

BIG EDDY

FILM FESTIVAL

NARROWSBURG - NEW YORK

***WORLD PREMIERE OF
“THE ART & TIMES OF FROSTY MYERS”
AND FESTIVAL FOCUS ON NEW DOCUMENTARIES
AT THE 7TH ANNUAL BIG EDDY FILM FESTIVAL***

September 14 – 16, 2018 in Narrowsburg, NY

Narrowsburg, NY - The Delaware Valley Arts Alliance is pleased to announce the lineup for the **Big Eddy Film Festival**, September 14 – 16, 2018. The festival will open with the world premiere of “The Art and Times of Frosty Myers” at its seventh annual event in Narrowsburg, NY on Friday, September 14 at 8 pm.

“The Art and Times of Frosty Myers” documents the career of sculptor Forrest “Frosty” Myers over the past half-century. Frosty’s wide-ranging works include NYC landmark artwork “The Wall” aka the Gateway to SoHo, “The Moon Museum” the first art placed on the Moon, and his radical furniture that blurred the lines of art and design.

Coming to New York City from San Francisco in 1961, he entered a rapidly changing art scene. During this time, American artists were ripping away established European traditions, replacing them with Abstract Expressionism, Pop, Minimalism, Conceptualism, Earth Art, Hard Edge painting and sculpture, and embracing Art and Technology. Additionally, the cultural changes of the social justice movements and the anti-war protests were intertwined with the daily lives of Frosty and other artists. Their camaraderie at the famed New York City bar, Max’s Kansas City, created synergies in art, music, and culture. These artists pioneered living and working in abandoned lofts and led the urban renewal in what became the downtown scene in lower Manhattan, SoHo and ultimately Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

Frosty and his wife Debra Arch Myers (the producer of the film) recently moved out of NYC to the Upper Delaware River Valley where they built a museum and sculpture garden as a permanent home for Frosty's artwork.

"The Wall' (aka 'The Gateway to SoHo') was installed in 1973. In 1997, when the building's owners wanted to remove it for billboard advertisement, it was defended by the NY Landmarks Preservation Commission, The Municipal Art Society, the SOHO Alliance, and the entire downtown artist community," says Frosty Myers. "It was a 10-year legal battle before a solution was reached with the owners and the sculptural relief was restored and saved for perpetuity."

Bookending this year's festival is a VIP Champagne Closing Reception at Frosty and Debra Arch Myers' Wild Turkey Sculpture Garden in Damascus, PA on Sunday, September 16 at 4 pm. The spectacular grounds, located on the banks of the Upper Delaware River, house many of Frosty Myers' iconic sculptures, as well as extensive flower and vegetable gardens. This event is for Big Eddy Film Festival All-Access pass holders only.

FESTIVAL FOCUS ON DOCUMENTARY

Throughout the weekend, the festival will screen new nonfiction films including the New York premiere of "306 Hollywood," a film that turns the documentary genre on its head. The filmmakers are two siblings who embark on a magical-realist journey that transforms their late-grandma's quaint New Jersey home into a visually exquisite ruin where a lifetime of possessions become artifacts. Also featured is "Minding the Gap," a documentary about three teenagers who bond across racial lines to escape volatile families in their Rust Belt hometown. Ten years later, while facing adult responsibilities, unsettling revelations force them to reckon with their fathers, their mothers, and each other. The film won a Special Jury Award for Breakthrough Filmmaking at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival.

"Documentary work is stronger than ever," says festival director Tina Spangler. "Nonfiction storytellers are taking the genre into new territory, both visually and structurally. And we're enthusiastic about the hosting some of the most exciting new documentaries coming out this year."

Big Eddy Film Festival will also present the feature film "Keep the Change," a New York romantic comedy starring actors with autism that offers a refreshingly honest portrait of a community seldom depicted on the big screen; and the East Coast Premiere of "Eve," a 20 minute short film directed by Susan Bay-Nimoy, who wrote the script while processing the death of her husband Leonard Nimoy. Bay-Nimoy also stars in the lead role of a 74-year-old woman navigating grief, sexual passion, and renewal.

“Expanding the conversation about ‘truth’ and ‘fiction’ in cinema, we are thrilled to be showing these two scripted narrative films that have real life experiences as their inspiration,” says Spangler.

WOMEN DIRECTORS WELL-REPRESENTED

In 2017, women comprised 8% of the directors of the top grossing 100 films in Hollywood.

Half of the films that will be screened at the 2018 Big Eddy Film Festival, including shorts and features, are directed (or co-directed) by women. Of the remaining films that are male-directed, half of those are produced by women.

All of the feature-length films showing at the Big Eddy were either directed, co-directed, or produced by women.

