

11th Annual Waterfront film festival

JUNE 11-14, 2009 SAUGATUCK, MI

SEMINARS

A CONVERSATION WITH EMMY AWARD WINNER YEARDLEY SMITH

Friday, June 12 @ 1:00pm

Spend an hour with talented show business veteran Yeardeley Smith who won a primetime Emmy for her celebrated work as "Lisa Simpson" on FOX Television's "The Simpsons".

DOCS THAT ROCK

Friday, June 12 @ 3:30pm

Join a power house line-up of documentary filmmakers as they discuss their passion for documentary filmmaking and the journeys they took to bring their stories to the screen. Featuring Academy Award winning documentarian, Sue Marx.

CASH BACK: MAKING YOUR MOVIE IN MICHIGAN

(Sponsored by Warner Norcross & Judd)

Saturday, June 13 @ 12:00pm

Offering up to a 42% cash back rebate on movie making investments, The State of Michigan has quickly become one of the top new places in the world to make films. Find out how to get involved and make the most of Michigan by participating in this successful new program.

THE LIFE OF A FILMMAKER

Saturday, June 13 @ 4:00pm

Nowadays filmmakers need to do it all. From finding or writing a winning screenplay, to casting great actors, locking down the financing, directing, producing and getting the film out to the world; the life of a filmmaker can sometimes seem like an impossible dream. Hear from this group of filmmakers how they were able to find success and get it done.

For more information visit www.waterfrontfilm.org.

Opening Night

OUTDOOR SCREENING & STREET PARTY - THURSDAY JUNE 11

Downtown Saugatuck: Singapore Yacht Club Parking Lot

~Courtesy of The Butler Restaurant

- Gates Open @ 6 pm - \$5 at the door (Kids 12 & under free; included with following festival passes: Patron Pass, FastPass, SuperPass)
- Beer Garden by Budweiser, Food by The Butler Restaurant

Featuring musical performance by:



FALLBROOKE

Fallbrooke is an up and coming rock band from South Florida. The four member band recently signed with RMR Music Group (Trauma Records: Bush, No Doubt), and has experienced much success. Current singles receiving air time include "Losin' It" and "Always Off Time."

Special Guests:



YEARDLEY SMITH: Yeardeley Smith is an Emmy award-winning actress, novelist, and playwright who has appeared on television, film and Broadway. Yeardeley is best known as the voice of Lisa Simpson on Fox's hit television show "The Simpsons."



KIRSTEN HAGLUND: Miss America 2008, Kirsten Haglund, grew up in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She is very passionate about the arts, and recently moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in entertainment.



RON ENGLISH: Ron English is a world-renowned street artist, who specially created the artwork used for the cover design of the 2009 Waterfront Film Festival Official Catalogue and Poster. Ron will be on hand opening night to sign copies of his recent books and festival posters.

SCREENING AT DUSK SURFING 50 STATES



(Midwest Premiere) - Follow Australian surfers Jonno and Stefan as they travel the United States in a beat-up old ice-cream truck on their quest to go "surfing" in every state. From riding icy waves in Alaska, to being towed by a cowboy on his horse in Texas or surfing a pile of potatoes in Idaho, the boys explore and invent previously unimaginable ways of riding a surfboard.

THURS @ DUSK & SUN 6/14 @ 11:30AM

MAIN PROGRAM

ABRAHAM OBAMA

(Michigan Premiere) – Join this cross-country journey as renowned street artist Ron English and his crew plaster the now famous image of Abraham Lincoln and Barack Obama merged together on any blank wall they can get their hands on. An unfiltered look at the power of merging art and politics to create a powerful message.

Ron English will be at the screening for a signing and Q&A session.

SAT 6/13 @ 4:30

AMERICAN HARMONY

(Midwest Premiere) – Forget “American Idol” and come experience the zany, passionate, and obsessive world of humming vocal chords and blissful harmony at the International Championships of Barbershop Harmony – the greatest singing competition... you’ve never heard of. **FRI 6/12 @ 2PM & SAT 6/13 @ 11:30AM**

THE BACK NINE

(Midwest Premiere) – Upon turning 40, Jon Fitzgerald challenges himself to chase his never-pursued dream of playing professional golf. His passion for the sport, combined with a relentless drive and total commitment to his goals fuel his transformational journey. This inspirational film proves that just because you’re “over the hill” doesn’t mean it’s too late to become what you always wanted to be.

