



THE URBANWORLD® FILM FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY AT&T's THE HUMANITY OF CONNECTION

WITH FOUNDING SPONSOR HBO

ANNOUNCES 2018 FESTIVAL SLATE

NEW YORK PREMIERE OF NIGHT SCHOOL TO BE FEATURED

Festival Runs September 19-23, 2018 in Manhattan

**Kevin Hart, Tiffany Haddish, Lil Rel Howery and director Malcolm D. Lee
Confirmed To Attend**

NEW YORK, NY (August 28, 2018) – The 22nd Annual Urbanworld Film Festival (www.urbanworld.org), presented by **AT&T's The Humanity of Connection** along with founding partner **HBO**, presented its 2018 festival slate today. The slate of 69 official selections and 7 spotlight selections represent inclusion beyond ethnicity. The annual showcase of diverse culture and sensibility will be experienced in Manhattan **September 19-23, 2018** at **AMC Empire 25 on 234 West 42nd Street**.

“As we continue to evolve our programming slate to reflect the broadest lens of inclusion across stories, characters, themes and cultures, we are thrilled to collaborate with our presenting partner AT&T and founding partner HBO to showcase a collection of films, web originals, screenplays and music videos that represent distinct voices from around the world,” said **Gabrielle Glore, Festival Director & Head of Programming, Urbanworld Film Festival**. “Each year, we welcome content creators, studios, networks and film enthusiasts into our festival family to experience the magical energy that is Urbanworld.”

Universal Pictures' **Night School** will open the festival on **Wednesday, September 19, at 7:30 P.M.** at New York's SVA Theater on 333 West 23rd Street. **Kevin Hart** and **Tiffany Haddish** star in the new comedy from director **Malcolm D. Lee** (*Girls Trip*) and producer Will Packer that follows a group of misfits who are forced to attend adult classes in the longshot chance they'll pass the GED exam. Co-stars Rob Riggle, Taran Killam and Romany Malco join Hart and Haddish on-screen for the film that Hart produces for his Hartbeat Productions and Packer via his Will Packer Productions. Hart and Haddish are confirmed to attend the festival and a conversation with Lee will immediately follow the screening.

HBO will present a documentary spotlight selection for festival-goers. **The Sentence**, screens on **Thursday, September 20, 2018**. Directed by first-time filmmaker **Rudy Valdez**, the documentary takes a searing look at the devastating consequences of mandatory minimum sentencing through the lens of his own family. Cindy Shank, sister of Valdez and mother of three, is taken from her family to

spend 15 years in federal prison for conspiracy charges. Valdez copes with the tragedy by filming his nieces for over a decade to capture the moments his sister misses.

Inspired by the life of **Lil Rel Howery** (*Get Out*), Fox's "**Rel**" will debut at the festival on **Saturday, September 22, 2018**. The multi-camera comedy stars Howery as a successful, hardworking father and husband on the West Side of Chicago, whose life is perfectly on track. That is, until he discovers his wife is having an affair with his own barber – the worst person for your wife to sleep with, because as hard as it is to find love, it's even harder to find a good barber. Howery will appear at the festival for a post-screening Q&A.

Along with founding partner HBO, key supporters include **BET** as prestige partner and **NBCUniversal** as premiere partner. Industry partners include **AMC Independent, ARRAY, MPAA, Directors Guild of America, Producers Guild of America** and **Writers Guild of America East**.

Passes for the festival are on sale now and tickets for official selections and spotlights will be available in September on **urbanworld.org**. Additional festival announcements will also be made in September. Follow **@UWFilmFest** and use **#Urbanworld** to join the conversation about Urbanworld on social media.

URBANWORLD 2018 FILM SLATE

As of 08.30.18

SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS

Night School – Directed by Malcolm D. Lee (Presented by Universal Pictures)
Rel – Executive Produced by Lil Rel Howery & Jerrod Carmichael (Presented by 20th Century Fox)
The Sentence – Directed by Rudy Valdez (Presented by HBO)
United Skates – Directed by Dyana Winkler & Tina Brown
Little Woods – Directed by Nia DaCosta (Presented by NEON)
Tyrel – Directed by Sebastian Silva (Presented by Magnolia Pictures)
Jinn – Directed by Nijla Mu'min (Presented by Orion Classics)

YOUNG CREATORS SHOWCASE

Casey – Directed by Shanrica Evans (New York Premiere)
Kinto – Directed by Joshua Paul (New York Premiere)
Same, Old – Directed by Haya Alghanim (World Premiere)
Silvia In The Waves – Directed by Giovana Olmos (New York Premiere)
Sugar – Directed by Emiliana Ammirata (New York Premiere)
Three In Stride – Directed by Sasha Whittle (World Premiere)
Woke – Directed by Venk Potula (New York Premiere)

U.S. NARRATIVE FEATURES

1 Angry Black Man – Directed by Menelek Lumumba (New York Premiere)
Flavor of Life - Directed by Rajesh Golla (East Coast Premiere)
It's A Party – Directed by Weldon Wong Powers (New York Premiere)
PIMP – Directed by Christine Crokos (World Premiere)
Skin In The Game – Directed by Adisa (World Premiere)

