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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Superfest: International Disability Film Festival Winners Announced**

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. (May 4, 2016) – Superfest: International Disability Film Festival is pleased to announce the line-up for 2016. Our panel of judges - made up of film aficionados, disability studies scholars, and disability community organizers, all people with disabilities – had a difficult task selecting these films from a total of 119 submissions from 18 countries. The selected films bring to the screen a variety of topics and disabilities, each helping move forward Superfest’s mission to celebrate cutting-edge cinema that portrays disability culture in all its diverse, complex, and empowering facets.

**Films to be Featured at Superfest 2016:**

**Awake (England) (2015)**

Written and Directed by Michael Achtman, Produced by Caglar Kimyoncu

Anna, a woman living with MS is visited by Doreen, a door to door proselytizer who makes herself at home and stays the day, slowly defrosting her non-welcome. Together they walk in the park, bake a chocolate cake and watch an Ingmar Bergman film.

**Best and Most Beautiful Things (USA) (2015)**

Directed by Garrett Zevgetis, Produced by Ariana Garfinkel, Jeff Consiglio, Garrett Zevgetis, and Jordan Salvatoriello

In a celebration of outcasts everywhere, a precocious young blind woman disappears into quirky obsessions and isolation. With humor and bold curiosity, she chases love and freedom in the most unexpected of places: a provocative fringe community.

**Double Discrimination (England) (2015)**

Written and Directed by Rinkoo Barpaga

This personal documentary examines whether racism exists in the Deaf community, told from Rinkoo’s personal background and perspective.

**Hear Me (France) (2015)**

Written and Directed by Nicolas Coquet, Produced by Thierry Etienne, Anne Etienne, Nicolas Capdeville, and Nicolas Coquet

Marisol, a young deaf woman raised by a mother who has always denied her handicap, finally empowers herself when she meets the deaf community.”

### **Like If... (Italy) (2014)**

Directed by Daniele Bonarini, Written by Michele Squillace  
A special heroine must deal with a particular epidemic; will she alone be able to save the earth?

### **Supersonic (England) (2014)**

Directed by Samuel Dore, Written by Cihan Narin, Produced by Maverick Litchfield-Kelly  
Isaac has been going off the rails since his father left years ago, taking after the local mechanic he looks up to as the father-figure he is missing but then his real, estranged father returns with a startling secret.

### **Terminal Device (Canada) (2015)**

Written, Directed, and Produced by Ross Turnbull  
The cinema loves the one-armed bad guy, but just who is Captain Hook? Terminal Device is an autobiographical essay and an inquiry into cinematic representation. Refracted through pop cultural images, the director's story as one of the men with hooks acquires unexpected resonance. A persistent stereotype emerges, the creation of the Other through body difference.

### **The Chili Story (USA) (2010)**

Directed and Produced by Ralph Dickinson, Written by Patty Berne, Illustrated by E.T. Russian  
"The Chili Story" is a true story about desire on a subway train.

### **The Right To Be Rescued (USA) (2015)**

Directed by Jordan Melograna, Produced by Jordan Melograna and Mark Stroh  
The Right to be Rescued is a short documentary about the impact of natural disasters on people with disabilities. Often, their needs are left out of emergency plans and as a result, they are often left behind. During Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, many people with disabilities died because of this lack of planning. This documentary tells their stories and what New Orleans and other cities are doing to be make sure it never happens again.

### **The Sea Reminds Me (England) (2013)**

Directed by Ray Jacobs and Jonathan Tritton, Written by Ray Jacobs, Mervyn Bradley, and Jonathan Tritton, Produced by Ray Jacobs  
Mark is numbed by the loss of his father; the blank pages of a photo album stir his memories. 'The Sea Reminds Me' is about Mark, a learning disabled man who cannot come to terms with his father's death. He is truly all at sea. Mark's yearning for real touch and connection urge him to a Welsh seaside town, a place haunted with childhood memories. Mark's adventure travels through landscape, imagination and memory. The film takes us to a place where both the real and imagined worlds live side by side and reminds us that sometimes we have to travel through both to move through a crisis.

### **Yam's Journey (Israel) (2015)**

Written, Directed, and Produced by Rubi Gat  
"Yam's Journey" chronicles the bar mitzvah trip of my eldest son, Yam. (Yam means 'a sea' in Hebrew). At the age of nine months Yam was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. After the initial shock I promised myself that I'd try to bring him up "like any other kid" and take him with us everywhere we went. The film depicts with humor and a bit of pain the difficulties in fulfilling that promise and the pride in the success of the trip. The film was partly shot on Yam's iPad.

### **Zoufs (Belgium) (2015)**

Directed and Written by Tom Boccara, Noé Reutenauer, and Emilien Vekemans, Produced by Jean-Yves Roubin and Cassandre Waranauts  
The sun is about to rise. Up on the roof Michel sees everything, hears everything and feels everything. The view is beautiful, time is passing by. Down in the city, seven extraordinary characters go through the day. Here comes the moon now and it looks like a banana!

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The San Francisco LightHouse for the Blind and San Francisco State University's Paul K. Longmore Institute on Disability together host Superfest, the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the longest running disability film festival. This year's festival will take place on October 22, 2016 at the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life and at the Contemporary Jewish Museum on Sunday, October 23. All films will be presented with captioning and audio-description.

"The unique thing about Superfest is that it's driven entirely by the disability community ourselves," said Bryan Bashin, CEO of the Lighthouse for the Blind, "Our panel of judges is 100 percent composed of people with disabilities. Throughout the process of screening, organizing and presenting the films the Bay Area's vibrant disability voice is loud, playful and strong."

Superfest: International Disability Film Festival is made possible by our generous 2016 sponsors: The National Endowment for the Arts, The George Lucas Foundation, Guide Dogs for the Blind, ARUP, State Street, The Contemporary Jewish Museum, Golden Gate Regional Foundation, and Telecare Corporation.

To find out more, visit [Superfestfilm.com](http://Superfestfilm.com) or contact Emily Beitiks or Jennifer Sachs for more details.

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