



SEPTEMBER 21-24, 2023

MOVIES. MUSIC. MORE.

HELL'S HALF MILE

FILM & MUSIC
FESTIVAL
NO.17



OUR MISSION

Hell's Half Mile Events is a non-profit organization dedicated to celebrating and expanding the art of independent film, music, and entertainment.

We strive to exceed expectations, while inspiring our community to participate in the arts. Provide the alternative, entertain & inspire!



HELL'S HALF MILE FILM & MUSIC
FESTIVAL

OPENING NIGHT

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION: (\$10)

6pm- 8pm Pere Marquette Depot

Music, food, drinks and a grand kick-off to HHM!

OPENING NIGHT FILM:

8:15pm @ State Theatre (\$10)

Opening Film: "Chasing Chasing Amy"

AFTER PARTY: 10:15 pm Old City Hall (Free Event)

Opening Band: "Karate, Guns & Tanning"





SCHEDULE

The Hell's Half Mile Box Office is located at 1010 Adams St.

All venue addresses listed at [HellsHalfMile.com](https://HELLSHALFMILE.COM)

KEY

FILM **MUSIC** **RECEPTION** **SPECIAL EVENT**

THURSDAY

6:00 pm

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION
@ PERE MARQUETTE DEPOT

8:15 pm

OPENING NIGHT FILM
CHASING CHASING AMY
@ STATE THEATRE

10:15 pm

AFTER PARTY
KARATE, GUNS & TANNING
(INDIANAPOLIS)
@ OLD CITY HALL



FRIDAY 9/22

11:00AM	FRIDAY SHORTS ONE	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
11:00AM	EVERYBODY WANTS TO BE LOVED	SO GOOD! GALLERY
1:30PM	OBJECTS	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
1:30PM	MAD CATS	SO GOOD! GALLERY
4:00PM	JOIN OR DIE	STATE THEATRE
4:00PM	YOUTOPIA	SO GOOD! GALLERY
6:30PM	FRIDAY SHORTS TWO	STATE THEATRE
6:30PM	ANN	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
6:30PM	LOVE DUMP	SO GOOD! GALLERY
8:00PM-10:00	PM FILMMAKER RECEPTION	MI TABLE
9:00PM	KINDLING	STATE THEATRE
10:00PM	RECEPTION MUSIC - MOONBEAU (CINCINNATI)	MI TABLE
11:15PM	CEREBRUM	STATE THEATRE

TO VIEW THE VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE SCHEDULE VISIT
THE 2023 SCHEDULE TAB ON HELLSHALFMILE.COM

SATURDAY 9/23

11:00AM	SATURDAY SHORTS ONE	STATE THEATRE
11:00AM	PEAK SEASON	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
11:00AM	PEACOCK (POU)	SO GOOD! GALLERY
1:30PM	SATURDAY SHORTS TWO	STATE THEATRE
1:30PM	WAITING FOR THE LIGHT TO CHANGE	SO GOOD! GALLERY
3:00PM	FULL DOME FILM HIGHLIGHTS	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
4:00PM	BENJI'S HOUR	STATE THEATRE
4:00PM	MICHIGAN SHORTS ONE	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
4:00PM	FUZZY HEAD	SO GOOD! GALLERY
5:30PM-7:30PM	SATURDAY RECEPTION	POPULACE COFFEE
6:30PM	LATE BLOOMERS	STATE THEATRE
6:30PM	HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
6:30PM	MOVIE THEATER MASSACRE	SO GOOD! GALLERY
8:00PM	MUSIC - WEAKENED FRIENDS + MORE	DUNLOP BUILDING
9:00PM	STARRING JERRY AS HIMSELF	STATE THEATRE

SUNDAY 9/24

10:30AM	FILMMAKER PANEL	POPULACE COFFEE
NOON	MAD CATS	STATE THEATRE
NOON	JOIN OR DIE	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
NOON	LOVE DUMP	SO GOOD! GALLERY
2:30PM	SUNDAY SHORTS	STATE THEATRE
2:30PM	PEGGY	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
2:30PM	YOUTOPIA	SO GOOD! GALLERY
5:00PM	MICHIGAN SHORTS TWO	STATE THEATRE
5:00PM	BLACK BARBIE: A DOCUMENTARY	DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM
5:00PM	HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS	SO GOOD! GALLERY
7:30PM	CLOSING NIGHT FILM - HAYSEED	STATE THEATRE
9:00PM	POST FEST CHILL & AUDIENCE AWARDS	TAVERN 101

MOVIES. MUSIC. MORE. HELLSHALFMILE.COM



HAYSEED - CLOSING NIGHT FILM

After the shocking death of a small-town reverend, insurance investigator Leo Hobbins (Bill Sage) arrives at Emmaus Holy to interview the faithful congregation members. Sifting through a web of red herrings and self-serving lies over the next 24 hours, he attempts to solve the case with the help of the church secretary, Darlene Halsey (Ismenia Mendes).

