

For this 8 week series, we're pleased to collaborate with SYRCL's Wild & Scenic Film Festival to bring you winners and highlights from this year's recent festival. There were so many good films that even the most avid filmgoers weren't able to see them all. With a feature and a short for each program, we hope you find some here that you missed or want to see again. Plus you'll be supporting SYRCL in its never-ending mission to protect and restore our precious Yuba River.

1. Sun Mar 26 – CAN YOU DIG THIS – 1 hr 25 min. Winner of the Spirit of Activism Award. The last thing that you would expect to find in South L.A. is a beautiful garden sprouting up through the concrete, coloring the urban landscape. As part of an urban gardening movement taking root in South LA, people are planting to transform their neighborhoods and are changing their own lives in the process. Calling for people to put down their guns and pick up their shovels, these "gangster gardeners" are creating an oasis in the middle of one of the most notoriously dangerous places in America. *Can You Dig This* follows the inspirational journeys of four unlikely gardeners, discovering what happens when they put their hands in the soil. This is a story of the human spirit, inspiring people everywhere to pick up their shovels and plant. Also showing: Douglas Tomkins: Wild Legacy (16) by James Q Martin and Chris Cresci. Winner Honorable Mention Award.

2. Sun Apr 2 – SEA GYPSIES: THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD – 1 hr 19 min –

Come along with this salty group of fearless sailors as they board a hand-built gypsy boat to sail from New Zealand to Patagonia with a stop over in Antarctica. Nico Edwards' first documentary follows the international nomadic crew as they dodge icebergs, battle hurricane force winds, tear every sail on the yacht, engage in a mission against illegal Japanese whalers with the radical environmental group the Sea Shepherd, suffer near catastrophic mechanical problems and unwittingly become the furthest south sailing yacht in the world for 2014. Also showing: The Accord (19 min) by RC Cone and Elli Thor Magnusson.

3. Sun Apr 9 – **ANOTHER WAY OF LIVING: THE STORY OF RESTON, VA** – 1 hr 9 min. Robert Simon, a visionary American city planner, believed that creating community was more important then building buildings. He envisioned 'another way of living' in the suburbs, combining the best of the city with the best of the country. In 1964, he developed the New Town of Reston, VA where he made his utopian vision a reality. Reston became an international sensation who inspired new trends in suburban development, mixing residential and commercial uses and creating civic open spaces to promote community. This well researched documentary by Rebekah Wingert-Jabi introduces you to a man who not only lived to be 101 but who also kept his imagination working to allow change to be a positive force in his ever evolving vision. Also showing: The Gnomist (20 min) by Sharon Liese. Winner Best Film as chosen by Kids Jury.

4. Sun Apr 16 – **IN PURSUIT OF SILENCE** – 1 hr 21 min. Winner Jury Award and People's Choice Award. In our race towards modernity, amidst all the technological innovation and the rapid growth of our cities, silence is now quickly passing into legend. Beginning with an ode to John Cage's seminal silent composition 4'33", the sights and sounds of this film delicately interweave with silence to create a contemplative and cinematic experience that works its way through frantic minds and into the quiet spaces of hearts. As much a work of devotion as it is a documentary, *In Pursuit of Silence* is a meditative exploration of our relationship with silence, sound, and the impact of noise on our lives. Also showing: Being Hear (10) by Palmer Morse and Matthew Mikkelsen.

5. Sun Apr 23 - **THE ISLANDS AND THE WHALES** - 1 hr 23 min. Winner Best of Festival Award. In their remote home in the North Atlantic, the Faroe Islanders have always eaten what nature could provide, proud to put local food on the table. Hunting whales and seabirds kept them alive for generations, and gave them the way of life they love; a life they would pass on to their children. But today they face a grave threat to this tradition. It is not the controversy surrounding whaling that threatens the Faroese way of life; the danger is coming from the whales themselves. One of the first to feel the effects of our ever more polluted oceans, they have discovered that their beloved whales are toxic, contaminated by the outside world. What once secured their survival now endangers their children and the Faroe Islanders must make a choice between health and tradition. Also showing: Pangolin (13) by Katie Schuler and Nick Rogacki. Winner Best Short Award.

6. Sun Apr 30 – **CHASING NIAGARA** – 1 hr 17 min. When pro kayaker Rafa Ortiz decides to follow his dream to paddle over Niagara Falls, he sets in motion an incredible series of events that eventually takes on a life of its own. To prepare for this mission, Rafa enlists the help of world-renowned paddler Rush Sturges and a tight team of their friends. Together they go on a remarkable three year journey from the rainforest rivers of Mexico to the towering waterfalls of the U.S. Northwest. Daredevil kayaking at its best!! Also showing: The Wild President (6 min) by Will Stauffer-Norris, Sinjin Eberle and Jacob Boling. And also showing: Dream Day (10) by Malcolm Sangster and Eric Crosland.

7. Sun May 7 – **AN ACQUIRED TASTE** – 1 hr 10 min. As the food movement grows across America, a young generation of mindful meat-eaters rejects factory farms and turn to hunting for the ultimate protein. Animal lovers, Nick, Alex and Ashlie leave behind their modern lives and embark on a journey that is foreign to their parents - partly to eat dinner, and partly to carve out their identities. Also showing: Pickle (15) by Amy Nicholson. Winner of Honorable Mention Award.

8. Sun May 14 – **FRACTURED LAND** – 1 hr 20 min. Winner Best in Theme Award. This is a coming of age story about a young First Nations lawyer, Caleb Behn, from northern Canada, epicenter of some of the world's largest fracking operations. Watch as Caleb tries to reconcile the fractures within himself, his community and the world around him - blending modern tools of the law with ancient wisdom. Also showing: The Refuge (16) by Alex Jablonski and Kahlil Hudson.