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**THE 41st MINNEAPOLIS ST. PAUL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
PRESENTS
THE NEXTWAVE OF FILMS AND FILMMAKERS AT MSPIFF**

MINNEAPOLIS – April 21, 2022 – MSP Film Society presents **NEXTWAVE**, a collection of films by and about today’s youth, at the **41st Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival, May 5-19, 2022**. **NEXTWAVE** is a program within **MSPIFF** that aims to engage the next generation of filmmakers and filmgoers by celebrating today’s youth in two parts: **NEXTWAVE Global Features**, a collection of family-friendly, coming-of-age, and YA (young adult) films screening within **MSPIFF**; and **NEXTWAVE Shorts**, a showcase of the finalists from our short film competition that attracts hundreds of submissions from high school age filmmakers from around the world. The **NEXTWAVE Shorts** are selected by local high school students from the **Minneapolis Institute of Arts’ Art Team** program and will be presented during **MSPIFF’s NEXTWAVE Youth Day on Saturday, May 14 from noon - 4pm at the Capri Theater, 2027 West Broadway Ave, Minneapolis**. Both **NEXTWAVE** programs will also be available to screen online during **MSPIFF**. For more information visit MSPfilm.org

“This is the year for youth-focused stories, with *CODA*’s Oscar win for best picture, coming-of-age films are getting long overdue recognition for their unique stories and perspectives, too often missing from the mainstream,” says **NEXTWAVE programmer Deborah Girdwood**. “**NEXTWAVE** expands **MSPIFF**’s focus on young people, mirroring the world’s need to face and embrace our futures.”

MSPIFF has had a dedicated focus on films for intergenerational audiences since 2005. This year’s selections include eleven films in the **NEXTWAVE Global Features program** and eleven films in the **Nextwave Shorts** program. Additionally, the **MSPIFF41** lineup includes over a dozen feature films that will appeal to youth and families, and where audiences will find youthful takes on life in the cinema, including the **MN Made** closing night film *Paulie Go!* These films will be available to screen in-person during **MSPIFF**, as well as online through **MSPIFF**’s virtual platform. Visit MSPfilm.org for tickets and schedules.

NEXTWAVE Global Features

These eleven international features explore the real and imagined lives of children and teenagers, centering the issues of their young protagonists.

[Any Day Now \(Ensilumi\)](#) - A humanist coming-of-age story of 13-year-old Ramin and his Iranian family living in a refugee center while seeking asylum in Finland.

[Buladó](#) - As the men in her family clash over the future of their land and ancestry, 11-year-old Kenza must find her own way in the world, while longing for the mother she never knew.



[*Dear Future Children*](#) - Three Gen Z activists tell their stories as a way to foreground the human side of the growing surge of young activism worldwide.

[*The First Death of Joana \(A primeira morte de Joana\)*](#) - As Joana and her friends are exploring their own sexual identities in a provincial Brazilian town, stories about the women in her life reveal many mysteries.

[*Karmalink*](#) - Making a discovery he can't ignore, 13-year-old Leng Heng recruits his friends to find a long lost buried treasure. An unforgettable Buddhist sci-fi teen adventure.

[*Mija*](#) - The story of Doris Muñoz, an ambitious young woman moving up in the music world as her parents struggle for financial and familial security.

[*Rickshaw Girl*](#) - Daring and determined Bangladeshi teenager, Naima, leaves her village for the big city to find unconventional ways to help her family survive.

[*Romy's Salon \(Kapsalon Romy\)*](#) - When 10-year-old Romy starts to observe slips in her grandmother Stine's behavior, she realizes that she is going to have to take care of Stine, not the other way around.

[*Spaceboy*](#) - 11-year-old Jim is obsessed with traveling to space and convinces his classmate, Emma, that they will successfully leave the atmosphere in a DIY space adventure.

[*The Strangest Girl in the World \(La chica más rara del mundo\)*](#) - Fascinated by monsters and ghosts, Melián finds she may need mortal help after all when her drawings mysteriously leap off the pages of her sketchbook.

[*Yung Punx: A Punk Parable*](#) - A group of 8-to-12-year-olds star as Color Killer, an inspiring pop punk band from Massachusetts, counting down to the biggest performance of their lives.

NEXTWAVE Youth Day: Powering Up our Youth Media Community

Saturday May 14 from Noon - 4pm at The Capri

[NEXTWAVE Youth Day](#) is a free gathering to showcase films by and for youth. Come view new works by teens, including the **NEXTWAVE Shorts**, while you connect with other youth media makers, enjoy free pizza and popcorn, and learn about Twin Cities media arts programs and resources available to youth, including **The Capri's Best Buy Teen Tech Center**, with a state-of-the-art music studio and videography programs for ages 13-18. Visit MSPfilm.org for more information.

NEXTWAVE Shorts

Young people have a unique lens on life as the next generation. The short films in the **NEXTWAVE youth filmmaking competition** were chosen by the **Mia Art Team** from hundreds of submissions by high school students from around the world. The **NEXTWAVE Shorts** program will also be available to screen online during **MSPIFF, May 5–19, 2022**.

"In a world of people getting back on their feet, we found a fountain of appreciation for just life in general. We selected a group of films that pushed the limits and made us laugh and feel. From having their heads in the clouds to boots on the ground, these filmmakers took us through a million different worlds. Featuring mind-bending adventure, explorations of togetherness and partnership, as well as a deep appreciation for the daily mundane, this program is as packed with surreality as it is down-to-earth. So please sit back and enjoy!" --[Mia Art Team 2021-2022](#)



NEXTWAVE Shorts

3 Epistolary Films - Three short letters written and filmed by the students of a French high school.

Beth - A true story of one asylum patient's struggle as her focus on returning home does not go as she planned.

Deep Forest - Little girl Marta got lost in a scary forest. There she meets a little ghost. All together, they pass all obstacles and get home.

Golden Vision - Golden Gate Village is the only family public housing in Marin. Despite the county's overall affluence, the majority-black residents must live in unsafe, unsanitary conditions due to a decade of neglect.

How To Be An Egg - A little girl tells the intolerance she experienced through the character of the eggs.

Katarza - Something strange happens during a bizarre basketball game.

Leafing Through An Old Book - Trying to maintain connections during the pandemic, a group of teenagers made animations on the pages of old books they found around their houses.

Revolution Day - July 4th is American Independence Day, but are we really independent? Follow people of the revolution as they take to the streets and reclaim their independence.

Self - Two teenagers envy each other and have a tough time finding acceptance.

The Small Things - A journey through life, filmmaking, and memory.

A Three To Five Minute Film - A man's life is edited down by an editor trying to keep his film between three and five minutes.

MSPFIFF is Minnesota's largest film festival and one of the longest-running film festivals in the country.

MSPFIFF41 is generously supported by many sponsors including: Star Tribune, KNOCK Inc., Cedarwoods Foundation, Best Buy, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis Foundation, MN State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, our Masters and Auteurs Member Circles, the 3,000+ Members and Donors of MSP Film Society, numerous locally owned and based businesses, consulates from around the world,...and more to come!

MSPFIFF is presented by the MSP Film Society, a dynamic 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to fostering an appreciation of the art of international independent cinema and its power to unite, inform and transform individuals and communities.

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