



THE 31ST



CATALOGUE

DURBAN

INTERNATIONAL

FILM

FESTIVAL 2010

22 JUL - 01 AUG





The Festival sincerely thanks its Funders & Partners

PRINCIPAL FUNDER





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The 31st Durban International Film Festival



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PRINCIPAL VENUES

EKHAYA Ekhaya Multi Arts Centre, KwaMashu – 031 504 6970

MUSGRAVE Ster Kinekor, Musgrave – 082 16789 (Call Centre)

NOUVEAU Cinema Nouveau, Gateway Centre – 082 16789 (Call Centre)

ROYAL Royal Hotel, First Floor, 267 Anton Lembede Street (Smith Street) – 031 260 2506

SNEDDON Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre, University of KwaZulu-Natal – 031 260 2296

SUNCOAST Nu Metro CineCentre, Suncoast Casino, Battery Beach – 031 328 3333

OTHER VENUES

BAY Bay of Plenty Lawns, North Beach, Durban – 031 260 2506

CFAD Centre for Fine Art, Animation and Design, 201 Salbany House, 50 Albany Grove – 031 305 2480

CLER Clermont Civic Centre, 12th Street, next to Clermont Community Hall – 083 527 9066

CSC Inanda Fm, Inanda Community Centre, next to Inanda Seminary – 071 999 4846

DOROTHY Dorothy Nyembe Hall, 19 Grammer Road, Cato Crest, Mayville – 083 493 8719

JAZZ Centre for Jazz, Howard College Campus, University of KwaZulu-Natal – 031 260 3385

KZNSA KZNSA Gallery, 166 Bulwer Road, Glenwood – 031 202 3686

LUTHULI Luthuli Museum, 3233 Nokukhanga Street, Groutville, KwaDukuza – 032 559 6822

NELSO Nelson Mandela Youth Centre, Chatsworth Circle Rd, Chatsworth – 031 401 4191/083 981 3506

ROGERS Rogers B & B, Emjebheni, Inanda – 072 737342

SPIGA Spiga D'oro, 200 Florida Road, Morningside, Durban – 031 303 2231

The image shows a black sign on a stand against a blue background. The background features a shark swimming in the water and a small airplane flying in the sky. The sign has a top section with diagonal white stripes and the text 'THE 31ST' in white. Below this, the words 'DURBAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2010' are written in large, bold, white letters. At the bottom of the sign, the dates '22 JUL - 01 AUG' are displayed in white. The sign is supported by a black metal stand with two legs.

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Welcome to the

31st DURBAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

What is it that makes a film successful? The massive arm of marketing is key to much of a film's success, often despite its creative merits, and the presence of glamorous stars adds box office earning potential. Million-dollar special effects also attract attention. But should the worth, value and efficacy of a film be judged on the amount of money it makes, or the amount of money spent on it, or should there be other sensibilities at play when considering cinema?

Although many of the films that premiere in this festival will go on to achieve local and international success, you won't find shallow blockbuster films here at DIFF. DIFF offers an alternative view, it is a place to discover the work of auteurs with a cultural, political and social sensibility. DIFF showcases the work of innovative filmmakers who traverse brave and often experimental areas, and films that push boundaries and challenge convention. At the heart of it we look for stories that are meaningful, either within our own social contexts, or those that provide insight into other cultures. DIFF is first and foremost about providing a platform for the best new films from South Africa and elsewhere on this continent alongside a selection of great films from around the world. Through this spectrum of world cinema DIFF offers a counterpoint to the predominance of mainstream fare, and an insight into the diversity of filmmaking aesthetics and genres.

On this beautiful but volatile continent of Africa we should not underestimate the capacity of the audio-visual medium to celebrate its achievements, tell its stories, highlight the challenges, and contribute to the development and well-being of African societies. This is why we wish to see the acceleration of film industry development in Africa, and why DIFF places importance on capacity-building training programmes and business networking opportunities.

