

**17TH
ANNUAL**



ST. LOUIS INT'L FILM FEST

**SLAM
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PLAZA FRONTENAC**

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FESTIVAL TRAILER

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Rebel Without a Cause

(1955, directed by Nicholas Ray, 111 minutes)

Tuesday, December 9 @ 7 pm



Anatomy of a Murder

(1959, directed by Otto Preminger, 160 minutes)

Wednesday, December 10 @ 7 pm



North by Northwest

(1959, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, 136 minutes)

Thursday, December 11 @ 7 pm

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ACTION/ABSTRACTION

Pollock, de Kooning, and American Art, 1940-1976

October 19, 2008 – January 11, 2009

Abstract Expressionism forever altered the landscape of American Art. *Action/ Abstraction: Pollock, de Kooning, and American Art, 1940-1976* is the first major exhibition in 20 years to rethink this important movement. Fifty extraordinary works by 31 artists are viewed from the perspectives of influential, rival art critics Clement Greenberg and Harold Rosenberg, the artists, and popular culture.

“Exceedingly handsome...a tour de force...” –*The New York Times*

Action/Abstraction: Pollock, de Kooning, and American Art, 1940-1976 has been organized by The Jewish Museum, New York in collaboration with the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo and the Saint Louis Art Museum. Leadership support has been provided by the Weissman Family Foundation, The National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency, and the Peter Jay Sharp Foundation. **The exhibition is sponsored by the Jerome L. Greene Foundation.** Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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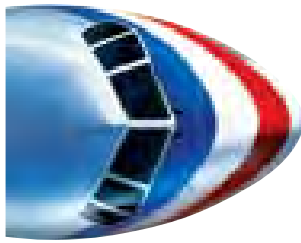
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GENERAL INFO/TICKETS

Main Venues

TIVOLI THEATRE, 6350 Delmar Boulevard (Tivoli 1 seats 440; Tivoli 3 seats 140)

PLAZA FRONTENAC CINEMA, Plaza Frontenac, Lindbergh Boulevard and Clayton Road (both houses seat 170)

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM (SLAM), 1 Fine Arts Drive, Forest Park (seats 500)

WEBSTER UNIVERSITY, Moore Auditorium, 470 East Lockwood Avenue (seats 250)

Special-Event Venues

“HUMBOLDT COUNTY” AFTER-PARTY on Thursday, Nov. 13: Mandarin, 44 Maryland Plaza

CHILDREN’S FILM SYMPOSIUM on Saturday, Nov. 22: Washington University, Brown Hall Auditorium, Forsyth and Skinker boulevards

CLOSING-NIGHT PARTY at 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23: Blueberry Hill’s Duck Room, 6504 Delmar Blvd.

Festival Web Site

WWW.CINEMASTLOUIS.ORG

Advance-Ticket Sales

TIVOLI: Advance tickets for programs at this venue are for sale at the Tivoli box office beginning Oct. 21. Box-office hours are 5-10 p.m. Monday-Friday and 2-10 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. No phone sales. For tickets online, visit tickets.landmarktheatres.com.

PLAZA FRONTENAC: Advance tickets for programs at this venue are for sale at the Plaza Frontenac box office beginning Oct. 21. Box-office hours are 2-9 p.m. daily. No phone sales. For tickets online, visit tickets.landmarktheatres.com.

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM: Advance tickets for programs at this venue are for sale at the Art Museum box office beginning Oct. 21. Box-office hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday-Sunday, with extended hours from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday. No online sales. For tickets by phone, call 314-655-5299.

WEBSTER UNIVERSITY: Advance tickets for programs at this venue are for sale at the Tivoli box office beginning Oct. 21. Box-office hours are 5-10 p.m. Monday-Friday and 2-10 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. No phone or online sales.

Online Ticket Sales

For shows at the Tivoli and Plaza Frontenac only, tickets may be purchased in advance at tickets.landmarktheatres.com. There is a \$1 per-ticket service charge. At the Tivoli, pick up your tickets at the box-office window. At Plaza Frontenac, either see the box-office attendant or use an automated kiosk at the box-office counter. Bring the credit card that you used to purchase the tickets and the confirmation number. Online sales are limited to full-price tickets only (\$6 or \$10); Cinema St. Louis member and student discounts can only be obtained in person because ID is required.

Day-of-Show Ticket Sales

Tivoli, Plaza Frontenac and Webster U. box offices will open a half-hour before the first show; SLAM box office will open an hour before the first show.

Ticket Prices

Individual tickets are \$10 each or \$8 for Cinema St. Louis members and students with current and valid ID.

Other discounts: Saint Louis Art Museum programs are \$8 for members of SLAM.

Six Before Six: Weekday screenings before 6 p.m. at Tivoli and Plaza Frontenac on Nov. 14 and from Nov. 17-21 are specially priced at \$6. No other discounts are valid for these tickets.

Free Events

The following events are free and open to the public. No ticket is required.

Micro-Budget Filmmaking Seminar on Nov. 15 at Tivoli 3

NFF Coffee With the Filmmakers on Nov. 16 at Tivoli 3

“Sinner Come Home” on Nov. 17 at Tivoli 3

Pixar Shorts on Nov. 21 at SLAM

“Matchmaker Mary” on Nov. 22 at Brown

“The Flyboys” on Nov. 22 at Brown

“The Making of ‘WALL-E’ on Nov. 22 at Brown

“King of the Hill” on Nov. 22 at Brown

“The Prowler” and “The Grand Inquisitor” on Nov. 22 at Webster
Dark Days: Panel on the Hollywood Blacklist and Film Noir on Nov. 22 at Webster

Indie-Fest Short and Feature Winners on Nov. 23 at Webster

Closing-Night Party and Award Presentation on Nov. 23 at Blueberry Hill’s Duck Room (cash bar)

Festival Punch-Passes

Festival Punch-Passes are available for 10 tickets (\$90), 20 tickets (\$175), and 30 tickets (\$250).

Festival Punch-Passes are available at the Tivoli and Plaza Frontenac box offices in advance and at all venues on day of show.

Festival Punch-Pass-holders are required to obtain a ticket for each film attended, either in advance or day of show; a hole will be punched in pass for each ticket purchased.

Festival Punch-Passes can be used to purchase multiple tickets for the same show.

Festival Punch-Passes can be used at all venues.

Festival VIP Pass

Festival VIP Passes (good for two admissions to every SLIFF screening at all venues) are available for \$350.

Festival VIP Passes are available by phone only through Cinema St. Louis: 314-289-4153.

Festival VIP Pass-holders are required to obtain a ticket for each film attended, either in advance or day of show.

SIDEBARS

SLIFF groups its films into thematically organized programming streams called sidebars:

AFI PROJECT: 20/20

AFI PROJECT: 20/20 is an American Film Institute (AFI) international initiative designed to enhance cultural exchange, understanding and collaboration through filmmakers and their films from the U.S. and abroad. It is an unprecedented cultural diplomacy effort that is supported by the U.S.'s cultural agencies – National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Through workshops,



seminars and appearances at film festivals, cultural centers, museums and educational venues, PROJECT: 20/20 Filmmakers will promote mutual understanding while nurturing filmmaking excellence. 2008 AFI PROJECT: 20/20 introduces a multicultural roster of films signifying a universal perspective that challenges us to examine, reflect and celebrate diversity.

Amal, Faro, Goddess of the Waters, Kassim the Dream, Skin, Throw Down Your Heart

www.cinemastlouis.org

Anheuser-Busch African/African-American Sidebar

SPONSORED BY ANHEUSER-BUSCH AND THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

Films from Africa and movies that relate to the black experience in the U.S. and the world.

Agile, Mobile, Hostile, Bunny Chow, Faro, Goddess of the Waters, A Good Day to Be Black and Sexy, Kassim the Dream, Katrina's Children, More Than Just a Game, Number One With A Bullet, One Bad Cat, Pray the Devil Back to Hell, Skin, Streetballers, Throw Down Your Heart, Traces of the Trade

Animation Sidebar

A diverse survey of contemporary animation.

From Inside, Half-Life, Pixar Shorts, Shorts Program 2, Waltz With Bashir

Archival Presentations

A sampling of classic cinematic works.

The Inferno, King of the Hill, Mishima, The Prowler

Art and Music Sidebar

SPONSORED BY KEN & NANCY KRANZBERG

Movies exploring the world of art or featuring music.

Agile, Mobile, Hostile, As Slow As Possible, Guest of Cindy Sherman, The Inferno, Louise Bourgeois, Martino Unstrung, Number One With A Bullet, One Bad Cat, 1000 Journals, Opera Jawa, Song Sung Blue, Summer Sun, Winter Moon, Throw Down Your Heart, Visual Acoustics, Who Does She Think She Is?, The Wrecking Crew

Asian Sidebar

Works from the cinematic hotspot of Asia.

Alone, Amal, The Bet Collector, Blind Mountain, The Fish Fall in Love, Let the Wind Blow, Luxury Car, Opera Jawa, Slumdog Millionaire, Son of a Lion, Under the Bombs, Vanaja, Wonderful Town

Cinema for Students

SPONSORED BY THE ST. LOUIS RAMS AND THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

Free daytime screenings for children and teens from participating St. Louis-area schools.

The Bet Collector, The Custodian, Destiny Images, The Fish Fall in Love, Frontrunners, Let the Wind Blow, Pixar Shorts, The Power of the Game, Sockville, Stolen Holidays, Summer Sun, Winter Moon, To Kill a Mockingbird, Traces of the Trade, War Eagle, Arkansas

Eastern European Sidebar

A selection of films from Eastern Europe.

All for Free, It's Hard to Be Nice, Kontakt, Of Parents and Children, The Trap

Environmental Sidebar

Films that explore issues concerning nature, conservation and the environment.

At the Edge of the World, Burning the Future, Chasing Birds, Fuel, Homegrown

Family Sidebar

Programs for children of all ages.

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Family Shorts, The Flyboys, King of the Hill, Little Heroes, The Making of WALL-E, Matchmaker Mary, Pixar Shorts, Vanaja

Film Noir Sidebar

A survey of film noir past, present and future.

Dark Days: The Hollywood Blacklist and Film Noir, The Empire State Building Murders, The Last Lullaby, Mosquito Kingdom, The Prowler, The Trap, Yesterday Was a Lie

FilmTracker New Filmmakers Forum

SPONSORED BY FILMTRACKER AND THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

CO-CURATED BY BOBBIE LAUTENSCHLAGER

Juried competition of works by first-time feature filmmakers.

Indie-Fest

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIEFLIX

SLIFF premieres its first indie-fest, an exclusive online competition. Ten short films and five narrative features will be available online in a secure streaming environment from Oct. 27-Nov. 12 at midnight. Viewers can access the films for free through the indie-fest (www.indie-fest.com) Web site. Online audience voting will determine the short and feature winners, and the free double bill will screen at Webster on the fest's closing night.

Features: Otis E., Reversion, Sons of Liberty, Texas Snow, The Torturer
Shorts: Audience Award Winner, Bachianas No. 5, Bill, Chief, Diva, Flute Babies, For a Few Marbles More, Moonman, Player, The Tangent

Interfaith Sidebar

A juried competition spotlighting 10 films – five fiction features and five documentaries – distinguished by their artistic merit, contribution to the understanding of the human condition, and recognition of ethical, social, and spiritual values.

Documentaries: Burning the Future, Dear Zachary, Pray the Devil Back to Hell, Stranded, Visual Acoustics

The Interfaith committee also recommends **Kassim the Dream** and **Waves of Freedom**.

Narrative Features: Days and Clouds, The Fish Fall in Love, The Heartbeat Detector, Streetballers, The Unknown Woman

The Interfaith committee also recommends **It's Hard to Be Nice**, **Kontakt** and **Vanaja**.

International Film Sidebar

Films from across the globe. Audience voting determines the winner of Best International Film.

ARGENTINA: The Custodian, Kept & Dreamless **AUSTRALIA:** Chasing Birds **BELGIUM:** Ben X **BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA:** It's Hard to Be Nice **BRAZIL:** Not by Chance **CANADA:** As Slow As Possible **CHINA:** Blind Mountain, Luxury Car **CROATIA:** All for Free **CZECH REPUBLIC:** Of Parents and Children **FRANCE:** The Class, The Grocer's Son, The Heartbeat Detector, I've Loved You So Long, Stolen Holidays **GERMANY:** Fashion Victims **INDIA:** Amal, Let the Wind Blow, Slumdog Millionaire, Vanaja **INDONESIA:** Opera Jawa **IRAN:** The Fish Fall in Love **IRELAND:** Strength and Honour, The Tiger's Tail **ISRAEL:** Beaufort, Little Heroes, Strangers, Waltz With Bashir, Waves of Freedom **ITALY:** Days and Clouds, The Inferno, The Unknown Woman, The Wedding Director **JAPAN:** Mishima **LEBANON:** Under the Bombs **MACEDONIA:** Kontakt **MALI:** Faro, Goddess of the Waters **MEXICO:** Used Parts **NORWAY:** O'Horten **PAKISTAN:** Son of a Lion **PHILIPPINES:** The Bet Collector **SERBIA:** The Trap **SOUTH AFRICA:** Bunny Chow, More Than Just a Game, Skin **SPAIN:** Timecrimes **SWEDEN:** Let the Right One In **SWITZERLAND:** Late Bloomers **THAILAND:** Alone, Wonderful Town **TURKEY:** Times and Winds **URUGUAY:** The Pope's Toilet, Stranded **UNITED KINGDOM:** The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Martino Unstrung, Of Time and the City



Half-Life, The Last Lullaby, Pretty Ugly People, Streetballers, Yeast

French Sidebar

A selection of films from France.

The Class, The Grocer's Son, The Heartbeat Detector, I've Loved You So Long, Stolen Holidays

Global Lens 2008

An annual series that presents the best of developing world cinema on screens throughout the United States, with a particular focus on films in languages other than English. Global Lens is a project of the Global Film Initiative, which promotes cross-cultural understanding through the medium of cinema.

All for Free, The Bet Collector, Bunny Chow, The Custodian, The Fish Fall in Love, Kept & Dreamless, Let the Wind Blow, Luxury Car, Opera Jawa

Italian Sidebar

SPONSORED BY THE ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL OF ST. LOUIS

A selection of films from Italy.

Days and Clouds, The Inferno, The Unknown Woman, The Wedding Director

Jewish Sidebar

A selection of films about the Jewish experience.

Adam Resurrected, Beaufort, Blessed Is the Match, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Little Heroes, Strangers, Waltz With Bashir, Waves of Freedom



Leon and Mary Strauss Documentary Sidebar

SPONSORED BY MARY STRAUSS

CO-CURATED BY BRIAN WOODMAN

The best in contemporary nonfiction filmmaking. Audience voting determines the winner of the Leon Award for Best Documentary.

Accelerating America, Agile, Mobile, Hostile, American Swing, As Slow As Possible, At the Edge of the World, Beautiful Son, Blessed Is the Match, Burning the Future, Carny, Chasing Birds, Dear Zachary, First Impersonator, Frontrunners, Fuel, Garrison Keillor, Guest of Cindy Sherman, Homegrown, How It Is With Phooie, Kassim the Dream, Katrina's Children, Louise Bourgeois, Martino Unstrung, My Mother's Garden, Number One With a Bullet, Of Time and the City, One Bad Cat, 1000 Journals, Pageant, The Power of the Game, A Powerful Noise, Pray the Devil Back to Hell, Song Sung Blue, St. Benedict's Rule, The Stem Cell Divide, Stranded, Summer Sun, Winter Moon, That All May Be One, Throw Down Your Heart, Traces of the Trade, Visual Acoustics, Waltz With Bashir, Waves of Freedom, Who Does She Think She Is?, The Wrecking Crew

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Metromix American Independent Sidebar

SPONSORED BY METROMIX

The best of current American indies.

Advertising for the Mob, The Flyboys, From Inside, **A Good Day to Be Black And Sexy**, Half-Life, Humboldt County, Interkosmos, The Juche Idea, The Last Lullaby, Matchmaker Mary, Mil Mascaras: Resurrection, Mosquito Kingdom, Nights and Weekends, The Objective, Pretty Ugly People, Remarkable Power!, Say Goodnight, Shadowland, Sinner Come Home, Special, Streetballers, The Thacker Case, War Eagle, Arkansas, Wendy and Lucy, Yeast, Yesterday Was a Lie

Shorts Sidebar

A juried competition – awarding prizes in seven categories – featuring more than 120 works, including shorts before features and dedicated shorts programs. SLIFF's shorts programming is officially sanctioned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Documentary Shorts, Family Shorts, Pixar Shorts, St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase Programs 1 and 2, Shorts Before Features, Shorts Programs 1-8

Spanish-Language Sidebar

SPONSORED BY EL MUNDO LATINO

Films from various Spanish-speaking countries.

The Custodian, Kept & Dreamless, The Pope's Toilet, Stranded, Time-crimes, Used Parts

True/False Sidebar

Five documentaries chosen in conjunction with the True/False Film Festival in Columbia, Mo.

Carny, My Mothers' Garden, Song Sung Blue, Stranded, Summer Sun, Winter Moon

Whitaker Foundation Cinema St. Louis Sidebar

SPONSORED BY THE WHITAKER FOUNDATION

Work shot in St. Louis or made by filmmakers from St. Louis or with strong ties to the area, including encore presentations from the St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase.

Advertising for the Mob, American Pioneers, Dear Zachary, How It Is With Phooie, Humboldt County, Interkosmos, The Juche Idea, King of the Hill, The Making of 'WALL-E', Matchmaker Mary, More Than Just a Game, Mosquito Kingdom, Pixar Shorts, St. Benedict's Rule, St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase Programs 1 and 2, Say Goodnight, Shadowland, Sockville, The Stem Cell Divide, Streetballers, The Thacker Case, That All May Be One, Yesterday Was a Lie

Women in Film Sidebar

Films that are made by women or that address women's issues.

Agile, Mobile, Hostile, Beautiful Son, The Bet Collector, Blessed Is the Match, Carny, Documentary Shorts, The Fish Fall in Love, Front-runners, Half-Life, I've Loved You So Long, Katrina's Children, Late Bloomers, Louise Bourgeois, My Mother's Garden, Nights and Weekends, 1000 Journals, A Powerful Noise, Pray the Devil Back to Hell, Skin, The Stem Cell Divide, That All May Be One, Traces of the Trade, Vanaja, Wendy and Lucy, Who Does She Think She Is?, Yeast

Special Events

Indie-Fest

Online from Oct. 27-Nov. 12; winning films screen on Sunday, Nov. 23, 6 p.m., Webster, Free

In partnership with IndieFlix – the premier source for independent films on the Web – SLIFF premieres its first indie-fest, an exclusive online competition. Ten short films and five narrative features will be available online in a secure streaming environment from Oct. 27-Nov. 12 at midnight. Viewers can access the films for free through the indie-fest (www.indie-fest.com) Web site. Online audience voting will determine the short and feature winners, and the free double bill will screen at Webster on the fest's closing night, Nov. 23. The winning films will be announced on SLIFF opening night and on the indie-fest and Cinema St. Louis Web sites. The winning films will also receive a distribution deal through IndieFlix.

CO-PRESENTED BY INDIEFLIX

"Humboldt County"

With co-directors Darren Grodsky and Danny Jacobs
Thursday, Nov. 13; 5:30-7 p.m. (reception) and 7 p.m. (film),
Tivoli 1, \$10 for film alone or \$35 for reception (including
appetizers, beer and wine), film and after-party drink ticket

The festival kicks off with a celebration of two local boys making good, former St. Louisans Darren Grodsky and Danny Jacobs, and their first film, "Humboldt County." Premiering at SXSW, where it was described as a "pitch-perfect directing debut" by the Austin Chronicle, "Humboldt County"

is now in national distribution through Magnolia Films. The film chronicles the evolution of tightly wound UCLA med student Peter Hadley (Jeremy Strong), who finds himself stranded in picturesque Humboldt County after a drunken one-night stand. Although he initially resists the area's eccentric enclave of pot farmers, Peter slowly comes to embrace their easygoing life and ideals. After a post-screening Q&A with the filmmakers, the night concludes with an after-party (with cash bar) at Mandarin in the Central West End.

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1 6 SPECIAL EVENTS ST. LOUIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Paul Schrader: Lifetime Achievement Award

Adam Resurrected
Friday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m., Tivoli 1

Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2:15 p.m., Tivoli 1

SLIFF honors the celebrated writer-director Schrader with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Schrader's new film, "Adam Resurrected," is screened on Nov. 14. An official selection of the Telluride and Toronto film fests, "Adam Resurrected" stars Jeff Goldblum as a charismatic patient at a mental institution for Holocaust survivors in early-'60s Israel. Following the screening, SLIFF makes the award presentation and LA Weekly film editor Scott Foundas conducts a career-spanning interview with the writer-director. On Nov. 15, SLIFF presents a new 35mm print of the gorgeously restored "Mishima," which Schrader

considers his finest work. Visually stunning and structurally audacious, the film offers a collage-like portrait of acclaimed Japanese author and playwright Yukio Mishima (Ken Ogata). Schrader introduces the film and answers questions after the screening.

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Micro-Budget Filmmaking Seminar

Saturday, Nov. 15, 11 a.m., Tivoli 3, Free

The DIY aesthetic and the possibilities offered by digital video are explored in a panel on micro-budget filmmaking. Participants include mumblecore actress and director Mary Bronstein (whose "Yeast" plays Nov. 14 as part of the New Filmmakers Forum), Missouri filmmaker Blake Eckard (whose "Sinner Come Home" is offered as a free screening on Nov. 17) and St. Louisan Aaron Coffman (whose "Texas Snow" is featured in SLIFF's online indie-fest from Oct. 27-Nov. 12).



