where sodomy is still a crime and gay relationships are stigmatised against. Two lives: George (Adriano Visagie) is a middle class insurance broker living in central town, Windhoek. Simeon (Simon Hanga) is a kapana seller who lives in Katutura, Windhoek's township Two secrets One unlikely meeting in a bar  
And the rest is history...

Kapana is the first Namibian film featuring a gay love story and was the runner-up for best international film, audience award, Out on Film Atlanta LGBTQ film festival

**Ìfé – Uyaiedu Ikpe-Etim/Nigeria/38 :00/2020**

A love story about ìfé and Adaora, two Nigerian women who fall in love over a three-day date, but their love is soon tested by the realities of being lesbian in Nigeria. This is the first lesbian film from Nigeria.

### **GENDER BENDERS Shorts Program**

**Boys Don't Wear Dresses – Jason Weissbrod/USA/27:30/2020** A modern day fairy-tale about the struggles of being an autistic, transgender individual exploring friendship and love. A truly inclusive film experience created by and starring autistic, neuro-divergent, LGBTQ, and multi-ethnic artists collaborating with entertainment professionals. This story is inspired by the true-life experiences of an autistic transgender individual who co-wrote, co-produced and appears in the film. Produced by Spectrum Laboratory a non-profit that creates original works of film, music and animation with autistic and neuro-divergent artists.

**Girlsboysmix – Lara Aerts/Netherlands/6:30/2020** Girlsboysmix is the first documentary ever, made from the perspective of an intersex child. It relates the story of Wen Long (9). At birth it was not clear whether she was a girl or a boy. Many such children are operated on at a very young age, in order to 'make' them a boy or a girl. Wen Long did not undergo such surgery. Her parents felt their child had to decide herself what sex she wants to be. Wen Long is very happy that that she can choose. But nevertheless, it is not easy. Being intersex in a binary world, Wen Long wonders: where do I belong?

**Other Voices – Sarah Brown (Sweatmother)/UK/5:51/2020**

Trans and gender non-confirming people relate their experiences via art and conversation, providing a view from the inside looking out. Many identities face oppression, violence and harm; individuals telling stories like these brings visibility and awareness.

**Dead Model, Life Model** – *Iuri Bermudes, Leona Jhovs/Brazil/25:00/2020* Manuela, a transgender woman attending a life-model drawing workshop, awakens to her own beauty and power. It was created to be a positive narrative of affection and self-love for transgender people.

**Dominique** – *Giovanna Giovanini/Brazil /19:00/2019* On a small island at the mouth of the Amazon River called Cotijuba, a typical Brazilian family deals with an issue that resonates in modern society: transgender people. We are invited to meet Dominique, whose mother raised all by herself her three transgender daughters. On the way to visit her mother, Dominique reminisces about her life as a survivor of prostitution and police brutality due to unconditional love, understanding, and affection.

### **SHE'S REALING OUT: Documentary Shorts Directed by Women**

**Crooked**- *Briana Blades & Kristin Kent/Canada/5:39/2019* A documentary about genderqueer journalist, poet and artist Jess Sachse who is living with a congenital disability.

**Staging Face**- *Steph Young & Vie Jones/Canada/5:42/2020* Under the spotlight, in front of a crowded room, drag performers are given permission to share our most authentic selves with almost certain acceptance. When the show is over and we leave our safe spaces, how do we cope with the realities of a less-than-forgiving world? What faces do we wear? Follow several captivating artists as they navigate the complexities of gender identity, community, and mental health – and learn how they became masters in staging face.

**Wash Day** – *Kourtney Jackson/Canada/9:52/2020* As they get ready for the day, three young Black women discuss the public perception of their Blackness in relation to their cultivation of a strong sense of self. Wash Day is an intimate exploration into how private, domestic acts such as washing your hair or putting on makeup become a significant re-acquaintance with the body, before and after navigating the politics of one's outwardly appearance.

**The Way We Are**- *Amanda Ann Min-Wong/Canada/15:30/2020* "The Way We Are" shares excerpts of stories from audio interviews with 4 queer Asian women: Katherine Chun, Wenda Li, Tamai Kobayashi, and Nancy Seto. Told in the present-tense, these stories are arranged in a way that explores the past as the present, and in doing so, immersing viewers into the real-lived experiences from a different generation.

**The Garden Collective**-*Sara Wylie/Canada/22:00/2019* The Garden Collective follows the formerly incarcerated women of the Prison for Women Memorial Collective as they work to build a memorial garden on the grounds of the former prison in Kingston, Ontario.

**Love Undivided**- *Clare Clovechok/Canada/14:29/2020*- Love Undivided explores the perspectives of three people living ethically non-monogamous lives.

