

# Couch Film Festival Spring 2022

## Best of the Festival

- BEST FILM of the FESTIVAL:** Write to Me by Mistake - Dir. by Giuseppe de Candia (Italy)
- 1ST RUNNER UP for BEST FILM:** The Secret of Mr. Nostoc - Dir. by Patrice Seiler and Maxime Marion (France)
- 2ND RUNNER UP for BEST FILM:** Succession - Dir. by Carlos Cobos Aroca and Martí Brussosa Ventura (Spain)

## HONOURABLE MENTIONS for BEST FILM:

- Sea Light - Dir. by John Doe (Spain)
- Pulse - Dir. by Shomari Love and Francis Mancho (USA)

## AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD:

- The Secret of Mr. Nostoc - Dir. by Patrice Seiler and Maxime Marion (France)

---

## Category Awards - **Winners in RED**, Nominees in BLACK

### 15-Second Story

*(Nominees for Best 15-Second Story)*

- Dragon - Dir. by John Maslowski (USA)
- 72 - Dir. by Telio Felipe Espinoza (Mexico)
- Toast - Dir. by Kevin Lucero Less (USA)**
- Holiday Tradition - Dir. by Ian Paul Johnston (Canada)
- Miss You Too Daddy - Dir. by Namu Safideen (Sweden)

**1:00-5:00 Minutes**

### **Nominees for Best Animation**

Monomyth - Dir. by Thomas Scott Holland (Canada)  
**Out Of Touch - Dir. by Yuhan (Henry) He (Canada)**  
A Beautiful Morning - Dir. by Lauren Hammersley (UK)  
I Gave My Love Chocolates - Dir. Brandon Hicks (Canada)

### **Nominees for Best Art Film**

Tainted Memories - Dir. by Emily Larkin (UK)  
**No Leaders Please - Dir. by Joan C. Gratz (USA)**  
To The Paradise - Dir. by Susana Barbará (Argentina)  
Gods - Dir. by Kipp Howard (USA)  
Dilution - Dir. by Luis Dion-Dussault (Canada)  
Diffractions - Dir. by Roberto Stephenson (Haiti)

### **Nominees for Best Comedy**

Babe, Listen! - Dir. by Silvia Chen (USA)  
Great Moments in Movie Comedy (Chapter 47/48) - Dir. by Ian Johnston (Canada)  
**Unsolicited - Dir. by Kris Langford (Canada)**  
Bonding - Dir. by Rebecca Lamure (Canada)  
Cat of Letters - Dir. by Kim Best (USA)  
R34LIFE - Dir. by Puranjay Saini (UK)

### **Nominees for Best Documentary**

**Public Notice - Dir. by Rouzbeh Noori (Canada)**  
Prince Accused - According to Nostradamus - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (USA)  
Great Moments in Movie Comedy (Chapter 47/48) - Dir. by Ian Johnston (Canada)  
Kite Fest - Dir. by Laura La France (Canada)  
Anand's Next Big Prophecy Decoded - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Drama**

Reality - Dir. by Darya Shcherbakova (Russia)  
99 Dates - Dir. by Abraham David (Canada)  
Good Evening Mr. Nightshade - Dir. by Tristan Wilkinson (Canada)  
**I Kept a Piece of You - Dir. by Mattias Königsson (Sweden)**

### **Nominees for Best Experimental**

**Conflict - Dir. by Paul McGannon Dower (USA)**  
The Other Side - Dir. by Tina Mamali (Greece)  
The Conversation - Dir. by Paul Kelly (USA)  
Images of a Reality - Dir. by Ana Baer and Cecilia Appleton (Mexico)  
home(sick)bound - Dir. by Gee Stewart (Canada)  
No Leaders Please - Dir. by Joan C. Gratz (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Horror**

Grandpa's Workshop - Dir. by Ermir M.B. (Kosovo)  
**The Annexation** - Dir. by Matteo Di Giovanni (Canada)  
Seduction of Distance - Dir. by Mike Messier (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Music Video**

Among the Clouds - Dir. by Alexi Scheiber (USA)  
Waves&Windows - Somewhere Somehow - Dir. by Dean Attari (Canada)  
**Levitate** - Dir. by Roy Rosental, Joe Gnoffo (USA)  
Silent Love - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (Taiwan)

#### **Nominees for Best One-Minute Film**

Three Days - Dir. by Luis Alberto Martín Bravo (Spain)  
Death on Halloween Night - Dir. by Amir Kiani (Canada)  
Unsolicited - Dir. by Kris Langford (Canada)  
Grandpa's Workshop - Dir. by Ermir M. B. (Kosovo)  
**Breaking News** - Dir. by Janne Tavares (Sweden)

