

Couch Film Festival

Winter 2023 Edition

Winners in RED, Nominees in BLACK

Best of the Festival

Best Film of the Festival: **Another Brick In The Wall - Dir. by Dayne Sagor (Australia)**

1st Runner Up for Best Film: **Becoming Santa - Dir. by Dawn Spinella (USA)**

2nd Runner Up for Best Film: **A Trip To Die For - Dir. by Francisco Derbez Barba (Mexico)**

Honourable Mention: **Cut - Dir. by Luca Vines, Ashton Crompton (Australia)**

Audience Choice: **Becoming Santa - Dir. by Dawn Spinella (USA)**

Category Award Nominees

1:00-5:00 Minutes

Nominees for Best Animation

Showtime!! - Dir. by Grace Ha, Leonne Chang (USA)

Primogeniture - Dir. by Savanna Menzel (USA)

Last Day of Summer - Dir. by Henry He (Canada)

Faro - Dir. by Nikolozi Inasaridze (Georgia)

Dying to Defrost - Dir. by Heather Ann Abeyasekera (Singapore)

My Choice Points - Dir. by Katy Ross (Canada)

Nominees for Best Comedy

Just Saying... - Dir. by Ian Paul Johnston (Canada)

Future Primitives - Dir. by Massimiliano Nocco (Italy)

The Bad Trip - Dir. by Joseph Bolz, Sebastian Weimar (Germany)

It's a Sign! - Dir. by Jeff Vande Zande (USA)

Nominees for Best Drama

Come Back - Dir. by Roman Duneshenko (Russia)

La Tesis Final - The Final Thesis - Dir. by Miguel Torena Bogao (Uruguay)

Reborn - Dir. by Freia Serafina (USA)

Yolks - Dir. by Jesse Womack (USA)

Talk to Bridgette - Dir. by Kenzie Yango (Canada)

Nominees for Best Experimental

Frozen Bliss - Dir. by Rasmus Lindkvist (Sweden)

Transmission Override - Dir. by McCoy Chance (USA)

Will You Miss Me? - Dir. by Craig J. Shorrock (UK)

In... - Dir. by Nicolas Dronsky (USA)

Perils & Rewards - Dir. by Suzin Rebecca Daly, Jamie Slater (USA)

He Sees Dead People - Dir. by Shane Eason (USA)

Nominees for Best Music Video

One Voice - Dir. by Seth Bernstein (USA)

Lotta Luck - Dir. by Thomas G. Leary (USA)

You Better Run - Dir. by Manuel Kalb (Germany)

See No Light - Dir. by MayZe (Israel)

Nominees for Best Mystery/Suspense/Thriller

Camp - Dir. by Maxwell G. MacKoul (USA)

Disguised Reflection - Dir. by Michael Jacoby, Joseph Jacoby (USA)

Two Shots - Dir. by Rebecca Lamure (Canada)

Eidolon - Dir. by Amanda Hacksel (Canada)

The Deep Blue Tomorrow - Dir. by Brandon Normon (Canada)

Nominees for Best Christmas Film

Christmas Snow Angel - Dir. by Robrecht Berg (USA)

The Xmas Mishaps of Harlow Stoa - Dir. by Isaias Zai Gallardo (USA)

Baking a Friendship: Santa's Sack Lunch - Dir. by Isaias Zai Gallardo (USA)

Nominees for Best Student Film

Seance - Dir. by Parker Fenady (USA)

A Moment of Moments - Dir. by Igor Hnes (Ukraine)

Unsorted - Dir. by Daniel Gönczy (Switzerland)

The Alpinist - Dir. by Karla Verónica Grijalva de la Cruz (Mexico)

Distract - Dir. by Amelia F. Talken (USA)

Nominees for Best Actor

Lili Sucheva - Sandman (Bulgaria)

Yusuf Kenan Adıgüzel - Nosedive (Turkey)

Igor Hnes - A Moment of Moments (Ukraine)

Michael Jacoby - Disguised Reflection (USA)

Nominees for Best Actress

Kristina Korbut - The Loop (UK)

Olenka Dabrowski - Emily and John (Canada)

Moara Morais - Can't You See This? (Brazil)

Katherine Halievski - Two Shots (Canada)

Nominees for Best Cast

Office Hunt - Dir. by Joaquina (Jojo) Gentil (USA)

Were-Flutter: Darkest Desire - Dir. by Alexis Ramirez (USA)

Bloodlines - Dir. by Kelci Loring (USA)

Tirare la Cinghia - Dir. by Paolo Pier Luigi Guglielmetti (Italy)

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Zav Jenabian - The Colour Blue (Canada)

Christos Agrapidou, Maria Agrapidou - Lost Youth (Greece)

Joseph Bolz, Sebastian Weimar - The Bad Trip (Germany)

Gerry Kodo - Camp (USA)