NFF Coffee With the Filmmakers

Sunday, Nov. 16, 11 a.m., Tivoli 3, Free

The InBaseline New Filmmakers Forum concludes with a conversation among the participating directors. Free coffee and pastries are provided by Kaldi's Coffeehouse. The event ends with the presentation of the Emerging Director Award by the NFF jury.

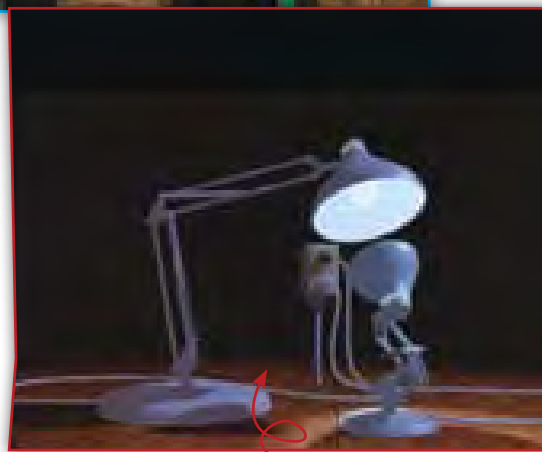
SPONSORED BY KALDI'S COFFEEHOUSE

Pixar Shorts

With Pixar director of photography
Jeremy Lasky

Friday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m., SLAM, Free

Pixar Animation Studios is now best-known for its extraordinary



© Disney/Pixar

www.cinemastlouis.org

features, but their earliest works were shorts, and they've continued delighting audiences with small animated gems. This free program – part of the Children's Film Symposium – features all of the studio's shorts from 1986-2006. Pixar director of photography Jeremy Lasky introduces the program and holds a Q&A. SLIFF also presents Lasky, a native St. Louisan, with this year's Charles Guggenheim Cinema St. Louis Award.

CO-PRESENTED BY WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

Children's Film Symposium

Friday, Nov. 21, SLAM, Free, Saturday, Nov. 22, Brown, Free

Washington U.'s Center for the Humanities and Cinema St. Louis annually present this symposium, which explores issues related to children's films through screenings, lectures and discussions. This year, St. Louis native Jamie Cope, an animator with children's video producer Destiny

Images, participates in classes at Washington U.

The free public programming then officially begins with the Pixar Shorts program on Nov. 21 at the Art Museum.

Screenings of SLIFF kid-friendly films

"Matchmaker Mary" and "The Flyboys," a

special presentation about "The Making of 'WALL-E'" by Pixar

director of photography Jeremy Lasky, and a screening of the St. Louis-shot "King of the Hill" are held on Nov. 22 at Washington U.'s Brown Hall Auditorium. Visit the Center's Web site for more information: cenhum.artsci.wustl.edu.

CO-PRESENTED BY WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

The Making of "WALL-E"

With Pixar director of photography Jeremy Lasky

Saturday, Nov. 22, 5 p.m., Brown, Free

Lasky, a director of photography on Pixar's "WALL-E," provides a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the making of the animated hit, discussing the process by which Pixar films are made and showing illustrative clips and unseen footage. A Q&A follows the presentation.

CO-PRESENTED BY WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

"King of the Hill"

With a panel on book-to-film translation

Saturday, Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m., Brown, Free

SLIFF revisits director Steven Soderbergh's third feature, the locally shot "King of the Hill." Adapted from native son A.E. Hotchner's

www.cinemastlouis.org



© Disney/Pixar



Michael Apted: Maysles Brothers Lifetime Achievement Award in Documentary

The Power of the Game

Sunday, Nov. 23, 3 p.m., Tivoli 1

SLIFF honors renowned filmmaker Apted – director of the epic documentary series "Seven Up!" – for his extraordinary work in documentary film. Apted's new film, "The Power of the Game," examines

memoir, the film is set in 1933 St. Louis and chronicles the travails of 12-year-old Aaron Kurlander (Jesse Bradford), a bright, affable boy coming of age during the heart of the Depression. Left frighteningly alone in the family's shabby rooms at the Empire Hotel, Aaron must protect the impoverished family's meager belongings from repossession. The "King of the Hill" program inaugurates a collaborative venture of Cinema St. Louis and the Missouri Center for the Book; an annual program will focus on a film adaptation of a book by a Missouri author.

CO-PRESENTED BY THE MISSOURI CENTER FOR THE BOOK AND WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

Dark Days: The Hollywood Blacklist and Film Noir

With film noir expert Eddie Muller and actress Marsha Hunt

Saturday, Nov. 22, 6:30 p.m., Webster, Free

As part of a special two-part program on the Hollywood blacklist,

SLIFF presents a newly restored print of the classic film noir "The Prowler," one of the last films director Joseph Losey made in the U.S. before fleeing McCarthy-fueled hysteria and relocating to England. The film is paired with Eddie Muller's new noir short, "The Grand Inquisitor," which stars legendary blacklisted actress Marsha Hunt. Following "The Prowler," at 8:30 p.m., a panel discusses the Hollywood blacklist and its influence on film noir. Panelists include Hunt, Muller, Francis M. Nevins and moderator Scott Phillips. SLIFF also presents Hunt with its annual Women in Film Award.

CO-PRESENTED BY THE WEBSTER UNIVERSITY FILM SERIES

the social impact of soccer in the shadow of the 2006 World Cup, adroitly blending six separate storylines from teams and individuals in the U.S., Iran, Argentina, England, Senegal and South Africa. After the screening, SLIFF presents the Maysles Brothers Lifetime Achievement Award in Documentary, and Cinema St. Louis executive director Cliff Froehlich conducts an interview with Apted.

Closing-Night Party

Sunday, Nov. 23, 8 p.m., Blueberry Hill's Duck Room, Free (with cash bar)

The festival concludes with a party at Blueberry Hill's Duck Room. DJ Rob Levy provides music, and SLIFF announces the audience-choice and juried-competition awards.

AWARDS

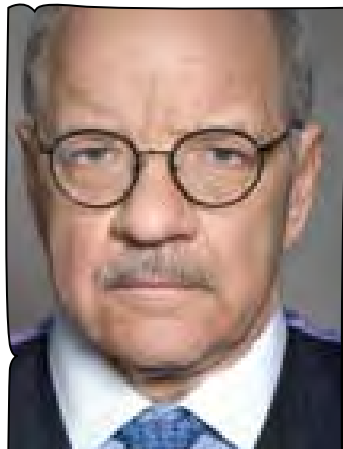
MAJOR FILMMAKER AWARDS

Lifetime Achievement Award

Paul Schrader: Celebrated writer-director Schrader is presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award at this year's SLIFF. Starting as a film critic in the late 1960s – an archive of his insightful writing can be found at www.paulschrader.org – Schrader then quickly established himself as a major screenwriter in the mid-'70s, penning scripts for such landmark films as "Taxi Driver" and "Raging Bull." Schrader debuted as a director in 1977 with the powerful

"Blue Collar," and his impressive directorial résumé of 17 films includes "Hard-core," "American Gigolo," "Cat People," "The Comfort of Strangers," "Patty Hearst," "Light

Sleeper," "Affliction" and "Auto Focus." SLIFF screens Schrader's new "Adam Resurrected" on Nov. 14 – a program that includes a career-spanning interview conducted by LA Weekly film editor Scott Foundas – and on Nov. 15 presents a new 35mm print of the gorgeously restored "Mishima," which the writer-director considers his finest work.



Amazing Grace: Murray Close © Bristol Bay Productions LLC

Maysles Brothers Lifetime Achievement Award in Documentary

Michael Apted: SLIFF honors renowned filmmaker Apted for his extraordinary work in documentary film. Apted's crowning achievement is his epic series "Seven Up!" – an immensely ambitious project that has followed, at seven-year intervals, a group of British schoolchildren from childhood through middle age. The most recent installment is "49 Up." Apted's other documentary work includes the Sting concert film "Bring On the Night," "Incident at Oglala," "Moving the Mountain," "Inspirations," "Me & Isaac Newton" and the multi-part "Married in America." Impressive as his documentary credits are, Apted

has an equally stellar career in narrative features, with a filmography that includes "Stardust," "Coal Miner's Daughter," "Gorillas in the Mist," the Bond film "The World Is Not Enough" and "Amazing Grace." He's now directing the third film in the "Narnia" series. On Nov. 23, SLIFF screens Apted's new "The Power of the Game," about the social impact of soccer, and conducts a post-screening interview.

Charles Guggenheim Cinema St. Louis Award

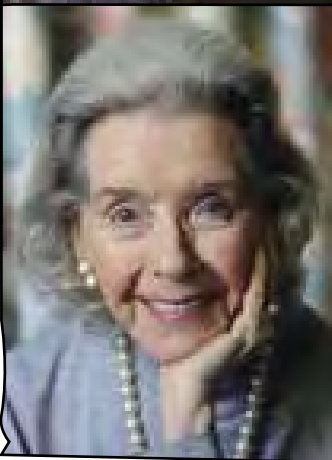
Jeremy Lasky: SLIFF presents its annual Cinema St. Louis Award, which honors St. Louisans making significant contributions to the art of film, to Pixar Animation Studios director of photography Jeremy Lasky. Growing up in Chesterfield, Lasky found his early creative inspiration in science-fiction films such as "Battlestar Galactica" and "Star Wars." After graduating from Parkway Central High, he earned a bachelor of fine arts from Rhode Island School of Design in 1997. Lasky began his career at Pixar as a layout artist on "A Bug's Life" and then worked in the Layout Department on "Toy Story 2" and

"Monsters, Inc." He's since served as director of photography on the award-winning films "Finding Nemo," "Cars" and "WALL-E." Lasky is now hard at work on "Toy Story 3," scheduled for release in the summer of 2010. Lasky, wife Michelle and son Asher currently reside in the Bay Area. Lasky presents two free programs at the fest – a selection of Pixar shorts on Nov. 21 and a behind-the-scenes look at "The Making of 'WALL-E'" on Nov. 22.



Women in Film Award

Marsha Hunt: SLIFF pays tribute to legendary blacklisted actress Marsha Hunt with its annual Women in Film Award. Hunt began her Hollywood career in 1935, signing with Paramount at the age of 17. Hunt disdained the studio's efforts to sell her as an ingénue, refusing to pose for "leg art" publicity shots. Moving to MGM, she quickly earned a reputation for tackling challenging roles. Hunt's films include "Pride and Prejudice," "Flight Command," "Blossoms in the Dust," 1944 Best Picture



nominee "The Human Comedy" and "Raw Deal," Anthony Mann's 1948 crime drama, which is considered one of the finest examples of film noir ever produced. Hunt's career, however, was dramatically curtailed in the late 1940s when she was blacklisted after protesting the actions of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. Although film offers dried up, she continued to pursue her acting career on television and the stage, and she redirected her attentions to humanitarian causes. Hunt is featured at the fest in a free two-part program on Nov. 22 that includes her new short, "The Grand Inquisitor," and a panel on the Hollywood blacklist and film noir.

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARDS

Audience voting determines the winner of three awards from among the films in competition:

- **Best Film Award**
- **Best International Film Award**
- **Leon Award for Best Documentary**
(named in memory of the late civic leader Leon Strauss)

In addition, the winners of indie-fest – SLIFF's online competition presented in partnership with IndieFlix – are chosen by audience voting. Ten short films and five narrative features will be available online in a secure streaming environment from Oct. 27-Nov. 12 at midnight. Viewers can access the films for free through the indie-fest (www.indie-fest.com) Web site, and online audience voting will determine the short and feature winners. The winning feature and short will be announced on SLIFF opening night and on the indie-fest and Cinema St. Louis Web sites, and a free double bill of the films will screen at Webster on the fest's closing night, Nov. 23. The winning films will also receive a distribution deal through IndieFlix.

JURIED COMPETITION AWARDS

Interfaith Documentary and Feature Awards

A jury gives Interfaith Awards to both a documentary and a feature, choosing from among 10 competition films (five in each category), which were selected for their artistic merit, contribution to the understanding of the human condition, and recognition of ethical, social, and spiritual values. See Sidebars for a list of the films.

The 2008 Interfaith Sidebar selection committee was David Gast (chair), board chairman of the Carl F. Gast Co.; Delcia Corlew, member of the Cinema St. Louis board; Paul Marsh, retired architect; Tom Stockdale, minister (retired); and Lee Whiston, emeritus professor of the Old Testament at Eden Theological Seminary.

The documentary jury is Kanak Gautam, associate professor of health-care management at St. Louis University; Jill Petzall, filmmaker, writer, and designer for Beacon Productions; and Pat Scallet, filmmaker and editor. The feature jury is Sandra Olmsted, adjunct faculty member in English at St. Louis University, Fontbonne University, and Southwestern Illinois College; Joya Uraizee, associate professor of English at St. Louis University; and Betty White, professor of English (retired).

NFF Emerging Director Award

The FilmTracker New Filmmakers Forum (NFF) annually presents the Emerging Director Award. Five works by first-time feature filmmakers

compete for the prize, which includes a \$500 cash award and a year's subscription to Baseline's FilmTracker database.

The co-curator of NFF is Bobbie Lautenschlager. The NFF jury is Scott Foundas (chair), film editor for the LA Weekly and a film reviewer for Variety; Bill Appleton, assistant director for public programs and education at the Saint Louis Art Museum; Harper Barnes, freelance film critic for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and St. Louis Beacon; Scott Phillips, author of "The Ice Harvest" and "Cottonwood"; and Joe Williams, film critic for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Shorts Awards

A jury chooses the winners of seven awards from among the short subjects in competition:

- **Best of Fest**
- **Best Animated Short**
- **Best Live Action Short**
- **Best Short Short (less than 5 minutes)**
- **Best Local Short**
- **Best International Short**
- **Best Documentary Short**

The SLIFF shorts competition is officially sanctioned by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, making the winners in the Best of Fest, Best Animated and Best Live Action categories eligible to submit for Oscar® consideration. The Best of Fest winner also receives a certificate for a year's subscription to Baseline's FilmTracker database.

The narrative-shorts jury is Scilla Andreen, CEO and co-founder of IndieFlix; Adam Hackbarth, co-writer and producer of the upcoming "Full-Time Ninjas" and founder of STLFILMWIRE.com; Brent Hoff, editor of the "Wholphin" DVD journal and former writer for "The Daily Show"; Tina Santamauro, acquisitions manager for AtomFilms; and RD Zurick, filmmaker and retired film teacher. The documentary-shorts jury is Diane Carson, retired professor of film at St. Louis Community College at Meramec; Kathy Corley, professor of film and video at Webster University; and James Harrison, coordinator of the Webster University Film Series.

St. Louis Film Critics Under-the-Radar Award

A jury from the St. Louis Film Critics organization selects the inaugural Under-the-Radar Award winner, honoring an acclaimed international film that deserves more audience attention. SLIFF chose the 10 films for jury evaluation on the basis of critical recognition and major festival awards. The films selected were "Beaufort," "Ben X," "The Grocer's Son," "Luxury Car," "Opera Jawa," "The Pope's Toilet," "Times and Winds," "The Unknown Woman," "Vanaja" and "Wonderful Town."

The jury is Oscar Davis (Movie Guru at KSDK-Channel 5), Mark Glass (KDHX-FM), Rob Levy (KDHX-FM), Cate Marquis (St. Louis Jewish Light), Sandra Olmsted (Cinematic Skinny), Joe Williams (St. Louis Post-Dispatch) and Calvin Wilson (St. Louis Post-Dispatch).

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Charles Brennan

Adrain Fisher
Max Foizey
Scott Foundas
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Features



Adam Resurrected

PAUL SCHRADER, U.S., 2008, 106 MIN.
FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 1

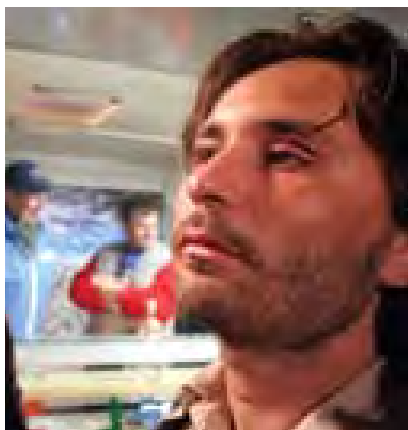
In the latest film from celebrated writer-director Schrader (“Taxi Driver,” “American Gigolo”), Jeff Goldblum gives an acclaimed performance – described by the Hollywood Reporter as “the role of a career” – as Adam Stein, a patient at a mental institution for Holocaust survivors in early-’60s Israel. During the war, despite his status as a much-loved entertainer, Adam was shipped to a concentration camp, where the commandant (Willem Dafoe) forced him to act the part of a dog to survive. Incarcerated again at the asylum, Adam recognizes another such pitiable creature – a barking young boy raised in a basement on a chain – whom he works to save. An official selection of Telluride and Toronto, “Adam Resurrected” is adapted from Yoram Kaniuk’s lauded novel and co-stars Derek Jacobi. **With director Schrader, a Lifetime Achievement Award honoree.**
Sponsored by Marcia Harris



Advertising for the Mob

SCOTT WIBBENMEYER, U.S., 2008, 85 MIN.
FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 9:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

In this hilariously profane mob comedy – shot at several familiar St. Louis locations – a less-than-successful ad man decides to go into business for himself after being fired from his 12th agency. Three friends, four zoot suits and one hot Italian bartender later, he has his own “family business,” attempting to extort protection money on the Hill but unintentionally aiding several down-at-heels businesses with marketing advice. Displeased by these incursions into his territory, the real mob boss (played with brio by the Pasta House Co.’s Kim Tucci) dispatches his dimwitted underlings to eliminate the competition. **With director Wibbenmeyer and local cast members.**



All for Free (Sve Džaba)

ANTONIO NUIC, CROATIA, 2006, 94 MIN., SERBO-CROATIAN
MONDAY, NOV. 17, 4:45 P.M., FRONTENAC,
THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

After his friends are killed in a bizarre barroom argument, Goran devises an unusual plan to deal with the loss: He will sell his house, buy a mobile tavern and travel from town to town in Bosnia, giving away free drinks to everyone he meets. For everyone except Goran, however, the idea is strangely suspicious and more than a bit absurd. This darkly humorous tale of loss and reconciliation functions as a potent metaphor for Bosnia’s gradual rediscovery of its shared humanity. The Chicago Reader writes: “First-time writer-director Antonio Nuic strikes a gently melancholic tone, one that seems entirely in keeping with his country’s emotional exhaustion.”

Alone (Faet)

BANJONG PISANTHANAKUN & PARKPOOM WONGPOOM,
THAILAND, 2007, 92 MIN., KOREAN & THAI
SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 10:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

A hard-edged supernatural thriller from the directors of “Shutter,” “Alone” tells the story of Pim, who moves from Thailand to Korea to escape the guilt of being the surviving half of a conjoined twin. Flashbacks to Pim’s childhood show how the bittersweet relationship with her sister, and their commitment to stay together forever, transforms into a repressive bond that ultimately leads to a separation. After she returns to visit her dying mother, the spirit of her dead sister angrily thrusts herself into Pim’s life.



Amal

RICHIE MEHTA, CANADA/INDIA, 2007, 101 MIN., ENGLISH & HINDI
SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 2 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this multilayered portrait of modern India, auto-rickshaw driver Amal is content with the small but vital role he serves: driving customers around New Delhi as quickly and safely as possible. But his simple life is upended when an eccentric, aging billionaire, moved by the driver’s humility, bequeaths Amal his entire estate before passing away. Amal now must cope with an array of challenges, from a young injured beggar girl and a lovely store merchant to the old man’s inheritance-seeking upper-caste friends and siblings. **With director Mehta.**



Beaufort (Bufor)

JOSEPH CEDAR, ISRAEL, 2007, 125 MIN., HEBREW
FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 4 P.M., FRONTENAC
SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 1 P.M., FRONTENAC

Winner of the 2007 Berlin Film Festival’s best-director award and an Oscar® nominee for the Best Foreign Film, “Beaufort” chronicles the final days of an Israeli army unit’s tense, painful withdrawal in 2000 from a strategic bunker inside a 12th-century fortress near the Lebanese border. The base is still under heavy enemy bombardment as the soldiers prepare to explode the site, thus destroying everything their comrades have fought and died to defend. The New York Times’ A.O. Scott writes, “Beaufort” has an earnest, sober intelligence that makes it hard to shake. It suggests that, for those who fight, the futility of war is inseparable from its nobility.”



Ben X

NIC BALTHAZAR, BELGIUM, 2008, 90 MIN., DUTCH
FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 2 P.M., FRONTENAC
SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 12:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Ben’s life revolves around his favorite computer game, which he avidly plays in an attempt to block out the reality of his daily experiences. Afflicted with Asperger’s syndrome, a mild form of autism that prevents normal communication, Ben finds himself the victim of bullies’ relentless attacks. When their abuses finally push him over the edge, Ben’s online dream girl helps him devise a perfect plan to confront his tormenters. An award-winner at the Montreal and Palm Springs film fests, “Ben X” is hailed by the Hollywood Reporter as “a strong-minded debut from Belgian director Nic Balthazar, who ambitiously takes on three difficult themes – schoolroom bullying, autism and the influence of computer games on those who play them.”





The Bet Collector (Kubrador)

JEFFREY JETURIAN, PHILIPPINES, 2006, 98 MIN., TAGALOG

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 12:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Family matriarch Amy makes ends meet by running a small convenience store out of her home. But customers are scarce in a struggling economy, and without the help of her husband or pregnant daughter, she is forced to supplement the family income by collecting bets for a hugely popular but illegal numbers game. A starkly realistic narrative, "The Bet Collector" presents a captivating portrait of a once-proud woman and her fragile and lonely life on the streets of Manila. The winner of the FIPRESCI critics' prize at the 2006 Moscow fest, "The Bet Collector" was cited by juror Sheila Johnston for its "urgency, freshness and hidden depths; to paraphrase the poet Walt Whitman, it may not be a large film, but it contains multitudes within its rough-edged simplicity."



