



LEXUS SHORT FILMS RETURNS TO NAPA VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL WITH  
WORLD PREMIERE PRESENTATION

*Deadline Hollywood's Mike Fleming and filmmaker Lee Daniels to moderate  
conversation with filmmakers on November 10, 2016*

WHO: NVFF is proud to be partnering again this year with Lexus and The Weinstein Company on Lexus Short Films (LSF). The four winning LSF filmmakers will be presenting their new short films together for the first time for audiences.

Deadline Hollywood's Mike Fleming (Co-Editor-in-Chief) and NVFF Legendary Filmmaker Honoree Lee Daniels (Precious, The Butler, Empire, Star) will host a lively onstage conversation with the four talented directors, Alexis Michalik, Damian Walshe-Howling, Jeannie Donohoe and Kev Cahill, on Thursday, November 10.

The Weinstein Company COO and President, David Glasser, and The Weinstein Company producer, Joey Horvitz, will also be in attendance on behalf of LSF Year 3.

#### THE FILMS:

##### Friday Night

While visiting her daughter who is studying abroad, Claire is thrown into the midst of a city-wide attack. In a place where she doesn't speak the language or know her way around, she's forced to navigate in the dark of night in a desperate search to find her daughter and ensure her safety.

Director Alexis Michalik is an actor, writer and founder of a theatre company who is currently directing his first feature film Escort Boys. Michalik is also known for his short film Pim-Poum le petit Panda, which was featured in the Cannes Adami Collection in 2014. He currently lives in Paris.

##### MESSIAH

A plump, hapless Irishman and his sophisticated Parisian girlfriend get more than they bargained for when they encounter a particularly mischievous stranger in the Australian Outback.

Director Damian Walshe-Howling is an actor and filmmaker who has a deep passion for storytelling in pursuit of culturally diverse stories and roles. Walshe-Howling is known for his



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short films *The Bloody Sweet Hit* and *Suspended*, which recently screened at a number of international film festivals including St Kilda, Flickerfest, Nashville and Locarno in Switzerland. He currently lives in Australia.

### Game

A high school sophomore moves to a new school and decides to try out for the reigning state champion boys' basketball team. The player goes out and demonstrates extraordinary skill, worthy of making the roster. Then the team finds out the student's big secret.

Director Jeannie Donohoe is a filmmaker who is best known for directing and writing short films such as *Lambing Season* and *Public*. Donohoe is currently developing her first feature-length film *Flock*. She currently lives in Los Angeles.

### The Nation Holds Its Breath

On the day of the most important football match in Irish history, a young father-to-be is torn between a) standing at his wife's side to hold her hand and witness the miracle of childbirth, or b) witnessing the miracle of the national team reaching the quarter-finals of the World Cup.

Director Kev Cahill is writer and filmmaker with a VFX background best known for his VFX work on popular films such as *The Huntsman: Winter's War*, *Thor: The Dark World* and *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. Cahill is also known for his first short film *More Than God*, which qualified for an Oscar and screened at nearly 30 festivals. He currently lives in Ireland.

WHEN: Premiere: Thursday, November 10 at 2:00 p.m.

Red Carpet at 1:00 p.m.

Screening and Q&A follows

Encore Screenings:

Friday, November 11 at 5:15 p.m.



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Freemark Abbey Winery

Saturday, November 12 at 5:15 p.m.

Cameo Cinemas

WHERE: Lincoln Theater

100 California Drive

Yountville, CA

Freemark Abbey Winery

3022 St. Helena Hwy

St. Helena, CA

Cameo Cinema

1340 Main St.

St. Helena, CA

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