Nominees for Best Writer

Chris Qi Yao - Reboot (China)

Mike Messier - Many Keys - The Heartbreak Monologue (USA)

Isaias Zai Gallardo - The Xmas Mishaps of Harlow Stoot (USA)

Daniel Gönczy - Unsorted (Switzerland)

Nominees for Best Director

Chuan Ming Fu - The Blessing from the Lord of Land (Taiwan)

Michel Matthey de l'Etang - Trail Tales: Autumn Edition (Switzerland)

Mark Cline - Checked Bags (USA)

Christos Arfanis, Maria Agrapidou - Lost Youth (Greece)

5:01-20:00 Minutes

Nominees for Best Animation

Nubbinwood - Dir. by Tim Granberg (USA)

Hinter-Land - Dir. by Christopher Angus (Canada)

Epicycle - Dir. by Deb Ethier (Canada)

Am I A Painter? - Dir. by Michał Kucharski (Poland)

Detective Alice and The Inside Game - Dir. by Kyky Yang (USA)

Nominees for Best Comedy

Vampires Anonymous - Dir. by Elizabeth Findley (USA)

Tricycle: Ride to Arrive - Dir. by Geoff Adams (USA)

So, You're the Guy? - Dir. by Mike Messier (USA)

Special Delivery - Dir. by Adam Michael (USA)

Hammer Head - Dir. by Jocelyn Lane, Cole Jamison Crawford (USA)

Nominees for Best Documentary

Warnings Missed in 2023 Crop Circle Season - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (USA)

The Way of the Wing - Dir. by Mateen Manek (Canada)

Home - FuJian - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (Hong Kong)

Nominees for Best Drama

Bay for Blood - Dir. by Harry Waldman (USA)

Nostalgia - Dir. by Dean Attari

By Any Other Name - Dir. by Michael Luciano (USA)

Thank You for Your Love - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (Singapore)

Far Away But Never Alone - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (Malaysia)

Nominees for Best Experimental

Becoming Fossil - Dir. by Petra Kupperts (USA)

The Solitaire - Dir. by Roberto Freeman (UK)

Empire Of Kemet - Dir. by Kabelo Mokoena Chalatsane (South Africa)

A Woman Who Pulls a Cart and Receipts - Dir. by Won Jun Lee (Korea)

The Golden Girl - Dir. by Jayaditya Chowdary (Canada)

Nominees for Best Horror

You're Still Awake - Dir. by Alex Greenslade (USA)

Pretty Hands - Dir. by Senyo Mortty (UK)

The Way Out - Dir. by Jason OHara (USA)

Alice in Nightmareland - Dir. by Nina Romain (UK)

Chrissy - Dir. by Larry Collicott (Canada)

Nominees for Best Mystery/Suspense/Thriller

Conundrum - Dir. by Nemo (Bulgaria)

Blood Moon - Dir. by Romi Banerjee (Canada)

Facing The Shadow - Dir. by Kenny Vazquez (USA)

It's Real To Me - Dir. by Ruben Harjono (Canada)

Nominees for Best Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Supernatural

Murder: A Proof of Concept - Dir. by Kyle Ray Spano (USA)

Salvation - Dir. by Kitty Moroney (Australia)

Ask the Mask - Dir. by Kyle Dunbar (Canada)

Hinter-Land - Dir. by Christopher Angus (Canada)

Nominees for Best Student Film

The Storm Within - Dir. by Lane Firman (USA)

The Banner Project - Dir. by James Mills (USA)

Cart Narcs: Hero or Villain - Dir. by Brooke Madison Walker (Canada)

Calm Noise - Dir. by Hussain Alahmed (UAE)

Nominees for Best First-Time Filmmaker

E.J. Acosta - Drink in the Pain (USA)

Pranai Gajjala - Stress Sleep Paralysis (Canada)

Al Si - Violet (USA)

Anders Jay Ravenstad, Joshua Thompson - Fairware: Welcome to the Family! (USA)

Nominees for Best Actor

Takuya Kinoshita - Payback Time (Japan)

Joshua Thompson - Fairware: Welcome to the Family! (USA)

Geoff Adams - Tricycle: Ride to Arrive (USA)

Joey McFadden - Murder: A Proof of Concept (USA)

Nominees for Best Actress

Katia Plotnikoff - Dignity (Canada)

Isaly Viana - Bay for Blood (USA)

Kiara Kastle - By Any Other Name (USA)

Calista Jay - Unfound (Australia)

Nominees for Best Cast

Yes Darling, Of Course I am Doing O.K. - Dir. by Daniel Bushgjkoi (Greece)

Darn Plantation - Dir. by Ed Mann (Malta)

Prison Visiting Rooms - Dir. by Franck Ilopis, Alexia Sanchis (France)

The APP - Dir. by Lance J. Reha (USA)

