

SEDONA TOUR STOP

MAY 2 - 4, 2019

EQUUS FILM FESTIVAL



Artwork by
OFFICIAL EQUUS Film Festival Tour Stop Artist
Melody DeBenedictis www.runninghorsesstudio.com

EQUUS Film Festival - 630-272-3077 - www.equusfilmfestival.net

3.21.2019 www.equusfilmfestival.net [Facebook](#) [TWITTER](#) <http://bit.ly/EQUUSFFOnDemand> #EFFSEDONA

ALL TIMES AND FILMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE



2019 EQUUS FILM FESTIVAL SEDONA AZ TOUR STOP INFO

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater - <http://www.sedonafilmfestival.org/>
2030 W AZ-89A, Sedona, AZ 86336 - 928-282-1177
<https://www.facebook.com/marydfishertheatre/>

DATE: MAY 2 - 4, 2019

TIME: Thursday 4 pm – 8:30 pm
Friday 4 pm – 8:30 pm
Saturday 1 pm – 8:30 pm

EVENT ALL ACCESS PASS: \$130 (non-members)
\$120 (members)

FILMS:

SINGLE BLOCK PASS: \$15 (non-member) (block lengths vary per length and number of films in the block)
SINGLE BLOCK PASS: \$12 (members)

CONTACT: Lisa Diersen / EQUUS Film Festival - 630-272-3077 – lisa@equusfilmfestival.net
Carly Cade / HOSTESS for SEDONA Tour Stop - 201-927-5135 - carly@carlykadecreative.com
Patrick Schweiss / Executive Director - Ext. 203 - director@sedonafilmfestival.org

OFFICIAL RESCUES: SPOTLIGHT Rescue Film – HOLD YOUR HORSES The Limits Of The Law
SAVe Havasupai Horses - Susan Ash - 208-659-2331
<https://vimeo.com/309539305> PLEASE watch and share this video. You can help SAVE the horses!
<https://www.facebook.com/HavasupaiHorses/> - <https://havasupaihorses.org/>

SAVe - MISSION

The mission of SAVE is to end the starvation and abuse of the pack animals on the Havasupai reservation; to elevate these animals to their rightful place in the Havasupai culture and all cultures as sentient beings that deserve compassionate care and respect for their service to human beings.

OFFICIAL HOTEL: Sedona Rouge

2250 W State Rte. 89A, Sedona, AZ 86336 - 928-203-4111 - www.sedonarouge.com

OFFICIAL ARTIST: Melody DeBenedictis – <http://www.runninghorsesstudio.com>

505-429-6597 / runninghorsestudio@yahoo.com

Lover of Horses.

The way they move, The way they speak, The way they drink and breathe the wind of freedom.

SEDONA HOSTESS & AUTHOR: CARLY KADE – AUTHOR – In The Reins

<https://www.facebook.com/carlykadecreative/>



Carly Kade is an award-winning equestrian author from Arizona. Creative writing makes her spurs jingle! She writes fiction about horses, horse shows, Western pleasure and a handsome cowboy or two. Her books are for people just like her — crazy about reading, horses and cute cowboys!

FILMMAKERS ATTENDING:

MUSTANG WARRIORS – World Premier – Davie Glossberg
THE GREAT FLIP OFF – Dafna Yachin (Filmmakers Birthday weekend!!!)
THEIR LAST RIDE Movie & Music Video – Neta Rhyne
A PONY AND HIS BOY: The Story Of Berry & Josh – Julianne Neal
HOLD YOUR HORSES: The Limit Of The Law – Julianne Neal
HORSE – JAR (Jean Albert Renaud)

ABOUT SEDONA ARIZONA:

<https://visitsedona.com/> - <https://www.sedona.net/>
<https://www.facebook.com/VisitSedona> <https://twitter.com/SedonaAZ>

Sedona Visitor Information Center - 331 Forest Road - Sedona, AZ 86336 - 800-288-7336 or 928-282-7722

Located in Arizona's high desert under the towering southwestern rim of the vast Colorado Plateau, the city of Sedona is blessed with four mild seasons marked by abundant sunshine and clean air. Ideally, the annual average high and low temperatures are 74.7 and 45.7 degrees, respectively.

Almost the entire world knows that Sedona, strategically situated at the mouth of spectacular Oak Creek Canyon, is a unique place. Characterized by massive red-rock formations, as well as the contrasting riparian areas of Oak Creek Canyon, the area surrounding this beloved community is considered at least as beautiful as many national parks. Learn more about why Sedona's natural beauty goes so much deeper than the stunning rock formations.

The story about how Sedona was named is well known; nonetheless, a brief telling is appropriate. As the story goes, after Theodore Carl Schnebly and his wife, Sedona, moved to Sedona from Gorin, Missouri, the few families living here convinced T.C. to establish a post office in his large home, which already had become the community's hotel. Various interpretations of this story suggest that he asked the government to name the post office Schnebly Station or Red Rock Crossing. Subsequently, he was told the names were too long, and following a suggestion by his brother, Dorsey Ellsworth Schnebly, he submitted his wife's name, Sedona. And so it was.



