



Welcome to the 2019 NZ WEB FEST

Welcome to the fifth edition of the NZ Web Fest. There's a lot to be happy about.

From our largest crop of submissions so far, we're offering up our largest-ever programme of selections, award categories and nominees.

For the third year running, we're a participating festival in the Web Series World Cup.

We welcome the largest number of international guests we've had. Several are participating in our conference programme.

Since #NZWF18 we've put a lot of effort into growing relationships we have with partner festivals. This enables us the opportunity to give more NZ shows guaranteed selection to festivals overseas.

NZ is a small pond, so it's great to see other organisations supporting and honouring web series. Obviously, the biggest shout-out goes to NZ On Air, whose continuing support of content creators, and this festival, is most welcome. Without it, we certainly wouldn't be here today.

Others, too, deserve our thanks. Our awards juries have, as always, put mucho effort into their decision-making.

Our team of volunteers has put in a huge amount of effort, dealing with the larger number of submissions this year, and all that goes with that – watching more shows, making more selection decisions, creating more web pages, more videos to screen, selecting and editing more clips... and many more tasks that go unnoticed if they've been done well.

It's great to see NZ series doing well and gaining recognition at other events. *The Adventures of Suzy Boon* has recently come away a winner from the NZ TV Craft Awards. One of our 2018 winners, *Alibi*, had a bunch of nominations at the TV Awards. One of our finalists this year, *Jessica's Tree*, is also in the running for the NZTV Awards' web series gong. Good luck to all the nominees.

While MediaWorks' recent decision to put TV3 up for sale has yet to run its course, it seems unlikely it will lead to an increase in local programming – at least in the foreseeable future.

Luckily for the online content creator community (not that there's anything to celebrate in TV3's situation) the broadcaster was not the most active of the local players when it came to supporting local web series.

Wherever local content is hosted, we have been lucky this year to see an especially large amount of NZ factual content come in to us. For the first time, more NZ factual shows than narrative shows submitted to us.

So, whether it's attending the conference, watching screenings, or crossing your fingers that you'll win an award that's brought you through the door, good luck! We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Keith Barclay, Festival Director #NZWF19 was created and delivered by a great team of generous people.

We are:

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Keith Barclay

DESIGN

Patricia Ramos

ADMIN, EVENT & SUBMISSIONS

Nilambari Junnare Hanna Lu Anggit Pangastuti Anastasia Panova

SOCIAL MEDIA

Priscila Carvalho Samah Khan

VIDEO

Sara-Jane Keane Charlie Chen





Growing Pains



Detention Adventure

- International Narrative

Legend has it that a secret laboratory, containing mysterious treasures, is hidden beneath the school library – now used as the detention room.

Three nerds have to do what they've never done before – get into trouble – so they can search the detention room for a hidden entrance. Their only problem is that detention is the perpetual home of Brett, the school bully who's always picking on them.



The Drawing Show

Animation & Puppetry

This animated series aims to encourage kids to draw and be creative.

Penny is a young, enthusiastic pencil who dreams of being a world famous artist. With help from some friends, Penny creates a theatre where she can put on a series of shows to demonstrate her artistic abilities and the importance of teamwork.



Fast Heroes Sixty

Animation & Puppetry

Pit, Croissant and Rino ran a perfectly normal pizzeria until they met The Monk, who gave them all superpowers.

Since then, our heroes have fought for pizza, platonic love and reasonably affordable justice! The first season of *Fast Heroes Sixty* was a finalist at #NZWF18.



Knock Knock

- International Narrative

A retelling of Jack and the Beanstalk, in a modern-day home invasion setting.

After the death of his father, Jack goes to extremes to help his family find money. He finds his actions come with a price when unexpected visitors show up to take back what was stolen from them. The family must then engage in a fight for their lives to survive.

The Or So The Story Goes team's Golden Rule was a finalist at #NZWF17.



Magic of the Mermaid

International Narrative

One of the world's longest running webseries, Quentin Lewis' show tells the stories and adventures of a girl with special mermaid powers. The show has over 450 episodes, almost 500,000 subscribers and 90 million views on YouTube.

A second show by Magic of the Mermaid creator Quentin Lewis, Macbeth – King of the Favela, is also selected for #NZWF19.



The Spell Tutor

International Narrative

Now in its fourth season, *The Spell Tutor* is an award-winning web series inspired by JK Rowling's *Harry Potter* stories. The show explores themes of belonging and the responsible use of power.

Previous seasons of the show were selected at #NZWF16 and #NZWF18.



It's Hard to be Humble



Eating with Soula

International Factual

If you want OMG recipes to satisfy your taste buds and your funny bone, tune in for Soula-licious recipes that are quick, easy and fun – because cooking should never be a drag!

Eating with Soula is the winner of Direct Selection to #NZWF19 from partner Sydney Web Fest.



Hinterher (Afterwards)

- International Pilot

This short comedy series starts from the awkward moment after a one night stand, when formerly entangled lovers need to talk. Funny conversations about small and big contemporary topics unfold.

What could possibly go wrong?

Hinterher is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our German partner festival die Seriale.



How to Know If You're Dating a Narcissist

- International Narrative

Follow multi-narcissist survivor Kristy Best as she abrasively whisks you through a surreal lifestyle parody, hell-bent on teaching women everywhere how to know if they're dating a narcissist.



In Bed

International Narrative

This anthology series shares the stories of relationships between men and women in bed...

The exhausting sex life of Anya and Andrey... the joyful and emotional love of Larissa and Denis... the promiscuous sex life of Jenya... and Katya's loneliness.



Swipe Right

- International Narrative

This web series started as an onstage sketch comedy show in 2015. After two successful theatre runs, it was time to take these characters to the screen.