#### **Nominees for Best Thriller**

Thief - Dir. by Gordon Henry Engelmeyer (USA)  
**Dark Dreams** - Dir. by Nicola De Prato (USA)  
A Woman With The Cursed Veil - Dir. by Adhikara Nugroho Poesoro (Indonesia)  
Etesian - Dir. by Sean Breathnach (Ireland)

#### **Nominees for Best First-Time Filmmaker**

**Rémi Tournier** - **Respirations** (France)  
Karina Wolfe - Lou (USA)  
Helia Behrooz - Afloat (USA)  
Jiatong Tu - Luck (China)

#### **Nominees for Best Student Film**

Jjigae - Dir. by Ashley Groves (USA)  
**Happy Birthday, My Friend** - Dir. by Davide Bertolini (Czech Republic)  
Luck - Dir. by Jiatong Tu (China)  
Out Of Touch - Dir. by Yuhan (Henry) He (Canada)

#### **Nominees for Best Actor**

**Mike Messier** - **Seduction of Distance** (USA)  
Jeremia Lofsved - Happy Birthday, My Friend (Czech Republic)  
Rouzbeh Noori - We the Fishes (Sweden)  
Gordon Henry Engelmeyer - Thief (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Actress**

Zhara Astra - Bangs (USA)  
Snezhana Samohina - Reality (Russia)

Jennifer Groves - Jjigae (USA)  
Beth Metca - The Bat Signal Was Lit (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Cast**

The Forgotten Flame - Dir. by Derek Lamoureux (Canada)  
Etesian - Dir. by Sean Breathnach (Ireland)  
Unsolicited - Dir. by Kris Langford (Canada)  
Good Evening Mr. Nightshade - Dir. by Tristan Wilkinson (Canada)

### **Nominees for Best Cinematography**

Sean Breathnach - Etesian (Ireland)  
Rémi Tournier - Respirations (France)  
Rouzbeh Noori - Public Notice (Canada)  
Nik Pilecki - The Forgotten Flame (Canada)

### **Nominees for Best Writer**

Daniel St-Jacques - Seven (Canada)  
Abraham David - 99 Dates (Canada)  
Evgeny Arhipov and Vladislav Emelin - Field Dwellers  
Shihyun Wang - Chinese New Year in Taiwan (Taiwan)

### **Nominees for Best Director**

Sean Breathnach - Etesian (Ireland)  
Rouzbeh Noori - We the Fishes (Sweden)  
John Maslowski - The Bat Signal Was Lit (USA)  
Steven Hervieu - Digital Champions Leading the Fight Against FGM in Tanzania (Tanzania)

---

## **5:01-20:00 Minutes**

### **Nominees for Best Animation**

The Pillar Of Strength - Dir. by Ayie Ibrahim (Malaysia)  
Rainbow - Dir. by Hui Tan (USA)  
Know You Well - Dir. by Micheala Wadzinski (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Comedy**

Schoolin' Around - Dir. by John Taylor (Canada)  
Cookie Crash - Dir. by Louie Corrons (USA)  
The Lottery Ticket - Dir. by Tamara Bick and Drew Antzis (Canada)

**Banned Betsy - Dir. by Leah Revivo (UK)**

FUR Better or FUR Worse - Dir. by Kim Best (USA)

After Life Crisis - Dir. by Matthew Eli Judd (USA)

Trucked! - Dir. by Philip Snyder and Robert M. Snyder (USA)

After a Date with Anxiety - Dir. by Adam Smith (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Documentary**

7 Years Art from Berlin "BrückenKunst" 2019 - Dir. by Gilbert Brüning (Germany)

Under Covid Shadow - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (USA)

**The 1K Video - Dir. by Cara Urban (USA)**

Please Rescue Me - Dir. by Kimberly Best (USA)

Life on the Fast Track - Dir. by Yeonsu Shin (Canada)

**José's Sunday Paella - Dir. by André M. Zucker (USA)**

Resonance - Dir. by Sam Wood (Canada)

The Crop Circle from Inside - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (Taiwan)

Bethel Saloon March 12 Afternoon - Dir. by William Anthony Stancik (USA)

Fulfilled Prophecy on Quake, Covid, Variant and War 2022 - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (USA)

Mom's War Time Stories - Dir. by James Chen (Taiwan)

### **Nominees for Best Drama International**

The Doormat - Dir. by Tomás Guichet (Argentina)

