

# BOSTON SCI·FILM FESTIVAL



February 7-17, 2020  
Somerville Theatre

W W W . B O S T O N S C I F I . C O M

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## Dedication

SF45 is dedicated to the memory of David Kleiler (1940-2019), a mainstay of Boston's independent film scene, a festival programmer, film professor, and champion of the non-profit Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation—and long-time supporter of the Boston Science Fiction Film Festival. We miss you.

February 2020

Greetings Festival Attendees!

45. Interesting number. Divisible by 5. Divisible by 9. It is half of a right angle. It is the name of a gun. It is the name of a malt beverage. In the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure it tells us what a subpoena is. It is the number Pedro Martinez wears in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

45. Interesting number. That's how old we are, but not really. We're actually older. Three years older. We started out as the Orson Welles Cinema Annual Horror and Science Fiction Film Festival, but we didn't start counting until we morphed into the Marathon in 1976.

45. Interesting number. There is a man using that number down the road a piece. His tendency is to look back and lament days gone by. At 45, we do the opposite. We look to the future, we explore, we embrace science, and we embrace our diverse community. There is also love—love for film, love of theatres, and love of the differences that make us human.

And so as we turn 45, we invite you to brave New England's fickle weather and find the warmth that comes from seeing creative, imaginative film. You'll be meeting filmmakers from across the globe, you'll be renewing acquaintances and friendships, and making new ones. Enjoy!



Garen Daly  
 Festival Director  
 Boston Science Fiction Film Festival

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For up-to-the-minute information, please visit [www.bostonscfi.com](http://www.bostonscfi.com)

# Festival at a Glance

## Friday, February 7

*Program subject to change. Events take place at the Somerville Theatre, except where noted.*

- 7:00 p.m. Proxima (p.11)
- 9:00 p.m. Opening Night Party (Orleans Restaurant - Passholders & Invited Guests, p.7)
- 9:15 p.m. Alien Addiction (p.11)

## Saturday, February 8

- 1:00 p.m. The Dustwalker (p.12)  
*The Film School:*
- 1:45 p.m. Panel: Distribution (The Rockwell, p.8)
- 3:00 p.m. Go/Don't Go (p.12)  
*The Film School:*
- 3:45 p.m. Panel: Women Producers (The Rockwell, p.8)
- 5:15 p.m. A Knight's Tour (screens with short film *Spirit: A Martian Story*, p.13)
- 6:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: L'Engle (The Rockwell, p.5)
- 7:15 p.m. Synchronic (p.13)
- 8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Accinni (The Rockwell, p.5)
- 9:30 p.m. Sea Fever (p.14)

## Sunday, February 9

- 9:30 a.m. Filmmaker's Brunch (Orleans Restaurant - Passholders & Invited Guests, p.7)
- 1:00 p.m. The Long Walk (p.14)  
*The Film School:*
- 1:45 p.m. Panel: Trailer Editing (The Rockwell, p.8)
- 3:30 p.m. The Illegal Film (p.15)  
*The Film School:*
- 3:45 p.m. Panel: Post Production (The Rockwell, p.8)
- 5:15 p.m. Entangled (p.15)
- 6:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Shelley (The Rockwell, p.5)
- 7:15 p.m. Luz (p.16)
- 8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Lessing (The Rockwell, p.5)
- 9:00 p.m. The Final Land (p.16)

## Monday, February 10

- 5:00 p.m. Norman (p.17)  
*The Film School:*
- 5:45 p.m. Panel: Cosplay Essentials (The Rockwell, p.9)
- 7:15 p.m. Nathan's Kingdom (p.17)

- 8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Le Guin (The Rockwell, p.5)
- 9:15 p.m. The Honeymoon Phase (p.18)

## Tuesday, February 11

- 5:00 p.m. The Field (p.18)  
*The Film School:*
- 6:00 p.m. Panel: Women Cinematographers (The Rockwell, p.9)
- 7:15 p.m. Expiry (p.19)  
*First Person Cinema at the Museum of Science:*
- 7:30 p.m. Serenity (with live commentary and Q&A, p.10)
- 8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Atwood (The Rockwell, p.5)
- 9:00 p.m. Sender (p.19)

## Wednesday, February 12

- 5:00 p.m. Transference: Escape The Dark (p.20)  
*The Film School:*
- 5:45 p.m. Panel: Why the dark side? (p.9)
- 7:00 p.m. Intersect (p.20)
- 8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Collins (p.6)  
*Special Event:*
- 8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Trivia Night (Orleans Restaurant, no ticket required, p.6)
- 9:15 p.m. 1000 Kings (p.21)

## Thursday, February 13

- 5:00 p.m. Spinning Dry (p.21)  
*The Film School:*
- 5:45 p.m. Panel: CGI Hacks (p.9)
- 7:00 p.m. Prisoners Of The Moon (screens with short film *Gun Metal Wax*, p.22)
- 8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Cherryh (p.6)
- 9:15 p.m. I Am Human (p.22)

## Friday, February 14

- The Film School:*
- 1:00 p.m. Lunch with Vanessa Harryhausen (The Burren, p.9)
- 5:00 p.m. Time Loop (screens with short film *The Adventures Of The USS Parkview*, p.23)  
*The Film School:*
- 5:45 p.m. Panel: Music and Sound (p.30)

(continued on page 4)

## Festival at a Glance (continued from page 3)

*Events take place at the Somerville Theatre, except where noted.*

- 7:00 p.m. After We Leave (p.23)  
8:00 p.m. Boston SciFi Shorts: Czerneda (p.6)  
9:15 p.m. Dead Dicks (p.24)

### Saturday, February 15

- 1:00 p.m. The Tangle (p.24)

*The Film School:*

- 1:00 p.m. Filmmaker's Luncheon (The Burren, p.30)  
3:00 p.m. Max Winslow And The House Of Secrets (p.25)

*The Film School:*

- 3:45 p.m. Filmmaking Discussion with The Harryhausen Foundation (p.30)  
5:00 p.m. Volition, p.25)