The series follows six different characters in five quirky tales surrounding the search for connection, mostly in the wrong places: a perfect viewing mix of comedy, cringe, and heart.



Tales from Pussy Willow

- Animation & Puppetry

Set in the fictional town of Pussy Willow, Kate Jessop's satirical web series celebrates queer, feminist and absurdist themes. Using real actors within animated worlds, the show portrays contemporary Britain.

As a train heads towards Pussy Willow, a traveller needs assistance to help his girlfriend. Luckily his fellow travellers can lend a hand!



True Dating Stories

- International Narrative

Similar in concept to NZ show *The Watercooler*, this Canadian anthology series sees real people share their wildest and most embarrassing dating stories, while hilarious recreations bring them life.



Homesick



Rū Ana Te Whenua: Alien Weaponry Shake Europe

NZ Factual

Three teenagers from Waipū in Northland take their unique Māori thrash music to the world's biggest metal festival. The episode screening covers the moment the band has been building towards – playing Wacken Open Air in Germany.

The production team, The Downlow Concept, also produced *Subject: Dad*, the winner of the #NZWF18 Best Director (NZ Factual) award and joint winner of the #NZWF18 Best Show (NZ Factual) award.



Crips in Cars

- NZ Factual

This social experiment puts two strangers on a car journey and watches as they connect through the simple art of conversation. The twist, one of the passengers has a disability. How does our able-bodied celebrity handle a socially awkward situation when they're forced to adapt, quickly?

The show is made by Attitude, whose *Miss Amazing* is also selected for #NZWF19. *Crips* director Ramon Te Wake was a Best Director nominee at #NZWF18 for *Glimpse: Danielle*.



Dreaming Whilst Black

- International Narrative

This bittersweet comedy follows young but naive filmmaker, Kwabena.

In a story many creators will identify with, Kwabena takes huge risks to make his short film. He struggles to balance work, friends and relationships, until he has to ask how much he is willing to sacrifice for his art – and whether it's worthwhile.

Dreaming Whilst Black is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner festival London Short Series.



Get it to Te Papa

- NZ Factual

Get It to Te Papa follows journalist Hayden Donnell on an ambitious quest to collect underappreciated Kiwi cultural artefacts and get them into the country's national museum, Te Papa.



Legendary Polynesia

Animation & Puppetry

This children's animated series explores where Pasifika legends come to life, with humour and heart, in a very modern take on Pacific Mythology.

The episode screening at #NZWF19, How Humans Were Made, considers how it would be if humans were formed out of the grossest creatures on the planet?



The Streets Barber Stories

International Factual

Nasir Sobhani, commonly known as The Streets Barber, goes around Melbourne performing a simple act of charity, giving those in need a 'fresh start' by cutting their hair for free.

The Streets Barber Stories conveys unique portraits and captures the character and emotion of these human stories.

Creators Round 3 also made *High Rising*, which is also selected at #NZWF19.



How Bizarre



AFK

- NZ Narrative

A group of gamers wake up inhabiting the bodies of their characters in the world of their favourite game. Gender swapped, confused and out of their element, they must work together to survive in this hostile new world.

The first season of *AFK* won the Best Web Series (NZ Narrative) award at #NZWF16. The team also created *Ao-terror-oa*, winner of the Best Actress (NZ Narrative) award at #NZWF18.



Bibling

- Animation & Puppetry

Bibling offers a light-hearted take on famous tales from The Bible. The episode screening at #NZWF19 retells the myth of David and Goliath.

The show is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Tel Aviv Web Fest.



Combination

NZ Pilot

Set in 2057, this doco-style sci-fi series explores a world where te reo Māori is widely spoken.



The Holiest One

- International Narrative

The Holiest One is a 10-episode series telling the story of the trials of an Australian cult follower as she attempts to start a new chapter in Los Angeles.

The show is made by the creators of the award-nominated series *Maddalena*, which played several web fests in 2018.



Narcoleap

- International Narrative

College student Kelsey has a vivid nightmare during a narcoleptic nap: she's trapped in another person's body.

Her best friend, Aidan, feels that Kelsey has experienced a "lucid dream". Kelsey suspects it was something more. When she begins to leap into the bodies of other people during her bouts of narcolepsy, Kelsey becomes a target.

The show is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Miami Web Fest.



Whisper Naked Shadow

International Narrative

Sofie, Robin and Viki are pretty regular college students and roommates – until Sofie starts walking around the flat naked, Robin can only speak in whispers and Viki is haunted by her own shadow.

Are they dealing with superpowers or super troubles?



Kill This Love



¡Tócate!

International Narrative

¡Tócate! (Touch Yourself) is a sitcom about four thirtysomething women who share friendship... and nothing else.

The show follows the misfortunes of the quartet as they struggle to understand and be understood, to respect and be respected, and to hang on to one another's friendship.



Friday the 13th

- International Narrative

Disgraced profiler Phillip Kim and detective Chung-ha track down the truth behind the mysterious events that happen on Friday 13th.

Friday the 13th is the winner of our Direct Selection Award from Seoul Web Fest.



Last Breath

International Narrative

This anthology series is inspired by the stories of real Australian women executed or imprisoned for life for murder. Set in a grim cell, each episode takes place in the moments before the convicted murderer is brought to the gallows or taken to the court for sentencing.

Last Breath is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Melbourne WebFest.



Smoko

NZ Pilot

Mr Black and Miss Jones are best friends, hot messes and school teachers at Kowhai Primary. Smoko follows their comedic adventures as they try to get through the working day and make it to wine o'clock with their sanity intact.



Touch Wood

- NZ Narrative

Four friends fumble their way through their early 20s in Auckland.

Sam is coming to terms with who he is. Laura doesn't know how to settle. Tom plays the game and Emily thinks she has her life sorted.

