OPENING NIGHT

Sponsored by:

SPOUT

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GATES OPEN @ 6:00 PM / FREE / DOWNTOWN SAUGATUCK COOK PARK

Beer Garden by Budweiser and Saugatuck Brewing Company featuring Waterfront's own Brew! Food by The Butler

*Waterfront location made possible by the Singapore Yacht Club



FEATURING CELEBRITY MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY:

THE DAMNWELLS - this popular up-and-coming band has opened for huge acts such as The Fray, The Dixie Chicks, Blue October, Augustana, Cary Brothers, Nada Surf and Cheap Trick. Their MySpace page continues to have musical downloads in the hundreds of thousands, with many celebrity fans and supporters. Having signed a major record deal with EPIC records, The Damnwells became the subject of the award-winning documentary *GOLDEN DAYS*. This Fall, five songs from The Damnwells will appear on the soundtrack for the upcoming Ryan Reynolds film, *CHAOS THEORY*, for Warner Bros. The Damnwells are currently on a nationwide tour.

MEET THE ARTIST



World-renowned artist RON ENGLISH specially created the humorous artwork incorporated into the cover design of the 2007 Waterfront Film Festival Official Catalogue and Poster. Mr. English's playful design was inspired by the Norman Rockwell small town feel of the village of Saugatuck.

RON ENGLISH

POPagandist, billboard bandit, post-pop pundit, post-punk prankster, counter-cultural cartoonist, subvertising executive, culture-jammer. "The artist with his finger on the pulse card of the nation." Ron English takes the icons of pop culture and puts a little "English" on them. A Robin Hood of Madison Avenue, Ron paints, perverts, infiltrates, reinvents and satirizes modern culture and its popular visual iconography on canvas, in song and directly on his hundreds of pirated billboards. Ron exists as a pop culture anomoly, somewhere between a cartoon Abbie Hoffman and a real-life, grown-up Bart Simpson, delivering a steady stream of customized imagery laden with strong, socio-political undertones, adolescent boy humor, subversive pop-culture savvy and Dali-meets-Disney technique. Dedicated to finding the sublime in the everyday and breaking the didactic approach to art and life, Ron has offered up an alternative universe where nothing is sacred, everything is subverted and there's always room for a little good-natured fun.

Ron English will be on hand Opening Night to sign posters.

OPENING NIGHT FILM UNDER THE STARS



Join us in celebrating the 30th anniversary of

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND

U.S.A., 1977, 135 mins, Color Rated PG

Director: Steven Speilberg

Producers: Julia Phillips, Michael Phillips Cinematographer: Vilmos Zsigmond

Editor: Michael Kahn

Original Music: John Williams

Cast: Richard Dreyfuss, François Truffaut, Teri Garr, Melinda Dillon

The Waterfront Film Festival is pleased to present a special 30th anniversary screening of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. Directed by Steven Speilberg, *Close Encounters* took home the Oscar for Best Cinematography and received 7 other nominations. It was also nominated for 4 Golden Globes and won a Grammy for Best Album of Original Score Written for a Motion Picture.







Steven Spielberg followed Jaws, his first major box-office success, with this epic science fiction adventure about a disparate group of people who attempt to contact alien intelligence. Roy Neary (Richard Dreyfuss) is an electrical lineman who, while sent out on emergency repairs, witnesses an unidentified flying object, and even has a "sunburn" from its bright lights to prove it. Neary's wife and children are at first skeptical, then concerned, and eventually fearful, as Roy refuses to accept a "logical" explanation for what he saw and is prepared to give up his job, his home, and his family to pursue the "truth" about UFOs. Neary's obsession eventually puts him in contact with others who've had close encounters with alien spacecraft, including Jillian (Melinda Dillon), a single mother whose son disappeared during her UFO experience, and Claude Lacombe (celebrated French filmmaker François Truffaut), a French researcher who believes that we can use a musical language to communicate with alien visitors. Lacombe's theory is put to the test when a band of government researchers and underground UFO enthusiasts (including Neary) join for an exchange with alien visitors near Devil's Tower, Wyoming. (excerpt courtesy of Allmovies.com)

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or visit our website at www.waterfrontfilm.org



GALA SCREENINGS



AMERICAN FORK

U.S.A., 94 Min., Color MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 7:00pm / Venue 1 Saturday, June 9 @ 4:30pm / Venue 1

Director: Chris Bowman Screenwriters: Hubbel Palmer

Producers: Derek Beumer, Maya Browne, Jeremy Coon, Shannon Gardner

Cinematographer: Doug Chamerlain

Editor: Cary Gries

Cast: Hubbel Palmer, William Baldwin, Kathleen Quinlan, Mary Lynn Rajskub,

Vincent Caso

Contact: www.americanforkmovie.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 SLAMDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Tracy Orbison (Hubbel Palmer) works a dead-end job as a grocery store clerk in a drab slice of strip-mall America but believes he's found a way out when the acting bug bites. He falls under the spell of Z-list actor Truman Hope (William Baldwin), only to become disillusioned after glimpsing Hope's true character. A friendship with bagboy Kendis Cooley (Vincent Caso) leads to Tracy's next project: reforming a gang of surly, teenaged deadbeats. But again, Tracy's efforts fall short of his fantasies. Tracy's home life offers little solace, with Agnes, his God-fearing, self-loathing mother (Academy Award nominee Kathleen Quinlan), ruling the roost and sister Peggy (Mary Lynn Rajskub) looking for someone to love. Through it all, Tracy struggles to pass his driver's license exam, lose "about ten pounds" and win fame beyond his working-class job.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Chris Bowman

Chris Bowman was born in Tucson, Arizona in 1976. He received a BA in film from Brigham Young University, where he wrote and directed the award-winning short *The Wrong Brother*. Chris has written extensively for animated television. He is currently developing *Loudermilk*, an original screenplay for Universal Pictures and Greasy Entertainment. *American Fork* is his feature debut.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



LITTLE BLUE: LIVE THE DREAM

Director: Bob Svihovec
Canada (8 min/Animated)
Contact: www.littleblue.us

FIRST PRIZE NOMINATION MONTREAL WORLD FILM FESTIVAL

A young penguin breaks away from tradition and pursues his dream.

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GALA SCREENINGS



I HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN YOU -THE LIFE & LEGACY OF SIMON WIESENTHAL

U.S.A., 105 Min., Color (AC) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 7:00pm / Venue 2 Sunday, June 10 @ 9:00am / Venue 2

Director: Richard Trank

Screenwriters/Producers: Marvin Hier, Richard Trank

Original Music: Lee Holdridge Cinematographer: Jeff Victor Editor: Inbal B. Lessner

Cast: Simon Wiesenthal, Nicole Kidman (narration)

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 BERLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Academy Award winning documentarian Richard Trank's new heart-rending film I Have Never Forgotten You - The Life and Legacy of Simon Wiesenthal concerns Wiesenthal, a concentration camp survivor released from the Mauthausen Concentration Camp in 1945 on the verge of death from starvation. During his imprisonment, Wiesenthal dreamed of one-day re-entering society and establishing himself as an architect, but the atrocities of the camp pointed Wiesenthal's life and career in a much different direction. When Wiesenthal returned to the outside world, with 89 of his family members exterminated by the Holocaust, he vowed to track down and bring to justice as many of the perpetrators of the Nazi atrocity as he could find and spent years at this task, via a running list of the camp torturers, that he had secretly kept as a detainee. In the early years, with much of the world still ignorant of the extent of the Holocaust, Wiesenthal was virtually a one-man operation, but in time, he joined forces with the American War Crimes Unit and U.S. Army War Crimes Committee to see the task through to fruition. All told, Wiesenthal helped incriminate an astonishing 1,100 individuals, including the leaders and his overarching goal, astonishingly, was not cold blooded revenge but a simple love of humanity - the need to free future generations from the dark shadow of the Nazi threat.

Richard Trank

Throughout the 1980's, Mr. Trank was an accomplished producer of radio news and public affairs programming, having written and produced more than 5,000 one minute radio features and more than 300 half-hour radio documentaries aired nationally by the Public Affairs Broadcast Group. He came to the Wiesenthal Center in 1981 to create and produce its weekly news radio magazine Page One. In 1990, he co-produced the documentary Echoes That Remain, about life in pre-WWII Eastern Europe, narrated by Martin Landau and Miriam Margolyes. The film won the 1992 Houston International Film Festival's Gold Jury Award. In 1994, he was the Executive Producer of Liberation, the inaugural production of Moriah Films. In 1997, he produced The Long Way Home. Narrated by Morgan Freeman, the film examines the period between 1945-48, when the survivors of the Holocaust rebuilt their lives and helped to create the state of Israel. The Long Way Home won the Oscar for Best Documentary in 1998.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



WHAT HITS THE MOON

Director: Lilli Carre U.S.A. (4 min/Color)

An animated telling of the cycles of life through a woman and the moon.

GALA SCREENINGS



MEMORIES OF TOMORROW

Japan, 2006, 122 Min., Color MIDWEST PREMIERE

Saturday, June 9 @ 4:30pm / Venue 2 Sunday, June 10 @ 11:30am / Venue 2

Director: Yukihiko Tsutsumi Novel: Hiroshi Ogiwara

Screenwriters: Hakaru Sunamoto, Uiko Miura

Producers: Tatsuo Kawamura, Sunao Sakagami, ROAR

Cinematographer: Satoru Karasawa

Editor: Noboyuki Ito

Cast: Ken Watanabe, Kanako Higuchi, Kenji Sakaguchi, Kazue Fukiishi

Contact: info@roar.la

2007 JAPANESE ACADEMY AWARD WINNER BEST ACTOR KEN WATANABE JAPANESE ACADEMY NOMINATION BEST ACTRESS, BEST FILM, BEST MUSIC SCORE, BEST SCREENPLAY

Saeki, a sales manager of an advertisement agency, turns 50 this year. His strong leadership abilities have brought love and respect from everyone he works with. Since his job is demanding, he has always relied on his good health, but lately, has become rather forgetful and blames it on his age. His only daughter's wedding is nearing, and shortly after he will become a grandfather. He is looking forward to enjoying his Golden years as this new chapter of his life begins...

One day, Saeki is struck with a sudden physical downturn that starts impeding his work. He goes in for a precautionary checkup where, to his dismay, the doctor diagnoses him with "Early Onset Alzheimer's disease." He and his wife, Emiko, are daunted with unspeakable fear and sorrow, as he will gradually but certainly lose his memory.

As they start their fight against the disease, the couple desperately hopes that Saeki "will be able to work until his daughter's wedding." Nonetheless, the disease mercilessly destroys his memory, little by

+ Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Yukihiko Tsutsumi

As a TV director, Tsutsumi shot offbeat dramas such as Keizoku, Ikebukuro West Gate Park and Trick with his unique sense of visual style. He also directed feature films 2LDK, the theatrical version of Trick, Ren-Ai Shashin(Love Collage) and the Play-Station based horror Siren. He is currently working on the action saga based on the novel by Baku Yumemakura, Sword of the Great Emperor.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



DELIVERY

Director: Till Nowak Germany (9 min/Animated) Contact: www.delivery.framebox.de

GRAND JURY PRIZE AND AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER AFI FEST

An old man lives a lonely life in the dark shadows of industrial smog until a package arrives that gives him the ability to change his environment.