2019 EQUUS FILM FESTIVAL SEDONA 2109

THURSDAY MAY 2, 2019

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

FILM SCREENING

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater

2030 W. State Route 89A, Suite A-3

Sedona, AZ 86336 United States – 928-282-1177

www.equusfilmfestival.net 630-272-3077

TICKETS: <https://sedonafilmfestival.com/>

4:00 pm

A HORSE, A CONVICT, A CHANCE FOR CHANGE (2018) USA

22:30 min / Directed by: Autumn Payne

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHI7uZ_ZwiE

Changed by his love for a wild mustang, a high-risk convict struggles towards a brighter future. His horse, Zephyr, leads a parallel path.

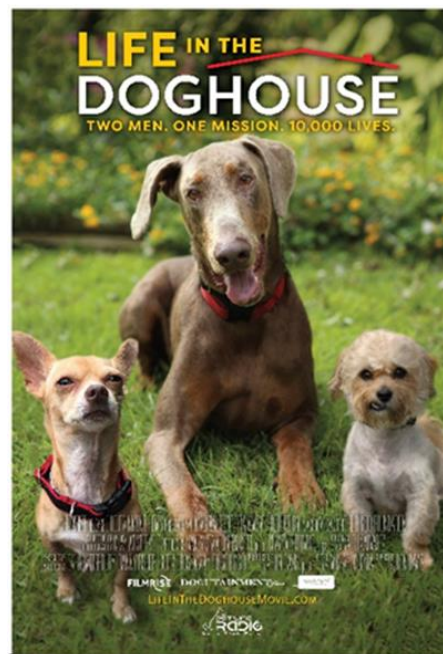
4:30 pm

LIFE IN THE DOGHOUSE (2018) USA

84:00 min / Directed by: Ron Davis (Harry & Snowman)

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQrQChgV-M>

LIFE IN THE DOG HOUSE tells the inspiring life stories of Danny Robertshaw and Ron Danta and the remarkable work they do at Danny & Ron's Rescue. Ten years and 10,000 dogs later, their unique approach to life and dog rescue will capture hearts and inspire millions to make the right choices when it comes to mans best friend.





THURSDAY May 2, 2019

6:15 pm – 8:30 pm

FILM SCREENING

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater

2030 W. State Route 89A, Suite A-3

Sedona, AZ 86336 United States – 928-282-1177

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TICKETS: <https://sedonafilmfestival.com/>

6:00 pm

BACK IN THE SADDLE (2018) CANADA

43:54 min / Directed by: Tracy Jacobson

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/279901989>

'Back in the Saddle' chronicles the passion of famed Canadian cowboy David Cowley and his desire to showcase the often mystical bond of trust that can develop between horse and rider by attempting something never accomplished before on horseback. Along the way, David will compete in the Cowboy Up Challenge at the world famous Calgary Stampede, deal with an emotional family tragedy and endure a series of setbacks that will have him questioning his own confidence before rising up to face his greatest challenge as a horseman.

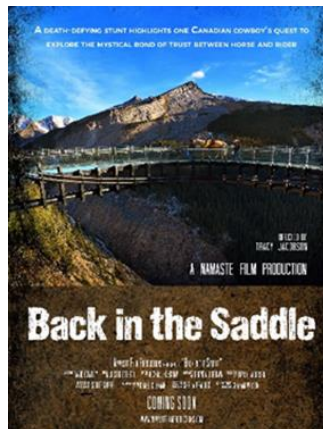
6:50 pm

SILENT COMRADE – (2018) GERMANY

88:00 min / Directed by: Leonhard Hollmann

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/251037419>

The documentary SILENT COMRADE accompanies three soldiers that are trying to find a way back to life with the help of Equine Assisted Psychotherapy for PTSD. Where the conventional medicine is limited, Claudia Swiercek fills the gap with her horses. "Horses are mirrors of the soul." With this sentence in mind, I went on a journey through Mongolia in the summer of 2014, accompanied by two horses. After five weeks in the saddle I still hadn't come to a full understanding of what that saying was supposed to mean. Shortly after my return to Germany I met Claudia Swierczek who told me about her Equine Assisted Psychotherapy for traumatized soldiers. I was fascinated by the thought of these sensitive animals helping soldiers to cope with their traumas. "Pony Pastorage" and soldiers - how could these two possibly go together? And how does Claudia Swierczek manage to help even with the allegedly hopeless cases? SILENT COMRADE attends the therapy sessions as a silent observer and allows access to Claudia Swierczek's unique form of therapy. It takes an intimate look at three characters, who talk about the causes and consequences of their traumas with an unusual openness and sincerity. Through their interaction with the horses, their invisible wounds become visible and palpable.





Friday May 3, 2019

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

FILM SCREENING

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater

2030 W. State Route 89A, Suite A-3

Sedona, AZ 86336 United States – 928-282-1177

www.equusfilmfestival.net 630-272-3077

TICKETS: <https://sedonafilmfestival.com/>

4:00 pm

TRAIL OF BLOOD – SAVE SHORT DOCUMENTARY

7:00 min

HOLD YOUR HORSES LIMIT OF THE LAW (2018) USA

60:00 min / Directed by: Julianne Neal

Arizona cinematography by Rob White

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/234144458>

SPOTLIGHT Rescue Series - Julianne Neal - julianne@jamediaconnections.com – 803-351-0223