*The Film School:*

- 5:45 p.m. Panel: The Director's Process (p.30)  
7:30 p.m. I Am Ren (p.26)  
8:00 p.m. Best Shorts of SF45 (Vote for the "Best of the Fest", p.6)  
9:30 p.m. Blood Quantum (p.26)  
9:30 p.m. Festival Closing Night Party  
(Orleans Restaurant - Passholders & Invited Guests, p.7)

### Sunday, February 16

- 9:30 a.m. Filmmaker's Brunch (Orleans Restaurant - Passholders & Invited Guests, p.7)

### Sunday, February 16 – Monday, February 17 Noon to Noon

24-Hour Science Fiction Film Marathon — "The Thon"  
New and classic feature films, short subjects, trailers, cartoons, contests, surprises, and much more (see page 28 for details)



## Boston SciFi Shorts

This year Boston SciFi's creative and engaging short film programs are named after women science fiction writers. Many filmmakers will be on hand to mix, mingle, and answer your questions. Please note the venue for each program — The Rockwell or Somerville Theatre.

### 1 L'Engle

Saturday, February 8 • 6:00 p.m.  
Screened at The Rockwell • 1 hr 30 min

When Planets Mate / dir. Riley Thompson (US)  
Seven Seconds / dir. David Bertoni (US)  
Truth.exe / dir. Ricky Townsend (New Zealand)  
Kode / dir. Keenan Emerson Pugh (US)  
End Point / dir. Rafael Cortes (UK)  
I Am the Doorway / dir. Simon Pearce (UK)

### 2 Accinni

Saturday, February 8 • 8:00 p.m.  
Screened at The Rockwell • 2 hr

This Is Fine / dir. Roth Rind (US)  
Greetings, from the Planet Krog!  
/ dir. Yani Gellman (US)  
Spaces / dir. Enrico Ferri (Canada)  
Breathe! / dir. Matthias Kreter and  
Max Breuer (Germany)  
Aeranger / dir. Anthony Ferraro (US)  
uTransfer / dir. Giorgio Miraflor (US)  
Sacrum / dir. Rolf Lindblom (Finland / Web TV)  
The Replacement / dir. Julian Peter and  
Kan Wai Ming (Singapore)  
Actuary / dir. MK Hill (US)

### 3 Shelley

Sunday, February 9 • 6:00 p.m.  
Screened at The Rockwell • 2 hr

Hello, World / dir. Nathan Hong Fisher (US)  
The Outcast / dir. Yuri Duncan (US)  
Scent / dir. Young-wook Paik (Korea)  
Harper / dir. Bradley Michael (US)  
Cephalopod / dir. Lewis Peake (US)  
It Came Nameless in Spring / dir. Brian Otting (US)

### 4 Lessing

Sunday, February 9 • 8:00 p.m.  
Screened at The Rockwell • 2 hr

The Uncanny Valley - dir. Ian Vardy (Canada)  
The Leaves - dir. Matt Rasmussen (US)  
I/O - dir. Carl Hansen (US)  
Deep Six - dir. Davin Lengyel (Canada / Web TV)  
Ryoko's Qubit Summer - Yuichi Kondo (Japan)  
The Automaton - dir. W. Alex Reeves (US)

### 5 Le Guin

Monday, February 10 • 8:00 p.m.  
Screened at The Rockwell • 1 hr 30 min

Encounter / dir. Michael O'Connor (US)  
Tinman / dir. Majid Koudmani (Canada)  
Gold From the Sky / dir. Jason De Ford (US/TV)  
Frames / dir. Farhad Pakdel (Canada)  
It's The Dystopian Future! /dir. Ben Folstein (US)  
Hashtag / dir. Ben Alpi (US)  
Beachworld /dir. Jackie Perez (US)

### 6 Atwood

Tuesday, February 11 • 8:00 p.m.  
Screened at The Rockwell • 1 hr 30 min

The Message From Space / dir. Grier Dill (US)  
No Easy Target  
/ dir. Orion James Couling (US)  
Incandescent / dir. Alfred Thomas Catalfo (US)  
At the End of the World / dir. Fon Davis (US)  
Happy to Be With You / dir. Biwei Cong (China)  
Expend / dir. Bismark Fernandes (US)  
Gill / dir. Kieran Moreira (US)  
Replicant Mind  
/ dir. Tomer Weinberg (Israel)

*(continued on page 6)*

## Boston SciFi Shorts (continued from page 5)

### 7 Collins

Wednesday, February 12 • 8:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre • 2 hr

Night Crawl / dir. Gregory Shultz (US)  
The Bumbling Gentleman  
Against The World Crime League  
/ dir. Bob White (US)  
Vacant / dir. Vladimir Minuty (US)  
Nero / dir. Jan-David Bolt (Switzerland)  
Good Genes / dir. Hannah Welever (US / Web TV)  
All Boys Die / dir. Julio Vargas (US)

### 8 Cherryh

Thursday, February 13 • 8:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre • 2 hr

See You On The Other Side / dir. Russell  
Summers and Robert Summers (US)  
Concession / dir. Paul Odgren (US)  
Dissidence (2084) / dir. Matthew Brdlik (US)  
Ava in the End / dir. Ursula Ellis (US)  
Iris / dir. Ricardo Herrera (US)  
Two / dir. Emre Okten (US)  
Joe's Tornado / dir. Mark Hammett (UK)  
Black Shore / dir. Jon Park and Grant White (UK)

### 9 Czerneda

Friday, February 14 • 8:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre • 2 hr

APPyness / dir. Ryan Turner (US)  
Watch Room / dir. Noah Wagner (US)  
Everything You Want to Say  
/ dir. Edward Mines (Canada)  
God Glitch  
/ dir. Gideon van Eeden (Netherlands)  
What's to Come - "Christmas Tradition"  
/dir. Roth Rind (US)  
Progeny / dir. Justin Daering (US / Web TV)

### 10 Best Shorts of SF45

Presented by DUST

Saturday,  
February 15  
8:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre  
1 hr 30 min



See SF45's best short films together in one program. Attend the screening and vote for the "Best of the Fest."