GALASCREENINGS



CHAPTER 27

Canada, 84 Min., Color (V, AC, L) **MIDWEST PREMIERE**

Friday, June 8 @ 2:00pm / Venue 1 Saturday, June 9 @ 9:00pm / Venue 1

Director/Screenwriter: J.P. Schaefer

Producers: Naomi Despres, Alexandra Milchan, Robert Salerno

Cinematographer: Tom Richmond Editors: Andrew Hafitz, Jim Makiej

Cast: Jared Leto, Lindsay Lohan, Molly Griffith, Ursula Abbot, Judah Friedlander

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

It is a date with destiny that will forever be etched on the tragic history of music. On December 8, 1980, loner Mark Chapman shot John Lennon five times outside The Dakota, the New York apartment Lennon shared with wife Yoko Ono and son Sean.

What went on in the mind of the man who felt compelled to assassinate John Lennon? Chapter 27 deftly pilots us into the dark psyche of Mark David Chapman the weekend before the December 8, 1980, shooting. Inspired by Chapman's recollections, and propelled by a haunting, tour-de-force performance from Jared Leto, the film unravels the web of literary associations and cultural signs through which Chapman processes the world as he releases his grip on reality.

Fresh from Hawaii, Chapman spends the better part of three days posing as an autograph seeker at the Dakota, Lennon's abode. As he hovers in the wintry cold, striking up oddly charged conversations with a devoted fan, Chapman's narration reveals that he is self-consciously, almost spiritually, ingesting his prophetic holy book, The Catcher in the Rye. Whipping himself into a twisted incarnation of Holden Caulfield, he adopts Holden's speech patterns, hires a prostitute, and spots phonies everywhere. In his spiral into mental collapse, he even seems to be following in Holden's footsteps. At the height of his derangement, this merging becomes so complete that he yearns to disappear into J.D. Salinger's pages. In a brilliant mimetic move, the film also converges with the book, structuring itself as a first-person

stream of consciousness related from the future.

Neither celebrating nor sensationalizing, Chapter 27 explores a figure whose psychological mechanisms we can interpret but never fully penetrate, raising the question, can we ever really know another person's interior experience? - Caroline Libresco, Courtesy of the 2007 Sundance Film Festival

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

J.P. Schaefer

Jarrett Schaefer graduated Cum Laude from USC's prestigious Filmic Writing Program (past alumni include Bryan Singer, John Singleton, Robert Zemmicks and John Milius). Schaefer's thesis script from the program, *THE HIDDEN ALICE*, about Lewis Carroll's inspiration for the children's story *Alice in Wonderland*, will be directed by critically acclaimed filmmaker Bronwen Hughes.

Mr. Schaefer has been the Senior Editor of FADE IN Magazine, an influential Los Angeles-based film magazine which was named film magazine of the year in 2004 by both The Washington Post and The Los Angeles Times. His poems *The Shiftless Devotees* and *October* have both been published in the Library of Congress. He currently lives in New York City.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



THE ANGEL

Director: Paul Hough U.S.A. (7 min/Color/V)

Contact: www.myspace.com/theangelmovie

MIDWEST PREMIERE WINNER BEST SHORT FILM LONDON SCI-FI FILM FESTIVAL

An old woman lays dying in an eerie hospital holding onto her granddaughter's hand, believing her granddaughter is the one person who can keep her alive.

GALA SCREENINGS



EAGLE VS SHARK

New Zealand, 87 Min., Color (SC, V, AC, L)

Saturday, June 9 @ 2:00pm / Venue 1 Sunday, June 10 @ 7:00pm / Venue 1

Director/Screenwriter: Taika Waititi Producers: Cliff Curtis, Ainsley Gardiner Editor: Jonathan Woodford- Robinson

Cast: Jemaine Clement, Craig Hall, Loren Horsley, Rachel House, Brian Sergent

GRAND JURY PRIZE NOMINEE 2007 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Which is the more dangerous predator: an eagle or a shark? That's a trick question. Don't try to answer it. You'll have your own opinion by the end of Taika Waititi's deliciously tangy, deadpan feature debut about two colorful misfits thrown into each other's orbit.

Lily is one of those weird, sweet-natured girls with stringy hair who is quite lovely and charismatic under a surface of shy awkwardness. But most people don't have enough vision to notice, and the truth is that Lily isn't looking to change. She cashiers at a fast-food joint and pines for Jarrod, the self-aggrandizing, clueless geek from the computer store across the way. Fiercely optimistic, Lily crashes Jarrod's animal/videogame extravaganza, impressing him enough with her shark suit and gaming prowess to score a hookup with Eagle Lord (Jarrod) himself. Soon Lily and her brother are driving Jarrod back to his hometown to confront his childhood nemesis. But here Jarrod's self-absorption blossoms so mightily that it may drive even the most adoring of girlfriends away. As Jarrod prepares to exact his revenge on the past, Lily's quiet power gathers force as well. With so much subtlety and precision in Loren Horsley and Jemaine Clement's straight-faced, oddball performances, Lily and Jarrod's attempts to reach each other are hilarious and excruciatingly real. - excerpt by Caroline Libresco, Courtesy of the 2007 Sundance Film Festival

Taika Waititi

Taika Waititi is of Te-Whanau-a-Apanui descent and hails from the Raukokore region of the East Coast, New Zealand. He has been involved in the film industry for several years, initially as an actor, and now focusing on writing and directing. As a performer and comedian, Taika has been involved in some of the most innovative and successful productions seen in New Zealand. He regularly does standup gigs around the county and in 2004 launched his solo production, Taika's Incredible Show. He is the director of acclaimed short films Two Cars, One Night, which garnered and Academy Award nomination and Tama Tu. He currently has two feature films in development.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



DEATH TO THE TINMAN

Director: Ray Tintori
U.S.A. (12 min/B&W/V)
Contact: www.raytintori.com

AWARD WINNER 2007 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

A story of how the OZ Tinman lost his limbs, his lover, his heart and tried to get his life back.

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GALA SCREENINGS



ON BROADWAY

U.S.A., 2006, 98 Min., Color (L) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Saturday, June 9 @ 7:00pm / Venue 1 Sunday, June 10 @ 9:00am / Venue 1

Director/Screenwriter: Dave McLaughlin

Producers: Lance Greene, Mark Hankey, Charles Harrington, Kris Meyer

Co-Producers: Jill Risk, Rick Faigin Cinematographer: Terrence Hayes

Editor: Julie Garces

Cast: Joseph McIntyre, Eliza Dushku, Jill Flint, Lucas Caleb Rooney,

Mike O'Malley, Lance Greene, Peter Giles, Will Arnett

Contact: www.onbroadwaythemovie.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 BOSTON FILM FESTIVAL

Confronted by the sudden death of his beloved uncle, a Boston carpenter named Jack O'Toole dreams of producing a play about the man's wake, hoping it will help him reconcile with his own father. The only stage he can afford is in a humble Irish pub on a neighborhood street called Broadway. There, with a misfit group of would-be actors, Jack brings his vision to life, using this story of heart and humor to help his family and friends beyond their sense of loss.

A movie that gives you the feeling of being in your own home with your own family – and all the weight, warmth and wit that implies. On Broadway does just that, telling the story of a Boston everyman whose passion and sense of purpose inspire and unite his family and friends.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Dave McLaughlin

Dave McLaughlin co-wrote the movie Southie, which won the Jury Prize for Best American Independent Film at the 1998 Seattle Film Festival. His produced stage plays include God Willing and Back To Before, both of which he has directed. He created Plays Agus Pints, a series of staged readings of Irish-American playwrights. A graduate of Boston College (BA English), McLaughlin lives in Boston with his wife Beth and their son and a greyhound named Fenway.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



FOOL ME ONCE
Director: Paco Farias
U.S.A. (12 min/Color)

MIDWEST PREMIERE BEST ACTRESS 2007 METHOD FEST

A clever, coquettish housewife sees her husband off to work with an obligatory kiss and a steaming cup of coffee before her lover shows up with a beautiful diamond necklace.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

MAIN PROGRAM



BLUE STATE

U.S.A., 2007, 90 Min., Color (L) **MIDWEST PREMIERE**

Friday, June 8 @ 9:00pm / Venue 2 Saturday, June 9 @ 11:30am / Venue 2

Director/Screenwriter: Marshall Lewy Producers: Kyle Irving, Andrew Paquin Cinematographer: Phil Parmet

Editor: Adam B. Stein

Cast: Breckin Meyer, Anna Paquin Contact: www.bluestatemovie.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL

On the eve of the 2004 elections, Democratic political activist John Logue (Breckin Meyer) makes a drunken promise captured by a local news station in Ohio, where he's been campaigning for candidate John Kerry: he will move to Canada if George W. Bush gets re-elected. Once the results are in, a devastated Logue returns to San Francisco to find that his old life has slipped away and his friends are goading him to follow through on his pledge. When he gets a call from Marry-a-Canadian; an organization that is "rescuing" liberals from four more years of George W. Bush, he places an ad for a road trip partner and meets the mysterious Chloe (Anna Paquin). As they set off on the open highway, it soon becomes clear that Chloe is running from her own set of problems - ones that will challenge each of their political and moral ideals.

With thoughtful reflections on responsibility, living up to what you believe in, and the meaning of commitment, this youthful, smart film will resonate more deeply than a romantic comedy. Meyer and Paquin deliver fine, nuanced performances. - excerpt by Katharine P. Jose, Courtesy of 2007 Tribeca Film Festival

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Marshall Lewy

Marshall Lewy's first short film, Balkanization, about a war photographer returning home from the conflict in 1990's Yugoslavia, starred Mark Feuerstein (*In Her Shoes*). It appeared in a number of film festivals and has been distributed around the world by Shorts International. It was also chosen as one of the twenty-five quarterfinalist films to participate in the 2003 Chrysler Million Dollar Film Festival. *Blue State* is Lewy's first feature film. He is currently developing his second feature, *Exodus*, with RK Films. Lewy received his MFA at Columbia University. As an actor, Lewy appeared in the Independent Spirit Award-winning feature film, *Funny Ha Ha*.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



ROBOTS ARE BLUE

Director: Bill Sebastian U.S.A. (8 min/Color)

Contact: www.robotsareblue.com

MICHIGAN PREMIERE

In a future workplace infiltrated by robots, sometimes the line between human and machine becomes blurred.



CAN MR. SMITH GET TO WASHINGTON ANYMORE?

U.S.A., 2006, 82 Min., Color

Saturday, June 9 @ 7:00pm / Venue 3 Sunday, June 10 @ 9:00am / Venue 3

AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER SILVERDOCS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

Director/Cinematographer/Editor: Frank Popper

Screenwriters/Producers: Matt Coen, Mike Kime, Frank Popper

Editors: Jarred Cole, Allison Firor, Logan Smalley

Frank Popper

Composer: David Krull

Cast: Jeff Smith, Nick Adams, Artie Harris, Clay Haynes, Matt Henley, Sam Simon

Frank Popper wandered into a photo lab while teaching high school

English in St. Louis. Seeing the magic of his friend's print come to life

took his professional life in a new direction-from photography to

award-winning multi-image productions to film. Popper produced The

Lounge People, a feature starring Buck Henry and Christine Ebersole,

which aired on Starz. He was principal videographer of Eroica!, a

documentary that aired on PBS about The Eroica Trio's collaboration

with a classical music composer. Can Mr. Smith Get to Washington

Anymore? is his first feature length documentary.

Contact: www.mrsmithmovie.com

This documentary follows the 2004 Missouri Democratic primary to replace retiring 28-year veteran and former House Majority Leader Dick Gephardt. It is told from inside the campaign of Jeff Smith, a 29-year old part-time political science instructor at Washington University.

The leading candidate is State Representative Russ Carnahan, scion of Missouri's most powerful political dynasty. Carnahan's record is thin, his public performances are weak and his campaign is uninspired. But his family's strong establishment ties provide him fundraising connections and near universal name recognition. As the early frontrunner Carnahan holds a 40-point lead over Jeff who has zero name recognition. The odds against Jeff are overwhelming. He starts with no money, no political base and no name recognition. His staff is a hodge-podge of political nobodies, mostly former students.