Touch Wood was a finalist in the Pilot category at #NZWF18. The full first season released in March this year.



The Year of Yes

- NZ Pilot

When gay Filipino party boy Martin makes the crazy decision to move to New Zealand in search of greener pastures, his mama makes him promise to do one thing: say YES to everything. Thus begins the worst year of his life.

Creator Mia Maramara's *Foodie* was a finalist at #NZWF18 in the NZ Narrative Best Actor and Best Director categories.



Opposites Attract



LiBros

- NZ Pilot

Mark is feeling stuck in his graphic design career. And to make matters worse his girlfriend, Esther, wants to get engaged. All of Esther's friends are either married or engaged. Some have kids. It's her dream. But is it Mark's?

Creator Roberto Nascimento won Best Director at #NZWF18, for the second season of Sui Generis.



Lost & Found Cowboy

- International Pilot

Japanese-American street performer, Yukata Cowboy, helps out foreigners in Tokyo. He guides Cindy, an American dancer, through Japan's cultural maze. They begin to perform together and become romantically involved, but one day Cindy suddenly disappears...

Atsushi Ogata's series Yukata Cowboy was a selection at #NZWF17. Spin-off Mona Lisa Cowboy was a finalist at #NZWF18.



Lotte Haus

- International Pilot

Aspiring actress, Suji, searches for her lost purse.

This branded romcom unfolds in two locations: Germany's Lotte Haus, the home of the heroine in Goethe's *Sorrow of Young Werther*, and the Lotte World Tower in Korea.

Lotte Haus is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Asia Web Awards.



Skeleton Crew

International Narrative

This is the story of Hunter and Anthony, a bear couple, and the tumultuous turns their lives take one Halloween.

Alongside their friends and family, they face all the extremes life has to offer with a smile, a sigh, and a sugary sweet.



Wind-Bell

International Narrative

Set in Seoul, Wind Bell is a story about a writer, Daniel. Adopted and taken to the US when he was 10, now a successful novelist, he returns to Korea to meet his family.

Daniel also meets Yeo Jin, the editor who'll help him publish his book in Korea. It's not long before there's undeniable chemistry between them.

The lead roles are played by well-known K-pop artists Jung Jin-yung (B1A4) and Kwon Min-ah (AOA).



Purple Rain



Chekhov Screenlife

International Narrative

This anthology series adapts the works of Russian writer Anton Chekhov for the internet age. The episode screening, *Good German*, is based on a short story in which a simple misunderstanding escalates rapidly into a life-threatening problem.

Chekhov Screenlife is the winner of our Direct Selection award from Russia's Realist Web Fest.



Farm Crime

International Factual

This documentary series investigates unconventional offences in the world of farming and agriculture – in the fields, farms and secretive small towns that dot the Canadian countryside.

Farm Crime is the winner of Direct Selection to #NZWF19 from our Canadian partner T.O. WebFest.



Gay and Loathing in Bris Vegas

- International Narrative

This comedy shares about being gay and bored in Australia's most beloved boring city. How do the Brisgays survive?

They breakfast. They glare. They brunch. They loathe. They Instagram. They judge. They Grindr. They regret. Then they end up at one of the local gay bars and wonder why.



High Rising

- International Factual

This anthology series of short documentaries follows the residents of a Melbourne housing estate.

Taking a peek into their lives, *High Rising* tells stories of life in the high rise, at a time where antiimmigrant sentiment is escalating around the world.

Creators Round 3 also made The Streets Barber Stories, which is also selected at #NZWF19.



K Rd Chronicles

NZ Factual

Six was once homeless herself for several years. Now a journalist, she is our guide to the colourful, diverse, harsh and often tragic world of street people living on and around Auckland's Karangahape Road.



The Twist

Animation & Puppetry

This animated short form documentary series brings to life some of Australia's most intriguing true crime stories – complex, real stories with real victims and real perpetrators.



Perfect Day



Comedians Eating Plants

NZ Factual

Funny people eat plant-based food. The show hopes to make vegan food more accessible and just more fun to talk about.

In the episode screening at #NZWF19, *A Rush of Soy to the Head*, Nick Gray and John Bagnall get some of the best burgers Watson's Eatery in Dunedin has to offer.



Fallin' Off

- International Pilot

An aging Minneapolis rapper juggling fatherhood, marital discord and a persistent lack of cash, struggles to remain relevant in the youth-oriented rap game.

Fallin' Off is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Minnesota Web Fest.



HousieWives

NZ Narrative

Halos dim on Sunday morning as the most sacred day in Aukilani becomes the most scandalous, with all the church's fundraising takings stolen! Where did the money go? Where does the Pastor disappear to? And are they really "wives" if their husbands have run away?

Will the HousieWives come through to clear their name and find the culprit, the thief, the sinner?



Lost Connection

NZ Narrative

Made by a small crew of weekend filmmakers over the course of a year, *Lost Connection* tells the story of Billy, who recruits his best mate Clem to accompany him on a mission to find the girl of his dreams.

Over the course of the day the mission takes a back seat to Billy and Clem's unique friendship, as it becomes apparent that Billy's goal isn't to find true love, but to fill the day with purpose.



Macbeth – King of the Favela

- International Narrative

Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, relocated to the slums of Rio de Janeiro, with Macbeth recast as an ambitious drug dealer.

A second show by *Macbeth* creator Quentin Lewis, *Magic of the Mermaid*, is also selected for #NZWF19.



What's Your Problem?

- NZ Factual

Joseph Herscher and his team solve kids' really annoying problems by making hilarious contraptions out of everyday household objects.

Joseph was a presenter at the inaugural edition of NZ Web Fest with his previous series Jiwi's Machines.



Save the World



Daughters of the Migration

NZ Factual

This series paints pictures of the lives of renowned Pasifika women, and of the generations whose shoulders they have stood on, to reach and break through the glass ceiling.

