

Reel HeART

International Film Festival



JUNE 22 - 25,
2005 Toronto

Welcome to RHIFF!

The ReelHeART International Film Festival breaks away from the flurry of narrow themed festivals and returns to the true spirit of a varied and open film festival, where the RHIFF shows "Real Films with Real Heart."

Founded by an arts and film supporter of Irish descent who speaks 3 languages; this had a big influence on why we decided to promote English, Spanish and French as the 'official languages' of RHIFF. Therefore, films received in Spanish and French did not have to be subtitled specifically for our festival. We believe this adds to the artistic and creative exchange throughout RHIFF and also helps bring a cultural mix of dedicated sponsors, media and film goers to our festival and establish long term relationships with RHIFF.

RHIFF is dedicated to supporting the need for exposure for all levels of independent filmmakers around the world, where filmmakers can be recognized for their art, rather than their credits.

We found an effective way to communicate to submitting filmmakers by implementing our RHIFF Programmers Pledge which in part states: "We will watch your film from minute one to minute none...". In our first year, along with our mission statement, I strongly believe this facilitated film submissions from 34 States, 1 District, 5 Provinces, 1 Territory and 23 Countries. We are proud of this accomplishment and it shows in our distinctive programming. Whether these films made it through to the final round or not, one thing that was very clear with all films this year was that these filmmakers put a lot of detail and care into their stories. The heart in all films entered was clearly evident.

The ReelHeART International Film Festival has a goal to satisfy and challenge the interests of filmgoers and film supporters and to encourage, reward and celebrate the ReelHeART of film. Whether you are a film enthusiast, filmmaker, reviewer or media, the enthusiastic welcome you'll receive at the RHIFF will be talked about from one year to the next...and not just at the RHIFF.

Thank you for being people with ReelHeART

Shannon Kelly, Director
ReelHeART International Film Festival [RHIFF]
www.reelheartfilmfestival.com

RHIFF ORGANIZERS

K. Irenaeus MacKinnon (Founder)
Shannon Kelly (Director)
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And the sequestered cast of RHIFF Programmers!*

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The Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor Street
www.bloorcinema.com



THURSDAY June 23, 2005

PAY BLOC A

Show Time 10:00

PLEASANT STREET
Toronto Premiere
Dir Gerry Rogers
Canada, St. John's NF
01 hr : 06 min : 00 sec



FD Meet neighbors Ken, Leida and "My Left Breast" filmmaker, Gerry Rogers. They have all been diagnosed with cancer; two of them have been given six months to live. Pleasant Street is an intimate look at these two people and how they are living with dying.

PILAR
World Premiere
Dir Leda Maliga
USA, Los Angeles, CA
00 hr : 51 min : 24 sec



LFD Of particular controversy in the medical and educational communities is the use of cochlear implants. The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) encourages parents and deaf adults to research other options besides implantation. Pilar was born almost completely deaf and grew up expressing herself through her art in the hearing world. In her late 20's she participated in a study on the cochlear implant and began a journey into a world of sound. This is a heartfelt portrait of Pilar as she overcomes obstacles with inspiring humor and grace.

RHIFF LEGEND

FF	Feature Film	[+80 minutes]
LFF	Long Form Film	[-60 minutes]
SH	Short Film	[-40 minutes]
FD	Feature Documentary	[+80 minutes]
LFD	Long Form Documentary	[-60 minutes]
SD	Short Documentary	[-40 minutes]
D/M	Dance or Music Related Film	
AN	Animation	

PAY BLOC B

Show Time 12:30

I DARE NOT GO
Toronto Premiere
Dir Andriana Maggs
Canada, St. John's NL
00hr : 27 min : 47 sec



SF I DARE NOT GO is the Story of neglected Crystal who is haunted by a brother she doesn't remember. She visits him where he drowned eight years before but when she gets a boyfriend, she stops needing him and he begins to haunt her. It is the story of a family who are desperate to move past the death of their son.

A PLACE LIKE THIS
Canadian Premiere
Dir Yvonne Kenney
USA, New York, NY
00 hr : 59 min : 00 sec



LFD We go beyond the "No Visitors" sign of an increasingly rare institution, a Catholic-run women's residence in New York City, and focus on the emotional worlds of its diverse and eccentric residents as we watch these women pursue their dreams and wrestle their demons. Through their stories, an in-depth portrait of the residence appears, leaving us with a greater understanding of the value and risk of these women-only residences.

THROUGH THE EYES OF ARTISTS

Toronto Premiere
Dir Yvonne DuBourdieu
Canada, Edmonton, AB
00 hr : 51 min : 00 sec

LFD A group of artists with developmental disabilities came together to create art and discuss human rights and citizenship. But who will listen?

THURSDAY June 23, 2005

PAY BLOC C

Show Time: 16:00

NOT GOOD-BYE
World Premiere
Dir James Beatty
USA, Orange, CA
00 hr : 22 min : 12 sec



SF Jesse Finley is a man who is lost himself, when an abused girl on the run, named Sylvia, turns to Jesse for help. Reluctantly, Jesse rescues her and in the process, saves himself as well. The issues of child abuse responsibility, self-respect, fatherhood and family are all delicately woven into this short film.

DANCING WITH YOU
World Premiere
Dir Cornelia Moore
USA, Seattle, WA
00 hr : 10 min : 23 sec

DM/SF Dana, an injured ballerina, must decide whether to keep mourning her lost career or move on, when a man in a bar asks her to dance with him. 'Dancing With You' is a love story with both swing dance and ballet sequences, filmed in New York, and starring principal dancers Jenifer Ringer and James Fayette of New York City Ballet.

THREE RIVERS
North American Premiere
Dir Marten Berkman
Canada, White Horse, YK
00hr : 15 min : 00 sec



SF Eight incredibly vastly different artists interpret the Yukon Territory in all its grandeur and uniqueness, by incorporating its fabulous vistas and amazing geological landscape into their own personal views and abilities on art.