WORLD CINEMA NARRATIVE FEATURES

El Chata / The Sparring Partner (Puerto Rico) – Directed by Gustavo Ramos (U.S. Premiere)
The Burial of Kojo (Ghana) – Directed by Blitz Bazawule (World Premiere)
Three And A Half / Teen aur Aadha (India) – Directed by Dar Gai (U.S. Premiere)
Respeto (Philippines) – Directed by Alberto Monteras II

DOCUMENTARY FEATURES

21 and Done – Directed by Kiara C. Jones (World Premiere)
Don't Be Nice – Directed by Max Powers (New York Premiere)
Mr. Soul! – Directed by Melissa Haizlip
She Did That. – Directed by Renae Bluit
The Pushouts – Directed by Katie Galloway and Dawn Valadez (New York Premiere)

NARRATIVE SHORTS

8 Million Miles from Hintahood – Directed by Justin Luis Denis (New York Premiere)
Are We Good Parents? – Directed by Bola Ogun (East Coast Premiere)
Blood Runs Down – Directed by Zandashé Brown (East Coast Premiere)
Cross My Heart – Directed by Sontenish Myers (New York Premiere)
French Fries – Directed by Janine Sherman Barrois
Hunger – Directed by Wesley Wingo (World Premiere)
I Am My Own Mother – Directed by Andrew Zox (U.S. Premiere)
Jitters – Directed by Otoja Abit (New York Premiere)
Kyenvu – Directed by Kemiyondo Coutinho (New York Premiere)
LABOR – Directed by Cecilia Albertini (East Coast Premiere)
Let Them Die Like Lovers – Directed by Jesse Atlas
Mama Said No White Barbies – Directed by Tiye Amenechi
Myself When I Am Real – Directed by Nefertite Nguvu (New York Premiere)
Piu Piu – Directed by Naima Ramos-Chapman (New York Premiere)
Salam – Directed by Claire Fowler
Shame – Directed by Anusha Bose
Sin Cielo – Directed by Jianna Maarten
Sojourn – Directed by Jonathan Lewis (World Premiere)
Somebody's Daughter – Directed by Shalini Adnani (World Premiere)
The Announcement – Directed by Attika J. Torrence (World Premiere)
The Hangman – Directed by Zwelethu Radebe (New York Premiere)
The Mute / Câm LặNg – Directed by Pham Thien An (East Coast Premiere)
Time 2 Surrender – Directed by Elvis Nolasco (World Premiere)
Unspoken – Directed by Danae Grandison (World Premiere)
Wale – Directed by Barnaby Blackburn
We Know Where You Live – Directed by Honora Talbott
What Happened to Evie – Directed by Kate Cheeseman (East Coast Premiere)
Wolf – Directed by Brittany Ballard (East Coast Premiere)

LATE NIGHT SCREENING

Asian Mob – Directed by Hezues R (World Premiere)

DOCUMENTARY SHORT

Pa'lante (Puerto Rico) – Directed by Ramón Rodríguez (New York Premiere)

ANIMATION SHORTS

iRony – Directed by Radheya Jegatheva (New York Premiere)
Lazare (FRANCE) – Directed by Mélisandre Hennuyer, Pierre Chupeau, Victor Besseau, Cassandra Haulot, Cyprien Beyaert
Riot – Directed by Frank Ternier (New York Premiere)

WEB ORIGINALS

40 and Single – Directed by Leila Djansi (East Coast Premiere)

Brooklynification – Directed by Keith Miller

F*N Your Life Up – Directed by Fredrick Leach

Frank and Lamar – Directed by Fred Soligan

I Used to Love Her – Directed by Steven Chew (World Premiere)

Otis – Directed by Alexander Etseyatse (New York Premiere)

MUSIC VIDEOS

New Phone, Who Dis? (Featuring Cyanca) – Directed by Alexander Hall

Pa'lante (Featuring Hurray for the Riff Raff) – Directed by Kristian Mercado Figueroa

Panic (Featuring Pablo Nouvelle and Fiona Daniel) – Directed by Maximilian Speidel (U.S. Premiere)

Run This (Featuring Vinida + DJ Mustard) – Directed by Arden Tse (East Coast Premiere)

Scandal (Featuring Bashton and Maya Azucena) – Directed by Pablo Mengin

SCREENPLAYS

A Precise Understanding of Darkness – Written by Robin Shanea Williams

Johnny Ace – Written by Moon Molson

Northern Cross – Written by Melody Cooper

The Mujahid's Bride – Written by Rafa Russo

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ABOUT URBANWORLD FILM FESTIVAL

Urbanworld Film Festival was launched in August 1997 by founder Stacy Spikes, co-founder of MoviePass and a former executive at Miramax and October Films. With estimated attendance reaching over 15,000, the five-day festival anchored in film showcases narrative features, documentaries, short films, spotlight screenings and live staged screenplay readings; the Urbanworld Digital track focuses on digital panels and workshops; and the Urbanworld Music franchise highlights emerging talent in live performances during festival events. For over two decades, Hollywood studios and indie film distributors, as well as established and emerging filmmakers, have consistently chosen Urbanworld to premiere box office and award-winning hits. The Urbanworld Film Festival is an initiative of the Urbanworld Foundation Inc. Gabrielle Glore serves as Festival Director & Head of Programming. The organization's website is www.urbanworld.org.

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URBANWORLD FILM FESTIVAL

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