In this episode Director Reina Va'ai focuses on the love, resilience and triumphs of world-renowned rugby legend, Fiao'o Fa'amausili.

Producer Lizie Koroivulaono also produced Weaving Rainbows, a finalist at #NZWF18.



The Josh & Mearle Diaries

- NZ Factual

Josh and Mearle chase their dream of creating a global comedy brand. It's been one hell of a ride!

Diaries is the third show Josh and Mearle have had selected for NZ Web Fest. *Blade NZ* was a finalist at #NZWF16, and *Misadventures* went one better, named joint winner of the Best Show (NZ Factual) award at #NZWF18.



Middle of Snowhere

International Factual

Skier Asmara and her friends play in the snow, chase thrills, enjoy the magnificent outdoors, and learn about themselves in the process.

Middle of Snowhere is a different kind of sports series, more accessible than the extreme professional sports that dominate GoPro videos, and more focused on Asmara's antics and adventures than on the sport itself.



Nubivagant (Wandering in the Clouds)

- AR/MR/VR/360

In the summer of 2018, an American climbing team completed a free ascent of the Pico Cão Grande tower in São Tomé & Principe. The technical difficulty, length of the route, remote location, tropical climate and jungle setting make this climb an unparalleled challenge.

Their trip was documented through photos, video and 360 degree footage filmed with GoPro Fusion cameras.



Scratched

NZ Factual

From tennis champions to dance craze inventors, *Scratched* celebrates New Zealand sporting heroes who never got their due – but whose legacies deserve to be in lights.



Stories of Bike

International Factual

This series explores the relationship between custom motorbikes and their owners, their histories and the reasons they ride.

"I wanted to hear the stories that got them there," director Cam Elkins says. Three seasons in, there's clearly an ongoing interest in the stories Cam and his younger brother, a composer, are telling.



Speakers



Asmara Bhattacharya

A script consultant and script reader, Asmara works for US festivals and production companies including the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences' Nicholl Fellowships, the Final Draft Big Break Screenplay Contest, HBO Films and Austin Film Festival. She's also produced show including *The Pantsless Detective* (#NZWF16, #NZWF18) and is the creator of sports-and fun-focused series *Middle of Snowhere* (#NZWF19).

Asmara appears on the panel **The Grass** is **Greener**.



Brian Holland

A longtime producer for Top Shelf Productions, Brian recently established Magnetic Pictures. He produced the doco series K Rd Chronicles, which was recently confirmed for a second season, and is currently in production on a separate web doc series.

Brian appears on the panel It Must Be True.



Cam Faull

Developed from a stage show, Cam's award-winning series Swipe Right has been selected for 11 festivals so far this year.

An Australian Actor, Director, Writer and Coach, Cam's weekly class Actor's Tribe offers "an Actor's brain and body gym".

Cam appears on the panel **The Grass** is **Greener**.



Crystal Vaega

Director and producer Crystal is part of three Tiki Lounge shows at this year's NZ Web Fest: animated series *Legendary Polynesia*, doco series *Daughters of the Migration* and comedy *HousieWives*.

Crystal appears on the panel It Must Be True.



Dan Shanan

Dan is the director and co-founder of Doc Edge Festival, Australasia's premiere documentary film festival. Doc Edge also presents an annual Forum and year-round programme of industry events.

Dan moderates the panel It Must Be True.



Gary Daniels

Gary is the creator of award-winning Australian series *Eating with Soula Marie*, in which he stars as his alter-ego, Miss Soula

Gary appears on the panel **Rainbow Warriors**. Soula Marie will be a presenter at the #NZWF19 Awards.



Herman Wang

Herman has been composing and performing synthpop music in various bands since his early teens.

He got his start in filmmaking directing awardwinning music videos for his band Delica-m, and decided to try his hand at narrative film, creating the award-winning web series *The Spell Tutor* (#NZWF16. #NZWF18, #NZWF19).

Herman appears on the panel **The Grass** is **Greener**.



Holly Shervey

Holly created the award-winning series Auckward Love (#NZWF16, #NZWF17), and this year's Instagram series Millennial Jenny, which is nominated for four awards at #NZWF19. She's also familiar to Shortland Street viewers as Zoe Carlson.

Holly appears on the panel **The Cheque's in the Mail**.



Jake Pitcher

Jake studied performing arts at Unitec, and created *Touch Wood*, the pilot for which played #NZWF18. The full season of the show released earlier this year, and is nominated for four awards at #NZWF19. Jake is currently prepping a show for the Auckland Fringe in

Jake appears on the panel Rainbow Warriors.



Jennifer Monk

Jennifer Monk established Girls Act Good (GAG) to create roles for all the talented women she saw competing for too few roles during her time as Company Director in a production house.

GAG has completed 10 film and theatre productions, as well as delivering a regular programme of readings and workshops. *Last Breath* is its first web series.

Jennifer leads the panel Last Breath.



09:30 AM	Doors 0	nen & R	egistration
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09:50 AM Welcome

Conference

10:00 AM

The Cheque's in the Mail

Teasers, trailers, binge drops, staggered releases, long tails, diminishing returns, prequels and sequels and spin-offs.

What strategies maximise opportunities for creators to generate a return from web series?

- With Holly Shervey, Peter Haynes and Tupe Solomon-Tanoa'i

11:00 AM

It Must Be True

Less than a decade ago there was very limited funding and broadcaster interest in local factual content. Now NZ factual content is booming online.

Is there a renaissance, have our viewing habits changed, or is factual content just cheaper to make?

With Brian Holland, Crystal Vaega, Dan Shanan and José Barbosa

12:00 PM

The Grass is Greener

International creators on the ups and downs of making shows in the cultural and funding environments they work in.