“HOLD YOUR HORSES: The Limit of The Law” is a feature length documentary that covers the limits faced in prosecuting those involved in the abuse cases called The Hanging Barn (Clarion County Pennsylvania) and SAVE the Havasupai Pack Animals (Grand Canyon, Arizona). **Arizona cinematography by Rob White.** These two stories were featured in the 2017 Spotlight Rescue Series short PSAs. This new film calls for legislation to address issue of animal cruelty across the country, discusses alternatives and gives resources for educating and reporting abuse in your area. The film includes interviews with Bev Dee and Connie Schrekengost, as well as several other volunteers with Bright Futures Equine Charity, who discovered the horses in the Hanging Barn and were able to save some of the horses. Susan Ash, founder of SAVE (Stop Animal Violence), interviews with Bruce Anderson, Nature’s View clinician and consultant, Neta Ryne and Amber Taylor of Thundering Hooves, and H Leroy Stearns, former Executive Director of the Crawford County Humane Society. The film concludes with a call to action to institute federal legislation in animal cruelty cases.

FILMAKER IN ATTENDANCE

5:45 pm

THE LAST RIDE (2018) USA

05:00 min / Directed by: Michael Aku RoDriguez

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/254067715>

5:50 pm

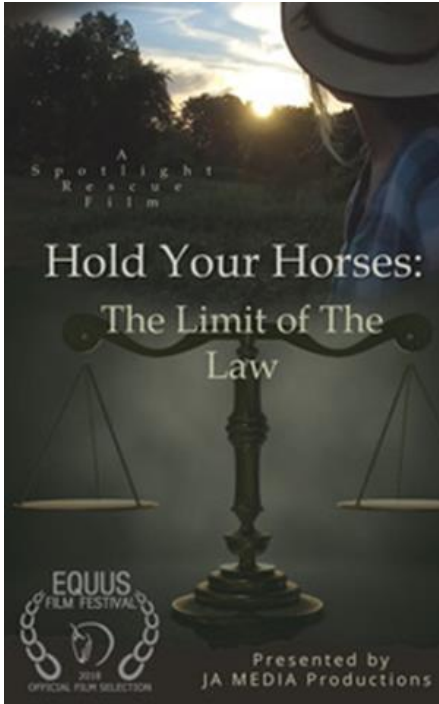
THEIR LAST RIDE (2018) USA

44:31 min / Directed by: Michael Aku RoDriguez

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/140967488>

A "Trail Of Tears" direct descendant Cherokee womans' personal journey that informs & reflects into the world of horse slaughter. Bringing awareness to the issues affecting horses, both Wild & Domestic, and connects people to the spirit of the Horse through multicultural participation and co-creation through all the ARTS.

FILMAKER IN ATTENDANCE





FRIDAY May 3, 2019

6:15 pm – 8:30 pm

FILM SCREENING

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater

2030 W. State Route 89A, Suite A-3

Sedona, AZ 86336 United States – 928-282-1177

www.equusfilmfestival.net 630-272-3077

TICKETS: <https://sedonafilmfestival.com/>

6:00 pm

DAUGHTERS OF THE POLO GOD (2018) INDIA

33:00 MIN / Directed by: Roopa Barua

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbWSgV60A14>

Equestrian International - Documentary

Marjing (25 mins, 2018, documentary) directed by Roopa Barua is a film on the ancient horse-human connect of the people of Manipur (India) that has brought about the game of polo. An intense heritage around benevolent animal spirits converging onto a military tradition around the Manipuri pony brought about the genesis of this game. Roopa Barua's film is a homage to this tradition which has now seen the sport grow to include an international women's polo tournament called PoloYatra where many teams from round the world converge to play the game in Manipur.

The shimmering emerald state of Manipur, India is the birthplace of modern polo with men having played there for several hundred years. Now it's the turn for the young maidens to charge forward. A young polo sisterhood is developing in Manipur that ploughs on in spite of adversity and political turmoil. They are intensely connected to their sacred Manipuri pony and play an international tournament every year. Roopa Barua film is a tribute to these polo players and the modern Manipuri women.

6:50 pm

HORSE – Music Video (5:00 min) JAR

SAVING THE MUSTANG: AMERICA'S HORSE ON THE BRINK (2018) CANADA

52:03 min / Directed by: Albert Botha

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IB2A8dauhK0>

Equestrian Documentary – Full Length (over 30 minutes)

Wild mustangs have long been an icon of native peoples and early settlers of North America. Yet their fate today is uncertain. SAVING THE MUSTANG explores the state of wild horses today through the efforts of three individuals: Canadian horseman Randy Bird who adopted eight mustangs from a crowded facility in Wyoming and brought them 3000 miles to their new home - his ranch near Cobourg Ontario; Endurance rider and song-writer Jean Albert Renaud, "JAR" who works with horses and at-risk teens on his Maryland ranch, helping youth who are often gang members to escape their brutal life; and Roger William, past chief of the First Nation Xenigwet'in, who have created a 200,000 hectare wild horse preserve in the pristine and rugged wilderness of the Nemiah Valley deep in the interior of British Columbia.

