

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## ROBIN GIVENS' "THE NANA PROJECT" TO OPEN THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MYSTIC FILM FESTIVAL

*The festival's main slate will feature 73 new short and feature-length documentary and narrative films from around the world, student films.*

*Additional events include a screenwriting competition, filmmakers' workshops, and panel discussions*

STONINGTON, CT - August 18, 2023 – The 6th Annual [Mystic Film Festival](#) announced today that Robin Givens' THE NANA PROJECT will open this year's festival on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at Mystic Luxury Cinemas. The film stars Tony and Academy Award winner Mercedes Ruehl, Nolan Gould (*Modern Family*), and Will Peltz (*The List*). Set in the competitive world of chess, the film follows Nana's (Mercedes Ruehl) journey in a heartwarming feel-good comedy about reuniting her grandsons (Will Peltz and Nolan Gould) and supporting her retirement community.

Additionally, today the festival announced this year's main slate features which consists of 73 short and feature-length documentary and narrative films from around the world, as well as student films.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mystic Film Festival is set to be an essential event for local patrons of the arts and for filmmakers from around the world and will also include a screenwriting competition, filmmakers' workshops and panel discussions.

This year's festival screenings, panels, and workshops will be held at the [Mystic Luxury Cinemas](#), [La Grua Center](#), [United Theatre](#) of Westerly, Rhode Island, and the [Mystic Aquarium](#).

Schedule, tickets, and festival passes will go on sale in early September at [www.mysticfilmfestival.com](http://www.mysticfilmfestival.com)

*The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mystic Film Festival Main Slate*

### OPENING NIGHT

The Nana Project, directed by Robin Givens

### NARRATIVE FEATURES

**Inshallah A Boy, directed by Amjad Al-Rasheed**  
**Intermedium, directed by Erik Bloomquist**  
**Karaoke, directed by Moshe Rosenthal**  
**My Neighbor Adolf, directed by Leonid Prudovsky**  
**Perfectly Good Moment, directed by Lauren Greenhall**  
**Ramona At Midlife, directed by Brooke Berman**  
**Scrap, directed by Vivian Kerr**

### **FEATURE DOCUMENTARIES**

**Aurora's Sunrise, directed by Inna Sahakyan**  
**Ellis, directed by Sascha Just**  
**Finding Her Beat, directed by Dawn Mikkelson and Keri Pickett**  
**In The Whale, directed by David Abel**  
**Joan Baez: I Am A Noise, directed by Miri Navasky, Maeve O'Boyle and Karen O'Connor**  
**Melges: The Wizard of Zenga, directed by Mark Honer**  
**Out There: A National Parks Story, directed by Brendan Hall**  
**Pianoforte, directed by Jakub Platek**

### **NARRATIVE SHORTS**

**Above the Desert with No Name, directed by Sonia Sebastian**  
**Between Floors, directed by Jonathon Millman**  
**Castles in the Sky, directed by Pearl Gluck**  
**Consider The Sparrow, directed by Eliza Foss**  
**Daddy's Eyes, directed by Drew Ann Rosenberg**  
**Discovering Ella, directed by Kathi Carey**  
**Inmate, directed by Enrique Lebron**  
**In the Grey, directed by Paul Robinson and Sashia Dumont**  
**Mandy's Voice, directed by Roxanna Lewis**  
**Misophonia, directed by Linda Wingerter**  
**Ms. Rossi 2: Ms. Rossi Takes the Cake, directed by Pat Battistini**  
**My Dear Aunt Sally, directed by Tom Procida**  
**Nine Miles, directed by Angelique Georges**  
**Not the Same Clarence, directed by Brian Russell and Samuel B Russell**  
**Order My Steps, directed by Augusta Palmer**  
**Perception, directed by Erik Bloomquist**  
**Police Three, directed by Jimmy Lucarz**  
**Scam, directed by Julie Sharbutt**  
**Sister, directed by Shane Andries**  
**Split Ends, directed by Karla Lulic**  
**[subtext], directed by Erin Brown Thomas**  
**Summer, directed by Andor Berényi**  
**Tart, directed by Rose Schimm**  
**The Cookbook, directed by Gabriela Paciel**  
**The Erratic, directed by James Canty**

