



Photo by: Dominick Marino

# 10th Annual CINEMA VERDE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FILM & ARTS FESTIVAL

## 47 Films. 13 Countries.



Image from *My Golden Rule*

Feb 14-17, 2019

At the



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Gainesville Chapter**  
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**Urban Flats**  
**Veg4Life**  
**Villa East**  
**Ward's Supermarket**  
**WGOT**  
**Working Food**  
**WUFTA Woman's Answer**  
**Zerographic**



# Welcome to the 10th Annual Cinema Verde

**Schedule, Pages 5-6  
Film Descriptions, Pages 7-15**

With the help of our community we have managed to continue to bring Cinema Verde to the public for 10 years! ***Literally hundreds of volunteers and interns have made this possible. Please join me in thanking everyone who has helped along the way!***

**Please be our guest at the  
VIP Opening Night Reception  
and let us thank you!  
6:30 - 8 p.m., Feb. 14**



As I watched our films, I was struck by the damage we as humans have wrought on the earth. Nearly every film shows people lamenting the loss of their way of life and their sources of income due to environmental contamination and damage: From the Everglades to Japan, Everyone is crying because they can't kill more fish, cut more trees, or pump more oil, because continuing to do so will completely exhaust their so-called natural resources. The way we have thought for centuries about the earth is terribly skewed. How can it be okay to keep raping the planet and torturing other forms of life? It surprises me anyone can deny how wrong it is and this have delayed efforts to restore and sustain lost resources. But here we are.



***So today, Valentine's Day,  
Let's Party Like There's No Tomorrow!***

**But Cinema Verde is about solutions** - so let's get busy! Innovations are emerging. The Green New Deal is a promising positive political developments - look for information from the Sunrise Movement at Cinema Verde to learn more. The Oxfam Diet is another way to make a big difference quickly.

Join us in raising our voices so that the billionaires holding the money and power will hear us and respond. They can make changes at the top of the food chain without waiting for legislation and regulations: They can just stop making plastic, for example. Stop expanding oil pipe lines. Stop moving funds overseas and keeping workers in poverty.

**Let's build a world where we want to live. Thanks for learning with us!**

*Trish Riley*

Director, Cinema Verde

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www.CinemaVerde.org

Film Block Times	Film / Event <i>Schedule is Subject to Change</i>
<b>Thursday, Feb 14 ● 5 pm – 10:45 pm</b>	
5 – 6:30 pm	<p><i>Gifts of Silver</i> – United Kingdom, 17 min  <i>Carbon Weevils</i> – United Kingdom, 7 min  <i>El Río</i> – United States (in Spanish, subtitled), 58 min  <b>Discussion with Director Juan Carlos Galeano</b></p>
6:30 - 7:45 pm	<p><b>Cinema Verde Reception</b>  <b>Party Like There's No Tomorrow</b></p>
8 - 10 pm	<p><i>Sustainable Living with Patrick Lang</i> – United States, 5 min  <i>Wonderwall</i> – Ukraine, 7 min  <b>Skype Discussion with Director Alexander Denysenko</b></p> <p><i>My Golden Rule</i> (music video) – United States, 4 min  <i>Enough White Teacups</i> – United States, 59 min  <b>Discussion with Director Michelle Bauer Carpenter</b></p>
<b>Friday, Feb 15 ● 6 pm – 10:45 pm</b>	
6 - 8:30 pm	<p><i>The Butterfly Trees</i> – United States, 1 hr 22 min  <b>Discussion with Director Kay Milam</b></p> <p><i>Caught in Quicksand</i> – United States, 4 min  <i>Rescuing Abundance</i> – United States, 16 min</p>
8:30 - 10:45 pm	<p><i>Unaccountable</i> – United States, 11 min  <b>Discussion with Director Stacey Stone</b></p> <p><i>Boy-Zshan Bi-Den</i> – United States, 8 min  <i>Sharkwater Extinction</i> – United States, 88 min</p>
<b>Saturday, Feb 16 ● 10 am – 10:30 pm</b>	
10 am – Noon	<p><i>Keeper of the Creek</i> – United States, 5 min  <i>Blue Tomorrow</i> – Turkey, 15 min  <i>Night Light</i> – United States <b>Student</b>, 8 min  <i>Dignity at a Monumental Scale</i> – United States, 8 min  <i>Skyfall</i> – Spain, 3 min</p> <p><i>Violet and the Wild Man</i> – United States, 18 min  <b>Discussion with Director Krisztina Danko</b>  <b>Winner of Best in Show at Cinema Verde 2018</b></p> <p><i>Reboot</i> – United States, 4 min  <i>Big Boom</i> – Russian Federation, 4 min  <i>Esperanza</i> – United State <b>Florida</b>, 6 min  <b>Discussion with Director Ryan Allen</b></p> <p><i>The Adventures of Zack and Molly</i> – United States, 11 min  <i>Gslv Mark3</i> – India (subtitled) <b>Student</b>, 6 min</p>

