

2020 Athena List Winners & Finalists



The
Athena
List

About the Athena List

The Athena List is an annual script competition that selects exceptional scripts with women leaders at the heart of the story. As the central program in the Athena Film Festival's Parity Pipeline program, The Athena List's goal is to raise the profile of the scripts and the writers within the industry with the purpose of getting these movies made and elevating their careers to the next level.

The Athena Film Festival at Barnard College in New York City, is a weekend of inspiring films that tell the extraordinary stories of fierce and fearless women leaders. Over the last ten years, the festival has welcomed more than 35,000 people from all over the world to 200+ screenings of narratives, documentaries, and shorts that feature diverse stories of ambition, courage, and resilience.

The festival is a project of the Athena Center for Leadership at Barnard College and Women and Hollywood, a leading voice for women in the entertainment industry. The Artemis Rising Foundation and its CEO Regina K. Scully is the festival's founding sponsor.

The 11th annual Athena Film Festival will be held Feb. 18- 21, 2021.

Athena List Successes

- Athena List finalist, *Little Pink House*, written and directed by Courtney Moorehead Balaker and starring Catherine Keener, opened the 2017 festival and was released in the spring of 2018.
- Athena List winner, *On the Basis of Sex*, based on the life of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, written by Daniel Stiepelman and directed by Mimi Leder and starring Felicity Jones as a young RBG, was released on December 25, 2018.
- Athena List winner *Clemency* written and directed by Chinonye Chukwu starring Alfre Woodard and Aldis Hodge won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and was released on December 27, 2019.
- Athena List winner *The Burning Season* written by Jenny Halper will begin shooting soon, Naomi Watts and Sophia Lillis will star, and Claire McCarthy is set to direct.
- Athena List finalist *The Artemis Protocol* by Shamim Sarif, which was turned into a novel, is now being adapted for Television by Village Roadshow Entertainment Group.

2020 Athena List Winners

Auto High by Nina Kentis

Needing money to attend her dream school, a high school girl with a knack for mechanics risks everything to enter the underworld of New York street racing.

Contact nina.kentsis@gmail.com

Mother-Daughter by Tricia Lee

A church-going, undocumented Asian woman who has a strained relationship with her daughter, forms an unlikely friendship with a transgender teenager who dials the wrong number.

Contact: tricialeedirector@gmail.com

Noor by Nijla Mumin

Caught in the throes of grief following her brother's unsolved murder outside of a Brooklyn bodega, a black woman develops an unexpected physical connection to the Arab man who works there. A surrender to lust and a search truth lead their worlds to collide, forcing a choice between passion and loyalty.

Contact: nijlal@gmail.com

Over it by Joy Goodwin

Sick of the superhero workplace bullshit, two female superheroes-- a working mom and her Millennial trainee-- go rogue to stop a villain, changing their squad forever.

Contact: joy@joygoodwin.com

What the Eyes Don't See by Cherien Dabis

The true story of Iraqi American pediatrician Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha who blew the whistle on local and state government officials for poisoning thousands of Flint, Michigan residents, especially children, by exposing them to disastrous levels of toxic lead in the water.

Contact: cheriendabis@mac.com

2020 Athena List Finalists

Bell by Dyana Winkler & Darcy Brislin

The untold story of famed inventor Alexander Graham Bell and his deaf wife Mabel, whose marriage changed history, for better and for much worse.

Contact: dyanawinkler@sweetninjafilms.com & darcybrislin@gmail.com

Redwood Summer by Rangeley Wallace

An environmental lawyer follows her husband to Alabama for his career, abandoning her successful work in Washington D.C. Once there, she takes on an environmental case that reunites her with a long lost love.

Contact: rangeleywallace@gmail.com

Stampede by Sontenish Myers

Set on a southern plantation in the 1800s, a young slave girl named Lena has telekinetic powers she cannot yet control. Circumstances escalate when she's separated from her mother to be a house girl, in close quarters with the mercurial Master's wife, Elizabeth.

Contact: sam1150@nyu.edu

Representation: Melisa Baloglu | Paradigm Agency |
mbaloglu@paradigmagency.com

Athena List Scripts Still Available

2019

Cleo by Marilyn Fu, myannfu@gmail.com
Collision of Duty by Jermaine Jones, jjjermaine1@aol.com
The Defining Moment by Margaret Nagle, madgegirl@me.com
The Fastest Girl in the World by Katherine Hayes, katherinehayes.khcreate@gmail.com
Hedy by Giovanni Porta, giovannim.porta@gmail.com
Moonlight on the Water by J.M.R. Serrato, julietm.serrato@gmail.com

2018

Saving Esperanza by Betty Sullivan, bettysulli@gmail.com
The Sound of Darkness by Melody Cooper, MMCooper123@gmail.com
Stick With It by Phillip Catherwood, philip.catherwood@outlook.com
Throw Like A Girl by Lori Bell Leahy, lori@strikeaccord.com
The Title by Sarah Callies, calliesar@yahoo.com
True North by Katherine Ruppe, katherine.ruppe@gmail.com
Wingman Lost by Mikayla Daniels, kapowchick@live.com

2017

Beyond the Painted Line by Theresa Tierney & Eileen Tierney, Tierneys3@outlook.com
Claude by Hannah Patterson, hannahpatterson@talk21.com
Magnus by Ayesha Nizhoni, a_livnizhoni888@yahoo.com
Mrs. Christie by Jamie Dawson, hawk_circle@yahoo.com
Scott by Anna Rose Moore, annarosemoore@gmail.com
The Third Rule by Sehaj Sethi, sehaj.sethi@gmail.com
Undercurrent by Dee Chilton, djchilton@googlemail.com

2016

A Noble Affair by Anil Baral & Kathryn Maughan, anil@fictitiousfeatures.com
In the Land of Fire and Ice by David MacGregor, dmacgregor77@gmail.com
Lonely Hunter by Sarah Schulman, SchulmanNY@aol.com
Lucky 13 by Denise Meyers, delicateflowerfilms@gmail.com
Muted by Brandi Ford, brandi@brandiford.com
Oil & Water by Alfred Thomas Catalfo & Morgan Webster Dudley, atcatalfo@gmail.com
Ride the Wind by Denise Meyers, delicateflowerfilms@gmail.com
Virginia by Bess Wohl, cbrody@caa.com

2015

A Beautiful Lie (formerly Highsmith) by Eliza Lee, elizaf.lee@gmail.com
Dickey Chapelle by Margaret Nagle, madgegirl@me.com
Revolution Now by Kate Danaher & Kathleen Davison, kate@katedanaher.com
The Vote (formerly Revolution) by Joanne Parrent, joanne@psinvestigates.com

2014

Audrey's Run by Emily Abt, emily@purelandpictures.com
The Sky's the Limit: The Story of the Mercury 13 by The Burton Sisters, ursula@fivesistersproductions.com

For more on these scripts visit <http://athenafilmfest.com/athenalist>



2020 Athena List Winners: Tricia Lee, Cherien Dabis, and Nina Kentsis

Thank you to our 2020 Athena List Judges

Anne Carey, Hazuki Aikawa, Janna Levin,
Jen Au, Mette Norkjaer, and Zelda Perkins

For more information on the Athena List contact
Melissa Silverstein at melissa@womenandhollywood.com.

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