

# Mayhem Film Festival 2024: Short Film Showcase #1

Mayhem Film Festival is delighted to present the first of two Short Film Showcases for the 2024 edition of the festival.

Mayhem initially started as a single selection of shorts 20 years ago, and to mark the occasion, the festival this year features not one, but two Short Film Showcases. Our 20th edition's shorts line-up includes filmmakers making their first appearance at the festival, as well as long-time friends of Mayhem.

The films featuring in our Short Film Showcase #1 line-up are:

## We Joined A Cult

Dir. Chris McInroy, US, 4m10

The story of two friends who just wanted to play kickball.

#### She Talks in Her Sleep

Dir. Paul Taylor, UK, 8m44

Dan and Faye appear to be like any other couple, but when Faye starts sleep-talking, her eerie, unconscious messages lead Dan to believe that something sinister is coming for them...

#### Matta and Matto

Dirs. Bianca Caderas & Kerstin Zemp, Switzerland, 10m16

In a dystopian world where touch is forbidden, Matta and Matto offer refuge to the lonely at Hotel Vaip. In the deceptive labyrinth of mind-bending rooms at their transient hotel, deepest desires are fulfilled and surpassed, but this comes at a price.

## The Thaw [UK Premiere]

Dirs. Sean Temple & Sarah Wisner, US, 16m31

In 19th-century Vermont, a young woman's parents drink sleeping tea to survive the harsh winter, but an early thaw leads to horrifying results.

#### Transylvanie

Dir. Rodrigue Huart, France, 15m, with English subtitles

Ewa is a 10-year-old girl living in a high building in a quiet town. She's an odd, lonely child and for good reason: she's convinced of being a vampire.

## Make Me a Pizza

Dir. Talia Shea Levin, US, 12m25

BORED HOUSEWIFE seduces HOT PIZZA GUY for free pizza, but is desire worth \$29.99?

# Off Cuts

Dir. Ben Steiner, UK, 3m55

Returning home to his pregnant partner, a man brings an unwelcome presence with him.

## Shé (Snake)

Dir. Renee Zhan, US, 15m30, partly subtitled

When pressures mount on a tightly wound violinist in a London youth orchestra, her internal monsters take external form.

## **The Visitor** [UK Premiere]

Dir. Tony Morales, Spain, 10m, with English subtitles

Alone in her home overnight, a young influencer's solitude is interrupted by an unexpected visitor.

