



Hip Hop Film Festival

we rock. we don't stop.



2035 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10035
USA



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212-254-4400 (sponsorship)
347-574-0700 (fillmakers)

FOR IMMEDIATE REALEASE

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HIP HOP FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES WORLD, US AND NYC PREMIERES FOR THE 2018 SEASON

July 6, 2018

The Hip Hop Film Festival will debut the feature projects of talented filmmakers from the around the world at the festival this year. From Hollywood to the streets of Portugal to hard hitting documentaries dealing with fallen Hip Hop Icons to politics, these filmmakers prove they are the future of fresh by creating narratives in every genre.

The highly anticipated projects hit the big screen for the first time ever in NYC at the festival taking place August 2-5 at The National Black Theatre (2031 Fifth Avenue, NYC).

Below is a listing and detail of the films premiering at the 2018 Hip Hop Film Festival. Trailers and director biographies are available by request to info@hiphopfilmfestival.org. Passes are available at hiphopfilmfestival.com.

World Premieres:

Fantastic The Legacy of Slum Village (US): - Fantastic tells the story of how three young men from the east side of Detroit formed one of the most underrated groups in hip hop history. From hustle to success through tragedy and breakups, the legacy of Slum Village lives on.

Fear No Gumbo (US): Oscar-nominated Director Kimberly Roberts, connects her personal experience and that of her community with the wave of development and recovery projects that have "flooded" the New Orleans' 8th Ward since 2005, leaving behind a new kind of emotional devastation: exploitation, broken promises, and neglect. From the empty lots of the citizens that haven't returned, to a new type of visitor, the Disaster Tourist, these projects are focused on everything except bringing sustainable social and economic progress to the citizens of New Orleans.



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And There Were Four (US): The lives of fictional Thrill and reality-based Joel begin to become interwoven as they each encounter completely different individuals with interconnecting journeys of relationships, love, drama and race with both fiction and reality colliding in the end.

Life In Action (Russia): Film about great break dance crew from Kazan, about their life and philosophy.

Believe The Beat (Brazil): Believe the Beat is a tender rites of passage tale that follows a crew of Brazilian street dancers. As they take their dance from city park to global stage, an independent filmmaker discovers the challenge and promise of digital storytelling. Jocelyn Edelstein's premiere, feature length documentary, celebrates the potent language of dance, friendship and perseverance.

Sneakers (US): This documentary explores sneakers as a way of life and also dives into the connection between Chicagoans and Air Jordan's.

Hip 2 Da Hop (Portugal): Hip to da Hop / A journey to Portugal in 4 elements, is a documentary film that takes us on a journey to Portugal on the four elements of hip-hop culture - rapping, DJing, breakdancing and graffiti.

United States Premieres

You Can't Create The World Twice (Portugal): Who would say that in the early 90s, when hip-hop itself was developing in the USA, a bunch of kids from the other side of the ocean were intensely listening to Mobb Deep, Wu-Tang Clan, Cypress Hill or De La Soul? And who would say that these same kids literally from the other side of the world, influenced by those artists, were starting to create a strong and lively hip-hop culture in Porto, Portugal? Through several testimonies and by collecting a lot of original footage, the two directors try to map an entire artistic and cultural movement with a very own distinctive identity. At the same time, the film takes a look on the beautiful city of Porto and its most recent transformations.

Freestyle (Argentina): After leaving prison, Matías takes refuge in the calm winter of an out-of-season beach town. The sea, the melancholy and the loneliness lead him into an introspective limbo, in which he will conceive an album about freedom and redemption, the b side of the record that he made during the confinement.



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New York Premieres

What Matters (US): Tensions rise as a young man faces complicated issues centered around a racially charged rally. Violence and political injustices threaten the balance of his world; however, with the help of a mentor, he must navigate his way to college and learn a deeper lesson.

Gun (US): A washed up, alcoholic ex-prizefighter makes a comeback to boxing after his top-middleweight contender son is wrongfully blinded in the ring.

Wicked Wednesday (US): *Wicked Wednesday* serves as Portland's weekly love letter to hip-hop. The film taps into the soul of the event that has become the de facto heart of the Portland hip-hop community. By turns a DJ showcase, performance venue, open mic night, graffiti art collective, DJ school, community gathering place, and much more.

ABOUT THE HIP HOP FILM FESTIVAL NYC

Out of over 5,000 festivals in the world, the Hip-Hop Film Festival is the only festival to focus on writers, directors and producers who grew up in the global culture of Hip Hop. This season the festival hosts over 100 directors, producers and screenwriters from the United States, France, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Canada, the UK, Russia, Switzerland, South Africa, India, Japan, Portugal, Argentina and more. The Hip Hop Film Festival features every genre (mystery, sci-fi, horror, action, romance, etc.) of story from filmmakers who live across the world. It is also the only film festival that shares the profits from the festival with the filmmakers selected to participate.