DIFF offers a packed programme of seminars and workshops aimed at both aspirant filmmakers and professionals, most of which are open and free, and take place at The Royal Hotel. Closed programmes include the 3rd Talent Campus Durban which brings together 40 filmmakers from 20 different African countries, the 9th UKZN Audio Visual's week-long workshop for first-time filmmakers, and the inaugural Durban FilmMart, a film financing and co-production initiative in partnership with the Durban Film Office. Allied to film industry stimulation are audience development initiatives to broaden public access in community based venues, and a film literacy programme for schools. With this balance of audience and industry development, and the presentation of an exciting array of films, we anticipate a thrilling and stimulating festival.

In these times of war, invasion and political repression, the freedom for artists and filmmakers to express themselves is of utmost importance. The festival acknowledges the great Iranian filmmaker, Jafar Panahi, who has visited the festival twice before, and was meant to serve on the International Jury this year. Earlier this year, Panahi was arrested and imprisoned for several months before being released on bail. At present, he is unable to leave Iran. DIFF wishes to affirm its support of artistic freedom and looks forward to hosting Jafar Panahi in the near future.

We bid you a warm welcome to the 31st edition of the Durban International Film Festival.

Peter Rorvik

Director, Centre for Creative Arts
Durban International Film Festival

Nashen Moodley

Manager,
Durban International Film Festival

CONTACT DETAILS

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Website: www.cca.ukzn.ac.za • Twitter: DIFFest • Facebook: Durban International Film Festival



**MR MICHAEL
MABUYAKHULU,
MPP**

*MEC for Economic
Development & Tourism*

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development and Tourism is committed to supporting the local film industry in the province so that its true potential can be unlocked.

In order to realise this goal, the provincial government is working on the establishment of a permanent and target oriented Provincial Film Commission that we believe would be crucial in advancing the province's attempts to attract international filmmakers to make use of our diverse beauty featuring the tapestry of cultures, exceptionally attractive natural terrain and climatic conditions.

The Film Commission Bill has been tabled in the provincial legislature and its enactment would ensure that we begin a clearly defined process of the growing motion picture business in our province.

The province has stunning natural beauty which does not only need to be showcased but to be maximised to attract film productions which have the potential to contribute significantly to the local economy.

The Durban International Film Festival's credible reputation and experience in international circles is a powerful asset in attracting interest to our province. Not only is our department committed to supporting the local film industry, but we are also keen to see an increase in the number of local productions being made. We congratulate DIFF on its accomplishments and look forward to its continued growth in the future.

In conclusion, the DEDT would like to welcome the international filmmakers and producers to the 31st Durban International Film Festival which will take place just after the world's biggest event, the 2010 FIFA World Cup.



**HON CLLR
OBED MLABA**

*Mayor of eThekweni
Municipality*

South Africa, and indeed our city, has just completed a very successful, uplifting and unifying 2010 World Cup event. This event has stimulated our economy, created jobs, made many friends across the globe and showcased our country and city to the global village. This was done mainly through the electronic media.

It is for this reason that the city is proud to be partner with the Centre for Creative Arts at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in presenting the 31st Durban International Film Festival. The Durban International Film Festival, the Centre for Creative Arts, and all the sponsors, supporters and partners must be congratulated for making a significant contribution to the local film industry. This festival is unique in that it showcases the cutting edge movies, stimulates film production and at the same time takes film to all sectors in our society. The City is proud to also support the Durban FilmMart, a joint programme of the Durban Film Office and the Durban International Film Festival. The Durban FilmMart is also supported by international partners including our sister city of Rotterdam.

To all the festival patrons attending the screenings and all the sponsors that have supported the Film Festival, I thank you and I encourage you to sustain your support for the festival. This will enable us to build partnerships through events that create jobs and makes our city a preferred destination for tourists and investors.



KHALIPHA EDDIE MBALO

*CEO, National Film and
Video Foundation (NFVF)*

The 31st edition of the Durban International Film Festival (DIFF) is taking place at the back of a very proud experience of hosting the 2010 FIFA World Cup by South Africa and the African continent. The National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF) is once again proud to offer its continued support to the Durban International Film Festival for eleven years as one of the festival's primary funders.