## Boston SciFi Trivia Night



Wednesday, February 12  
8:00 - 10:30 p.m.  
Orleans Restaurant

How well do you know sci-fi? Come join the fun!  
Open to all. No ticket required.

SCI-FI TRIVIA  
SCORECARD

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Social and Networking Events

### Festival Opening Night Party

Friday, February 7 • 9:00 p.m. - 12 Midnight • Orleans Restaurant  
Festival Passholders and Invited Guests Only

### Filmmaker's Brunch presented by DUST

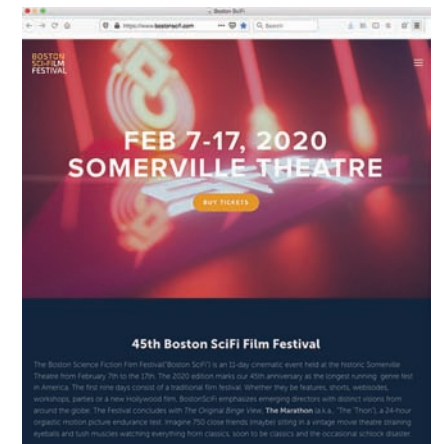
Sunday, February 9 • 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. • Orleans Restaurant  
Festival Passholders and Invited Guests Only

### Festival Closing Night Party

Saturday, February 15 • 9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. • Orleans Restaurant  
Festival Passholders and Invited Guests Only

### Filmmaker's Brunch presented by DUST

Sunday, February 16 • 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. • Orleans Restaurant  
Festival Passholders and Invited Guests Only



For the most up-to-date information,  
visit Boston SciFi online at  
[bostonscifi.com](http://bostonscifi.com)  
and like us on Facebook at  
[facebook.com/BostonSciFi](https://facebook.com/BostonSciFi).

# The Film School

The Film School is an innovative series of panels and presentations carefully crafted to help filmmakers hone their filmmaking skills with insights and up-to-the-minute information. Festival Pass or individual ticket (\$15) required for admission.

Program subject to change. Visit [BostonSciFi.com](http://BostonSciFi.com) for updates.  
Please note the venue for each event. See page 29 for venue information.

## Distribution

Saturday, February 8 • 1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. • The Rockwell

Well, you've made your film. Now how do you get folks to see it? At this session you will hear from industry insiders on acquiring distribution for your film, the tricks behind it, first steps, and legal tips. Panelists: Bev Bliss, Moving Films Inc. and David Lawrence, Glasshouse Distribution

*FanExpo Boston presents...*

## Women Producers

Saturday, February 8 • 3:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. • The Rockwell

As women increasingly step into leadership roles and create the content we see on screen, they are having an impact on the kinds of stories being told. We ask some of the women producing films today about the stories they hope to tell. Panelists: Bev Bliss, Moving Films Inc.; Mattie Do, director/producer; and Kris Holodak, writer/director/producer



Film producer/directors Eirini Konstantinidou and Lisa Downs answer questions at SF44.

Photo by Harry O. Lohr, Jr.

*FanExpo Boston presents...*

## Trailer Editing

Sunday, February 9

1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. • The Rockwell

What makes for a good trailer? How long should it be? Join us for the answers to these and other questions. Visit our website for panelists.

## Post Production

Sunday, February 9 • 3:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. • The Rockwell

Post is supposed to be the easier part of filmmaking. So why is it often the bane of our existence? Join us as we learn some hacks to make post easier. Visit website for panelists.

*FanExpo Boston presents...*

## Cosplay Essentials

Monday, February 10 • 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. • The Rockwell

Meet a cosplayer. Ask, listen, and look to get an understanding and feel for the world of cosplay. With "Mink The Satyr," Cosplayer and "Silhouette," Cosplayer

## Women Cinematographers

Tuesday, February 11 • 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. • The Rockwell

This session focuses on the challenges associated with the role of the cinematographer in filmmaking and what it means today to be a female director of photography. Visit our website for panelists.

*FanExpo Boston presents...*

## Why the dark side?

Wednesday, February 12 • 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. • Somerville Theatre

Villains are complex and when done right can even be relatable. We talk to some experts who will take a look at what makes being the villain so compelling—and what makes a good villain. Dan Kimmel, film critic (moderator); Omar Ghonim, actor from *Vacant*; Clay Fernald, League of Ordinary Gentlemen Podcast; Matt Dursin, League of Ordinary Gentlemen Podcast; and Megan Kearns, film critic

## CGI Hacks

Thursday, February 13 • 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. • Somerville Theatre

From explosions to a 30 year-old Robert DeNiro. Anything is possible in the world of CGI. We talk with the industry's leading studios to dive deep into how CGI has changed the way films look and its impact on story telling. Panelists: Blaise Hossain: VFX Supervisor, *After We Leave*; Brian Fox: Boris FX; Brian Dewes: Zero VFX

## Lunch with Vanessa Harryhausen

Friday, February 14

1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. • The Burren

Join us for an early afternoon gathering as Vanessa Harryhausen talks about growing up in a science fiction household with a famous special effects titan! Admission to the luncheon is included in the Festival Pass, however, food and beverage must be purchased separately.



Vanessa Harryhausen

*(continued on page 30)*

## First Person Cinema

### Special Event at the Museum of Science - Charles Hayden Planetarium



### Serenity

Tuesday, February 11 • 7:30 p.m.  
Museum of Science, Boston, Mass.

United States • 2005 • 1h 59 min.

Director: Josh Whedon

Cast: Nathan Fillion, Gina Torres,  
and Chiwetel Ejiofor

Join Boston SciFi, the Museum of Science, and special guests Dr. Rebecca Housel and Ken Reid under the dome of the Charles Hayden Planetarium for an exclusive

interactive screening of the classic science fiction film *Serenity*, followed by a Q&A and meet and greet with our guests.

Take a well-known sci-fi film. Add special guest commentators. Put microphones in their hands and—viola—First Person Cinema, a live commentary screening and one-of-a-kind experience under the grandeur of the Charles Hayden Planetarium.

