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Sundance â??21 Goes Beyond Film

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

Opening Night Welcome, Awards Night, Conversations & More,

Available Free & Worldwide

PARK CITY, UTAH â?? The lineup for the 2021 Sundance Film Festival, taking place on a Sundance-built and feature-rich online platform, goes beyond feature and short films, episodic work, and the VR/XR of New Frontier â?? it also encompasses a curated program of free special events, conversations, and activations available to the global public. The Talks and Events, presented on the Sundance platform, include the new Opening Ceremony, Sundance Dailies, and The Big Conversation series, trademark gatherings at Cinema CafÃ© and the Power of Story, Awards Night, and the concluding â??Itâ??s A Wrapâ?• session. Additional partner programming is slated inside a bustling digital Festival Village, which includes Main Street, Satellite Screens, and the Artist Lounge.

Robert Redford addresses members of the press at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival Press Confere

SCHEDULED TALKS & EVENTS

All talks and events are free to view globally. Sign up for an account at Festival.Sundance.org to access. All times are U.S. Mountain time.

2021 Sundance Film Festival Opening Night Welcome

Thursday, January 28, 5:00 p.m. â?? 5:30 p.m.

Audiences all over the world are invited to join us as we kick off the reimagined 2021 Sundance Film Festival and connect with the Sundance community in advance of experiencing the Festival program. During the Opening Ceremony, you can expect to hear from Festival Director **Tabitha Jackson**, celebrate Utah â?? our spiritual home â?? and see plenty of familiar faces from our Festival family.

The Sundance Dailies (#SundanceDailies)

Friday, January 29â??Tuesday, February 2, 9:00 a.m.â??9:30 a.m.

Your guided tour through the festivalâ??s myriad happenings, The Sundance Dailies will roll out each morning with host **Tabitha Jackson**, Utah correspondent **John Cooper**, and an assortment of special guests. The Sundance Dailies is a fun and informal download of the day ahead and what you missed the day before. Guests include: **Eugenio Derbez** (*CODA*)**, Rebecca Hall** (*Passing*), **Ed Helms** (

Together Together), **Zoe Lister-Jones** and **Daryl Wein** *(How It Ends*), and more.

Presented by Acura

Cinema CafÃ©

#CinemaCafe
Friday, January 29â??Monday, February 1, 10:30 a.m.â??11:15 a.m.

The doors are open again at Cinema CafÃ©. Here, the culture of conversation is reinvigorated. Our series of informal chats brings together special guests for thought-provoking encounters. Sometimes, the most fascinating conversations are the ones you didnâ??t expect. *Presented by Audible*

2021 Cinema CafÃ© guests will include:

Shaka King & Ahmir â??Questloveâ?• Thompson

Friday, January 29, 10:30 a.m.â??11:15 a.m.

Sonia Manzano & Rita Moreno

Saturday, January 30, 10:30 a.m.â??11:15 a.m.

Rebecca Hall & Robin Wright

Sunday, January 31, 10:30 a.m.â??11:15 a.m.

Tyson Brown, Patti Harrison & Emilia Jones

Monday, February 1, 10:30 a.m.â??11:15am

The Big Conversation

#SundanceBigConversation

Friday, January 29â??Monday, February 1, 1:00 p.m.â??2:00 p.m., individual slots TBA

The Big Conversation tackles science, art, culture, and the movements that are fueling the imaginations of todayâ??s independent artists. A compelling selection of speakers discuss topics centered on the themes of this yearâ??s program and explore broader trends in art and culture around the world. In considering how artistsâ??through their practice and their workâ??make meaning of the world, weâ??re reminded that itâ??s the big conversation that connects us to the big ideas.

Barbed Wire Kisses Redux

The year 1992 was a watershed one for LGBTQ+ film, giving birth to the term â??New Queer Cinemaâ?• and introducing a revolutionary generation of films and filmmakers with energetic irreverence and disruptive aesthetics. At the 1992 Sundance Film Festival, **B. Ruby Rich** convened and moderated a panel of preeminent artists (including the late Derek Jarman) to discuss their work and the historic moment of its emergence. This year, Rich and other LGBTQ+ titans gather 30 years later to look back and imagine forward in this contemporary edition of Barbed Wire Kisses.

Moderator **B. Ruby Rich** (Editor, *Film Quarterly*; Author, *New Queer Cinema: The Directorâ??s Cut*); guests **Andrew Ahn** (*Spa Night*), **Gregg Araki** (*The Living End*), **Lisa Cholodenko** (*High Art*), **Cheryl Dunye** (*The Watermelon Woman*), **Silas Howard** (*By Hook or By Crook*), **Isaac Julien** (*Young Soul Rebels*) and **Rose Troche** (*Go Fish*).

