



ABOVE, TOP TO BOTTOM: The Bravest, The Boldest  
 Stills - Actress Sameerah Luqmaan-Harris - Photo  
 Credits Kartik Vija; Crime The Animated Series - Stills:  
 Animations by Sam Chou; Mend and Make do Stills -  
 Animations by Bexie Bush

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## Los Angeles...You Be the Judge! At the World's First Global Film Festival

LOS ANGELES, CA – (SEPTEMBER 8, 2014)

Filmgoers in Los Angeles will unite with audiences in over 250 cities spanning six continents to view and judge the work of the next generation of filmmakers from around the world when the 17th Annual MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival screens at **Venice Arts on Wednesday, October 1 at 7:30pm**. As a Center for film and photography education committed to fostering creative conversations around independent media, Venice Arts is excited to once again be screening the MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival as its only Los Angeles screening venue.

This year, MANHATTAN SHORT received 589 short film entries from 47 countries; England, Norway, Australia Netherlands, France, Mexico, Germany and the USA are the countries represented in this year's Festival. These short films will not only entertain a global audience but will be judged by that audience as well. Cinema goers will become instant film critics as they will be handed a ballot upon entry that allows them to vote for Best Film and Best Actor. Votes will be sent through to MANHATTAN SHORT HQ, with the winner announced at ManhattanShort.com on Monday, October 6, at 10am (EST).

The 10 selected films are set in diverse locals, ranging from outer space to the deserts of Mexico and the mountains of Norway to the streets of New York, Berlin, London and Amsterdam.

The MANHATTAN SHORT 2014 line-up is as follows:

**97%** (Netherlands), Director: Ben Brand

*A man tries to track down a potential love interest on a crowded train using a smart phone app.*

**Crime: The Animated Series** ( USA), Directors: Alix Lambert & Sam Chou

*A graphic-novel-style documentary about the havoc crime creates told by those living through it.*

**On The Bridge** (England), Director: Sameer Patel

Written & Produced by Elena Fuller

*Two men on London's Waterloo Bridge debate the merits of jumping off into the dark river below*

**Shift** (Australia), Director: James Croke

*A genius invents a sophisticated device that gives him a super power for the perfect heist*

**The Fall** (Norway), Director: Andreas Thaulow

*Two mountaineers depend on each other during a climb but one has a secret that puts trust to the test*

**On/Off** (France), Director: Thierry Lorenzi

*An Astronaut hears a mysterious message that turns a routine space-walk into a dangerous mission.*

**La Carnada** (Mexico), Director: Josh Soskin

*Crossing the border into the USA proves more perilous than a teenager imagines.*

**Mend and Make Do** (England), Director: Bexie Bush

*A woman reminisces about her life before and after World War II in animated fashion.*

**The Bravest, The Boldest** (USA), Director: Moon Molson

*A Mother tries to avoid two Army Officers ready to deliver the worst news of her life.*

**Rhino Full Throttle** (Germany), Director: Erik Schmitt

*A man searching for the soul of a city encounters an enigmatic young woman who unlocks his heart..*

"This Film Festival will unite people in all corners of the globe, from Sydney to Mumbai, from Buenos Aires to Cairo. Venues also include cinemas in 20 cities in the Ukraine, 40 cities in Russia, and 47 states in the USA. In times like these, cross-border events like MANHATTAN SHORT that contribute toward greater tolerance and understanding are needed more than ever. I want to thank and congratulate all the filmmakers and cinemas involved in this global cinematic event. This project is not going to cable TV or Video on Demand, it's about communities bonding together via their local cinema" said MANHATTAN SHORT Founding Director Nicholas Mason.

### History:

MANHATTAN SHORT began in 1998, when Mason screened 16 short films onto a screen mounted to the side of a truck on Mulberry Street, Little Italy New York City. A year later the Festival moved uptown to Union Square Park in New York City. In the aftermath of 9/11, MANHATTAN SHORT transformed into a worldwide phenomenon, becoming the only film festival on the planet that unfolds, simultaneously, in more than 250 cinemas on six continents, bringing over 100,000 film-lovers in all corners of the globe together for one week, via the next generation of filmmakers.



Read more **interviews** with all the nominated directors here:  
<http://www.manhattanshort.com/finalists.html>

Download the **Trailer** for your story/website:  
<http://www.manhattanshort.com/trailer.html>

**Tickets are available** online at:  
<http://venicearts-manhattanshort2014.eventbrite.com/>

### About Venice Arts

Now in its twenty-first year, Venice Arts is a nonprofit arts organization that is committed to providing high-impact arts education for low-income youth in the areas of photography, filmmaking, and multimedia. In addition to its core Art Mentoring & Education Program, Venice Arts implements regional, statewide, and international Documentary Programs with both adults and children; presents exhibitions, public programs, and workshops for adults centered around documentary photography and film; and consults on media arts, visual storytelling, and arts education locally and internationally. It is the philosophy of Venice Arts that self-expression, particularly through the arts, has the potential to transform and empower young people to see greater possibilities for themselves and for their communities.

To find out more about Venice Arts, visit [www.venicearts.org](http://www.venicearts.org).

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