The film offers an unvarnished look at the inside of what national pundits called one of 2004's surprising campaigns. And the film asks if it is still possible in America for voters excited by a person's ideas and ability to get involved in the political process and elect a candidate who has not sold out, or bought into the existing political establishment.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



WHY NOT...

Director: Mark Kassen U.S.A. (5 min/Color)

WORLD PREMIERE

A dreamer & a pessimist argue over the validity of hope...

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

MAIN PROGRAM



DARIUS GOES WEST: THE ROLL OF HIS LIFE

U.S.A., 2006, 94 Min., Color

MICHIGAN PREMIERE

Saturday, June 9 @ 2:00pm / Venue 3 Sunday, June 10 @ 11:30am / Venue 3

Director: Logan Smalley

Cinematographers: John Hadden, Dylan Wilson Editors: Jarred Cole, Allison Firor, Logan Smalley

Cast: Darius Weems, Andrew Carson, Daniel Epting, John Hadden,

John Harmon, Jason Hees, Kevin Wier Contact: www.dariusgoeswest.com

AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER 2007 PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Where would you go if you'd never been away from home? What would you do if you didn't have much time left? DARIUS WENT WEST! Meet 15-year-old Darius Weems from Athens, Georgia, who was born with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), the most common fatal genetic disorder to affect children worldwide. In 1999, he watched his beloved older brother Mario pass away from the same disease at age 19. Soon after, Darius lost use of the muscles in his leas and had to use a wheelchair to get around. A group of Darius's college-age friends decided there was no need for his quality of life to disintegrate along with his muscles. In the summer of 2005, they rented a wheelchair-accessible RV and took Darius, who had never seen mountains, the ocean, or even crossed a state line, on the adventure of a lifetime. The ultimate goal of their 7,000-mile crosscountry journey was to reach Los Angeles and convince MTV's hit show Pimp My Ride to customize Darius's wheelchair. Along the way, they evaluated wheelchair accessibility in America, celebrated the 15th anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), and raised awareness of DMD, particularly among a generation not familiar with Jerry Lewis. They also found joy, brotherhood, and the knowledge that life, even when imperfect, is always worth the ride.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Logan Smalley

Logan Smalley, 24, grew up in Athens, Georgia. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Georgia in 2006 with a degree in Special Education. Darius Goes West: The Roll of His Life is his first feature film. At 13, Logan was volunteering at Project REACH, a summer camp for children with special needs, when he first met Darius. At the time, Darius was still fully mobile "shooting baskets with a pretty good lay-up for a five-year-old." Since then, the two kept in close touch, going to movies, playing video games, and watching TV together. In fact, it was while watching the MTV's automotive makeover show, Pimp My Ride, that Logan came up with an idea: If they could spruce up old vans and beat-up cars, why not Darius's wheelchair? During Logan's 8-year affiliation with Project REACH and while serving as a long-term substitute teacher at Clarke Central High School, he created and directed several video vignettes involving children with special needs. In 2004, Logan completed a 12-week study abroad program through the University of Georgia at the Cannes Film Festival. Logan plays piano, harmonica and the musical saw. He composed the music for Darius Goes West: The Roll of His

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DIVERGENCE

U.S.A., 2007, 114 Min., Color (AC)

MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 11:30am / Venue 3 Saturday, June 9 @ 9:00pm / Venue 3

Director/Screenwriter: Patrick J. Donnelly

Producers: Meg Sudlik, Christopher Zimmer, Michael Garza

Cinematographer: Patrick Donnelly

Editor: Bob Mead

Cast: Traci Ann Wolfe, Jakob Hawkins, Marci Adilman, Ben Hindell,

Jeannine Kaspar

Contact: www.divergencethefilm.com

BEST ACTOR/BEST ACTRESS NOMINEE 2007 METHOD FEST FILM FESTIVAL

Divergence is a story of how America has struggled since 9/11 and with the war in Iraq. It's the tale of two wounded people coming together and grappling with the ramifications of war and loss. The film takes place in a seaside town on the Jersey shore in the midst of a cold and bitter winter. Tim Lawson is a wounded and disillusioned soldier returning from Iraq to his hometown. We find Clare O'Neil, whose life has been turned upside down by a fatal accident, hiding away in a secluded beach house on the road to self-destruction. A fateful event brings Tim and Clare together, offering each other a chance at re-charting their lives. Drawn to each other in a common bond of pain and loss, they must make decisions that will have profound effects on the rest of their lives

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance

Patrick Donnelly

Patrick Donnelly entered the film business after graduating from San Francisco State University in 1988 with a B.A. in Cinema Studies. Starting his career in New York he worked his way up through commercials and music videos as a Gaffer. He moved into Cinematography for feature films doing 2nd Unit on the Sundance Best Picture award winning film Girlfriend. Patrick then went on to produce and shoot the feature film A Million Miles, which won best screenplay and runner-up best film at the Dances with Films festival in Los Angeles. In 2004 he shot the short film A-alike for director Randal Dottin, which won the Academy Award for best student short, as well as winning the National Board of Review award. Patrick has recently shot the short film Pitch, which was shown in Cannes in May 2006. Divergence is Patrick's first feature film as a director.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



TRANSGRESSIONS

Director: Valerie Weiss U.S.A. (14 min/Color/AC) Contact: www.phdproductions.com

MIDWEST PREMIERE

Set in the future where even the slightest mistake sends one to a public death at the hands of celebrity assassins called Agents.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

MAIN PROGRAM



THE GARAGE

U.S.A., 2006, 94 Min., Color (AC, L) **MIDWEST PREMIERE**

Friday, June 8 @ 4:30pm / Venue 1 Saturday, June 9 @ 9:00am / Venue 1

Director/Screenwriter/Producer: Carl Thibault Cinematographer: Jas Shelton

Editor: Benjamin Pollack, Helen Yum Original Music: William Goodrum

Cast: Martin Donovan, Xander Berkeley, Tania Raymonde, Bill McKinney, Robert Knott, Marilyn Dodds Frank, Travis Howard, James Intveld, Gabriel

Marantz, Corby Griesenbeck, Rusty Kelley, Devin Brochu

Contact: www.thegaragemovie.com

SILVER MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE 2007 PARK CITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

A mechanic at his father's garage during the late seventies, Matt dreams about leaving his small town existence and pursuing grander ambitions. But strong feelings for a new girlfriend and deep family bond's may prevent Matt's ultimate escape, despite pressure from best friend Schultz to take off immediately. The Garage offers much more than the average coming-of-age story, adding a poignant sense of reality to life in a small town and the bonds that form there.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

CARL THIBAULT

Carl Thibault makes his writing and directing debut with The Garage. He began his film career as an actor, first appearing as the Woldman in the Shane Black scripted cult hit The Monster Squad. He went on to act in such features as Woman Undone (with Mary McDonnell and Benjamin Bratt), A Breed Apart and the action thriller One Foot in the Grave. Thibault is currently working on his next screenplay, a comingof-age drama set in New England in the early 1970s.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



LOOM

Director: Scott Kravitz U.S.A. (5 min/Animated)

MIDWEST PREMIERE

A street musician risks his life to save a child and meets his death at the hands of an old woman who is much more than she appears.



THE GO-GETTER

U.S.A., 2006, 93 Min., Color (AC, L) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 11:30am / Venue 1 Sunday, June 10 @ 4:30pm / Venue 1

Director/Screenwriter: Martin Hynes

Producers: Lucy Barzun Donnelly, Lori Christopher, Larry Furlong

Co-Producer: Raul Celaya, Miri Yoon Cinematographer: Byron Shah

Editor: David Birdsell

Cast: Lou Taylor Pucci, Zooey Deschanel, Jena Malone

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Left with an aching instinctual itch to explore America after a traumatic loss, a curious teenager named Mercer suddenly steals a car in Oregon and develops a life-altering telephonic connection with the forgiving and mysterious girl he took it from. As he sets out with her phone calls as guidance, Mercer's motives find focus as he travels across the postmodern highways of the former Wild West to seek self-knowledge and a sense of belonging.

Played with truth and nuance by Lou Taylor Pucci, young Mercer follows the clues and confronts struggles, both good and bad, on his spiritual journey toward manhood and an end to his grief. Supporting him in a range of unlikely relationships and chance encounters is an eloquent set of performances that include Zooey Deschanel as the car's owner, Jena Malone as a precocious distraction in Reno, and Maura Tierney as his brother's old flame.

Byron Shah's dreamlike cinematography and M. Ward's original soundtrack add to this "mix tape" of emotional discoveries. Perhaps

most impressive is the way writer/director Martin Hynes vividly and creatively steers the viewer on this cinematic ride, where there are some roads still worth driving down. - Joseph Beyer, Courtesy of the 2007 Sundance Film Festival

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Martin Hynes

Martin Hynes grew up in Eugene, Oregon and graduated from Columbia University with a history degree. During and after college, he worked in New York theater and sketch comedy. Hynes then attended the graduate film school at USC where he received the Paramount Pictures Fellowship. His student film Al as in Al premiered at HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts Festival and was one of the films chosen by USC to celebrate the best student work in the school's 75-year history.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



JPOD

Director: BookShorts U.S.A. (4 min/Color)

MIDWEST PREMIERE

In the crazy cubicles of video game programmers the story centers on a young man and his stunted but sincere efforts to win the affections of the "New Girl."

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

MAIN PROGRAM



GOLDEN DAYS

U.S.A., 2007, 95 Min., Color (AC, L) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 4:30pm / Venue 2 Saturday, June 9 @ 9:00pm / Venue 2

Director: Chris Suchorsky

Producer: Alex Dezen, Wes Kidd, Chris Suchorsky

Cinematographers: Rod Blackhurst, Alex Dezen, Jennifer Grimm,

Chris Suchorsky Editor: Chris Suchorsky

Cast: Jay Barclay, Cary Brothers, David Chernis, Matt Del Vecchio, Alex Dezen,

Dave Frey, Angela Gollan

Contact: www.goldendaysmovie.com

WINNER BEST DOCUMENTARY 2007 PHOENIX FILM FESTIVAL

In 2001, a photo assistant named Alex Dezen, asked a couple friends to record a few songs with him. Shortly thereafter they would form the Brooklyn based rock band The Damnwells. Two years later they had toured the country with bands such as The Dixie Chicks and The Fray and had a song featured in a major motion picture. By 2004, they had signed a major record deal with EPIC Records (Sony/BMG).

In March of 2005, The Damnwells went into the studio to record their first professional album. For six months, The Damnwells immersed themselves in preproduction, recording, and mixing. But as months passed, their release date was moved further and further away. In January of 2006, lead singer Alex Dezen received a call they never expected. The band was being released from their contract and the fate of the album was unknown. For the moment, it would sit on a shelf at EPIC Records and collect dust.

The Damnwells, who had previously recorded their albums in a storage space and their apartments, were not used to waiting. They

had been in complete control of their music and their lives before they signed on the dotted line. Now, a year of their lives was sitting on a shelf waiting to be heard. Will the band break up, will they go their separate ways, or will they take back their future?

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Chris Suchorsky

Last Weekend Productions was founded by Chris Suchorsky in the summer of 2000. That summer, he began to film his script Executing Love. That film subsequently fell apart and would later become the documentary Failure, which won the Best Documentary Award in 2003 at the Back East Picture Show in Hoboken, New Jersey, and was given a four star rating by Film Threat magazine. After Failure, Chris worked on multiple projects including his short film The Park, the History Channel's series Deep Sea Detectives and working on the music video Kiss Catastrophe for Epic Recording artist's The Damnwell's, who would become the subject for his first feature length award winning documentary, Golden Days.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



A FAIRY TALE

Director: Robert Warzecha U.S.A. (10 min/Color/FF)

MICHIGAN PREMIERE

A toothless fairy must overcome many obstacles to capture his first tooth.