SO GLAD I MADE IT
World Premiere
Dir Chris Sautter
USA, Washington, DC
01 hr : 37 min : 48 sec



FD SO GLAD I MADE IT is the saga of singer songwriter Roger Salloom, a 50-something former 1960s psychedelic rocker and 1970s Nashville songwriter, who tries to jump-start his career after a 20 years absence from the music business.

PAY BLOC D

Show Time: 19:00

FREEDOM FROM DESPAIR
Theatrical Premiere
Dir Brenda Brkusic
USA, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
01hr : 35 min : 00 sec

FD FREEDOM FROM DESPAIR portrays the incredible story of Kruno Brkusic, who as a young man risked his life to flee from the Communist Yugoslavia - a regime that suppressed Croatian culture through state-sanctioned terror - and later became an American activist fighting to save his war ravaged homeland in the 1990's.

LEO Y JULITA
North American Premiere
Dir Ana María Reyes-Sánchez
Cuba & Paris, France
00 hr : 32 min : 00 sec



SF Julita moves to Cuba to prepare for her piano scholarship to Moscow, and encounters her new landlord Leo. While there she enters the same Art School where Leo teaches drama. Their admiration turns into a love affair triggering a series of events that threaten their relationship to the point where they become outcasts in their own country.

RHIFF PROGRAMMERS PLEDGE

Do you get the feeling that festival programmers only watch the first 10 minutes or less of your film?

"We, the RHIFF Programmers, pledge that we will watch every minute of every submission sent to the ReelHeART International Film Festival. We will give each film the attention it deserves. From opening credits to the closing Thank You's, Location Credits and cruelty to animals waiver. We will watch your film from moment one-moment none..."

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THURSDAY June 23, 2005

PAY BLOC E

Show Time 21:15

THE HISTORY OF THE
CONQUEST OF SPACE -
MORNING 1, MORNING 2,
MORNING 3, MORNING 4
World Premiere
Dir Stefanos Mondelos
Athens, Greece
00hr : 19 min : 00 sec



SF When a stranger intrudes in the space of a family, "pater-familias" is summoned to preserve what is his. However, the members of the family, one after the other, together with him, succumb to his "charm".

ORIGINAL PRIDE
Canadian Premiere
Dir Scott Bloom
USA, Toluca Lake CA
00hr : 55 min : 03 sec



LFD An historic look at the real origins of the Modern Gay Pride movement. This film offers a revealing look at the evolution of the gay motorcycle club culture and it's influence on the lives of all gay people. Transported via archive photos, footage and first hand accounts by the men who where there, it's a step back in time to a place only few of us can remember.

LARAMIE INSIDE OUT
Canadian Premiere
Dir Beverly Seckinger
USA, Tucson, AZ
00 hr : 56 min : 00 sec



LFD This intimate personal documentary explores the aftermath of Matthew Shepard's 1998 murder on the filmmaker's Wyoming hometown by incorporating the dimension of a personal diary, which adds a uniquely intimate perspective on the murder and its aftermath. Laramie Inside Out also focuses on a diverse group of Laramie residents who were inspired to positive social action in the wake of the murder.

PAY BLOC F

Show Time 23:45

SOMETER
00 hr : 05 min : 00 sec
Dir Iris Almaraz

SF Spanish: Someter a una prueba, probar, examinar, ensayar, comprobar, analizar. English: A series of questions, problems, or physical responses designed to determine knowledge, intelligence, or ability. A procedure for critical evaluation; a means of determining the presence, quality, or truth of something; a trial: a test...

BURNT ORANGES
Canadian Premier
Dir Silvia Malagrino
Argentina via USA,
Chicago Illinois
01 hr : 30 min : 00 secs



FD BURNT ORANGES is an experimental documentary about the long-term effects and repercussions of Argentina's 1970's state terrorism. The film vividly reveals current life in Buenos Aires through the eyes of a long-gone native, while it also records and uncovers compelling testimonies of resistance, transformation, and hope. Juxtaposing an intimate first person witness narration with interviews, documentary, and re-created footage, issues of memory, historical time, identity, love, loss and accountability emerge.

FRIDAY June 24, 2005

PAY BLOC A

Show Time: 10:00

BATHING
North American Premiere
Dir Julija Naskova
Macedonia via Paris France
00hr : 04 min : 00 sec

SF The act of a beautiful woman combing her long hair transcends into a ritual of love and purification. Inspired from Impressionists paintings. Bathing cinematically represents the act from the female perspective.

SANDSTORM
Toronto Premiere
Dir Michael Mahonen
Canada via USA,
Branchwood NJ
01 hr : 16 min : 00 sec



FF A man and his wife are trapped in their home for 12 days during a sandstorm in China. She is running out of medicine, their food and water are almost gone and their daughter is missing. As a policeman, he has been involved in the persecution of Chinese citizens who follow the practice of Falun Gong. In this confinement, he replays his involvement with a particular Falun Gong practitioner whom he had been trying to force to renounce her beliefs.

WHY SHAKESPEARE
World Premiere
Dir Lawrence Bridges
USA, Santa Monica, CA
00 hr : 21 min : 00 sec



SD This inspirational documentary illustrates the importance of theatre and Shakespeare and how it can change people's lives. Testimonials from many successful actors such as Tom Hanks, Martin Sheen, Michael York, Bill Pullman, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Christina Applegate and William Shatner among others.

PAY BLOC B

Show Time: 12:00

BETTY'S TREATS
Canadian Premiere
Dir Kaye Kittrell
USA, Pacific Palisades, CA
00hr : 07 min : 08 sec



SF BETTY'S TREATS is a comic love tale with a twist, set in 1957, Riverdale, USA. Betty is busy in the kitchen making her true love's favorite treats when the doorbell rings, which changes the course of her day.

