



## **SXSW FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2017 AUDIENCE AND VIRTUAL CINEMA JURY AWARD WINNERS**

**Austin, Texas – March 18, 2017** – The South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conference and Festivals today announced the Audience Award winners from the Narrative Feature Competition, Documentary Feature Competition, Headliners, Narrative Spotlight, Documentary Spotlight, Visions, Midnighters, Episodic, 24 Beats Per Second, Global, Festival Favorites and Design Award categories. Audience Award results for all categories were certified by the accounting firm of Maxwell Locke & Ritter. Also announced were the Virtual Cinema Jury Award Winners. The SXSW Film Awards are presented by FilmStruck.

The Audience Awards follow the previously announced 2017 Jury Awards, which included Grand Jury Winners *Most Beautiful Island* for Narrative Feature and *The Work* for Documentary Feature. For the complete list of 2017 Award Winners, visit [sxsw.com/film](http://sxsw.com/film)

Over the course of nine days, the 2017 SXSW Film Festival screened 130 features, consisting of 84 World Premieres, 14 North American Premieres, and 5 US Premieres, with 54 first-time filmmakers. 128 shorts screened as part of 12 curated shorts programs. The 258 films were selected from 7,651 overall submissions, consisting of approximately 2,432 features and 4,975 shorts.

### **2017 SXSW Film Festival Audience Award Winners:**

#### **NARRATIVE FEATURE COMPETITION**

**Audience Award Winner:** *The Light of the Moon*

Director: Jessica M. Thompson

#### **DOCUMENTARY FEATURE COMPETITION**

**Audience Award Winner:** *Dealt*

Director: Luke Korem

## **HEADLINERS**

**Audience Award Winner:** *Baby Driver*

Director: Edgar Wright

## **NARRATIVE SPOTLIGHT**

**Audience Award Winner:** *Mr. Roosevelt*

Director: Noël Wells

## **DOCUMENTARY SPOTLIGHT**

**Audience Award Winner:** *The Untold Tales of Armistead Maupin*

Director: Jennifer M. Kroot

## **VISIONS**

**Audience Award Winner:** *Becoming Bond*

Director: Josh Greenbaum

## **MIDNIGHTERS**

**Audience Award Winner:** *68 Kill*

Director: Trent Haaga

## **EPISODIC**

**Audience Award Winner:** *Dear White People*

Director: Justin Simien

## **24 BEATS PER SECOND**

**Audience Award Winner:** *May It Last: A Portrait of the Avett Brothers*

Directors: Judd Apatow and Michael Bonfiglio

## **GLOBAL**

**Audience Award Winner:** *Divine Divas*

Director: Leandra Leal

## **FESTIVAL FAVORITES**

**Audience Award Winner:** *The Big Sick*

Director: Michael Showalter

## **SXSW Film Design Awards**

### **EXCELLENCE IN TITLE DESIGN**

**Audience Award Winner:** *Into The Current*

Directors: Chris R. Moberg and Jared Young

## **Virtual Cinema Grand Jury Awards**

### **VIRTUAL REALITY: ROOM-SCALE**

**Winner:** *After Solitary*

Directors: Cassandra Herrman, Lauren Mucciolo

**Special Jury Recognition for Innovative Use of Virtual Reality Technology in the Field of Health:** *Reinvent*

Directors: Ian Forester, Sook-lei Liew, PhD

### **360° VIDEO**

**Winner:** *Behind the Fence*

Directors: Lindsay Branham, Jonathan Olinger

**Special Jury Recognition for Technical Excellence:** *Dreams of "O"*

Directors: Félix Lajeunesse, Paul Raphaël

As today is the final day of SXSW Film, additional screenings have been scheduled for this evening for all Audience Award winners except Episodic and Headliners:

**Audience Award: 24 Beats Per Second**

*May It Last: A Portrait of the Avett Brothers*  
3/18/2017, Alamo Ritz 2, 4:00 PM

**Audience Award: Documentary Feature Competition**

*Dealt*

3/18/2017, Alamo Lamar A, 4:00 PM

**Audience Award: Documentary Spotlight**

*The Untold Tales of Armistead Maupin*

3/18/2017, Stateside Theatre, 7:30 PM

**Audience Award: Festival Favorites**

*The Big Sick*

3/18/2017, Alamo Ritz 1, 2:30 PM

**Audience Award: Midnighters**

*68 Kill*

3/18/2017, Alamo Lamar A, 11:00 PM

**Audience Award: Narrative Feature Competition**

*The Light of the Moon*

3/18/2017, Alamo Lamar A, 1:30 PM

**Audience Award: Narrative Spotlight**

*Mr. Roosevelt*

3/18/2017, Alamo Ritz 1, 5:30 PM

**Audience Award: Global**

*Divine Divas*

3/18/2017, Alamo Ritz 2, 1:00 PM

**Audience Award: Visions**

*Becoming Bond*

3/18/2017, Alamo Ritz 2, 7:00 PM

Film Stills and Director Headshots can be found at: <http://fif.sxsw.com/media>

## **About SXSW**

SXSW dedicates itself to helping creative people achieve their goals. Founded in 1987 in Austin, Texas, SXSW is best known for its conference and festivals that celebrate the convergence of the interactive, film and music industries. The event, an essential destination for global professionals, features sessions, showcases, screenings, exhibitions, and a variety of networking opportunities. SXSW proves that the most unexpected discoveries happen when diverse topics and people come together.

SXSW is proud to be an official qualifying festival for the Academy Awards® Short Film Competition. The Best Narrative Short, Best Documentary Short and Best Animated Short winners become eligible for the Academy Awards.

SXSW 2017 is sponsored by Esurance, Mazda, Monster Energy, Bud Light, Capital One, McDonald's, and The Austin Chronicle.

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