Blind Mountain (Mang shan)

YANG LI, CHINA, 2007, 95 MIN., MANDARIN (SHAANXI DIALECT)

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 7 P.M., FRONTENAC

In his first film since the acclaimed and equally devastating "Blind Shaft" (2003), director Yang turns from the corruption of China's illegal mining to the even more horrifying illegal trade in women. Bax Xuemei is a young college graduate who yearns for a life as budding urban capitalist but ends up drugged and sold as the "bride" of a rural brute. The LA Times hails "Blind Mountain" as "a resolutely tough-minded, beautifully crafted film so compelling as to make bearable watching the nearly unbearable." The film debuted at the 2007 Cannes film fest and was given the 2008 Council of Europe Film Award, which honors films that raise public awareness of human-rights issues.

Sponsored by East Asian Studies at Washington University



The Boy in the Striped Pajamas

MARK HERMAN, 2008, U.K./U.S., 94 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, NOON, SLAM

Adapted from the acclaimed children's novel, which has sold more than 3 million copies, "The Boy in the Striped Pajamas" is a fable about the untold number of children who were sent to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. Told through the eyes of an 8-year-old boy, the film bears witness to a forbidden friendship between Bruno, the son of Nazi commandant who is largely shielded from the reality of World War II, and Shmuel, a Jewish boy held captive in a concentration camp. Though the two are separated physically by a barbed-wire fence, their lives become inescapably intertwined. Their tragic journey offers an unusual point of view on the brutality, senselessness and devastating consequences of war and recalls the millions of innocent victims of the Holocaust.



The Brothers Bloom

RIAN JOHNSON, U.S., 2008, 109 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 7:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

A globe-trotting comedy about the last great adventures of the world's best con men, "The Brothers Bloom" stars a quartet of contemporary cinema's finest actors: Mark Ruffalo ("Zodiac"), Rinko Kikuchi ("Babel") and Oscar® winners Adrien Brody ("The Pianist") and Rachel Weisz ("The Constant Gardener"). With their sexy associate (Kinkuchi), a pair of scam-artist brothers (Brody and Ruffalo) concoct one final grand scheme, showing a beautiful and eccentric heiress (Weisz) the time of her life with a romantic adventure that takes them around the world, from Athens to Prague to Mexico to St. Petersburg. Written and directed by Rian Johnson ("Brick"), "The Brothers Bloom" debuted at the 2008 Toronto fest.

Bunny Chow

JOHN BARKER, SOUTH AFRICA, 2006, 96 MIN., AFRIKAANS, ENGLISH & TSOTSI-TAAL

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 4:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

In director Barker's debut feature, aspiring comedians Kags, Joey and Dave make clear that life in Johannesburg is not just about hardship and townships. It's also about hanging out with friends and celebrating life on a raucous road trip to Oppikoppi, South Africa's largest music festival. Shot in handheld *vérité* style, in black-and-white, the edgily comic "Bunny Chow" – a reference to a local curry sandwich that serves as a metaphor for the city's mix of races, cultures and attitudes – asks us to look at a nation through the eyes of its hopeful future rather than its tragic past.



The Class (*Entre les murs*)

LAURENT CANTET, FRANCE, 2008, 128 MIN., FRENCH

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 6:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Based on a best-selling autobiographical novel by François Begaudeau, "The Class" was the unanimous jury choice for the best-film Palm D'Or at the 2008 Cannes festival. Directed by the acclaimed Cantet ("Time Out," "Human Resources"), the docudrama follows François (who plays himself) and his fellow teachers as they embark on a new year at a high school in a tough multicultural Paris neighborhood. Neither stuffy nor severe, François exhibits an extreme frankness that often surprises, but his classroom approach is put to the test when the students challenge his teaching methods. Screen Daily proclaims that "The Class" – the opening-night selection of the New York Film Festival – is "as fluid and thought-provoking as contemporary realist cinema can get."

Sponsored by Alliance Française



The Custodian (*El Custodio*)

RODRIGO MORENO, ARGENTINA, 2006, 93 MIN., SPANISH

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 9 P.M., FRONTENAC

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 4:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

As a bodyguard for a high-profile politician, Ruben is reduced to a mere shadow of a man: Every action in his life is regulated by a series of mundane routines, and he must trail behind his boss everywhere he goes, watching but never speaking. This compelling chronicle of a man without any true identity is shot exclusively from Ruben's point of view, an approach that won "The Custodian" the 2006 Berlin Film Festival's Alfred Bauer Award, given to innovative and daring works that break filmmaking's traditional rules.



Days and Clouds (*Giorni e nuvole*)

SILVIO SOLDINI, ITALY, 2007, 115 MIN., ITALIAN

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 7 P.M., FRONTENAC

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 9:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this new work by the director of "Bread and Tulips," the affluent, sophisticated Elsa and Michele have enough money for Elsa to leave her job and fulfill an old dream of studying art history. After she graduates, however, their lives change: Michele confesses he hasn't worked in two months and was fired by the company he founded. The growing distance between the couple threatens their most precious possession: the love that binds them. The New York Times calls "Days and Clouds" "a brave film simply for daring to portray a nightmare lurking in the minds of middle-aged workers" and declares it a "sad, very grown-up movie."

Sponsored by Union Avenue Christian Church





The Empire State Building Murders

WILLIAM KAREL, FRANCE/U.S., 2008, 73 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 4 P.M., WEBSTER

Co-written by crime novelist and film obsessive Jerome Charyn ("Movieland," "Gangsters and Gold Diggers"), this clever pastiche of old movie clips and new "documentary" footage recaptures a fascinating place and time: the Empire State Building in New York during the '30s and '40s. A French declaration of love for America and film noir, the film stands halfway between myth and reality, skillfully blurring fiction and nonfiction. With a dizzying plot and a voice-over narration worthy of the best noir, "The Empire State Building Murders" deftly combines scenes from dozens of classic Hollywood films – featuring such actors as James Cagney, Humphrey Bogart, Ben Gazzara, Kirk Douglas, Mickey Rooney and Lauren Bacall – to construct a fresh story that's intercut with contemporary in-character interviews with many of the same actors. **With director Karel and co-star Marsha Hunt.**



Faro, Goddess of the Waters

(Faro, la reine des eaux)

SALIF TRAORE, MALI, 2007, 96 MIN., BAMBARA

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 4:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this assured directorial debut by the former assistant to Souleymane Cissé and Abderrahmane Sissako, an engineer returns to the rural village of his birth to uncover the identity of his father and initiate a waterworks project. However, because his arrival coincides with the drowning of a young villager, the village elders determine that Faro, the spirit who rules the waters, has been angered by the engineer's return, and the only way to appease her anger is with sacrifice. This moving story deftly explores the conflicts between tradition and modernity in contemporary Africa while attesting to the power of one individual to effect change. **With director Traore.**



Fashion Victims **(Reine Geschmacksache)**

INGO RASPER, GERMANY, 2007, 105 MIN., GERMAN

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 6:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 9 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this madcap comedy, a middle-aged traveling salesman of ladies' fashion loses his driver's license just as a young competitor threatens to steal his best customers. A desperate Wolfgang cancels his son's holiday and presses him into service as an unwilling chauffeur, but the situation goes from bad to worse: The bank and taxman both pursue him, his wife leaves him, and his son not only comes out of the closet but also falls in love with his father's rival. Family and foe meet in an uproarious showdown in which bullets and misunderstandings fly.



The Fish Fall in Love **(Mahiha Ashegh Mishavand)**

ALI RAFFI, IRAN, 2006, 96 MIN., FARSI

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 12:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 7:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Atieh's singular passion is food, and her small but popular restaurant on the sleepy Caspian coast is her pride and joy. But when Aziz, her former fiancé, appears after a 20-year absence, Atieh fears that he intends to close the restaurant. In a desperate effort to convince him otherwise, Atieh prepares his favorite dishes, one after the other. Loosely based on the Persian fable of "A Thousand and One Nights," the film uses the language of food to paint a richly textured portrait of life and love on the northern coast of Iran.

The Flyboys

ROCCO DEVILLIERS, U.S., 2008, 118 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 2 P.M., BROWN, FREE

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 3:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this action-packed coming-of-age film – winner of a half-dozen audience awards at U.S. film festivals – 12-year-olds Jason and Kyle sneak aboard a mysterious plane at their small town's airport. Forced to hide when two strangers suddenly arrive, the boys find themselves trapped and airborne over the open Arizona desert. Worse, they uncover a bomb in the luggage compartment. Bursting into the cabin to report their discovery, they find the plane empty, requiring the boys to land the plane themselves. But Jason and Kyle's troubles are only beginning: Their actions have foiled a heist to steal millions of dollars from the mob. **With producer Lisle Moore.**



From Inside

JOHN BERGIN, U.S., 2008, 71 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 3:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

An animated film based on the haunting 1994 graphic novel by director Bergin, "From Inside" is the tale of Cee, a young pregnant woman who finds herself on a damaged train slowly making its way across a bleak, apocalyptic landscape. Flood, war and starvation threaten the passengers, and Cee struggles through the dangers while coping with the memory of her lost husband and the imminent birth of her child. Admirers of Chris Marker's classic "La Jetee" will find "From Inside" a fascinating companion piece. A musician and artist, Bergin is the creator of the comic series "Golgothika." **With director Bergin.**

Sponsored by Star Clipper

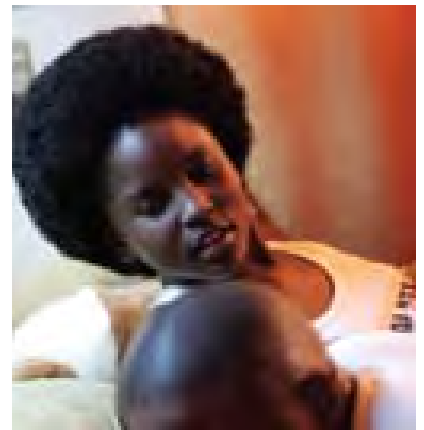


A Good Day to Be Black and Sexy

DENNIS DORTCH, U.S., 2008, 92 MIN.

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 9:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

The Hollywood Reporter describes "A Good Day to Be Black and Sexy," which premiered at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, as "a raunchy between-the-sheets peek at modern-day black sexuality." A series of six comedic vignettes set in Los Angeles, the film doesn't shy away from the more controversial aspects of contemporary relationships but finds abundant (if uncomfortable) humor in them. Variety calls the film "a worldly, knowing look at adult affairs" and describes first-time director Dortch as "a trickster: He's far less interested in where movies have been than where they've never dared to go – into the abrasive side of sexual posturing, negotiating and politics."



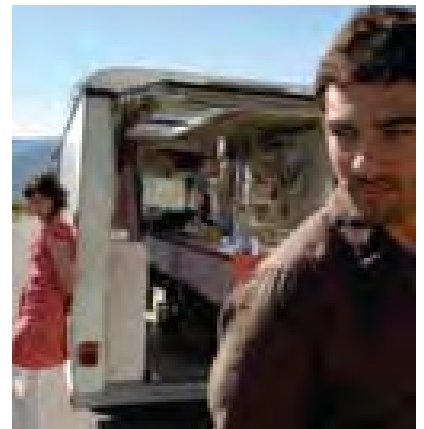
The Grocer's Son (Le Fils de l'épicier)

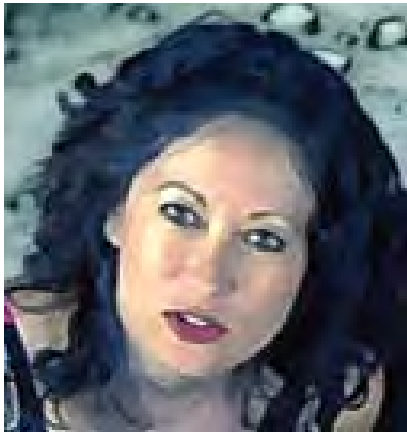
ERIC GUIRADO, FRANCE, 2007, 96 MIN., FRENCH

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 6:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 7 P.M., FRONTENAC

When his father becomes ill, Antoine – still immature at 30 years old – reluctantly leaves Paris for his native Provence, where he must take up the family business, driving groceries from hamlet to hamlet and delivering supplies to the inhabitants. Accompanied by Claire, a friend on whom he has a secret crush, Antoine gradually warms to the initially gruff villagers, who prove both funny and endearing. The LA Times writes: "A love of unspoiled countryside and its sturdy people suffuses this film, which unfolds with subtlety, humor and affection – and becomes in the process a pure enchantment."





Half-Life

JENNIFER PHANG, U.S., 2008, 106 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 7:45 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Reflective, subversive and gorgeously photographed – with bursts of vivid animation – “Half-Life” takes place in a world where global warming has passed the tipping point. As inland areas grow hotter, the air around the Wu family crackles with strangeness and unpredictability: Precocious Timothy and jaded sister Pam use their imaginative powers to escape a confining home life, save their self-destructive mother from her charmingly manipulative boyfriend, and finally reinvent their world in a mind-bending conclusion. Premiering at this year’s Sundance, “Half-Life” was named Best Feature at the Gen Art Film Festival. The Hollywood Reporter’s Stephen Farber declares the film “an imaginative and deeply affecting effort” that “marks the debut of a promising, truly independent film artist.” **With director Phang.**



The Heartbeat Detector (*La Question humaine*)

NICOLAS KLOTZ, FRANCE, 2007, 143 MIN., FRENCH

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 6:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 1:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

A quietly riveting mystery of blackmail and intrigue, “The Heartbeat Detector” asks provocative moral questions as it uncovers the long-buried secrets of high-powered corporate executives. Simon Kessler (“The Diving Bell and the Butterfly” star Mathieu Amalric), a psychologist working in the human-resources department of a multinational corporation, is asked to provide a detailed report on the firm’s German CEO, whom the company fears may be falling into an unstable mental state. Salon’s Andrew O’Hehir says of “The Heartbeat Detector”: “If you’re a fan of Hitchcock, of Kubrick, of the kind of thriller that has the implacable mystery of great sculpture or great architecture, of movies that create their own visual, aural and symbolic universe and suck you bodily into them – well, you’ve simply got to see this.”



Humboldt County

DARREN GRODSKY & DANNY JACOBS, U.S., 2008, 97 MIN.

THURSDAY, NOV. 13, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 1

After a drunken one-night stand, tightly wound UCLA med student Peter Hadley (Jeremy Strong) finds himself stranded in Humboldt County at the family home of free-spirited Bogart (Fairuza Balk). Peter resists the eccentric enclave of pot farmers but slowly comes to embrace their easygoing life and ideals. Consciously evoking such ’70s classics as “The Graduate,” “Humboldt County” features an astonishingly deep ensemble that includes rising actor Chris Messina (“Vicki Christina Barcelona”), Frances Conroy (“Six Feet Under”), Brad Dourif (“Deadwood”) and filmmaker Peter Bogdanovich. At the film’s SXSW debut, the Austin Chronicle described the “pitch-perfect directing debut” of former St. Louisans Grodsky and Jacobs as “a smart, moving, and altogether canny glimpse into the heart of a shell-shocked American dream.” **With directors Grodsky & Jacobs.**

Sponsored by Jeffrey T. Fort and Mandarin.



The Inferno (*L'inferno*)

GIUSEPPE DE LIGUORO, ITALY, 1911 (RESTORED IN 2004), 71 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 3 P.M., SLAM

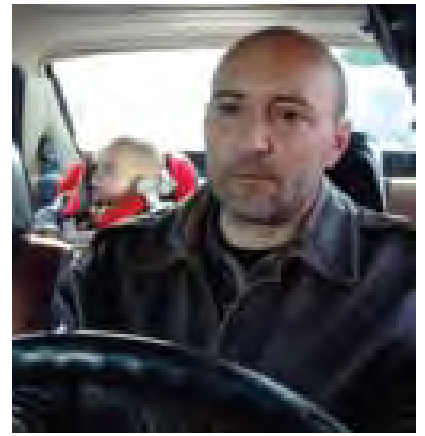
The first full-length Italian film ever made, “The Inferno” is a wild re-imagining of Dante’s epic, an extremely loose adaptation that takes inspiration from the illustrations of Gustav Doré to conjure its visions of hell. A three-year production that involved more than 150 people – an astonishing figure at the time – “The Inferno” proved an international hit, taking in more than \$2 million in the United States alone. Calling the film “a fascinating relic of pre-First World War signs and wonders,” the Independent’s Nick Hasted marvels that “The Inferno” has “the antique oddness of a magic-lantern show, as carousels of bodies jerkily swivel, rows of legs poke out of a river of filth, and a dragon appears, inexplicably, for a second. Naked bodies twist in suffering, and men in horned devil-suits cackle.” **With live musical accompaniment by the New Music Circle.**

Co-presented by the Saint Louis Art Museum

It's Hard to Be Nice (*Tesko je biti fin*)

SRDJAN VULETIC, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, 2007, 102 MIN., SERBO-CROATIAN
MONDAY, NOV. 17, 2:15 P.M., FRONTENAC
TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 4 P.M., FRONTENAC

Fudo, a 40-year-old taxi driver, wants to be good, but he lives in the wrong time and place: contemporary Sarajevo. Though Fudo has elaborate plans to rise above his petty-criminal past, his old friends have their own scheme, which involves bringing their pal back for one last job. Variety describes "It's Hard to Be Nice" – director Vuletic's follow-up to his well-regarded "The Summer in the Golden Valley" – as "an engaging, urban fairy tale" that "could also be a parable for the course Bosnia itself should travel."



I've Loved You So Long (*Il y a longtemps que je t'aime*)

PHILIPPE CLAUDEL, FRANCE, 2008, 118 MIN., FRENCH
SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 6:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

The talk of the Telluride and Toronto film fests, "I've Loved You So Long" tells the story of two estranged sisters who reunite when Juliette (Kristin Scott Thomas) – who's murdered her 6-year-old son – is released from prison after 15 years. Over the objections of her family, younger sibling Lea (Elsa Zylberstein) invites her sister to come live with her, and gradually a different Juliette emerges from the shadows of her terrible crime. London's Guardian newspaper singles out Scott Thomas for particular praise: "Her formidable bilingual presence, her beauty – elegant and drawn in early middle age – her air of hypersensitive awareness of all the tiny absurdities and indignities with which she is surrounded, coupled with a drolly lenient reticence: it all creates an intelligent, observant drama about dislocation, fragility and the inner pain of unshakeable memories."

Sponsored by Marcia Harris



The Juche Idea WITH Interkosmos

JIM FINN, U.S., 2008, 62 MIN. / JIM FINN, U.S., 2006, 71 MIN.
FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 7:30 P.M., WEBSTER

SLIFF presents a provocatively strange double bill by native St. Louisan Jim Finn. "The Juche Idea," partially inspired by the true story of a South Korean filmmaker kidnapped by the movie-obsessed Kim Jung Il in the 1970s, is a deadpan comedy that follows the efforts of a South Korean video artist to revitalize North Korean cinema. In "Interkosmos," another brilliantly conceived faux-documentary, Finn chronicles a failed German space-colonization mission, telling the story through narration, dialogue, letters and period songs. Variety calls Finn's films "without precedent or category" and asserts "the evidence that current filmmaking is brimming with original, standard-breaking creations has to include the work of Jim Finn, ... (whose films) boldly upturn notions of documentary and fiction, propaganda thought, reality and restaging, and even what an 'experimental film' actually is." **With director Finn.**



Kept & Dreamless (*Las Mantenidas Sin Sueños*)

VERA FOGWILL & MARTÍN DESALVO, ARGENTINA, 2005, 94 MIN., SPANISH
FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 4:45 P.M., FRONTENAC
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

During Argentina's economic crisis of the '90s, 9-year-old Eugenia and her mother live a seemingly colorful life surrounded by eclectic neighbors and an offbeat collection of family. But for Eugenia, who must deal with her mother's dysfunctional and drug-addled lifestyle, life is anything but pleasant. A darkly inspiring story of expectation, acceptance and nontraditional family, "Kept & Dreamless" features standout performances from director Fogwill as the mother and young actress Lucia Snieg as Eugenia.





King of the Hill

STEVEN SODERBERGH, U.S., 1993, 109 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 7:30 P.M., BROWN, FREE

The locally shot "King of the Hill," adapted from native son A.E. Hotchner's memoir, is set in 1933 St. Louis and chronicles the travails of 12-year-old Aaron Kurlander (Jesse Bradford), a bright, affable boy coming of age during the heart of the Depression. Left frighteningly alone in the family's shabby rooms at the Empire Hotel, Aaron must protect the impoverished family's meager belongings from repossession. Director Soderbergh's third feature, "King of the Hill" features an impressive cast that includes Jeroen Krabbe, Lisa Eichhorn, Spalding Gray, Karen Allen, Elizabeth McGovern and a young Adrien Brody. **With producer Ron Yerxa, cinematographer Elliot Davis, St. Louis casting director Carrie Houk, Wash. U. professor Henry Schvey and a panel on book-to-film translation.**

Co-presented by the Missouri Center for the Book and Washington University's Center for the Humanities



Kontakt

SERGEJ STANOJKOVSKI, MACEDONIA, 2005, 120 MIN., GERMAN & MACEDONIAN

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 4:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 2 P.M., FRONTENAC

A pair of unwanted misfits – Janko, a curmudgeonly convict fresh from prison, and Zana, a mentally unstable woman recently released from an asylum – is brought together by Novak, who wants to shed responsibility for his difficult half-brother. A surprisingly tender relationship develops as the two mismatched housemates share Zana's decaying family mansion in Skopje. Based on a screenplay by Gordan Mihic (the scenarist of Emir Kusturica's "Black Cat, White Cat" and "Time of the Gypsies"), "Kontakt" features Balkan stars Labina Mitewska ("Welcome to Sarajevo," "Before the Rain") and Nikola Kojo ("Life Is a Miracle").