****CLOSING NIGHT FILM. A Made In Michigan "Whodunnit", shot in Eaton Rapids.****

Director/Writer: Travis Burgess

Cinematographer: Brad Porter

Producers: Victor Lord, Michael V. Brown, Travis Burgess, Eric Cotti

Cast: Bill Sage, Ismenia Mendes, Jack Falahee

FILMMAKERS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND.



FUZZY HEAD

Insomnia-ridden Marla is on the run after the murder of her mother. Now, Marla must confront her everlasting void to find out the truth of what really happened and at last, undo all that's been done.

Fuzzy Head is less of a traditional film in how its story unfolds but rather a topsy-turvy surrealist journey through a young woman's psyche. Marla's anxiety and shame keep us on edge while the uncertainty of her reality and its punchy visuals entertain us. With its excellent cast and impeccable direction, McColm delivers a film worth remembering. - Slayaway.com

Director/Writer: Wendy McColm

Cinematographers: Sonja Tsyin, Daniel Woiwode, Tanisha Moreno

Producers: Wendy McColm, Cooper Oznowicz, Rhianon Jones, Frank Oz, Santiago Cervantes, Celina Biurrun

Cast: Alicia Witt, Wendy McColm



EVERYBODY WANTS TO BE LOVED

A blisteringly hot summer day. Psychotherapist Ina notices something is wrong with her. But she doesn't have time to worry about it: patients are waiting at the practice, her daughter is threatening to move in with her father, her boyfriend wants to emigrate to Finland, and her self-centered mother is celebrating her 70th birthday. Ina wants to please everyone. But then everything changes.

Director: Katharina Woll

Writers: Florian Plumeyer, Katharina Woll

Producers: Michael Grudsky, Markus Kaatsch, Nina Poschinski

Cinematography: Matan Radin

Cast: Anne Ratte-Polle, Hassan Akkouch, Lea Drinda, Jonas Hien, Urs Jucker, Pascale Schiller, Raymond Tarabay, Ulrike Willenbacher



CEREBRUM

After waking up from a year-long coma, an insecure young man must fight his controlling father in order to discover what really happened to his seemingly absent mother, as the true consequences of his past actions unravel before him.

****Though it shifts its focus into something much darker towards the end, the meat of it is in the father-son relationship, in their interactions, and the ways that they observe each other. - Jennie Kermod, Eye For Film****

Director/Writer: Sébastien Blanc

Cinematographer: Jamie Touche

Producers: Davide Marangoni, Alessio Di Naro

Cast: Steve Oram, Tobi King Bakare, Ramona Von Push



BENJI'S HOUR

Benji is sentenced to three months of court-ordered community service, to be completed at a wig shop for cancer patients. Benji's interest is piqued by his coworker Laura, the intensely private, cagey woman he works alongside daily. Benji and Laura discover they share a kindred spirit, and when Laura's cancer becomes too violent to fight, Benji is faced with the most difficult question of them all: What now? It's a film that gives an honest peek into the often bleak (albeit exceedingly human) Upstate existence of Benji, his drug-addicted, alcoholic mother, absentee father, and the others in his orbit.

HHM welcomes the return of festival alum Kirsten Russell.

Director/Writer/Producer: Gabriel Kahane



Cinematographer: Mitchell Perrin

Cast: Justin Mark, Holly Heiser, Kirsten Russell, Catherine Curtin, Gabriel Kahane, Emma Kothari

ACTOR KIRSTEN RUSSELL SCHEDULED TO ATTEND.



ANN

Based on a true story. It's January 31st, 1984, and 15-year-old Ann is about to have a baby she's kept secret from her Irish-Catholic family and community. This is the story of the last day of her life, a girl alone and abandoned by society, by its prejudices, taboos, and traditions.

This is an incredibly moving film that feels like it's rolling out in front of you in real-time. You can feel the societal confines of the time period and it adds to the tension effectively.

Director/Writer: Ciaran Creagh

Cinematographer: David Grennan

Producers: Ciaran Creagh, Ferdia Doherty, Niall Flynn

Cast: Zara Devlin, Ian Beattie, Eileen Walsh, Senna O'Hara



PRODUCER FERDIA DOHERTY SCHEDULED TO ATTEND.





HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS

In this 19th century, slapstick winter epic, a drunken applejack salesman must go from zero to hero and become North America's greatest fur trapper by defeating hundreds of beavers.

Hundreds of Beavers starts strange, gets stranger, and yet remains resolutely adorable. - from AWFJ.org

Director: Mike Cheslik

Writers: Mike Cheslik, Ryland Brickson Cole Tews

Cinematographer: Quinn Hester



Producers: Matt Sabljak, Kurt Ravenwood, Ryland Brickson Cole Tews

Cast: Ryland Brickson Cole Tews, Olivia Graves, Wes Tank, Doug Mancheski, Luis Rico

FILMMAKERS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND.



KINDLING

Kindling follows a group of young men who return to their hometown in order to turn their friend's final days into a celebration of life and friendship.

Incredibly moving and emotional film about friendship, love, and saying goodbye.

Director/Writer: Connor O'Hara

Cinematographer: David Wright

Producers: Jamie Gamache, Mark Foligno

Cast: George Somner, Wilson Mbomio, Conrad Khan, Mia McKenna-Bruce, Rory J Saper, Kaine Zajaz, Geoff Bell, Tara Fitzgerald



LATE BLOOMERS

An aimless 28-year-old Brooklynite lands in the hospital after drunkenly breaking her hip being stupid. An encounter with a cranky elderly Polish woman who speaks no English leads to a job caring for her. Neither likes it, but it's time to grow up.

Featuring Karen Gillan, "Nebula" from multiple Marvel films. "Late Bloomers" shows that "coming of age" isn't just for kids. A funny and touching tale that illustrates the need for connectivity across generations. HHM welcomes the return of festival alum, Producer Alexandra Barreto.

Director: Lisa Steen.



ALEXANDRA BARRETO AND MICHELLE TWAROWSKA SCHEDULED TO ATTEND.

Writer: Anna Greenfield

Cinematographer: John de Menil

Producers: Alexandra Barreto, Taylor Feltner, Sam Bisbee

Cast: Karen Gillan, Margaret Sophie Stein, Jermaine Fowler, Kevin Nealon, Talia Balsam, Michelle Twarowska



LOVE DUMP

The quirky owner of a refurbished trash shop, Jessica Dump, serendipitously meets a forlorn dog lawyer, Todd Barkley, and the two fall deeply in love... However, their love is put to the test when Jessica's quest to find her missing father forces her to look inward in this 'not-quite-Hallmark' romantic comedy.

These Chicago improv pros know how to ham it up, in the very best way, to make the audience laugh out loud. Love Dump is like the Hallmark movies we hate to love, but it embraces the ridiculousness and amps it up to 11.

Director: Jason Avezzano



WRITER/ACTOR JESSE KENDALL SCHEDULED TO ATTEND.

Writers: Leila Gorstein, Jesse Kendall

Cinematographer: Matt Mahaffey

Producers: Emily Diego, Leila Gorstein, Jesse Kendall, Scott Goldstein

Cast: Leila Gorstein, Jesse Kendall



MAD CATS

Taka, a shiftless young man, sets off on a quest to find his brother Mune. Teaming up with a quirky new friend and an edgy, mysterious young girl along the way, Taka finds himself taking on a pack of vicious monster cats determined to execute unscrupulous pet shop owners.

A hilarious riot of a film, more "madcap" than mad cat. Definitely feels like a Hell's Half Mile film.

Director: Reiki Tsuno

Writer: Reiki Tsuno

Cast: Hikari Aiko, Asachill, Amanda B.

Producers: Takahiro Fukuya, Reiki Tsuno, Daisuke Urano

Cinematographer: Shintaro Teramoto



MOVIE THEATER MASSACRE

Jake, Wily, Rachel, Val, & Dan are employees at a movie theater. They enjoy working somewhere where they have the opportunity to discuss their favorite subject: movies. But the building's owner, Harold, plans to sell off the property since moviegoing is dwindling and doesn't seem profitable anymore. Then, random people start disappearing, while simultaneously, strange, and unexplainable things begin happening. Will they live to see another movie?

Director/Writer/Cinematographer/Producer: Ian Courtney

Cast: Jalen Wilson-Nelem, Adam DeFilippi, Caitlin Cavanaugh, LeJon Woods, Jessie Carl





PEAK SEASON

An emotionally adrift young woman forges an unexpected friendship with a wilderness guide when she and her fiancé take a summer holiday in Jackson Hole, WY.

