

Queens World Film Festival is set to run April 16 - 28 at both the Museum of the Moving Image and Kaufman Astoria Studios for 11 days of incredible films from around the world and around the corner. With 152 films ready to screen in 47 thematic blocs, the festival has something for everyone.

Over the course of the last 13 years, we have screened 1,844 films, with 261 from Queens Filmmakers.

This year, we are screening 28 films from Queens filmmakers representing Bayside, Arverne, Rockaway, Astoria, LIC, Jackson Heights, Flushing, Elmhurst, and Jamaica. The festival closes with the Queens Corner block of films featuring 6 films from Queens. The rest of the films are the anchor films in blocs throughout the eclectic screening schedule to make sure that audiences who come to Queens to see a film made by a friend of theirs or a family member will also be treated to the wonderful work of Queens Filmmakers.

The festival is curated thematically, which is much harder than herding all of the short films into THE SHORT FILM BLOC or all of the comedies into THE COMEDY BLOC. Instead, films are grouped together that have something in common - could be the theme, an idea, or the production style - and these films are curated together to create a unique screening experience you can not get at any other festival worldwide.

This practice gives our local filmmakers the opportunity to see their films in dialogue with other films from around the world. It broadens the networks of all the participating filmmakers, it expands their understanding of what is possible and it expands their understanding of the theme itself.

With thematic curation, we are able to target our outreach and marketing to find the audiences interested in the themes explored in the bloc. Often, when looking at a film festival, an audience member might not know what they are looking at. The thematic curation gives everyone an opportunity to find the block or films that are of interest to them. Queens boasts over 70 CBOs that serve clients with special interests that are often represented in the screening blocs at Queens World, including uplifting others, immigration, and dealing with the environment. When reaching out to CBOs we are able to offer them discount codes to share with their network and clients to remove the barriers between potential audiences and the Queens World filmmakers

### **BLOC Samples**

[Empowerment: 3 films about elevating others.](#)

[Over the Fence: 7 stories about getting to where you must go.](#)

[Environmentally Speaking: 2 films about what is happening on our planet.](#)

[On Becoming: 6 films about what happens when we change](#)

[LGBTQ+: LGBTQ+: 7 films for, from, and about the community.](#)

[Queens Corner: 6 films as diverse as our Borough.](#)

On the following pages is a complete list of the films from filmmakers from Manhattan!

<b>Manhattan</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>
Film Name	Synopsis	Filmmaker	Link to their page
gorgona	Gorgona is Europe's last agricultural penal colony. Located 19 miles off the Tuscan coast, the prison island is home to ninety inmates, who spend their days outdoors, immersed in natural beauty. This is an intimate window into the daily lives of five inmates. From caring for livestock to farming the land, these men are offered the chance to learn a trade and life skills that can help them reintegrate into society	Antonio C Tibaldi	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/gorgona/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/gorgona/</a>
Bogota Story	Set in 1992, it tells the story of everyday people caught in a tumultuous era of political strife, drug violence, and daily power outages. It's the kind of Latin American immigration story that is seldom seen by global audiences. The film depicts a worldwide experience held by those forced to envision a brighter future in a place they don't call home, potentially leaving behind a profound sense of meaning and identity.	Esteban Pedraza	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/bogota-story/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/bogota-story/</a>
Crossing the River	The story of the world's oldest living Holocaust survivor siblings and captures more than 100 years of one family's history. Now 101, 100, 98 and 96, inseparable, informed and unfailingly optimistic, the Fink siblings have outlived spouses, offspring, hundreds of friends and relatives and arguably the most horrific genocide in human history.	Allan Novak	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/crossing-the-river/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/crossing-the-river/</a>
Love Letters	In 1977, Liz left her husband and four small children in Australia and came to NYC where she fell in love with Kate, feminist scholar. In "Love Letters," the traditional patriarchal values of the era, in which women and children were seen as possessions of men, collide head on with the newly energized, audacious lesbian feminist movement. This is the story of a blazing lesbian love affair, begun in the revolutionary feminist ferment of 1970's New York City and going strong 50 years later.	Greta L. Schiller	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/love-letters/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/love-letters/</a>
No Tomorrow	In a desperate and bloody civil war, five soldiers' political and ethical perspectives are put to the test, threatening their camaraderie. One of the soldiers discovers a glimmer of hope where he least expects it.	Martin Drop	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/no-tomorrow/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/no-tomorrow/</a>
In C, Too	"In C, Too" illuminates how close our dreams are to a common reality. Through structured visual improvisational techniques, the work explores how humanity survives because of our imagination and desire to transcend. "In C, Too" is also an origin story, operating in renunciation to mortality, focused on life's essentials – existence, exploration and how entropy ignites evolution. Elena Ruehr wrote "In C, Too" in honor of the 80th birthday of the legendary composer Terry Riley.	Dean Winkler & John Sanborn	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/in-c-too/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/in-c-too/</a>