We believe, through workshops, seminars and training programmes, DIFF has continued to ensure that NFVF's strategy of developing the local film industry throughout the country is realised. One of the major events of the festival is the Talent Campus, launched two years ago. The Talent Campus provides young filmmakers with an opportunity to participate in intensive workshops and master classes on African cinema. The NFVF sees this event as an opportunity for the local filmmakers to share expertise with their counterparts from around the continent, thereby not only contributing to the development of local film industry, but throughout the African continent.

DIFF, in conjunction with the Durban Film Office, will launch the 1st Durban FilmMart during the 2010 Durban International Film Festival, which will facilitate financing and co-production opportunities for African film projects. The NFVF believes that both the FilmMart and the NFVF's International Financing Programme launched a year ago can address the challenges faced by both emerging and advanced filmmakers.

The NFVF will also support the Durban Short Film Challenge through its production and development department, where young filmmakers will be required to write a five-minute script. The NFVF is proud to confirm that the winners will get an opportunity to attend the Sediba/Spark programme, where mentors in scriptwriting

will be on hand to sharpen their skills.

The NFVF would like to re-affirm its commitment to ensuring the growth and development of the film industry in the KwaZulu-Natal province. Through the DIFF initiatives and the support of all the partners and experts, local filmmakers continue to be a force to be reckoned with globally. The NFVF would like to thank the Economic Development Department of the KwaZulu-Natal Province and the City of Durban for their continued support of the festival, therefore ensuring the development of film in the region.

The NFVF congratulates the team behind the festival, filmmakers, stakeholders and other sponsors that have continued to be part of this world class event. We wish all visitors to the city and participants at the Durban International Film Festival a pleasant film experience.

FOCUS AREAS

SWEDISH FILM IS HERE

Exhilarating Swedish Film storms DIFF this year with a focus on this diverse and impressive filmmaking nation. Lukas Moodysson's films (*Lilya 4-Ever*, *Together*, *A Hole In My Heart*) have regularly appeared at DIFF, and his latest film, *Mammoth* is a beautifully made, layered and tense study of the impacts of globalisation on our lives, hearts and minds. The film stars Gael Garcia Bernal and Michelle Williams.

Jesper Ganslandt's *The Ape* is a devastating and meticulous account of a man's descent into a personal hell after he wakes up on the bathroom floor one morning, bloodied and disoriented.

Tarik Saleh's exquisite animated film *Metropia*, featuring the voices of Vincent Gallo and Juliette Lewis, takes a look at a near-future Europe in which mind-control is being exerted in a most unusual way.

Sebbe marks the arrival of a striking new talent, Babak Najafi. This superb debut takes us into the life of a young misfit and his negligent mother. Beautifully filmed, with superb performances, this is a compassionate portrait of difference.

Rounding up the Swedish focus is Niels Arden Oplev's *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*, based on the best-selling book by Stieg Larsson. A finely crafted thriller encompassing history, politics and sex, the film is every bit as compelling as the book.

Swedish Film Is Here is presented with the kind support of the Swedish Film Institute.



▲ *Metropia*

SWEDISH FILM IS BERGMAN



Arne Carlsson/Svensk Filmindustri

▲ *Fanny and Alexander*

The director most synonymous with Swedish cinema is, of course, the great master Ingmar Bergman (1918-2007), one of cinema's greatest talents. His influential body of work confronts the human situation, in all its bleakness and despair, its comedy and hope. Bergman directed over sixty films and documentaries for cinema release and for television, most of which he wrote himself, and also directed over one hundred and seventy plays. His films were nearly always set in the Swedish landscape and his recurring themes were death, illness, betrayal and insanity, although a strangely dispassionate joy is maintained in even his darkest works. Providing an extremely rare opportunity to see these masterpieces on the big screen, Swedish Film Is Bergman comprises *Smiles Of A Summer's Night* (1955), *Wild Strawberries* (1957), *Winter Light* (1963), *Cries And Whispers* (1973) and *Fanny And Alexander* (1982).

