



**Festival Contact:** Nick Mason  
[Nick@ManhattanShort.com](mailto:Nick@ManhattanShort.com)

Ph: 212.529.8640  
[www.ManhattanShort.com](http://www.ManhattanShort.com)

**Local Presenter Contact:** Joanie Leonard  
[joanie@durangofilm.org](mailto:joanie@durangofilm.org)

Ph: 970.375.7779  
Tickets at [durangofilm.org](http://durangofilm.org)

Link to download stills: <http://manhattanShort.com/download-stills.html>

Link to Interview with Final 10 Directors: <http://manhattanShort.com/finalists.html>

Link to Trailer (Worldwide): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WLGlo-pcqQ&feature=youtu.be>

## **Over 100,000 Film-Lovers Unite in over 300 Venues Spanning 6 Continents for the World's First Global Film Festival (Durango & Cortez, CO) You Be the Judge!**

New York, NY, Sept 11: Filmgoers in both **Durango and Cortez, Colorado** will unite with over 100,000 film-lovers around the world during the week of Sept 28 - Oct 8 when the 20th Annual **MANHATTAN SHORT** Film Festival screens at the **Animas City Theatre** in **Durango** on Friday, October 6, at 4:00 and 7:30pm, then the following evening at the **Sunflower Theatre** in **Cortez** on Saturday, October 7, at 7:00pm. The Durango Independent Film Festival is the local presenter of this global film festival and tickets can be purchased at <https://durangofilm.org/>. MANHATTAN SHORT is the only event of its kind. The Final 10 are screened simultaneously across the world during a one-week period, with the Best Film and Best Actor awards determined by ballots cast by the audiences in each participating cinema.

The 10 MANHATTAN SHORT finalists hail from nine countries with films from Syria, Latvia and Georgia representing their respective countries for the first time in this event. Two short films hail from Spain, the only country with multiple Final 10 selections. These Final 10 short films represent the best short films among a record 1615 submissions from 75 countries received by MANHATTAN SHORT for 2017,

testimony to the enduring vibrancy and creativity of short films. This year's Final 10 represent an extraordinary range of film genres with comedy, drama, horror, sci-fi, animation, and martial arts short films all part of the MANHATTAN SHORT program.

In addition, all Final 10 short films will become Oscar-qualified, meaning they will be automatically eligible for an Academy Award nomination, by screening for a week at Arena Cinelounge in Hollywood from Sept.22-Sept 28

**Link to 250 Venues worldwide:** <http://manhattanshort.com/screening-venues.html>

The Final 10 are:

***Do No Harm*** (New Zealand), ***Behind*** (Spain), ***Fickle Bickle*** (USA), ***Hope Dies Last*** (United Kingdom), ***The Perfect Day*** (Spain), ***Just Go!*** (Latvia), ***Mare Nostrum*** (Syria), ***Viola, Franca*** (Italy), ***In a Nutshell*** (Switzerland), ***8 Minutes*** (Georgia).

### **You Be the Judge!**

Which of these 10 short films is the best? That's up to a worldwide audience to decide. Cinema-goers across the United States and around the globe will become instant film critics as they are handed a ballot upon entry that allows them to vote for the Best Film and Best Actor. MANHATTAN SHORT is the ultimate audience award that salutes the creative talents of both directors behind the camera and actors in front of it. Votes will be sent through to MANHATTAN SHORT HQ with the winner announced at **ManhattanShort.com** on Monday Oct 9, at 10AM EST.

MANHATTAN SHORT's international appeal is among its biggest attributes. *"Twenty years ago, I started the MANHATTAN SHORT FILM FESTIVAL when I mounted a screen to the side of a truck in Mulberry Street in Little Italy in New York City to a crowd of just over 200 people. This year, there will be over 100,000 film lovers gathered in over 250 venues across six continents for the same event. Looking back, what fascinates me most is the MANHATTAN SHORT was never once reliant on celebrities or corporate sponsors to exist. It was all about great films, a great concept, great venues and an appreciative audience. It was that combination that has made MANHATTAN SHORT one of the largest short film festivals in the world today. I'm so proud to be part of it because it was the public that created it.--* Founding Director Nicholas Mason.