Writers / Directors: Steven Kanter, Henry Loevner

Producers: Lovell Holder, Steven Kanter, Henry Loevner, Patrick Ward

Cinematographers: Steven Kanter, Henry Loevner

Cast: Claudia Restrepo, Derrick Joseph DeBlasis, Ben Coleman



PEGGY

After years of torment, Peggy finally gets revenge on all those who wronged her in the past.

This horror film is straight out of Midland, MI. Don't miss it's WORLD PREMIER at HHM!!!!

Director: Brandon Guiles

Writers: Brandon Guiles, Mark Ginter

Cinematographer: Brandon Guiles

Producers: Brandon Guiles, Mark Ginter, Bruce Falcon, Kevin Walter, Jason Bennett Jerell Farmer



Cast: Tiffani Van Dorn, Brandon Guiles, Brian Williams, Katie Ososki, Bruce Falcon, Nathan Niinisto, Jeramey Mosher

FILMMAKERS SCHEDULED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE.



POU

POU (PEACOCK) is a South African gothic horror following the psychosexual journey of a young woman into the dark recesses of the Afrikaner psyche and its compromised past.

Director: Jaco Minnaar

Writers: David Cornwell, Jaco Minnaar

Cinematographer: Jonathan Kovel

Producers: Catharina Weinek, Dumi Gumbi, David Cornwell, Jaco Minnaar



WAITING FOR THE LIGHT TO CHANGE

Over the course of a week-long wintertime beachside getaway, Amy, having recently undergone dramatic weight loss, finds herself wrestling between loyalty to her best friend Kim and her attraction to Kim's new boyfriend. This film was shot in Michigan's Thumb Region around Port Austin. A nuanced film with cinematography as crisp as the cold air from Lake Huron in the winter.

Director: Linh Tran

Writers: Jewells Santos, Linh TranDelia, Van Praag

Cast: Erik Barrientos, Qun Chi, Joyce Ha, Jin Park, Sam Straley



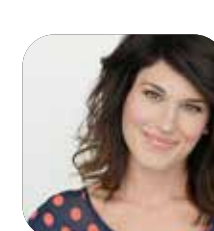
YOUTOPIA

After a devastating breakup, an elder millennial inadvertently forms a hipster cult. When members start to disappear, the leader is confronted with the knowledge that her journey of self-discovery may trigger the end of civilization as we know it, forcing her to face her most challenging enemy yet: herself.

Call it funny. Call it outrageous. Just don't call it a musical.

Director/Writer: Scout Durwood

Cinematographer: Alex Vendler, John Gardiner



Producers: Ashley Carr, Kourtney Gleason

WRITER/DIRECTOR/ACTOR SCOUT DURWOOD SCHEDULED TO ATTEND.



Denise "Dee" Schmitt

was a dedicated long-time HHM Volunteer and part of the HHM festival family who was lost to cancer over the past year. Dee always had a smile on her face and positive words to share. She loved HHM & would do whatever it took to get the job done! We are all better for knowing her! The Hellion Team will truly miss Dee's presence.



BLACK BARBIE: A DOCUMENTRAY

Love her or hate her, almost everyone has a Barbie story. Even if they don't have a story, there's a story as to why they don't have a story. In this film, we tell the story behind the first Black Barbie, because yes, she has a story too. It started with the filmmaker's 83-year-old aunt, Beulah Mae Mitchell, and a seemingly simple question, "Why not make a Barbie that looks like me?"

Davis makes a jam-packed argument that the road to Barbie diversity and inclusion has been long and marked by detours, intersections and, maybe a dead end or two. - Lisa Kennedy, Variety

Director/Writer: Lagueria Davis

Cinematographer: Sara Garth

Producers: Aaliyah Williams, Lagueria Davis



OPENING NIGHT FILM

CHASING CHASING AMY

A documentary that examines the complex legacy of Kevin Smith's Chasing Amy (1997) on LGBTQ+ people and its life-saving impact on director Sav Rodgers.

****A fun yet serious look at how ultimately stories are all in the eyes of the beholder. A nostalgic look at a 90s classic with a contemporary lens on sexuality, identity, and finding one's self.****

Director: Sav Rodgers

Cinematographers: Bradley Garrison, Bill Winters

Producers: Sav Rodgers, Lela Meadow-Conner, Matthew C. Mills, Tyler Emerson, Carrie Radigan, Alex Schmider

~DIRECTOR SAV RODGERS AND REGINA "RILEY" RODGERS SCHEDULED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE.~



JOIN OR DIE

Join or Die is a film about why you should join a club—and why the fate of America depends on it. Follow the story of America's civic unraveling through the journey of Robert Putnam, whose legendary "Bowling Alone" research into American community decline may hold the answers to our democracy's present crisis.