Swedish Film Is Bergman is presented with the kind support of the Swedish Film Institute.

AFRICA IN MOTION

DIFF 2010 presents no less than nine world premieres of South African feature films and will open with the world premiere of *State Of Violence*, directed by Khalo Matabane. *State Of Violence* is the story of a man whose wife is murdered in what seems like a random act of violence. He embarks on a search for the killer, only to discover that the killing is linked to the darkness in his past.

DIFF also presents the African Premiere of *Life, Above All*, directed by Oliver Schmitz (*Mapantsula, Hijack Stories*). *Life, Above All* is a moving film about a bright and hardworking young girl who fights the fear and prejudice that is poisoning her community.

Jahmil XT Qubekas' *A Small Town Called Descent*, starring Vusi Kunene and Hlubi Mboya, will also have its World Premiere at DIFF. Stylish and original, with elements of a Western, the film is a police procedural set around a xenophobic murder in a small town.

Jann Turner's much-anticipated follow-up to the box office hit *White Wedding* will also make its debut at the festival. Rapulana Seiphemo and Kenneth Nkosi star in *Paradise Stop*, a thrilling, and funny, ride through crime, corruption and religion.

Other world premieres of South African feature films are the hilarious *Attack Of The Indian Werewolf* by Masood Boomgard, Jyoti Mistry's striking experimental film *The Bull On The Roof (Le Boeuf Sur Le Toit)*, and Regardt van den Bergh's charming *The Incredible Adventures Of Hanna Hoekom (Die Ongelooftlike Avonture van Hanna Hoekom)*.

Also making their debut are the gangland action film *Jozi Kings* by Jonathan Boynton-Lee and Jamie Ramsay, the inspirational *Machansa* by Muntu Zwane which stars Siyabonga Shibe, and the quirky romantic comedy *Visa/Visa* by Elan Gamaker.

From elsewhere on the continent, DIFF proudly showcases *A Screaming Man* by Mahamet-Saleh Haroun who recently won the Jury Prize at Cannes for his extraordinary film about the damaged relationship between a father and son, set against the backdrop of civil strife.

From Uganda comes Talent Campus Durban alumnus Caroline Kamy's *Imani*, an energetic, multi-narrative film. Tunisian Raja Amari's *Buried Secrets* is a feminist coming-of-age thriller bathed in the disturbing magic of a dark fairy tale, while Kenyan Hawa Essuman's *Soul Boy* is an endearing and inspirational film for both adults and children.

Commissioned by the International Film Festival Rotterdam for their Forget Africa programme, *Memories of a Burning Tree* is the work of Singaporean director Sherman Ong who made the film in Tanzania and shot it in Swahili. The result is a riveting ensemble piece that is a truly global piece of cinema.



▲ *Life, Above All*

AFRICAN REALITIES

DIFFs' documentary programme sharpens our insight into a spectrum of African Realities. South Africa's turbulent history becomes a lot clearer through Connie Field's articulate exposition of how the sports boycott became a turning point for political change in *Have You Heard from Johannesburg: Fairplay*, while *The Cradock Four* covers the abduction and killing of activists in 1985. Built around Strini Moodley's last known filmed interview, Savo Tufegdžic's *Sons of the Sand* is a riveting testament to the co-founder of the Black Consciousness Movement. Filled with rare archival footage, *RFK in the Land of Apartheid*



▲ *Kinshasa Symphony*

– *A Ripple of Hope* tells of Robert Kennedy's historic visit to South Africa during the oppressive 1960s.

Rehad Desai dramatically addresses inner city conflicts and concerns in *The Battle for Johannesburg*, while *When the Mountain Meets its Shadow* tells the stories of the fight for survival in the informal settlements and townships around Cape Town. The Foster brothers' *My Hunter's Heart* follows an epic journey by younger members of the Khomani San as they try to recapture some of the knowledge and skills of their ancestors.