Saturday, Feb 16 ● 10 am – 10:30 pm	
Noon – 2 pm	<p><i>Juskatla</i> – United States, 14 min  <b>Discussion with Director Georg Koszulinski</b></p> <p><i>Living the Change</i> – New Zealand, 85 min  <b>Skype Discussion with Director Jordan Osmond</b></p>
2 – 4 pm	<p><i>Facing Navassa</i> – USA <b>Student</b>, 10 min</p> <p><i>The Man of the Trees (L'Homme Des Arbres)</i> – Italy (In French, subtitled), 19 min</p> <p><i>Thirst for Power</i> – United States, 61 min  <b>Skype Discussion with Director Mat Hames</b></p>
4 – 6 pm	<p><i>Thirst (Daaham)</i> – India (subtitled), 4 min  <b>Discussion with Director Siva Nageswara-Director</b></p> <p><i>The Mountain (El Monte)</i> – Cuba, 14 min</p> <p><i>Pulling Teeth from a Polar Bear</i> – USA <b>Student</b>, 19 min  <b>Skype Discussion with Director Jackie Allegra Curnick</b></p> <p><i>The Flying Rivers (Les Rivières Volantes)</i> – France, 53 min</p>
6 – 8 pm	<p><i>Confluence</i> – United States, 55 min</p> <p><i>Mining Phosphorus</i> – United States, 19 min  <b>Discussion with Local Director Alan Toth</b>  <b>Finalist for the 2018 Student Academy Awards</b></p>
8 – 10:30 pm	<p><i>Dominion</i> – United States, 120 min  <b>Discussion with Co-Producer Shaun Monson</b></p>
Sunday, Feb 17 ● Noon – 8 pm	
Noon – 2 pm	<p><i>Within Reach</i> – United States <b>Student</b>, 1 min  <b>Discussion with Director Bryce Gunning</b></p> <p><i>Bahía</i> – Colombia (subtitled), 8 min</p> <p><i>A Prayer for Compassion</i> – United States, 97 min  <b>Discussion with Director Thomas Jackson</b></p>
2 – 4 pm	<p><i>Activist (Aktivisti)</i> – Finland (subtitled), 57 min</p> <p><i>White Fortune</i> – Islamic Republic of Iran (subtitled), 38 min</p>
4 – 6 pm	<p><i>Balance</i> – Islamic Republic of Iran <b>Student</b>, 3 min</p> <p><i>Confluir</i> – United States, 40 min</p> <p><i>The Story of a Forest</i> – United States, 39 min  <b>Discussion with Director Suki Dejong</b></p>
6 – 8 pm	<p><i>The Green Years (Gli Anni Verdi)</i> – Italy (subtitled), 55 min</p> <p><i>Are You Volleyball?!</i> – Islamic Republic of Iran, 15 min</p> <p><i>The Angel's Secrets</i> – Canada, 27 min</p>

# The Films – Alphabetical by Title

Schedule with days and times: Pages 6-7

**Activist** – Aktivisti (Finland - subtitled, 57 min). Directed by Petteri Saario. A touching and encouraging story about a miner's young daughter and her battle against one of the world's largest mining companies. The film depicts the destiny of an invaluable protected mine in Finnish Lapland. Is everything for sale when the bid is high enough? A film about exceptional determination and love for one's roots.

**The Adventures of Zack and Molly** (United States, 11 min). Directed by Jim Toomey, Animated. Zack is more interested in the small world of his smart phone than the world around him. His online request for a roommate is answered by Molly, a tech-savvy dumbo octopus. Molly takes Zack to her home at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico to show him its unique features and diverse marine life and the negative impact of human activities. Produced by ECOGIG Ocean System Research.

**The Angel's Secrets** (Canada, 27 min). Directed by Elodie Turpin. Many know its name; few have seen it. Once throughout Europe, the angel shark is now critically endangered. As unique as it is extraordinary, it reveals to us several secrets—little by little—to those who take the time to listen.