SAT 6/13 @ 9AM & SUN 6/14 @ 4:30PM

THE BAKER

(Midwest Premiere) – Professional hit man Milo bungles a contract and is forced to flee the city to avoid the wrath of his employers. Hiding out in a remote rural village, the locals mistake him for the new baker. Milo goes along with it and soon finds himself enjoying his life in a way he never has before. Can Milo have his cake and eat it, too? **FRI 6/12 @ 11:30AM & SUN 6/14 @ 9PM**

BOMBER

(Michigan Premiere) – A humorous British belated-coming-of-age story about the relationship between a twenty-something son and his set-in-their-ways elderly parents, as he is forced to accompany them on a misguided road trip across Europe to help in his father’s quixotic quest to locate the small German town he bombed in WWII. **OFFICIAL SELECTION, SXSW FILM FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 2PM & SUN 6/14 @ 9AM**

CHILDREN OF INVENTION

(Michigan Premiere) – A poignant drama that takes a new look at the American Dream as seen through the eyes of two Chinese-American children and their immigrant mother, who gets sucked into a multi-level marketing scam. **OFFICIAL SELECTION SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 11:30AM & SAT 6/13 @ 7PM**

FAVORITE SON

(Midwest Premiere) – A minor league baseball player near the end of his career returns to his hometown much less the hero than he hoped to become. His budding romance with an old childhood friend quickly turns sour, but he forms an unlikely friendship with her volatile and destructive son. A story of family, dreams deferred, and a final chance at redemption. **FRI 6/12 @ 2PM & SUN 6/14 @ 7PM**

I SELL THE DEAD

(Michigan Premiere) – Danger and vicious competition make up the amusing lives of two 18th century grave robbers, Arthur Blake and Willie Grimes. When justice finally catches up with them, the looming threat of the guillotine motivates Blake to confess his years of thrilling adventures to a priest. It soon becomes apparent that the unusual lives of Grimes and Blake are likely to end up where their stories began – the grave.

SAT 6/13 @ 11PM & SUN 6/14 @ 7PM

LOST SON OF HAVANA

(Midwest Premiere) – An inspiring and heart wrenching documentary about baseball Hall-of-Famer Luis Tiant, who left Cuba in 1961. After the rise of Castro he faced a difficult decision: return to his family in Cuba or pursue his baseball career in America. After a 46 year exile, cameras follow Tiant as he returns home.

OFFICIAL SELECTION, TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 9PM & SUN 6/14 @ 7PM

MR RIGHT

(Midwest Premiere) – A charming British ensemble comedy. Harry hates his job and dreams of leaving to travel the world, but he loves Alex who is struggling to create an identity for himself as a performer. William’s nine-year-old daughter is intent on sabotaging his relationships with new boyfriends, and he’s finding it difficult to let Lawrence into his life. Lars is a handsome sometime-model kept by Tom who will excuse Lars’ every betrayal so long as he doesn’t leave him.

FRI 6/12 @ 10PM & SAT 6/13 @ 10PM at The Dunes

OF ALL THE THINGS

(Midwest Premiere) – Dennis Lambert was one of the most successful songwriters of the ‘70s and ‘80s, with hits like “Ain’t No Woman Like The One I’ve Got”, and “Rhinestone Cowboy”. Today, he’s a 60-year-old man selling real estate. But his life suddenly changes when he discovers his obscure 1972 solo album is still huge... in the Philippines, and his fans are calling for him.

FRI 6/12 @ 9AM & SAT 6/13 @ 9PM

OFFICIAL REJECTION

(Michigan Premiere) – Ever wonder what it takes to get into a film festival? This funny and eye opening documentary follows the trials and tribulations of a group of independent filmmakers as they learn that sometimes the hardest part of making a film is getting it shown. **FRI 6/12 @ 9PM & SUN 6/14 @ 9AM**

PRIDE OF LIONS

(Michigan Premiere) – A deeply moving documentary about Sierra Leone, and the eleven year civil war that has left the country devastated. Witnessing the Sierra Leoneans ability to overcome inconceivable human atrocities and reclaim their legacy is inspirational, and for some, life-changing.

