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https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/sundance-2017-competition-documentary-lineup-revealed-1062648?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=THR%20Breaking%20News_now_2017-11-29%2013:01:15_HLewis&utm_term=hollywoodreporter_breakingnews

Sundance: Keira Knightley, Daisy Ridley and #MeToo Movement Films Make Lineup

Competition highlights include the post-apocalyptic drama 'I Think We're Alone Now' from 'Handmaid's Tale' director Reed Morano.

The #MeToo movement is hitting Sundance.

A Gloria Allred documentary titled *Seeing Allred* will make its world premiere at Sundance 2018, joining a lineup of films that also includes the Keira Knightley-starrer *Colette*, Gus Van Sant's *Don't Worry, He Won't Get Far on Foot* and the Daisy Ridley post-*Star Wars* vehicle *Ophelia*.

This year's incarnation of the annual indie festival is chock-full of ripped-from-the-headlines fare, including a Trump-Russian propaganda doc *Our New President*, a Koch brothers expose *Dark Money*, the Ku Klux Klan drama *Burden* (starring Garrett Hedlund and Forest Whitaker) and Desiree Akhavan's gay conversion dramedy *The Miseducation of Cameron Post*.

But perhaps nothing will hit the zeitgeist more squarely than *Seeing Allred*, which will be tweaked right up until the last minute to address the growing list of sexual harassment and assault claims that continue to rock Hollywood, the media and politics on a daily basis.

"The filmmakers did notify us that they were going to continue shooting to add to the documentary as all of the allegations were breaking," said Sundance director of programming Trevor Groth. "So, there is a real sort of timely quality to that film."

Directed by Sophie Sartain and Roberta Grossman, the film traces the life of the nation's most visible women's rights attorney, who has taken on President Trump, Bill Cosby and Harvey Weinstein and has become a force within the #MeToo movement of victims speaking out about being abused by powerful men. Marta Kauffman (*Friends*) is a producer.

The festival on Wednesday unveiled the 110 films from 29 countries that will screen as part of the U.S. Competition, World Competition and NEXT sections. Of the dramatic competition hopefuls, roughly one-third are directed by women. That's a positive sign for the indie film industry when compared to studio film world, where women continue to represent less than 10 percent of directors.

"I don't think you ever take a sigh of relief. It takes constant vigilance," said John Cooper, director of the Sundance Film Festival. "I think what's really changing for our audiences and for the filmmakers is just an

awareness of how important other voices are not just to change in the world but also just as far as the entertainment factor, for fresh stories, for stories that are not just dull and boring. I think that's what independent film has always done."

Among the competition highlights are Craig William Macneill's Lizzie Borden thriller *Lizzie*, with Chloe Sevigny and Kristen Stewart, and Reinaldo Marcus Green's take on a police killing of a black man titled *Monsters and Men*.

Another highly anticipated film is Reed Morano's post-apocalyptic drama *I Think We're Alone Now*, which stars Peter Dinklage and Elle Fanning.

"Like Morano's *The Handmaid's Tale*, it's creating tension out of quietness," added Cooper. "A lot of *The Handmaid's Tale*, which I loved, is a lot of quiet that was just eerie and unsettling."

The festival will kick off in and around Park City, Utah, on Jan. 18 and run through Jan. 28.

This year's batch of films were selected from 13,468 submissions including 3,901 feature-length films and 8,740 short films. Of the feature film submissions, 1,799 were from the U.S. and 2,102 were international. Last year, the festival drew 71,638 attendees.

A complete list of films screening in the U.S. Competition, World Competition and NEXT as well as Premieres, Midnight, Spotlight and Kids sections follows.

U.S. DRAMATIC COMPETITION

Presenting the world premieres of 16 narrative feature films, the Dramatic Competition offers Festivalgoers a first look at groundbreaking new voices in American independent film. Films that have premiered in this category in recent years include *Fruitvale Station*, *Patti Cake\$*, *Swiss Army Man* and *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*.

