

Laura Kraning

Laura Kraning is an experimental non-fiction filmmaker whose moving image work navigates landscape as a repository for memory, cultural mythology and the technological sublime. Exploring absence and the fluidity of time, she evokes liminal spaces of neither past, nor present, but a landscape of the imagination. Kraning, winner of the Film House Award at the 2016 Athens International Film and Video Festival, has screened her work widely at international film festivals, museums, galleries and micro-cinemas, such as the New York Film Festival's Views from the Avant-Garde and Projections, International Film Festival Rotterdam, Edinburgh Film Festival, London Film Festival, Visions du Réel, MoMA's Doc Fortnight, Art Toronto, Centre Pompidou, National Gallery of Art and REDCAT Theater, among others. She recently relocated from Los Angeles to Buffalo, where she is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Media Study at University at Buffalo.

Joseph Keckler

Joseph Keckler is an interdisciplinary artist. His performances have recently been seen at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Centre Pompidou, Rooftop Films, Miami Art Basel and many other venues. He is the author of several theater and performance pieces, videos, a growing list of songs, and his writing has appeared in Literary Hub, VICE, and other publications. His music has been featured on WNYC and BBC America and he is the recipient of awards from Creative Capital, Franklin Furnace, and New York Foundation for the Arts. He was recently described as a "major vocal talent [who] shatters the conventional boundaries" by The New York Times and was once named the "Best downtown performance artist [in New York]" by The Village Voice. His book of essays and stories, "Dragon at the Edge of a Flat World" was just published by Turtle Point Press.

Anahita Ghazvinizadeh

Anahita Ghazvinizadeh (Tehran, Iran) got her B.F.A. in cinema from Tehran University of Art and her M.F.A. in studio arts from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Ghazvinizadeh's short film "Needle" (2013, US) won the Premier Prix as a Cinéfondation's Selection for student films when it premiered at Cannes Film Festival. Anahita was selected as one of the "25 New Faces of Independent Cinema" in 2013 by the Filmmaker Magazine. She is also the co-writer of the acclaimed feature film, Mourning (2011).

Founded in 1974, the Athens International Film + Video Festival has been presenting the best in international film for 45 years. Known globally as a festival that supports cinema from independent, underground and marginalized populations, the AIFVF represents the values that we share as a community. It is a champion of justice and provides a voice for underrepresented artists and viewpoints on a global level. For over four decades, the AIFVF has embraced experimental, narrative, short-form, feature length and documentary films from every corner of the globe. The Athens International Film + Video Festival is administered by The Athens Center for Film and Video, a project of the College of Fine Arts at Ohio University.

This year's festival takes place April 9–15, 2018, at the historic Athena Cinema and other locations in and around downtown Athens. The full 2018 schedule and ticket information will be available in March at www.athensfest.org.

CORRESPONDING PHOTO; Laurie_Anderson.jpg [Laurie Anderson: 2018; Photo Credit: Ebru Yildiz.]

CORRESPONDING PHOTO; Joseph_Keckler.jpg [Joseph Keckler: 2017; Photo Courtesy AIFVF and the artist.]

CORRESPONDING PHOTO; Anahita_Ghazvinizadeh.jpg [Anahita Ghazvinizadeh: 2017; Photo Courtesy AIFVF and the artist.]

CORRESPONDING PHOTO; Laura_Kraning.jpg [Laura Kraning: 2017; Photo Courtesy AIFVF and the artist.]

LINK TO IMAGES: http://athensfilmfest.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/AIFVF_Special_Guests_images.zip

CONTACT: David Colagiovanni, Director, at athensohiofilmfest@gmail.com or (740) 593-1330.

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