**Are You Volleyball?!** (Islamic Republic of Iran, 15 min). Directed by Mohammad Bakhshi. Arabian-speaking asylum seekers arrive at the border of an English-speaking country. Conflict occurs with border soldiers everyday until a deaf-mute baby becomes a catalyst for better communication between the groups.

**Bahía** (Colombia-subtitled, 8 min). Directed by Santiago Ramirez. No longer than 60 years ago, Cartagena Bay harbored a wealth of coral reefs, seagrass beds, and



Join the  
Great American Cleanup

Saturday, March 30  
8 a.m. – Noon  
Massey Park

For details, visit [kacb.org](http://kacb.org).



mangroves and was home to countless marine species coexisting in harmony with local communities living off the richness. So-called progress has broken the balance and snatched life away from the Bay and the local communities.

**Balance** (Iran-Islamic Republic of, 3 min). Directed by Barzan Rostami, Student. Animated. Soldiers who are sacrificing their lives and resisting in order protect the people of the city so future generations live in peace.

**Big Boom** (Russian Federation, 4 min). Directed by Marat Narimanov. Animated. A brief ecohistory of humanity and earth that has it all: humor, action, and tragedy.

**Blue Tomorrow** - Mavi Yarin (Turkey, 15 min). Directed by Numan Ayaz. Animated. A man who lives alone on his island goes on an unknown journey because of rising ocean. After witnessing a catastrophe, he finds hope with other people. But when the ocean rises again, he makes an unexpected decision to another unknown.

**Boy-Zshan Bi-Den (Buffalo Return)** (United States, 8 min). Directed by Colin Ruggiero. Bison were nearly exterminated across North America. Thanks to the Shoshone tribe, the National Wildlife Federation, and the coordinated efforts of a host of other individuals and organizations, bison have finally been brought back to the Wind River Indian Reservation and the landscape that they once defined.

**The Butterfly Trees** (United States, 1 hr 22 min). Directed by Kay Milam. This film captures the transcontinental journey of the eastern monarch butterflies on their epic migration from the forested shores of southern Canada to the rare and ancient oyamel fir trees of central Mexico. Part science, adventure, and love story, this captivating reflection on the mysteries of the natural world and on the ties connecting us all weaves a tapestry of stunning visuals, passion for discovery, and people for whom monarchs are a magnificent obsession. With allegory and poetic contemplations, the monarch migration serves as a metaphor of love, hope, and transcending borders. The monarch itself illustrates our fragile and complex ecology.

**Carbon Weevils** (United Kingdom, 7 min) Directed by Tim Britton. About our love affair with carbon.





***Caught in Quicksand*** (United States, 4 min) Directed by Marty Novitsky and Uladzimir Taukachou. A short, beautiful film about a man caught in quicksand in the Dead Sea in Israel, where, visiting for years, he has watched its decline. The Sea is shrinking rapidly, which is also causing sink holes to appear daily – there are currently more than 6000. For more information: [www.queensjewishlink.com/style-and-living/dead-sea-critical-condition-waters-recede-diplomatic-tensions-rise-2/](http://www.queensjewishlink.com/style-and-living/dead-sea-critical-condition-waters-recede-diplomatic-tensions-rise-2/)

***Confluence*** (United States, 55 min). Directed by Amy Marquis, Dana Romanoff. The Colorado River has carved a deep imprint both on the physical landscape and on the people who live near its waters. An indie folk band traverse the endangered river system and, through original music, document the people who rely on the river.

***Confluir*** (United States, 40 min). Directed by Henry Worobec. In Peru, the headwaters of the Amazon River cut through the Andes Mountains and help sustain resident communities as well as the most diverse ecosystem on Earth. As energy demands of Peru increase, the currently free flowing Marañón River faces over 20 proposed dam projects. An international team of scientists and river experts spent 28 days rafting the Marañón and documenting the natural and cultural resources that would be impacted by the proposed dam projects.

***Dignity at a Monumental Scale*** (United States, 8 min). Directed by Kelly Whalen. By day, Thomas is a primary care physician on the Navajo Nation, where he's lived for 30 years. In his free time, Thomas installs massive photo murals of Navaho neighbors to celebrate the beauty of a people whose land has been mined and poisoned, cut up, and sold off. His murals allow the Navaho to see themselves at a monumental scale and illustrate their struggles—and their resilience—to the world at large.