American Animals / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Bart Layton, Producers: Derrin Schlesinger, Katherine Butler, Dimitri Doganis, Mary Jane Skalski) — The unbelievable but mostly true story of four young men who mistake their lives for a movie and attempt one of the most audacious art heists in U.S. history. Cast: Evan Peters, Barry Keoghan, Blake Jenner, Jared Abrahamson, Ann Dowd, Udo Kier. World Premiere

BLAZE / U.S.A. (Director: Ethan Hawke, Screenwriters: Ethan Hawke, Sybil Rosen, Producers: Jake Seal, John Sloss, Ryan Hawke, Ethan Hawke) — A reimagining of the life and times of Blaze Foley, the unsung songwriting legend of the Texas Outlaw Music movement; he gave up paradise for the sake of a song. Cast: Benjamin Dickey, Alia Shawkat, Josh Hamilton, Charlie Sexton. World Premiere

Blindspotting / U.S.A. (Director: Carlos Lopez Estrada, Screenwriters: Rafael Casal, Daveed Diggs, Producers: Keith Calder, Jess Calder, Rafael Casal, Daveed Diggs) — A buddy comedy in a world that won't let it be one. Cast: Daveed Diggs, Rafael Casal, Janina Gavankar, Jasmine Cephas Jones. World Premiere. DAY ONE

Burden / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Andrew Heckler, Producers: Robbie Brenner, Jincheng, Bill Kenwright) — After opening a KKK shop, Klansman Michael Burden falls in love with a single mom who forces him to confront his senseless hatred. After leaving the Klan and with nowhere to turn, Burden is taken in by an African-American reverend, and learns tolerance through their combined love and faith.

Cast: Garrett Hedlund, Forest Whitaker, Andrea Riseborough, Tom Wilkinson, Usher Raymond. World Premiere

Eighth Grade / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Bo Burnham, Producers: Scott Rudin, Eli Bush, Christopher Storer, Lila Yacoub) — Thirteen-year-old Kayla endures the tidal wave of contemporary suburban adolescence as she makes her way through the last week of middle school — the end of her thus far disastrous eighth grade year — before she begins high school. Cast: Elsie Fisher, Josh Hamilton. World Premiere

I Think We're Alone Now / U.S.A. (Director: Reed Morano, Screenwriter: Mike Makowsky, Producers: Fred Berger, Brian Kavanaugh-Jones, Fernando Loureiro, Roberto Vasconcellos, Peter Dinklage, Mike Makowsky) — The apocalypse proves a blessing in disguise for one lucky recluse — until a second survivor arrives with the threat of companionship. Cast: Peter Dinklage, Elle Fanning. World Premiere

The Kindergarten Teacher / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Sara Colangelo, Producers: Celine Rattray, Trudie Styler, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Osnat Handelsman-Keren, Talia Kleinhendler) — Lisa Spinelli is a Staten Island teacher who is unusually devoted to her students. When she discovers one of her five-year-olds is a prodigy, she becomes fascinated with the boy, ultimately risking her family and freedom to nurture his talent. Based on the acclaimed Israeli film. Cast: Maggie Gyllenhaal, Parker Sevak, Rosa Salazar, Anna Barynshikov, Michael Chernus, Gael Garcia Bernal. World Premiere

Lizzie / U.S.A. (Director: Craig William Macneill, Screenwriter: Bryce Kass, Producers: Naomi Despres, Liz Destro) — Based on the 1892 murder of Lizzie Borden's family in Fall River, MA, this tense psychological thriller lays bare the legend of Lizzie Borden to reveal the much more complex, poignant and truly terrifying woman within — and her intimate bond with the family's young Irish housemaid, Bridget Sullivan. Cast: Chloë Sevigny, Kristen Stewart, Jamey Sheridan, Fiona Shaw, Kim Dickens, Denis O'Hare. World Premiere