The Last Lullaby

JEFFREY GOODMAN, U.S., 2008, 93 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 5:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Price (Tom Sizemore of "Heat" and "Saving Private Ryan") is a former hitman struggling with the boredom and restlessness of retirement. In "The Last Lullaby," Price returns to his old life for a major payout, but the job turns complicated when he develops unexpected feelings for his target (Sasha Alexander of "NCIS"). Co-written by acclaimed crime novelist Max Allan Collins ("Road to Perdition") – who adapts his own short story – "The Last Lullaby" is an expansion of first-time feature director Goodman's award-winning short "A Matter of Principle." **With director Goodman.**



Late Bloomers (Die Herbstzeitlosen)

BETTINA OBERLI, SWITZERLAND, 2008, 90 MIN., GERMAN

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 2:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 7:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Fans of "Calendar Girls" will surely delight in "Late Bloomers," a sweet and funny crowd-pleaser. Martha (87-year-old Stephanie Glaser), a plucky retiree and recent widow, stirs up things in her conservative mountain village when she and several friends fulfill a lifelong dream by opening a shop selling provocative lingerie. The buttoned-down locals – including Martha's son, who serves as the town's vicar – find the boutique scandalous, but the women bloom like alpine flowers, with old courage being found and new relationships blossoming.

Let the Right One In (*Låt den rätte komma in*)

TOMAS ALFREDSON, SWEDEN, 2008, 114 MIN., SWEDISH
SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 9:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

The winner of the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival's Best Narrative Feature Award, "Let the Right One In" tells a darkly atmospheric, poetic and surprisingly tender story of adolescence ... and vampirism. Fragile, anxious 12-year-old Oskar, regularly bullied by his stronger classmates, finds protection and friendship when 12-year-old Eli moves in next door. A pale, serious young girl, Eli only comes out at night, and her arrival coincides with a series of inexplicable disappearances and murders. Based on a Swedish bestseller that recalls the work of Anne Rice, "Let the Right One In" is already slated for a Hollywood remake by the director of "Cloverfield."



Let the Wind Blow (*Hava Aney Dey*)

PARTHO SEN-GUPTA, INDIA, 2004, 93 MIN., ENGLISH & HINDI
TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 12:30 P.M., FRONTENAC
THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 4:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

At the height of nuclear tensions between India and Pakistan, Arjun and his best friend, Chabia, weigh their options for the future against the reality of life on the streets of Mumbai. Enticed by the promise of wealth and opportunity in the Persian Gulf, Chabia is eager to leave his job as a mechanic, but for Arjun, who must finish college and care for his mother, the decision is not so easy in this gritty drama.



Little Heroes (*Giborim Ktanim*)

ITAI LEV, ISRAEL, 2006, 76 MIN., ENGLISH, HEBREW & RUSSIAN
SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 1:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this multiple-award-winning children's adventure, four children work to overcome their differences and learn to face their fears. When Alicia, an immigrant girl from Russia with telepathic abilities, senses that there are people screaming for help in a valley nearby, she recruits other children to embark on a courageous journey. Navigating their way through Israel's wild desert landscape, the quartet of kids gradually forms a heroic team in a valiant attempt to find and save the injured couple.



Luxury Car (*Jiang Cheng Xia Ri*)

WANG CHAO, CHINA, 2006, 88 MIN., MANDARIN
MONDAY, NOV. 17, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC
TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

"Luxury Car" explores the painful reality of thousands of parents who have lost contact with their children through the rural exodus and political upheaval in China. In this emotionally taut film – which won the Un Certain Regard Award at the 2006 Cannes fest – a father travels from his small village to the city of Wuhan, determined to fulfill his wife's last wish that he see their son. But instead of finding his son, he discovers his daughter working as a karaoke-bar escort, forcing him to come to terms with their long-estranged relationship and the tenuous future of his family. Variety says that director Wang "attains an almost perfect balance between style and content in ... a tightly written and beautifully played drama."

Sponsored by East Asian Studies at Washington University





Matchmaker Mary

TOM WHITUS, U.S., 2008, 89 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, NOON, BROWN, FREE
SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 4:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

Promised a puppy if she earns straight A's on her report card, 12-year-old Mary Carver is rewarded with a visit to the Wayside Waifs animal shelter. Three Labrador puppies are waiting for a home, and Mary ultimately chooses the adorable Tillie, but chance encounters with the man and woman who adopt the other pups lead her on a quest to play matchmaker. Mary actually works to bring together three couples: the new dog owners; her Aunt Mary (Dee Wallace from "E.T.") and the kindly shelter owner; and even her own maritally troubled parents. A heartwarming film for the whole family, "Matchmaker Mary" co-stars St. Louis-area native Jilanne Klaus. **With director Whitus and co-star Klaus.**

Sponsored by Rich & Judee Sauget and the Gateway Grizzlies

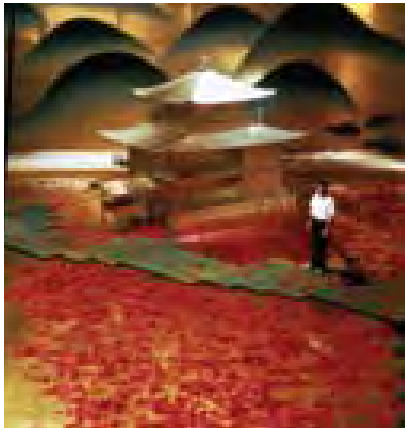


Mil Mascaras: Resurrection

JEFF BURR & CHIP GUBERA, U.S., 2005, 90 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 11:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Famed *luchadore* and film star Mil Mascaras journeys from Mexico to mid-Missouri to star as himself: a renaissance man of international repute, a connoisseur of the arts, a scholar of science and humanity, and a masked wrestler. Like his fellow *luchadores*, Mascaras is often called on to assist the authorities in combating threats to mankind, so when the evil and bloodthirsty Aztec Mummy is resurrected, he's recruited to put it back under wraps. Will Mil Mascaras fall under the influence of his undead adversary? The answer hinges on the secret of his mask, which has been passed down through his ancestors since time in memoriam. **With co-director Gubera and producer-writer-actor Jeffrey Uhlmann.**



Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters

PAUL SCHRADER, U.S., 1985, 121 MIN., JAPANESE

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 2:15 P.M., TIVOLI 1

SLIFF presents a new 35mm print of the gorgeously restored "Mishima," which Lifetime Achievement Award honoree Schrader considers his finest work. Visually stunning and structurally audacious – featuring John Bailey's ravishing cinematography, Philip Glass' propulsive score and Eiko Ishioka's exquisite sets and costumes – the film offers a collage-like portrait of acclaimed Japanese author and playwright Yukio Mishima (Ken Ogata). Taking place on Mishima's last day, the film alternates extended flashbacks to the writer's life and stylized adaptations of his fiction. Reviewing the new DVD of "Mishima," critic Nathan Rabin of the Onion A.V. Club writes: "Just as his subject sought to reconcile intellect and action, words and deeds, Schrader finds a perfect union between sound and image, weighty ideas, and giddy sensual rapture." **With director Schrader.**

Co-sponsored by the Film and Media Studies Program at Washington University



Mosquito Kingdom

BRAD HODGE & DEREK ELZ, U.S., 2008, 103 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 5:45 P.M., TIVOLI 3

This stylish contemporary film noir, shot in St. Louis and the Florida Keys, tells a complex, defiantly nonlinear story of betrayal. When Ash, a small-time crook, begins a reckless affair with the wife of a corrupt cop, he finds that he is in over his head and is forced to flee to a remote key, an island that soon proves as much prison as refuge. The Riverfront Times says of the film: "Mosquito Kingdom" is dark. Not just in the sense that the hyper-stylized images onscreen rival the most inky-black and smoke-filled film noir, but dark for the way in which the film takes place in a frantic, bizarre and life-sucking moral vacuum." Venice Café regulars will take particular delight in the scene-stealing performance of bartender Dick Pointer as a sardonic henchman of crime boss Woodrell. **With co-directors Hodge & Elz and screenwriter Jed Ayres.**

More Than Just a Game

JUNAID AHMED, SOUTH AFRICA, 2007, 90 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 3:30 P.M., TIVOLI 1

This inspirational docudrama recounts a little-known chapter in the story of South Africa's notorious Robben Island prison, where opponents of the apartheid regime – including Nelson Mandela – were held. While doing research in South Africa, UM-St. Louis sports-history professor Chuck Korr unearthed a cache of documents that chronicled a soccer league that the prisoners had formed and meticulously run. The league served a vital function, providing the men not just with a much-needed diversion but a means of asserting their dignity and self-governing ability. The film, which stars Presley Chweneyagae of the Oscar-winning "Tsotsi," alternates fascinating contemporary interviews with the former prisoners and dramatic re-enactments of their lives – and soccer games – on the island. **With consultant and co-producer Korr.**

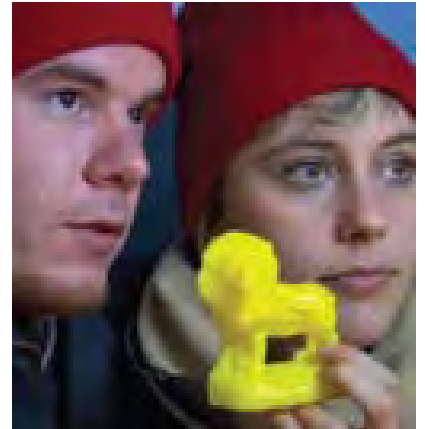


Nights and Weekends

GRETA GERWIG & JOE SWANBERG, U.S., 2008, 80 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 9:45 P.M., TIVOLI 1

Joe Swanberg and Greta Gerwig, who collaborated on Swanberg's "Hannah Takes the Stairs," co-write, co-direct and co-star in this intimate portrayal of longing and confusion. Described by Salon's Andrew O'Hehir as a "low-budget, high-nudity improvisation," "Nights and Weekends" – which premiered at SXSW – shows a couple struggling with the distance between New York and Chicago, with their visits becoming reminders of the difficulties, not the pleasures, of their relationship. Gerwig also co-stars in another SLIFF film from the mumblecore movement, "Yeast," directed by and starring Mary Bronstein ("Frownland").



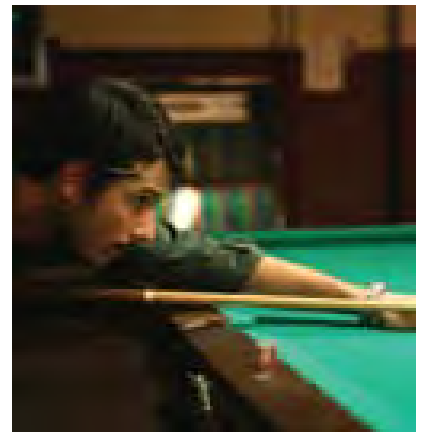
Not by Chance (Não Por Acaso)

PHILIPPE BARCINSKI, BRAZIL, 2007, 90 MIN., PORTUGUESE

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 8:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 9:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Enio, a traffic-control supervisor, and Pedro, an obsessive pool player, find comfort in their measured, mathematically exact lives. However, the sudden deaths of Enio's ex-wife and Pedro's wife upend the men's stable existences. Pedro despairs until he meets Lucia, a young woman with whom he tries to re-live the same exact moments he once lived with his wife. Enio is forced to confront his loss through the mysterious appearance of his unknown daughter. Eventually, the men must decide between their obsessions and the opportunities life has given them. Reminiscent of contemplative and moving dramas such as "Amores Perros" and "Crash," "Not by Chance" examines how swift changes in destiny can forever alter lives.



O'Horten

BENT HAMER, NORWAY, 2008, 90 MIN., NORWEGIAN

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 4:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

After decades of timetables and routines, newly retired train engineer Odd Horten finds himself struggling with his new life's lack of structure. Flailing in his newfound freedom, Horten has his life turned upside down by a series of unlikely adventures and puzzling dilemmas. A warm, absurdist tale, "O'Horten," which played the 2008 Cannes and Toronto film festivals, is proof positive that there is humor to be found in embracing life in all of its idiosyncratic splendor. SLIFF alum Hamer ("Kitchen Stories") offers a wonderfully skewed view of aging and the human condition, demonstrating that, in life, one must always expect the unexpected.



FRIDAY NOV 14 SATURDAY NOV 15 SUNDAY NOV 16 MONDAY NOV 17 TUESDAY NOV 18

Plaza Frontenac

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

2:30 P.M. The Bet Collector
4:45 P.M. Kept & Dreamless
7 P.M. Blind Mountain
9:15 P.M. Shorts Program 1

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

2:15 P.M. Late Bloomers
4:30 P.M. Vanaja
7:15 P.M. Late Bloomers
9:30 P.M. The Unknown Woman

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

12:30 P.M. Chasing Birds
2:15 P.M. Accelerating America
4:15 P.M. Documentary Shorts
6:30 P.M. Fashion Victims
9 P.M. Shorts Program 2

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

12:15 P.M. Under the Bombs
2:30 P.M. Times and Winds
4:45 P.M. Stolen Holidays
6:45 P.M. The Unknown Woman
9:30 P.M. Let the Right One In

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

NOON Family Shorts
2 P.M. Amal
4:30 P.M. Faro, Goddess of the Waters
7 P.M. Skin
9:45 P.M. Shorts Program 3

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

1:30 P.M. Stolen Holidays
4 P.M. Under the Bombs
6:30 P.M. The Grocer's Son
8:45 P.M. Not by Chance

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

2:30 P.M. Luxury Car
4:45 P.M. All for Free
7 P.M. Blessed Is the Match
9 P.M. Fashion Victims

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

2:15 P.M. It's Hard to Be Nice
4:30 P.M. Vanaja
7 P.M. The Grocer's Son
9:15 P.M. Special

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

12:30 P.M. Let the Wind Blow
2:30 P.M. Luxury Car
4:30 P.M. Opera Jawa
7:15 P.M. Wonderful Town
9:30 P.M. Shorts Program 5

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

2 P.M. Son of a Lion
4 P.M. It's Hard to Be Nice
6:30 P.M. The Heartbeat Detector
9:15 P.M. Son of a Lion

Tivoli

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

7 P.M. Adama Resurrected
10:30 P.M. Shadowland

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

7:15 P.M. Yeast
9:30 P.M. Pretty Ugly People

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

NOON Song Sung Blue
2:15 P.M. Mishima
5:15 P.M. Dear Zachary
8 P.M. Slumdog Millionaire
10:30 P.M. American Swing

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

11 A.M. Seminar: Micro-Budget Filmmaking
12:30 P.M. Of Time and the City
2:30 P.M. Streetballers
5:30 P.M. The Last Lullaby
7:45 P.M. Half-Life
10:15 P.M. Alone

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

11:30 A.M. That All May Be One
2 P.M. The Stem Cell Divide
4:30 P.M. Number One With a Bullet
7 P.M. Fuel
9:45 P.M. The Objective

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

11 A.M. NFF Coffee With the Filmmakers
12:30 P.M. Who Does She Think She Is?
2:45 P.M. Katrina's Children
5:15 P.M. Homegrown
7:15 P.M. Kassim the Dream
9:30 P.M. Martino Unstrung

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

7 P.M. Wendy and Lucy
9 P.M. Pageant

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

5 P.M. Sinner Come Home
7:15 P.M. Traces of the Trade
9:30 P.M. A Good Day to Be Black and Sexy

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

7 P.M. War Eagle, Arkansas
9:30 P.M. The Wrecking Crew

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

5 P.M. How It Is With Phooie
7:15 P.M. One Bad Cat
9:15 P.M. Shorts Program 4

Webster U.

7:30 P.M. The Juche Idea and Interkosmos

5 P.M. St. Benedict's Rule
7:30 P.M. My Mother's Garden

7 P.M. Throw Down Your Heart

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM

SUN, NOV. 16

NOON The Boy in the Striped Pajamas
3 P.M. The Inferno

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM

FRI, NOV. 21

7 P.M. Pixar Shorts

Other Events

TIVOLI THEATRE
THURS, NOV. 13
7 P.M. Humboldt County

WEDNESDAY NOV 19 THURSDAY NOV 20 FRIDAY NOV 21 SATURDAY NOV 22 SUNDAY NOV 23

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

12:30 P.M. The Fish Fall in Love
2:30 P.M. Kept & Dreamless
4:30 P.M. Bunny Chow
7:15 P.M. The Fish Fall in Love
9:15 P.M. Opera Jawa

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

1:30 P.M. The Heartbeat
 Detector
4:15 P.M. Kontakt
7 P.M. The Tiger's Tail
9:30 P.M. Not by Chance

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

7 P.M. The Pope's Toilet
9 P.M. Stranded

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

5 P.M. Remarkable Power!
7:15 P.M. Agile, Mobile, Hostile
9:15 P.M. Remarkable Power!

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

12:30 P.M. The Bet Collector
2:30 P.M. All for Free
4:45 P.M. Let the Wind Blow
7 P.M. Strangers
9 P.M. The Custodian

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

2 P.M. Kontakt
4:30 P.M. The Tiger's Tail
7:15 P.M. The Wedding
 Director
9:30 P.M. Of Parents and
 Children

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

7 P.M. At the Edge of the World
9:45 P.M. Say Goodnight

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

5 P.M. St. Louis Filmmakers
 Showcase Shorts 1
7:15 P.M. A Powerful Noise
9:45 P.M. Shorts Program 6

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

2:30 P.M. Bunny Chow
4:45 P.M. The Custodian
7:15 P.M. Waves of Freedom
9:30 P.M. Strength and Honour

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

2 P.M. Ben X
4 P.M. Beaufort
7 P.M. Days and Clouds
9:15 P.M. Timecrimes

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

7:15 p.m. The Thacker Case
9:45 p.m. Nights and Weekends

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

5 P.M. St. Louis Filmmakers
 Showcase Shorts 2
7 P.M. Pray the Devil Back to
 Hell
9:15 P.M. Advertising for the
 Mob
11:15 P.M. Mil Mascaras:
 Resurrection

7 P.M. Beautiful Son
9 P.M. 1000 Journals

SATURDAY NOV 22

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

NOON First Impersonator
2:30 P.M. Of Parents and
 Children
4:45 P.M. Matchmaker Mary
7:15 P.M. The Brothers Bloom
9:45 P.M. Used Parts

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

12:15 P.M. Ben X
2:15 P.M. The Wedding
 Director
4:30 P.M. O'Horten
6:30 P.M. The Class
9:15 P.M. Days and Clouds

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

1 P.M. Summer Sun, Winter
 Moon
3:30 P.M. More Than Just a
 Game
6:15 P.M. Visual Acoustics
9 P.M. Guest of Cindy Sherman

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

1:15 P.M. The Trap
3:30 P.M. Carny
5:30 P.M. As Slow As Possible
8 P.M. The Trap
10 P.M. Shorts Program 7

4 P.M. The Empire State
 Building Murders
6:30 P.M. The Prowler
8:30 P.M. Panel: The Hollywood
 Blacklist and Film Noir
9:30 P.M. Yesterday Was a Lie

SUNDAY NOV 23

PLAZA FRONTENAC 1

1:30 P.M. Little Heroes
3:15 P.M. Waltz With Bashir
5:30 P.M. Strength and Honour

PLAZA FRONTENAC 6

1 P.M. Beaufort
3:30 P.M. The Flyboys
6:15 P.M. I've Loved You So Long

TIVOLI THEATRE 1

12:30 P.M. Garrison Keillor
3 P.M. The Power of the Game
6:30 P.M. The Wrestler

TIVOLI THEATRE 3

1 P.M. Frontrunners
3:30 P.M. From Inside
5:45 P.M. Mosquito Kingdom
8 P.M. Shorts Program 8

6 P.M. Indie-Fest Winners

Webster U.

WASH. U.'S BROWN HALL

SAT, NOV. 22

NOON Matchmaker Mary
2 P.M. The Flyboys
5 P.M. The Making of
 WALL-E
7:30 P.M. King of the Hill

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM

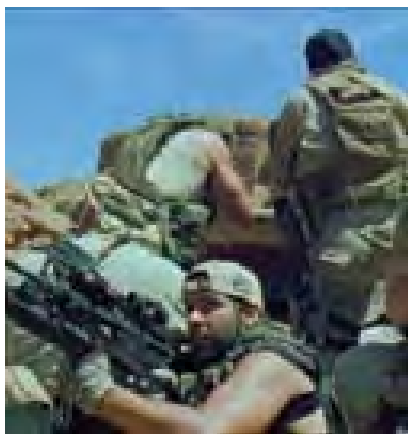
SUN, NOV. 23

NOON Louise Bourgeois
3 P.M. Burning the Future

BLUEBERRY HILL'S DUCK ROOM

SUN, NOV. 23

8 P.M.
 Closing-Night Party



The Objective

DANIEL MYRICK, U.S., 2008, 90 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 9:45 P.M., TIVOLI 1

In the supernatural thriller "The Objective," U.S. special-ops forces are dispatched to the remote mountains of Afghanistan to locate an influential Muslim cleric. However, it soon becomes clear that Benjamin Keynes, the dispassionate CIA officer assigned to oversee the mission, may have another agenda in mind. With rumors of a horrible curse running rampant, the team ventures deeper and deeper into the unforgiving mountains, where eerie and unexplainable events suggest that they may face something more powerful and terrifying than weapons of mass destruction. Myrick, who made a memorable debut with "The Blair Witch Project," offers a masterful blending of suspense, horror and warfare that will fascinate and titillate.



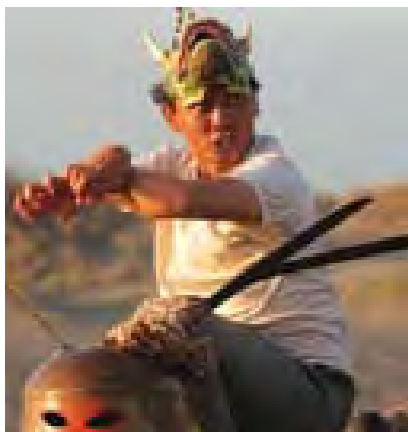
Of Parents and Children (O rodičích a detech)

VLADIMÍR MICHÁLEK, CZECH REPUBLIC, 2008, 90 MIN., CZECH

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 9:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

An aging father and his middle-aged son live vastly different day-to-day lives in this comic drama from the director of "Autumn Spring." The only thing these two men apparently have in common is their monthly walk, a chance for each of them to explore their complex and ambivalent feelings toward one another – a relationship filled with anger, love and respect. From moment to moment, they might be close friends, father and son, or complete strangers. This bittersweet tale of parents and children will seem intimately familiar to anyone who has struggled to connect with a loved one and overcome the harrowing distance between middle age and the twilight years.