- With Asmara Bhattacharya, Cam Faull, Herman Wang and Lanita Ririnui

01:00 PM

Lunch

02:00 PM

Last Breath

A case study of award-winning Australian anthology series *Last Breath*. The show was created by Melbourne-based collective of female actors, directors, writers, producers, theatremakers and filmmakers, Girls Act Good, in association with F Word Films.

Last Breath is nominated for two awards at #NZWF19.

- With Jennifer Monk, Kelley Kerr Young and Shanon Kulupach

03:00 PM

Rainbow Warriors

Creators of LGBTQ+ content on the opportunities and challenges of the ever-exapanding online world.

With Gary Daniels, Jake Pitcher, Nikki Si'ulepa and Rose McMahon

04:00 PM

World Premiere: Loner

Creator Lauren Porteous presents the world premiere screening of dramedy web series Loner.

Charlotte's best-friend Mel convinces her to come out of her shell. At a party she meets someone, a spark flies but is soon snuffed out. But is that the end or the beginning?

Followed by Q&A.

07:00 PM

Awards Ceremony

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José Barbosa

The Spinoff producer and director José Barbosa previously worked as news director at 95bFM and as a reporter for TVNZ7's *Media7*. He's nominated at #NZWF19 for a Best Director award for his work on The Spinoff series *Get It To Te Papa*.

José appears on the panel It Must Be True.



Kelley Kerr Young

Kelley has been a member of Girls Act Good (GAG) since 2014 and has been a collaborator and actor in most of their projects, including Cinders and the Seven Stages of Grief and The Association. She wrote and performed Last Breath episode The Next Fix.

Kelley appears on the panel Last Breath.



Lanita Ririnui

Lanita is a creative native storyteller of Māori & Cook Islands descent.

She co-founded Through The Fire Ltd, and is an independent producer, director, writer, presenter/MC. Lanita made the interactive *Poi360* and webseries *Poi - Hopes and Dreams*, a winner at festivals including #NZWF17 and Melbourne Web Fest. *Fan Girl* is a finalist at #NZWF19.

Lanita moderates the session **The Grass** is **Greener**.



Lauren Porteous

Lauren's debut short film Motel won the Best Screenplay award at Show Me Shorts two years ago. Also in 2017, she became the first woman to win the Best Director award at 48Hours, along with the Best Film award. The film, *Under The Bridge*, was later recut and played in last year's NZIFF.

Dramedy Loner is Lauren's debut web series.

Lauren will present the world premiere of *Loner* as the closing session of the #NZWF19 conference programme.



Nikki Si'ulepa

Onscreen in recent years in titles including Filthy Rich, Housebound, Super City and award-winning web series Pot Luck (#NZWF16, #NZWF18), Nikki's autobiographical feature Same But Different premiered earlier this year.

Nikki moderates the panel Rainbow Warriors.



Peter Haynes

Peter created and directs the award-winning series *AFK* (Best Web Series, #NZWF17). Season 2 has five nominations at this year's NZ Web Fest. He also directed 2017 series *Ao-terror-oa*, which won a Best Actress award at #NZWF18, and directs Great Southern Television's upcoming horror series *The Basement*.

Peter appears on the panel **The Cheque's in the Mail.**



Rose McMahon

Rose's five short films have won awards in competitions and featured in international film festivals. Essentially a director she's also been, "out of necessity", a Producer, Writer, Cinematographer, Marketer, Editor and Chief Shoulder Massager. Her web series *In The Rainbow* screens on TVNZ OnDemand.

Rose appears on the panel Rainbow Warriors.



Shanon Kulupach

Shanon has been a Girls Act Good (GAG) member since 2015. She has been heavily involved in many of GAG's projects including Cinders and the Seven Stages of Grief and The Association. Shanon was the acting coach and part of the ensemble in Last Breath.

Shanon appears on the panel Last Breath.



Tupe Solomon-Tanoa'i

Lawyer, civil servant and former diplomat Tupe wrote *Misadventures of a Pacific Professional*, in part based on her own experiences. She also produced the show, directed by her husband Esera. The show has two award nominations at #NZWF19.

Tupe appears on the panel **The Cheque's in the Mail.**





Scary Monsters



20 Seconds to Live

- International Narrative

20 Seconds to Live is an anthology horror/comedy web-series for people who hate happy endings.

No matter how the story begins, you know how it ends. We're all gonna die. But when? How? Will it be horrific? Will it be funny? Most importantly, will it be entertaining?



Otsoen Lurraldean (In the Land of Wolves)

- International Narrative

An antisocial woman and her dog are on a quest for water, trying to survive in a world where living seems impossible.

A harsh land, a mad land, a land of wolves.



Over and Out

- International Narrative

Lewis and Freya to raise their children right, in a world full of wrong. They're battling the cute and cuddly horrors of early parenthood and the actual horrors of reaving metal-clad gangs, mutants, cannibals, dehydration, disease and starvation... and zombies.

The creators of the show are also behind Location Scouts, which is also selected for #NZWF19.



Running with Violet

International Narrative

Jolene, Miranda and Jolene's toddler Violet find themselves descending deeper into the world of small town crime.

The show returns to Pictonville, the small town Jolene and Miranda escaped in the first season. They're now entangled in a beauty business which turns out to be a front for Ketamine supply.



Swipe

International Narrative

Martijn Winkler's drama series examines the influence and unforeseen consequences smartphones have on the lives of several twentysomethings. In the episode screening at #NZWF19, Karim accidentally captures a horrible accident with his phone, but then starts to suspect foul play...



Utopia Planitia

- International Pilot

Neil Geiger is the son of a brilliant woman whose inventions saved the world from climate disaster. Now Neil has convinced the board of the company his mother founded that she's no longer competent to continue as its CEO.