GOOD TIME MAX

U.S.A., 2007, 85 Min., Color (AC, VC, SC, L) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 9:00pm / Venue 1 Saturday, June 9 @ 11:30am / Venue 1

Director: James Franco

Screenwriters: Merriwether Williams & James Franco

Producer: Vince Jolivette Original Music: Jon Sadoff Cinematographer: David Klein Editors: Sven Pape, Dave Rock

Cast: James Franco, Vince Jolivette, Richard Portnow, Jared Bunch

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL

Why is the world so good at destroying genius and so bad at honoring it? Actor lames Franco co-writes, directs and stars in this stunning drama about two brothers destined for success. Adam, the "A" student, follows a predictable path to become a doctor, while Max, the "A+" student, never quite finds his niche. As they grow up, they fall easily into their respective roles: Adam the responsible one. Max the immature screw-up. But when Max is forced to flee New York City to escape the drug dealers he's double-crossed, Adam goes with him and the two end up driving cross-country. Landing in California, Adam effortlessly resumes his medical career. Max's blustery ego nets him a position with a computer company, but he quickly grows bored and relieves the tedium by becoming the office bad boy - soon, he has his co-workers spending half their time snorting crystal meth in the bathroom. Drug use finally costs Max his job, and his plaintive cry to his boss - "I'm a genius, man! Aren't there special rules?" - sums up not only his inability to understand how the world works, but how the world routinely fails people like him. Meanwhile, as Max fails to find his place in the world, Adam fails to hang onto his own place. Shocked by his inability to meet this challenge, he too descends into drug use, as the fates of these two very different brothers remain inextricably tied. - excerpt by Dennis McCarthy, Courtesy of the Tribeca Film Festival

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

James Franco

James Franco's metamorphosis into the title role of the TNT biopic James Dean earned him career-making reviews, as well as a Golden Globe for Best Actor in a Motion Picture made for Television. He also received nominations for an Emmy and Screen Actors Guild Award for this memorable performance.

Having starred as Harry Osbourne in Sam Raimi's blockbuster Spider-Man and its sequel Spider-Man 2, Franco will next be seen in the third installment of the Spider-Man franchise, along with Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst. He also stars opposite Sienna Miller in Camille, which will be released this year, and appears in An American Crime, starring Catherine Keener. He most recently starred in the World War I drama Flyboys, the classic romance Tristan and Isolde, as well as the naval academy drama Annapolis.

Franco's credits include John Dahl's The Great Raid, Robert Altman's The Company, Nicolas Cage's directorial debut Sonny, as well as City By The Sea opposite Robert DeNiro and the Martin Scorsese produced Deuces Wild. On television, he starred in NBC's critically acclaimed Freaks and Geeks.

He has written, directed and starred in several short plays. He adapted two of them, Fool's Gold and The Ape, into feature length films in which he produced, directed and starred in. He also wrote and directed Good Time Max, which is currently in post production.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



HOLLOW

Director: Paul Bickel U.S.A. (9 min/Color)

Contact: www.hollowshortfilm.com

MICHIGAN PREMIERE

JURY AWARD BEST NARRATIVE 2007 BEVERLY HILLS SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL

What initially seems to be a portrait of suburban domestic life quickly turns into a disturbing journey through a young boy's troubled pathology.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

MAIN PROGRAM



HELLFIGHTERS

U.S.A., 87 Min., Color MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 7:00pm / Venue 3 Sunday, June 10 @ 1:30pm / Venue 3

Director: Jon Frankel

Screenwriters: Siobhan Dunne, Jon Frankel Original Music: Phil Hernandez, Chris Maxwell

Cinematographer: Jon Frankel Editor: Siobhan Dunne

Cast: Coach Duke Fergerson, Rodmann Tahriek Crenshaw,

Christopher Ruffin, David Bliss, Jorge Laboy Contact: www.hellfightersmovie.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL

Jon Frankel

Filmmaker Jon Frankel, age 43, was raised in New York City. He graduated from Horace Mann high school before heading off to Syracuse University and the Newhouse School of communications. He began his career as a radio producer for Bob Costas and then spent a season as a producer for NFL films. Jon then jumped in front of a camera and his career as a local sportscaster took him from West Palm Beach, FL. to Miami and back to WNBC in New York. Before long, Jon moved to the networks and spent ten years as a general assignment correspondent for NBC, ABC, and CBS news. He is presently a correspondent for Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel on HBO and CNBC's On the Money.

Of the 305 public high schools in New York City, only 43 have football teams and none of them are in Harlem. That is until Doug Ferguson, a former wide receiver for the Dallas Cowboys, organized the Harlem Hellfighters in 2003. But basketball is king in Harlem, and the Hellfighters are a long way from Friday Night Lights. Filmmaker Jon Frankel follows the team through their third season as they look for park space to practice, forfeit games due to inadequate paperwork, and cope as players with poor academic records are cut. Audited by the Public School Athletic League, hounded by the Board of Education, and in danger of losing their NFL funding, the Harlem Hellfighters are under stress and Coach Ferguson under scrutiny. "They want you to quit," the hardheaded and enigmatic coach tells his team. Still, playing with the Hellfighters is the opportunity of a lifetime for Tahriek Crenshaw, a quarterback who knows that football is the only way he can pay for college; David Bliss, a defensive back with grades so good he is being courted by Harvard; and Christopher Ruffin, a phenom whose mother taught him the game and has already been noticed by Division 1 schools in his junior year. The bleachers may be empty, and there may be no cheerleaders or marching band, but for many of these players, the Harlem Hellfighters is the start of achieving their dreams, one touchdown at a time. - Ann Lewinson, Courtesy of the 2007 Tribeca Film Festival

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



GUYS GUIDE TO ZOMBIES

Director: Daniel Austin UK (4 min/Color/FF)

The definitive A-Z guide to living with the undead!



IT'S HAPPINESS - A POLKA DOCUMENTARY

U.S.A., 2006, 80 Min., Color MICHIGAN PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 9:00am / Venue 1 Sunday, June 10 @ 2:00pm / Venue 1

Director: Craig DiBiase

Producers: Craig DiBiase, Timmothy Gable

Cinematographer: Ross Riege Editors: Brian Goetz, Michael Slavens

Sound: Sean Clauson

Cast: Art Altenburg, Vi Bergum, Jerry Carey, Greg Drust, Karl Hartwich, LynnMarie, Willie Nelson, John Pinter, Mike Schneider, Jimmy Sturr

Contact: www.polkamovie.com

WINNER BEST DOCUMENTARY - 2007 OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL WINNER BEST DOCUMENTARY - BLUEGRASS INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

While many "elders" resort to a quieter life in their later years "polka people" refuse to surrender to the inevitable constraints of aging. In this documentary, each colorful character plays a different role in the polka scene, whether as a dancer, bandleader, promoter, collector, or teacher, striving to stay young through that role. As their stories unwind, we see how they use this music to live rather than just be alive. While polka crowds are eager to show their enjoyment and dedication of their dance, one question remains: In 20 years, who will run the dance halls, perform in the bands, and pounce the floors? They clutch to a hope in the underground, younger generation, some of whom are standing ready to bear the stereotypes and ridicule they face when, instead of going to the local mall on Saturday night, they proceed to the nearest polka hall. A universal theme of passing one's heritage to the next generation is evident.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Craig DiBiase

Stun Productions founder Craig DiBiase has developed a diverse background of production talents by working in such varied environments as VH1 On-Air-Promotion, The Late Show with David Letterman and Project Rebirth, a documentary about September 11th. Living in New York City has provided Craig with the opportunity to utilize his talents with top commercial production companies such as Hungryman (with clients such Cingular Wireless, XM Radio) and Artists Company (Wendy's, Verizon). Craig has also worked on independent feature films such as Winter Passing (Ed Harris, Will Ferrell) and Slingshot (David Arquette, Julianna Marguiles). Craig is a graduate of Miami University of Ohio with a major in Marketing and Årts Management.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



ROVER'S RETURN

Director: Mark Hammett UK (12 min/Color)

MIDWEST PREMIERE

Seeking the money they need to clear a debt, two lads come up with a plan that affects the relationship between a man and his dog.

MAIN PROGRAM



JOHAN

Netherlands, 2005, 97 Min., Color (AC) **MIDWEST PREMIERE**

Friday, June 8 @ 9:00am / Venue 3 Saturday, June 9 @ 11:30am / Venue 3

Director: Nicole van Kilsdonk

Writer: Mieke de Jong

Producer: Hans De Weers, Hans de Wolf

Original Music: Fons Merkies

Cinematographer: Guido van Gennep Editor: Michiel Reichwein

Cast: Michiel Muisman, Caro Lenssen, Johnny de Mol, Hubb Stapel

Contact: www.panoramaentertainment.com

WINNER BEST DIRECTOR - 2007 PALM BEACH FILM FESTIVAL

Like Bend It Like Beckham, this film explores the tension between parental vicarious living and the offspring's own dream. Suppose you are born as one of the eleven sons of a father, Rienus Dros, whose ambition in life is to have his very own soccer team... Johan, played by 24-year-old Dutch heartthrob Michiel Huisman, must tell his family that his ambitions and dreams lead him in a different direction. Though the boys make up a complete team, Johan defies them all by wanting to be a singer. This is a delightful comedy (with music) about romance, a budding musician, his family of soccer players and falling in love.

+ Distributor is scheduled to be in attendance.

Nicole van Kilsdonk

After finishing School for Journalism, Nicole van Kilsdonk went to the Dutch Film Academy in Amsterdam in 1991. After making a few documentaries, she specialized in writing and directing fiction films. She made several TV-series (The Labyrint), short films (SALE!, Zoe), 4 single plays for TV (50 minutes), and 5 Tele-movies. Her film Dawnswimmers was an award winning film musical, and Deining was awarded with the Golden Kalf (main Dutch movie prize). Johan was her first bia feature film, awarded with Grand Prize at Worldfest in Houston. At this time, she's writing a new feature called Going West and waiting for financing for a children's feature How to Survive Oneself, scripted by Tamara Bos.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



PALWEISER LABEL

Director: J. Brad Wilke U.S.A. (10 min/Color)

MIDWEST PREMIERE

After losing his big break into commercial work, a young Chinese American unleashes his own unique vision.



MIDLOTHIA

U.S.A., 2007, 89 Min., Color (V, AC, L)

Friday, June 8 @ 9:00am / Venue 2 Saturday, June 9 @ 2:00pm / Venue 2

Director/Screenwriter: Bill Sebastian

Producer: Randal Scott

Cinematographer: Cliff Richhart Original Music: Ricardo Veiga

Editor: Bill Sebastian

Cast: James Thomas Gilbert, Jessica McClendon, Eric Reeves, Bill Sebastian,

Randal Scott, Bill Flynn, Tex Marshall

Contact: www.midlothia.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 AFI DALLAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

After a long night of wandering, Fred wakes up in the middle of nowhere, baked by the Texas sun. Stumbling home, he finds his friends Bill and Duck are none too happy that he missed his own going away party. But something mysterious happened the night before. Fred is ready to tackle his demons and stay in town-to face the mistakes of his life and make them right. Little does he know that his announced departure has created a maelstrom of unrest amongst his friends-a breeding ground for truth. Walking into a hornet's nest of revelations, the friends he thought he knew turn Fred's world upside down. In the wake of this extraordinary day, four life-long friends say the words they've never had the courage to say, and learn truths about themselves and each other that will change the nature of their relationships forever. "It's kind of like therapy, only with guns and booze."

