

Hello. This is Diane Urbani de la Paz with What's Out There, ways to connect with art and culture while staying close to home, for the weekend of August 28, 2020.

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The lineup for the Port Townsend Virtual Film Festival is up now. You can watch trailers and teasers for about 75 feature length and short films. And you can check out the events, which take you behind the scenes of the movies and into the directors' hearts. Yes, it's going to be weird watching all of this at home. We do, however, have more flexibility when it comes to when we watch our chosen films during the 10-day festival. The streaming starts on September 24 and runs through October 4.

One of the teasers I watched was for "Fandango at the Wall." It's about the annual Fandango Fronterizo Festival, which happens in San Diego, California and Tijuana, Mexico, on both sides of the border wall. The movie explores son jarocho music, a blend of Spanish and African sounds, and reveals a Mexico we don't ordinarily get to see. Then there's "Picture of His Life," a documentary about an underwater photographer pursuing his desire to swim with and film a polar bear in the wild ocean. I'll be exploring more of the Port Townsend Film Festival as it comes closer. Until then, we can explore the program at <http://ptfilmfest.com/>.

As ever, the festival is plotting collaborations with local restaurants for a dinner and a movie promotion. The organizers will be putting out a list of the ones offering special takeout suppers for PT Film Festival patrons. Speaking of local dining, I splurged this week on dinner from the Silverwater Cafe, the place between the Rose Theatre and the Starlight Room. After a long closure, it has reopened for lunch, dinner, and what they call backyard specials. I selected two small plates and one vegetarian burger for my two-person household, and oh, were we glad. The burger, with its sunflower seeds, brioche bun, delicately seasoned lentils and pickles was one of the best veggie patties I've had in my life. The lamb meatballs came with flavorful arugula. And the Torta Rustica – let's just take a moment to speak about it in detail. Basil pesto, roasted red peppers and potatoes, herbed cream cheese, artichoke paté and provolone are all part of this, in puff pastry. I was practically weeping with pleasure. There's plenty more of that on the Silverwater's menu, which also has these backyard party boxes, with special dinners, appetizers and desserts for pickup Friday and Saturday afternoons. <https://www.silverwatercafe.com/> is the portal.

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And this Saturday, August 29 is Independent Bookstore Day. The Writers Workshope and Imprint Books in downtown Port Townsend is doing some prize giveaways, and emphasizing that while the store is closed to browsing, owner Samantha Ladwig and crew take orders for any book in the universe, via email, phone and at the pickup window on Water Street. That's open from 11 till 5 weekdays and 11 until 4 for Indie Bookstore Day on Saturday. So when there's a book out there calling to you, know that you can support your local bookstore by ordering it directly from those folks. And if you crave a good author reading and talk, you might visit the website of Powell's City of Books in Portland. At <https://www.powells.com/>, the Events heading takes you to the list of forthcoming appearances by a whole range of novelists and historians who have books coming out now. You don't have to go to Portland; you can watch their events online after signing up on the Powell's website.

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And that is the whole story for this week's What's Out There. I'm Diane Urbani de la Paz. Thanks for listening to KPTZ.