FILM STAR IN ATTENDANCE

7:50 pm

DESERT FLIGHT (2018) USA

40:00 min / Directed by: Ryan Koral

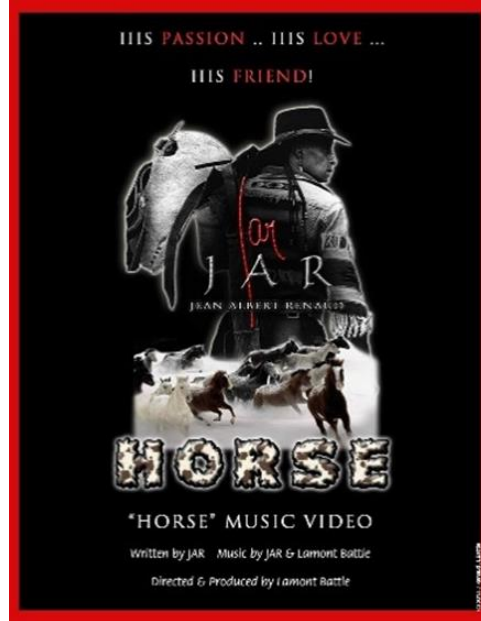
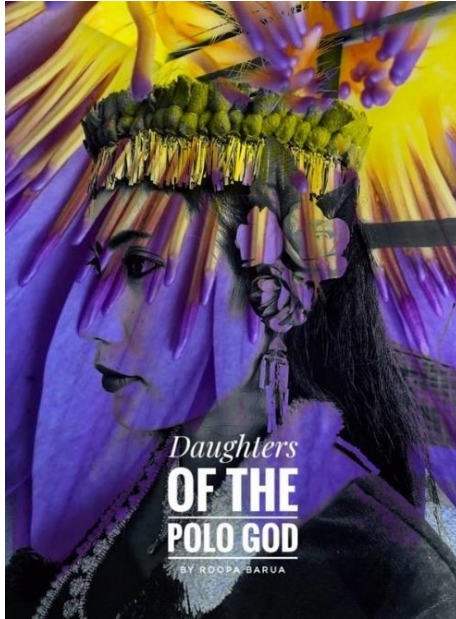
Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/268079001>

A love letter to the sport of show jumping, DESERT FLIGHT is a documentary short film that explores the unique relationship with the horse and why people dedicate so much to the equestrian life.

Filmmaker and show jumper Samia Staehle's goal was to capture the visceral way in which horses enrich our lives and heighten our senses. The film showcases the amazing kind of people that horses always seem to attract: individuals of enormous character, possessed of infinite work ethic, and often a very sharp sense of humor.

Set in Thermal, California the dry beauty of the desert and the horse show's hidden dusty trails are reminiscent of her one-time home in India, a land of adventure and freedom.

DESERT FLIGHT was shot with two-cameras over three-weeks by Tell Studios. Their crew from metropolitan Detroit with nearly zero experience with horses was set loose on the horse world, not without some trepidation from Staehle and her husband Daryl, the picture's Executive Producer. There was no script, only the mandate to go and find out what drives these horse people to do what they do every day. The result was DESERT FLIGHT.





Saturday May 4, 2019

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

FILM SCREENING

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater

2030 W. State Route 89A, Suite A-3

Sedona, AZ 86336 United States – 928-282-1177

www.equusfilmfestival.net 630-272-3077

TICKETS: <https://sedonafilmfestival.com/>

1:00 pm

BOY NOMAD (2018) CANADA

21:00 min / Directed by: Niobe Thompson & Dennis Wells

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/283935897>

Short film BOY NOMAD follows a year in the life of 9-year old Janibek, who lives with his family in Mongolia's Altai Mountains. His first love is racing horses, but this winter, his father will bring him on the toughest journey in a nomad's life: the winter migration. When the film crew arrives, they discover the Altai is gripped by a "zhut", a hard winter that blocks the passes and threatens to wipe out the family's only possession: their animals.

1:300 pm

MUSTANG WARRIORS (2019) USA – WORLD PREMIER

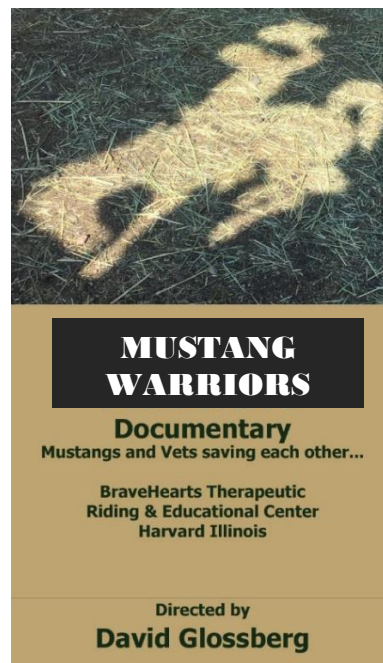
90:00 min / Directed by: David Glossberg

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/295545773>

Documentary addressing PTSD with our returning Warriors and the use of Mustangs in their rehabilitation. Mustangs and Vets saving each other.....

Filmed at Braveheartts Therapeutic Riding & Educational Center in Harvard Illinois.

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE





Saturday May 4, 2019

3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

FILM SCREENING

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater

2030 W. State Route 89A, Suite A-3

Sedona, AZ 86336 United States – 928-282-1177

www.equusfilmfestival.net 630-272-3077

TICKETS: <https://sedonafilmfestival.com/>

3:30 pm

A PONY AND HIS BOY THE STORY OF BERRY & JOSH (2018) USA

28:00 min / Directed by: Julianne Neal

Trailer:

“A Pony and His Boy: The Story of Berry & Josh” directed by Julianne Neal, shows the power of a pony and the effect that he has had on one small boy. Josh, an 8-year-old with Downs Syndrome, had been afraid of animals, especially horses all his life. One summer afternoon, when walking in the pasture full of horses with his mom and Lisa, Josh was asked “Do you want to ride?” When he surprisingly said yes, they caught him off-guard, swept him up and placed him on Berry. The relationship that started between Berry and Josh that day has been life-changing, not only for Josh, but for everyone who loves him.