But if Neil's mother is going down, she'll take the world with her...



That's My Girl



Constance

- NZ Pilot

Influenced by Broadchurch and successful Scandi-noir crime dramas like *The Killing* and *The Bridge*, this show is a New Zealand homage to the popular genre.

When a rural hunting accident takes a sinister turn, Auckland city detective Vanessa Raweti is forced to question the values of her in-laws and the hostile small-town community surrounding her.



Fan Girl

- AR/MR/VR/360

When a young fa'afafine is rejected by society, she finds strength through the spirits of her ancestors. With the flick of the fan, the flight of spirit, fa'afafine sisters Fine Fatale turn forbidden to familiar. The film celebrates a new wave of young fem-gems empowering others to be who they are.

Fan Girl comes from the creators of The F Word and Poi – Hopes and Dreams, winners at #NZWF16 and #NZWF17 respectively.



Jessica's Tree

NZ Factual

Jessica's Tree is an insightful story about what suicide looks like from the inside, from someone looking at those wanting to help.

The series is an ambitious narrative puzzle told through the eyes of Jazz Thornton, who lost her close friend Jess to suicide. Jazz pulls together the threads of Jess's story by reconnecting the people who came together over the last 24 hours of Jess's life, when Jess went missing.



Millennial Jenny

- NZ Narrative

In this new bite-sized Instagram-exclusive comedy, selfie-loving, digital-savvy Jenny is at a crossroads; she's bored, she hates her job, and she desperately wants to make her mark on the world.

It's time for her to find her purpose.

Holly Shervey won Best Actress at #NZWF17 for Auckward Love.



On the Rag

NZ Factual

Based on the feminist podcast of the same name, *On The Rag* tackles every issue under the sun from New Zealand women's perspectives.

In the episode screening, Hilary Barry joins Michele A'Court, Alex Casey and Leonie Hayden to discuss ageing.



This Time (I Know It's for Real)



Misadventures of a Pacific Professional

- NZ Narrative

The series centres on Alofa, a young Pasifika woman climbing the corporate ladder, who constantly bumps up against unconscious bias in the workplace.

This prompts an internal struggle between the part of Alofa raised to be humble (faletua), and the part descended from warriors (nafanua).



Miss Amazing

NZ Narrative

Miss Amazing celebrates the diversity and potential of all people. In the US, where there's a strong tradition of pageantry, the mission of the Miss Amazing pageant is to build confidence and self-esteem in women and girls with disabilities.

The show is made by Attitude, whose Crips in Cars is also selected for #NZWF19.



People Like Us

- International Narrative

This second season continues the journeys of Joel, Ridzwan, Rai and Isaac, as they seek love, happiness and acceptance as gay Singaporeans. Joel and Ridzwan's budding romance grows complicated, Isaac's decadent lifestyle catches up on him, and Rai meets someone special who plays hard to get. Will it be happily ever after?

Creator Leon Cheo is an alumnus of the Asian Film Academy and Berlinale Talents.



Red

International Narrative

The story of Mel and Liz, two actresses who met while shooting a short film and ended up carrying their onscreen romantic relationship into their real lives.

The show is now in its fifth season.



Tokens

- International Narrative

A fun-loving, satirical comedy about the actors of an "on call" diversity casting agency. Whoever is on call is randomly dispatched to producers desperate to hit their diversity quotas, often in roles they least expect.

Think Uber for actors.



The Watercooler

NZ Narrative

Every story told by *The Watercooler* is true. People share their stories with the show's creators, who make them into episodes.

Funny, true and short, the show is perfect web-based fun that the whole world can laugh at! The first season of the show was a finalist at #NZWF17.



On Demand



A-Live

- International Narrative

This branded web series was made in Italy, and uses the new Mercedes A-Class as its protagonist. On the way to her graduation celebration, Andrea is kidnapped by a thief on the run...

Creator Riccardo Cannella's *Anachronisme* was a selection at #NZWF18. *A-Live* is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Apulia Web Fest.



Abracadavers

- International Narrative

Chris' mum has died, in a freak hair salon chair accident. Ever since, he's been attached to the chair responsible for her death.

On a road-trip, Chris' friends discover what Chris already suspected – that the salon chair gives those close to it superpowers.



Anomalie

International Narrative

Anomalie tells the story of Jan, a young man in his early 20s, trying to solve the mystery of his parents' disappearance.

Why is it so hard for Jan to find information about his parents' work in quantum mechanics, and who did they work with? Every answer Jan discovers poses new questions.



Bless This Mess

International Pilot

When Christine comes face-to-face with her high school crush, her nerves and excitement blind her to the circumstances of their unexpected reunion. And, when her heart ends up in her mouth, she finds enough room to put her foot in there too.

Bless This Mess is the winner of our Direct Selection Award from this year's Stareable Fest.



Bonnie The Elephant

- Animation & Puppetry

The show is a cheeky adult animation slipped inside a children's storybook. Come follow Bonnie through the forest on her quest for love, dildos and orgies.

Bonnie creator Holly Hargreaves' previous show, Real Tinder Convos, was selected for #NZWF16 and #NZWF17.



Flight 69

- International Pilot

Flight 69 is crewed by four people: pilot Jean; trolley dollies Teddy and Karim; and chief purser Nathalie. They're all unsuitable for their jobs and unable to carry out their work, to ensure the safety of passengers – or to reassure them!



Forest League

Animation & Puppetry

After unscrupulous hunters murder a tapir, an angry shaman evokes the sleeping spirits of the forest. The shaman is given the mission of choosing new guardians for the forest, with the help of a mascot, the Gralha.

At a city school, children are chosen to assist in this mission, and the Forest League is formed! This engaging adventure is based on Brazilian folklore.



