

#### Welcome to the First Annual



I'm Hal C. F. Astell, the Festival Director for ALIFFF, and I'm very happy indeed that you're reading this Program Book.

I believe that the sixth largest city in the United States merits its own annual dedicated genre film festival and you're in at the beginning, helping to make it happen. Thank you! The audience makes the event as much as the content and I couldn't do it without you.

During 2016, filmmakers from around the world have submitted their work to ALIFFF. Filtering those submissions down to just two 90 minute sets was very difficult and there are some great films that didn't make it. In the end, I selected 16 films from 6 countries and across the genre to screen in competition: 7 horror and 9 sci-fi. I hope you enjoy them!

Because I believe in both quality and value, I'm also showing two bonus shorts. *Flight Fright* isn't in competition because I'm in it, briefly, and *A Way Out* points the way to a wider scope for ALIFFF in 2017. I want this to grow into a true genre film festival that doesn't just embrace horror and sci-fi but fantasy, crime, action etc. You'll see features in 2017 too.

# **Schedule**

5.00pm	Doors Open

5.45pm Introduction

6.00pm Horror Shorts | Flight Fright

7.45pm Intermission

8.00pm Science Fiction Shorts

9.45pm Awards Ceremony

10.00pm A Way Out

10.15pm Fin

#### Apocalypse Later Empire | apocalypselaterempire.com

### **Awards**

ALIFFF has four awards to give out during the Awards Ceremony,

My panel of judges have chosen the winners of two, **Best Horror Short** and **Best Sci-Fi Short**, using whatever criteria they deem appropriate.

I'm giving out my **Festival Director's Award** to a film I feel is especially worthy, using whatever criteria I deem appropriate.

That leaves the **Audience Favourite**, which is where you come in. Using whatever criteria you deem appropriate, please vote for your favourite short of the evening from either Horror Shorts or Science Fiction Shorts.

Behind the pass you have around your neck is a piece of paper. Please write **ONE** number on it to reflect your vote, from the list below:

1	Hada	9	Blood Run
2	All in the Family	10	No Guarantee
3	Blurred Vision	11	Yo Soy Pedro
4	E.Z.P.Z.	12	All Your Base: Last of Last
5	Awakenings	13	They Will All Die in Space
6	Cotard's Syndrome	14	Roadside Assistance
7	Yotlungerdal	15	María Fernanda in Time
8	Friendlies	16	Point Zero

## Thanks

This isn't my festival alone. I'd like to thank the other wonderful people who helped me to bring it to life, always starting with my long suffering better half, **Dee Astell**, for travelling this journey with me.

Thanks to my amazing artists: **Marty Freetage** (freetage.com), the go to graphic designer for all of Phoenix fandom, and the papier maché genius **Tom Deadstuff** (tomdeadstuff.com), who designed and made the awards.

Thanks to **Jeremiah Wilkerson**, who handled everything technical, and **Michael Flanders**, for filming the event for posterity.

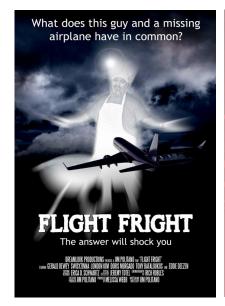
Thanks to **Paul DeNigris** at the University of Advancing Technology for offering class credit to students for volunteering at this festival.

Thanks to Lane Black & David Drescher at Phoenix Center for the Arts.

Thanks to all those who interviewed me or covered the event for press.

And thanks to all my filmmakers, whether I selected your films or not!

## **Bonus Shorts**





Flight Fright (2015) James Politano (Arizona) 7m

An airline passenger with a fear of flying starts to see strange things after taking his nerve medicine in this comedy spoof of the *Twilight Zone* episode *Nightmare At 20,000 Feet*.

A Way Out (2015) Jason Tostevin (USA) 14m

When aging gangster Vic risks it all to quit the life, he discovers his young protege has been keeping a secret of his own, one that plunges them both into a deadly cat and mouse game over one car ride.

# <u>Judges</u>

My judges are key players in the local scene, so check out their work!

Jim McLennan runs the *Phoenix FearCon* (phoenixfearcon.com) film festival and convention, the *Trash City* (trashcity.org) zine/blog/empire and the *Girls with Guns* (girlswithguns.org) blog.

**Victor Moreno** runs the *Cult Classics* (cultclassicsaz.com) repertory film series; the *Geekly Phoenix* (facebook.com/groups/geeklyphoenix) guide to local geek culture and the *Cult Following* (cultfollowing.co) podcast.

**Toni Ross** runs the self-explanatory *Jerome Indie Film & Music Festival* (jeromefilmfestival.com).

## **Horror Shorts**





Hada (2015) Tony Morales (Spain) 9m

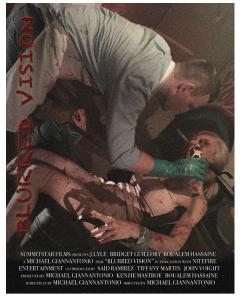
Tonight Hada comes to visit Daniel because her last child tooth has fallen out. What Daniel doesn't expect is that his worst enemy is the light.

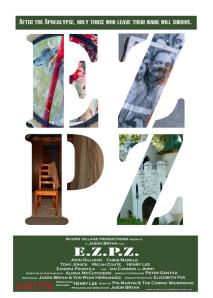
## All in the Family (2016) Daniel Rimon (Israel) 23m

Tammy is a teenager who aspires to fit in. One evening, her new boyfriend, Dvir, unexpectedly stays for dinner with her parents. Tammy's parents seem nice but the family hides a dark secret.