Filmed in Illinois, North and South Carolina, plus featuring heartfelt testimonials and informative interviews, “A Pony and His Boy” is a testament to the power of the horse.

WINNIE Award winner in New York City!

FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE

4:00 pm

UTOPIK (2018) USA

13:50 min / Directed by: Georgia Griffis

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3XzMOhdC6s>

Charlie Carrel, a horseman from Wyoming, bonds with a troubled horse. After years of work together, they fight the odds and compete at a top level Grand Prix to prove the actual worth and ability of Utopik.

Director: Georgia Griffis was born and raised on a ranch in Larkspur Colorado. After attending Colorado College ('18), with a degree in Film and Media Studies, she founded Sorella Films. Works include Utopik, XO, The Crossing, You Don't Know jack, Here Here. Georgia works on and resides on the family ranch while pursuing her film projects.

4:20 pm

PATAGONIA BY HORSEBACK (2018) USA

5:00 min / Directed by: Lindsay Blatt

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/289470300>

“Patagonia By Horseback” a short film by Lindsay Blatt, follows a group of women who ventured by horseback into the rugged heart of the Andes on a 7-day pack trip.

This beautiful film captures the connection between horse and rider that results from days being spent moving through the Andes, sleeping on the ground, and cooking over campfire.

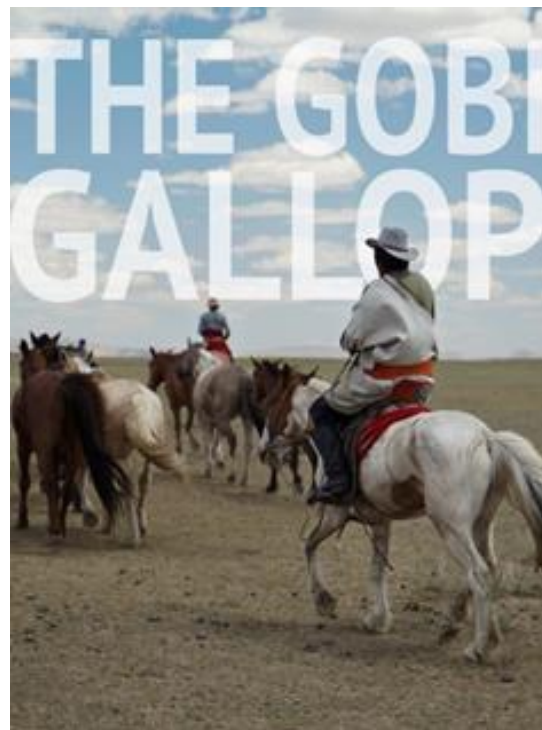
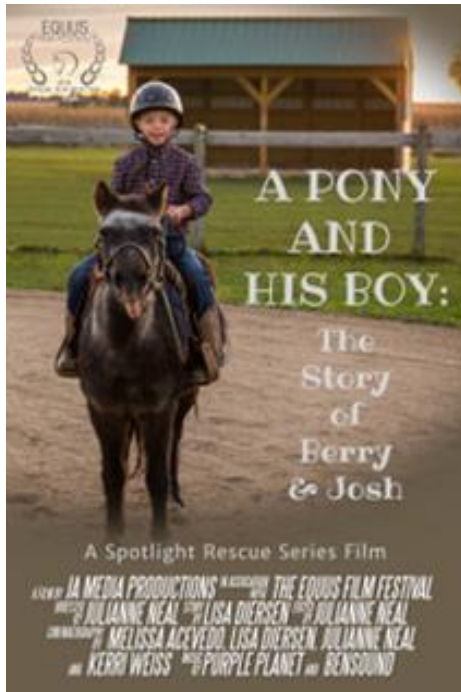
4:25 pm

THE GOBI GALLOP A DOCUMENTARY (2018) CANADA

70:00 min / Directed by: Bree Von Bradsky

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/285730970>

A look at the intrepid riders taking on the challenge of the longest annual charity horseback ride on the planet. With 12 riders and their Mongolian ground crew it is an adventure laced with all the unpredictable twists that only Mongolia can throw at you. Magnificent horses, amazing culture, epic adventures make this captivating story of undertaking incredible hardship to help some of the most impoverished children on the planet.





Saturday May 4, 2019

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

FILM SCREENING

LOCATION: Mary D. Fisher Theater

2030 W. State Route 89A, Suite A-3

Sedona, AZ 86336 United States – 928-282-1177

www.equusfilmfestival.net 630-272-3077

TICKETS: <https://sedonafilmfestival.com/>

6:00 pm

OBSTACLES THE ROAD TO RIO (2018) NETHERLANDS

48:00 min / Directed by: Annette van Trigt

Trailer:

An insight into the world of triathlon for horses. Follow Dutch best eventer Tim Lips and his father Martin, the national coach, as they prepare for the Olympic Games. Experience the unique pressure and disappointments of this environment as the both of them try to deliver the best results possible.