SWEET DESTINY
Dir Francine Pellegrino
USA, Boston MA
01 hr : 33 min : 00 sec



FF Set in the Italian enclave of Boston's North End SWEET DESTINY, tells of love at any age. When 17 year old Joey meets Cathy, a wealthy girl, Joey not only gets caught in a wild love affair but a cultural tug-of war. Emmy award winning actor, Abe Vigoda in his first romantic role, plays Joey's Grandfather opposite mature Ford model Carmen. Joey's single mother struggles with her own love relationships, played by Soprano actors Frank Santorelli and John Fiore, in nonviolent roles. Music by Tim Janis, original songs sung by Frankie Avalon and Livingston Taylor.

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FRIDAY June 24, 2005

PAY BLOC C

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY
North American Premiere
Dir Rebecca Albeck
Australia, Victoria City
00hr : 06 min : 00 sec

SF Childhood is in danger of extinction. Jade, a gentle and funny Vietnamese-Australian girl helps us peek into the hectic life of today's child.

LETTERS TO DEFIANCE
World Premiere
Mark Bonn
USA, Hermosa Beach, CA
00 hr : 38 min : 07 sec

SD During WWII Cpl. Francis Seibert of Defiance, Ohio was stationed in Amarillo, Texas as an Air Force instructor training men to become aircraft mechanics for the B-17 and B-29 bombers. He wrote home to his family almost every day, illustrating his envelopes with cartoons - his mother saved all 610 of these envelopes and letters.

TWITCH
Canadian Premiere
Dir Leah Meyerhoff
USA, Brooklyn, NY
00hr : 10 min : 00 sec

SF TWITCH is a coming of age story about a teenage girl who is resentful about taking care of her mother, who has Multiple Sclerosis. Their complex, fractured relationship is based on Meyerhoff's own experience with her ailing mother, who she casts in her film.

Show Time 14:00



SEARCHING FOR GREAT AUNT MARY
World Premiere
Dir Mary Britton
USA, Minneapolis, MN
00hr : 24 min : 50 sec

SD SEARCHING FOR MARY tries to find the woman behind the family legends of director Mary Britton's great-great aunt Mary Gavin. Lt. Col Mary Gavin served in both World Wars, was awarded two medals by the French Government and is buried in Arlington Cemetery.

PAY BLOC D

EQUILITY
World Premiere
Dir Sean O'Connor,
Music by Jean Michel Jarre
USA, Plainville, MA
00 hr : 11 min : 11 sec

SD The Vernal Equinox was perpetually celebrated as the first day of each New Year for most of the world up until the introduction of the modern day Gregorian Calendar in the 16th century. Equility contemplates what still remains in our passive minds during this day of 're-birth,' an unconscious serenity that has been linked to recurring patterns in our DNA.

BILLY CONROY TAKES A STAND
Canadian Premiere
Dir Douglas McKay
USA, Newbury Park, CA
00 hr : 06 min : 10 sec

SF Billy Conroy is a ten-year-old boy who escapes abuse and poverty into the world of his comic-book heroes until the day that one of them comes to life and shows the boy that within him lies the strength to face reality.

More of Bloc D ...



FRIDAY June 24, 2005

More of Bloc D...

Show Time 16:00

L'UIKNEK

Canadian Premiere
Dir Stephane Bry
St. Pierre et Miquelon,
France
00hr : 52 min : 00 sec



LFD When the Mi'kmaq First Nation meet the French in a historical re-enactment, both communities of Conne River (Newfoundland) and Miquelon (St-Pierre & Miquelon - France) rediscover their historical and spiritual links.

DANCING FROM THE HEART

Canadian Premiere
Dir Marilyn Hunt
USA, Santa Fe, NM
00 hr : 47 min : 23 sec



DM/LFD Impassioned Andrew Garcia of San Juan Pueblo, New Mexico recovered alcoholic and now cultural and addiction counselor, explores his culture as living world view and antidote to social problems, and its dances as beautiful, enduring prayer and sacrifice, alternating with family scenes of preparations, prayers, feast-day meals.

PAY BLOC E

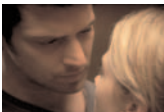
Show Time 19:00

GOPHER BROKE
World Premiere,
Academy Award
Nomination 2005
Dir Jeff Fowler
USA, Venice CA
00 hr : 04 min : 18 sec



AN Gopher Broke tells the tale of a cunning rodent's smashing encounter with a produce truck on a lonely country road.

THE PRINCE OF JERSEY
Toronto Premiere
Founders Favorite
Dir Alexander Maslow
USA, Hollywood, CA
00 hr : 45 min : 40 sec



LFF Two rough, hard-living friends, Paul and Robbie, spend their days working to collect the fallen leaves and drink their nights away at the local bar. Paul is struggling to save enough money to pursue his dream. Robbie lives only for the excitement of football gambling. One day, a man walks into the bar with a strange proposal, setting into motion a chain of events that will change their lives forever...

INVISIBLE SCREAM
Canadian Premiere
Dir Keith Josef Adkins
USA, Cincinnati, OH
via Los Angeles, CA
00 hr : 26 min : 54 sec



SF Bobby Roberts, a young African American man living in Cincinnati, Ohio who loses everything on the day of his birthday. INVISIBLE SCREAM is a haunting commentary on the expendable lives of young African American men in Cincinnati, Ohio...

THE FIX
Toronto Premiere
Dir Adam Kane
USA, Glendale, CA
00 hr : 32 min : 09 sec



SF A classic story of a father living his dream through his son. Shay Riley (Robert Patrick), once a heavyweight contender, lost his career years ago by throwing a fight for money. Now Shay coaches his son Benny and fights to keep his son from making the wrong choice on a high stakes fight night. Tension builds to the breaking point when Shay's son confronts his father which begins the biggest challenge of each of their lives...