As the crew of the ship *Serenity* try to evade an assassin sent to recapture one of its members who is telepathic, dive deep into this cinema classic with Dr. Housel, an expert on *Serenity* director Josh Whedon, and Ken Reid, recently voted Boston's "Best Comic,"

Purchase tickets in advance at the Museum of Science box office, or by phone at 617-723-2500, or online at [mos.org/adults](http://mos.org/adults).

**Tickets \$15 • Not included in Festival Pass**  
Tickets for this special event are available through the  
Museum of Science only.

## Feature Films



### Proxima

Friday, February 7 • 7:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

France • 2019 • 1h 47 min.

Director: Alice Winocour

Cast: Eva Green, Zélie Boulant,  
and Matt Dillon

*US Premiere. Co-presented with Women in Film & Video New England.* A French astronaut named Sarah, the only woman training at the European Space Agency in Cologne, feels guilty that she can't spend more time with her sensitive 8 year-old daughter, Stella. Her selection to join the crew of a year-long space mission brings chaos to the mother-daughter relationship.



### Alien Addiction

Friday, February 7 • 9:15 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

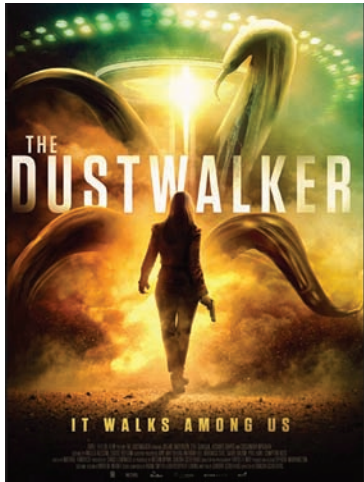
New Zealand • 2019 • 1h 37 min.

Director: Shae Sterling

Cast: Jimi Jackson, Thomas Sainsbury,  
and JoJo Waaka

*East Coast Premiere.* *Alien Addiction* follows Riko who lives in a small town in the middle of nowhere—Waikato, NZ. Life is pretty normal until two aliens crash-land near his house. Riko welcomes the aliens and together they develop an intergalactic relationship of epic proportions—while alienologist Peter Mackintosh plans to capture them and reveal them to the world. Q&A after the film.

## Feature Films



### The Dustwalker

**Saturday, February 8 • 1:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Australia • 2019 • 1h 35 min.  
Director: Sandra Sciberras  
Cast: Jolene Anderson, Stef Dawson,  
and Talina Naviede

*North American Premiere. Co-presented with Women in Film & Video New England.* One by one the residents of a small, isolated town become infected by an insidious bug that turns them into indiscriminate killing

machines. As the number of uninfected people dwindle, the survivors must band together to find help in their effort to expel the parasite and survive the night.



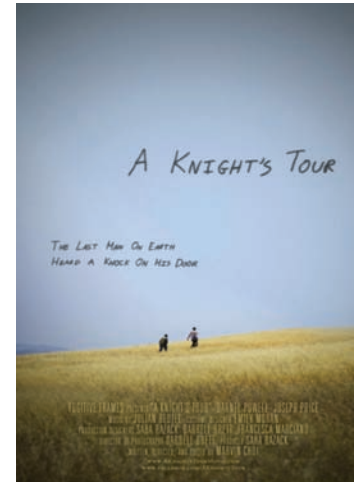
### Go/Don't Go

**Saturday, February 8 • 3:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

United States • 2019 • 1h 35 min.  
Director: Alex Knapp  
Cast: Alex Knapp, Olivia Luccardi,  
and Nore Davis

*US Premiere.* A wallflower finds himself the last man in the world after a mysterious apocalypse. He sticks to the routines that keep him sane, but in a moment of nostalgia and heartache, he triggers a chain-reaction

that sends him spiraling toward a deadly revelation. A genre-bending thriller, oscillating between forgotten love and inescapable paranoia. Q&A after the film.



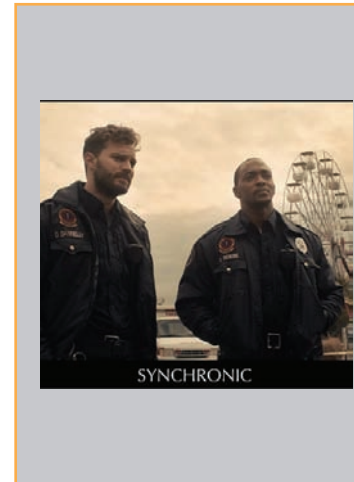
### A Knight's Tour

**Saturday, February 8 • 5:15 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

United States • 2018 • 1h 17 min.  
Director: Marvin Choi  
Cast: Darnel Powell, Joseph Price

*US Premiere. Co-presented with the Roxbury International Film Festival.* In a post-apocalyptic world, J.D. and a detached hermit, Henry, attempt to form a friendship in the midst of swirling suspicions about J.D.'s

past and the threat of unseen invaders. Q&A after the film. *A Knight's Tour* screens with the short film *Spirit: A Martian Story* by Stimson Snead (United States, 11 min.).



### Synchronic

**Saturday, February 8 • 7:15 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

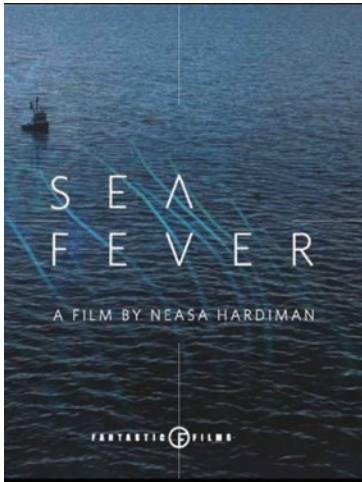
United States • 2019 • 1h 41 min.  
Director: Aaron Moorhead / Justin Benson  
Cast: Jamie Dornan, Anthony Mackie,  
and Katie Aselton

*New England sneak peek. US release August 2020.* When two New Orleans paramedics encounter a series of horrific deaths linked to a designer drug, their friendship and families are ripped apart by

what is revealed to be a pill that causes time travel. Buddy-thriller-sci-fi-horror-dramedy from the directors of *The Endless* (2017).