7:00 pm

THE GREAT FLIP OFF (2018) USA

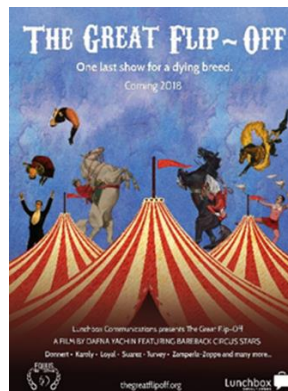
87:00 min / Directed by: Dafna Yachin

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/MXTtgdalurw>

One last show for a dying breed.

Facing extinction from the American circus, the last extreme bareback riders, along with their majestic horses, unite for one final death-defying performance.

When Ringling Bros. announce the end of their three-ring big top to usher in a new era of fewer animals and arena-only performances, it marks the beginning of the end in entertainment history for the original circus act — The Bareback riders. These acrobatic daredevils perform stunts upon galloping horses with a will of their own. Meet the last of the great bareback artists as they band together for the largest gathering of riders this century — one final death-defying performance in the face of extinction from the American circus. Follow these extreme riders and their legendary families, from Italy, Mexico, Hungary and France, as they bring the risk and beauty of the original circus act to a multi-generational audience, one last time in. Then, return 10 years later to discover how these families have dealt with the passing of time in a range of unusual happy endings and ultimate heartbreak.





ABOUT THE EQUUS FILM FESTIVAL

The seventh annual EQUUS Film Festival will take December 2019 in New York City. EQUUS Film Festival is the first event of its kind to offer a home to the storytellers of the horse world, with films, documentaries, videos, commercials and shorts from around the world and cultural elements of fine equestrian art and literature.

Founded in 2013 by Lisa Diersen, Director/Organizer, an avid equestrian, who has spent her life in the company of horses. The festival was joined by Diana De Rosa, and international equine photographer and journalist in 2015, as Co-Organizer of the NYC Festival. The EQUUS Film Festival highlights and rewards the diverse and creative efforts of those who pay artistic homage to the horse.

Lisa's mission is to show the world how horses can bring everyone together regardless of race, age, gender, abilities or disabilities. She presently raises, trains and loves Lusitano horses in Maple Park, Illinois.

The EQUUS Film Festival is now available ON-DEMAND, streaming to all your devices.

For more information contact: Lisa Diersen, Founder/Director -lisa@equusfilmfestival.net, 630-272-3077.

Visit our website at: <http://www.equusfilmfestival.net/> and our FaceBook page.

LISA DIERSEN

EQUUS Film Festival - Founder / Director



Lisa Diersen is an avid equestrian, she has spent her life in the company of horses. Riding since she could sit in a saddle Diersen has a great appreciation for all types of equestrian disciplines. She is the Founder and Director of the EQUUS Film Festival. The EFF empowers storytellers to show the rich history and diverse tapestry of horses in human culture through equestrian content, film, art and literature. The EQUUS Film Festival is the first film festival oriented around equestrian themed content from all over the world that also travels the world. Screening feature films, documentaries, shorts, music videos, commercials, training educational materials, art and literary, covering all equestrian disciplines, creating a home for the storytellers of the horse world.

Working with the team of Benjamin Oberman, Paul Cohen and Gayle Gari on the development and launch of the EQUUS Film Festival ON DEMAND Platform, to bring the best of the EFF into your home and onto your handheld devices. EQUUS Film Festival ON DEMAND is a broadcast channel for all people who love horses, for all equestrians and equine professionals, giving those involved in the equestrian industry, an opportunity to share their story to a growing global audience. Created for Horse Lovers... by Horse Lovers!

Her mission is to show the world how horses can bring everyone together regardless of race, age, gender, abilities or disabilities. Lisa is passionate about the education and enlightenment of others to the wonderful world of horses and everything they can do to enrich our lives.

With a background in engineering and construction management, she has a wide based ability to get projects up and running. She is a published equine author with many articles to her credit. Diersen spent the early part of her career with General Motors in engineering, then moving into the subdivision development and home/barn building market, before returning to her first love..... working with horses! She spends her time, when not

promoting equestrian film, having fun promoting the new equestrian sport of Working Equitation and raising and training Lusitano horses and spending time with her faithful Jack Russell Terrier, Amore, the silver stallion love of her life, Urano VO and the herd.

lisa@equusfilmfestival.net

CARLY KADE
SEDONA TOUR STOP HOSTESS - AUTHOR



Carly Kade is an award-winning equestrian author from Arizona. She is the Hostess for the EQUUS Film Festival SEDONA Tour Stop. Creative writing makes her spurs jingle! She writes fiction about horses, horse shows, Western pleasure and a handsome cowboy or two. Her books are for people just like her — crazy about reading, horses and cute cowboys!

In her free time, Carly enjoys competitively showing her registered Paint Horse, works on her next novel, reads voraciously, spends time with her two adopted dogs, and loves exploring the great outdoors.

In the Reins, the first in Carly's series of novels inspired by the equestrian lifestyle, has been an Amazon best seller for more than 10 weeks, is an EQUUS Film Festival Literary Award Winner for Best Western Fiction and has earned two Feathered Quill Book Awards in the Romance and Adult Book featuring Animals categories. The book is available now in Audiobook, Paperback and eBook on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, iBooks and Kobo.