Opera Jawa

GARIN NUGROHO, INDONESIA, 2006, 120 MIN., INDONESIAN

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 4:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 9:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this all-dancing, all-singing gamelan musical epic, Setyo and Siti live a peaceful life as husband and wife, selling earthenware in their village. But when Setyo is called away on business, a flirtatious butcher takes advantage of Siti's loneliness to seduce her, setting the stage for an epic battle between the two men. Shooting in lush forests and on pristine beaches on Java, director Nugroho bases his deeply imagistic and dazzling visual narrative on a tale from the Hindu epic "The Ramayana." Village Voice critic Nathan Lee raves that "the movie is a radiant folk fantasia, at once sophisticated and elemental, freewheeling and composed."



The Pope's Toilet (El Baño del Papa)

CÉSAR CHARLONE, URUGUAY, 2007, 90 MIN., SPANISH

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 1

It's 1988, and Melo, a Uruguayan town on the Brazilian border, awaits the visit of Pope John Paul II. More than 50,000 people are expected to attend, and the locals believe that selling food and drink to the gathered multitudes will make them rich. But petty smuggler Beto thinks he has the best idea of all: He decides he will build a public toilet in front of his house and charge for its use. His efforts bring about unexpected consequences, and the final results will surprise everyone. An official selection of both the Cannes and Toronto film festivals, "The Pope's Toilet" gleefully mixes the sacred and the profane, with the Village Voice calling the film an "alternately heartbreaking and hilarious satire" that "bawdily conveys the complex Latin-American relationship to God – and the means by which authoritarian institutions take a dump on the lives of the impoverished."

Pretty Ugly People

TATE TAYLOR, U.S., 2008, 101 MIN.
FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 9:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

A sharply pointed comedy, “Pretty Ugly People” proves that the grass is not necessarily greener on the other side of the fence. After shedding all her excess weight through gastric-bypass surgery, Lucy (Missy Pyle) fakes a serious illness to trick her estranged college friends into gathering together in the Montana wilderness. Lucy wants to show off her slim figure, with the hope that she’ll finally “feel like one of them,” but during four days of arduous hiking, she soon discovers that her friends have become as unfamiliar to her as her newly trim body. Faced with the rigors of the outdoors, these pretty people turn ugly, revealing their deepest fears and secrets. The cast includes Melissa McCarthy (who played Sookie in “Gilmore Girls”) and Alison Janney (“West Wing”). **With director Taylor.**



The Prowler

JOSEPH LOSEY, U.S., 1951, 92 MIN.
SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 6:30 P.M., WEBSTER, FREE

As part of a program on the Hollywood blacklist, SLIFF and Webster U. co-present a newly restored print of “The Prowler,” one of the last films that director Losey made in the U.S. before fleeing McCarthy-fueled harassment. In this classic film noir, a disgruntled cop (Van Heflin) is called to investigate a peeping-tom case involving Susan (Evelyn Keyes), the wife of a popular late-night radio personality. The cop woos the initially reluctant Susan and plots to get both insurance money and the girl by scapegoating a phantom “prowler” for the husband’s murder. Losey and screenwriter Dalton Trumbo – another victim of the blacklist – skillfully convey the pervasive ennui of bourgeois life. **With an 8:30 p.m. panel on the Hollywood blacklist and film noir.**

Shown with “The Grand Inquisitor” (Eddie Muller, U.S., 2008, 20 min.), in which a young woman (Leah Dashe) interviews a lonely recluse (legendary blacklisted actress Marsha Hunt), who may or may not be the widow of the Zodiac killer. **With director Muller and actress Hunt.**



Remarkable Power!

BRANDON BECKNER, U.S., 2008, 91 MIN.
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 5 P.M., TIVOLI 3
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 9:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

With the plug about to be pulled on his talk show and his wife engaged in a steamy affair, Jack West (Kevin Nealon of “SNL” and “Weeds”) is desperate to restore his fading celebrity. He concocts a wild media stunt, and the elaborate scheme ultimately entangles an eclectic collection of colorful characters, including a plump private eye (Tom Arnold), a macabre Web mistress, a glassy-eyed stoner (Evan Peters), a phony get-rich-quick guru (Christopher Titus), two narcissistic actors (Kip Pardue and Dulé Hill), a peculiar special-effects makeup team, porn stars, a Jewish drug lord and Russian mobsters.



Say Goodnight

DAVID VONALLMEN, U.S., 2008, 84 MIN.
THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 9:45 P.M., TIVOLI 1

In this locally shot romantic comedy, three guys – Victor (Aaron Paul), Leroy (Rob Benedict) and Mason (Chris Gessner) – gather at their favorite watering hole to update mutual friend Bernard (David Monahan) on their recent dating mishaps. Over a cocktail-fueled evening, the friends comically recount chance meetings, awkward first dates, embarrassing personal idiosyncrasies and problematic intimate encounters. Anyone who has ever been part of the bar scene will relate to the raunchy lunacy these characters endure. Carly Pope, Shannon Lucio and Smith Cho star as the ill-treated women in the men’s lives, and familiar St. Louis locations provide the attractive backdrop. **With director VonAllmen and producer Joe Farmer.**





Shadowland

WYATT WEED, U.S., 2008, 96 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 10:30 P.M., TIVOLI 1

Laura crawls from a pit at a construction site, beaten and bloody, apparently left for dead. With no memory of who or where she is, she sets off into the night, looking for answers and a way home. She soon finds herself hunted by a mysterious young man named Julian, and it isn't clear if he intends to help her or kill her. Another of the highly polished homegrown productions featured in this year's SLIFF, this fast-paced supernatural thriller prominently showcases the talents of St. Louis' actors and crew members, and the diversity of its locations. **With director Weed and producers Robert Clark and Gayle Gallagher.**

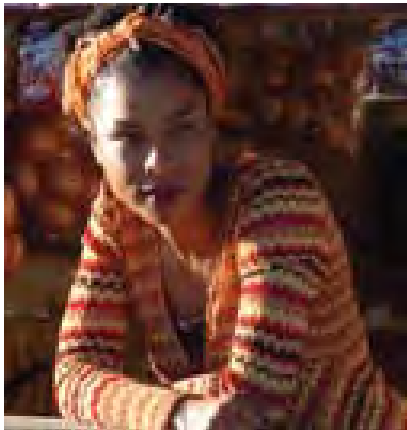


Sinner Come Home

BLAKE ECKARD, U.S., 2007, 96 MIN.

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 5 P.M., TIVOLI 3, FREE

In a forgotten Midwest town at the onset of winter, Eddie Farnim (Ryan Harper Gray) tolerates a mundane existence while his adoring wife, Jan (Christiana Hansen), prays for a child and a simple life. After working long hours for a stubborn boss, Eddie spends frequent nights drinking with his high-school buddy, whose own marriage is in the gutter. As tensions rise at home, Eddie spends more time out and catches the eye of his boss' wife, who feeds Eddie bad advice and leads him deeper into questioning his future and marriage. A native of Gentry County in northwest Missouri, Eckard was a senior in high school when he shot his first feature, "A Simple Midwest Story," which premiered at New York's Anthology Film Archives. Indie-film guru John Pierson, author of the classic "Spike, Mike, Slackers & Dykes," says of "Sinner Come Home": "I couldn't stop watching. There's something totally believable about the performances that doesn't seem to be part of independent film anymore." **With director Eckard and star Gray.**



Skin

ANTHONY FABIAN, SOUTH AFRICA, 2008, 107 MIN., ENGLISH & ZULU

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 7 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this moving true story of apartheid-era South Africa, Sandra (Sophie Okonedo) is born with distinctively African features despite having two white Afrikaner parents (Sam Neil and Alice Krige). When the girl is rejected by the school she attends because of her mixed-race appearance, Sandra's parents must plead before the Supreme Court to classify her as white. Although the family wins that battle, Sandra remains acutely aware of her difference and defiantly opts to reclassify herself as "colored" when she becomes an adult, causing a painful and seemingly irreconcilable break with her family.



Slumdog Millionaire

DANNY BOYLE, U.K./INDIA, 2008, 120 MIN., ENGLISH & HINDI

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 8 P.M., TIVOLI 1

Director Boyle ("Trainspotting," "28 Days") debuted "Slumdog Millionaire" to serious buzz at the Telluride and Toronto film fests, winning the latter's People's Choice Award. At the film's start, Jamal, an 18-year-old orphan from the slums of Mumbai, is about to experience the biggest day of his life: With the whole nation watching, he is just one question away from winning a staggering 20 million rupees on India's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" But when the show breaks for the night, police arrest him on suspicion of cheating, asserting that no street kid could possibly know so much. Desperate to prove his innocence, Jamal recounts his life, with each chapter of his story revealing the key to the answer to one of the game-show's questions.

Sponsored by the Network of Indian Professionals and Synergy Productions

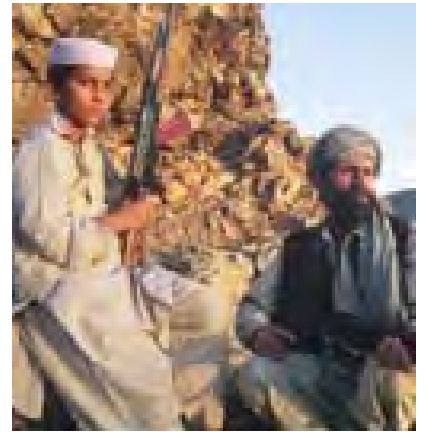
Son of a Lion

BENJAMIN GILMOUR, PAKISTAN/AUSTRALIA, 2007, 92 MIN., PASHTO

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 2 P.M., FRONTENAC

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 9:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Set in the Northwest Frontier Province of modern-day Pakistan, home to the ethnic Pashtuns, "Son of a Lion" provides vital insight into a region that increasingly affects the U.S. Widowed father Sher Alam expects his only son to follow in his fundamentalist footsteps, and 11-year-old Niaz dutifully obeys, making and testing weapons, just as Sher Alam learned from his father before him. But Niaz doesn't want to go down this path: He wants to go to school. Variety particularly hails the scenes involving Sher Alam and his friends: "In tea houses and barbershops, the men express a wide variety of opinions on everything from Osama bin Laden to the war on terror and, inevitably, the regional role of the U.S. These illuminating insights into how ordinary people in this region view the world deliver a vital understanding of the cultural factors surrounding Niaz's desire to look outward and better himself."



Special

HAL HABERMAN & JEREMY PASSMORE, U.S., 2006, 82 MIN.

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 9:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Comic-book-obsessed Les Franken (Michael Rapaport) leads a painfully unremarkable life, earning his living by writing tickets for parking-meter violations. But when he enrolls in a drug study for an experimental anti-depressant, the drug has unexpected side effects, and Les becomes convinced he is developing special powers. Quitting his job, Les instead takes on a new calling: superhero. "Special" debuted at Sundance, and Box Office Magazine offered a rapturous assessment, describing the film as "an often uproarious and always poignant comedy" and "a moving and pertinent parable for our medicated times."



Stolen Holidays (*Les Petites vacances*)

OLIVIER PEYON, FRANCE, 2006, 90 MIN., FRENCH

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 4:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 1:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Each school holiday, Danièle (New Wave vet Bernadette Lafont) accompanies her grandchildren on the train that takes them to the south of France, where her daughter's ex-husband lives. This time, however, the father's absence on their arrival at the station allows Danièle to enjoy the children's company a little longer. But within the model, dynamic and watchful grandmother there lurks a troubled woman. Fed up with her day-to-day routine and the people in it, Danièle now only finds a meaning to life through her grandchildren. When she impulsively takes them on a "stolen holiday," the resultant journey begins to seem more like a kidnapping.

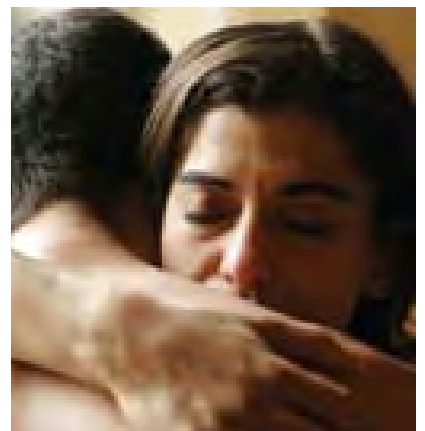


Strangers (*Zarim*)

GUY NATTIV & EREZ TADMOR, ISRAEL, 2007, 85 MIN., HEBREW

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 7 P.M., FRONTENAC

A 2008 Sundance selection, "Strangers" chronicles six days in the lives of Eyal, an Israeli living in a kibbutz, and Rana, a Palestinian living in Paris, who accidentally meet in the Berlin subway during the World Cup finals. Eyal, who came to meet his girlfriend, and Rana, who came to cheer the French team, are forced to share an apartment and, as the final match approaches, they fall in love – a relationship seriously complicated when war breaks out between Israel and Lebanon. Variety writes that although "gem-hard in its political realism, 'Strangers' is generous enough to suggest love may actually triumph – and as such will win a lot of hearts."





Streetballers

MATT KRENTZ, U.S., 2008, 110 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 2:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

In this urban drama about street basketball, two junior-college students find release and therapy while playing on one of the most competitive street courts in the U.S. Written and directed by local hero Krentz, who also co-stars, "Streetballers" reveals unexpected aspects of St. Louis. The RFT, which recently named Krentz a "MasterMind" at the paper's inaugural arts awards, notes: "More enthralling than the movie's story line, perhaps, is the cinematography and onsite filming of many of St. Louis' unsung landmarks. The movie opens with a time-elapsed shot of O'Fallon Park in north St. Louis.... Other sites and events featured prominently in the film include LeGrand's Market, Forest Park Community College and the St. Patrick's Day parade through Dogtown." **With director Krentz.**

Sponsored by the St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission



Strength and Honour

MARK MAHON, IRELAND, 2008, 90 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 9:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 5:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

"Strength and Honour" tells the story of an Irish boxer, Sean Kelleher (Michael Madsen), who accidentally kills his friend in the ring and promises his wife that he will never box again. Years later, however, when he discovers that his only son is dying of the same hereditary heart disorder that has taken his wife, he is forced to break his promise so he can raise the funds needed for a life-saving surgery. Now past his prime, he is forced to turn to the underground world of bare-knuckle fighting. "Strength and Honour" features a knockout cast that includes Vinnie Jones, Richard Chamberlain and Patrick Bergin. **With director Mahon.**



The Thacker Case

BRIAN JUN, U.S., 2008, 95 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 7:15 P.M., TIVOLI 1

SLIFF welcomes home former Metro East resident Jun, who won the fest's 2006 New Filmmakers Forum Award for the Alton-shot "Steel City," which premiered at Sundance. "The Thacker Case," which also shot briefly in the Alton area, features Eliza Dushku, star of the highly anticipated Joss Whedon TV show "Dollhouse." Based on a true story, the film examines a controversial case of wrongful death in small-town Iowa. Kevin Thacker's body was found in the alley outside the Marshalltown Police Department after the young man was arrested for drunk driving. The arresting officer's story is highly suspicious, and everyone involved, from the investigating detective to the FBI, appears to be aiding in covering up what actually happened that fateful night. **With director Jun and producer Lorena David.**

Sponsored by Jeffrey T. Fort



The Tiger's Tail

JOHN BOORMAN, IRELAND, 2006, 107 MIN.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 7 P.M., FRONTENAC

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 4:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Written and directed by storied director Boorman ("Point Blank," "Deliverance"), this comedic black thriller, set in contemporary boom-time Ireland, follows a successful businessman as his life begins to unravel. Liam O'Leary (Brendan Gleeson of Boorman's "The General"), an Irish property developer of humble origins, has made it big and fast. His hubris has led to a scheme to build a national stadium, but a rival developer is about to thwart his plans. Wildly overextended, Liam finds himself struggling in a receding market, and now, on the verge of a mental breakdown, he begins seeing his own double. Kim Cattrall of "Sex and the City" plays O'Leary's neglected wife, and Ciaran Hinds, Sinead Cusack and Sean McGinley co-star.

Timecrimes (Los Cronocrímenes)

NACHO VIGALONDO, SPAIN, 2007, 88 MIN., SPANISH

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 9:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

One evening, while looking through his binoculars, Hector sees a naked girl in the woods. When he investigates, a man with a bandaged face suddenly stabs him in the arm with a pair of scissors. A chase ensues, leading Hector to a mysterious machine that transports him back in time to just before the incident. Mind-bending complications ensue when Hector discovers that he now shares the world with his “real time” self. Variety writes: “Timecrimes’ welds a B-movie plotline to precision-engineered writing and a down-to-earth style; add an engagingly sloppy, nonplussed hero, who remains unfazed by the time-bending scrape in which he finds himself, and the result is memorably offbeat.” The thriller is slated for a Hollywood remake by David Cronenberg.



Times and Winds (Bes vakit)

REHA ERDEM, TURKEY, 2006, 107 MIN., TURKISH

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 2:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

The intensely lyrical “Times and Winds” depicts the bumpy emotional lives of three preteen friends – Omer, Yakup and Yaldiz – and the ways their families curb their dreams and desires. Omer, the imam’s son, harbors fantasies about killing his father, who favors his younger brother. Yakup turns against his own father when he discovers his dad has been spying on the beautiful schoolteacher with whom he’s infatuated. And Yaldiz is troubled by a budding sexuality after she witnesses her parents making love. This magical film – which Britain’s Telegraph says “deserves consideration for entry into the pantheon of great films about rural communities” – reveals the tensions that lie beneath the seemingly placid surface of a remote, beautiful and rugged mountain village untouched by the modern world.



The Trap (Klopka)

SRDAN GOLUBOVIC, SERBIA, 2007, 96 MIN., SERBO-CROATIAN

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 1:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 8 P.M., TIVOLI 3

In this gripping modern film noir, an ordinary man is forced to choose between the life and death of his own child. Faced with a costly operation to save his critically ill son, Mladen agrees to assassinate a wealthy man for cash after he’s assured the target deserves his fate. “The Trap,” which the Hollywood Reporter calls “a crackerjack thriller with tension that never abates,” explores post-Milosevic Serbia, a transitional world in which war is replaced by a moral desert, in which human life is worth little and a normal existence seems unreachable.



Under the Bombs (Sous les bombes)

PHILIPPE ARACINGI, LEBANON/FRANCE, 2007, 98 MIN., ARABIC, ENGLISH & FRENCH

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 12:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 4 P.M., FRONTENAC

During a ceasefire in the Lebanon-Israel conflict, a Christian taxi driver transports a Shiite woman from Beirut to the heart of the conflict to find her son. While scouring the rubble of local towns, they discover a common bond despite their very different backgrounds. “Under the Bombs,” which played the Venice and Sundance festivals, takes a neorealist approach: It was shot entirely on location during the summer of 2006, in the middle of the ruins of war-torn Lebanon, and primarily uses non-actors – refugees, journalists, soldiers – to play themselves. Describing the film as “a wry, tragic road movie,” the Observer’s Philip French concludes: “Revealing, occasionally darkly comic, ‘Under the Bombs’ is raw, painfully vivid, full of sharp detail and extremely moving.”





The Unknown Woman (*La Sconosciuta*)

GIUSEPPE TORNATORE, ITALY, 2006, 118 MIN., ITALIAN

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 9:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 6:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this Hitchcockian thriller – which Salon describes as a “delirious, semi-Gothic, overcooked melodrama” – the director of the much-loved “Cinema Paradiso” tells a haunting story of mystery and love. Irena (Xenia Rappoport), a Ukrainian woman, calculatedly insinuates herself into the lives of a young, affluent Italian family, becoming the couple’s trusted maid and beloved nanny to their fragile young daughter. Like an intricately constructed jigsaw puzzle, the film reveals the mystery of Irena’s past piece by piece. “The Unknown Woman” nearly swept Italy’s Donatello Awards, earning honors for the film, actress, director, cinematography and music (by Ennio Morricone).

Sponsored by Bar Italia



Used Parts (*Partes Usadas*)

AARÓN FERNÁNDEZ LESUR, MEXICO, 2007, 95 MIN., SPANISH

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 9:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

“Used Parts” explores the friendship between two Mexican teenagers who long for a better life. Ivan lives with his Uncle Jaime, a dealer of used car parts, and both dream of immigrating illegally to Chicago. To accumulate enough money for the border-crossing, Jamie introduces his nephew into the world of car-part theft, and Ivan proves a quick learner, recruiting best friend Efrain to help. Variety’s Robert Koehler describes “Used Parts” as “firmly grounded in Mexico City street realism yet steeped in the fluid rhythms and visually sensitive traditions of French cinema.”



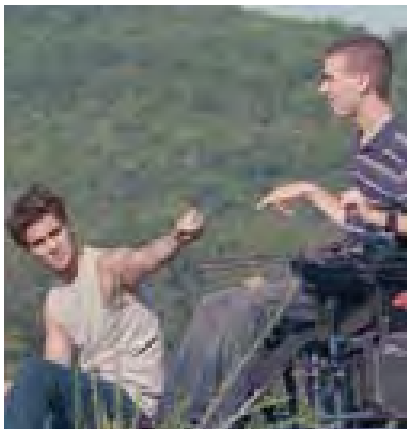
Vanaja

RAJNESH DOMALPALLI, INDIA, 2006, 111 MIN., TELUGU

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 4:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 4:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Set in rural South India, a place where social barriers are built stronger than ancient fort walls, “Vanaja” explores the chasm that still divides classes and movingly chronicles a young girl’s struggle to come of age. Vanaja, the 15-year-old daughter of a financially troubled fisherman, goes to work in a local landlady’s house in hopes of learning Kuchipudi dance. She excels, but when the landlady’s son returns from the U.S., what begins as innocent sexual chemistry turns ugly. Winner of more than a dozen awards at international film and children’s film fests, “Vanaja” – which the Austin Chronicle calls a “small miracle of a film” – began as the director’s thesis project at Columbia University.