Other offerings include miracles of the mind in Renée Scheltema's *Something Unknown Is Doing We Don't Know What*; Steve Kwena Mokwena's aesthetic meditation on postcolonial Africa in *Driving With Fanon*; Mzimasi Gova's reflection on golf development in black townships in *The Fairway*; Josh Sternlicht's *Fool In A Bubble*, a candid exploration into the journey and conflicts of cult Durban musician/poet, Syd Kitchen; Carlos Franciso's *American Foulbrood*, which looks at the crippling effects and possible impacts of a deadly disease on African honey bees; *Letters From Teddy*, Terry Westby-Nunn's deeply poignant story set against the backdrop of British colonial society in Aden in the 1950s; and Sara Blecher's *Surfing Soweto*, an amazing, and dangerous, coming of age story that follows a group of Soweto teenagers who surf moving trains.

Mugabe and the White African is an extraordinary tale of defiance, hope and perseverance in the face of injustice and brutality, as a white farmer challenges Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe in an international court. *Koundi and the National Thursday* is an inside look at life in a village community in the forests of Cameroon. *Coming out of the Nkuta* introduces us to brave Cameroonians who struggle for a sense of value and legitimacy for gay people within their communities; *Kinshasa Symphony* focuses on the formation of an orchestra against the colourful backdrop of Kinshasa; while the superb *Congo in Four Acts* is a quartet of short documentaries that lay bare the reality of everyday life in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Additionally, the short documentary packages offer a variety of revealing insights into Ugandan and Nigerian society, and of course South Africa.

CINEMA MONDIAL TOUR: HUBERT BALS FUND AND JAN VRIJMAN FUND FILMS IN AFRICA

The Hubert Bals Fund (HBF) and Jan Vrijman Fund (JVF), which provide support to filmmakers in developing countries, have set up a joint film programme that will tour film festivals in Africa until March 2011. Cinema Mondial Tour consists of a total of 12 fiction films and documentaries, all made with support from the Hubert Bals Fund and the Jan Vrijman Fund, respectively. As part of the International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR), the HBF focuses specifically on the realisation of fiction films. The JVF, which is part of the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), is geared to offering support to creative documentaries.

All participating festivals make their own selection from the films chosen by the HBF and JVF. DIFF presents *Soul Boy* by Hawa Essuman (Kenya, 2010) and *Congo in Four Acts* by Dieudo Hamadi, Divita Wa Lusala and Kiripi Katembo Siku (Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa, 2010)

The Cinema Mondial Tour will run until mid-2011 and will visit film festivals in several African countries, including Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Benin.



▲ *Milk of Sorrow*

WORLD CINEMA FUND SPOTLIGHT

The World Cinema Fund (WCF) was founded in 2004 as an initiative of the German Federal Cultural Foundation (Kulturstiftung des Bundes) and the Berlin International Film Festival. The Goethe Institut subsequently came on board as a partner. The aim of the WCF is to support filmmakers from transition countries. Until 2007, the geographical focus has been on Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia. In 2007, the WCF announced an expansion of the focus regions: since then film projects from South East Asia and the Caucasus are also eligible for support from the WCF. The WCF, within a short time, has established itself as one of the leading institutions in the field of international funding of artistically ambitious films. WCF-supported films appearing at DIFF 2010 are *The Milk Of Sorrow (La Teta Asustada)* by Claudia Llosa (Spain/Peru 2009) and *Giant (Gigante)* by Adrien Binez, Uruguay/Argentina/Germany/Spain 2009. See Spotlight Case Studies (page 20).

THEMES

ECO-LENS AT DIFF 2010

Filmmakers are key agents in keeping a watchful eye, not just on social and political issues, but on environmental abuse that often slips unobtrusively into our daily lives. A number of films at this year's DIFF conscientise us about the need for integrated approaches to development, and the threats to human ecology and environmental balance.