SAT 6/13 @ 2PM & SUN 6/14 @ 11:30AM

PULLING JOHN

(Midwest Premiere) – Legendary arm-wrestling champion John Brzenk is feeling the aches and pains of old age and must decide whether to leave the sport or defend his name by competing against the rising young stars of arm-wrestling.

OFFICIAL SELECTION, SXSW FILM FESTIVAL.

FRI 6/12 @ 7PM & SUN 6/14 @ 2PM

ROUTE 30

A hilarious comedy with three interconnecting stories from the backwoods country along the Lincoln Highway in South Central Pennsylvania. Where else can you find a Civil War tour guide, an Internet porn schemer, a Christian Scientist, a smoking, drinking, swearing, TV-watching Amish woman, and... Bigfoot all in one place?

SAT 6/13 @ 2PM & SUN 6/14 @ 11:30AM

ST. NICK

(Midwest Premiere) – An evocative and virtually wordless portrait of childhood; stark and spare with beautiful cinematography. A young brother and sister attempt to survive on their own through a bitter Texas winter, living in the woods, hiding in barns and sheds. They take up residence in an abandoned country house and, for a brief, happy period, manage to escape the harsh realities of their circumstances.

SAT 6/13 @ 9AM & SUN 6/14 @ 4:30PM

TRUE ADOLESCENTS

(Midwest Premiere) – A poignant coming-of-age comedy that follows Sam, a washed up rocker who hasn’t quite realized it yet. Jobless and homeless, he crashes with his aunt as a last resort. Reluctantly, he agrees to chaperone her teenage son and his nerdy pal on a camping trip. In the stirring Pacific Northwest wilderness a surprising discovery turns dire -- and the distance from boy to man must be covered overnight.

FRI 6/12 @ 9AM & SUN 6/14 @ 2PM

TRUE NORTH

(U.S. Premiere) – An unflinching thriller dealing with the horrendous consequences of human trafficking. A skipper’s son accepts a large sum of money to smuggle Chinese illegal immigrants to Scotland in an attempt to help his father keep his boat. When one of the immigrants dies, despair triggers tragic actions.

FRI 6/12 @ 4:30PM & SUN 6/14 @ 9AM

WAITING FOR OPHELIA

(Midwest Premiere) – Three couples at different stages of their relationships meet for an anniversary dinner. While waiting for the 6th guest to arrive, Jonah and Caitlin are forced to examine the crossroads to which they’ve come and make a final decision which will change their lives forever.

Starring Emmy Award Winner, YEARDLEY SMITH IN ATTENDANCE

FRI 6/12 @ 4:30PM & SAT 6/13 @ 11:30AM

WEATHER GIRL

(Midwest Premiere) – After learning that her boyfriend is cheating on her with his co-host, a Seattle morning show weather girl freaks out on-air and is fired. Forced to move in with her little brother, she must cope with being 35, single, unemployed and, unfortunately, famous for being the “Sassy Weather Girl” who lost it on live television.

FRI 6/12 @ 9AM & SUN 6/14 @ 2PM

GALA FILMS

AGAINST THE CURRENT

(Midwest Premiere) – Struggling with a tragic past, a writer decides to recruit two friends and embark on a journey to swim the lower Hudson River. Their lives will never be the same again. Featuring Justin Kirk, Elizabeth Reaser, Joseph Fiennes, Mary Tyler Moore. **OFFICIAL SELECTION, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 11:30AM & SUN 6/14 @ 4:30PM**

THE ANSWER MAN

(Midwest Premiere) – Michigan's own Jeff Daniels stars in this touchingly poignant comedy as the reclusive author of a best-selling book in which he claims to have spoken directly to God. Lauren Graham is a struggling single mom searching for the answers to the universe. **GRAND JURY PRIZE NOMINEE, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. SAT 6/13 @ 7PM and SUN 6/14 @ 11:30AM**

DARE

(Midwest Premiere) – This high school drama of teenage angst and sexual identity diverges from the usual formula. In a final effort to shake up their constructed lives before graduating high school, three unlikely friends find their lives intertwined in more ways than one. **GRAND JURY PRIZE NOMINEE, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 7PM & SAT 6/13 @ 9PM**