**Careful - Dir. by Sebastião Salgado (Portugal)**

Let's Play - Dir. by Katia Sauthier and Jérôme Piguet (Switzerland)

Memories - Dir. by Sebastian Pink (Germany)

### **Nominees for Best Drama Canada**

The Day I Killed Him - Dir. by J. Christian Hamilton (Canada)

Lost Dog - Dir. by David Li (Canada)

Please Don't Save Me - Dir. by David Botros (Canada)

The Bostonians - Dir. by Amir Kiani (Canada)

**For a Coffin Full of Gold - Dir. by Dinitha Vithanage (Canada)**

That's Life - Dir. by Dan Nicholls (Canada)

### **Nominees for Best Drama USA**

What's Next? - Dir. by Sean Greene (USA)

**Annex - Dir. by Amelia Wyeth Ponirakis (USA)**

As Apple Pie - Dir. by Pierre Marais (USA)

Surprise!? - Dir. by Kena Sosa (USA)

Dolores, A Triptych - Dir. by Gina Ann Margillo (USA)

Nam - Dir. by Niccolò Corti (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Experimental International**

Divine Equation - Dir. by Ricardo Machado (Portugal)

Magic Roots -Dir. by A.Rajeev (India)

Cry - Dir. by Luciana Malavasi (Brazil)

Perfection - Dir. by Ilenia Sbarufatti (Italy)

The Wanderer of the Montagnette - Dir. by Jacques Micke (France)

### **Nominees for Best Experimental North America**

Spring's Waltz - Dir. by Max-Émile Sawyer, Charles Émond (Canada)

Searching for Godot - Dir. by Nick Maizlin (Canada)

Piss Tea - Dir. by Jordan H. Hughes (Canada)

Plastic Flowers - Dir. by Rodolfo Alexandre (Canada)

IXCHEL - Dir. by Ana Baer and Rocio Luna (Mexico)

Dolores, A Triptych - Dir. by Gina Ann Margillo (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Horror International**

Bloody Bridal Shower 2 - Dir. by Hermanos Baba (Spain)

The Silence - Dir. by Pedro Caldeira and Paulo Graça (Portugal)

665 - Dir. by Juan de Dios Garduño (Spain)

DeMented - Dir. by Guillermo Cabot (Spain)

### **Nominees for Best Horror North America**

The Prodigious Bifurcaria - Dir. by Emiliano Fajardo Garcia (Mexico)

Only Kids See Ghosts - Dir. by Anthony Alyassi (USA)

Locked - Dir. by Vahid Salehizadeh (Canada)

Sonar - Dir. by Alfredo Uzeta (Mexico)

The Estate - Dir. by Josh Thurm (USA)

Ostinato - Dir. by Julie Fergus (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Supernatural**

The Saga Chronicles After The Invasion - Dir. by Donovan A. Santiago (USA)

Chicken People - Dir. by Lex Garcia (USA)

Charlie the Lonely - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (Taiwan)

Absolute Ears - Dir. by Rémi Damecour and Pascal Phaneuf (Canada)

Slaughterhouse - Dir. by Marco Antonio Gosálvez Devesa (Spain)

Slingshot Gangville Is This A Hunt? - Dir. by Da'Rell Miller (USA)

TransHuman - Dir. by Alex Lancaster (Canada)

### **Nominees for Best Thriller**

Beep Beep - Dir. by MJ Dixon (UK)

Blue Devil - Dir. by Nadeem Omar (Canada)

Crumble Part 2 - Dir. by Jasmine Deanne Andrews (USA)

Hunt - Dir. by Trevor O'Neal (USA)

Dawn - Dir. by Misty Hayes (USA)

Beginner's Luck - Dir. by Thomas Peck (USA)

### **Nominees for Best First-Time Filmmaker**

Naomi Baker - The Islanders (Canada)  
Cyrus Lo - The Ogre of the Woods (Canada)  
Omar Cook - Skandalouz (USA)  
Mehmet Zakir Ekni - Artificial Election (Turkey)  
Kaili Rose - Love: Music, A Festival Short Film (USA)  
Paul Greene - Love Her Madly (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Student Film**

The Unforeseen Stranger - Dir. by Michael Jacoby and Joseph Jacoby (USA)  
Road to Gold - Dir. by Silvia Chen (USA)  
Soundtrack Me Back in Time - Dir. by Sara Dawood (Canada)  
Captain - Dir. by Jared Weber (USA)  
The Red Phone - Dir. by Elijah Roberts (USA)  
Reflection - Dir. by Johann Yui Heng Wong (Canada)  
A Morsel Of Love - Dir. by Helia Behrooz and Sana Norouzbak (Iran)