Visit Carly's blog where she shares new videos, photos and stories that highlight interesting cowgirl topics, horse tips, series sneak peeks, event updates, and release info! Join the herd and connect with Carly on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), Pinterest or [Twitter](#).
<https://www.carlykadecreative.com>

MELODY DE BENEDICTIS
OFFICIAL Tour Stop Artist
Artist-Singer-Songwriter



Melody DeBenedictis, Artist-Singer-Songwriter of Running Horses Studio, LLC Melody has a wild heart she has followed over the last 10 years using her creative abilities to advocate for the wild mustang and the lands they roam, sharing the beauty, grit, and the true spirit of the wild mustang. She has lived on large ranches building a life around the horse, adopting two Spanish Colonial wild Mustangs known as 'the girls' who now roam on a 22,000-acre sanctuary. She lives her passion for the horse with her small herd in northern New Mexico where she works in her studio joined with her music partner Karl Zimmer, traveling

the west and creating works of fine art that represent the Westland its wild in her vintage RV 'The little red roan'. You can learn more about Melody, and view her collection of fine art at www.runninghorsesstudio.com
 Artist, Singer, Songwriter...Melody DeBenedictis

“Some of you may not know that I have spent the last 10 years traveling to rangelands and sanctuaries across the west. I have spent valuable time on the wild range, to living for a year at a wild horse sanctuary full time, to adopting and owning my own wild mustangs and horses over the years. This journey of the Wild has taken me to participate in shows, conferences, equine events, street events, special events, film festivals, and supporting other sanctuaries and organizations like Thundering Hooves, and Engler Canyon Ranch and more, inspiring me to purchase vintage rv's as I travel from state to state across the west and its wild. It's the wild mustang that has inspired the paintings, the stories and the songs. I have an extensive catalog of photographs from over the years, along with an incredible history and experience of travels and life living with the wild horse. All of this is what you 'see' in my original art work, all of this, is what you hear in the songs that have been written, and the stories that have been told. If you haven't followed my blog at 'ramblings' on my website, I invite you to join the journey, it's been one as wild as the mustang themselves full of adventure, adversity and freedom!

Follow me, enjoy the art, the stories, the songs...

'Running with the Horses' in 2019, Melody DeBenedictis”

JULIANNE NEAL

JA MEDIA – SPOTLIGHT RESCUE SERIES

CAMDEN EQUUS Film Festival Tour Stop Organizer



Julianne Neal Julianne Neal, Organizer of the CAMDEN Tour Stop is the owner of JA Media Connections LLC, a production company out of South Carolina. She is a graduate of the Director’s Program of the Manhattan Film Institute. As an educator and the Coordinator of Visual and Performing Arts for the Fairfield County School District, she enjoys engaging students in the filmmaking process, giving them hands-on experience in production. Through Arts in The Basic Curriculum and Distinguished Arts Program Awards over the past decade, the district’s arts department has partnered with the Student Services to enhance opportunities in the arts for students with special needs. Julianne also partners with Bruce Anderson to provide services for Nature’s View, Inc. and The Marley Project, a non-profit 501(c)(3) dedicated to equine awareness and education through the arts.

For more about their programs, visit

www.naturesview.us or

www.jamediaconnections.com

Contact Julianne at julianneneal@me.com



BRUCE ANDERSON
CLINICIAN: NATURAL HUMANSHP
CAMDEN EQUUS Film Festival Tour Stop



Bruce Anderson grew up on the West Indian islands of Trinidad and Tobago and it was there on the family cocoa and coffee estate that he began his relationship with horses. He learned to ride on the estate and then represented Trinidad on the National Show Jumping Team. From there he moved on to breeding farms at home, in the U.K. and in the U.S.

While in England, he earned an agricultural degree from Merristwood College before moving to Florida to work in the Thoroughbred racing industry.

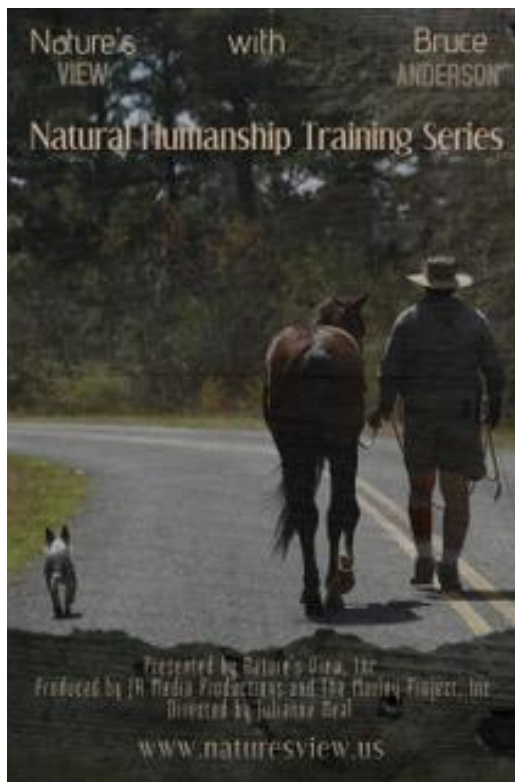
He eventually moved on to the hunter/jumper show circuit as a rider and trainer and moved to Camden, South Carolina, in 1997 to manage Finally Farm.

Eventually Bruce decided to start his own business which led to the evolution of Nature's View equine programs.