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Daniel Laurin - It's Real To Me (Canada)

Steven Jared Mangurten - Fairware: Welcome to the Family! (USA)

Ethan Reynolds - Dignity (Canada)

Petra Koppers, John Campbell, Kym McDaniel - Becoming Fossil (USA)

Nominees for Best Writer

Matthew Quaid - The Woman in the Rocking Chair (USA)

Henry P. Gravelle - The APP (USA)

William Samson - Another Brief Encounter (UK)

Pawel Grajnert - Clean (USA)

Nominees for Best Director

Brandon Normon - Contrition (Canada)

Poramet Ariyakusonsuthi - Unfound (Australia)

Theoni Bekiari, Sofia Randahl Norschau - Person of Interest (USA)

Connor McLellan - The Tenebris (Canada)

20:01-45:00 Minutes

Nominees for Best Long Short Film

Chicken Surprise - Dir. by Connor Nyhan (Canada)

Pup Perfect - Dir. by Henry Baker (USA)

Unconquered - Dir. by John Parr (UK)

The Injustices - Dir. by Calyx Passailaigue (Canada)

Wrath of the Titans: Argos - Dir. by Jonathan Nolan, Rob Kilpatrick (Australia)

Work From Home - Dir. by Scott McArdle (Australia)

Nominees for Best Actor

Alan C. Jones - The Man Who Would Not Shake Hands - Dir. by Nicholas Bromund (USA)

Ciarán Volke - Chicken Surprise (Canada)

Corey Dixon - The Injustices (Canada)

Nominees for Best Actress

Nicola Bartlett - Work From Home (Australia)

Zhaklin Daskalova - Lyubima (Bulgaria)

Susku Ekim Kaya - Barriers (UK)

Nominees for Best Cast

Dreams of Glory - Dir. by Ian Hui (Hong Kong)

Lucia - Dir. by Mikuláš Krišpín Iždinský (Slovakia)

The Virtual Hunt - Dir. by Nishanth Ramesh, Kamaleshwar Murugan (India)

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Victoria Horn - The Man Who Would Not Shake

Balazs Weidner - Barriers (UK)

Praveen Kumar Raja - The Virtual Hunt (India)

Nominees for Best Writer

Darren G. Davis, Jonathan Nolan, Chad Jones - Wrath of the Titans: Argos (Australia)

Shihyun Wang - Prophecy to Infinity and Beyond (USA)

Connor Nyhan - Chicken Surprise (Canada)

Nominees for Best Director

Tito Giliberto - The Vivaldi Mystery (Italy)

Nicholas Bromund - The Man Who Would Not Shake Hands (USA)

John Parr - Unconquered (UK)

45:01-120:00 Minutes

Nominees for Best Feature Film

Behind the Uniform: A New Class - Dir. by Haley M. Snowden (USA)

Soldier in the Barn - Dir. by Richard Groen, Julianne Carioto (Canada)

Darker Than Night - Shadows - Dir. by Braydon Langford (Canada)

Spin the Wheel - Dir. by Neil Chase, David Heacock (Canada)
Because of Mika - Dir. by Paul Santoli (USA)
Waiting For The Man - Dir. by Aiden Khachouf (USA)

Nominees for Best Actor

Zana Aziz Karim - Viruses War (Iraq)
Paul Santoli - Because of Mika (USA)
Michael Rye - Darker Than Night - Shadows (Canada)

Nominees for Best Actress

Kayla Harms - Waiting For The Man (USA)
Nicola Mayers - Disaster Dates 2 (UK)
Myriam Lopez - Laila Nadene (Canada)

Nominees for Best Cast

Wolfpack - Dir. by Cédric Peyster - Le Roux (France)
Ultimate Chabite - Dir. by Julien Ivanowich (France) julien@carnages.fr
Spin the Wheel - Dir. by Neil Chase, David Heacock (Canada)

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Jacob Sentowski - Waiting For The Man (USA)
Vinoth Rathinasamy - Bumper (India)
Patrick Strevens - Darker Than Night - Shadows (Canada)

Nominees for Best Writer

Julien Ivanowich - Ultimate Chabite (France)
Dragan Cotic - Assassination Orders from Belgrade (Germany)
Durai Guna - Ambu Naadu Ombathu Kuppam (India)

Nominees for Best Director

Cédric Peyster - Le Roux - Wolfpack (France)
Axé, Salvador! - Dir. by Domenico Rodolfo Grillone (Italy)
Shihyun Wang, James Chen - Urban Soldiers in Taipei (Taiwan)

15-Second Story

Nominees for Best 15-Second Story

Because You Have Done This - Dir. by Kevin Lucero Less (USA)
Fight Against Inflation - Dir. by Raša Stanišić (Serbia)
Be There - Dir. by Chris S. Stack (Canada)

