QUEER WOMEN OF COLOR FILM FESTIVAL
FESTIVAL FOCUS
JOYFUL REUNION

JUNE 14, 15, 16 2024
FILMS FULLY CAPTIONED & DESCRIBED

PRESIDIO THEATRE 99 MORAGA AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO — FREE

FESTIVAL@QWOCMAP.ORG 415.752.0868 WWW.QWOCMAP.ORG
Greetings from Yelamu, the traditional unceded territory of the Ramaytush Ohlone people, now known as San Francisco.

We welcome you, our Beloved Community, to our 20th annual International Queer Women of Color Film Festival! This year, our Festival Focus JOYFUL REUNION explores a diverse slate of films and discussions. Steeped in Indigenous knowledge, shared ecology, and queer realities, these films delve into the complexities of human connections and celebrate the dynamic concept of home(s).

Screenings span stories from reclaiming Visayan ancestral traditions to advocating for Kānaka ʻŌiwi rights, from navigating grief to celebrating queer Black love, to a Deaf Korean adoptee’s journey and hopes of skater girls. Together, we counter regressive rhetoric on racial, sexual, and gender diversity with films that foster community solidarity and generational dialogue.

As we celebrate two decades of transformative change, let the waves of joy and collective healing wash over you. We hope that this weekend empowers you to move forward with light, love, and liberation.

In Solidarity,

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JOYFUL REUNION
FESTIVAL FOCUS

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

7pm
Opening Night Screening
CHARTING HOME

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

1pm
Centerpiece Screening
QUEER BLACK CURRENTS

5pm
Panel: UNSHAKEABLE LEGACY
QUEER WOMEN OF COLOR FILMMAKERS

7pm
Centerpiece Screening
WAVES OF LOVE

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

1pm
Featured Screening
FINDING HER BEAT

3pm
20th ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

5pm
Closing Night Screening
SHARED NAVIGATION
OPENING NIGHT SCREENING

CHARTING HOME
FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 7PM
From reviving traditions to revisiting memories, these films soar alongside ancestral legacies and diaspora to honor the resilience and power of past generations through the persistence, perseverance, and revitalization of Indigenous cultures around the world.

PAINTED ONES by Julia Husain Nacario, 2024
A Visayan tattoo artist traverses Indigenous histories through ink.

DRUMBEAT OF OUR HEARTS by Cynthia Gutierrez, 2024
A queer Nicaraguan-Salvadoran mother on an expedition to reclaim Indigenous identity.

A PLACE TO CALL HOME: AN INSIDE LOOK AT LA PEÑA’S ROTATING MURAL PROGRAM by Clara Pérez Medina, 2023
Three generations of artists map the contours of their communities.

THE MAKING OF HANA MAKGEOLLI by Esther Chan, 2023
A Korean woman makes waves brewing jeontongju alcohol.

MY HAIR IS THE VIEW by Sanae Lahgazi-Alaou & Safae Lahgazi-Alaou, 2023
Moroccan women embark on a celebration of their afros and curls.

GRANDMOTHER’S EYES by Victoria 程, 2024
For a Chinese person, lingering memories swell during a bus ride.

HOA by Tram Anh Nguyen, 2022
Before her memory disorder develops, a Vietnamese grandmother charts her life in a memoir.

SNACK by Lauren To’omalatai, 2023
A Samoan woman and her grandmother navigate currents of grief.

E LE MALEMO SE I’A (A FISH DOES NOT DROWN): PASIFIK COMMUNITIES DURING PROP 8 by Sauliloa Niumeitolu, 2023
Queer Pasifikas grapple with intolerance in their communities.

KA’Ā’UME’UME: NAVIGATING HOME by M. Kaleipumehana Cabral, 2023
Six Kānaka ʻŌiwi maneuver between the tidal pull of home and the struggle to stay.

Running Time: 90 minutes
QUEER BLACK CURRENTS
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1PM
From ebbs of spiritual grief to the celebration of transformational queer Black love, these stirring films traverse spiritual connections and intimate recollections to bend, blend, and expand on the ways queer Black people navigate the world.

EMERGENCY CONTACT by Yvonne Onakeme Etaghene, 2024
Haunted by devastating heartache, an Ijaw and Urhobo Nigerian dyke realizes that grief is an expression of love she can never outrun.

LINE OF REVERENCE by Ashante J. Ford, 2024
A Ghanaian woman communes with her ancestors during her day of devotion ritual.

OMWAN’EKHUI: PERSON OF DARK SKIN
by Asari Aibangbee, 2022
Multifaceted Black artists shape society, buoyed by their ancestors and the freedoms that come with being a culture shifter.

YOU DON’T HAVE TO LIKE ME by Safiyah Chiniere, 2023
A masculine-presenting African American woman carries the divine feminine within as she voyages for community through a world marred by hate.

HEAVY IS THE HEAD by Juniper Johnson, 2023
Black people steer through plights and outlandish situations that stem from texturism.

A POEM CALLED LOVE JONES
by Linda Denson & Diana Khong, 2023
Black lesbian love crests in a sweet spoken word performance about a couple’s first meeting.

BLACK RAINBOW LOVE by Angela Harvey, 2022
On a quest for understanding and acceptance, queer Black people share the challenges and triumphs of love and faith.

Running Time: 92 minutes
UNSHAKEABLE LEGACY:
Queer Women of Color Filmmakers
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 5PM

This incisive panel explores the steadfast creativity and commitment of queer women of color filmmakers and asks what we want our legacies to be in this world.

Mary Guzman is a Latinx award-winning filmmaker and theatre director. Her first film After The Break (1994) screened internationally and was inducted into the UCLA Film & TV Archive. Her film Desi’s Looking for a New Girl (2000) is the first Latina lesbian feature film. She’s working on her second feature, Lost Dog.