**I Want You To Live**- *Leah Renaud/Canada/15:00/2020* A documentary exploring the ways in which three people – a news anchor, a playwright, and a graphic designer – use their different mediums to talk about suicide.

**Queer Fear**- *Carla Elizabeth Hernandez/Canada/5:00/2020* Queer Fear is a short film that will take you through Carla's 28-year journey of struggling to accept her sexual identity. An emotional breakdown followed by a global pandemic, forced her to sit in isolation with her thoughts after years of avoiding them. Realizing now more than ever how important self-care is, Carla begins a search for the answers she had been avoiding all these years.

## **GIRLS ON GIRLS Shorts Program**

**Gathering Wool** –*Kelsey Burns/Canada/5:00/2020* A story of the romance that comes to life in your mind when you have a crush on a stranger, and its bitter sweetness.

**Faith**- *Sahera Khan/UK/6:20/2020* Taliha and Marlyn are very good friends, Marlyn came out as a lesbian a couple of years ago. Taliha is uncomfortable with this although she wants to speak to Marlyn about LGBT+ issues.

**'IX** – *Sakinah Bowman/USA/2:40/2020* 'Ix is a visualizer that depicts the transformation into wholeness of a two-spirited being. The gentle overtones of gestating in the womb, transports the audience to the primordial space where this cohesive merge takes place. This is a film about returning to the original intention of being-ness. Free from the separation and fragmentation that labels create.

**Italian 102**- *Emily Gutierrez/Canada/8:30/2020* They flirted in Italian 101, now it's time for Jen and Riley to go out on their first date. But when they run into unwanted leers and hostility from strangers, Jen struggles to find the courage to be herself around Riley.

**Hello Goodbye**- *Sarah Rotella/Canada/4:14/2019* An LGBTQ+ story of an entire relationship in its most powerful and emotional first and last moments.

**Spirit Glitch**- *Mary Galloway/Canada/7:46/2019* A queer woman of colour struggles to regain her voice from the void as traumatic memories threaten to glitch her spirit away piece by piece, leaving an empty shell. With every ounce of willpower, she must find the strength to face the reality of another day.

**Girls to the Front!**- *Erin Richardson/Canada/9:00/2020* Emma, Rachel, and April make up Dude Purse, an all-girl punk band who find themselves preparing for their first gig. The girls find their friendship tested, when Emma's former nemesis (and Rachel's current girlfriend) shows up, putting the future of the band at stake.

**I Will Also Get Married**- *Chandrashekhar Parab, Raunaq Sahni/India/3:00/2020*

A documentary focussing exclusively on what it means to be a growing up in a Traditional Maharashtrian Family in India.

**Two Questions**- Zachary Clarence & Juhi Sharma/USA/5:24/2019 Two questions to help prevent sexual assault.

**Girls Shouldn't Walk Alone At Night**-*Katerine Martineau/Canada/17:22/2019/French with English Subtitles* After a late night high school graduation party, Chantal and Delphine find themselves walking home alone in the dark. Lost in the forest, their long night walk is punctuated by carelessness and an irrepressible desire to exist.

**Main Squeeze**- *Brendan Prost/Canada/16:39/2019* A couple in an open relationship have their holiday slumber shattered by the unexpected arrival of a secondary partner, who is drunk and on an ill-conceived mission to establish her romantic dominance.

**Mustard**- *Louise Kärso Svanerud/Canada/11:13/2020* Grace, a middle-aged recently divorced Chinese-Canadian woman, has worked at a bistro for over 20 years doing the same thing. She finds it hard to accept her boss' suggestion of changing her way of grinding mustard seeds, so to avoid this, Grace accepts a compromise in training Beverly to help her increase the mustard output. Struggling to embrace the many changes in her life, Grace might have just found the one person to help her find peace with them.

**Contained-** Yohann Thiou/Canada/6:49/2020/French with English Subtitles Léanne spends the "Great Lockdown" at home, far from Gabrielle.

### **I'D RATHER BE LOOKING AT RM VAUGHAN: Men's Shorts**

***Dedicated to the loving memory of writer and video artist Richard Murray Vaughan (1965-2020)***

**I'd Rather Be Looking at Gay Porn** – Jared Mitchell & RM Vaughan/Canada /3:05/2010 An anthem for the disenchanting. When the respectable and desirable activities of modern society have turned to rot and stupidity, one voice calls out for a retreat to that which is supposed to be so disreputable.

**Family** – Mark Pariselli/Canada/11min/2020 Partners Cal and Jamal embark on an autumn road trip to the cottage. A roadside flirtation turns ominous and the creeping sense of dread intensifies at a seemingly deserted farm.

**The Big Snore-** Matt Guerin/Canada/9:00/2020 A light sleeper struggles one night to get some rest next to his snoring husband.