Frontera City

International Narrative

Set in a frontera (border) city where Colombia and Venezuela meet, this show delves into the seamy side of life: the dark worlds of drug addiction, prostitution, criminal gangs and violence that sometimes go unnoticed.

The episode screening, *First Time*, deals with the initiation of a child into the world of crime. *Frontera City* is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Bogota Web Fest.



Life of Jess

International Narrative

Successful YouTuber, Jess Holsman, gives advice on study, success and life... but was her own life always this together?

The show looks back at Jess' high school days to see how she survived and developed her positive approach to life.



Location Scouts

- International Narrative

Old-school Steve gets stuck with millennial Morgan to scout locations for the feature film *Top End Wedding*. This odd couple tale tells a story of people going looking for what they want – and unexpectedly finding something they actually need.

The team behind *Location Scouts* also created the award-winning *Over and Out*, which also plays at #NZWF19.



M

International Narrative

A young American couple travels to Patagonia to search for his father, but as they enter the woods with the help of a local con man, they soon discover that something supernatural is lurking...



Marias

- International Pilot

The pilot for this New York-set Latina comedy was originally created to provide material for the two leads' acting reels. This ep is the 'meet-cute' – when Daniela and Maria first cross paths.

The show is the winner of our Direct Selection Award from partner New Jersey Web Fest.



Millionaire from Balashikha

- International Narrative

Bogdan is an awkward, shy guy who doesn't remotely resemble a business shark, but he's determined to be a successful entrepreneur. When his first business doesn't turn out to be what he expected, he has to find a way to keep it going.

The show is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our Russian partner Realist Web Fest.



Overlooked

— AR / MR / VR / 360

An anthology series in which death and horror lurk around every bend, recounted by a narrator who believes them to be connected.

Take a moment to acknowledge a few of the more than 2000 people living without homes in Vancouver, people you may not otherwise notice. Will you notice when there's a killer about?



Project M

International Narrative

Project M is a found-footage show offering a dystopian world where to be a singer, an actor or a painter can be only a crime.

Every kind of art is considered useless and dangerous in this new "Amazon" society.



Rock Paper Scissors

- International Narrative

The living, the dead, and the undead are pitted against each other in a three-way fight for survival; a handful of humans must form a shaky alliance with a brood of vampires to protect their mutual existence.

Because the only thing better than a zombie apocalypse is a zombie apocalypse with vampires.



The Tonopah Five

- International Narrative

After being released prematurely from her one woman show, a former 90s TV commercial star decides to get back at the small town Nevada theatre that fired her.

With her rag-tag team of local misfits, she plans to rob the theatre box office.



Twinky Doo's Magic World

- International Pilot

After a heist at a theme park goes south, four robbers take refuge in a warehouse. Surrounded, the robbers have a hostage and the warehouse is full of food. The siege begins.

However, the real threat is not outside...

Twinky Doo's is the winner of the Direct Selection Award from our partner Sicily Web Fest.



The Vault

International Narrative

Five miles underground a rag-tag group of survivors live in a state-of-the-art bunker facility, humanity's only home in a post-apocalyptic world.

Outside the vault there is only nuclear winter, a wasteland in which nothing and no one can survive... until a survey mission discovers an unconscious pilot.



Vieux Jeu

- International Narrative

Adrian is an aged bowling alley owner who wishes to retire and sell his business. Each and every night, after closing time, Adrian stays on and plays solitary games to try to achieve his ultimate aim – a perfect game!

One night a ghost from Adrian's past warns him he'll die in a few days. Suddenly, Adrian has less than a week to sell his business, put his affairs in order – and play that perfect game.



Keep up with us for #NZWF20

Submissions will open on 1 February 2020

WEBSITE

nzwebfest.co.nz

SUBMISSIONS

filmfreeway.com/festival/NZWebFest



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Awards Nominees

No finalists are announced for Jury Awards and Selection Awards to our partner festivals. Winners will be announced at the ceremony.

Open Awards

International Pilot

International Factual

BEST ANIMATED SHOW

Bibling, Israel
The Drawing Show, New Zealand
Fast Heroes Sixty, Germany
Tales From Pussy Willow, United Kingdom
The Twist, Australia

BEST PILOT

Fallin' Off, United States
Hinterher, Germany
Lost & Found Cowboy, United States
Lotte Haus, South Korea
Utopia Planitia, United States

BEST DIRECTOR

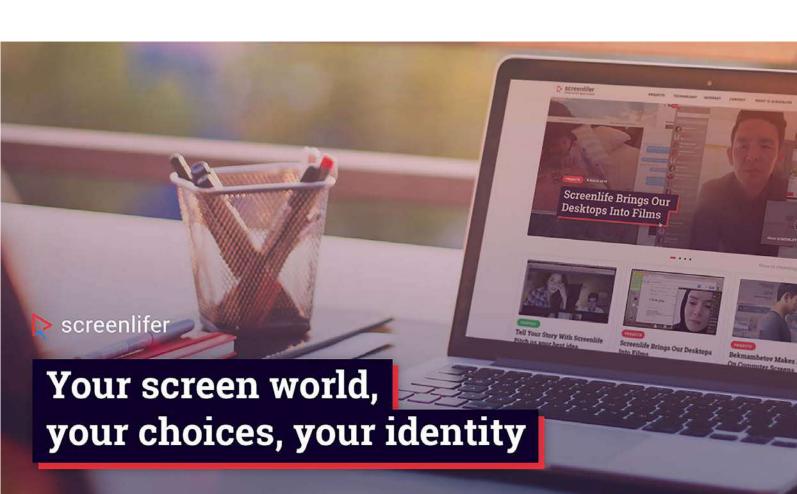
Christina Carvalho & Geoff Morrison, Farm Crime, Canada
Cam Elkins, Stories Of Bike, Australia
Bryce McCoy & Vidad Narayan, The Streets Barber Stories, Australia