## Feature Films



### Sea Fever

**Saturday, February 8 • 9:30 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Ireland • 2019 • 1h 29 min.  
 Director: Neasa Hardiman  
 Cast: Connie Nielsen, Hermione Corfield,  
 and Dougray Scott

*Boston Premiere. Co-presented with the Irish Film Festival.* Siobhán, an accomplished, introverted graduate student, hires a fishing trawler to complete her school work. Through a strange turn of events, she

and the crew are marooned at sea, where they struggle with a growing parasite in their water supply.



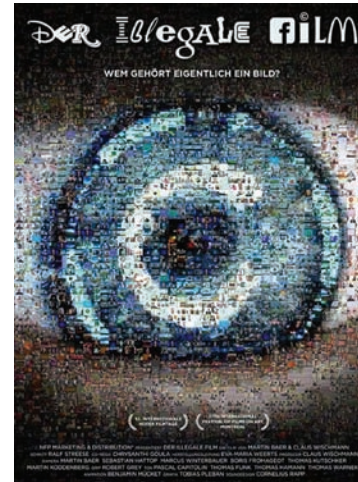
### The Long Walk

**Sunday, February 9 • 1:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Laos • 2019 • 1h 46 min.  
 Director: Mattie Do  
 Cast: Yannawoutthi Chanthalongsy,  
 Vilouna Phetmany, and Por Silatsa

*East Coast Premiere. Co-presented with Women in Film & Video New England and the Boston Underground Film Festival.* A man stumbles upon the ghost of a woman killed in a tragic accident in director Mattie

Do's Laotian time travel story. The ghost grants him the ability to travel back to his boyhood to relive the moments that led to his mother's death. Q&A after the film.



### The Illegal Film

**Sunday, February 9 • 3:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Germany • 2018 • 1h 24 min.  
 Director: Martin Baer / Claus Wischmann  
 Documentary

We now take more photographs in a single day than in all the 20th century. But it would be illegal to present images freely of everything we see. Copyright owners of objects, buildings, trademarks, and even

landscapes claim money for the depiction of their property. The real moneymaker is the wealth of photos. To whom do the pictures of ourselves and our world belong?



### Entangled

**Sunday, February 9 • 5:15 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Canada • 2019 • 1h 30 min.  
 Director: Gaurav Seth  
 Cast: Marlee Matlin, Paloma Kwiatkowski,  
 and Munro Chambers

*US Premiere.* Four brilliant university students are forced to confront themselves in terrifying ways when their quantum physics time travel experiment leads to an entangled parallel existence where they find themselves

confronting doppelgangers with nefarious motivations, questioning who they are and what is real. Q&A after the film.

## Feature Films



### Luz

**Sunday, February 9 • 7:15 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Guatemala • 2019 • 1h 24 min.  
Director: Javier Borrayo  
Cast: Daniela Berger, Musika Castellanos,  
and Byron Marmol

*US Premiere.* Co-presented with the Boston Latino International Film Festival. Simón, a Guatemalan physicist, is haunted by the kidnap and murder of his father. He has worked for years to prove a way of measuring

the length of karma in space-time. This search, and his love for his daughter, Luz, leads him on a journey of letting go and finding himself. Q&A after the film.



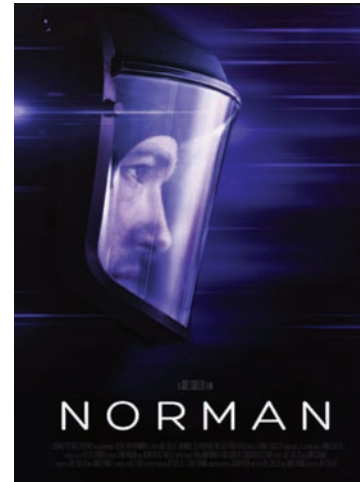
### The Final Land

**Sunday, February 9 • 9:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Germany • 2019 • 1h 43 min.  
Director: Marcel Barion  
Cast: Torben Föllmer, Milan Pesl,  
and Vincenz Türpe

*East Coast Premiere.* Two dissimilar outlaws, escaping their pursuers in a derelict spaceship, set off in search of a new home. Increasingly, however, they are pulled in fundamentally different directions. While

Adem discovers the ship's enigmatic past, Novak is drawn into the spell of a hypnotic power. Q&A after the film.



### Norman

**Monday, February 10 • 5:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

United States • 2019 • 1h 45 min.  
Director: Joel Guelzo  
Cast: Jerry Chesser, Alex Vaughn Miller,  
and Amandine Coche

*New England Premiere.* Multi-fest winner. Norman is a regular guy, but he's in the wrong time. Literally. Isolated with his time-traveling AI companion—jeopardizing life both in the past and future—Norman must

invent a way back to the future from whence he came—or the world will collapse. Q&A after the film.



### Nathan's Kingdom

**Monday, February 10 • 7:15 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

United States • 2018 • 1h 38 min.  
Director: Olicer J. Muñoz  
Cast: Madison Ford, Jacob Lince,  
and Peter Mendoza

*New England Premiere.* Imaginative animations and 3D designs appear throughout this portrayal of a young adult living with autism. Nathan, a 25-year-old autistic man, struggles with his teenage prescription-addicted

sister, Laura, but rather than surrendering their lives to social services, they risk what they have together to find a kingdom that once existed only in their imaginations.

## Feature Films



### The Honeymoon Phase

Monday, February 10 • 9:15 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United States • 2019 • 1h 28 min.

Director: Phillip G. Carroll Jr.

Cast: Tara Westwood, François Chau,  
Mike Sutton, Chloe Carroll and Jim Schubin

It is called “The Millennium Project”—  
a 30-day scientific study in which the  
relationships of couples are analyzed while  
they reside in a secluded, futuristic smart  
home. To snag a \$50,000 prize, newlyweds

Eve and Tom take part in the relationship study. Trust and love—all this and more  
teeter on a fine line and when the line blurs, things change. Q&A after the film.