#### **Nominees for Best Actor**

Charles-Aubey Houde - Brigitte (Canada)  
Jakub Reizer - Amory (Poland)  
Pablo Barrantes - CandyFight (Spain)  
Arnaud Vincent Raschella - Ancestral Land (Canada)  
Soleil Stimson - Grief (Canada)  
Sam Rothstein - Hunt (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Actress**

Alex McDevitt - Blue Eyes (UK)  
Stephanie Coco Palermo - F\*\*k (Canada)  
Shannon Davidson - Òran na h-Eala (UK)  
Sara Dawood - Soundtrack Me Back in Time (Canada)  
Sarah Williams - Redrum (USA)  
Josephine Armar - Ring Ring (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Cast**

Conex - Dir. by Franck Lenglet (France)  
Absolute Ears - Dir. by Rémi Damecour and Pascal Phaneuf (Canada)  
Like You - Dir. by Marco Gosalvez (Spain)  
Talis - Dir. by Ramon L. Mayol (Spain)  
Trucked! - Dir. by Philip Snyder and Robert M. Snyder (USA)  
Carl - Dir. by Lili Pang (Canada)

#### **Nominees for Best Cinematography**

João Monge - Careful (Portugal)  
Evangelos Desborough - Brigitte (Canada)  
Kajetan Milewsk - Amory (Poland)

Enrico Vezzù - Perfection (Italy)  
Marie-Pier Diamond - Ancestral Land (Canada)  
Radek Drozdowicz - That's Life (Canada)

#### **Nominees for Best Writer**

Nicolas Pelletier - Elvisology 101 (Canada)  
Lillian Bornstein and Lili Fox-Lim - Keep in Touch Episode 1 - if (low resolution) (USA)  
Steve Exeter - Òran na h-Eala (UK)  
**Sean Greene - Tight Five (USA)**  
Redouane Elghazi and Chad Dann - The Clay Wife (USA)  
Kenge BaNikongo - Ring Ring (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Director**

**Sarah-Beth Brown - A Sorry Story (UK)**  
Konrad Miklaszewski - A Summer I Remember (Poland)  
Dinitha Vithanage - For a Coffin Full of Gold (Canada)  
Nicki Flores - Foreign Affairs (USA)  
Simone Kitchen - Grief (Canada)  
Leah Revivo - Banned Betsy (UK)

---

### **20:01-45:00 Minutes**

#### **Nominees for Best Comedy**

**Frat Splat - Dir. by Tyler Parrish (USA)**  
The 20-Year-Old Virgin - Dir. by Jalen Coleman (USA)  
Still Running - Dir. by Taylor Lamothe, Max Rosenstein (Canada)

#### **Nominees for Best Documentary**

Diary of An Undertaker - Dir. by Michael Mayne (USA)  
The Covid Lessons - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (USA)  
Signs of Life - Dir. by Marko Nikolić (Serbia)  
**Layers - Dir. by Lee Page, Micquel Wright (UK)**  
Still Running - Dir. by Taylor Lamothe, Max Rosenstein (Canada)  
Sulukule: Gentrification Eliminated Community - Dir. by Melis Isil Simsek (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Drama**

**Mouth of Hell - Dir. by Luís Porto (Portugal)**  
My Venus - Dir. by Aleksander Pakulski (Poland)  
Something More - Dir. by Andrew Michael Kovalchek (USA)  
Thank F - Dir. by Nick Sesh (Australia)

It Rings a Bell - Dir. by Josi Grinboju (Israel)

#### **Nominees for Best Horror**

They're Never Coming Back - Dir. by Augustine Dalton (USA)

Frat Splat - Dir. by Tyler Parrish (USA)

**The Red Knows - Dir. by Logan Charron (Canada)**

Asrasya - Dir. by Allwyn Rodriguez AL (India)

#### **Nominees for Best Sci-Fi/Fantasy**

Vazio (Emptiness) - Dir. by Gonçalo Alegre (Portugal)

The Red Knows - Dir. by Logan Charron (Canada)

Thank F - Dir. by Nick Sesh (Australia)

Charon - Dir. by Nadeem Omar (Canada)

**ZombieWood - Dir. by Timur Landrev, Timofey Landrev (Ukraine)**

#### **Nominees for Best Thriller**

**The Light: Urban Chronicles - Family - Dir. by J Bunting Johnson (UK)**

Untitled - Dir. by Joseph Thomas (USA)

Hidden Away - Dir. by Rebecca Lamure (Canada)

Mouth of Hell - Dir. by Luís Porto (Portugal)