The Miseducation of Cameron Post / U.S.A. (Director: Desiree Akhavan, Screenwriters: Desiree Akhavan, Cecilia Frugiuele, Producers: Cecilia Frugiuele, Jonathan Montepare, Michael B. Clark, Alex Turtletaub) — 1993: after being caught having sex with the prom queen, a girl is forced into a gay conversion therapy center. Based on Emily Danforth's acclaimed and controversial coming-of-age novel. Cast: Chloë Grace Moretz, Sasha Lane, Forrest Goodluck, John Gallagher Jr., Jennifer Ehle. World Premiere

Monster / U.S.A. (Director: Anthony Mandler, Screenwriters: Radha Blank, Cole Wiley, Janece Shaffer, Producers: Tonya Lewis Lee, Nikki Silver, Aaron L. Gilbert, Mike Jackson, Edward Tyler Nahem) — *Monster* is what the prosecutor calls 17 year old honors student and aspiring filmmaker Steve Harmon. Charged with felony murder for a crime he says he did not commit, the film follows his dramatic journey through a complex legal battle that could leave him spending the rest of his life in prison. Cast: Kelvin Harrison Jr., Jeffrey Wright, Jennifer Hudson, Rakim Mayers, Jennifer Ehle, Tim Blake Nelson. World Premiere

Monsters and Men / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Reinaldo Marcus Green, Producers: Elizabeth Lodge Stepp, Josh Penn, Eddie Vaisman, Julia Lebedev, Luca Borghese) — This interwoven narrative explores the aftermath of a police killing of a black man. The film is told through the eyes of the bystander who filmed the act, an African-American police officer and a high-school baseball phenom inspired to take a stand. Cast: John David Washington, Anthony Ramos, Kelvin Harrison Jr., Chanté Adams, Nicole Beharie, Rob Morgan. World Premiere

NANCY / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Christina Choe, Producers: Amy Lo, Michelle Cameron, Andrea Riseborough) — Blurring lines between fact and fiction, Nancy becomes increasingly convinced she was kidnapped as a child. When she meets a couple whose daughter went missing thirty years ago, reasonable doubts give way to willful belief – and the power of emotion threatens to overcome all rationality. Cast: Andrea Riseborough, J. Smith-Cameron, Steve Buscemi, Ann Dowd, John Leguizamo. World Premiere

Sorry to Bother You / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Boots Riley, Producers: Nina Yang Bongiovi, Forest Whitaker, Charles King, George Rush, Jonathan Duffy, Kelly Williams) — In a speculative and dystopian not-too- distant future, black telemarketer Cassius Green discovers a magical key to professional success – which propels him into a macabre universe. Cast: Lakeith Stanfield, Tessa Thompson, Steven Yeun, Jermaine Fowler, Armie Hammer, Omari Hardwicke. World Premiere

The Tale / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Jennifer Fox, Producers: Oren Moverman, Lawrence Inglee, Laura Rister, Mynette Louie, Sol Bondy, Simone Pero) — An investigation into one woman's memory as she's forced to re-examine her first sexual relationship and the stories we tell ourselves in order to survive; based on the filmmaker's own story. Cast: Laura Dern, Isabel Nelisse, Jason Ritter, Elizabeth Debicki, Ellen Burstyn, Common. World Premiere

TYREL / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Sebastian Silva, Producers: Jacob Wasserman, Max Born) — Tyler spirals out of control when he realizes he's the only black person attending a weekend birthday party in a secluded cabin. Cast: Jason Mitchell, Christopher Abbott, Michael Cera, Caleb Landry Jones, Ann Dowd. World Premiere

Wildlife / U.S.A. (Director: Paul Dano, Screenwriters: Paul Dano, Zoe Kazan, Producers: Andrew Duncan, Alex Saks, Oren Moverman, Ann Ruark, Jake Gyllenhaal, Riva Marker) — Montana, 1960: A portrait of a family in crisis. Based on the novel by Richard Ford. Cast: Carey Mulligan, Ed Oxenbould, Bill Camp, Jake Gyllenhaal. World Premiere