A genuine story about finding truth and self-worth by any means necessary, *Midlothia* was adapted from the play *Pluck the Day* by Steven Walters. In this original interpretation of an unusual love rectangle,

Midlothia takes viewers into the depths of a small town in Texas, where on the surface values appear simple. The paths of four friends overlook different, but intersecting horizons. Eyes are opened and one is left of the road to an uncertain destiny.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Bill Sebastian

Bill Sebastian hails from Dallas, TX, where he began his film career at age 19 as an intern for a commercial production company, simultaneously making coffee for ad executives and shooting his first feature on weekends-a mockumentary about an unemployed ninja. He has since supported his filmmaking endeavors by working as a freelance commercial editor.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



MUTE

Director: Melissa Joan Hart U.S.A. (15 min/Color)

OFFICIAL SELECTION PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Eileen plans revenge against her sister who she blames for an accident that left her deaf and mute.

MAIN PROGRAM



ROW HARD NO EXCUSES

U.S.A., 2007, 88 Min., Color MICHIGAN PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 2:00pm / Venue 3 Sunday, June 10 @ 4:30pm / Venue 3

Director: Luke Wolbach

Producers: Bill Wolbach, Luke Wolbach Editors: Traci Loth, Luke Wolbach Original Music: B. Quincy Griffin Cast: Tom Mailhot, John Zeigler Contact: www.lanternfilms.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 SLAMDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Row Hard No Excuses chronicles the voyage of the only American entry in a rowing race across the Atlantic Ocean. It is both an exciting sports-adventure story and an intimate portrait of the two-man crew that explores masculinity, midlife and ambition. At 51 and 41, John Zeigler and Tom Mailhot are among the oldest competitors to participate in the 2001 Atlantic Rowing Challenge, a three thousand mile race from the Canary Islands to Barbados. They spend three years, and their personal savings, to make their dream of winning possible, but once on the water, their boat and their bodies don't respond as they'd imagined. Drawing from their compelling video diary at sea, the film engages the audience in the emotional challenges and rewards of their arduous journey. The unique perspective of Tori Murden, the first woman to row solo across an ocean, and the diverse chorus of other teams, men and women, young and old, add context to a meditation on shattered expectations and the pursuit of happiness.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Luke Wolbach

Directed by first time feature director Luke Wolbach, Row Hard No Excuses is a labor-of-love collaboration between he and his father Bill Wolbach. Luke is an award-winning filmmaker and editor residing in San Francisco. His first film, Seeds of Tibet: Voices of Children in Exile, which he co-produced and co-directed, was a half hour documentary about the lives of young Tibetan refugees at a school in Northern India. It was broadcast by PBS affiliates throughout the country and was awarded an Earthwatch Award, a Cine Eagle Award, and a documentary award at the Philadelphia International Film Festival. He has worked independently as an editor on projects that have broadcast on PBS, Bravo, and the National Geographic and Sundance channels. Row Hard No Excuses is his first collaboration with his father, Bill Wolbach.



TWISTED: A BALLOONAMENTARY

U.S.A., 2007, 79 Min., Color (AC) **MIDWEST PREMIERE**

Friday, June 8 @ 11:30am / Venue 2 Saturday, June 9 @ 9:00am / Venue 2 Sunday, June 10 @ 7:00pm / Venue 2

Directors/Producers: Naomi Greenfield, Sara Taksler Original Music: Steve Gilbert, Adam Weinberg

Editor: Sandy Patch

Cinematographer: David Abraham

Cast: John Holmes, Sheree Brown-Rosner, Laura Dakin, David Grist, Don Cadwell, Michele Rothstein, Vera Stalker, Jon Stewart (Animation narrator)

Contact: www.twistedballoondoc.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST FILM FESTIVAL

This is the first feature documentary for Sara Taksler (favorite balloon

animal: two birds kissing in a heart) and Naomi Greenfield (favorite

balloon animal: monkey on a palm tree). Sara, a researcher for The

Daily Show with Jon Stewart, has random talents that include talking

backwards and a remarkable fake sneeze. Naomi, an Associate

Producer for FableVision, began twisting balloons at age 13 to

Sara Taksler & Naomi Greenfield

combat her fear of balloon popping.

A flying octopus. A Trojan horse. Two 100-foot-tall soccer players. All made out of balloons. These are just some of the masterful creations you will see as Twisted: A Balloonamentary takes you right into the heart of Twist and Shout, one of the world's premier balloon twisting conventions. Exploring how eight balloon twisters' lives are dramatically changed by a little piece of latex, this hilarious and heartwarming documentary is about passion, salvation, love, death, race, religion, and a whole lot of balloons. With animation narrated by Ion Stewart, Twisted: A Balloonamentary is a story about people who discover that once you can make a balloon dog, you can do anything.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.



MAIN PROGRAM



VANAJA

India/U.S.A., 2006, 111 Min., Color (AC) **MIDWEST PREMIERE**

Friday, June 8 @ 2:00pm / Venue 2 Sunday, June 10 @ 4:30pm / Venue 2

Director/Screenwriter: Rajnesh Domalpalli

Producer: Latha Rajendra Kumar

Original Music: Indira Amperiani, Bhaskara S. Narayanan

Cinematographer: Milton Kam

Editors: Rainesh Domalpalli, Robert Q. Lovett

Cast: Mamatha Bhukyam, Urmila Dammannagari, Ramachandriah Marikanti, Krishnamma Gundimalla, Karan Singh, Bhavanni Renukunta, Krishna Garlapati,

Prabhu Garlapati, Ram Babu Tarra, Veeramma Sadula

Contact: www.vanajathefilm.com

BEST DEBUT WINNER 2007 BERLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Vanaja is the 14 year-old daughter of a poor, low caste fisherman, struggling with dwindling catches and mounting debt. When a soothsayer predicts that she will be a great dancer one day, she goes to work in the house of the local landlady, Rama Devi, in hopes of learning Kuchipudi dance while earning a keep. She is hired as a farmhand, and her vivacious ways and spunk soon catch the landlady's eye. To keep her out of trouble, Rama promotes her to a kitchen underhand, where she comes up against the old, crusty and extremely loyal Radhamma - Rama's cook. It isn't long before Vanaja gets herself invited to play a game of ashta chamma against Rama. Seeing that losing isn't the mistress's forte, Vanaja deliberately gives up her game, a fact that doesn't go unnoticed, and which eventually secures her the landlady's mentorship, first in music, and then in dance. Vanaja excels at the art, and seems to be on a steadily ascending path when Shekhar, Rama 23 year-old, handsome son returns from the U.S. to run for local political elections. Sexual chemistry is ignited between Shekhar and Vanaja (still a minor at 15), as flirtation and innuendo bloom. But, the situation suddenly turns ugly when Vanaja's superior intellect pits her against Shekhar in a public incident. Matters escalate and she is pitched into a tale of class and family from which there is only one escape.

Rainesh Domalpalli

Rajnesh Domalpalli comes from Hyderabad, the capital of Andhra Pradesh in South India. He spent his childhood in small rural towns associated with dam construction projects where his father worked as a civil engineer for the government. After completing his education he worked as a Computer Engineer in California's Silicon Valley before deciding to take up Film at Columbia University in New York and graduating with an MFA in 2006. Vanaja is not only his first Feature but also his Thesis at Columbia. Rajnesh loves writing and dabbled in penning short stories during his spare time. One of these, The Dowry, was eventually picked up and broadcast by BBC's World Service in Sept 1984 and Aug 1989.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



PUSH Director: Loris Lai Italy (16 min/Color)

A man desperate to support his family, agrees to be a part of a simple bank robbery with tradic results.



WHEN A MAN FALLS IN THE FOREST

Germany, 2007, 90 Min., Color (AC, L) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Saturday, June 9 @ 7:00pm / Venue 2 Sunday, June 10 @ 2:00pm / Venue 2

Director/Screenwriter: Ryan Eslinger

Producers: Mary L. Aloe, Christian Arnold-Beutel, Alain de la Mata, Kirk Shaw

Original Music: Billy Corgan, John Sereda

Cinematographer: Lawrence Sher Editors: Jamie Alain, Ryan Eslinger

Cast: Timothy Hutton, Dylan Baker, Sharon Stone, Pruitt Taylor Vince,

Nicholas Elia

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 BERLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

This episodic drama embraces the lives of four unlikely heroes - three men and one woman - each consumed in a personal struggle to make sense of their lives that transforms them in ways they never imagined. Karen tries to create some excitement in her frustrating married life by going on shoplifting sprees, as well indulging in other, more dangerous things. Bill has never been able to interact safely with the world around him. He keeps his distance and prefers to exist in a lacklustre state of self-imposed exile. This is a secret world where his dreams proffer a different sense of self, one where he embraces life, conquers his demons and where his encounters with others are powerful and sensual. Frozen in a moment in time, Travis is able to reach out to others but not within, since he bears the guilt for a terrible tragedy, which has scarred him forever.

Gary is also desperate to make a connection. He strives to bridge the gaps and find what is lost. In one defining moment he makes a startling and irreversible decision, which irrevocably and unforgettably transforms him and everyone else.

Karen, the unhappy wife, finds salvation in thrills she knows are forbidden. To her, breaking taboos is empowering. It's all part of a seductive game in which desire leads to obsession and passion - to murder. - Courtesy of the 2007 Berlin Film Festival

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Ryan Eslinger

Madness and Genius was 25 year-old Ryan Eslinger's first feature film. The film premiered at the 2003 Toronto International Film Festival. It is the 200'3 recipient of The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Feature Film Prize in Science and Technology [awarded at the Hamptons Film Festival], and the film also garnered Ryan a 2004 Independent Spirit Award nomination [the "Someone to Watch" Award]. Ryan was accepted into the 2004 Sundance Screenwriters Lab, the 2005 Sundance Directors Lab, and the 2005 Cannes Film Festival program

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



THE OTHER HALF

Director: Charelle Kelly U.S.A. (8 min/Color)

MIDWEST PREMIERE

OFFICIAL SELECTION LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL **SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**

A man can't seem to figure out what's missing in his life until he comes across a man who seems oddly familiar, sleeping in his closet.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

MAIN PROGRAM



WRATH OF GODS

Iceland, 2006, 85 Min., Color (L) MICHIGAN PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 4:30pm / Venue 3 Saturday, June 9 @ 4:30pm / Venue 3

Director/Screenwriter: Jon Gustafsson Producer: Jon Gustafsson, Karolina Lewicka Co-Producer: Gerald Butler, Jon Armann Steinsson Editors: Jon Gustafsson, Karolina Lewicka

Cast: Andrew Rai Berzins, Gerard Butler, Sturla Gunnarsson, Eric Jordan, Wendy Ord, Daniel Parker, Peter Pedrero, Sarah Polley, Stellan Skarsgard,

Paul Stephens

AUDIENCE AWARD AND BEST DOCUMENTARY 2007 OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

When Canadian director Sturla Gunnarsson and his crew set upon Iceland to film Beowulf & Grendel in 2004, they expected the usual complications involved in making a movie, but what they encountered made them wonder if the Norse gods were actually working against them. It turned out to be the most difficult project any of them had ever been a part of. While filming, the production team faced one disaster after another - the set and vehicle destroying weather, ill-fated pagan blessings and repeated financial crisis. Halfway through the production, the financing had not closed, the film was seriously over budget, and the bonder was alarmed enough to send a representative to Iceland. The entire production was put under intense scrutiny, while the cast and crew were fighting the onslaught of a ruthless Icelandic winter and diminishing daylight. The storm tore roofs of buildings and swept away equipment and Gunnarsson slowly seemed to take the characteristics and physical appearance of a troll as he struggled to fight gigantic obstacles. Two days before the end of principle photography, producer Paul Stephens admitted that it was a "miracle" that they were about to complete the shoot without having to close the 'bank'. The strong determination of the filmmakers was the one thing that seemed to be able to steer this troubled ship through the storms and guide it to harbor.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Jon Gustafasson

Jon studied filmmaking in Manchester, England, and directing and acting at the California Institute of the Arts. He has directed documentaries, music videos, short films and theatre shows and feature length films in Iceland and Canada. Some of his other projects include the feature film Kanadiana and The Importance of Being Icelandic, several stage shows, music videos and television commercials. Jon was hired to play a small part in the Viking epic Beowulf & Grendel - one of Beowulf's warriors - the one who is always in the background, usually out of focus. That meant he had endless days on the set, with lots of time to kill. He took along a small video camera and started to capture the story that went on behind the scenes.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



THE TOLL

Director: J. Zachary Pike U.S.A. (7 min/Color) Contact: www.thetollmovie.com

MIDWEST PREMIERE

An animated story of a film student who interviews a troll that lives under a bridge.