***Dominion*** (United States, 120 min) Dominion uses drones and hidden and handheld cameras to expose the dark underbelly of modern animal agriculture, questioning the morality and validity of human dominion over animals. While mainly focusing on animals used for food, it also explores other ways animals are exploited and abused by humans, including clothing, entertainment and research. Narrated by





Joaquin Phoenix, Rooney Mara, Sia, Sadie Sink and Kat Von D, and co-produced by Earthlings creator Shaun Monson. Filmed in Australia, with a global message.

***El Monte: The Mountain*** (Cuba, 14 min). Directed by Claudia Claremi—International Student Submission. Portrait of the mountain of the Sierra Maestra where José Manuel explains to his granddaughter Malena a vision of the world through an in-depth knowledge of the secrets of nature. Plants and people have great similarities and should be respected. José Manuel hopes that Malena, in turn, inherits the knowledge he obtained from his father and that she becomes a great tree of the mountain.

***El Río*** (United States - Spanish subtitled, 58 min). Directed by Juan Carlos Galeano. The daily life and stories of Amazonian peoples become cautionary tales in our Anthropocene era. *El Río* captures images and information from the intersecting fields of anthropology and environmental humanities to enhance our understanding of the perspectives of indigenous cultures and the life of water ecosystems under threat. It gives credence to the importance of ecological knowledge and belief systems to the entangled natural and human histories of Amazonia.

***Enough White Teacups*** (United States, 59 min). Directed by Michelle Bauer Carpenter. The history of the Danish non-profit, INDEX: Design to Improve Life® (INDEX) explores an international design competition and the most innovative INDEX award winners are featured. The film shows how design can be used to plan and build affordable housing, prevent blindness, destroy landmines, deliver vaccines and blood to remote areas, clean up the oceans, and help prevent infant and mother mortality, among many other innovations. Designs and inventions that embrace the principles of social, economic, and ecological sustainability are examined.

***Esperanza*** (USA, FL, 6 min) Directed by Ryan Allen, Local. An archaeologist stumbles upon a remote Florida spring. Is it truly magic or a delusion?

***Facing Navassa*** (USA, 10 min) Directed by Milo Kim, Student. Examines the dark history of environmental injustice around a creosote plant in North Carolina.





***The Flying Rivers*** – Les Rivières Volantes (France, 53 min). Directed by Aurélien Francisco Barros. From the heart of the Amazon rainforest to our European laboratories, climatologists, biologists and chemists are exploring and starting to understand a mystery: the central role of forests in cloud formation. Spectacular images illustrate a strong ecological message about the dangers of deforestation to our planet.

***Gifts of Silver*** (United Kingdom, 17 min). Directed by Eddie Frost. The ecology of Chilean Patagonian fjords is mysterious and fragile. Vreni Haussermann explores the rich ecosystems and key challenges to their wildlife. The film is an urgent call for for marine protected areas . Otherwise these 'gifts of silver' will be lost forever.

***The Green Years*** – Gli Anni Verdi (Italy-subtitled, 55 min). Directed by Chiara Bellini. "Once you would go to the countryside and enjoy its fresh air; now you go to the countryside for its illegal dumps, and to check if some criminal has hidden toxic stuff among the bushes." Instead of enjoying their pensions and taking care of their aches and pains, three inexhaustible old folks sweep the countryside devastated by abandoned industrial facilities and illegal dumps and they cope with illegal garbage disposal, toxic waste, and institutions often overtaken by the events.

***GSLV Mark3*** (India-subtitled, 6 min). Directed by Dinesh Kuma, International College Student submission. The points of view of a girl and a team working to launch a satellite into the space. A beautiful connect occurs between girl and rocket.

***Juskatla*** (United States, 14 min). Directed by Georg Koszulinski. Weaves together perspectives of the people who live on the islands of Haida Gwaii, an archipelago on Canada's northwest coast that is the ancestral territory of the Haida Nation. From industrial loggers harvesting ancient forests to Sphenia Jones, a Haida matriarch, Juskatla meditates on the divergent forces shaping the islands and its people.

***Keeper of the Creek*** (United States, 5 min). Directed by Dan Goldes. For 8 years, Joel Goldes has removed hundreds of pounds of garbage and trapped thousands of invasive crawdads in the creek near his home. One person really can make a difference.