#### **Blurred Vision** (2015) Michael Giannantonio (Arizona) 7m

Copycat killer "ZCD" dismembers his latest victim in the style of his idol, the notorious KM Butcher, but his 'session' is interrupted by a visit from Detective Jones, who delivers disturbing news about the KM Butcher.







#### E.Z.P.Z (2015) Jason Bryan (USA) 11m

Two survivors take advantage of a government bounty program during the waning days of an apocalypse.

#### Awakenings (2015) Bhargav Saikia (India) 13m

The line between dreams and reality is blurred when a young woman in charge of two children is haunted by mysterious entities.

## Cotard's Syndrome (2015) Taylour Geiss (Arizona) 9m

A young girl is experiencing events similar to sleep paralysis, as well as the unintentional re-occurrence of dreams. She becomes lost in this paranoid, confused state.







### María Fernanda in Time (2015) Xavier Pijuan (Spain) 9m

An overprotective mother causes an accident with terrible consequences for the space-time continuum in the scientific lab where her son works.

### Point Zero (2014) Arthur Cauras (France) 18m

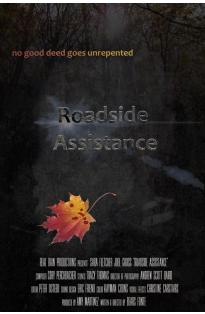
In a wasted future, the world has sunk into chaos after an epidemic of an unprecedented scale and the rare human survivors have regressed to a quasi-primitive level. To provide for his beloved one, a man is forced at the risk of his life to venture into hostile territory.

# Apocalypse Later Mini-Film Festivals

Apocalypse Later hosts free mini-film festivals at conventions across the American southwest. The next confirmed event is Wild Wild West Steampunk Convention 6 (wildwestcon.com) in Tucson in March 2017.







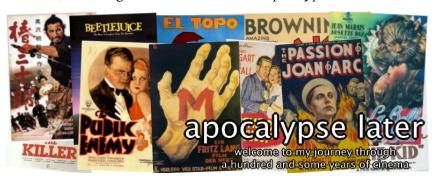
They Will All Die in Space (2015) Javier Chillon (Spain) 15m The starship Tantalus drifts through space.

Roadside Assistance (2015) Bears Fonté (USA) 7m

A mysterious woman stranded by the side of the road hitches a ride with a passing stranger - neither of them is who they seem.

## **Apocalypse Later**

Apocalypse Later began as a film review site in 2007 and it's still there today, with four million words of goodness across 2,300 reviews of the sort of films most critics don't review: short films, foreign flicks, silent movies, obscure gems etc. Check it out at apocalypselaterfilm.com.





### Yotlungerdal (2015) Wesley Gunn (USA) 25m

Inspired by German Expressionist cinema of the early 20th century, *Yotlungerdal* tells the tale of a young Nightwatchman who falls asleep during his first night on the job.

Amidst his slumber, a mysterious creature creeps into his village and steals a baby. The Nightwatchman must lead a madcap midnight search to retrieve the infant, lest the child never be heard from again.

## **Science Fiction Shorts**

Friendlies (2016) Steve Kopera (USA) 5m

Gabe lives a solitary existence. He enjoys his computer engineering, his frozen three-cheese ziti, his shiraz, and his complete action figure set from *The Tick*. Yet, nothing gives him more joy than staring into the expanse of space through a telescope. On this fateful night, Gabe discovers more than solitary bodies, gaseous nebulas, and fiery comets.







Blood Run (2016) Michael Freeman (USA) 20m

In a distant future, ravaged by war and destruction, mankind is on the edge. Surrounded by the 'Dead Zone', small inhabitable settlements carve out an existence. Those living in the Dead Zone struggle to survive with trade, madness and violence while Raiders pillage settlements in and out of the Dead Zone. Good men and women struggle to hold onto what they have. One such man living in the Ranchlands falls prey to Raiders and they take his most precious belonging. Now he hunts them deep into the Dead Zone to get back what was taken.

#### No Guarantee (2016) Stuart Black & Nick Mather (UK) 6m

London 2056. The city is dying and those living in the smog-clogged ruins live by their wits. Those who can afford to opt out of desperation upload their consciousnesses to Cloud 9. This is advertised as a one way ticket to virtual heaven - but can the Company who run it really be trusted? Virgil and Mary have different attitudes: she wants to go, he doesn't. Can she persuade him to 'ascend' before he dies from terminal illness?

#### Yo Soy Pedro (2014) Jordan Inconstant (France) 11m

It's 1977 and Mackenzie and Banks, two American cops, encounter an alien who has just crashed. The police take him for a film actor and decide to take him back to the Hollywood studios.





All Your Base: Last of Last (2016) Richard F. Roszko (USA) 4m

All Your Base: Last of Last is a monumental stupendous three-dimensional animated science fiction steampunk comedy mock trailer parody spoof short film final-remake of All Your Base Are Belong To Us.

# **Apocalypse Later Press**

Apocalypse Later Press publishes my various books on film, which are each available in print at Amazon and at other online stores.

They're also available at the back of the theatre at this event specially priced at \$10 each (regular price ranges from \$12.95 to \$17.95).