Here are other current statistics:

<https://womenandhollywood.com/resources/statistics/>

NARROWSBURG, NY

Narrowsburg, NY is situated along the Upper Delaware River in the foothills of the Catskill Mountains. A destination for artists and nature-enthusiasts for many decades, the town has an authentic small-town style, ample real estate and fresh air, and is a two hour drive from New York City. Narrowsburg was originally called Big Eddy after the lake-like body of water in the Delaware River around which the town was built.

Built in the 1930s as a single screen movie house, the art-deco style [Tusten Theatre](#) serves as the venue for all Big Eddy Film Festival screenings. Located at 210 Bridge St, Narrowsburg, NY, the Tusten Theatre has a seating capacity of 150 and offers convenient and ample parking.

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

THE ART AND TIMES OF FROSTY MYERS

Directors: Tim Lalumia and Chris Stearns

From his years in New York City’s revolutionary 1960’s art and cultural scene, to the present day, this documentary film explores the art and times of sculptor, Frosty Myers. World premiere.

Screens Friday, September 14 at 8:00 pm

THE ART AND TIMES OF FROSTY MYERS Trailer:

<https://youtu.be/Q7ZYj8JFoT0>

MINDING THE GAP

Director: Bing Liu

“Minding the Gap” is a coming-of-age saga of three skateboarding friends in their Rust Belt hometown of Rockford, IL. There, Bing Liu explores various heady subjects, from masculinity to racial identity to domestic abuse and the transition to adulthood. Minding the Gap was the winner of a Special Jury Prize at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, where it premiered, the Audience Award at the 2018 Full Frame Documentary Film Festival. Catskills premiere.

Screens Saturday, September 15 at 9:00 pm

MINDING THE GAP Trailer: https://youtu.be/n5Vm_Awe3bw

306 HOLLYWOOD

Directors: Elan + Jonathan Bogarin

306 Hollywood, which premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, is a magical realist documentary of two siblings who undertake an archaeological excavation of their late grandmother’s house. They embark on a journey from her home in New Jersey to ancient Rome, from fashion to physics, in search of what life remains in the objects we leave behind. 306 Hollywood won the Emerging International Filmmaker Award at Hot Docs and the Grand Jury Prize at the Kansas City Film Festival. New York premiere.

Screens Saturday, September 15 at 1:00 pm

306 HOLLYWOOD Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/251324786>

KEEP THE CHANGE

Director: Rachel Israel

When aspiring filmmaker David (Brandon Polansky) is mandated by a judge to attend a social program at the Jewish Community Center, he is sure of one thing: he doesn’t belong there. But when he’s assigned to visit the Brooklyn Bridge with the vivacious Sarah (Samantha Elisofon), sparks fly and his convictions are tested. Under the guise of an off-kilter New York romantic comedy, “Keep the Change” does something quite radical – featuring a cast of actors with autism and offering a refreshingly honest portrait of a community seldom depicted on the big screen. Catskills premiere.

Screens Saturday, September 15 at 6:00 pm

KEEP THE CHANGE Trailer: <https://youtu.be/rLAwe5KRyJg>

Link to full festival line-up: <http://www.bigeddyfilmfest.com/category/2018-films/>

ATTEND THE FESTIVAL

Opening night film tickets are \$15. All other individual film tickets are \$10. Also available are special All-Access Festival Passes for \$100, which include a guaranteed seat at all screenings, including opening night, admission to the Saturday evening Meet the Filmmakers cocktail party and to the VIP Champagne Closing Reception. Discounted Six-Pack tickets are available for \$40 (does not include opening night film or parties). Tickets are on sale now.

All screenings take place at the Tusten Theatre, 210 Bridge Street in Narrowsburg, NY. For more information and tickets, visit BigEddyFilmFest.com or call 845-252-7576.

ABOUT THE BIG EDDY FILM FESTIVAL

Produced by Delaware Valley Arts Alliance of Narrowsburg, NY (DVAA), the Big Eddy Film Festival aims to advance the traditional art of storytelling by showing the newest and best independent films from around the world and our own backyard. Visit www.BigEddyFilmFest.com.

ABOUT THE DELAWARE VALLEY ARTS ALLIANCE

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, founded in 1976, serves as Arts Council for Sullivan County, NY. DVAA's mission is to advance the arts in the region through support and encouragement of artists; innovative programs; advocacy; and alliances with arts organizations, business, and government. DVAA also produces the Tusten Theatre Cultural Series, Alliance Gallery exhibitions, and Riverfest. Visit www.DelawareValleyArtsAlliance.org.

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Filmmakers and festival director Tina Spangler available for interviews.

*For publicity materials and to arrange interviews, contact: Tina Spangler, Festival Director, tina.spangler@gmail.com
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