**Living the Change** (New Zealand, 85 min.) Directed by Jordan Osmond, Antoinette Wilson. Explores solutions to the global crises we face today – solutions any one of us can be part of. Tells inspiring stories of people pioneering change in their own lives and in their communities in order to live in a sustainable and regenerative way.

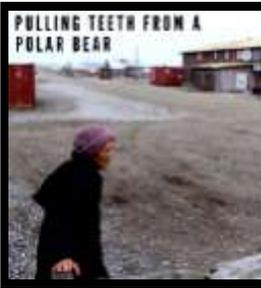
**The Man of the Trees and the Green Beans** (*L'homme Des Arbres*) (Italy, French - subtitled, 19 min). Directed by Andrea Trivero. Daniel Balima is a senior horticulturist from Tenkodogo, a small Sub-Saharan African town where he has lived and worked for 67 years. Although suffering polio as a child and losing the use of his legs, Daniel follows his father into the family nursery business. Walking on his hands, Daniel sees his disability as an opportunity: "I could take two paths: begging or taking my life in hand and devoting myself to work with dignity." Over 50 years, he planted more than a million trees, so important because of a drought. He dreams of planting another million.

**Mining Phosphorus** (United States, 19 min) Directed by Alan Toth. Local; finalist for the 2018 Student Academy Awards. Phosphorus, the most critical element in modern agriculture, has been mined in Florida for over a century, but Florida's phosphate is running out. When it is gone, the United States will have to import phosphate, but a new source of phosphate has been discovered in North Florida. Local landowners want to mine it, but environmentalists vow to block them and point to Central Florida, where phosphate strip mining has polluted water and air for decades. A county permit is all that stands in the way of the strip mine. The future of American phosphate mining will be determined by a few public servants in two rural counties in North Florida.

**My Golden Rule** (United States, 4 min). Directed by Sally Sherwood – Animated, Experimental, Music Video by Melissa Gail Klein. A tribute to the wonders of our earth and the importance of protecting them. A young woman, armed with her banjo and her spirit, enters a portal from a post-apocalyptic world into a realm of rhinoceroses, gorillas, and ancient trees to recover magical seeds and make the world wild again!

**Night Light** (United States, 8 min). Directed by Yamiset Trujillo, Jane Suarez, Student – Animated. A wide-eyed, newborn sea turtle named Fin finds himself on the illuminated beaches of Miami. It is a perilous time to be a hatchling, with hazards of





artificial light and debris at every turn. With the help of Abueluna, his caring, celestial guide, Fin will make the daring trek from his cluttered nest to the open seas.

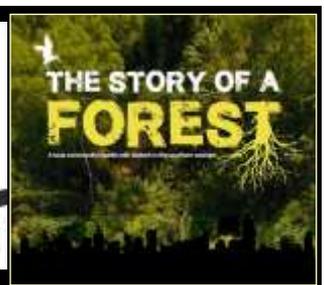
***A Prayer for Compassion*** (United States, 97 min) Directed by Thomas Jackson. A quest that crisscrosses America and takes the director to Morocco for the UN Climate Conference and into the Indian subcontinent as he asks if human compassion can include all beings. Can religious or spiritual people come to embrace all human and non-human beings and include all in a circle of respect and caring and love?

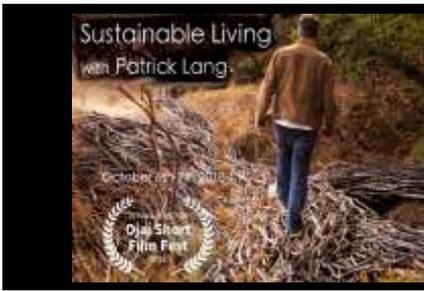
***Pulling Teeth from a Polar Bear*** (United States, 19 min). Directed by Jackie Allegra Curnick, Student. The community of St. Lawrence Island struggles with environmental contamination from military activities during the cold war. On the Alaskan island, 30 miles off the coast of Siberia, one group, the Alaska Community Action on Toxics, has been working for 20 years to achieve environmental justice.

***Reboot*** (United States, 4 min). Directed by Ellen Osborne – Animated. Humans have finally succeeded in destroying the planet. As the last people leave for Mars, the earth breathes a sigh of relief and the resilience of nature springs into action!