With genetic modification shifting global food production increasingly further from nature, *Scientists Under Attack* is an important exposé on the influence of big corporates in the active suppression of information and how scientists must put their careers on the line just to bring you the truth about what you consume.

Carlos Franciso's *American Foulbrood* looks at the crippling effects of a deadly disease on African honey bees and its possible impact on food production in South Africa.

When the water that comes out of your taps turns to fire you know something is wrong. The highly entertaining Sundance Jury Prize Winner *Gasland* explores the shocking consequences of massive natural gas drilling across the USA. *Koundi and the National Thursday* is an intimate look at life inside a small village in the forests of Cameroon and how this communal society is negotiating the demands of globalisation and the search for uniquely African solutions. Questions about urban development are raised in *The Battle for Johannesburg* and *When The Mountain Meets Its Shadow*. The feature film *Altiplano* is set against mercury poisoning of a community from a local factory.

Two films very much emphasise positive developments for our consideration. In multi-award winning *Waste Land* we witness the creative production that results when art and poverty collide at the world's largest garbage dump in Brazil. The collaboration with *catadores*, who make a living picking recyclable materials, deals not only with important environmental and social issues, but restores dignity to a group of people tossed aside by society, like the garbage with which they work. *The 4th Revolution: Energy Autonomy* systematically and engagingly outlines the tantalising possibility of switching to 100% renewable energy sources in the next 30 years.

Such films provide a proactive approach to the challenges and indicate that another way is possible.

WAVESCAPES SURF FILM FESTIVAL

The Wavescapes Surf Film Festival presents a five-day feast of award-winning surf films. Included are the mind-bending aerial attack of the *Modern Collective* and the ultimate trip of the surf gypsy in *Cancer to Capricorn*. Wavescapes brings you the vivid, digital world of the ridiculously rich waves of the North Shore in *Fiberglass and Megapixels*, but present a dark, drug-scarred underbelly documented in *Sea of Darkness*. Feature documentary *Lives of the Artists* follows Irish surfers, a French snowboarder and a British punk band on a quest for their artistic holy grail. The visceral poetry of *The Present* is a counterpoint to the rugged 10-year migration to Dungeons in *Quest for Fear*; while the soul-filled forays into women's surfing in *Dear & Yonder* flows with the Zen-like escape for Rob Machado in *The Drifter*.

SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

DIFF in 2010: Deepening Partnerships

DIFF's Seminar and Workshop programmes have grown considerably over the years and contribute significantly to skills transfer and industry development, especially in KwaZulu-Natal. Addressing topical industry challenges, providing information and inspiration for aspirant filmmakers and professionals, the range of programmes on offer caters for all levels. Partnerships are key to film development in South Africa, Africa and the global film environment, and such partnerships are an integral element in DIFF's range of workshops, screenings and special events. Partnership and support by the National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF) across the past decade remains a core foundation for DIFF, while cooperation with a broad spectrum of partners enables DIFF to continue to deliver opportunities to filmmaking constituencies. In order to widen access to these programmes, most workshops are open and free, to professionals and public alike.

WORKSHOP AND SPECIAL EVENTS VENUE KEY

BAY: Bay of Plenty Lawns, North Beach – 031 260 2506/031 260 1816

CFAD: Centre for Fine Art, Animation and Design, 201 Salbany House, 50 Albany Grove – 031 305 2480

DAG: Durban Art Gallery, Anton Lembede Street, 2nd Floor City Hall, Smith Street, Durban – 031 3112264/9

EKHAYA: Ekhaya Multi-Arts Centre, KwaMashu – 031 266 2595

HAVANA: Havana Grill Restaurant, Suncoast Casino, Suncoast Boulevard Marine Parade – 031 260 2506/031 260 1816

JAZZ: Centre for Jazz, Howard College Campus, University of KwaZulu-Natal – 031 260 3385

LUTHULI: Luthuli Museum, 3233 Nokukhanga Street, Groutville, KwaDukuza – 032 559 6822