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FRIDAY June 24, 2005

PAY BLOC F

HOMEcomings
World Premiere
Dir Emma Farrell
United Kingdom,
Brighton East Sussex
00 hr : 15 min : 00 sec

SF Tadine is a long way from home and wants to return to Kosovo and her beloved Dog, Kostandin. Tadine's determination to get the family home, and the friendship of the boy next door finally forces her father to confront his demons.

DIE AMATEURE UND DER GENERAL

North American Premiere
Dir Helge Cramer
Bosnia and Herzegovina,
via Pottenstein, Germany
01 hr : 43 min : 10 sec

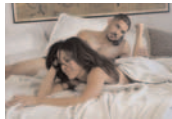
LFD Ten years after the Bosnian war the famous Stari Most is rebuilt to be a bridge between hostiled Catholics and Muslims in Bosnia. This is the story of the falling and rebirth of the Muslim monument, watched through the eyes of men who spent their life at the bridge as friends before war.

INTERSECTION

Canadian Premiere
DIR Eric Haywood
USA, Canoga Park
00 hr : 11 min : 07 sec

SF INTERSECTION takes us through a day in the life of Troy (Terrell Tilford) and Debra (Taji Coleman). Troy and Debra seem to have it all: a beautiful home overlooking the ocean, "his & hers" SUVs. But when Troy gets involved in a fatal hit-and-run accident while spending time with his mistress Carmen (Jackie Nova), he's forced to take some drastic measures to cover his tracks.

Show Time 21:12



PAY BLOC G

MUSCLE
Toronto Premiere
Dir Justin Owensby
USA, Santa Monica, CA
00hr : 05 min : 56 sec

SF High school friends, Clay and Dave, struggle to start an old muscle car.

THIRSTY

Canadian Premiere
Dir Matthias Nehlsen
USA via Hamburg, Germany
00 hr : 02 min : 37 sec

SF What do you do when you gotta go and there's nowhere to go in the middle of the day in public? Invention and resourcefulness takes over in this black & white short.

THE PACKAGE

World Premiere
Dir Carlos Dorsey
00 hr : 08 min : 00 sec
USA, Los Angeles, CA

SF In what seems to be a simple game of chess, a code is given, and a young courier receives a package that holds great wealth and will soon change his life.

THE END OF THE YEAR

World Premiere
Dir Ben Kukee
Canada, Toronto, ON
01 hr : 22 min : 00 sec

FF With their own peculiar self-centric brand of philosophy, two friends, Ben and Simon celebrate the 'end of the year' during a meal that never ends and weirdly begins with madcap musings about life from the beginning to the end.

Show Time 23:40



SATURDAY June 25, 2005

PAY BLOC A

Show Time 10:00

AN ABUNDANT LIFE
The Anthony Gabriel Story
World Premiere
Dir Judy Cruzen
USA, Glendale, CA
00 hr : 19 min : 41 sec



SD An Abundant Life - The Anthony Gabriel Story' is about two remarkable parents, and their promise to a little boy. Anthony Gabriel was born addicted to heroin, crack-cocaine, alcohol and HIV positive. Ultimately, this film is about unconditional love and devotion, unaffected by disease, fear or death.

A PLACE CALLED HOME
Canadian Premiere
Dir Thomas "Chuck" Gaunt
USA, Chicago, Illinois
01 hr : 30 min : 00 sec



FD A heartwarming documentary about the Gaunt family's struggle to adopt nine siblings in the face of overwhelming odds. Five years in the making and told from the perspective of their eldest son Chuck, A PLACE CALLED HOME chronicles the evolution of the United State's second largest sibling group adoption from moments of doubt to moments of hope and triumph for a better future... together.

PAY BLOC B

Show Time 12:15

THE WEEKENDS ARE FOR US
Canadian Premiere
Dir Frank Turner
USA, Chevy Chase, MD
00hr : 26 min : 01 sec



SF Have you ever stopped and noticed the human wallpaper of our cities, be it a stressed-out suit whizzing by, or someone down-and-out sleeping on a grate? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live on the streets? THE WEEKENDS ARE FOR US takes you there, showing two starkly different characters, Jack and Karen, both living from one hand-out to the next in Washington, D.C.

TAHARA
World Premiere
Dir Sara Rashad
USA, Santa Monica, CA
00 hr : 17 min : 30 sec

SF TAHARA depicts the horrifying and very current harsh reality of female genital mutilation on the psyche of Amina who must decide if she will submit to family pressure to circumcise her daughter.

BE VERY QUIET
Canadian Premiere
Dir Mona Nahm
Thailand, via U S A,
Los Angeles, CA
00 hr : 25 min : 00 sec



SF BE VERY QUIET is a story of Thana, a young man that witnessed the rape and murder of his prostitute mom when he was a child. After spending his youth at a temple in the suburbs, Thana comes back to the city to start a new life until one night he sees a man that resembles the killer in his memory. Obsessed with hatred and haunted by nightmares, Thana encounters a path to avenge his mother's death.

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SATURDAY June 25, 2005

More of Bloc B ...

Show Time 12:15

A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT
World Premiere
Dir David Karacic
Australia, Hurstville, NSW
00 hr : 26 min : 20 sec

SF During the course of one night we are introduced to Jules, Matt, Betty and Alex. Matt and Jules are a couple and we find them in the middle of an argument. Alex is frustrated and on the way to the hospital to see his father. Betty is on the night shift on her new job and is in a daze, coming to a realization that her dream job is not what she planned on.

MAY ALL YOUR DAYS BE...

Canadian Premiere
Dir Bruce Johnson
USA, Providence, RI
00 hr : 54 min : 30 sec

LFD This is a colorful, historical tribute journey into the behind the scenes culture and 'family values' of people involved in the American circus, and to the individuals responsible for perpetuating its legacy. The dedication and commitment of circus professionals, fans and scholars is recognized and honored.