Come Together

That the first image of a black hole was achieved through a global network of synchronized radio observatories shows what humans can accomplish when we come together. Beyond astronomy and across a myriad of fieldsâ??from space exploration and climatology to bioscience and virology (as the pandemic plainly illustrates)â??science and technology are propelled by collaboration, cooperation, and the breaking of barriers. We explore, through the lens of film and television, what that cooperation means for human knowledge and our mutual survival.

Moderator **Janna Levin** (Tow Professor of Physics and Astronomy, Barnard College); guests **Scott Z. Burns** (writer, *Contagion;* writer & director, *The Report*), **Leland Melvin** (engineer and retired NASA astronaut), and more TBA. *Supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.*

The Past In the Present: A Personal Journey through Race, History, and Filmmaking

â??History is not the past, itâ??s the present.â?• James Baldwinâ??s words reverberate throughout **Raoul Peck**â??s work, his activism, and his remarkable filmmaking career. Peck joins Festival director **Tabitha Jackson** in a conversation about white supremacy, history, creative expression, and his personal journey from the Academy *Award-nominated I Am Not Your Negro* to his upcoming work *Exterminate All the Brutes*, which interrogates over 600 years of history, from the Native American genocide to the systemized enslavement of Africans, to Hitlerâ??s extermination of the European Jewsâ??a history to which our present is inextricably bound.

Power of Story (#PowerOfStory)

Timing TBA

The Sundance Film Festivalâ??s Power of Story looks to deepen public engagement with storytelling, delve into cinema culture, and celebrate artists whose work propels the form and reinvents storytelling as we know it. As we contemplate this futurescape of storytelling, we explore how revolutionary narrative experiences will reshape culture through the transformations in artistic discovery, emerging media, and the reassertion of independence.

Presented by Netflix

Power of Story: Speculative Fiction Is the Place

â??Speculative thought is important, and unless you are doing speculative thought, you are not doing any thought at all.â?• â??C.L.R. James

Black speculative fiction and historiography, Afrofuturism, and utopian/dystopian visions speak to an enduring, evolving, and vibrant storytelling sensibility. They also speak to the many generations of Black artists whose practice and workâ??across music, cinema, literature, design, fashion and other artsâ??re-envision the future. A group of artists reflects on storytelling forms that reframe Black experiences through imagined or alternative narratives connecting the people, technology, culture, and collective memory of the African diaspora.

Moderator **Jacqueline Stewart** (Chief Artistic and Programming Officer, Academy Museum and TCM Host); guests TBA.

Conjuring the Collective: Womxn at Sundance Speakeasy
Saturday, Jan 30, 2021, 8:00 p.m.â??9:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of dynamic performance and energizing conversation. Continuing our tradition of gathering and celebrating the womxn in our Festival community, this yearâ??s event will reclaim the idea of a coven as a source of magic, healing, and power.

Weâ??ve devised a virtual speakeasy featuring performances from an array of talented womxn from the Festival and beyond, honoring a multiplicity of perspectives through our myths and stories, dance, art, music, and culture. Theater directors **nicHi douglas** and **Annie Tippe** collaborate to create unique ways to bring womxn together to creatively respond to an intentional prompt for 2021. So light a candle, prepare a nightcap, and settle into Conjuring the Collective!

Guests include:

Poet **Apiorkor,** Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Artistic Director Emerita **Judith Jamison** (*Ailey*), , actor **Rita Moreno** (*Rita Moreno: Just A Girl Who Decided to Go For It)*, actor **SOKO** (*Mayday, The Blazing World*), and more TBA.

Awards Night

Tuesday, February 2, 6:00 p.m.

Tune in to the 2021 Sundance Film Festivalâ??s Awards Night Ceremony to see which projects were selected for juried and audience awards. Free and open to all, the event will be live-streamed on our online screening platformâ??join us (and some very special presenters) to see who takes home top prizes in the Festivalâ??s competition categories.

Itâ??s A Wrap

#SundanceWrap

Wednesday, February 3, 9:00 a.m.â??9:30 a.m.

Before feasting your eyes on the award-winning films from this season, finish off your Sundance Film Festival experience by looking back on the Festival that was. Festival director **Tabitha Jackson** leads a ceremonial end to this all-new Sundance experience by bringing audiences together for one last moment together in the virtual space.

FESTIVAL VILLAGE: Festival Village is at the epicenter of our community. Along our bustling Main Street and inside our Satellite Screens, you can catch the latest events and offerings from our partners and collaborators. And in the Artist Lounge, weâ??ll serve up a daily dose of creative inspiration as well as special events for filmmakers and independent storytellers of all stripesâ??open to all, no badge required.

MAIN STREET: Park Cityâ??s Main Street has always been the beating heart of the Festival. As weâ??ve reimagined the Festival with 2021 in mind, Main Street is as vital as ever in providing our online audience with the chance to experience exciting conversations, events, and other unexpected surprises together. We are grateful to our incredible community of Festival sponsors, nonprofit partners, foundations, and host state, Utah, for helping to recreate and preserve the magic of Main Street in this new format. We encourage you to explore our partnersâ?? activities as they bring new programming to the Festival each day. See all confirmed partner programming here, and select programs below.