A Shattering	A carefully constructed marriage implodes when an unexpected call unleashes a fragility and pain that have been simmering for years.	Jan Jalenak	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/a-shattering/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/a-shattering/</a>
What Happened to Jackson Avenue: A Story of Urban Renewal	This film covers the urban renewal program that removed 125 families (79% Black), from the community of Nyack NY. These families lost their homes, families, and community as well as generational wealth which they have never recovered from.	Rudi Gohl, Hakima Alem	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/what-happened-to-jackson-avenue-a-story-of-urban-renewal/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/what-happened-to-jackson-avenue-a-story-of-urban-renewal/</a>
Studio with a View	The short film captures life as it unfolds on the block below, home to a police precinct, located in a neighborhood stigmatized during the pandemic.	Mara Wallong	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/studio-with-a-view/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/studio-with-a-view/</a>
New Moon - Episode 1	Alan Twombly wins a contest to go to the moon, but when the private company backing the trip goes bankrupt, he's stuck there.	Ken Forman	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/new-moon-episode-1/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/new-moon-episode-1/</a>
Freedom Hair	Based on the true story of Melony Armstrong, a mother who works at a shelter for battered women starts a natural hair braiding business to achieve financial independence for herself and overcomes obstacles imposed by a powerful cartel and the state of Mississippi.	Dianne Houston	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/freedom-hair/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/freedom-hair/</a>
King Me	Two neighbors. One game. Several thoughts of homicide. A comedy about the people you love to hate—and hate to love.	Marc Acito	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/king-me/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/king-me/</a>
Never Fade Away	The true story of a young immigrant who escapes China in the 1940's during the Japanese Invasion, comes to the US with nothing but hopes and dreams. Told through narration, music and dance, this short film shines a light on the healing power of music as well as the power of the immigrant experience. Featuring history-making dancer Chun Wai Chan and the exquisite ballerina Xiaoxiao Cao, in a stunning pas de deux.	Donna Weng Friedman	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/never-fade-away/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/never-fade-away/</a>
build me through the image	A short documentary exploring the intricacies and complexities of the construction of a transmarginal Latine, multiracial, and queer identity through the experiences of a father, mother, and daughter.	Paula Hung	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/build-me-through-the-image/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/build-me-through-the-image/</a>
The Rushing of the Sea	A sensory meditation on the inexplicable ways grief moves through us as. Younger and Older are adult siblings who lost their mother to terminal illness. Younger has sunk into a grief where she intrusively relives the last perfect day the three of them had together.	Molly Karna	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/the-rushing-of-the-sea/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/the-rushing-of-the-sea/</a>
New York Tango	Tango/ballad that explores a failed relationship between an Argentinian American man and an African American woman in New York City	Pablo Raul	<a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/new-york-tango/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/new-york-tango/</a>

<p>Dancing Without Steps: The Art of Improvisation with Margaret Beals</p>	<p>Margaret Beals demonstrates the power of improvisation as performance and a tool of discovery for any creative endeavor. Included are excerpts from the works of choreographer Martha Graham and dance/theatre choreographer Valerie Bettis. The film expresses the principles that animate Ms. Beals' art and offers her experiences of improvisation to a new generation of artists.</p>	<p>Adriana Davis, Margaret Beals</p>	<p><a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/dancing-without-steps-the-art-of-improvisation-with-margaret-beals/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/dancing-without-steps-the-art-of-improvisation-with-margaret-beals/</a></p>
<p>The (Other) 700 Club</p>	<p>At the intersection of Broadway and Thornton St. in Brooklyn, a community of delivery workers gather every day to hang out and share their experiences while waiting for their next job. The film reveals a microcosm of street philosophers that discuss their beliefs, goals and motivations.</p>	<p>Juan Blanco Garcia</p>	<p><a href="https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/the-other-700-club/">https://queensworldfilmfestival.org/films/the-other-700-club/</a></p>