



NEWS RELEASE
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MovieMaker Magazine Names Cucalorus One of the Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World

Wilmington, N.C. – *MovieMaker Magazine* recently named [Cucalorus Film Festival](#) one of the [“Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World, 2015”](#). This is the third year in a row Cucalorus has received this distinction, just in time for the 21st annual Cucalorus Film Festival, which takes place November 11-15, 2015 in a walkable nine-block radius of downtown Wilmington, North Carolina.

Nine festival experts, including Cucalorus’ own Executive Director Dan Brawley, comprise the “2015 Panel of Cool” charged with nominating film festivals for *MovieMaker’s* Top 25 list. Published online on September 2 at www.moviemaker.com and available in print on September 22, the accompanying article notes that “every film festival offers up its own individual take on a ‘best possible experience’...even the wildest idiosyncrasies can feel like obvious choices”.

Panelists partially attribute Wilmington’s “quaint-meets wacky” personality “steeped in a *Blue Velvet* vibe” to their affinity for Cucalorus. The festival’s filmmaker-centric structure and “daring tastes” also captured their attention. One panelist adds, “All I can say is bonfires and karaoke – *legit* Southern hospitality.” Other Top 25 selections on the list include Sidewalk Film Festival in Birmingham, Alabama; South by Southwest in Austin, Texas; and the Edinburgh Film Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.

MovieMaker also chose Cucalorus as one of their “50 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee, 2015” earlier this year. Last year’s festival attracted 337 visiting artists and garnered an accumulated attendance of 15,743. During this summer’s call for entries, Cucalorus received over 1,700 film submissions from sixty-four countries. Early selections will be announced in the first half of September. The full festival lineup will be comprised of over 100 separate events, including film screenings, workshops, panels, and parties.

For more information about Cucalorus and to purchase passes for this year’s festival, visit www.cucalorus.org.

About Cucalorus:

Cucalorus was founded in 1994 by the underground filmmaking collective Twinkle Doon. Today, Cucalorus is a multi-disciplinary arts organization supporting emerging and innovative creative professionals through

an annual film festival, a residency program, a micro-cinema, a summer outdoor screening series, and an extensive community engagement program. The annual festival takes place every November, celebrating independent and international film for five days in historic downtown Wilmington, NC. MovieMaker Magazine recently recognized it as "One of the Coolest Film Festivals in the World, 2015." More than 200 films screen each year at venues all over downtown Wilmington, attracting a large number of participating artists (300+) and thousands of fans and industry professionals (accumulated attendance in 2014 was 15,743). Cucalorus is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that relies on funds from individuals, businesses, and grants to fund its annual celebration. For more information on the Cucalorus Film Festival visit www.cucalorus.org.

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