Melinda James is a Black and Thai cinematographer who has been featured at Sundance Film Festival, Hulu, Netflix, Disney Channel, Nike, FX, and Pandora. She was awarded an ASC Vision Mentorship and is in the International Collective of Female Cinematographers, Spora, The Authority Collective, and Level Ground Collective.

Tina Mabry is an award-winning writer, director, and producer. Credits include Queen of the South (USA), Queen Sugar (OWN), Insecure (HBO), Dear White People (Netflix), and many more. Her groundbreaking film Mississippi Damned (2009) won countless awards on the film festival circuit. Tina won the DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Children’s Programs.

Jennifer Phang’s first feature Half-Life (2008) premiered at Sundance and her award-winning feature Advantageous (2015) was acquired by Netflix. She has directed AppleTV’s Foundation, Resident Alien; Amazon’s The Boys, The Expanse; and HBOMax’s Emmy-nominated The Flight Attendant. She works as a director and co-executive producer for Disney’s Descendants: The Rise of Red.

Madeleine Lim is QWOCMAP’s Founding Executive/Artistic Director and an award-winning filmmaker with 30 years of experience. Her documentaries include Jewelle: A Just Vision (2022); The Worlds of Bernice Bing (2013); Sambal Belacan in San Francisco (1997) which continues to be banned in Singapore.

Running Time: 60 minutes
WAVES OF LOVE
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 7pm

RACHEL AND RAHA by Nedda Sarshar, 2023
Latinx and Iranian ex-friends converge in a tidal wave of surprise.

LA LECTURA by Nova Duarte Martinez, 2023
A Latina teen navigates a revealing tarot reading with her Abuela.

W(HO) by Candace Ho, 2021
An Asian woman with the last name Ho fords turbulent waters.

WOULD YOU BE DOWN TO STUDY SOMETIME?
by Sofia Fabio Mendieta, 2024
A shy Asian girl adrift in her studies finds inspiration beyond books.

NICE TO SEE YOU by Caitlin Barlow, 2024
A Latina’s café shift bubbles over into an uncomfortable walk home.

CRISS CROSS by Zahira Chaudry, 2024
A deep dive into the intricacies of queerplatonic friendships.

FALLING IN LOVE WITH THE FEELING OF DROWNING
by Freddie Segura Glavey, 2024
Exploring the nostalgia in grief and friends that offer safe harbor.

LUCID by Tierra Frost, 2023
A heartfelt revelation ebbs into a chilling ordeal.

LOVE’S LYRIC by Maria Celia Garcia, 2024
An older Latina drifts through the memories of a love lost.

HANDLE WITH CARE by Kelsey Dang, 2024
A Black woman traverses the terrain of a broken heart.

F***KED by Sara Harrak, 2023
A lesbian couple reaches a crossroads in their open relationship.

KISS + TELL by Jazleen “JLEAN” Senshi, 2023
A Black woman’s journey to love starts with a toothpaste tablet.

CAN I HAVE HER NUMBER? by Keely Liles, 2023
An Asian woman is entranced by a gorgeous party crasher.

DELICATE CLOTHES by Ana Lucia Ramirez Mateus, 2023
A Latinx trans person wades through love in a laundry backroom.

Running Time: 90 minutes
FINDING HER BEAT
SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1PM

FINDING HER BEAT
by Dawn Mikkelson & Keri Pickett, 2022

A Japanese drum master and Korean adoptee from Minnesota assemble the world’s best women Taiko drummers to claim a cultural spotlight that has historically been off-limits to women for centuries. As the troupe prepares for a historic performance in snowy St. Paul, they navigate differences in culture, age, language, and performing styles in a voyage of music, cultural expression, and sisterhood.

Running Time: 89 minutes
CLOSING NIGHT SCREENING

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 5PM

From activism that unites community to familial love and queer liberation, these films channel the radiant joy of being at home within yourself and within constellations of community.

EXPANDING SANCTUARY by Kristal Sotomayor, 2023
A Latinx immigrant mother makes waves with a historic campaign to end the sharing of the Philadelphia police database with ICE.

MI ABUELITA, LA CAMPEONA by Isa Moreno, 2023
A Mexican girl steers her abuela’s boxing dreams in a new direction.

PRISM: A NONBINARY DOCUMENTARY by Ginger Chen, 2024
A gentle exploration across the nonbinary spectrum.

QUEARS by Shabnam Singla, 2023
Conversations about earrings dip into queerness and gender norms.

WHERE DO WE GO by Jade Blackthorne, 2024
On a quest to find a restroom, a trans woman is obstructed by AI.

ADULTHOOD? by Mehak Chahal, 2024
A South Asian woman on an expedition of life’s complexities.

EXHALE by Sara Lopez Martinez, 2024
A trek through the growing pains of reconciling with your true self.

CLOCKY by Alicia Power Rangel, 2024
A clock plunges into the world and rescues their trapped friend.

RHOMBUS by Noel King, 2022
A Deaf Korean adoptee travels on a soul-searching journey.

TO GLOW AT H.U.M. UNIVERSITY by Naya Ryan, 2024
A queer Black student stows their powers from new classmates.

COURTSIDE BOUQUET: THE LEGACY OF LEIGHA ROSE by Jasmine LeBlanc, 2024
A queer Black woman charts her years playing basketball.

SK8RGLLS by Jean Zamora & Florence Middleton, 2023
Women and nonbinary folks form a quad skating community.

Running Time: 96 minutes
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Director of Photography MADELEINE LIM and RUTH GUMNIT  |  Editors ELIZABETH FINLAYSON and COREY OHAMA
Music Composers ALLEGRA BANDY and MELANIE DEMORE

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