PAY BLOC C

Show Time 15:00

"KURE FOR KIRKLAND" SICK KIDS HOSPITAL
Event ID #4047675

FLY AWAY
Special Engagement
Dir Danny Oakley [In Competition]
USA, Winston-Salem, NC
00 hr : 10 min : 55 sec

AN A little wooden plane, despite the price it must pay, does the impossible and joins a world it could only dream of.

THE DIRTY DISH
Canadian Premiere
Dir Shannonn Kelly,
[Non Competition]
USA via Canada, Toronto, ON
01 hr : 40 min : 00 sec



FD Soul Food Meets Sex And The City Meets Oprah! A revealing and stimulating look into the lives of fifteen contemporary Black and White women between the ages of 22-50 who as strangers, share their personal experiences and focus on topics such as Skin Color, Beauty and Body Image, Abuse, Racism, Interracial Families, Men, the Media, Pop Culture and more.

PAY BLOC D

Show Time 17:05

IT'S A PLEASURE
World Premiere
Dir Elizabeth Szekeresh
USA, Burbank, CA
00hr : 07 min : 30 sec



SF Ann moves in with a Dragon Lady of a roommate who cares more about grooming herself than welcoming Ann. No matter what the circumstances - a self-absorbed roommate or a jerk of a landlord - Ann learns about the greatest love of all. Corina Mora is geeky, funny and sexy in a Ricki Lake/ America Ferrara creamy goeey kind of way....

CASTING ABOUT
Canadian Premier
Dir Barry J. Hershey
USA, Germany & United Kingdom
01 hr : 26 min : 00 sec

FD A lyrical documentary that explores the experience of casting for a dramatic film, weaving together footage from auditions with 350 actresses vying for 3 parts, in 5 cities: Berlin, Boston, Chicago, London, and Los Angeles.

SATURDAY June 25, 2005

PAY BLOC E

Show Time 19:00

SA BLACK THING

North American Premiere
Dir Rima Tamou
Australia, New South Wales
00 hr : 26 min : 42 sec

SF For obnoxious businessman Clinton Spice life is about to go horribly wrong. After a chance meeting with a vivacious young woman his pitching documents go missing and he sets out to track down the thief before his pending deadline.

FORMOSA

Canadian Premiere
Dir Noah Kadner
USA, Venice, CA
01hr : 26 min : 00 sec



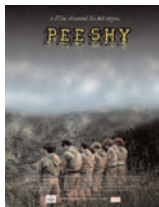
FF Albuquerque, 1951. A struggling community of social guidance filmmakers, search for ways to keep their studio afloat and spend their last dollars on a mysterious con man they mistake for a Method actor. The con man wants a quick buck, and the filmmakers want a realistic edge to their films. Both get much more than they bargained for in this warm, engaging comedy.

PAY BLOC F

Show Time 21:15

PEE SHY

World Premiere
Dir Deb Hagan
USA, Los Angeles, CA
00 hr : 15 min : 00 sec



SF A boy becomes so frightened by his scout leader's campfire stories that he humiliates himself one night, and becomes the object of the scout leader's vicious humor; until the troop encounters something truly terrifying in the woods.

THE TALL TALE HEART

The Tall Tale Heart
World Premiere
Dir Tom Raycove
Canada, Vancouver, BC
00 hr : 19 min : 47 sec



SF Screened at the Marche du Film Cannes, France in May 2005; The Tall Tale is a delicious spoof of the Edgar Allen Poe's The Tell Tale Heart about the story of One house. One chainsaw. One less roommate. The Simpson's Halloween Episode EAP spoof, will now have to officially take a back seat to this version.

ENCOUNTERS

Canadian Premiere
Dir Pat Kelman
UK, Greenwich, England
01hr : 22 min : 50 sec



FF Who said there's someone for everyone? Ten lonely people meet at Simon's first Speed Dating night. What are they looking for, and do their romantic dreams come true? Deborah wants a good time. Jacynthe and Mateuz want passports. John and Sue want true love. Carol wants a partner. Julie is there on a dare. Peter is just weird. ENCOUNTERS is the first film from established British character actor ('The Odyssey', 'Lighthouse') Pat Kelman.

Special Thanks

Active Surplus Electronics

347 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5V 2A4
416-593-0057
www.activesurplus.com

Budget Car Rental

150 Cumberland Street
Toronto, ON M5R 1A8
416-927-8300
www.budget.com

ReelHeART International Film Festival

JUNE 22-25, 2005 Toronto, ON, Canada
www.reelheartfilmfestival.com

The Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor Street
www.bloorcinema.com



VENUE PARTNERS

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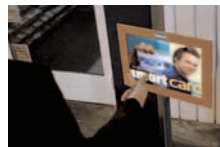


SATURDAY June 25, 2005

PAY BLOC G

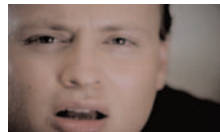
SMARTCARD
World Premiere
DIR James Oxford
USA, Wodland Hills, CA
00 hr : 15 min : 40 sec

SF SMART CARD, is a tale of a utopian future where every aspect of your life intergrated into one system. Convenience and simplicity is the product and Smart Corporation does the packaging. Robert Sharpe (David Kreigel) has been living this care free life. Everything is perfect, until he encounters a philosophical vagrant (Bret Roberts) at a local fueling station who steals the one item you can not do without, his SMART CARD.