### The Field

Tuesday, February 11 • 5:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United States • 2019 • 1h 32 min.

Director: Tate Bunker

Cast: Tim Higgins, Veronica Cartwright,  
and Barry Bostwick

*US Premiere.* To save their marriage, Ben and  
Lydia buy a remote farmhouse in Wisconsin.  
Lydia is determined to transform the rotting  
house into a dream home, but strange things  
are happening in the field behind their house

and Ben’s photos reveal they’re not alone. The town is eccentric and their next door  
neighbor, Edith, seems to be the key. Q&A after the film.



### Expiry

Tuesday, February 11 • 7:15 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United Kingdom • 2019 • 1h 26 min.

Director: Tom Gatley

Cast: Justine Jones, Stuart McNeil,  
and Jamie McKee

*US Premiere.* Intimate sci-fi. Jamie and  
Sofia Cooper are a young couple facing  
difficult times. Their marriage is on the rocks.  
They wonder if it is over. One morning they  
awake to discover the simple act of touching

each other has vanished. The difficult times just got more difficult. How will they  
save their union?



### Sender

Tuesday, February 11 • 9:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United States • 2019 • 1h 50 min.

Director: Anthony Arkin

Cast: Amelia Campbell,  
Susannah Hoffman, and Joe Urla

*US Premiere.* In this dramatic thriller, a  
doctor finds an unconscious, young woman  
on a remote island in the North Atlantic.  
The mystery of the woman’s identity, how she  
got there, and her ever-increasing psychic

abilities, ignite a violent international race to find her—with terrifying results.  
Q&A after the film.

## Feature Films



### **Transference:** Escape The Dark

**Wednesday, February 12 • 5:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Canada • 2020 • 1h 25 min.  
Director: Jennifer Lloyd / Matthew Ninabar  
Cast: Tony Nash, Aaron Tomlin,  
and Eamon Hanson

*US Premiere.* As Josh struggles with financial difficulties while searching to find a solution to a series of supernatural episodes, he pays to keep his disturbed sister with frightening abilities, Emma, hidden in a mental facility.

But someone is following them and when an eccentric visitor attempts to remove Emma from his care, hiding is no longer an option. Q&A after the film.



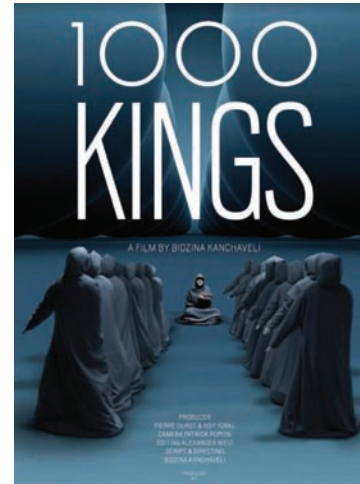
### **Intersect**

**Wednesday, February 12 • 7:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

United States • 2019 • 1h 58 min.  
Director: Gus Holwerda  
Cast: James Morrison, Jason Spisak,  
and Garrett Boyd

*US Premiere.* A team of young scientists, who grew up and studied together, invent the world's first "temporal manipulation portal," a time machine, only to learn too late that they are being manipulated by unseen

forces (including future versions of themselves) down a path that could lead to the destruction of mankind. Q&A after the film.



### **1000 Kings**

**Wednesday, February 12 • 9:15 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Germany • 2019 • 1h 30 min.  
Director: Bidzina Kanchaveli  
Cast: Christian Backhaus, Robert Baron,  
and Krista Birkner

*US Premiere.* Co-presented with Boston Hassle. One thousand people live trapped in an immense space where they can only be distinguished from one another by their different social positions. The inhabitants have

just one goal: to produce light. But only one of them has this ability. For this, he is admired—and exploited—until he makes a fateful decision. Q&A after the film.



### **Spinning Dry**

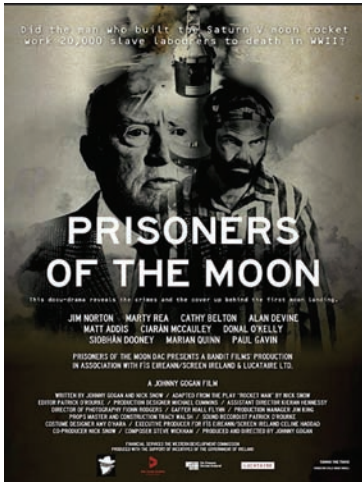
**Thursday, February 13 • 5:00 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

United States • 2019 • 1h 24 min.  
Director: James Avallone / Elana Krausz  
Cast: James Duval, Jesse Garcia,  
and Elana Krausz

*East Coast Premiere.* Co-presented with Women in Film & Video New England. Samantha "Sam" Martin—a Beverly Hills mother and five times divorced alien abductee—and her gardener's son, Samuel

"Norm" Normandie, share an evening of drinks and confessions in this offbeat comedy-drama. Q&A after the film.

## Feature Films



### Prisoners Of The Moon

Thursday, February 13 • 7:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

Ireland • 2019 • 1h 15 min.

Director: J. Gogan | Documentary  
Cast: Matt Addis, Cathy Belton,  
and Alan Devine

*US Premiere. Co-presented with the Irish Film Festival. At the end of World War II, the race was on to enlist the Nazi's rocket scientists. Desperate to beat the Russians, the US took in hundreds of Nazi V2 scientists. One of them, Arthur Rudolph, helped design the Saturn V moon rocket. He was also a war criminal. Screens with the short film *Gun Metal Wax* by Jonathan Brooks (United Kingdom, 11 min.).*



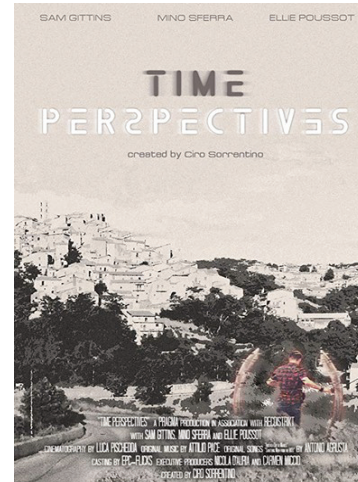
### I Am Human

Thursday, February 13 • 9:15 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United States • 2019 • 1h 24 min.