****Attention Civic Groups!!!! This is the recruiting tool of your dreams. If you belong to a civic group, or bowling league or are interested in participating in any type of group, you should see this movie and understand why the future of a strong democracy depends on it.****

Directors/Producers: Rebecca Davis, Pete Davis



OBJECTS

Objects follows three unique people who have held onto things which have gained incredible meaning for them over decades. These objects are not things they flaunt. They are things that touch them secretly. ...a fifty-year-old clump of grass, a sweater that once belonged to French actress, and a forty-year old sugar egg.



Director: Vincent Liota

Producers: Sally Roy, Vincent Liota

Cast: Robert Krulwich, Heidi Julavits, Rick Rawlins

FILMMAKER SCHEDULED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE.



STARRING JERRY AS HIMSELF

A family documents how their immigrant father Jerry, a recently retired Florida man, was recruited by the Chinese police to be an undercover agent, only to discover a darker truth.

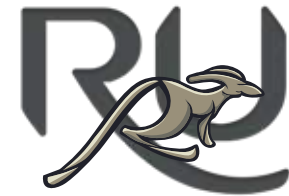
Director: Law Chen

Writers: Jerry Hsu, Law Chen

Producers: Jon Hsu, Law Chen Executive Producers: Jon Hsu, Law Chen

Cinematographers: Law Chen, Tinx Chan

Cast: Jerry Hsu Kathy Hsu, Joshua Hsu, Jonathan Hsu, Jesse Hsu, Fang Du, Nick Bailey, Haosong Yang



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FRIDAY SHORTS ONE

FRIDAY, 9/22, 11:00AM, DELTA PLANETARIUM



Warsha

Mohammad, a crane operator working in Beirut, volunteers to take on one of the tallest and notoriously most dangerous cranes in Lebanon. Away from everyone's eyes, he is able to live out his secret passion and find freedom.

DIRECTOR: Dania Bdeir



Non-negotiable

A couple in a cafe await with trepidation their harshest critic and most important confidant... their 9 year old daughter. Here she outlines the terms and conditions she requires for the arrival of her new sibling.

DIRECTOR: Mike Doxford



Bear

As her estranged husband moves out, a grieving mother fights with him over the death of their child when he tries to take a teddy bear.

DIRECTOR: Brianna Chapman



Birdie

A troubled teen takes his childhood babysitter hostage after she uncovers his deadly plan.

DIRECTOR: Andrew Edison



Starving

We are obsessed with instant fixes to all of our problems. Starving is a film about the mental health impact of the increasing isolation we all feel as our lives speed up.

DIRECTOR: Bobby Louise, Brig



Carly Dolls

When Carly, a naive, homeschooled fourteen-year-old, is forced to face the treacherous waters of public high school, she turns to her beloved dolls, Lily and Mermia, for comfort and advice.

DIRECTOR: Maudie Schmidt, Jaxson Power



Dateleap

Amidst media controversy, a virtual reality dating app whisks Callum and Rachel back to the 1930s. But when their swinging fling takes an unexpected turn, any hope of a future together hangs in the balance.

DIRECTOR: Jack Evans

FRIDAY SHORTS TWO

FRIDAY, 9/22, 6:30PM, STATE THEATRE



Write a Song About Heartache

A musician finds a painful shortcut to writing new hits.

DIRECTOR: Jonny Look



Dadu

Dadu follows a grouchy old Indian man determined to go for a walk in the park where a 'sort of' love story between willing and reluctant lovers, blossoms.

DIRECTOR: Raghav Puri



Shadow Brother Sunday

A down-on-his-luck musician returns home on the day of his younger brother's movie premiere. When he feels like the odd man out he contemplates using his access to his brother for monetary gain.

DIRECTOR: Alden Ehrenreich



Hit Friends

Alice and Paul are best friends who do everything together, but when Alice reveals that she went to Six Flags without Paul, he starts to question their friendship.

DIRECTOR: Daniel Rashid



It's Not Real

Jess wonders whether the creepy incidents in her creaky old apartment are actually happening.

DIRECTOR: Tina Carbone



Your Guardian

In 1992 Belgrade, Yugoslavia is falling apart. Freshly graduated Mina and her soon-to-be-recruited boyfriend plan to leave the country that night.