SPECTATOR 3D
World Premiere
Dir Christopher Potter
USA, Bloomington, IN
00 hr : 23 min : 56 sec

SF Cynthia Mash steps out onto her first floor balcony and sees a woman enter her building and then a man exit. The next day, Detectives come to inquire about the death of one of her neighbors the day before. Cynthia remembers the man and woman she saw outside the building. She is asked to identify from secret recordings that the victim made. Cynthia is shocked to see herself on the recordings. SPECTATOR is film which uses stereoscopy (3D) to drive the audience to experience Cynthia's reality, and decide what it is to remember.



Show Time 23:30

BAD DAY
World Premiere
Dir Dominic Makin
United Kingdom,
Halifax, England
01 hr : 22 min : 00 sec

FF Two New York art thieves come to England to steal a masters painting and philosophize over the finer points of life, death and the biological make up of the humble house fly, which eventually leads to a game to see who will carry out an indiscriminate killing. Meanwhile two professional car thieves are doing their own deep thinking on whether or not to call it a day after a car theft that left one of their accomplices dead. Meanwhile three drug dealers are getting ready for their latest deal and doing some philosophizing of their own. These people who should never ever meet....meet, in a shattering pivotal coincidence that changes their lives for ever.



Venue Programming

GLADSTONE HOTEL
1214 Queen Street West
RHIFF Opening Gala
Wednesday June 22
Doors @ 8PM

Lasse Raa, Norway

Recode

A video written in DNA, the 2nd of video installations by Norwegian artist Lasse Raa, an Art College teacher in Oslo. What happens when you are fascinated by machine code and genetic code. What happens is: you put together an incredible brain tickling film.

Eric Booth, USA

Forbidden Fruit

Eric says his film tells the story of: "A transgender female in love with a drug addicted, alcoholic heterosexual man who takes care of him in hopes that he will one day fall in love with her. When her lover's illegitimate son drops in on them unexpectedly, her whole world is turned upside down." Any story on gay, lesbian, transgender stories is important. It's a world that not many people get to know. Look past any production standards of FORBIDDEN FRUIT and feel the story Eric has to tell.

David DiSabatino, USA

Frisbee: The Life And Death Of A Hippie Preacher

FRISBEE recounts the life of a radical hippie turned Christian evangelist whose call into the ministry came while involved in the Laguna Beach homosexual scene. Even though he was the spark who propelled two of the largest evangelical denominations in the last thirty years into existence, he was treated with contempt throughout his career because of his sexuality. What do you do when the Jesus freak who starts your church dies from AIDS? Simple. Erase him from history.

Debra Hussong, USA
Cut, Human Shield, Battered Bruised & Broken

Human Shield

63-year old ex-schoolteacher, Faith Fippinger speaks candidly and emotionally about her experience living with the Iraqi people just before, during and after the 2003 United States invasion.

Cut

Experimental 16 mm narrative student short that weaves a very tight web into the world of a young woman who expresses her vulnerability through obsession of her long, black, beautiful hair.

Battered Bruised & Broken

"I remember listening to Lynn Mison talk about being abused by her ex-husband," Ms. Hussong said. "But, when Lynn said her ex-husband murdered her children in order to get back at her for leaving him, I was so overwhelmed I felt dizzy and powerless."

PLAZA FLAMINGO
423 College Street
RHIFF Latin Night
Thursday June 23
Doors @ 9PM

Hari Das, India/Canada

The Photo

The 2 children in this film have very good chemistry. The subject matter illustrates how innocence can be destroyed in the blink of an eye. THE PHOTO, which won first prize in Boston Motion Picture Awards competition is a touching drama about two innocent children in an isolated Indian village.

Wristbands in Effect

Advance \$10 Films Only
Advance \$20 Films & Party
Door \$12 Films Only
Door \$25 Films & Party

J. Plunky Branch, USA/Cuba
Under The Radar: A Survey Of Afro-Cuban Music

UNDER THE RADAR introduces viewers to the distinct music of Cuba and surveys the enigmatic island's current music scene by following J. Plunky Branch [the films producer], and his interactions and collaborations with Afro-Cuban musicians and rappers such as David Murray, Craig Harris, Hamiet Bluiett and hip-hop producer Sir Fire.

James Walley, USA

Titanic II

A young woman obsessed with "Titanic" and identifying to an almost unhealthy degree with the heroine of the latter, gets a chance to play that part to the hilt when she meets a free-spirited but penniless young man who works as a janitor at a Titanic artifact exhibition.

Walter Stewart, USA

Sweet Deadly Dreams

Walter's film is chock full of character actors like Roscoe Lee Brown (Logan's Run, The Cosby Show), Bill Cobbs (Ghosts Of Mississippi; Hudsucker Proxy) John Ashton (Beverly Hills Cop, Midnight Run) and Quinn Redeker who most know from The Young and the Restless and Days of our Lives, but who many don't know is actually an Academy Award® winning co-writer of the Deer Hunter.



Venue Programming

BANZAI SUSHI
134 Peter Street
RHIFF French Night
Friday June 24
Doors @ 9PM

Nancy Heikin USA/France

Manana

Manana is about procrastination or, how the road to hell is paved with good intentions. Marie wonders why people find it so hard to be "good." Seeing her neighbor is sick, she decides that buying her flowers would make her "good." But this simple gesture turns out to be difficult to accomplish, what with all the stresses of life, and the ideal of goodness more elusive than she thought.

Michele Gales, France
Another Tale Of Two Cities

ANOTHER TALE OF TWO CITIES is a musical and impressionistic study of urban issues, recounting recent dramatic transformations in the Faubourg Saint-Antoine in Paris and in Spitalfields-Whitechapel in London. Three chapters from Dickens' novel, 'Recalled to Life', 'The Golden Thread' and 'The Track of the Storm', correspond to three aspects of our enquiry : urban regeneration, historic preservation, community participation. A patchwork, a pageant, a puzzle, a plea.



Rina Fernandez, USA

Jayson

In JAYSON, we see what he sees. A house filled with tension, abuse and emotional torment. This film comes from the all female collective called Bella Donna Films who build their sets with stuff from Home Depot and write, shoot, act, grip, gaffer, edit and produce all their own films.