He and partner Julianne Neal founded Nature's View, Inc. and The Marley Project, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) dedicated to equine education and wellness. They work in Camden, and around the southeastern U.S., with counselors and mental health professionals, law enforcement agencies, school and church groups. Their first collaborative project, "THE EDGE: Bruce Anderson - Natural Humanship," provides insight into Anderson's equine work.

Bruce also enjoys working with horse owners and their horses to assist them in building better relationships. Anderson started working with EQUUS Film Festival as a clinician and guest speaker at EQUUS Film Festival Tour Stops and he will be featured on the EFF On-Demand Platform as a continuing clinician series.

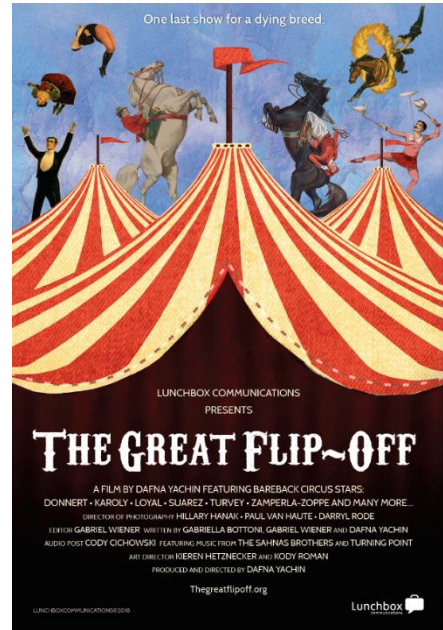
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THE GREAT FLIP-OFF

When Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey announce the end of their three-ring big top in 2006 to usher in a new era of fewer animals and arena-only performances, it marks the beginning of the end in entertainment history for the original circus act — The Bareback riders. These acrobatic daredevils perform stunts upon galloping horses with a will of their own.

Meet the last of the great bareback artists, past and present, as they band together for the largest gathering of riders of this century - one last, death-defying performance in the face of extinction from the American circus.



FILMMAKER: DAFNA YACHIN



For over 20 years Dafna has written, produced and directed award-winning television, films, national spots, educational programs and multimedia campaigns. Her projects have aired on CBS, ABC, NBC, Discovery, History and SyFy.

By day, she is Chief Creative Officer at Lunchbox Communications, a woman's owned digital media firm. Dafna has an innate skill for identifying talented scholars and creative individuals who are great innovators and collaborators. She believes the team is everything.

Dafna concentrates her Indie Filmmaking on justice, women's rights and cultural preservation. Dafna's first feature documentary, *Digital Dharma: One Man's Mission to Save A Culture*, was Oscar qualified in 2012. Her latest feature, *The Great Flip-Off*, documents the demise of Americas original circus art, bareback riding.



Wish Dafana Happy Birthday when you see her!

JAR – HORSEMAN / MUSICIAN / LOVER OF LIFE



Jean Albert Renaud, Baltimore native, went from a signed Motown artist that reached the top of the charts to founding a top-rated nonprofit that for decades has helped urban youth from Maryland and Washington D.C. make connections to horses and nature, changing their lives.

The property is bordered by the Prettyboy Reservoir, which provides thousands of forested acres to ride. The 76 year-old who looks about 50 has bred a horse, the “Morwalkarab” - from the Morgan, Tennessee Walker, and Arabian - specifically for long distance or marathon riding.

This type of race, as depicted in the movie Hidalgo with Viggor Mortensen,

is a century’s old event still observed today in the Middle East. JAR made history as the first African American to complete the ride, as well as train a Qatari horse to complete one of those races.

JAR is part African-American, part Native-American and part French-American. Genetically, he is probably more “American”, whatever that means, than most who claim that distinction. Born in Newport News, Virginia to a not poor, but not rich family, he was conceived the day before his father was shipped off to war in 1941. Shortly thereafter, he moved to East Baltimore, but never lost contact with the rural life in Virginia.

Returning summers to visit the family farm, he was introduced to horses by his great grandfather who used them as beasts of burden. This was the beginning of the longest relationship of his life, and for many years the only source of joy for him as he suffered many brutal beatings as a boy while attempting to defend his mother from his abusive father.



Renaud, as JAR was known as a boy, was always a performer and singer, and he knew he was an entertainer. In 1960, he went into the Army as a way of supporting his mother, who was abandoned by his father. In the Army, he won awards for his singing and performing skills and was treated as the unique person he was. When he was honorably discharged, he played the bars in Ocean City, Maryland, and eventually signed with Motown, opening for the best in the business including Michael Jackson and the Jackson Five and Sly and the Family Stone.

Renaud knew everyone...and enjoyed the lifestyle: drugs, sex and rock

and roll. He used himself up, and returned to live in his mother’s basement to salvage and redirect his life.

He discovered a place north of Baltimore where he could get back to his rural roots. Sunshine Acres was bought, and the love of his life returned. He was able to work with horses. This time the horse saved his life and gave him renewed purpose, identity and path. He became JAR Horseman.

JAR doesn’t exactly sit by and let life flow over him. When you lose enough friends to AIDS, you start a non-profit, Protect Yourself1, (PY1) to save those still alive and not infected. When you come from East Baltimore, you bring children from the Inner City to your ranch to experience the essence of horses. When you sing and write music for a living, you really do that for life. When horses save your life, you do all you can to save theirs. This is not a simple story about a very long horse race. That would be too easy.