DIRECTOR: Mimi Vlaovic



Paper Planes

A woman with agoraphobia and the Airbnb guest across the hall strike up a correspondence that becomes something more for the holidays.

DIRECTOR: Michael Glover Smith, Alyssa Thordarson



SATURDAY SHORTS ONE

SATURDAY, 9/23, 11:00AM, STATE THEATRE



Breakfast to Go

A woman prepares a beautiful quiche on a lovely, sunny morning. Everything seems perfect until her day is ruined by a harsh reality check.

DIRECTOR: Ronald Short



Play Date

When Lana's best friend comes over for a play date she is upset to find out the real reason that she came to visit.

DIRECTOR: Kate Lord Schnepf



Sleep Study

A restless new mother confronts a dangerous terror whenever she tries to sleep.

DIRECTOR: Natalie Metzger



From Dreams to Dust

Pola is a nickel miner and family man from Indonesia. Through Pola's eyes we see the dark side of green technology, paid for by Pola and his village.

DIRECTOR: Stephanie Tangkilisan, Muhammad Fadli



Toy Phone

When her young son starts "speaking" to his recently deceased father on a toy phone, a mother is forced to confront the loss she never quite dealt with.

DIRECTOR: Gabe Braden



Shafted

With his floor fast approaching, Joel throws caution to the wind and ask Rafi out. Rafi pauses a second too long, Joel is desperate to escape, and the elevator comes to a sudden halt. They awkwardly begin getting to know each other while they are stuck.

DIRECTOR: Del Shores, Emerson Collins



I'm on Fire

Making mixtapes becomes a means of survival for a 12-year-old boy coping with warring parents and the turmoil of adolescence.

DIRECTOR: Michael Spiccia



Run Amok

Meg, an amateur harpist and professional teacher's pet, with the help of cheerleader Penny, pitch a full musical to commemorate a decade old tragedy that once affected their school. But Principal Linda and Mr. Shelby aren't ready to face the music.

DIRECTOR: Nitzan Mager

SATURDAY SHORTS TWO

SATURDAY, 9/23, 1:30PM, STATE THEATRE



Part-Time

As a job interview circles the drain, Skip is asked questions about his previous employment. He evades details on his former line of work.

DIRECTOR: Anthony Misiano



A Mind Cannot Touch

A grieving mother uses her expertise in neuroscience to bring her deceased daughter back from the grave as a sentient hologram.

DIRECTOR: Geoffrey Prather



Anirudh

An anxious Indian man desires to get up on stage, but must first overcome his own insecurity about his identity.

DIRECTOR: Raghav Puri



The Pragmatics

In this horror movie trailer spoof, The Pragmatics are moving to a new neighborhood, but only if the situation is just right.

DIRECTOR: Paul Preston



Threshold

When, Mery and Oskar, find a homeless man lying on the landing of their downtown apartment in Madrid, they disagree about what to do, debating between helping him themselves or calling the Social Service to clear out the stairs.

DIRECTOR: Javier Carneros Lorenzo



Lunchbox

When a Taiwanese American woman prepares lunches from her childhood, she struggles to forgive herself for pushing away her immigrant mother.

DIRECTOR: Anne Hu



Crack Shot

Justin Huang, an elite junior squash player who helps train children, becomes entangled in a game of blood, sweat, and spit when a wealthy father approaches him with a deal to help his son.

DIRECTOR: Alex Cohen



Mahogany Drive

Three Black friends wake up to a nightmare - a dead white woman on the floor of their Airbnb. Tensions rise, sweat beads, and accusations fly, but they slowly come to a terrifying truth.

DIRECTOR: Jerah Milligan



SUNDAY SHORTS

SUNDAY, 9/24, 2:30PM, STATE THEATRE



Don't You Go Nowhere

In this award-winning short film, a jazz dynamo belts his way through his weekly set until he makes an unexpected connection with a fan.

DIRECTOR: Bryan Poyser



The Hereafter

Olive, a terminally ill teen, simply wants her ashes spread with her late mother's. However, Olive's father wants her to be buried in a Selfie Casket — a product that allows the deceased to keep posting to their social medias from beyond the grave.

DIRECTOR: Ryan Noufer



The Other Side of Fortune

In the early 1990s, a European immigrant with a young family struggles to chase the American Dream, while avoiding the life he left behind.

DIRECTOR: Blake Dew



Chipper

After receiving a mysterious letter, a wayward son returns to his childhood home to wrestle with a dark family secret.