Thomas Simon, Austria

Walkabout

Follow Thomas as he winds through New York City, Austria, Brasil, Nepal and India. Kind of a groovy musical version of "Where's Waldo", this film explores the meaning of music across different cultures as Simon finds his direction in life. Join the journey, see the differences, discover the similarities, feel the music. Peace and percussions. Get inspired to give back to the world. Where's my yoga mat...

SOUTHERN ACCENT
595 Markham Street
RHIFF Fiesta Finale
Saturday, June 25
Doors @ 8PM

Lou Mason, USA

No. Not Dillon!

If Howard Stern had a TV kids show, Richard Dreyfuss, never discovered "The Method", and Christina Applegate had a look-a-like sister that was a modern day Mary Tyler Moore up and coming producer; that would be a smidgen of what's going on in this screwball comedy film out of Rochester New York. There is a "4th wall break" that has marvelous timing...

Wristbands in Effect

Advance \$10 Films Only
Advance \$20 Films & Party
Door \$12 Films Only
Door \$25 Films & Party

Christopher Banks, New Zealand
A Quiet Night In

B-movie madness ensues when would-be novelist Jess Bartlett stages a "quiet night in" to finish her new book, fuelled by endless glasses of red wine and her favorite board game, "Cluedo". But the path to creative perfection is never easy, and as Jess moves her pieces into place, her life will unravel before your eyes in a hilarious web of confusion as she becomes trapped inside her house with a troubled footballer, a manic TV advice show host, a randy old author and an unseen chicken. The stakes are higher than she realises, for before the night is out, Jess will be forced to question her worth as a writer, a human being – and whether she should have made pizza for dinner.

Franks Elkins, USA

Mental Health

Sanity runs awry when four reality-challenged eccentrics become involved with Dr. Will Power and his pop-psychology radio program, 'Mental Health'. Ted is a 'wanna-be' serial bomber suffering from delusions of grandeur and low self-esteem. Ryan is tormented by the sound of voices whenever the scent of pizza wafts in his direction. Don sits alone and isolated, surrounded by the clutter of a house he hasn't left in three years. And Sarah, who thinks every bump in the road is proof of another casualty, is driving herself crazy – literally!

Lawrence Bridges, USA

12

The Greek Gods are alive and well and living in a supermarket parking lot in Los Angeles. A half-sister and brother, illegitimate offspring of Zeus, must find a play fated by their father and perform it for the Gods' amusement. If they do not act well, they will die. 12 is a guerrilla drive-in film, in which the projectionist displays the movie on a wall in a parking lot and sends the audio to your car radio through a low-power FM transmitter. Lawrence Bridges spent approximately 12 years in production and post-production on this movie, hence the title, 12.

RHIFF Judges

JACKIE BURROUGHS Actress

Jackie Burroughs is undoubtedly one of Canada's most cherished actresses.

She is known to most audiences as the eccentric "Aunt Hetty" in CBC Television's long running Road To Avonlea, a role which earned her a 1994 Gemini Award for Best Performance by an Actress and a 1995 Gemini Award nomination in the same category. Also in 1994, Burroughs received a Gemini Award for Best Performance in a Children's Program or Series for her memorable work on The Adventures Of Dudley the Dragon. 1999 Gemini Award nominee for her portrayal of "Mother Mucca" in Armistead Maupin's critically acclaimed More Tales of the City for Showtime, she will reprise her role in Further Tales of the City.

Burroughs' feature film credits include Winter Tan, which earned her a 1988 Genie Award for Best Actress; and The Wars in 1983 and The Grey Fox in 1984, both of which earned her Genie Awards for Best Supporting Actress. Most recently, she appeared in Don McKellar's film Last Night, which was screened at the 1998 Toronto Film Festival, and John and the Missus.

CARL LIBERMAN Agent, Founder

Mr. Liberman began his career as an actor, mainly for radio and television at the age of 11. At the age of 14 he was offered the lead in a film to be shot in Greece, his parents opted to keep him in school, and that gave him something to write about. An honours graduate of York University's Fine Arts programme in theatre, Carl later went on to write and co-produce several plays during the early 80's cabaret scene in Toronto.

Since founding the literary department at The Characters, the largest agency in Canada, he has overseen its growth from zero billings to over \$14 Million nationally, trained three agents, and is heavily involved in its newest arm, the packaging division.

In addition to screenwriters, Carl also represents top directors, A-list cinematographers, and internationally renowned production designer and film editors.

Mr. Liberman has set a personal goal of becoming the first Canadian agent to bill \$10 million.

"We're open for business and we're very merit driven. In other words, if something is good, (or someone) and presses all the right buttons we'll sell it, no matter who wrote it."

ANDREW MOODIE Actor, Playwright

Andrew Moodie was born in Ottawa, Canada. He has performed in many acclaimed theatrical, film and television productions. His two stage plays, Hysteria and Riot which went on to receive the prestigious Chalmers Award; were his first plays to receive professional production.

Recently he was seen in Roseneath Theatre's 'Health Class' and Soulpepper Theatre's 'Nathan the Wise' and 'Hamlet'. He directed a production of Michael Miller's 'The Power of Harriet T!' for the Manitoba Theatre for Young People and 'For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf.' for the Coloured Girls Collective. His writing credits include the plays Loving, Riot, Oui, and The Lady Smith. Riot has since received much attention world wide since its debut at the Factory Theatre in Toronto and its inclusion in the World Stage Festival.

DAVID M. PERLMUTTER Executive Producer

David Perlmutter has been involved in the entertainment field since 1971. He established Quadrant Films to produce theatrical films. By 1988, he had produced or packaged over \$200 million worth of film and television production ranging from the undersea adventure The Neptune Factor to the first feature films to star Second City alumni John Candy and Dan Aykroyd.