***Rescuing Abundance*** (United States, 16 min) Directed by Pat Sehn. A food sustainability story about heroes of the Pittsburgh food community—business, government, farmers, nonprofits, and college students—working together to keep 31% of food produced in the U.S. out of landfills, despite millions of people going hungry every day. The goal of the film is to grow a foundation for community-focused solutions with business and community working together to drive social innovation in the food space.

***Sharkwater Extinction*** (United States, 88 min). Directed by Rob Stewart, who sent a video message to Cinema Verde attendees in 2015, when his film *Revolution* won the Cinema Verde Water Award. Sadly, Rob died on a dive in the Florida Keys in 2017. This film dives deep underwater to reveal the catastrophic effects we are having on oceans. Illegal overfishing of sharks across the planet has deep consequences that put Earth’s most important ecosystem in danger of collapsing, which threatens all in and above the ocean. As Stewart, who dedicated his life to conservation, said: “*Conservation is the preservation of human life. And, that, above all else, is worth fighting for.*”





**Skyfall** (Spain, 3 min). Directed by Alberto E. Garcia. Animated. Nature revolts.

**The Story of a Forest** (United States, 39 min). Directed by Suki Dejong. Tells the story of the 10-plus year campaign of the Palm Beach County Environmental Coalition to stop the biotech industry acting in collusion with then-Governor Jeb Bush to clear a vast swath of the northeast Everglades for the Scripps Biotech Research Institute. In 2004, these South Florida activists, similar to groups like Earth First! and the global justice movement, protested against corporate globalization all over the country at free trade summits, political conventions, and industry conferences. In the process, they discover a local threat to the Everglades. Endless county zoning meetings were counter-balanced by civil disobedience arrests and near-constant flow of headlines about the battle: lawsuits, scandal, corruption, gag-orders, tree sits, loss of endangered species, sabotage—a roller coaster of small victories and devastating losses for years on end.

**Sustainable Living with Patrick Lang** (United States, 5 min). Directed by Paige De Ponte and Sacha Riviere. A day in the life of Patrick Lang, who lived a sustainable life in Malibu ... before his home and community were consumed by fire in 2018.

**Thirst (Daaham)** (India-subtitled, 4 min). Directed by Siva Nageswara Rao. Water is a precious resource that we should use with care. Our relationship with Nature should always be guided by reciprocity. Nature protects us all and we in turn should protect natural resources and be sympathetic to the needs of fellow human beings.

**Thirst for Power** (United States, 61 min.) Directed by Mat Hames. Filmed across France, California, and Texas, the film traces the history of civilization's quest to procure abundant water and energy — from ancient Roman aqueducts in Europe to modern America's vast hydroelectric infrastructure. In the modern world, water and energy are the two fundamental components of a society, and they are interconnected. The film explores our dependence on water for energy as well as the huge vulnerabilities in our current systems, exacerbated by climate change. Adapted from Dr. Michael E. Webber's book, *Thirst for Power: Energy, Water, and Human Survival*.

**Unaccountable** (United States, 11 min) Directed by Stacey Stone. "Executive Producer, Diane Mellen, found a recent article about three-eyed fish and two-headed turtles





in the New River, which flows from the U.S. Mexico border into the Salton Sea. Runoff sewage is causing DNA mutations in the animals. As filmmakers, we found it alarming that the California Department of Parks and Recreation is advising parents it is permissible to swim and fish in the Salton Sea. We wanted to make a documentary with vivid imagery, as no words can encompass the sadness of the area.”

***Violet and the Wild Man*** (United States, 18 min.) Directed by Krisztina Danka, winner of Best in Show at Cinema Verde 2018. New York City is full of eccentric characters, but nobody like the Wildman, who made international headlines by getting arrested for eating a dandelion in Central Park. Leading foraging tours and helping people embrace nature in the most unexpected places, for decades, Wildman, now 68, a divorced father, is eager to ignite his passion for the environment in younger people. But can he inspire his teenage daughter?

***White Fortune*** (Islamic Republic of Iran, subtitled, 38 min). \Directed by Reza Mohammadpour. The story of misery of Urmia Salt Lake in North West of Iran.

***Within Reach*** (United States, 1 min). Directed by Bryce Gunning, Florida High School Student film. A gopher tortoise lost in a residential development is befriended by a family that helps him back to nature.

***Wonderwall*** (Ukraine, 7 min). Directed by Alexander Denysenko–Music Video. In a story of unconditional love, a young man mourning loss of a loved one and trying to escape reality discovers himself in the surreal Chernobyl exclusion zone.



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