**The Lonely Prince-** Shiven and Sunny/India/15min/2020 A lonely Prince, drowning in melancholy, invites a Sculptor to his court to create a piece of art just for him. As the Sculptor spends his days chiselling away on a block of marble, the Prince too discovers a new side of himself, for a brief moment forgetting the world of solitude that surrounds him.

**The Rooftop-** Teng Po-Cheng/Taiwan/24:25/2020 A teenager tries to find out the reason why he has difficulties in breathing when he makes love with his girlfriend.

**Must Be Painful-** David Semler/Czech Republic/14:45/2019 Danny, a Czech student, and his Spanish boyfriend go on a trip to the Czech countryside. At the railway station they meet a couple of locals who do not know Danny understands them, so they start to make sarcastic comments. It does not take long until this situation generates a conflict, the outcome of which is devastating for both couples.

**Karaoke** – Axel Rezinovsky/Argentina/16:00/2020 The night before travelling abroad, Martin celebrates his farewell party at his bff's Nadia's home, and at midnight her brother Nacho shows up. After a few drinks and some karaoke love songs, Martin starts to realize he might be in love for the first time.

**Otherland-** Jan Pieter Tuinstra & Keren Levi-The Netherlands-13:30-2020 A Vogue dancer performs at a Voodoo Carnival Ball, an important dance contest where he will have to prove himself to be accepted by the local ballroom community. Based on the biographical story of Elvin Elejandro Martinez and narrated by him, 'Otherland' is a juxtaposition of two narratives that evoke new associations for viewers: while the visual story of the ball is fictional, the film is based on in-depth research into the Dutch ballroom community and all the characters and dancers are part of the European ballroom/vogue community.

### **Alphabet Soup Shorts Program**

**The Nest-** Fernando Campos/Chile/14:19/ 2020 One afternoon, after witnessing a homophobic attack at school, 12-year old Elías tells his parents that he is also gay. But his cry for help gets unanswered, which will make him wonder: how can I feel safe? where's my nest?

**Stray Dogs Come Out At Night-** Hamza Bangash/Pakistan/11:04 /2020 Iqbal, a migrant sex worker, cannot come to terms with his illness. He convinces his uncle to take a day trip to the beach, desperate for respite. The Arabian sea beckons.

**Soy Sauce** – *Sarnt Utamachote/Germany/4:45/2020* This simple story within one household - about spatial territories, gastronomic practices, personal memories, camouflaged identities and the coercive need to "integrate" into the dominant host culture - offers a quirky means of political resistance.

**I Miss Dreaming Forward**- Derek Nguyen/USA/4:33/2020 A film exploring the solace in a relationship that once was.

**Mourning Rites**- *Alejandro Mathe/Germany/11:29/2020* Filmed in one long take, the film tells the story of a mourning woman in her twenties, who is preparing to summon the ghost of her grandmother using a Ouija board at the laundrette where she died. While a storm rages outside, a loud-mouthed Drag Queens wiggles her way in disturbing her plans. What at first seems like an obstacle soon develops into something completely different. Is it possible that the Drag Queen can really help her on her journey?

**Lesbian** – *Rosemary Baker/UK/5:00/2020* "Lesbian." is a powerful poem by Lisa Luxx. It's about the word "lesbian", and the decades of toxic connotations that have made it feel like a hostile piece of language: so much so that today, many queer women hesitate before using it. Rosemary Baker's short film of the poem, which features a cast of real queer women, uses intricate body painting to bring to life what those layers of toxicity feel like. In an era of headline-hitting attacks on lesbians in public, it is a call to arms to take the word back.

**Demisexuality** - Jesús Martínez Asencio/Spain/3:28/2020 Bea and Jorge met that same night and would never think that they would end up going to bed together. Social pressures and their own special way of understanding relationships will make this a somewhat uncomfortable sexual encounter... or maybe not?

**Armor: Let Them Stare**- Ihor Chaikovskyy & Olexander Krupa/4:00min/Ukraine/2020 A seductive femme has a night out on the town.

**Bodies of Desire**- Varsha Panikar & Saad Nawab/India/3:41min Using Varsha Panikar's poetry series by the same name, as the point of departure, Bodies of Desire is a queer spoken-word film co-directed by her and Saad Nawab. It is a sensual celebration of universal love and desire, inspired by the poet's lived reality.

**Infinite While it Lasts**-Akira Kamiki/Brazil/18:38/2020 After falling in love at a party, Danny and Seiji just want to be together. However, their differences might prove stronger than their feelings.

**After That Party**- Caio Scot/Brazil/14:59/2020 Leo had never imagined he would see his Dad kissing another man in the middle of a party... Until it happened. Now, with the help of Carol, his best friend, he has to find the most perfect way to tell his Dad that he found out about his secret.

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