Perlmutter co-founded Cinexus Capital Corporation, which acquired Panavision Canada, the largest film equipment supplier in the country. As part of Cinexus, he also became involved in theatrical distribution through a joint venture with Famous Players, the Canadian theatrical subsidiary of Paramount. In 1989, David and Lewis Chesler formed Chesler/Perlmutter Productions. Working with Chesler's creative efforts, Perlmutter has created an enormous range of innovative financing structures combining the benefits available to Canadian producers with international benefits, pre-sales and banking sources.

David was instrumental in the creation of the Canadian Film and Television Producers Association and has participated in the negotiation of co-production agreements between Canada and Germany and the United Kingdom.



ANDREW MOODIE



PENELOPE BUTEHNHUS



CARL LIBERMAN



JACKIE BURROUGHS



DAVID M. PERLMUTTER



D.B. YOUNG



KEVIN WILSON



STEVEN HOBAN



JESSE ROSENWEET

RHIFF Judges

PENELOPE BUITENHUIS *Writer, Director*

After graduating Buitenhuis became known as an underground filmmaker before making her name as a commercial director in the 90's. She wrote and directed fifteen shorts and toured world wide, winning film festival awards in Europe and North America. Buitenhuis directed in 1995, the Gemini nominated CBCM.O.W Giant Mine. She went on to direct the Mary Higgins Clark detective M.O.W Lucky Day in 2001 with Amanda Donahoe and the disaster film Killer Bees, with C. Thomas Howell, recently released on video at Block Buster.

In 2001, Buitenhuis' highly acclaimed NFB documentary Tokyo Girls, about hostesses and geisha in Japan, won two Gemini Awards and two BC Leo Awards. It was screened at festivals around the world, winning the Columbus Film Festival and was nominated for the DGC Outstanding Achievement Award. It was broadcast repeatedly on CBC, TVO, and in the U.S and Europe.

Penelope has directed many television episodes, including the pilot for Cold Squad, Hope Island, Madison, Wind at my Back, Kung Fu: The Legend Continues, Lonesome Dove, Beyond Belief, Paradise Falls, Bliss, Metropia and Train 48.

She is presently developing feature film projects PunkNot Dead, Messed Up and Regenerate as well as the documentary Missing Sarah for Omni Film.

JESSE ROSENSWEET *Writer, Director*

Jesse Rosensweet's first short film, The Stone of Folly won the Jury Prize for Short Film at Cannes, and played at animation and film festivals around the world. Since then he has directed a smorgasbord of television, commercials and music videos, including last year's stop-motion video "Rudolph" for Destiny's Child.

Rosensweet is reassembling his team to create another animated short, has a live-action short film in development, and is slated to direct a hybrid puppet/CGI animated feature film that will use cutting-edge technology.

STEVEN HOBAN *Producer, Writer*

Steven Hoban's recent features include Vincenzo Natali's Nothing, Ginger Snaps II: Unleashed and Ginger Snaps III: The Beginning. Upcoming productions include Black Christmas, a remake of the classic film from the early '70s that launched the serial-killer genre being written and directed by Glen Morgan & James Wong (X-Files, Final Destination, The One), and Uberman an epic anti-super hero animated feature to be directed by Natali.

The short film Ryan, directed by Chris Landreth and one of Hoban's latest ventures in CG animation, has received over 45 international awards including three from the Cannes Film Festival and the film world's highest honour - the Academy Award®.

Other ongoing projects include a television mini-series about the War of 1812 based on Pierre Berton's books and two Large Format (Imax®) films. Hoban's productions for Imax Corporation include CyberWorld, the first IMAX®3D computer animated film that used cutting-edge computer animation from some of the world's leading CG artists and studios.

In 1994, Steve left the completion bond business to produce Blood & Donuts, the first feature film for Norman Jewison's Canadian Film Centre. Steve continued his independent projects while managing the creation of Sandde™, a specialized system used to produce IMAX®3D animated films.

Hoban produces films at his Toronto-based company Copperheart Entertainment.

KEVIN WILSON *Journalist, Entertainment Reporter*

Before switching to a lifetime of journalism, Kevin Wilson toiled away in a variety of mostly menial occupations, including a five year stint as a naval reservist and seven years chasing an assembly line in Windsor, Ontario.

He is currently best known as the author of 'Kevin Wilson's After 6', a daily compilation of must-see entertainment events which appears in the free commuter daily '24 hours'. Before coming to Toronto, Kevin worked at various newspapers in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Northern Alberta. His articles have appeared in the Toronto Sun, the National Post, NOW Magazine and Canadian Forum.

D'BI.YOUNG *Singer, Poet, Actress*

Photo: Michael Dauda - Facepaint: Amina Alfred

Ms. D'bi. Young - Jamaican Canadian dancehall queen punk rock warrior dub poet - is the hybrid-nucleus where reggae meets hip hop, blues, punk, jazz, folk and funk.

From starring in Canada's sensational hit 'Da Kink In My Hair, Lord Have Mercy [1st afro-Canadian television sitcom '03] to performing for Antibalas Afro-beat Band, 'Dub Poets' Collective [Lillian Allen, Afua Cooper, Chet Singh et al.] and the international reggae festival Havana Cuba to Bravo's Playwrights and Screenwriters, HBO's Def Poetry Jam III, BPM TV's Urban Groove, CBC's zed TV, and Cuba's Cuerda Viva, Ms. Young's diversity marks her as the future of politically passionate interdisciplinary art.

Watch out for her latest work - a single release concert "Animal Farm" [from her forthcoming album "chronicles in dub: BLOOD"]. Check her out online at www.dbiyoung.net

RHIFF NOTES





Reel HeART

International Film Festival



Sin sin, níl aon scéal eile agam!