LATE NIGHT MADNESS

SPONSORED SCREENING





DIRTY COUNTRY

U.S.A., 70 Min., Color (SC, AC, L) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 11:00pm / Venue 2 Saturday, June 9 @ 11:00pm / Venue 2

Directors/Cinematographers: Joe Pickett, Nick Prueher

Producers: Todd Hansen, William Kruse Composer: Larry Pierce, Craig Soderberg

Editor: Matt Ehling

Cast: Larry Pierce, Dr. Dirty, Blowfly, Doug Clark's Hot Nuts

Contact: www.dirtycountrymovie.com

AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER 2007 SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST FILM FESTIVAL

Meet Larry Pierce: a small-town factory worker and family man who happens to be the raunchiest country music singer in America. Since 1993, Larry has quietly released over a dozen dirty country albums at truck stops across the country. Without the time or money to pursue a "legitimate" career in country music, Larry is content to lead an ordinary life and moonlight as a dirty country singer. But when he is forced into early retirement at his factory job of 30 years, Larry faces an uncertain future. That is, until a young band with dirty songs of its own shows up at his door and offers to take Larry onstage.

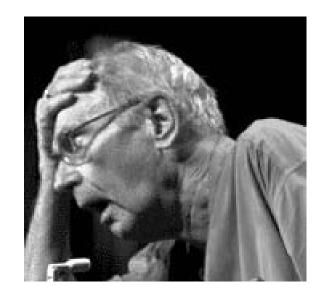
Dirty Country introduces an ordinary man with an extraordinary gift for dirty music and tells the unlikely story of how his songs were thrust out of obscurity and into the spotlight. The film also profiles several living legends of the raunchy music business, including piano virtuoso Dr. Dirty, seminal funk singer Blowfly, and the original party band, Doug Clark's Hot Nuts. With commentary from leading authors, experts, and social critics, the film poses the question: is America a nation of prudes or are we living in a dirty country?

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher

Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher have written for The Onion and collaborated on several short films, including 2002's award-winning Gas 'N Fuel Employee Training Video #4A: Makin' It Happen. Pickett, a former film technician and Prueher, a former segment producer at the Late Show with David Letterman, are also the co-founders and hosts of the Found Footage Festival, a national touring showcase of odd and hilarious clips from found videotapes. They recently signed a development deal with CBS to turn the Found Footage Festival into a primetime TV special. In 2003, Pickett and Prueher formed their own production company, Milkhouse Productions, in New York City. Dirty Country is their feature directorial debut.





THE LIFE OF REILLY

U.S.A., 2007, 85 Min., Color MICHIGAN PREMIERE

Friday, June 8 @ 10:00pm / Venue 5 Sunday, June 10 @ 11:30am / Venue 1

Directors: Frank L. Anderson, Barry Poltermann Screenwriters: Paul Linke, Charles Nelson Reilly

Producer: Bob Fagan, Wrye Martin Original Music: Frank L. Anderson Cinematographer: Anthony F. Balderrama

Editor: Barry Poltermann Cast: Charles Nelson Reilly

Contact: www.charlesnelsonreilly.com

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2007 SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST FILM FESTIVAL

If, in 1940, you had a lobotomized aunt, an institutionalized father, a racist mother, and were the only gay kid on the block, what do you think the odds would be that you'd end up a Tony winner, a staple of television, and a generational icon? Enter *The Life Of Reilly*. The cliché goes that truth is stranger than fiction. In this case, it is also funnier and more heartbreaking. Charles Nelson Reilly, famous for his game show innuendos and guest appearances, takes us through his bizarre, starstudded, tragic, hilarious, and ultimately amazing life with a potent blend of tenderness and quick one-liners. *The Life Of Reilly* is an adaptation of Mr. Reilly's acclaimed one-man show and was photographed for the screen during Mr. Reilly's final two performances of his play in North Hollywood, California.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Frank L. Anderson & Barry Poltermann

Poltermann most recently directed new media web campaigns for L'Orange Studios in Los Angeles. Prior to that, he directed television

commercials for Los Angeles-based Neue Sentimental Films. From 1996 until 1999 he directed for Superior Street Productions/Spoke Films in Chicago and Los Angeles. Poltermann's first feature film as a director, Aswang, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 1994. In addition to his directing, Poltermann co-founded the web based film financing company Civilian Pictures and currently serves as its CEO. Poltermann has edited several documentary pieces for Bravo/IFC's Split Screen program, as well as Chris Smith and Sarah Price's highly acclaimed documentary American Movie, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival in 1999 and was a Sony Pictures Classics release. Currently he is editing The Pool, a new film by Chris Smith, and serving as an executive producer on the documentary Rock The Bells, which chronicles the behind-the-scenes struggle to put together the final performance of hip-hop supergroup The Wu Tang Clan.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



AVAILABLE MEN

Director: David Dean Bottrell U.S.A. (15 min/Color/AC)

A case of mistaken identities between a Hollywood agent sent to sign a writer and a gay man waiting for a blind date.

MICHIGAN: A SHORE BET

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MICHIGAN'S OWN



THE TROUBLE WITH DEE DEE

81 Min., Color (L)

Friday, June 8 @ 9:00pm / Venue 3 Sunday, June 10 @ 7:00pm / Venue 3

Director: Mike Meiners

Executive Producer: Bob Brown Writers: Bob Brown, Mike Meiners Cinematographer: David Blood

Editor: Sharon Zurek

Cast: Lisa Ann Walter, Kurtwood Smith, Mason Gamble, J.P. Manoux

Contact: www.cinemetrofilms.com

Producer Bob Brown's production company Purple Rose Films is located in Chelsea, Michigan

Dee Dee Rutherford (Lisa Ann Walter - The Parent Trap, Bruce Almighty) has never been able to figure out what her father, Bill (Kurtwood Smith - That 70's Show, Dead Poet's Society), wants from her. Like oil and water they've lived essentially separate lives for the past 15 years - Bill running his Fortune 500 company from the city and Dee Dee on the dole, chasing an endless series of outlandish adventures from his summer home. Now, on the eve of his retirement, Bill finds he's got one piece of unfinished business: to finally make an upstanding woman of his brash, neglected, and undisciplined daughter. But in laying down the law, he learns Dee Dee's capable of a lot more than he ever knew and soon finds his tactics are punishing him more than her. As Dee Dee struggles to placate her father, she's confronted by the reality that she 'doesn't know how to be anybody else but her complicated, unrefined, unsinkable, adventure-seeking self. In the end, each drives the other to the same surprising discovery of what it is Bill really wants.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Mike Meiners

Co-Executive Producer, Writer, Director: The Trouble is Mike's first feature film coming on the heels of his award winning short, Diet. Mike started his career as an actor coming up through Chicago's Second City Training Center and performing at Improv Olympic with Saturday Night Live's Tina Fey and Amy Poehler. After a detour through architecture school, Mike poured his new skills back into his first love, establishing Cinemetro Films to write, produce, direct and act in Diet, which won awards for cinematography and "best comedy short" on the festival circuit. Diet's success made it possible to land producer Bob Brown and raise the money to make Dee Dee Rutherford. Dee Dee Rutherford was filmed in and around Chicago where Mike lives with his wife and two sons.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



SWEET DREAMS

Director: Irin Evers (6 mins/Color/FF)

Producer Aaron Weiss is a native of West Bloomfield, Michigan

MIDWEST PREMIERE

What if your dreams just slid away?

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

38 | Waterfront Film Festival | KEY: SC-Sexual Content N-Nudity L-Language FF-Family Friendly | Waterfront Film Festival | 39

SPECIAL GUEST



Michigan Native MARY LYNN RAJSKUB

Mary Lynn Rajskub is an American actress, comedienne and singer who is best known as a co-star of Kiefer Sutherland on the popular television series 24.

She was born Mary Lynn Rajskub on June 22, 1971, in Detroit, Michigan, into a family of Irish, Czech, and Polish ancestry. She was brought up in Trenton, Michigan. In 1989 she graduated from Trenton High School, then attended Detroit's College for Creative Studies, majoring in painting, before she transferred to the San Francisco Art Institute, graduating as a painter. She also studied music and acting, and for a few years she performed as a stand-up comedian at various clubs and restaurants. In 1995, Rajskub made her debut on television, she was cast by David Cross as one of the original cast members of Mr. Show with Bob and David (1995). After her split from Cross, she left the show during its second season, and briefly took a job as a coffee brewer at Seattle's Best Coffee. In 1999 she joined the cast of Veronica's Closet TV series, as Cloe, appearing in 15 episodes of the show.

As a skilled guitar player, Rajskub has been part of the comic duo called 'Girls Guitar Club' and appeared on the NBC's Late Friday TV show. In the 2000s she has ventured into more dramatic roles, most notably her role as analyst Chloe O'Brian opposite Kiefer Sutherland on the popular TV series 24 (2001). She joined the show in 2003 at the beginning of the show's third season, then returned in the show's fourth season as a recurring cast member. Her character has been a hit with viewers and critics. Rajskub became a main cast member in the show's fifth season, then replaced Kim Raver as a female lead, with top billing second only to Kiefer Sutherland in the season of 2006 - 2007, until her character was arrested and skipped a few episodes in 2007.

While she has been mainly a television star, Rajskub also played bit parts on the big screen in Magnolia (1999), Man on the Moon (1999), Road Trip (2000), among her other works. She offered mesmerizing performances in Mysterious Skin (2004), Sweet Home Alabama (2002), and in Punch-Drunk Love (2002), then played a few more visible roles such as Janet Stone in Firewall (2006), opposite Harrison Ford, and as Pam in Little Miss Sunshine (2006). In 2006 Harrison Ford presented Rajskub with the Female Breakthrough Award for her "high concept comedic stage productions, as well as her TV and film acting skills." She was also nominated for the Screen Actors Guild Awards two times, in 2005, and in 2007.

Besides her work in film and on television, Mary Lynn Rajskub has been performing locally in Hollywood with her Girls Guitar Club show. Outside of her acting profession she is fond of art and is known as a regular visitor of LA's best museums, she also has been writing, painting and exhibiting her works at art shows and art auctions.

Mary Lynn Rajskub is currently residing in Los Angeles, California, and is at Waterfront Film Festival to promote her new film AMERICAN FORK.