#### **Nominees for Best Actor**

António Júlio Duarte - The Living (Portugal)

Izayah Carr - Of Artists & Men (USA)

Liam Sullivan - The Red Knows (Canada)

**Vincent Mignault - Almost (France)**

#### **Nominees for Best Actress**

**Catherine Sequin - Hidden Away (Canada)**

Danya Johanness - Asrasya (India)

Noemie Fourdan - Almost (France)

Andrea Peterson - The Trial and the Tribulations of Sally (USA)

#### **Nominees for Best Cast**

Charon - Dir. by Nadeem Omar (Canada)

The Red Knows - Dir. by Logan Charron (Canada)

**Between Here and Gone - Dir. by Sadie Duarte (Spain)**

ZombieWood - Dir. by Timur Landrev, Timofey Landrev (Ukraine)

#### **Nominees for Best Cinematography**

**Bryan Wilkat - Still Running (Canada)**

Lee Page - Layers (UK)

Obrad Kokotović - Signs of Life (Serbia)

Isil Melis Simsek, Ozan Cem Simsek, Tunca Ozan Yalcin - Sulukule: Gentrification Eliminated Community (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Writer**

**Eldridge Shannon - Of Artists & Men (USA)**

Alessandra Valente - The Case (Italy)

Shihyun Wang - Chaos According to Nostradamus - Is Putin in Book of Prophecy? (USA)

Sadie Duarte, Iván Gisbert - Between Here and Gone (Spain)

### **Nominees for Best Director**

**Maurizio Forestieri - The Case (Italy)**

Shihyun Wang - Doomsday War and Anti-Christ According to Nostradamus (Taiwan)

Paul-Andre Robin - Almost (France)

Luís Porto - Mouth of Hell (Portugal)

---

## **45:01-120 Minutes**

### **Nominees for Best Comedy**

**Texas AF - Dir. by David N. Reyes (USA)**

Russian Roulette - Dir. by Ryan J. Gilmer and Craig S. Stalmer (USA)

Violeta de Cobalto - Dir. by Ricardo Serna (Mexico)

### **Nominees for Best Documentary**

The Divine Between Plagues - Dir. by Ana Correia (Brazil)

Creating the Main Character - Dir. by Jake Alda Coffey (USA)

**The Secret Cup - Dir. by Jeremy Norrie (USA)**

Yesterday's Illusions, Today's Illusions - Dir. by Payam Avarwand (Germany)

Interracial Love Stories - Dir. by Sam Sharpe and Joan Hehir (USA)

Future in Prophecies - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (USA)

Something Ain't Right - Dir. by Susan Ruth Downs, MD, Alex Voss (USA)

### **Nominees for Best Drama**

Pages of Love- Dir. by Sam Sharpe (USA)

Locked Room 2020 - Dir. by Paint VK (USA)

Escape from Reality - Dir. by George Michael Liviakis (USA)

Love Rules - Dir. by Shihyun Wang (Taiwan)

**Capo di Famiglia II - Dir. by Annemarie Libbers (Netherlands)**

RAAKH - A Silent Movie - Dir. by Rajesh Dattatraya Chavan (India)

**Nominees for Best Actor**

Dirk Gunther Mohr - Capo di Famiglia II (Netherlands)

Donato De Luca - Texas AF (USA)

Sandeep Pathak - RAAKH - A Silent Movie (India)

**Nominees for Best Actress**

Ceia Zhou - Love Rules (Taiwan)

Claudia Garza - Violeta de Cobalto (Mexico)

Reina Maria - Bird of Omen (Pullu) (India)

**Nominees for Best Cast**

The Blue Llama Secret Message - Dir. by Daniel Alberto Osorio (Ecuador)

Pussie Control: The Story of Davion Pussie - Dir. by Bryan Bostic (USA)

The Vale Untold - Dir. by Zach Walleser (USA)

**Nominees for Best Cinematography**

Almudena Sánchez - Pessoas (Spain)

Donny Ter Horst - Capo di Famiglia II (Netherlands)

Valentine McKee - Texas AF (USA)

**Nominees for Best Writer**

Daniel Alberto Osorio - The Blue Llama Secret Message (Ecuador)

Arturo Dueñas Herrero - Pessoas (Spain)

Shihyun Wang - Nostradamus, Pandemic and Our Future (USA)

**Nominees for Best Director**

Annemarie Libbers - Capo di Famiglia II (Netherlands)

Bryan Bostic - Pussie Control: The Story of Davion Pussie (USA)

Sedat Benek - Harran School: El Battani (Turkey)