MTB: Room E138 Memorial Tower Building, Howard College Campus (UKZN) – 031 260 2505

ROYAL: Royal Hotel Conference Rooms.1st Floor Royal Hotel, Anton Lembede Street, (Smith Street) – 031 260 2506/031 260 1816

ROYAL-BR: the Boardroom Conference Room

ROYAL-MR: the Marine Conference Room

ROYAL-PA: the Prince Alfred Conference Room

VEGA: Vega the Brand School Westville Campus – 031 266 2595

Closed Workshops and Special Events

CLOSED EVENTS

The following events are closed but interested filmmakers are encouraged to apply again in 2011. Join our mailing list on www.cca.ukzn.ac.za to receive the first call for applications.

3rd Talent Campus Durban – Five days of workshops and networking opportunities for over 40 African filmmakers – see page 26 for details.

Durban FilmMart – A film finance and co-production market. See page 27 for details.

Note that Registration for the Producers Forum (part of the Durban FilmMart) is by application and payment. For further details see www.durbanfilmoffice.com or contact Tel: (+27) 031 311 4092

AV Workshop For First Time Filmmakers: The Audio Visual Division (UKZN) conducts an intensive four-day Video Production Workshop for first timers from local community organisations. Now in its ninth year this workshop covers camera technique, composition, scripting and video editing, and will be augmented with inputs by visiting filmmakers.

Indigenous Language Scriptwriting Workshop: Mtutuzeli Matshoba will host a four-day indigenous language scriptwriting workshop as part of a festival collaboration with Luthuli Museum.

Film Literacy Schools Programme: The Durban International Film Festival will host a Schools Programme in partnership with the Inanda, Ntuzuma, KwaMashu Area Based Management department of the eThekweni Municipality. Two thousand learners from the INK area will attend a film screening which include post-screening discussions on the film content as well as the filmmaking process.

Prisons Programme: The Centre for Creative Arts has conducted a community outreach workshop programme with the Durban Correctional Services Department at the Westville Prison for the past eight years. As part of this programme, the Durban International Film Festival will host screenings of selected films at the Medium B, Youth Centre and Female Centre at Westville Prison.



SPECIAL EVENTS

FOOTSHACK MOVIE HOUSE: This special cooperative project first took place at the 30th Durban International Film Festival (DIFF). Created by artist/filmmakers Peter McKenzie, Doung Anwar Jahangeer and Guy-André Lagesse, Footshack is back as part of an exhibition titled "No Time for Extra Time" – Africa in conversation with itself. The exhibit runs at the Durban Art Gallery until 1 August 2010. Monday-Saturday 08h30-16h00 Sunday 11h00-16h00. See Special Events for related DIFF lecture.

WAVESCAPES SURF FILM FESTIVAL: Wavescapes launches with an outdoor screening event on the Bay of Plenty lawns on Sunday, 25 July. Bring blankets and picnic under the stars.

FILM AND MUSIC: Syd Kitchen will play a music set after the Elizabeth Sneddon World premiere of *A Fool in A Bubble* on Monday, 26 July.



▲ Syd Kitchen

OPEN WORKSHOPS

The Africa in Focus and other DIFF workshops and seminars take place at The Royal Hotel.
ENTRY IS FREE.

Bring your ID or passport for registration.

Contact details: 031 260 2506, unless otherwise stated

FRIDAY 23 JULY

The Art of Acting

10h00-12h00

Venue: ROYAL-BR

Festival actors including Presley Chweneyagae (*State of Violence*) and Rapulana Seiphemo (*Paradise Stop*) share skills, stories and practical examples.

Scriptwriting for Africa

10h00-11h45

Venue: ROYAL-MR

Unpacking the life of a script, from logline to shooting script. The panel will discuss and define the script and answer such questions as: What makes a script? Who pays for each step of the process? What is a deferral? What is the role of agents? Elan Gamaker (writer/director, *Visa/Vie*), Mtutuzeli Matshoba (Talent Campus Durban Script Doctor) and Nicola Rauch (Thaumatrope, Agent and Producer).