**The Firefly Jar, directed by Gary Fierro**  
**The No Problem Zone, directed by Nicholas Sennott**  
**To Make Chickens Laugh, directed by Karin Shook**  
**Women and Elephants, directed by Barbara Stepansky**

### **DOCUMENTARY SHORTS**

**A Feminist Lens: The Art and Activism of Photographer Joan Roth, directed by Pamela French**  
**Camera and Clay, directed by Christopher Kepple**  
**Deep Ambition, directed by Shareen Anderson**  
**Inside the Beauty Bubble, directed by Cheryl Bookout and Cheri Gaulke**  
**Make a Mark, directed by Susan Mangiero**  
**Molten, directed by Matt Andrew and Hillary Federico**  
**Reel Rock: Resistance Climbing, directed by Nick Rosen, Peter Mortimer and Zachary Barr**  
**Requiem for a Whale, directed by Ido Weisman**  
**Seeds Of Change, directed by Maximilian Armstrong**  
**The 29<sup>th</sup> Connecticut, directed by Amanda Curtis Lillig**  
**The Thread, directed by Claire Rose Kennedy**  
**Witch Hunt, directed by Anthony J. Sherin and Genevieve Mathis**

### **STUDENT FILMS**

**Artboy, directed by Eli Canter**  
**Blue Period, directed by Chloe Peters**  
**Cold, directed by Mason Cazalet**  
**Concetta, directed by Geraldo Hinch**  
**Connecticut's Connection to the Sea, directed by Jude Michael Rodricks**  
**Every Other Kid, directed by Patrick Godino**  
**Gale, directed by Chloe White**  
**Memento Mori, directed by Arianna Garcia**  
**Neon Rage, directed by Jake Murphy and Cecilia Cerejido-Bloche**  
**Our Shadows, directed by Polly Chesnokova**  
**Out Of Water, directed by Madi Stine**  
**Ovaryacting, directed by Jordan Held**  
**Post Term, directed by Saleem Nasir Gondal**  
**The Tale of Captain Fortyhands, directed by Kyle Farmer**  
**To Somewhere, With Me, directed by Sarah Sewell**  
**Where's My Money, Tommy?, directed by Casey Schaffer**

### **SCREENPLAY COMPETITION FINALISTS**

**American Heroine, written by Nico Raineau**  
**Asylum, written by Kathryn Orzech**  
**Cool New Town, written by Julie Sharbutt**

**Coup of Me, written by Hunter Ridgway**  
**Dancing Beyond, written by Sarah Daly**  
**Daughter, written by Joanne Hudson**  
**Halo, written by Bryce Breen**  
**Megan's Island, written by Jennifer Bernard and SoYun Roe**  
**Moksha, written by Saurin Lakhia**  
**Nine Tenths of the Law, written by Nick Gambino and Koura Linda**  
**Red Eye, written by Theodore Carl Soderberg**  
**The Grand Parents, written by Christian Pendered Zur**  
**The Final Reel, written by Rachel S. Thomas-Medwid**  
**They Labyrinth, written by Mark Paul Mamalakis**  
**The Last Yard Sale, written by Marie Ginga**  
**The Resurrectionists, written by Duncan Putney**  
**The Ruby Cloak, written by Halli Lorenzato**  
**Wilkins Will, written by Jonathan Westbrook**

Participate in Mystic Film Festival's online communities via  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/mysticfilmfestival>, X [@mysticfilmfest](#), and [Instagram](#).

#### **ABOUT MYSTIC FILM FESTIVAL**

Mystic Film Festival is an annual event showcasing independent feature-length and short-form narrative films and documentaries from around the world. Our festival was created by local filmmakers and artists to nurture regional talent, to promote works made in Connecticut and New England, and to bring unique films to our community. The festival unites a diverse group of filmmakers and audiences to explore ideas, discuss the filmmaking process, and celebrate creativity. Through engaging community and industry events, panels and workshops, and film screenings by acclaimed and up-and-coming talent, the festival is a special experience for filmmakers and audiences alike.

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