ASCAP Music CafÃ©

Friday, January 29â??Monday, February 1, 3 p.m. onward, daily

ASCAP Music CafÃ© returns to a new virtual venue in the Festival Village, marking its 23rd year celebrating the union of music and film. From January 29 â?? February 1, the CafÃ© will feature two days of musical performances from the acclaimed talent and rising stars; another dedicated to VERSED: The ASCAP Podcast/ Screen Time conversations with top ASCAP composers and collaborators from around the globe; and a final day showcasing a handpicked selection of unforgettable performances from the Sundance ASCAP Music CafÃ© archives. More information can

be found here.

Ignite Day, Presented by Adobe

Monday, February 1st

_A day of free events for young artists and Festival attendees hosted by Sundance Ignite, Sundance Instituteâ??s program for Artist and Audiences 18-25 years-old. **Ignite Day** will include:

- A morning panel exploring storytelling traditions from historically marginalized communities as manifested through film and television and the business and craft of preserving narrative sovereignty in practice, especially among younger storytellers.
- A screening of short films from this yearâ??s Sundance Ignite x Adobe Fellows, followed by a brief Q&A with the filmmakers.
- Networking events exclusive to audiences 18-25 years old.

SATELLITE SCREENS: This year, audiences are invited to join us via our Satellite Screens, a constellation of mission-driven arthouse cinemas, arts organizations, drive-ins, and pop-ups. Through online experiences and in-person programming (as local health and safety guidelines allow), Satellite Screens will introduce our 2021 Festival features as well as locally curated presentations.

ARTIST LOUNGE: In the Artist Lounge, weâ??re serving up a daily dose of creative inspiration for independent filmmakers and storytellers. Join the creative community for talks and events, daily meet-and-greets, Q&As with 2021 Festival artists, and so much more. Schedule to follow.

The Sundance Film FestivalÂ®

The Sundance Film Festival has introduced global audiences to some of the most groundbreaking films of the past three decades, including *Clemency, Never Rarely Sometimes Always, Zola, On The Record, Boys State, The Farewell, Honeyland, One Child Nation, The Souvenir, The Infiltrators, Sorry to Bother You, Wonâ??t You Be My Neighbor?, Hereditary, Call Me By Your Name, Get Out, The Big Sick, Mudbound, Fruitvale Station, Whiplash*, *Brooklyn*, *Precious*, *The Cove*, *Little Miss Sunshine*, *An Inconvenient Truth*, *Napoleon Dynamite*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Reservoir Dogs* and *sex, lies, and videotape*. The Festival is a program of the non-profit Sundance Institute. 2021 Festival sponsors to date include: Presenting Sponsors â?? Acura, SundanceTV, Chase Sapphire, Adobe; Leadership Sponsors â?? Amazon Studios, AT&T, DoorDash, Dropbox, Netflix, Omnicom Group, Southwest AirlinesÂ® , WarnerMedia; Sustaining Sponsors â?? AMC, Audible, Canada Goose, Canon U.S.A., Inc., Dell Technologies, Documentary Plus, GEICO, IMDbPro, Stella ArtoisÂ®, Unity Technologies, University of Utah Health, White Claw Hard Seltzer, Zoom; Media Sponsors â?? The Atlantic, IndieWire, Los Angeles Times, NPR, The New York Times, Variety, Vulture, The Wall Street Journal. Sundance Institute recognizes critical support from the State of Utah as Festival Host State. The support of these organizations helps offset the Festivalâ??s costs and sustain the Instituteâ??s year-round programs for independent artists. sundance.org/festival

Sundance Institute

As a champion and curator of independent stories for the stage and screen, Sundance Institute provides and preserves the space for artists in film, theatre, film composing, and digital media to create and thrive.

Founded in 1981 by Robert Redford, the Instituteâ??s signature Labs, granting, and mentorship programs, dedicated to developing new work, take place throughout the year in the U.S. and internationally. Sundance Co//ab, a digital community platform, brings artists together to learn from each other and Sundance Advisors and connect in a creative space, developing and sharing works in progress. The Sundance Film Festival and other public programs connect audiences and artists to ignite new ideas, discovering original voices, and build a community dedicated to independent storytelling. Sundance Institute has supported such projects as *Clemency, Never Rarely Sometimes Always*, *Zola*, *On The Record, Boys State, The Farewell, Honeyland*, *One Child Nation*, *The Souvenir, The Infiltrators, Sorry to Bother You, Wonâ??t You Be My Neighbor?, Hereditary, Call Me By Your Name, Get Out, The Big Sick, Mudbound, Fruitvale Station*, *City So Real, Top of the Lake, Between the World & Me, Wild Goose Dreams* and *Fun Home*

(Source: Sundance Press Release)

Category

1. #Sundance
2. Sundance
3. Sundance Film Festival

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