War Eagle, Arkansas

ROBERT MILAZZO, U.S., 2007, 94 MIN.

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 1

A moving, character-driven drama, “War Eagle, Arkansas” is based on the true story of producer Vincent Insalaco’s son and his best friend. Enoch Cass has two gifts – baseball and an innate goodness – but he also suffers from a debilitating stutter. Enoch’s best friend, Samuel “Wheels” Macon, has been confined to a wheelchair by cerebral palsy since early childhood, but he has a spirit that knows no bounds. The two friends have relied on one another to make themselves one completely functional human being. Now, however, Enoch must decide whether to leave his family and best friend for a career in baseball or stay and redeem his struggling community. **With writer/producer Insalaco.**

Sponsored by Ken & Nancy Kranzberg

The Wedding Director (*Il Regista di matrimoni*)

MARCO BELLOCHIO, ITALY, 2006, 97 MIN., ITALIAN

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 7:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 2:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

In this slyly satirical new work by one of Italy's greatest directors, dissolute filmmaker Franco Elica (Sergio Castellito) slides into despair at the prospect of directing another remake and the news of a looming sexual-harassment scandal. Franco flees to Sicily, where he meets a host of colorful characters, including a cultured nobleman. The prince, a devoted fan of Franco's work, commissions the director to shoot the wedding of his tempestuous daughter, with whom Franco falls impulsively and dangerously in love. The New York Times' A.O. Scott observes: "Mr. Bellochio, like Franco, may be on the brink of despair when he contemplates his native land and his chosen art form, but he can't help loving them both. And anyone who loves Italian movies — by which I mean anyone with eyes, ears and a libido — is likely to be seduced by 'The Wedding Director.'"

Sponsored by J. Kim & Sharon Tucci



Wendy and Lucy

KELLY REICHARDT, U.S., 2008, 80 MIN.

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 1

Down-at-heels Wendy, delicately played by Michelle Williams ("Brokeback Mountain"), begins a road trip that's intended to take her to a job in Alaska, but her car breaks down in the Pacific Northwest, touching off a cascading series of economic disasters that includes the impoundment of beloved dog Lucy. Directed by Kelly Reichardt, of the award-winning "Old Joy," "Wendy and Lucy" premiered to rapturous reviews at Cannes and played at both the Toronto and New York film fests. Calling the film a "pitch-perfect triumph," the New York Times' Manohla Dargis writes: "With uninflected realism, an attentive camera and no weeping strings, Ms. Reichardt makes palpably, tragically real what it means to be struggling at the very edge of the economic abyss."

Sponsored by the Cynthia Prost and her dog, Bella



Wonderful Town

ADITYA ASSARAT, THAILAND, 2007, 92 MIN., THAI

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 7:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Ton, a soulful young architect, arrives at a Thai coastal town to supervise the construction of a beach resort adjacent to a site severely ravaged by the 2004 tsunami. When Ton rents a room in a small hotel owned by Na, they slowly fall into a secret love affair. The winner of the prestigious Tiger Award at the Rotterdam Film Festival, "Wonderful Town" recalls the lyrical work of director Apichatpong Weerasethakul ("Tropical Malady"). Salon's Andrew O'Hehir, who describes the film as "delicate, delightful and nearly note-perfect," calls Assarad "a patient and a surprising director, alive to the most intimate details of everyday life — folding laundry, changing sheets, drinking coffee — and also to the dreams people hold closest to their hearts, the ones they can barely admit to themselves, let alone their lovers."



The Wrestler

DARREN ARONOFSKY, U.S., 2008, 105 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 6:30 P.M., TIVOLI 1

Back in the '80s, wrestler Randy "The Ram" Robinson (Mickey Rourke) was at the top of his game, but 25 years later he's reduced to fighting in grueling, untelevised matches in front of crowds screaming for carnage. Outside the ring, all Randy has to show for his life is a painful relationship with his estranged daughter (Evan Rachel Wood) and a tentative romance with a stripper (Marisa Tomei). Winner of the Golden Lion for best film at Venice, "The Wrestler" — the closing-night film at the New York Film Festival — marks a major return to form for Rourke. "Rourke creates a galvanizing, humorous, deeply moving portrait that instantly takes its place among the great, iconic screen performances," writes Variety's Todd McCarthy. "An elemental story simply and brilliantly told, Darren Aronofsky's fourth feature is a winner from every possible angle."

Sponsored by Sight and Sound Production Services





Yeast

MARY BRONSTEIN, U.S., 2008, 78 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 7:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

"Yeast" features director Bronstein (who co-starred in husband Ronald's "Frownland") in a bravely unsympathetic role as a maddeningly un-self-aware, tyrannical and emotionally stunted young woman engaged in toxic relationships with two exasperated friends (Greta Gerwig and Amy Judd). With a physical aggressiveness and emotional violence that is undeniably feminine in nature, "Yeast" explores the grinding mechanics of friendships that have run their course. Mostly improvised, the film follows a few days in the lives of three women struggling to keep friendship alive in the face of a huge challenge: They know each other too well. **With director Bronstein.**



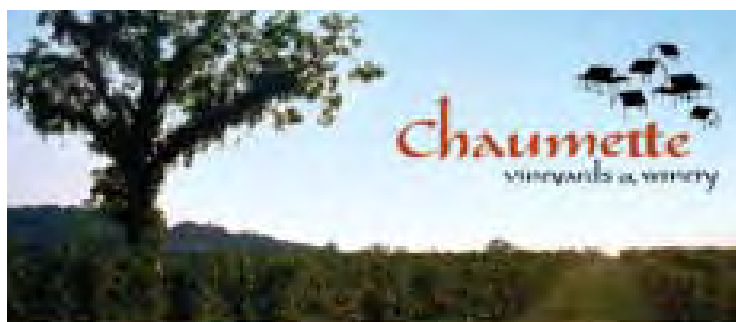
Yesterday Was a Lie

JAMES KERWIN, U.S., 2008, 89 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 9:30 P.M., WEBSTER

A groundbreaking noir shot in luminous black-and-white, "Yesterday Was a Lie" is a "fresh and stylish tale of intrigue and metaphysical darkness," according to Ain't It Cool News. Kipleigh Brown stars as Hoyle, who finds herself on the trail of a reclusive genius (John Newton). With a sexy lounge singer (Chase Masterson of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine") and a loyal partner (Mik Scriba) as her only allies, Hoyle is plunged into a dark world of intrigue and earth-shattering cosmological secrets. Haunted by an ominous, ever-present shadow (Peter Mayhew), Hoyle discovers that the most powerful force in the universe — the power to bend reality — lies within the depths of the human heart. Film Threat says that award-winning writer-director Kerwin "offers up a magnetic force with endless repeat value." **With director and native St. Louisan Kerwin and producer/co-star Masterson.**

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Accelerating America

TIMOTHY HOTCHNER, U.S., 2008, 90 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 2:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

"Accelerating America" tells the story of a revolutionary school in Providence, R.I., that gives inner-city youths who are at risk of dropping out a second chance by accelerating their studies. At the head of the school is a fearless principal, Robert DeBlois, a quadriplegic who knows more than a little about overcoming adversity. The film movingly documents DeBlois' tough-love educational techniques by following three hardened teens – America, Jason and Yazmine – as they struggle through a make-or-break year. Director Hotchner is the son of storied St. Louis native A.E. Hotchner. **With subject Lynn Prentiss.**

Documentaries



Agile, Mobile, Hostile:

A Year With Andre Williams

TRICIA TODD & ERIC MATHES, U.S., 2008, 86 MIN.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 7:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Known as "Mr. Rhythm," Andre Williams has recorded hit records ("Bacon Fat"), written hit songs ("Shake a Tail Feather") and worked with such legends of the industry as Berry Gordy, Ike Turner and Stevie Wonder. But throughout his 72 years, Andre has also struggled with addiction, poverty, homelessness and the legal system. The film follows the alternately charming and maddening Andre on a fascinating, funny and distressing journey. Andre makes a declaration to the filmmakers – "I'm going to show you the right way, because I've gone so many wrong ways" – but as he moves from gig to gig, the mercurial singer all too often succumbs to temptation, risking dire consequences.



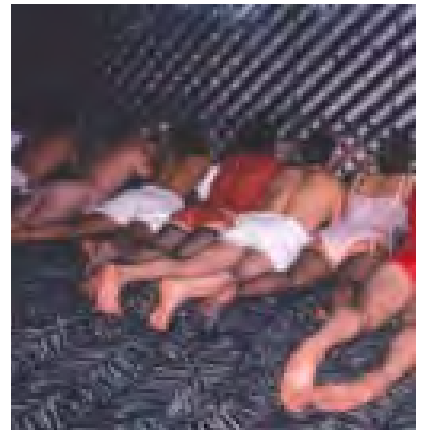
American Swing

JON HART & MATTHEW KAUFMAN, U.S., 2008, 81 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 10:30 P.M., TIVOLI 1

In 1977, New York City nightlife flourished, with disco and cocaine ruling at Studio 54 and punks smashing guitars at CBGB. Meanwhile, a raging orgy was under way at Plato's Retreat. Chronicling the rise and fall of this notorious sex club and its quixotic owner, Larry Levenson, "American Swing" – a buzz film at the Toronto fest – captures the glorious last gasp of the sexual revolution. Bankrolled by shady investors with mob links, Levenson and his swinger girlfriend created a relaxed atmosphere where inhibitions were cast aside. The film intercuts vivid recollections by club regulars, both famous and anonymous, with outlandish archival footage.

Shown with "Why We Wax" (Kimberly M. Wetherell & Amy Axelson, U.S., 2007, 20 min.), a saucily entertaining look at the reasons why we remove "the hair down there."



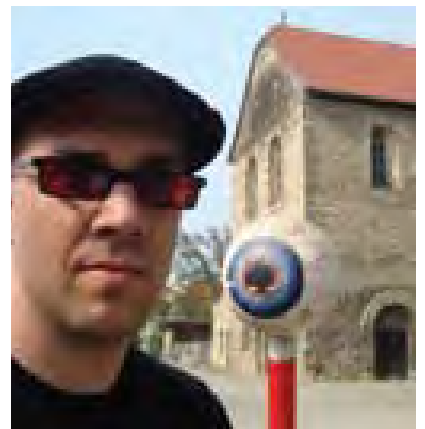
As Slow As Possible

SCOTT SMITH, CANADA, 2008, 60 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 5:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

On his 18th birthday, Ryan Knighton was told he would slowly go blind. Fifteen years later, as he prepares to lose his last sliver of sight, Ryan sets out to Halberstadt, Germany, to hear the first note change in a 639-year-long automated organ performance of the John Cage composition "As Slow As Possible." Part road trip, part meditation on Ryan's relationship to his sighted past and the uncertainty of his future, the film follows its witty, thoughtful, hyper-articulate subject as he canes his way from Canada to Berlin to the 1,000-year-old church in Halberstadt where the organ is nearing its epochal note change. **With director Smith.**

Shown with "Letter of Thanks" (Douglas Passon, U.S., 2007, 21 min.), the true story of how a letter from a female soldier in the first Gulf War became one of Elvis Costello's finest songs.





At the Edge of the World

DAN STONE, U.S., 2008, 101 MIN.

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 1

"At the Edge of the World," which premiered at Toronto, follows Paul Watson's controversial Sea Shepherd Conservation Society in its Antarctic campaign against illegal whaling, with an international volunteer crew coming together on two ships to find and stop a Japanese whaling fleet in the Ross Sea. Using a *vérité* approach, the film becomes a gripping adventure story, replete with intriguing personalities who risk everything in a uniquely beautiful and dangerous corner of the world. **With director Stone.**

Shown with "The World Away" (Dan Stone, U.S., 2008, 16 min.), which juxtaposes Wernher von Braun's complicity with the Nazis and his work with the American space program.



Beautiful Son

DON KING & JULIANNE YAMAMOTO KING, U.S., 2007, 63 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 7 P.M., WEBSTER

In 2003, the filmmakers realized that something was wrong with their 3-year-old son: Beau was losing his coordination and ability to speak and becoming disconnected from the outside world. They brought him to the best doctors and took along a camera. A couple of months later, Beau was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). "Beautiful Son" movingly documents one family's struggle to save their son, but it also provides a revealing look at an illness reaching epidemic proportion – now affecting one in every 166 children – and a grassroots movement of parents and doctors demanding research into autism's causes and cure.

Shown with "Movement" (Alex O'Flinn & Mikiko Sasaki, U.S., 2007, 21 min.), in which filmmaker O'Flinn confronts his benign myoclonus, a rare movement disorder that causes an uncontrollable twitch.



Blessed Is the Match:

The Life and Death of Hannah Senesh

ROBERTA GROSSMAN, U.S., 2008, 85 MIN.

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 7 P.M., FRONTENAC

Narrated by Academy Award® nominee Joan Allen, "Blessed Is the Match" is the first documentary feature about Hannah Senesh, the Hungarian poet and diarist who became a paratrooper, resistance fighter and modern-day Joan of Arc. Safe in Palestine in 1944, Hannah joined the only military rescue mission for Jews during the Holocaust. Parachuting behind enemy lines, she was captured, tortured and ultimately executed. Her mother, Catherine, witnessed the ordeal, first as a prisoner with Hannah and later as her daughter's advocate, braving the bombed-out streets of Budapest in a desperate attempt to save Hannah. With unprecedented access to the family's archive, the film unfolds through the writings of Hannah and Catherine Senesh.



Burning the Future: Coal in America

DAVID NOVACK, U.S., 2007, 89 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 3 P.M., SLAM

"Burning the Future" examines the explosive forces that have set in motion a conflict between the coal industry and the residents of West Virginia. Confronted by an emerging coal-based U.S. energy policy, local activists watch the nation praise coal without regard to the devastation caused by its extraction. Faced with toxic groundwater, the obliteration of 1.4 million acres of mountains, and a government that appeases industry, the film's subjects wage an improbable fight to arouse the nation's help in protecting their mountains, saving their families and preserving their way of life.

With director Novack and a panel on the environmental issues raised by the film.

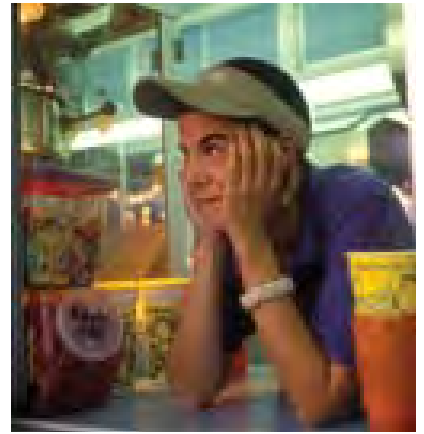
Shown with "Fighting Goliath: Texas Coal Wars" (Mat Hames & George Sledge, U.S., 2007, 32 min.), a Robert Redford-narrated documentary about Texas towns banding together to fight conventional coal-fired power plants. **With executive producer and St. Louis native Jill Tidman.**

Carny

ALISON MURRAY, U.S., 2008, 75 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 3:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

"Carny" takes an intimate, gritty and poetic look at the lives of carnies, the traveling fairground workers who have abandoned the security of the "real world" for the refuge of the road. Through the eyes of Hairry, the charismatic lesbian cotton-candy seller, we see a world of fierce friendships that only partially compensate for personal hardships and troubled pasts. The carnies struggle with addiction, loneliness, poverty and shattered dreams, finding solace only in the company of their own. Some have worked the fairs for more than 50 years, some were born or escaped into it, but all are gripped by the romance of the bright midway lights. **With cinematographer and St. Louis native Virginia Lee Hunter.**



Chasing Birds

GREG WOODLAND, AUSTRALIA, 2008, 54 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 12:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Australia is home to more than 800 species of birds, from honeyeaters to hawks, spoonbills to cockatoos. It is also home to a unique species of bird lover – "twitchers" is the commonly used name – who take their ornithological enthusiasm to the extreme. "Chasing Birds" follows three teams – the Hunter Thickheads, the Hunter Home-Brewers and the Whacked Out Woodswallows – as they compete in an annual "Twitchathon," whose aim is to spot as many species as possible in 24 hours. Part comedy, part natural history and part road movie, "Chasing Birds" takes audiences on a vicarious journey into the heart of serious obsession.

Shown with **"Elegy for the Elswyck Envoy"** (Nancy Willis, U.K., 2007, 24 min.), a witty and moving double portrait of a unique vehicle and an owner in search of just the right home for her exhausted car.



Dear Zachary:

A Letter to a Son About His Father

KURT KUENNE, U.S., 2008, 95 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 5:15 P.M., TIVOLI 1

On Nov. 5, 2001, Dr. Andrew Bagby was murdered in Pennsylvania by Dr. Shirley Turner, who fled the U.S. for St. John's, Newfoundland, where she announced that she was pregnant with Andrew's child. Despite overwhelming evidence, Turner was granted bail while her extradition proceedings drug on endlessly. To protect grandson Zachary, Andrew's parents, David and Kathleen Bagby, moved to St. John's, where they were forced to form a fraught relationship with their son's killer. Director Kuenne, Andrew's childhood friend, embarked on a cross-continental journey – including St. Louis – to make this heartbreaking, altogether astonishing film as a way for Zachary to learn about his father. **With director Kuenne and subjects David and Kathleen Bagby.**

Sponsored by Union Avenue Christian Church



First Impersonator

CHAD FRIEDRICHS, U.S., 2006, 89 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, NOON, FRONTENAC

For some presidential impersonators, the job brings with it money and brief entrance into exclusive circles, but it also can blur their senses of self and put their careers in the hands of changing political winds, sometimes with tragic results. "First Impersonator" focuses on the careers of two of these doppelgangers, shadowing Brent Mendenhall, a former construction worker who capitalizes on his resemblance to George W. Bush, and documenting the life and career of famed JFK impersonator Vaughn Meader, whose "First Family" was once the biggest-selling album of all time. **With director Friedrichs.**

Shown with **"The Spot"** (Alexandre Philippe, U.S., 2008, 20 min.), an impressionistic, collage-like view of a day at "the spot" at which JFK was assassinated.





Frontrunners

CAROLINE SUH, U.S., 2008, 80 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 1 P.M., TIVOLI 3

It's hard to run for office – even in high school. The campaign for student-body president at New York City's Stuyvesant, perhaps the most prestigious public high school in the country, is almost as sophisticated as any presidential election. Candidates must choose running mates, navigate primaries, write political platforms, perform in televised debates and win newspaper endorsements. But unlike presidential candidates, they must also do homework, take the SATs and write college applications. The hugely entertaining “Frontrunners” explores how politics works at a nascent level.

Shown with “**Kids + Money**” (Lauren Greenfield, U.S., 2008, 32 min.), in which LA teens from all strata of society discuss their thoughts about money.



Fuel

JOSH TICKELL, U.S., 2008, 90 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 1

In “Fuel,” Josh Tickell, a leading expert on alternative fuels, takes the audience on a revelatory journey to explore America's addiction to oil, from its historical origins to current alternatives. Sweeping and exhilarating, Tickell's passionate film stirs consciousness and makes individual action suddenly seem consequential. The Audience Award winner as Best Documentary at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, the film is co-produced by St. Louis Rams owner Chip Rosenbloom. **With director Tickell and producer Rebecca Harrell.**

Sponsored by John & Diane Kalishman



Garrison Keillor:

The Man on the Radio in the Red Shoes

PETER ROSEN, U.S., 2008, 84 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 12:30 P.M., TIVOLI 1

Garrison Keillor, America's foremost humorist and commentator, takes his skits, jokes, music and monologues across the country in his traveling radio show, spinning his stories into American gold. This free-form, intimate look at the private man in the public spotlight travels with Keillor to towns both small and large, going behind the scenes of America's most popular radio show, “A Prairie Home Companion.” The film follows the enigmatic writer-performer as he mingles fact and fiction to create one of America's favorite places, Lake Wobegon.



Guest of Cindy Sherman

TOM DONAHUE & PAUL HASEGAWA-OVERACKER, U.S., 2008, 88 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 9 P.M., TIVOLI 1

In 1993, artist Paul H-O melded his two great loves – the art world and the videocamera – into his public-access show, “GalleryBeat.” One of his biggest fans proved to be reclusive artist Cindy Sherman, and during a series of exclusive interviews, they fell in love and began a relationship. As the film makes abundantly clear, however, Sherman's superstar status forced Paul to confront difficult issues of ego and identity. With unprecedented access, “Guest of Cindy Sherman” places us in the intimate company of the great artist and offers a funny but pointed critique of the New York art scene and the culture of celebrity. **With co-directors Donahue and Hasegawa-Overacker.**

Shown with “**Veneer**” (Peter Bolte, U.S., 2008, 8 min.), a narrative short in which insecurity and tension rise as a down-and-out bartender is forced to work in the presence of a world-renowned artist. **With director Bolte.**

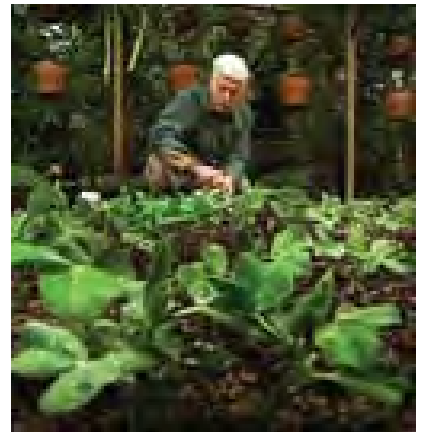
Homegrown

ROBERT MCFALLS, U.S., 2008, 52 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 5:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

"Homegrown" documents the remarkable Dervaes family – father, son and two daughters – who run a small organic farm in the heart of urban Pasadena, Calif., creating a tiny rural island in a vast sea of city. Living off the grid, they harvest more than 6,000 pounds of produce on less than a quarter-acre of land, make their own biodiesel, power their computers with the help of solar panels, and maintain a Web site that gets 4,000 hits a day. The film offers an intimate portrait of urban pioneers living a "Little House on the Prairie" existence in the 21st century. **With director McFalls and a panel on the issues raised by the film.**

Sponsored by the Healthy Planet



How It Is With Phooie

MIKE STEINBERG, U.S., 2008, 89 MIN.