DIRECTOR: Shaun MacLean



Traces

When a young woman receives an unanticipated phone call, she embarks on a volatile journey with the man she passionately loves.

DIRECTOR: Meliz Houssein



Seatbelts

A couple goes on their second date, but the guy refuses to put on a seatbelt because he did his own research.

DIRECTOR: Michael Dunker



Poof

Ruby and Paula are gearing up to be their own bosses through multi-level success magnet FYZZLE Cosmetics when a small dog, a medium amount of blood, and a box of loose powder conspire against them.

DIRECTOR: Margaret Miller

MICHIGAN SHORTS ONE

SATURDAY, 9/23, 4:00PM, DELTA PLANETARIUM

1. The Bad Trip Home

Elliot's plan was simple: take an edible, get some snacks, and get home before the drugs kick in. However, when his car breaks down leaving him stranded, Elliot must navigate his way home before he is too high to function.

DIRECTOR: Cody LaRue

2. The Shepherdess

She's a modern woman who cares for her land and her animals. Visit Bridget's farm which uses sustainable framing practices in a pursuit of a brighter future.

DIRECTOR: Kevin Steen

3. Samurai Ty vs Corporate Cyborgs

Samurai Ty teams up with Detroit Evelyn to take on the Corporate Cyborgs in this dystopian fantasy full action.

DIRECTOR: Paul Pate

4. Farewell Tour

When young rock legend Johnny Stranger returns to his hometown to finish a nationwide tour, he realizes that his Rockstar persona crafted from fame has become inseparable from his true identity.

DIRECTOR: Erik Howard

5. Master of Fire

A song written at the end of 2021 originally as a sarcastic take on what it can feel like to be a woman in society. A sort of "damned if you do damned if you don't." It has now taken on a whole new meaning ever since the US Supreme Court overturned Roe.

DIRECTOR: Stephen Norregaard, Grace Theisen

6. Oh Hey a Horse

An existential stick-figure man meets a talking horse in the depths of outer space and they proceed to have the greatest interaction ever.

DIRECTOR: Derek Smith

7. Pretty Canoe

Terrance and Travis bust out of prison in search of an old family boat to carry them down the river for one last chance at freedom.

DIRECTOR: Nicholas Holland

8. Major Tom

Thomas, a teenager growing up in Detroit Michigan, does his best to stay away from its dangerous streets. To escape his reality, dreams he is Astronaut Major Tom. But as trouble finds him, his alter ego Major Tom becomes lost in space.

DIRECTOR: Kya Minnick-Garner

9. Party's Over

The night turns to terror when uninited guests crash a Halloween party.

DIRECTOR: Neil Willoughby

10. The Package Thief

Jovi, 23, just graduated and is living out her lease in her college town, trying to figure out what's next. She's got a crush on her mailman, and a shoplifting hobby. When she starts stealing packages from other people's porches, she is sent on an unexpected journey of self-discovery.

DIRECTOR: Carly Van Lier

MICHIGAN SHORTS TWO

SUNDAY, 9/24, 5:00PM, STATE THEATRE

1. Santa, Maybe?

A young girl is forced to face her fear when she encounters Santa Claus in the most unlikely of places.

DIRECTOR: Donovan McCarty

2. Hide & Beep

Three robots, in a distant but recognizable time after humans, follow their path to being reunited.

DIRECTOR: Jackson Roth

3. To Be Frank

Derek never heard Frank speak. Desperate to hear his grandfather's choice words, Derek searches the family archives, tape after tape, and slowly pieces together Frank's forgotten voice.

DIRECTOR: Derek Hackert

4. The Ceremony

A couple hosts one last party. The invitation is fancy, the attire is semi formal and the guests are in for a surprise.

DIRECTOR: Tonia L. Carrier-Hicks

5. Just A Piece of Cake

A man reflects on the death of his father, at dusk on the family farm, after everyone has long departed the funeral service.

DIRECTOR: Kevin Romeo

6. Somewhere Outside Lemmings

In a cold afternoon in 1870's Michigan, a bounty hunter happens to run into an old acquaintance outside of town, and as the conversation unfolds, the history of their relationship is slowly revealed, and the future of it is swiftly determined.

DIRECTOR: Kirk Yoshonis

7. The Unfaithful One

It takes a breakup with her boyfriend for Tasha to realize how much she loves her husband.

DIRECTOR: Delores M. Flynn

8. Ice Scream

A young woman minding her own business gets stalked by a demented ice cream truck.

DIRECTOR: Austin Torres

9. LINT

A man embarks on a surreal journey to save a sock and ultimately finds the connection he's been searching for.

