

## Friday, March 17

6:00pm

*Where Is This Street? or with No Before or After* (João Pedro Rodrigues and João Rui Guerra da Mata, Portugal, France, 88')

8:00pm | Spotlight Selection

*Saturn Bowling* (Patricia Mazuy, France, Belgium, 114')

## Saturday, March 18

1:00pm

*Sister, What Grows Where Land Is Sick?* (Franciska Eliassen, Norway, 80')

4:00pm

*Matter Out of Place* (Nikolaus Geyrhalt, Austria, 110')

8:00pm | Centerpiece Selection

*Fairytale* (Alexander Sokurov, Belgium, Russia, 78')

## Sunday, March 19

11:00am

*Astrakan* (David Depesseville, France, 104')

2:00pm

*It Is Night In America* (Ana Vaz, Italy, France, Brazil, 66')

Preceded by: *Last Screening* (Darezhan Omirbaev, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, 30')

4:30pm

*Safe Place* (Juraj Lerotić, Croatia, 102')

8:00pm | Closing Night Selection

*Tales of the Purple House* (Abbas Fahdel, Lebanon, Iraq, France, 184')

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## Coming soon to Acropolis:

*Rewind & Play* (Dir. Alain Gomis)—April 6 at 2220 Arts + Archives

*Human Flowers of Flesh* (Dir. Helena Wittmann)—May 4 at 2220 Arts + Archives, w/ Helena Wittmann in person! Co-presented by Rotations

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March 16 - 19, 2023 | 2220 Arts + Archives

# ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

An unprecedented collaboration between Acropolis Cinema and the Locarno Film Festival, the sixth annual Locarno in Los Angeles returns in 2023 to its new home at the multidisciplinary arts venue 2220 Arts + Archives in MacArthur Park. Running from March 16-19, the sixth edition of Locarno in Los Angeles will feature eleven films from the most recent edition of Locarno, including a selection of many of the prize winners.

Curated by Acropolis founder Jordan Cronk and co-artistic director Robert Koehler—and with the generous support of MUBI and the Swiss Consulate General of San Francisco—the festival’s main program comprises a hand-selected group of feature- and medium-length films from the 75th Locarno Film Festival’s International Competition, Filmmakers of the Present, Out of Competition, and Pardi di domani programs.

## Locarno in Los Angeles 2023: A Creative Space

Welcome to the sixth edition of Locarno in Los Angeles. We’re pleased to present our program once again at our favorite creative space in Los Angeles, 2220 Arts + Archives. We believe that the beautiful spirit of 2220’s environs is an ideal home for our festival, since it mirrors the essential adventurousness of Locarno itself.

No other film festival in the U.S. provides audiences with a programmed curation of one of the world’s great festivals, and it’s our honor to once again collaborate with Locarno’s artistic director, Giona A. Nazzaro, whom we’re pleased to host as our guest this year. The selection reflects Locarno 2022’s wide-ranging, nearly indescribable program—films that always challenge and confound expectations, and often radically push cinema forward. LoLA’s opening night selection, Alessandro Comodin’s amusing take on small-town Italian life, *THE ADVENTURES OF GIGI THE LAW*, is the winner of the International Competition’s Special Jury Prize in the International Competition.

By contrast, our closing night selection is *TALES OF THE PURPLE HOUSE*, French-Iraqi filmmaker Abbas Fahdel’s epic yet personal view—alongside his Lebanese painter-wife, Nour Ballouk—of the current, precarious state of Lebanon. Our Centerpiece Selection is *FAIRYTALE*, the first film in seven years from Russian master Alexander Sokurov, which journeys amidst the still-resonant authoritarian ghosts of the 20th century. The Spotlight Selection, Patricia Mazuy’s acclaimed serial-killer thriller *SATURN BOWLING*, plunges the audience into the dangers of traditionally welcoming suburban spaces.

Two films in our program won Locarno’s new environmental-themed prizes, the Pardo Verde WWF: *MATTER OUT OF PLACE*, Austrian nonfiction master Nikolaus Geyrhalt’s equally astonishing and amusing, global observation of the crisis on what

we do with all of our trash and waste; while the inventive Brazilian filmmaker Ana Vaz constructs her eco-horror film, *IT IS NIGHT IN AMERICA* (which won the Pardo Verde WWF Special Mention award), with unexpected means. Vaz’s auspicious debut screens with Kazakh maestro Darezhan Omirbaev’s fine and observant take on art and life, *LAST SCREENING*.

With *WHERE IS THIS STREET? OR WITH NO BEFORE OR AFTER*, João Pedro Rodrigues and his filmmaking partner João Rui Guerra da Mata expand their brilliant and idiosyncratic film language with a tribute to Paolo Rocha’s groundbreaking 1963 classic, *THE GREEN YEARS*. Juraj Lerotić’s *SAFE PLACE* justly won a number of prizes in Locarno—including the Swatch First Feature Award, the Best Emerging Director Award, and the Filmmakers of the Present competition’s Best Actor Prize (to Goran Markovic)—for a gripping, intensely involving family drama that pushes the emotional limits. An almost perfect example of Locarno’s ability to showcase young, emerging filmmakers, David Depesseville’s *ASTRAKAN* is a brilliant, impressionistic chronicle of a 12-year-old orphan trying (or not) to integrate into a new family. And finally, a discovery in the Filmmakers of the Present competition (and winner of the section’s Special Mention Prize), Franciska Eliassen’s *SISTER, WHAT GROWS WHERE LAND IS SICK?* pulls the viewer inside a complicated, uncertain relationship between younger and older sisters in remote northern Norway.

We want to express our gratitude to our loyal sponsors and partners MUBI and the Swiss Consulate General of San Francisco, without whom this festival would not be possible and whose generous contributions have helped make this festival more than just a place to see movies, but one where audiences can share new adventures in cinema with filmmakers both young and old. Our thanks, above all, to our guests Giona A. Nazzaro and the team at the Locarno Film Festival for their ongoing support.

We invite you to enjoy this unique event in American film culture.

Have a wonderful festival!

**Jordan Cronk**  
**Robert Koehler**

*Artistic Directors, Locarno in Los Angeles/Acropolis Cinema*

## Schedule of Events:

### Thursday, March 16

8:00pm | Opening Night Selection

*The Adventures of Gigi the Law* (Alessandro Comodin, Italy, France, Belgium, 98')