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 5 P.M., TIVOLI 3

The head of the Webster University Film Series offers an intensely personal portrait of his father, Phil "Phooie" Steinberg, a 35-year veteran of the music industry. Forced to close his longtime record store, the Disc Connection, because of a radically altered music business, Phooie faces a cascading series of troubles, including the loss of his home, which houses his beloved home movie theater and collection of 16mm films. Revealing as much about its director as its subject, "How It Is With Phooie" proves wry, wise and poignant, a beautiful look at the difficulties and compensatory joys of family. **With subject Steinberg.**



Kassim the Dream

KIEF DAVIDSON, U.S., 2008, 87 MIN., ACHOLI, ENGLISH & SWAHILI

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 7:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

"Kassim the Dream," which premiered at Tribeca and won the American Film Market Award at Silverdocs, tells the alternately horrifying and inspiring story of boxer Kassim "The Dream" Ouma, former light middleweight world champion. Born in Uganda, Kassim was kidnapped by the rebel army and trained to be a child soldier at the age of 6. Kassim found his escape through the army's boxing team, and on a trip to the U.S. with Uganda's amateur team, he boldly stayed to pursue a professional career, leaving behind family and country. Variety writes that the film "combines serious human rights issues with incredible triumph-over-adversity sports lore" and "illuminates how indomitable people in impossible situations negotiate with their demons."

Sponsored by the Interfaith Committee



Katrina's Children

LAURA BELSEY, U.S., 2008, 85 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 2:45 P.M., TIVOLI 3

"Katrina's Children" is a multifaceted portrait of 19 children, ages 5-13, from different neighborhoods of New Orleans. Told entirely from their point of view, the film captures with vivid poignancy the tragic ramifications of the greatest manmade and natural disaster in modern American history. The film shifts between past and present, weaving the children's thoughts on Katrina with *vérité*-style scenes of their everyday life and bringing the kids' interior universe to life through animation of their drawings. Aching with sadness yet grounded in hope, "Katrina's Children" is ultimately a celebration of children's extraordinary power of resilience and a tribute to New Orleans' indomitable spirit. **With director Belsey.**

Shown with "So the Wind Won't Blow It All Away" (Annie P. Waldman, U.S., 2008, 10 min.), which chronicles the difficulties faced by teenagers living alone after Katrina.





Louise Bourgeois: The Spider, the Mistress and the Tangerine

MARION CAJORI & AMEI WALLACH, U.S., 2008, 99 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, NOON, SLAM

"Louise Bourgeois" journeys inside the life and imagination of an icon of modern art. As a screen presence, Bourgeois is magnetic, mercurial and emotionally raw. There is no separation between her life as an artist and the memories and emotions that affect her every day. As an artist, Bourgeois has for six decades been at the forefront of successive new developments, but always on her own powerfully inventive and disquieting terms. At the age of 71, in 1982, she became the first woman to be honored with a major retrospective at New York's Museum of Modern Art, and in the decades since, she has created her most powerful and persuasive work. **With co-director and art critic Wallach.**

Co-presented by the Saint Louis Art Museum



Martino Unstrung

IAN KNOX, U.K., 2007, 82 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 9:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Neuropsychologist and author Paul Broks travels America in search of the soul of legendary jazz guitarist Pat Martino, who was brutally silenced by memory-stripping brain surgery to remove a tumor. Through the remarkable story of Martino's difficult ascent from the depths of amnesia to the peak of artistry, Broks explores the nature of memory, self, creativity and the brain systems underlying personal identity, making some ground-breaking discoveries on the way. Filmed in the U.S. through 2006-07, the film features Les Paul, Carlos Santana, Pete Townshend, Joe Pesci, John Pattitucci, Delmar Brown and Red Holloway.



My Mother's Garden

CYNTHIA LESTER, U.S., 2008, 70 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 7:30 P.M., WEBSTER

"My Mother's Garden" follows the tortured path taken by 61-year-old Eugenia Lester, whose hoarding disorder has entered a dangerous and life-threatening stage. Although she lives on a quiet tree-lined street in Granada Hills, Calif., the only access to the house is through a window. Inside, every inch of the floor is covered by stacks of newspapers, piles of debris, clothing and toys – a mass of waste that has pushed Lester out of the house and into her garden. Directed by her daughter, this moving documentary shows Lester's children coming together – with a mix of humor, anger and skepticism – to rebuild a lost sense of family. **With director Lester.**

Shown with "**Severing the Soul**" (Barbara Klutinis, U.S., 2008, 18 min.), a disquieting film that examines frontal lobotomies, focusing on the infamous case involving Rosemary Kennedy, sister of JFK. **With director Klutinis.**



Number One With a Bullet

JAMES DZIURA, U.S., 2008, 90 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 4:30 P.M., TIVOLI 1

This harrowing film explores the interrelationships between guns, poverty, drugs, hip-hop culture and cultural violence, a confluence of factors that have contributed significantly to the decimation of urban neighborhoods and a rising sense of nihilism throughout urban culture. Through fascinating interviews with record-company insiders, gun-shop owners, drug dealers, doctors, urban-community members and rap stars – including Ice Cube, KRS-One, 50 Cent, Mos Def, Prodigy and Young Buck – the film demonstrates how the music industry has been glorifying urban decay and violence for profit, while also contributing to an environment that has put many of rap's best talents at risk. **With director Dziura and producer Joshua Krause.**

Of Time and the City

TERENCE DAVIES, U.K., 2008, 74 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 12:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

SLIFF alum Davies – widely regarded as one of Britain's (and the world's) greatest filmmakers – provides a love song and eulogy to his birthplace, Liverpool. The New York Sun describes "Of Time and the City" – which debuted to general acclaim at Cannes – as "an impeccably assembled scrapbook of archival footage, radio broadcasts, and pop and classical ditties, all served up with Mr. Davies's intimate and impassioned narration." As in his gorgeous and heart-rending memory films "Distant Voices, Still Lives" and "The Long Day Closes," Davies ruminates, with a deft mix of wit and melancholy, on growing up gay and Catholic in Liverpool, where movies and music (though not the rock made by fellow Liverpudlians the Beatles) provided imaginative escape from his repressive reality.



One Bad Cat: The Reverend Alfred Wagner Story

THOMAS G. MILLER, U.S., 2008, 80 MIN.

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 7:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

"One Bad Cat" creates a complex portrait of the Rev. Albert Wagner, an African-American outsider artist. A former sinner and womanizer who found God when he began painting at age 50, Wagner used art to explore his experiences growing up as an African-American in the racially divided South, his perception of the problems of black culture, and his own inner demons. Working from his home in an impoverished Cleveland neighborhood, Wagner achieved fame, but his controversial artwork sometimes railed against the lifestyles of members of the African-American community. Through interviews with the 82-year-old Wagner, family members, patrons and art critics, "One Bad Cat" explores why, during Wagner's pursuit of salvation through his art, he created as many detractors as champions.



1000 Journals

ANDREA KREUZHAGE, U.S., 2007, 88 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 9 P.M., WEBSTER

"1000 Journals" follows a San Francisco artist, known only as Someguy, as he distributes 1,000 blank journals, leaving them on park benches, in shopping carts and any other place an unsuspecting person might discover one. Someguy hoped to have each journal filled out by people from all walks of life in any way they saw fit, with each journal to be mailed back to him once completed. As the journals pass from hand to hand, they are filled with art and writings from all 50 states and 35 countries, creating a cultural conversation between strangers.

Shown with **"Push Button House"** (Ryan Silbert & Robert Profusek, U.S., 2008, 11 min.), a portrait of the pioneering Adam Kalkin, whose work attempts to strike a delicate balance between art and architecture; and **"Questions of Art"** (Zach Jankovic, U.S., 2008, 12 min.), a look at three sculptors that examines the artists' differing thought processes and methods of creation.



Pageant

RON DAVIS & STEWART HALPERN-FINGERHUT, U.S., 2008, 95 MIN.

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 9 P.M., TIVOLI 1

"Pageant" takes the audience behind the scenes at the 34th Miss Gay America contest, in which 52 men compete for the crown as the premier female impersonator in the country. The movie – which Variety describes as "packed with glitter and backstage drama" – follows five of the contest's most talented and beautiful female impersonators, and features stunning musical numbers and revealing interviews with the men, their family members and their lovers. **With Miss Gay America 2009**

Victoria DePaula.

Sponsored by QFest





The Power of the Game

**MICHAEL APTED, U.S., 2007, 103 MIN., ENGLISH, FARSI, FRENCH & SPANISH
SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 3 P.M., TIVOLI 1**

"The Power of the Game" illuminates the conflicts and opportunities that face us as we transition toward a global community by showing how soccer knits the world together. Renowned filmmaker Apted – director of the epic documentary series "Seven Up!" and multiple Oscar® nominees "Coal Miner's Daughter" and "Gorillas in the Mist" – examines the social impact of soccer in the shadow of the 2006 World Cup. The film adroitly blends six separate storylines from teams and individuals in the U.S., Iran, Argentina, England, Senegal and South Africa, where the Cup will be hosted in 2010. Apted crafts a thought-provoking portrait of one of the world's most popular sports. **With director Apted, a Lifetime Achievement Award honoree.**



A Powerful Noise

TOM CAPELLO, U.S., 2008, 90 MIN., BAMBARA, FRENCH, SERBO-CROATIAN & VIETNAMESE

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 7:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

The three astonishing women featured in "A Powerful Noise" – an HIV-positive widow in Vietnam, a survivor of the Bosnian war and a community leader in the slums of Bamako, Mali – live in vastly different worlds, but they share something in common: power. These ordinary women overcome seemingly insurmountable gender barriers to rise up and claim a voice in their societies. Through their own empowerment, they empower others and spark unprecedented changes: fighting AIDS, educating girls, rebuilding communities. "Powerful Noise" takes the audience inside the lives of these women to witness their daily challenges and their significant victories over poverty and oppression. **With director Capello.**



Pray the Devil Back to Hell

GINI RETICKER, U.S., 2008, 72 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 7 P.M., TIVOLI 3

"Pray the Devil Back to Hell" – winner of the Best Documentary Award at Tribeca and the Witness Award at Silverdocs – provides a gripping account of a group of brave and visionary women who demanded peace for Liberia, a nation torn by a decades-old civil war. Combining contemporary interviews, archival images and scenes of present-day Liberia, the film vividly captures the experiences and memories of the women who worked nonviolently to bring lasting peace to their country. Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu says the film "eloquently captures the power each of us innately has within our souls to make this world a far better, safer, more peaceful place."

Shown with **"The Witness: From the Balcony of Room 306"** (Adam Pertofsky, U.S., 2008, 32 min.), which document the moving recollections of the Rev. Samuel "Billy" Kyles, who stood next to MLK when the civil-rights leader was shot in Memphis.



Song Sung Blue

GREG KOHS, U.S., 2008, 85 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, NOON, TIVOLI 1

"Song Sung Blue" tells the inspiring and ultimately tragic love story of Lightning & Thunder, Mike and Claire Sardina, a Milwaukee husband-and-wife singing duo who pay tribute to the music of Neil Diamond. Filmmaker Kohs goes backstage into the tumultuous and frequently calamitous personal lives of the couple – from their humble beginnings more than 20 years ago to the threshold of fame, when Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder memorably joined the couple for a rousing "Forever in Blue Jeans" at the Wisconsin State Fair. Variety observes: "Dysfunction and delusion run rife through a stranger-than-fiction saga that starts out kitschily amusing, then finds drama and pathos in its subjects' rather hapless progress." "Song Sung Blue," which won both the jury and audience prizes as best documentary at Slamdance, movingly explores fleeting celebrity and lasting love. **With director Kohs.**

St. Benedict's Rule

JAY KANZLER, U.S., 2008, 84 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 5 P.M., WEBSTER

Founded in 1881, Conception Abbey in northwest Missouri is an apparent refuge from modern life, serving as home to Benedictine monks, providing religious instruction at its seminary college, and hosting retreats at its guest center. But not even this timeless sanctuary is immune to contemporary ills: On June 2002, a gunman walked into Conception Abbey, killing two monks and seriously wounding two others. "St. Benedict's Rule" offers insight into the monastic existence, exploring the abbey's many facets and speaking with the priests and brothers about their life of prayer and contemplation. It also explores how the monks coped with the shocking outbreak of violence that took place within the abbey's walls. **With director Kanzler.**



The Stem Cell Divide

BARBARA SHUMAN, JILL MOGIL & SHARON POLLACK, U.S., 2008, 90 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 2 P.M., TIVOLI 1

"The Stem Cell Divide" examines the controversy – in Missouri and the nation – over embryonic stem cell research, an issue that has galvanized the religious, political and scientific sectors. The film covers a two-year period, beginning with legislation proposed in the Missouri Senate and continuing through the 2006 ballot referendum on the Missouri Stem Cell and Cures Initiative, and shows Missourians' efforts to resolve this conflict, a debate that transcends geography, race, gender, age and socioeconomic status. The fundamental questions of when life begins and whether the hope for cures should override religious beliefs are eternal quandaries. Those questions elicit thoughtful, emotional responses from a range of individuals representing both sides of the debate. **With co-directors Shuman, Mogil & Pollack.**

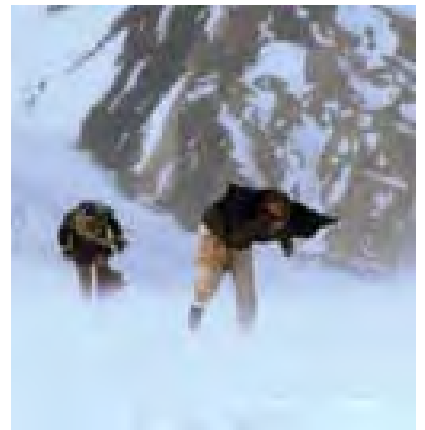


Stranded: I've Come From a Plane That Crashed on the Mountains

GONZALO ARIJON, URUGUAY, 2008, 126 MIN., SPANISH

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 9 P.M., TIVOLI 1

It is one of the most astonishing and inspiring survival tales of all time. On Oct. 13, 1972, a young rugby team from Montevideo, Uruguay, boarded a plane for a match in Chile – and then vanished into thin air. Two days before Christmas, 16 of the 45 passengers miraculously resurfaced after managing to survive for 72 days on a remote Andean glacier. Thirty-five years later, the survivors returned to the crash site – known as the Valley of Tears – to recount their harrowing story of defiant endurance and indestructible friendship. Visually breathtaking, the film is crafted with riveting detail by the filmmaker, a childhood friend of the survivors. A masterful combination of on-location interviews, archival footage and re-enactments, "Stranded" is by turns hauntingly powerful and spiritually moving.

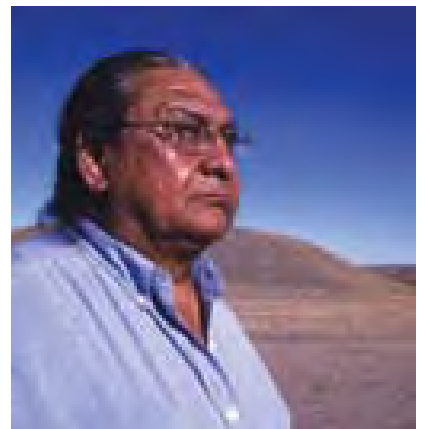


Summer Sun, Winter Moon

HUGO PEREZ, U.S., 2008, 60 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 1 P.M., TIVOLI 1

A symphony inspired by the Lewis and Clark expedition brings together two individuals from different worlds: Rob Kapilow, a celebrated composer trying to breathe new life into classical music, and Darrell Robes Kipp, a Blackfeet Indian poet fighting to save his language from extinction. "Summer Sun, Winter Moon" tells the story of how their unexpected collaboration creates a unique work of art from the perspective of American Indians today. St. Louisans will find the film especially compelling: The work was co-commissioned by the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and its Powell Hall premiere is prominently featured. **With director Perez, subjects Kapilow and Kipp, and producer Cynthia Newport.**





That All May Be One

KAREN KEARNS, U.S., 2008, 55 MIN.
SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 11:30 A.M., TIVOLI 1

“That All May Be One” explores the enduring legacy of the sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and their place in the South St. Louis neighborhood where they have lived for more than 150 years. Committed to community service and active in social-justice pursuits, the sisters profiled prove fiercely intelligent, passionately engaged and delightfully good-humored. **With director Kearns.**

Shown with **“American Pioneers”** (Bruce Marren, U.S., 2008, 35 min.), an entertaining history of Old St. Ferdinand Shrine in Florissant, Mo., chronicling the pioneers, educators and immigrants who traveled to the remote wilderness. **With director Marren.**



Throw Down Your Heart

SASCHA PALADINO, U.S., 2008, 97 MIN., BAMBARA, ENGLISH, FRENCH, JOLA & SWAHILI
SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 7 P.M., WEBSTER

In “Throw Down Your Heart” – winner of Silverdocs’ Music Documentary Award – virtuoso musician Béla Fleck takes his banjo on a journey to Africa to explore the little-known African roots of his instrument and record an album. His musical adventure takes him to Mali, Gambia, Uganda and Tanzania on a journey that celebrates the complexity of Africa and its diverse music. Using his banjo as a form of communication, Fleck transcends barriers of language and culture, finding a common ground with musicians and peoples from very different backgrounds.

Shown with **“Pickin’ & Trimmn’”** (Matt Morris, U.S., 2007, 22 min.), a visit to The Barbershop in Drexel, N.C., where the atmosphere is laidback and the bluegrass music is a cut above the rest.

Sponsored by Sheldon Concert Hall



Traces of the Trade: A Story From the Deep North

KATRINA BROWNE, ALLA KOVGAN & JUDE RAY, U.S., 2008, 86 MIN.
MONDAY, NOV. 17, 7:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

The Hollywood Reporter declares that “powerful is an inadequate word to describe the impact” of “Traces of the Trade,” which tells the story of co-director Browne’s New England ancestors, the deWolfs, the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. At Browne’s urging, nine fellow descendants journey with her on trips to Ghana and Cuba, retracing the steps of the Triangle Trade. At each stop, the family grapples with the contemporary legacy of slavery for Americans both black and white. Browne pushes her family members forward as they negotiate the minefield of race politics and debate the efficacy of reparations. **With co-director Browne.**



Visual Acoustics: The Modernism of Julius Shulman

ERIC BRICKER, U.S., 2008, 83 MIN.
SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 6:15 P.M., TIVOLI 1

“Visual Acoustics” – narrated by Dustin Hoffman – explores the monumental career of 97-year-old architectural photographer Julius Shulman. Shulman combined the organic with the synthetic, melding nature with revolutionary urban design. The resulting images helped to shape the careers of some of the greatest architects of the 20th century, including Frank Lloyd Wright, Richard Neutra and Rudolf Schindler. Through the exploration of both Shulman’s art and uniquely individualistic life, the film offers an unforgettable portrait of modernism’s most eloquent ambassador. Variety writes: “Something of a missionary statement for a missionary, this is nirvana for lovers of mid-century modern and fine-art photography.” **With director Bricker.**

Sponsored by Art House

Waltz With Bashir (*Vals im Bashir*)

ARI FOLMAN, ISRAEL, 2008, 90 MIN., GERMAN & HEBREW

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 3:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Premiering to near-universal acclaim at Cannes and playing such prestigious fests as Toronto, Telluride and New York, "Waltz With Bashir" is one of the years's most lauded films, with Salon declaring it "a remarkable, haunting and intense work." In this ground-breaking animated documentary, director Folman excavates his and his comrades' buried memories of the Israeli Army mission in the first Lebanon War of the early '80s, illustrating them with bold, surreal imagery. The LA Times says, "Folman unleashes a pastiche of incredible cinematic scenes that are as innovative as they are devastating," and Time magazine concludes that "the message of the futility of war has rarely been painted with such bold strokes."



Waves of Freedom

ALAN ROSENTHAL, ISRAEL, 2008, 52 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 7:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

"Waves of Freedom" recounts, through firsthand recollections and fascinating archival footage, a significant chapter in the founding of the modern state of Israel. In 1947, Paul Kaye and 25 other Americans were recruited by the Haganah, the Jewish paramilitary force, to help break the British naval blockade and illegally transport Holocaust survivors to Palestine. Provided a dilapidated ship, the Tradewinds, the Americans sailed from Baltimore to Europe, stopping in Lisbon for refitment, surreptitiously picking up 1,500 displaced persons in Italy, and then heading for Palestine – a trip that proved as torturous and difficult as the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land. **With director Rosenthal.**



Who Does She Think She Is?

PAMELA TANNER BOLL & NANCY KENNEDY, U.S., 2007, 84 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 12:30 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Even in today's supposedly liberated world, women are often expected to choose between working as artists and caring for children. Co-directed by the producer of the Academy Award®-winning "Born Into Brothels," "Who Does She Think She Is?" features five bold women who refuse to choose, instead striking a balance between mothering and creativity, partnering and independence, economics and art. The film's diverse women – Mayumi Oda, Maye Torres, Camille Musser, Janis Wunderlich and Angela Williams – demonstrate that creativity and caregiving are not mutually exclusive but deeply connected.



