



MANHATTAN SHORT



Film Lovers Around the World Unite For One Month For One Film Festival--the 23rd Annual MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival! You Be the Judge!

September 24 to October 31

On behalf of everyone involved with MANHATTAN SHORT around the world... Welcome to the 23rd Annual Film Festival!

This year, we received 971 entries from 54 countries and selected nine finalists. The Final Nine MANHATTAN SHORT finalists hail from nine countries with films from Australia, Finland, France, Iran, Israel, North Macedonia, Russia, State of Palestine, and USA.

This year's Final Nine selections use drama, comedy and animation to address an astonishing number of themes, ranging from identity to parenthood to the seemingly universal frustration caused by the Department of Motor Vehicles no matter the country. The directorial voices are both male and female from countries large and small, often inspired by personal and sometimes harrowing, experience. This year's Final Nine screening also is a rare instance when gripping dramas from Iran, Israel, and the State of Palestine are featured in the same program.

Due to COVID 19 MANHATTAN SHORT is extending the screening dates through the whole month of October rather than its usual seven-to-ten day period. None of the screenings will be shown "virtually" so as to support local cinemas in a time of crisis. The films I remember best are those I saw in a cinema. Streaming the Manhattan Short Film Festival was never an option. While the numbers are sure to be down, you have to stay true to what you do. MANHATTAN SHORT is a cinematic experience.

YOU ^{BE} THE JUDGE!

Here's your chance to join the global film critic's circle. On entry to each venue, you were handed a voting card. At the conclusion of the show, we ask you to vote for the ONE film and ONE actor/actress you think is best. Votes will be sent to MANHATTAN SHORT headquarters and the winner will be announced at ManhattanShort.com on Sunday November 1st.



Lastly, I have to say a big **Thank You** to all the venues that found ways to put MANHATTAN SHORT on this year, from spacing out the screenings, teaming up with local drive-ins, to projecting it onto walls in their towns. So many found a way to bring this event to their community! It's been inspiring for us and the filmmakers. MANHATTAN SHORT and your community are eternally grateful. I'm sure all our collective efforts will make us stronger in brighter years to come.

Nicholas Mason
Founding Director

THE WORLD'S FIRST GLOBAL FILM FESTIVAL