Special Guest **RUTH BUZZI**

Golden Globe Winner Ruth Buzzi gained worldwide fame as a key cast member on the groundbreaking TV comedy show Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In, Ruth created characters such as the meddling mother-in-law, a bar room lush, ladv of the evening and her most famous character, Gladys Ormphby. She was the old lady who constantly hit Arte Johnson's character Tyrone F. Hornigh over the head with her handbag. For her various characters she was nominated for two Emmys and won a Golden Globe. Besides Dan Rowan and Dick Martin, she was the only cast member to appear in every Laugh-In episode, including the 1967 special.

Ruth's first television "appearances" actually featured only her voice. She portrayed various characters in the Hanna Barbera cartoon The Jetsons in 1962. She became a regular on The Entertainers in 1964 and in 1967 was a regular on That Girl playing Marge "Pete" Peterson, before moving on to massive success with Laugh-In. In 1974 she was nominated for another Emmy for her work on an episode of The Dean Martin Show.

Throughout the 70's and 80's Ruth appeared in various movies and TV shows. Included in those were roles in the movie Freaky Friday and playing Screech Powers' mother in Saved By The Bell. In 1993 she became a part of the cast of Sesame Street. She was recently seen on an episode of 7th Heaven, and in March 2002 she appeared with Laugh-In producer George Schlatter and fellow cast member Jo Anne Worley on CBS This Morning with Bryant Gumble.

Ruth is at Waterfront to promote her latest Michigan-based production, COME ON OVER!

MICHIGAN FILM LODGE

Sponsored by:



The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area

In an effort to support films with Michigan ties, the Michigan Film Office has partnered with the Waterfront Film Festival in hosting the Michigan Lodge which is made possible, in part, by a grant from The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area.





COMIC EVANGELISTS

2006, 75 Min., Color (SC, AC, L)

Friday, June 8 @ 9:00pm / Venue 4 Sunday, June 10 @ 7:00pm / Venue 4

Directors: Daniel Jones, Dann Sytsma

Writers: Dann Sytsma, Daniel Jones, Eli Rix, Allison Hendrix, Steve Petersen, Steve Petersen, James Sanford, Tara Sytsma, Katherine Walker, Adam Carter, Scott Piebenga

Editor/Cinematographer: Daniel Jones

Cast: Adam Carter, Allison Hendrix, Jennifer K. Moubray, Steve Petersen, Scott Piebenga, Eli Rix, James Sanford, Dann Sytsma, Tara Sytsma, Katherine Walker Contact: www.comicevangeliststhemovie.com

Director Dann Sytsma is a native of Grand Rapids and filmed in Kalamazoo

In the small mid-western town of Kalamazoo, Michigan, we meet the Comic Evangelists, the world's first improv troupe on a mission from God. We follow the team's rise from obscurity through the eyes of three longtime friends - Rick Stevenson, a control freak with a Messiah complex, Noah Fillobien, his dopey sidekick, and Nigel Karuthers, a theater geek with a secret. When Nigel suggests that Comic Evangelists enter the Toronto International Improv Festival, the group immediately leaps at the chance to spread the word of the Lord to a wider audience. Comic Evangelists will leave audiences roaring with laughter and praising the comedic powers that be.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Daniel Jones

Daniel makes his narrative feature producing and directing debut with Comic Evangelists. In 2002, as a Reuters youth reporter, Jones produced and directed a feature length documentary titled Two Weeks in Johannesburg. Upon graduating from Hunter College, he founded Blanket Statement Productions and worked as an independent producer, cinematographer, and editor. While Comic Evangelists was in production in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Jones worked as a supervisor in the Education for the Arts Media Lab, a state-of-the-art media center for high school students. He is currently an MFA candidate at American University's Film and Video program in DC.

Dann Sytsma

Dann Sytsma is a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Sytsma's acting career started in high school and in college, he began performing improvisational comedy with the team Spontaneous Combustion. He co-developed and is the director of Crawlspace Eviction in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Systma graduated from Grand Valley State University in 1999 with a degree in biomedical science. As an analytical chemist, he is working for AvTech Laboratories in the method development department.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



TRAIN TOWN

Director: Keith Bearden Producer: Ericka Frederick (15 min/Color/SC/AC/N/L)

Producer Ericka Frederick is a Michigan native WORLD PREMIERE

A 1950s conservative patriot battles a 1960s sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll hippie on the minor scale battlearound of a model train town

MICHIGAN FILM LODGE



LITTLE THUMB

2007, 77 Min., Color US PREMIERE

Saturday, June 9 @ 4:30pm / Venue 4

Director/Producer: Chad Kremer

Assistant Producers: Andrew Gibbs, Jessica Wijbenga, Jon Den Houter

Cinematographer: Chad Kremer, Mathew Fox

Editor: Chad Kremer

Graphic Designer: Andrew Gibbs

Cast: Tena Wybenga, Jack Wybenga, Nick Wybenga, Florence Kremer,

Marianne Bierri, Chad Kremer

Director Chad Kremer lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan

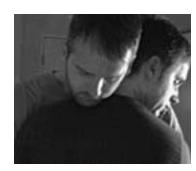
The idea that even the most ordinary person can have an extraordinary impression on others is the central theme of Chad Kremer's first film Little Thumb. This documentary looks at the life of Frank Wybenga, a Dutch immigrant who in the mid 1950's escaped his dark past at a Nazi concentration camp by moving to the United States with his wife and infant son. In 2006, seven years after his death, Frank's eldest son and grandson journey back to the Netherlands to honor Frank's memory by revisiting his past, all while trying to bring some closure to their own.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Chad Kremer

Chad Kremer graduated from Calvin College in 2002 with a B.A. in Communication Arts and Sciences with an emphasis on film. While at Calvin he spent a semester in Budapest studying Hungarian film. Also while at Calvin, he produced a short documentary about a ghost town Elmdale, Michigan, which took honorable mention at the Calvin Student Film Festival.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



RELATIVE FREEDOM

Director: Joe Kuehne
(9 min/Color/SC/AC)

Director Joe Kuehne and Producer Ann Brown are natives of Grand Rapids, Michigan and the majority of the film was filmed in Michigan

MICHIGAN PREMIERE

Created as part of a filmmaking competition, this first-person documentary short details the director's journey to interview members of his immediate family about how they feel about his homosexuality.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

MICHIGAN FILM LODGE



MIDNIGHT CLEAR

2007, 100 Min., Color (V, AC, L) MIDWEST PREMIERE

Saturday, June 9 @ 2:00pm / Venue 4 Sunday, June 10 @ 2:00pm / Venue 4

Director: Dallas Jenkins

Executive Producers: Robert Abramoff, Jerry B. Jenkins

Producers: Dallas Jenkins, Kevin Downes

Co-Producer: Chad Gunderson Cinematographer: Randall Gregg

Editor: Frank Reynolds

Cast: Stephen Baldwin, K Callan, Kirk B.R. Woller, Mary Thornton,

Mitchell Jarvis, Richard Fancy, Victoria Jackson, Richard Riehle, Diane Delano, Wren T. Brown, Dominic Scott Kay, Loren Lester, Patricia Rae, Nikki Boyer

Executive Producer Jerry B. Jenkins is a Michigan native

BEST FIRST FEATURE AWARD 2007 CINEQUEST SAN JOSE FILM FESTIVAL

A recently homeless and jobless loser, a senior citizen estranged from her family, a mother of one dealing with her husband's brain damage, a gas station owner stuck in a job he hates, and a youth pastor feeling irrelevant face depression and loneliness on Christmas Eve. As they cross paths and experience random and minor acts of kindness, their lives are changed forever.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Dallas Jenkins

Dallas Jenkins started Jenkins Entertainment with his father, Jerry B. Jenkins from Kalamazoo, at the age of 25. Within a year, they

developed, financed, and produced the feature *Hometown Legend*, which was picked up for distribution by Warner Brothers. Dallas has since directed two short films, including Midnight Clear, which won several festival awards. Dallas made his directing debut with the short film *Cliché*, which FilmThreat.com called "Fast and funny...ingenious," and his latest short film, *Midnight Clear*, starring Stephen Baldwin, won a Crystal Heart Award from the Heartland Film Festival and was the opening night selection of the San Diego Film Festival. He is the co-executive producer of *Though None Go With Me*, a feature that aired on The Hallmark Channel in April 2006.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



COLDCALLING

Director: Johan Liedgren
U.S.A. (16 min/Color/SC/AC/L)

MIDWEST PREMIERE

Producer Elizabeth Heile is a Michigan native

Caught in between the search for someone better and running out of choices, two strangers are forced to face the irreversible nature of their situation.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

KEY: SC-Sexual Content V-Violence AC-Adult Content N-Nuclity L-Language FF-Family Friendly Waterfront Film Festival 43

MICHIGAN FILM LODGE



NAIL POLISH

2006, 100 Min., Color (AC, N, L) **MIDWEST PREMIERE**

Saturday, June 9 @ 7:00pm / Venue 4

Director: Jane Ainbinder

Producers: Jane Ainbinder, Courtney Lee, Viveca Paulin, Randy Sterns

Cinematographer: Ann Rossetti

Writers: Jane Ainbinder, Katrina Jankowski

Editor:Jean KawaharaWayn

Cast: Alexandra Lydon, Paz de la Huerta, Elizabeth Regen, Michael Alperin, Deborah LaCoy, Ward Horton, Tibor Feldman, Noah Silverman, Joey Cioffi

Contact: www.nailpolishthemovie.com

Screenwriter Katrina Jankowski is a Michigan native

OFFICIAL SELECTION DENVER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Allison Silverman never got out much in high school. She preferred to write dark poetry and daydream. Part of the reason for her isolation was the tragic death of her mother at a young age, another is her confusion about how she fits into a strange world. Faced with her father's re-marrying and the transition of leaving home for college, Allison knows she must break out of her introverted shell and start living the life of a more normal teenager. One fateful summer at the Jersey shore, Allison learns how to do just that with the questionable help of her wild best friend and a Jersey girl beautician. For the first time, she parties, gets into trouble and attracts the opposite sex. However, Allison realizes that this is not all she needs. To truly participate in life's adventure, she must learn to live with the pain of her mother's death without fear, be true to her own voice and make her own choices.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Jane Ainbinder

Jane has been a dedicated independent filmmaker for the last 12 years. She has garnered many awards for her skills as a director, cinematographer, and editor including the John Huston Directing Fellowship, two Eastman Kodak Grants, Panavision's New filmmakers Grant, and a Fleishhacker foundation Grant. She has a Masters in fine Arts in film Production from University of southern California School of Cinema and Television and a B.A. from Pomona College. Nail Polish is lane's first feature film

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



SOAP

Director: Kara Bauer U.S.A. (10 min/Color/AC)

Director Kara Bauer is a native of Alpena, Michigan

How much can life change during the life-cycle of a bar of soap?

Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

MICHIGAN FILM LODGE



THE RECKONING: REMEMBERING THE DUTCH RESISTANCE

U.S.A., 2006, 96 Min., Color (V, AC)

Sunday, June 10 @ 11:30am / Venue 4

Director: John Evans Writer: Corey Niemchick Producer: Corey Niemchick Cinematographer: John Evans

Cast: Diet Eman, John Knight, John Muller, Friedo Menco, Hans Zilversmit,

Jan Van Driel

Contact: www.storytellingpictures.com

Grand Rapids, Michigan production company produced the film and filmed partly in West Michigan

War erupts in Europe as Germany invades Poland. Eight months later, Hitler would publicly broadcast that he would not invade Holland due to their neutrality during World War I. Within hours, this promise would become a treacherous lie that would engulf the small country in the Second World War But soon there would be another war - a war within a war. A war overlooked by history, where the combatants were citizens; their weapons, secrecy and sabotage; and their mission, the preservation of human life. These unlikely soldiers were impelled by the belief that life is divinely breathed into every man, no matter his culture, race, or religion. They were the members of the Dutch Underground, who would later be known as the Dutch Resistance - men and women who set aside their dreams, their very lives, to help the lewish community find refuge from the murderous Nazi advance. The Reckoning: Remembering the Dutch Resistance is a compelling story and eyewitness account of six survivors in war-torn Netherlands during World War II. With the revelation of Hitler's 'Final Solution' and the uncertainty of liberation, it reveals the intensely human aspect of the Dutch struggle against Nazi Tyranny.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

John Evans

John Evans graduated from Ferris State University as a Film major in 1986. He spent 11 years with Amway Corporation where he was responsible for producing and directing many of their award winning Distributor Incentive videos as well as giving direction to their liveevents around the world. In 1998, John founded Storytelling Pictures and produced mostly image pieces for non-profit organizations. Steady commercial and international growth paved the way for the company to produce its first full length feature documentary, The Reckoning.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



DISAPPEARANCE OF THE PRESERVER

Director: Russ Kuhner (10 min/Color/FF)

Main subject of film is Muskegon's winter coastline WORLD PREMIERE

In order to raise awareness about the environmental and social effects of global climate change on this intense, powerful yet fragile Michigan resource, this installation preserves a memory of the stark and beautiful features of this winter's ice cover, the lake's vanishing

MICHIGAN FILM LODGE



STRICTLY BACKGROUND

2006, 84 Min., Color (N)

Saturday, June 9 @ 11:30am / Venue 4 Sunday, June 10 @ 4:30pm / Venue 4

Director: Jason Connell Producer: Jason Connell

Executive Producers: Peter Bedgood, Sean Kinney

Original Music: Frank Lenz Cinematographer: Bryan Storkel

Editors: Jason Connell, Greg Emerson, Bryan Storkel

Cast: Terry Bolo, Geoffrey Ğould, Cecilia Hartfeld, Louis McCarten, Jay Michaels, Cary Y. Mizobe, Tafan Nieves, Mark Nobel, John Richards, Marvin

Rouillard, Jeff Olan Contact: www.strictlybackground.com

Cast member Mark Nobel is from Grand Rapids, Michigan

Hollywood, a destination filled with the hopes and aspirations of many to make it big. But sometimes to make it big, you have to start out small. Strictly Background is the story of all the little people, the men and women who become the anonymous faces behind our favorite stars. Find out what life is like for these dedicated aspiring actors on and off the screen.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.

Jason Connell

Jason Connell is the President and Founder of Connell Creations, a Los Angeles based film and television production company. Connell is also the Director and Founder of an ever expanding UNCENSORED film festival franchise now located in Los Angeles and Manhattan, along with his hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma. It was there that Connell got his first taste for filmmaking and after creating short films, he packed up and moved to California with the hope of telling bigaer stories to wider audiences.

PRECEDED BY SHORT FILM



COPYRIGHT, CULTURE (REMIXED): VOLUME 3 - ILLEGAL ART

Director: Rebekah Farrugia (11 min/Color/FF)

Filmmaker Rebekah Farrugia lives in Kalamazoo and teaches at Western Michigan University

WORLD PREMIERE

Through an "illegal art" traveling show, this documentary questions who has the right to borrow, copy, cut, reproduce, and remix what, under which circumstances and according to whom?

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

LOCAL/REGIONAL FILM PROGRAM

Waterfront Film Festival supports local and regional filmmakers. This program is designed to create a safe haven for local filmmakers to share films, foster new ideas and meet other talent in the area.

Saturday, June 9 @ 9:00am / Venue 4

THE LINE OF BEST FIT

Director: Travis Sali U.S.A. (14 min/Color)

A twist of fate and a mistaken break up call leads Mike to a new romance.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

BIRD FAN

Director: Gary Herbert U.S.A. (10 min/Color)

Larry is conflicted when his bandmate's brother Doug experiences the greatest and most absurd tragedy of his life.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

IN A SINGLE BOUND

Director: Ross Marroso U.S.A (23 min/Color)

In a Single Bound takes us from the inception of Superman by his creators Siegel and Shuster to his explosion into comic books, film, and even the courtroom. This documentary is sure to fascinate anyone who has ever wondered what heroes are made of.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

SHE DIED A HARD DEATH

Director: Valerie Olson Vanheest U.S.A. (37 min/B&W)

A true account of the sinking of the Hennepin, the world's first self-unloading vessel, in Lake Michigan.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

Sunday, June 10 @ 9:00am / Venue 4

HUNTING

Director: Aaron B. Smith U.S.A. (8 min/Color)

When two friends go hunting things get explosive when a serious betrayal is revealed.

+ Filmmakers are scheduled to be in attendance

GENERATION G

Director: Aleks Dankers U.S.A. (70 min/Color)

A exploration of Latvian-American culture in Michigan in attempts to preserve the rich history.



STUDENT SHOWCASE

Saturday, June 9 @ 9:00am / Venue 3

The Waterfront Film Festival is proud to present this side-bar to provide Student filmmakers with a venue to display their completed works. This program award is sponsored by Kodak.

THE FACE OF FEAR

Director: C. M. Birkmeier U.S.A. (3 min/Color)

Trapped at home a young girl finds herself in a living nightmare.

THE KNIFE GRINDER'S TALE

Director: R.L. Hooker U.S.A. (14 min/Color)

A father sets out on a journey to bridge the distance between love and death in the face of violence

MURDER ON VINE

Director: Ryan Radefeld U.S.A. (8 min/Color/B&W)

A hard-nosed detective sniffs out the culprit of the Vine Street murder.

IN LIGHT

Director: Kristen Gorlitz, Lauren Lebow, Cindy Scott U.S.A. (5 min/Color/B&W)

Have you seen the light - a cultural historical look at stained glass windows.

THE PICKUP

Director: David K. Favenyesi U.S.A. (11 min/Color)

A promiscuous boyfriend has to learn his lesson the hard way.

PRODUCING FICTION

Director: Matthew Dressel U.S.A. (22 min/Color)

A freshman remakes Star Wars in order to impress the girl of his dreams.

27,000 DAYS

Director: Naveen Singh U.S.A. (10 min/Color)

A dying man's search for respite collides with the existential and even the spiritual as he awakens to his final epiphany.

SURVIVING GRANDPOP

Director: Scott Sheppard U.S.A. (17 min/Color)

When an estranged grandfather shows up unannounced, John is forced to face his family's hard past.

+ Filmmakers and Cast Members are scheduled to be in attendance.





The Jury for the Student Showcase was comprised of Kodak Executives as well as special guest juror, László Kovács. As a cinematographer, László has worked on over 70 feature projects including Easy Rider, Paper Moon, Shampoo, Ghost Busters, Mask, My Best Friends Wedding, Miss Congeniality and Two Weeks Notice.

2007 SEMINARS

Attending filmmakers and luminaries from the film world will join in candid discussions and workshops covering the bases of the independent film world. Whether you are a director, screenwriter, producer, actor, or just curious, you won't want to miss this no-holds barred look at moviemaking.

Friday, June 8 @ 4:30pm / Venue 3

TALENT POOL

Ah to be an actor in the movies. The money, the lifestyle, the paparazzi... With the celebrity phenomenon growing more and more each day, Waterfront brings to you a panel of prestigious actors who have been in the trenches and will tell us firsthand what it takes to make it as an actor.

Billy Baldwin - Star of television and film. At WFF with American Fork.

Hubbel Palmer - Star of American Fork

Joseph McIntyre - Star of television and film including *Boston Public, Dancing With The Stars*, and former band member of New Kids on the Block. At WFF with *On Broadway*.

Mary Lynn Rajskub - Co-star opposite Kiefer Sutherland on the hit show 24. At WFF with American Fork.

Luis Avalos - Star of television and film. At WFF with Come On Over!

Nicholas Gonzalez - Star of Showtime's *Resurrection Blvd*, and recently named by People Magazine as one their 50 Most Beautiful People. At WFF with *Fool Me Once*.

Sharon Lawrence - 3 time Emmy Nominee for her role as A.D.A. Sylvia Costas on NYPD Blue. At WFF with Fool Me Once.

Ruth Buzzi - Star of television and film. At WFF with Come On Over!

** ALL PANELISTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE **



2007 SEMINARS

Saturday, June 9 @ 9:30am / Venue 3

COME ON OVER!

Join us for this fun, family friendly screening and discussion featuring the stars, creators, and team of the West Michigan based children's television show *Come On Over!*, which was recently nominated for 10 Michigan Emmy's.

Brandy McCledon - Star

Joel Schoon Tanis - Creator, Executive Producer and Star

Luis Avalos - Guest Star

Patrick Ziegler - Executive Producer

Ruth Buzzi - Guest Star

Teresa Thome - Executive Producer

Saturday, June 9 @ 11:30am / Venue 3

AND THE WINNER IS...

With the typical studio budget becoming more and more inflated with each film, an unproven filmmaker is almost never given the opportunity to get his or her big break unless he or she has significant industry experience. However, now more than ever, independent filmmakers are proving that they can go up against the big hitters and win Oscars. Join our panelists as they discuss taking a chance on the unknown in the hopes of creating the next classic film.

Chris Bowman - American Fork, Director **Dave Mclaughin** - On Broadway, Director

Debra Fisher - Cinetic Media, the leading independent sales company with feature films at Sundance including Napoleon Dynamite, Super Size Me, and Little Miss Sunshine.

Ericka Frederick - Kodak Executive and Producer of Academy Award Nominated short film, *By Courier*. At WFF with *Train Town*.

Lance Greene - On Broadway, Producer

Martin Hynes - Director of Sundance Film Festival's The Go-Getter, starring Zooey Deschanel, and Jena Malone

Ryan Eslinger - Director of When a Man Falls in the Forest, starring Timothy Hutton and Sharon Stone

Stuart Strutin - Distributor Panorama Entertainment. At WFF with Johan.

** ALL PANELISTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE **







Sunday, June 10 @ 11:30am / Venue 3

MAKE A DOC THAT ROCKS

The earliest "moving pictures" were, by definition, documentaries. They were single-shot moments captured on film: a train entering a station, a boat docking, or a factory of people getting off work. Since then, this rudimentary style of capturing images has become an art form and this year, Waterfront is pleased to present a power house line-up of documentary films. Join our filmmakers as they discuss their passion for documentary filmmaking and the journeys they took to bring their stories to the screen.

2007 SEMINARS

Chris Suchorsky - *Golden Days*, Director/Producer

Craig Dibiase - It's Happiness: A Polka Documentary, Director

Frank Popper - Can Mr. Smith Get To Washington Anymore?, Director **Senator Jeff Smith** - Subject of Can Mr. Smith Get To Washington?

Joe Pickett - Dirty Country, Director Jon Gustafsson - Wrath of Gods, Director

Luke Wolback - Row Hard No Excuses, Director

Naomi Greenfield - Twisted: A Balloonamentary, Director Sara Takseler - Twisted: A Ballonamentary, Director

Siobhan Dunne - Hellfighters, Producer

Sunday, June 10 @ 2:00pm / Venue 3

MADE IN MICHIGAN

With the recent passage of the Michigan Film Incentives, signed into law by the Governor in January 2007, many local filmmakers are wondering what they can do to make film production a booming industry in a struggling economy. Join our panelists to discuss the aspects of what needs to occur to bring filmmaking in Michigan to the next level and how you can be involved.

Hopwood DePree - Founder, TicTock Studios and The Waterfront Film Festival

Janet Lockwood - Head of the Michigan Film Office

Joseph Voss - Entertainment Attorney, Warner Norcross & Judd Marcia Fishman - Michigan Film Commission, SAG Indie, Rebecca Green - Head of Creative Development, TicTock Studios

State Representative William Huizenga

** ALL PANELISTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE **



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