

FILM, VIDEO,
NEW MEDIA,
ANIMATION, AND
SOUND FESTIVAL

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 NORTH STATE STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

May 11
Program 4

8:00 - 9:50 p.m.

Livia Margon
Chanel Kaliski
Ferrell Lamothe
Sam YiYao Chao



Welcome to the 2016 BFA and MFA Media Arts Festival and screenings! Here you will encounter the next generation of film, video, new media, animation, and sound artists as SAIC students present their thesis projects. In this festival, you will experience innovative live-action shorts, all kinds of animation, feature-length narrative and nonfiction works, video essays, and experimental digital and audio pieces that will provoke, pleasure, instigate, and surprise you.

In FVNMA and at SAIC, we embrace radicalities of different shapes, sizes and forms in our experimental Media Arts. We encourage and are committed to a fluidity of ideas, theories, and practices. FVNMA students move far beyond traditional approaches, often working in interdisciplinary ways. The works here cross and intermix technologies, genres, and approaches, manifesting new and hybrid forms of expression.

We salute all these graduating students in celebrating the work that they will now share with us. We appreciate your time, labor, love, and the community that you have built together with us these last few years as you worked hard to compose, write, shoot, record, re-enact, direct, perform, edit, sample, digitize, experiment, generate, render, draw, model, design, photograph, chroma-key, interact, loop, re-mix, re-author, re-form, collaborate, improvise, craft, and hone your materials, ideas, sounds, and visions.

We congratulate you all, and wish you the best in your continuing lives as artists!

Mary Patten
chair, FVNMA
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
May, 2016

Presented by the Department of Exhibitions and Exhibition Studies in collaboration with the Film, Video, New Media, and Animation Department, and the Gene Siskel Film Center.

Special thanks to Chris Sullivan, Daniel Eisenberg, Eric Fleischauer, and Claudia Hart for their work programming the 2016 Festival. And an extra-special shout-out to Brandon Doherty of the Gene Siskel Film Center, and to Mickey Mahoney, Emily Kuehn, Andrew Zoleta, and Dan Holmes in FVNMA for technical support.

LIVIA MARGON

BFA FILM, VIDEO, NEW MEDIA, AND ANIMATION

The Devil Between Us, 2016

digital video
sound, b/w
14:00

Two strangers contemplating suicide for different reasons are stuck on a roof. Evelyn has been given a death sentence at the prime of her youth. By his own choice, Adam can't bare to live another day. This film explores the idea of survival and finding likeness in the most unlikely of human interactions.

CHANEL KALISKI

BFA FILM, VIDEO, NEW MEDIA, AND ANIMATION

Always Flying, 2014

digital video
sound, b/w
8:00

Leaving a party with the intention to buy more alcohol, Tatiana makes the life-changing decision to get in the car with a drunk driver. The car crash leaves her unable to walk for the rest of her life. This film explores her story and the ability of art to help heal from tragedy.

SAM YIYAO CHAO

BFA FILM, VIDEO, NEW MEDIA, AND ANIMATION

Sweet Sweat Fish in-between Sea and Shore, 2016

audio translated to digital video
sound, color
30:32

A family-friendly film, please watch. The image is blank due to overexposure of the sunlight during a summer when Sam collects worn-out white cloth shoes named Pat Fan Yu. The audio is rich and the subtitles are clear.

FERRELL LAMOTHE

BFA FILM, VIDEO, NEW MEDIA, AND ANIMATION

Abhi, 2015

digital video
sound, color
26:53

This non-traditional documentary provides the audience with a more intimate look at the subject. Special thanks to Abhijeet Rane and J Frank Wilson. And thanks to my mom and dad, Joanne and Dean, for always supporting me—I love you so much!