DIRECTOR: Jack Horrigan





HHM FILM SERIES

See hellshalfmile.com for January, February and March screenings.

**10/26/23 DOUBLE
FEATURE!!!**

Midnight Cowboy



Yes, THE Midnight Cowboy in a double-feature. This Academy Award-winning Best Picture features Dustin Hoffman and Jon Voight in standout roles as a con man and a Texas hustler trying to survive on the tough streets of New York.

Desperate Souls, Dark City, and the Legend of Midnight Cowboy Documentary

Film synopsis: A half century after its release, Midnight Cowboy remains one of the most original and groundbreaking movies of the modern era. With blacklist survivor Waldo Salt's brilliant screenplay, and John Schlesinger's fearless direction, the 1969 film became the only X- rated film to ever win the Academy Award for Best Picture. But this is not a documentary about the making of Midnight Cowboy: it is about

the deeply gifted and flawed people behind a dark and difficult masterpiece; New York City in a troubled time of cultural ferment; and the era that made a movie and the movie that made an era. Featuring extensive archival material and compelling new interviews, director Nancy Buirski illuminates how one film captured the essence of a time and a place, reflecting a rapidly changing society with striking clarity.

11/30/23 – Made-in-Michigan Shorts Program

A collection of short films ranging from comedy to drama made in the state of Michigan.

12/28/23 – The Climb

Kyle and Mike are best friends who share a close bond until Mike sleeps with Kyle's fiancée. The Climb is about a tumultuous but enduring relationship between two men across many years of laughter, heartbreak and rage. It is also the story of real-life best friends who turn their profound connection into a rich, humane and frequently uproarious film about the boundaries (or lack thereof) in all close relationships.

jolt
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MUSIC LINEUP

THURSDAY 9/21
KARATE, GUNS

OPENING NIGHT
@ OLD CITY HALL
10:00PM

& TANNING
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Karate, Guns & Tanning kicks off HHM opening night music, and we're certain they'll set the tone for the rest of the fest. This female-fronted 3-piece band from Indianapolis delivers a swirl of genres that come together in the best way. They're psychedelic-tinged post-punk mixed with shoegaze & dream-pop, and honestly that doesn't even say enough. Taking their name from a strip mall sign in Indiana, they create music fit for a dance floor, sci-fi movie, or the opening night after party to a 17th annual film & music festival.

FRIDAY 9/22

@ MI TABLE - 10PM (\$5 AT DOOR)

MOONBEAU

CINCINNATI, OH

Moonbeau is a captivating synth-pop duo hailing from Cincinnati and rural Kentucky and redefines nostalgia with their unique blend of heartfelt melodies and irresistible beats. The brainchild of Christian Gough (Guitar/Vocals), Moonbeau has embarked on a new journey with the addition of Callie Budrick (Keys/Vocals). Together, they craft an immersive musical experience that sparks a new wave of excitement within the synth-pop genre. A festival favorite from HHM 2018, and we're absolutely thrilled to have them return!



\$10 AT THE DOOR OR USE YOUR PASS
@ THE DUNLOP BUILDING • DOORS OPEN 8:00PM
LOCATED ON WASHINGTON AVE. BETWEEN THE ONE WAYS

WEAKENED FRIENDS

PORTLAND, ME

This incredible female-fronted indie rock trio from Portland, Maine brings raucous energy, chunky big distorted riffs, and cutting vocals reflecting on lost friendships and self-worth swallowed up by burn-out. They have an overall sound that is uniquely their own with a hint of a 90's alt-rock throwback vibe. They are the real deal, and we're certain you'll be hooked.



Kelly Jean Caldwell Band can be described many ways - jangly 60's alt-country, freak folk, and garage americana... and all of them can be right. Their songs are beautiful, haunting, spooky, & sweet with a twang that pulls it all together. With a powerful voice and boundless creative energy, Kelly Jean Caldwell continues to be Detroit rock royalty in our eyes as we watch her play in numerous bands & run the best live music venue in Hamtramck. We're truly honored to have her band at Hell's Half Mile!

KELLY JEAN CALDWELL BAND
DETROIT, MI

SATURDAY 9/23



LVRS is a queer fronted band from Lansing, Michigan filled with unbridled creativity and a polished indie-rock sound that is atmospherically mixed with real rock bangers. Olivia's voice is either effortlessly soothing or loaded with attitude all depending on the moment, and the music follows along with the right amount of hook. It's easy to adore this band, and fall in love with their music.

LVRS
LANSING, MI

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