



Sundance Wrap Part II: Pronounced Culture-Shifting Art

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

The 2022 Sundance Film Festival promised culture-shifting voices and none were more pronounced than Director Sophie Hyde and Writer Katy Brand's, ***Good Luck To You, Leo Grande***, starring Dame Emma Thompson, as a retired schoolteacher who has yet to experience the joy of sex. Enter Daryl McCormack as the young and debonaire sex worker, Leo Grande. What starts out as a cold transactional relationship ends up as a deep, warm, caring transactional relationship opening hearts and minds. *Good Luck To You, Leo Grande* is scheduled to stream exclusively on Amazon Prime Video.



Good Luck To You Leo

Grande (Photo courtesy of Sundance Institute).

Phyllis Nagy's ***Call Jane***, set in the mid to late 1960s follows the pursuit of women's rights led by Elizabeth Banks, progressive suburbanite wife, and homemaker, Joy, who discovers a more engaging life in helping women get safe medical procedures for their unwanted or life-endangering pregnancies.

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Jane



rol, directed by Todd Haynes.
ative. Four stars.

Elizabeth Banks

appears in *Call Jane* by Phyllis Nagy, an official selection of the Premieres section at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival. Courtesy of Sundance Institute | photo by Wilson Webb.

[Emily The Criminal](#) from Director John Patton Ford addresses the fallout from the collateral damage of a young woman's college experience and relationship troubles. Aubrey Plaza portrays Emily, a young woman who went to college on student loans, partied, got an education, then received an assault conviction for her role in a relationship fight. Unable to land suitable work with her criminal record, Emily becomes a "dummy shopper" in an illegal, underworld enterprise. Fast-paced, this psych

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people do desperate things.

Emily The Criminal

(Photo courtesy of Sundance Film Festival).

[Emergency](#), the recipient of the **Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award: U.S. Dramatic**, harkens the impact racism can have on life-threatening, real-life situations and its ramifications on human potential.

Told through a darkly comedic lens with moments of "throw it all at the kitchen sink" style of comedy. Guaranteed to "shock, enlighten, and infuriate." From two-time Sundance alum Carey Williams (2018), based on his acting. Four stars.



Emergency (Photo

courtesy of Sundance Institute)

Director Rachel Lears, whose Lears 2019 Sundance film *Knock Down the House* followed four women who ran insurgent congressional campaigns in 2018, including Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Cori Bush. The film won the Audience Award and the Festival Favorite Award and was shortlisted for an Oscar and nominated for an Emmy. Lears 2022 offering, ***To The End***, is a visionary look behind the scenes of a philosophical movement, social and political, where young people have rejected the cynicism and complacency of a power structure that has failed to meaningfully address the existential threat faced by climate change. Told through the narratives of four instrumental leaders and women of color — Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Varshini Prakash, Alexandra Rojas, and Rhiana Gunn-Wright. This is more than the Green New Deal. It's planetary survival. Four stars.



Category

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Tags

1. John Patton Ford
2. Katy Brand
3. Phyllis Nagy
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