Director: Taryn Southern / Elena Gaby  
Documentary

*New England Premiere. Co-presented with Women in Film & Video New England. Meet the world's first "cyborgs"—a quadriplegic, a blind man, an amputee, a bio-hacker, and a woman with Parkinson's disease—the scientists who help them, and an entrepreneur relentless in his quest to unlock the unique opportunities of advanced brain technology.*



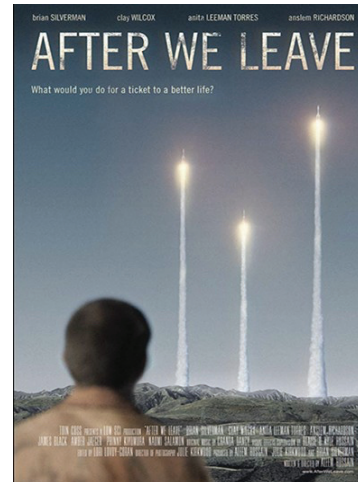
### Time Loop

Friday, February 14 • 5:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

Italy • 2019 • 1h 23 min.

Director: Ciro Sorrentino  
Cast: Sam Gittins, Mino Sferra,  
and Ellie Poussot

*Multi-fest winner. Formerly titled Time Perspectives. A young Londoner, a scientist running experiments with his father in a quiet Italian village, has to face the consequences of choices he has yet to make. Filmed on location in Italy. *Time Loop* screens with the short film *The Adventures of The U.S.S. Parkview* by Kevin Croxton (United States, 6 min.).*



### After We Leave

Friday, February 14 • 7:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

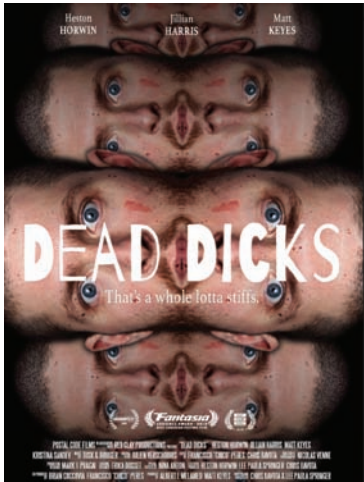
United States • 2019 • 1h 22 min.

Director: Aleem Hossain  
Cast: Brian Silverman, Clay Wilcox,  
Anselm Richardson

*East Coast Premiere. A loner struggles to find his estranged wife, a woman he abandoned six years earlier, before their visa to immigrate to an off-world colony expires. An intimate, smart, and bitter-sweet sci-fi film.*

*Q&A after the film. *After We Leave* screens with the short film *Actuary* by MK Hill (United States, 7 min.).*

## Feature Films



### Dead Dicks

Friday, February 14 • 9:15 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

Canada • 2019 • 1h 23 min.

Director: Chris Bavota / Lee Paula Springer  
Cast: Heston Horwin, Jillian Harris,  
and Matt Keyes

*Boston Premiere. Multi-fest winner.*  
Co-presented with the Boston Underground  
Film Festival. Upon receiving a barrage of  
distressing voice messages from her suicidal  
brother, Richie, Becca rushes to his apartment

to find him surrounded by copies of his own dead body—and one is moving.  
Smartly written, sci-fi horror filmed on location in Montreal, Canada. Q&A after the film.



### The Tangle

Saturday, February 15 • 1:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United States • 2018 • 1h 39 min.

Director: Christopher Soren Kelly  
Cast: Joshua Bitton, Christopher Soren  
Kelly, and Jessica Graham

*East Coast Premiere.* In the near future, “the  
Tangle” connects a world without violence.  
A secret government agency watches all from  
within “technology safe rooms” impermeable  
to the nanobots that make up the Tangle. But

when a California field agent named Margot Foster is murdered, it is the first such  
incident in three years. Lyrical and hypnotic, *The Tangle* will keep you guessing.



### Max Winslow And The House Of Secrets

Saturday, February 15 • 3:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United States • 2019 • 1h 37 min.

Director: Sean Olson  
Cast: Chad Michael Murray, Marina Sirtis,  
and Tanner Buchanan

*East Coast Premiere.* Blending sci-fi thrills and  
comedy, five teens are invited to the home of  
an eccentric billionaire—entrepreneur-scientist  
Atticus Virtue—to compete in a game to  
win his mansion. Trapped in the house, they

must face-off against a powerful super computer named HAVEN that controls the  
mansion. What could possibly go wrong? Q&A after the film.



### Volition

Saturday, February 15 • 5:00 p.m.  
Somerville Theatre

United States • 2019 • 1h 31 min.

Director: Tony Dean Smith  
Cast: Adrian Glynn McMorran,  
Magda Apanowicz, and John Cassini

*East Coast Premiere. Multi-fest winner.*  
A time-bending, cerebral science fiction  
thriller, *Volition* is the story of a man afflicted  
with clairvoyance who tries to change his fate  
when a series of events leads to a vision of his

own imminent murder. Early reviews have praised this feature as having a “Robert  
Rodriguez gritty feel, mixed with *Inception* and *Looper*.”

## Feature Films



### I Am Ren

**Saturday, February 15 • 7:30 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Poland • 2020 • 1h 15 min.

Director: Piotr Ryczko

Cast: Marta Król, Marcin Sztabinski,  
 and Marieta Zukowska

*US Premiere.* Wife. Mother. Robot. After an unexplained malfunction, Renata, an Artificial Intelligence parent is sent to A.I. group-therapy to determine if she's still fit to be a surrogate mother for the troubled boy Kamil.

Events, however, take an unexpected turn when Renata discovers the true nature of her problem and who she really is. Also titled *Panacea*. Q&A after the film.