FIERCE LIGHT

(Michigan Premiere) – Does spirituality, the search for inner meaning, still have a place in a world in crisis? This groundbreaking and visually stunning film takes us on a global journey in search of stories of spiritual activism. Compelling, uplifting and inspiring, the film is a poetic call to heartfelt action featuring interviews with spiritual activists Thich Nhat Hanh, Desmond Tutu, Daryl Hannah, Julia Butterfly Hill, and more. **DARYL HANNAH IN ATTENDANCE. FRI 6/12 @ 7PM & SAT 6/13 @ 11:30AM**

HUMPDAY

(Midwest Premiere) – A clever, witty and frequently hilarious film about two old college buddies who drunkenly find themselves agreeing to participate in a local amateur porn contest in which they must have sex on camera...with each other. With neither willing to be the first to back down, the only complications are their complete heterosexuality and a disapproving wife. **SPECIAL JURY PRIZE, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL; OFFICIAL SELECTION, CANNES FILM FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 11PM & SAT 6/13 @ 4:30PM**

PETER AND VANDY

(Midwest Premiere) – A small gem of a romantic comedy featuring what the Hollywood Reporter referred to as "star-making performances" from lead actors Jason Ritter and Jess Weixler. Jumping back and forth

in time, we see the relationship of Peter and Vandy, a young Manhattan couple, as their relationship unfolds from initial romance to subsequent deterioration.

GRAND JURY PRIZE NOMINEE, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. SAT 6/13 @ 2PM & SUN 6/14 @ 7PM

WOMEN IN TROUBLE

(Midwest Premiere) – A fun and campy take on the B-List "women in trouble" exploitation films of the 1970's, from "Snakes on a Plane" writer Sebastian Gutierrez. Featuring a stellar cast that includes Carla Gugino, Josh Brolin, Marley Shelton and Connie Britton in a serpentine story that interweaves one day in the lives of a psychiatrist, a masseuse, a pair of call girls, a bartender, and a porn star.

OFFICIAL SELECTION, SXSW FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 4:30PM & SAT 6/13 @ 9AM

WORLD'S GREATEST DAD

(Midwest Premiere) – A wickedly funny, adult, dark comedy starring Robin Williams as a frustrated high school poetry teacher and single father dealing with an odious and unlikable teenage son. A truly twisted, hilariously perverse, and refreshingly original film from comedian/director Bobcat Goldthwait.

OFFICIAL SELECTION, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. FRI 6/12 @ 9PM & SAT 6/13 @ 9PM

MICHIGAN LODGE

AFTER THE FALL

This film follows two American journalists on their trip to Vietnam for the 30th anniversary of the fall of Saigon, offering views from both sides of the conflict and two generations' perceptions of the war and its legacy. **SAT 6/13 @ 9AM**

THE BLUE DEVILS

This documentary traces the lives of the brave men who flew combat missions over Japan in WWII. Told by pilots themselves, this film shares the amazing and miraculous stories of their fight for freedom. **SAT 6/13 @ 2PM**

DETACHED

A contemporary Scrooge tale of an unscrupulous mortgage broker who receives a stream of anonymous holiday greetings cards, and is forced to face the unfavorable reality of just how many people he's harmed during his life. **SAT 6/13 @ 9PM**

JESUS PEOPLE

(World Premiere) - Set the classic "rock-mockumentary" Spinal Tap in the world of Christian dance-pop music, and you've got Jesus People. Featuring some of Hollywood's sharpest improvisational actors. **SAT 6/13 @ 4:30PM**

TOM McPHEE'S AN AMERICAN OPERA: THE GREATEST PET RESCUE EVER!

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, tens of thousands of house pets were abandoned when their owners were forced to evacuate without them. For 22 months, Tom McPhee documented this historic event as it unfolded. **SAT 6/13 @ 11:30AM**

THE TWENTY

Carty has a new baby, a tense marriage, and four months of fragile sobriety. When he discovers a twenty dollar bill with a message written on it, an obsession begins. **SAT 6/13 @ 7PM**

SHORTS PROGRAM

DRAMATIC SHORTS

A collection of award-winning short dramas. **SAT 6/13 @ 4:30PM & SUN 6/14 @ 2PM**

COMEDIC SHORTS

A collection of audience favorite funny short films. **SAT 6/13 @ 7PM & SUN 6/14 @ 4:30PM**

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TEL-269.857.8351
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