BEST AR / MR / VR / 360 SHOW

Fan Girl, New Zealand Nubivagant, United States Overlooked 360, Canada

BEST SHOW

Eating with Soula, Australia
Farm Crime, Canada
High Rising, Australia
Stories Of Bike, Australia
The Streets Barber Stories, Australia



International Narrative

BEST ENSEMBLE

¡Tócate!, Spain

In Bed, Russia

Knock Knock, United States

Last Breath, Australia

People Like Us, Singapore

Tokens, Canada

Whisper Naked Shadow, Czech Republic, USA

BEST ACTOR

Dmitry Eletsky,

Chekhov: Screenlife, Russia

Adjani Salmon,

Dreaming Whilst Black, United Kingdom

Michael Deed,

Gay & Loathing in Bris Vegas, Australia

Arthur Santileone,

Macbeth - King Of The Favela, Brazil

Christiaan Van Vuuren,

Over and Out, Australia

Johnathan Cerio & Joshua Pangborn,

Skeleton Crew, Canada

Cam Faull,

Swipe Right, Australia

BEST ACTRESS

Yoon Joo,

Friday the 13th, South Korea

Sarah Nicolazzo,

The Holiest One, Australia

Mariana Lewis,

Magic of the Mermaid, Brazil

Rose of Dolls,

Otsoen Lurraldean, Spain

Adele Vuko,

Over and Out, Australia

Luciana Bollina & Ana Paula Lima,

Red, Brazil

Rebecca Davey & Marie-Claire Marcotte,

Running with Violet, Australia

Mina,

Wind Bell, South Korea

NZ Pilot

BEST DIRECTOR

Adjani Salmon,

Dreaming Whilst Black, United Kingdom

Inchun Oh,

Friday the 13th, South Korea

Kate Green,

NarcoLeap, Canada

Fernando Belo,

Red, Brazil

Stuart Kiczek,

Skeleton Crew, Canada

Herman Wang,

The Spell Tutor, Canada

Martijn Winkler,

Swipe, Netherlands

Winnifred Jong,

Tokens, Canada

ALUMNI

Atsushi Ogata, Japan/USA

Herman Wang, Canada

Or So The Story Goes, USA

BEST SHOW: CHILDREN / YOUTH

Detention Adventure, Canada Knock Knock, USA

Magic of the Mermaid, Brazil

The Spell Tutor, Canada

BEST SHOW: ANTHOLOGY SERIES

20 Seconds to Live, USA

In Bed, Russia

Last Breath, Australia

Swipe, Netherlands

True Dating Stories, Canada

BEST SHOW: EPISODIC SERIES

Dreaming Whilst Black, United Kingdom

Friday the 13th, South Korea

Otsoen Lurraldean, Spain

Over and Out, Australia

People Like Us, Singapore

Red, Brazil

BEST PILOT

LiBros

Smoko

The Year of Yes

NZ Factual

BEST DIRECTOR

Ramon Te Wake, Crips in Cars

José Barbosa,

Get It To Te Papa

Matt Earle, Josh Hall & Tom Reed, The Josh & Mearle Diaries

Naashon Zalk,

K Rd Chronicles

Kent Belcher,

Rū Ana Te Whenua: Alien Weaponry Shake Europe

ALUMNI

Attitude

The Coconet

Josh & Mearle

BEST SHOW: ANTHOLOGY SERIES

Crips in Cars

The Josh & Mearle Diaries

K Rd Chronicles

On the Rag

Scratched

BEST SHOW: EPISODIC SERIES

Jessica's Tree

Miss Amazing

Rū Ana Te Whenua:

Alien Weaponry Shake Europe

NZ Narrative

BEST ENSEMBLE

AFK

HousieWives

Touch Wood

The Watercooler

BEST ACTOR

Emmett Skilton, Millennial Jenny

Jake Pitcher, Touch Wood

Tom Sainsbury, The Watercooler

BEST ACTRESS

Holly Shervey, Millennial Jenny

Lagi Farani, Misadventures of a Pacific Professional

Abby Damen, The Watercooler

BEST DIRECTOR

Peter Haynes, *AFK*

Emmett Skilton, Millennial Jenny

Andy Campion, Mike Minogue, *The Watercooler*

Renee Mahy,

BEST SHOW: ANTHOLOGY SERIES

Millennial Jenny Misadventures of a Pacific Professional The Watercooler

ALUMNI

Peter Haynes & Hweiling Ow Mike Minogue Roberto Nascimento

Holly Shervey & Emmett Skilton

BEST SHOW: EPISODIC SERIES

AFK
Housiewives
Lost Connection
Touch Wood

Thanks to all our judges for their efforts this year. Special thanks to our returning judges, whose continuing support is always appreciated.

INTERNATIONAL JUDGES

George Reese (Minnesota Web Fest)
Herman Wang (*The Spell Tutor*)
Hugo Bossaert (*Don't Panic. Stay Calm*)
Luke Eve (*High Life*)
Maree Railton (*Swift & Loose*)
Maria Zatulovskaya (producer)
Michele Pinto (Apulia Web Fest)
Misha Calvert (*Tinder is the Night, Strut*)
Moumy Mbacke (*On the Topic of*)
Yuval Berger (Tel Aviv Webfest)

NEW ZEALAND JUDGES

Bevan Chuang
Hanelle Harris
Hweiling Ow
Jennifer Ward-Lealand
Kirsty Griffin & Viv Kernick
Lanita Ririnui
Ness Simons
Robin Murphy
Roberto Nascimento
Simon Leslie
Sophia Seaton
Steve Barr
Thomas Coppell



Sponsors & Partners







Partner Festivals









































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