### Blood Quantum

**Saturday, February 15 • 9:30 p.m.**  
**Somerville Theatre**

Canada • 2019 • 1h 36 min.

Director: Jeff Barnaby

Cast: Marta Król, Marcin Sztabinski,  
 and Marieta Zukowska

*New England Premiere.* Co-presented with the Boston Underground Film Festival. Set on an isolated Mi'gmaq Red Crow Reservation, the dead are coming back to life. This time the horror comes with a twist—the Anglos are

infected and the indigenous inhabitants are immune to the zombie plague. Director Jeff Barnaby is a Mi'gmaq who grew up on the Listuguj reserve in Quebec.

## Alphabetical List

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 Alien Addiction (p.11)  
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 Entangled (p.15)  
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 Go/Don't Go (p.12)  
 I Am Human (p.22)  
 I Am Ren (p.26)  
 Intersect (p.20)  
 Luz (p.16)  
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 The Honeymoon Phase (p.18)  
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Eva Green in *Proxima*



*After We Leave*



*Sea Fever*

See page 28 for a list of the 24-hour Marathon feature films.

# SciFi Marathon

**FEBRUARY 16-17, 2020**  
**24 HOURS • NOON TO NOON**

The Boston Science Fiction Film Festival culminates with the iconic 24-hour Marathon (a.k.a. "The Thon"), a cinematic feast featuring new releases, classic films, laugh-fests, cartoons, music, and more. It's like binge-watching with 600 of your closest friends. Visit [bostonscifi.com](http://bostonscifi.com) for additional information.

## SF45 Marathon Films

Alphabetical Order

Altered States (1980)  
Die Monster Die! (1965)  
Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde (1920, Silent, with composer/musician Jeff Rapsis)  
Fiend Without A Face (1958)  
Fast Color (2019)  
Midnight Special (2016)  
Miracle Mile (1988)  
Mysterious Island (1961)  
Seconds (1966)  
Soylent Green (1973)  
Spaceballs (1987)  
Tarantula (1955)  
The Fly (1986)

...plus Duck Dodgers, short films, games, and 24 hours of fun!



Photo by Harry O. Lohr, Jr.

# Venues

## Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square / Somerville, MA 02144  
(617) 625-5700

## The Rockwell

255 Elm Street / Somerville, MA 02144  
(617) 684-5335

## Museum Of Science - Boston

1 Science Park / Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 625-5700

## The Burren

247 Elm Street / Somerville, MA 02144  
(617) 776-6896

## Orleans Restaurant

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# The Film School (continued from page 9)

FanExpo Boston presents...

## Music and Sound

Friday, February 14 • 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. • Somerville Theatre

Music and sound can play into what an audience feels. But what kind? How can we use music to enhance a film or set the mood? These and other important questions are sure to be asked and answered. Panelists: Tim Huling, Berklee Professor; Megan Kearns, film critic

## Filmmaker's Luncheon

Saturday, February 15 • 1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. • The Burren

Join us as we mix and mingle to talk about what it truly means to be a filmmaker. Admission to the luncheon is included in the Festival Pass, however, food and beverage must be purchased separately.

## Filmmaking Discussion

### with The Harryhausen Foundation

Saturday, February 15 • 3:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. • Somerville Theatre

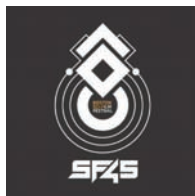
Join us for a late afternoon discussion as we talk about Ray Harryhausen's extensive film-related collection and the work of The Harryhausen Foundation. Visit our website for panelists.

FanExpo Boston presents...

## The Director's Process

Saturday, February 15 • 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. • Somerville Theatre

Each director has her or his own process. Find out how others are doing it and more. Panelists: Sean Olson, director *Max Winslow And The House Of Secrets*; Izzy Lee, director, *My Monster*; and Vlad Minuty, director *Vacant*



T-shirts, buttons, mugs and more!  
Visit Boston SciFi in the Somerville Theatre lobby  
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## Boston Latino International Film Festival

September 23-27, 2020  
[www.bliff.org](http://www.bliff.org)



## Boston Underground Film Festival

March 25-29, 2020  
[www.bostonunderground.org](http://www.bostonunderground.org)



## Irish Film Festival

March 19-22, 2020  
[www.irishfilmfestival.com](http://www.irishfilmfestival.com)



## Roxbury International Film Festival

June 17 - June 27, 2020  
[www.roxfilmfest.com](http://www.roxfilmfest.com)



## SF45 Crew and Acknowledgments

Each year we get bigger, and each year more great folks help out. Without their hard work, wisdom and insight, we'd be lost. Thank you all.

Chris Phoenix - Director of Branding & Marketing  
Leandra Sharron - Assistant Festival Director  
Suzanne Cromwell - Festival Co-curator  
Ian Judge - Classic Cinema Curator & Somerville Theatre General Manager  
Harry O. Lohr, Jr. - Production Manager: Programs, Photographer & Festival Archivist  
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Louisa Monahan - Assistant Filmmaker Liaison  
Marta Cameron - Assistant Filmmaker Liaison

Grateful thanks also go out to our more than 30 film reviewers, including Mark Sherwood, Rich Simon, John Borchard, Jon Hutton, Melva James, Marion Dioguardi, and Dan LeBlanc. You all deserve a laurel. We couldn't do it without you.

Thank you also to our many strategic partners including Chris Farone, Somerville Media Center (SMC), Andrea La Chance, James White and Ansley Newland at FanExpo Boston, Scott Walker, Bruce Bartoo, Laura Azevedo, Joanne Cox, and Tony Watts.

And a special tip of the hat to Mr. LeBlanc - "In Memorium" Editor; Tony DiSalvo - The LA Connection; Wallace Kemp; Diane Weaver; Brian Yelverton; Bears Rebecca Fonte; Louis Savy; Troy Bernier; and all the panelists, guests, and supporters who added magic to this year's event.

And, last but not least, a hearty thank you to the Somerville Theatre staff, projector booth, and all our wonderful volunteers.

Garen Daly, Festival Director

SF45 Festival Program by Harry O. Lohr, Jr.

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