The Wrecking Crew

DENNY TEDESCO, U.S., 2007, 95 MIN.

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 9:30 P.M., TIVOLI 1

The Wrecking Crew's members were the enormously talented but largely anonymous building blocks of Phil Spector's fabled Wall of Sound. Playing on landmark recordings by everyone from the Beach Boys and Mamas and the Papas to Frank Sinatra and Monkees, they were one of rock & roll's most legendary bands, performing on more No. 1 singles than the Beatles. The filmmaker, son of band member Tommy Tedesco, captures the Wrecking Crew's story firsthand, interviewing band members and such music legends as Brian Wilson, Cher, Nancy Sinatra, Mickey Dolenz, Herb Alpert, Lou Adler, Dick Clark, Jimmy Webb, Brian Wilson and Roger McGuinn. **With director Tedesco.**

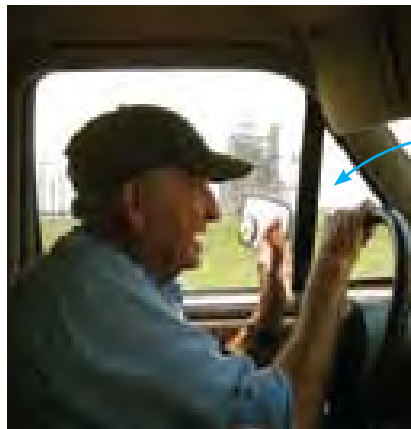
Sponsored by Ken & Nancy Kranzberg



Shorts

For descriptions of shorts, visit

www.cinemastlouis.org/2008/short_programs.html



Shorts Before Features

American Pioneers (with That All May Be One); **Elegy for the Elswyck Envoy** (with Chasing Birds); **Fighting Goliath** (with Burning the Future); **The Grand Inquisitor** (with The Prowler); **Kids + Money** (with Frontrunners); **Letter of Thanks** (with As Slow As Possible); **Movement** (with Beautiful Son); **Pickin' & Trimmin'** (with Throw Down Your Heart); **Push Button House** and **Questions of Art** (with 1,000 Journals); **Severing the Soul** (with My Mother's Garden); **So the Wind Won't Blow It All Away** (with Katrina's Children); **The Spot** (with First Impersonator); **Veneer** (with Guest of Cindy Sherman); **Why We Wax** (with American Swing); **The Witness: From the Balcony of Room 306** (with Pray the Devil Back to Hell); **The World Away** (with At the Edge of the World)

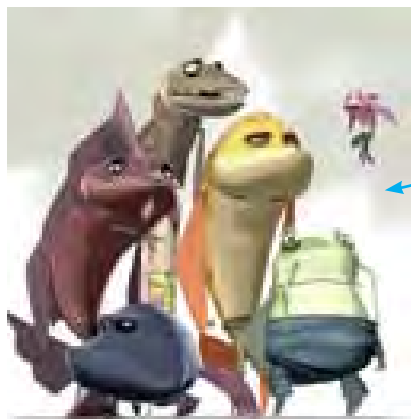


Documentary Shorts: Women's Stories

91 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 4:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

Kick Like a Girl (JENNY MACKENZIE, U.S., 2008, 24 MIN.); **The Ladies** (CHRISTINA VOROS, U.S., 2007, 13 MIN., ENGLISH & HUNGARIAN); **Mariners & Musicians** (STEVEN LIPPMAN, U.S., 2006, 24 MIN.); **Passages** (MARIE-JOSEE SAINT-PIERRE, CANADA, 2008, 24 MIN., FRENCH); **Unbridled** (EVA SAKS, U.S., 2008, 6 MIN.)



Family Shorts

97 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, NOON, FRONTENAC

Burley! (DAVE EDWARDZ & GARETH COWEN, AUSTRALIA, 2007, 9 MIN.); **Butterflies** (ANDY BAILEY, U.S., 2008, 16 MIN.); **A Day at the Beach** (JOHN RYAN, U.S., 2008, 1 MIN.); **Dear Fatty** (HSIN-I TSENG, U.S., 2008, 7 MIN.); **Elephants** (SALLY PEARCE, U.K., 2008, 13 MIN.); **It's My Turn** (ISMET ERGUN, TURKEY/GERMANY, 2007, 11 MIN.); **It Was a Dark and Silly Night** (STEVEN-CHARLES JAFFE, U.S./NEW ZEALAND, 2008, 6 MIN.); **A Little Night Fright** (MISCHA LIVINGSTONE, U.S., 2007, 3 MIN.); **Mandy & Lester** (LENA BEUG, U.S., 2008, 11 MIN.); **Small Comforts** (HANNAH DALLMAN, U.S., 2008, 10 MIN.); **Through the Lens** (BOBBY BOWDEN, U.S., 2008, 2 MIN.); **Triple Concerto in D Minor** (DANIEL MITCHELL, AUSTRALIA, 2007, 8 MIN.)

Pixar Shorts

90 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 7 P.M., SLAM, FREE

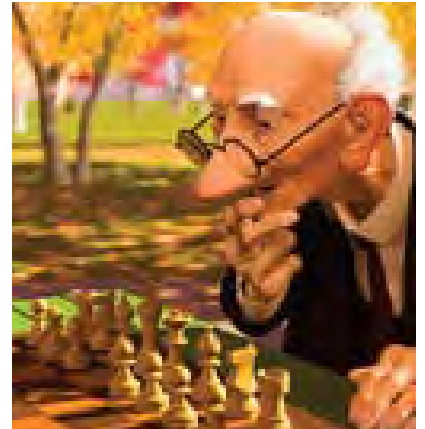
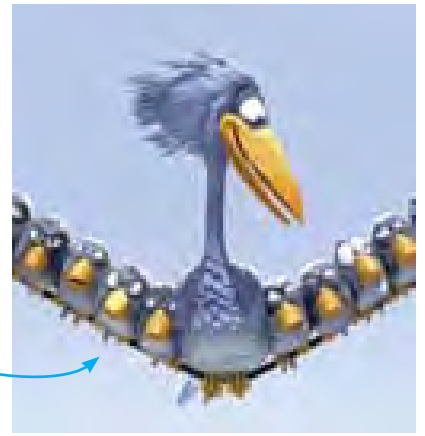
Pixar Animation Studios is now best-known for its extraordinary features, which include “Toy Story,” “Monsters, Inc.,” “Finding Nemo,” “The Incredibles,” “Cars” and the recent “WALL-E.” But Pixar’s earliest works were shorts, and they’ve continued delighting audiences with small animated gems, earning scads of awards in the process, including three Oscar wins and eight total nominations. This free program – part of the Children’s Film Symposium, co-presented by Washington University’s Center for the Humanities – features all of the studio’s shorts from 1986-2006, including a work from its earliest days, when Pixar was still the computer department at Lucasfilm.

The films, in chronological order, include “The Adventures of André and Wally B.,” “Luxo Jr.,” “Red’s Dream,” “Tin Toy,” “Knick Knack,” “Geri’s Game,” “For the Birds,” “Mike’s New Car,” “Boundin’,” “Jack-Jack Attack,” “One Man Band,” “Mater and the Ghostlight” and “Lifted.”

With an introduction by and Q&A with Pixar director of photographer and native St. Louisan Jeremy Lasky.

Co-presented by Washington University’s Center for the Humanities

Still © Disney/Pixar



St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase Shorts 1

89 MIN.

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 5 P.M., TIVOLI 3

The program features works selected from the 2008 St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase:

The Basement Room (DOVEED LINDER, 11 MIN.); **Capdance** (SEAN KEOUGH, 18 MIN.); **The Doubtful Martyr** (JAMES MARTIN, 7 MIN.); **Flapjacked** (MATT MURPHY AND CHAD HARRIS, 12 MIN.); **i!** (NATE CALLAGHAN, 17 MIN.); **My Uncle Arnie** (JAY KANZLER, 5 MIN.); **101 Damns** (DANIEL ALLEN, 9 MIN.); **Sugar** (ALEX BEH, 5 MIN.); **The Ugly Turkey** (DAVID ESSMAN, 5 MIN.)

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St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase Shorts 2

87 MIN.

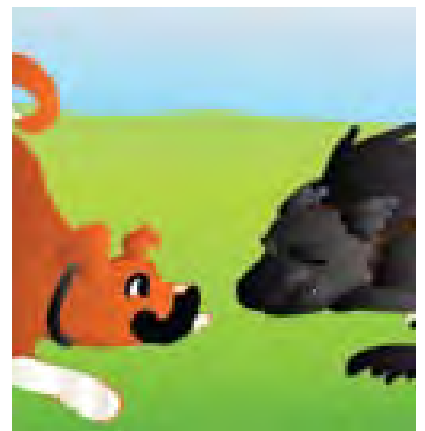
FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 5 P.M., TIVOLI 3

The program features works selected from the 2008 St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase, SLIFF submissions and films from the KDHX-sponsored Grand Center Shorts project:

Coda (KENNY KINDS, 6 MIN.); **Dog Park** (JENNIFER STOLZER, 3 MIN.); **Everlasting Memory** (KAITLYN PARADIS, 6 MIN.); **Movie of Your Life** (CHRIS LAWING, 5 MIN.); **Renaissance of River City** (CARSON MINOW, 11 MIN.); **Rumor Central** (KATIE JOHANNES MILLITZER & JOE MILLITZER, 5 MIN.); **The Sherm** (MYRON TAYLOR, 13 MIN.); **Sorry to Miss the Affair** (AARON CROZIER, 5 MIN.); **Spotlight Subside** (LINDSEY SUNDBOOM, 5 MIN.); **The Ville** (AMY BENCH, 16 MIN.); **The Watcher** (RICHARD TAYLOR, 5 MIN.); **Wings** (ZLATKO COSIC, 7 MIN.)

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Shorts Program 1: Dramatic Shorts 1

117 MIN.

FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 9:15 P.M., FRONTENAC

The Adventure (MIKE BRUNE, U.S., 2007, 22 MIN.); **A Day in a Life** (NICOLAS DAENENS, BELGIUM, 2007, 21 MIN.); **Larry (the actor)** (ERIC POYDAR, U.S., 2008, 33 MIN.); **September** (ESTHER MAY CAMPBELL, U.K., 2008, 21 MIN.); **Song of David** (ODED TURGEMAN, U.S., 2008, 20 MIN.)



Shorts Program 2: Animated Shorts

113 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15, 9 P.M., FRONTENAC

Botnik! (JACQUELINE SMESSAERT BRENNAN, U.S., 2008, 11 MIN.); **Breach** (CHAO-TUNG HUANG, U.S., 2008, 2 MIN.); **Chainsaw** (DENNIS TUPICOFF, AUSTRALIA, 2007, 24 MIN.); **Chicken Cowboy** (STEPHEN P NEARY, U.S., 2008, 6 MIN.); **Codswallop** (THE BROTHERS MCLEOD, U.K., 2008, 4 MIN.); **Hot Dog** (BILL PLYMPTON, U.S., 2008, 6 MIN.); **I Hate You Don't Touch Me or Bat and Hat** (BECKY JAMES, U.S., 2008, 5 MIN.); **In August** (ANDRÉS BARRIENTOS & CARLOS ANDRÉS REYES, COLOMBIA, 2008, 14 MIN.); **The Inquisitive Snail** (FLEMISH BEAUTY, CANADA, 2007, 1 MIN.); **It Was a Dark and Silly Night** (STEVEN-CHARLES JAFFE, U.S./NEW ZEALAND, 2008, 6 MIN.); **Lavatory – Lovestory** (KONSTANTIN BRONZIT, RUSSIA, 2008, 10 MIN.); **Let Them Grow (Arrosez les bien)** (CHRISTELLE SOUTIF, FRANCE, 2008, 8 MIN.); **Mite (Milbe)** (KARL TEBBE, GERMANY, 2008, 6 MIN.); **The Parcel** (SAMANTHA LERICHE-GIONET, CANADA, 2008, 4 MIN.); **Token Hunchback** (TIM RECKART, U.S., 2008, 6 MIN.)



Shorts Program 3: Comedic Shorts

93 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 9:45 P.M., FRONTENAC

The Confession (THOMAS HEFFERON, IRELAND, 2008, 4 MIN.); **The Early Nineties** (ANDREW MAILLIARD, U.S., 2008, 7 MIN.); **Edgar and Elizabeth** (RENEE WEBSTER, AUSTRALIA, 2007, 17 MIN.); **Feelings and Stuff** (SAMULI VALKAMA, GERMANY, 2008, 12 MIN.); **The Funk** (CRIS JONES, AUSTRALIA, 2008, 7 MIN.); **The Last Page** (KEVIN ACEVEDO, U.S., 2008, 22 MIN.); **Made in Japan** (CIRO ALTABAS, SPAIN, 2007, 5 MIN.); **Sombrero** (NATHANIEL ATCHESON, U.S., 2008, 12 MIN.); **Struck** (TARON LEXTON, U.S., 2008, 7 MIN.)



Shorts Program 4: Dramatic Shorts 2

107 MIN.

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 9:15 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Aquarium (ROB MEYER, U.S., 2007, 17 MIN.); **Bloom** (LANCE LARSON, U.S., 2007, 13 MIN.); **The Drummer** (BILL BLOCK, U.S., 2007, 19 MIN.); **Happy New Year** (K. LORREL MANNING, U.S., 2007, 15 MIN.); **James** (CONNOR CLEMENTS, NORTHERN IRELAND, 2008, 17 MIN.); **Love You More** (SAM TAYLOR-WOOD, U.K., 2008, 15 MIN.); **New Boy** (STEPH GREEN, IRELAND, 2007, 11 MIN.)

Shorts Program 5: Foreign Shorts

110 MIN.

TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 9:30 P.M., FRONTENAC

Barefoot on the Stage (A Piedi Nudi Sul Palco) (ANDREA ROVETTA, ITALY, 2007, 5 MIN.);
Frankie (DARREN THORNTON, IRELAND, 2008, 12 MIN.); **Jaffawiye** (DAN DEUTSCH, ISRAEL, 2008, 17 MIN.); **Nothing Happened** (FRANCISCO ORVAÑANOS, MEXICO, 2006, 10 MIN.); **The One Note Man (Tek Notalik Adam)** (DAGHAN CELAYIR, TURKEY, 2008, 15 MIN.); **Security** (LARS HENNING, GERMANY, 2006, 14 MIN.); **Through the Ear** (JOAQUIM HAICKEL, BRAZIL, 2007, 17 MIN.); **Tony Zear** (VALENTINE POTIER, FRANCE, 2007, 20 MIN.)

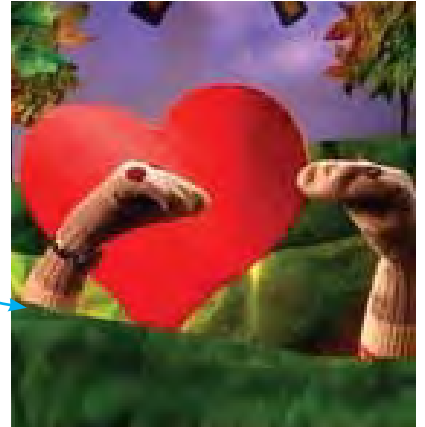


Shorts Program 6: Relationship Shorts

100 MIN.

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 9:45 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Anatomy of Numbers (ERIN E. CANTELO, U.S., 2008, 9 MIN.); **Arafat & I** (MAHDI FLEIFEL, U.K., 2008, 15 MIN.); **The Consequences of Absolute Freedom** (SCOTT SELKIRK, AUSTRALIA, 2008, 8 MIN.); **MAN** (MYNA JOSEPH, U.S., 2007, 15 MIN.); **A Mate (Kaveria)** (TEEMU NIKKI, FINLAND, 2007, 7 MIN.); **Patiences** (PETER WUNSTORF, CANADA, 2007, 9 MIN.); **The Perfect Match** (TOM DIAMOND, CANADA, 2008, 5 MIN.); **The Real Son** (KELLY L. KING, U.S., 2008, 9 MIN.); **Second Guessing Grandma** (BOB GIRALDI, U.S., 2008, 10 MIN.); **Wunderkammer** (ANDREA PALLAORO, U.S., 2008, 13 MIN.)



Shorts Program 7: Stars in Shorts

121 MIN.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 10 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Al's Beef (DENNIS HAUCK, U.S., 2008, 35 MIN.); **I Kicked Luis Guzman in the Face** (SHERWIN SHILATI, U.S., 2008, 21 MIN.); **Irish Twins** (RIDER STRONG & SHILOH STRONG, U.S., 2007, 20 MIN.); **Just One of the Gynos** (BRANDON OLIVE & ALEX RANARIVelo, U.S., 2007, 15 MIN.); **Memphis Calling** (COLIN MITCHELL, U.S., 2008, 12 MIN.); **Nosebleed** (JEFF VESPA, U.S., 2008, 9 MIN.); **Side Effects** (CHUCK ROSE, U.S., 2008, 9 MIN.)



Shorts Program 8: Absurd Shorts

106 MIN.

SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 8 P.M., TIVOLI 3

Alicja Wonderland (MARTIN GAUVREAU, POLAND, 2008, 20 MIN.); **Horsefingers 3: Starfucker** (KIRSTEN KEARSE, U.S., 2008, 13 MIN.); **Next Floor** (DENIS VILLENEUVE, CANADA, 2008, 11 MIN.); **On the Assassination of the President** (ADAM KEKER, U.S., 2008, 6 MIN.); **Outcasts** (IAN CLARK, U.K., 2008, 25 MIN.); **3 Stories About Evil** (MICHAEL FROST, U.S., 2007, 22 MIN.); **Viola: The Traveling Rooms of a Little Giant** (SHIH-TING HUNG, U.S., 2008, 9 MIN.)





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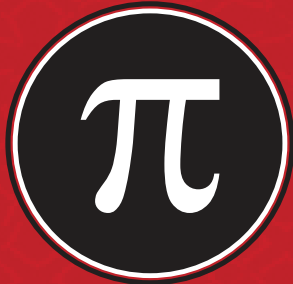


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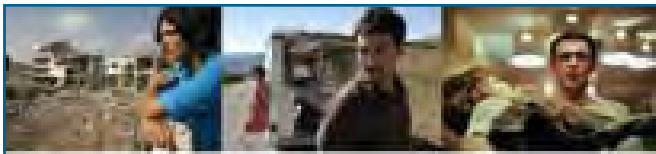
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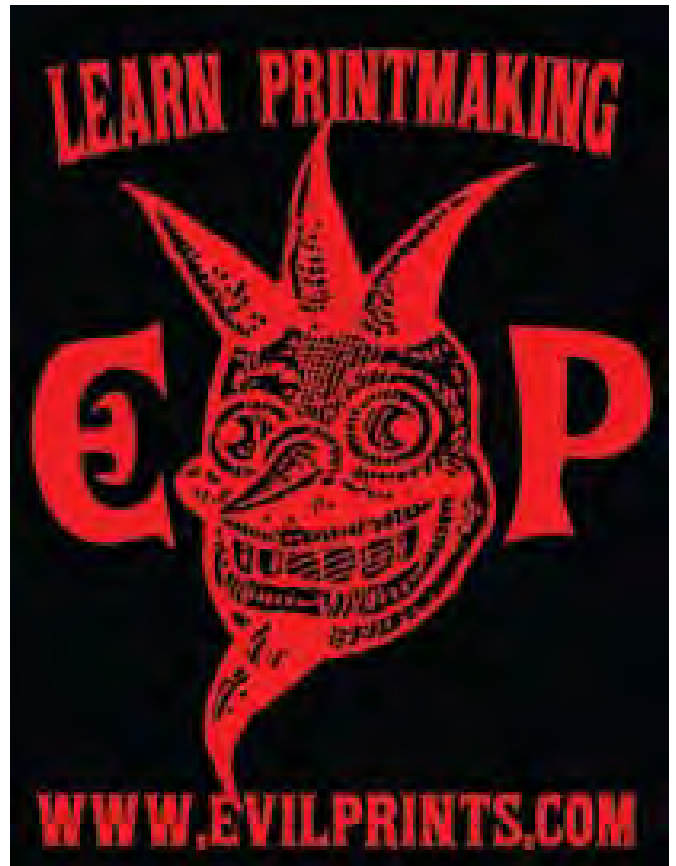
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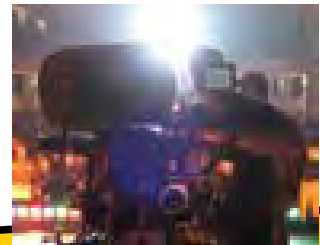
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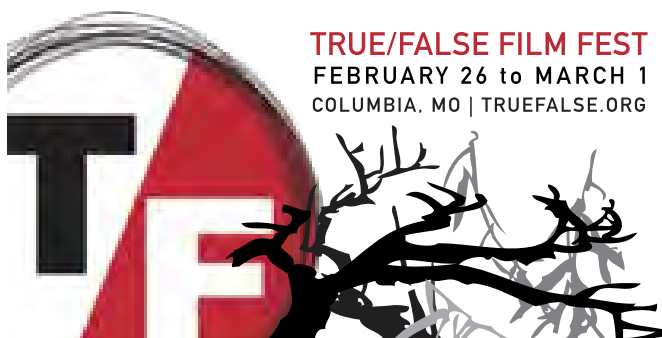
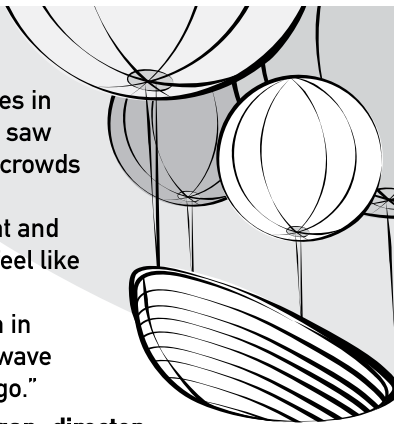
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