Africa in Focus: The Africa Connect Seminar

14h00-15h30

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Speakers from across Africa and the Diaspora debate the issues.

Panelists include: Kisha Cameron – Dingle (Africa First, Focus Features), Bhekiziwe Peterson (producer/academic), Pedro Pimenta (producer/director – Dockanema, the Maputo Documentary Film Festival) and others.

Africa in Focus: Exploring African Co-production

16h00-17h30

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Panel discussion with African and international co-production examples. Julien Ezanno (Chargé de mission, Coproduction internationale, Centre National de la Cinématographie (CNC)), Dan Jawitz (Fireworx Media), Sarika Hemi Lakhani (One Fine Day Films). Facilitator: Aifheli Dzebu (Head of Policy and Research, NFVF).



OPEN WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY 24 JULY

Africa in Focus: Managing Rights in a Digital Age

10h00-11h45

Venue: ROYAL-MR

Global and local perspectives on how to protect your intellectual property. Odette Geldenhuys (filmmaker and Director of ProBono.Org South Africa), James Lennox (CEO, SAFACT), and Frédérique Westhoff (Chef d'équipe/Head of team, ACP Films). Facilitator: Advocate Robin Sewlal (Durban University Technology)

Africa in Focus: Accessing the Funds

14h00-15h45

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Presentations on the following funds: Iwana Chronis (Manager, Hubert Bals Fund), Isabel Arrate Fernandez (Manager, Jan Vrijman Fund), Sonja Heinen (Head of the Berlinale Co-Production Market and project manager of the World Cinema Fund), Ulf Sigvardson (Coordinator, Göteborg International Film Festival Fund) and Frédérique Westhoff (Chef d'équipe African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States Film Fund (ACP)).

Africa in Focus: Merging Music, Sound and Moving Images

15h15-16h00

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Speakers: Pascal Capitolin (sound designer, *Kinshasa Symphony*) and Mbongeni Ngema (composer, manager KZN Music House). Facilitator: Tristan Horten (Arcadia Sound)

NFVF Defines its Role as a National Custodian of Film

16h00-18h00

Venue: ROYAL-PA

The National Film and Video Foundation aims to create awareness of its programmes and departments, including the SA line-up that was presented in Cannes, and to unpack details of the benefits of the recently signed SA-France co-production treaty. Presentations by Mr Eddie Mbalo (CEO), Clarence Hamilton (Head of Production and Development), Ryan Haidarian (Head of New Ventures and Acting Head of Marketing) and Aifheli Dzebu (Head of Policy and Research).

Africa in Focus: The Evolution of Animation

16h00 - 18h00

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Panelists: Christian Schoultz (Technical Director Character Matters) and Paulo Ferreira (Platform Strategy Manager, Microsoft).



SUNDAY 25 JULY

Africa in Focus: The Art of Pitching : Part 1 of 2

09h30-10h45

Venue: ROYAL-MR

Filmmakers and producers share the ins and outs of professional pitching. Attendees of this session may be invited to present a practice pitch in the second half of the afternoon session (space dependent). David Max Brown (Max TV) with a panel of producers including Leena Pasanen (Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE), Paula Wahlbom (Programme Manager, Göteborg International Film Festival).

Phuzamoya Dream Centre Day

10h30-16h00

Venue: JAZZ

Screening of DIFF film *Something Unknown Is Doing We Don't Know What* followed by a discussion with director Renée Scheltema. The day concludes with a special screening of Kim Kindersley's documentary on global healing *Whale Dreaming*. Organised by the Phuzamoya Dream Centre in Howick. Introductory keynote by Dr Ian Player. Enquiries: 082 295 7328

Africa in Focus: Mainstream and Alternative Distribution Strategies

11h00-12h30

Venue: ROYAL-MR

A panel of distributors discuss the classic and emerging fields of distribution: Dan Jawitz (Fireworx Marketing and Distribution), Helen Kuhn (Indigenous Film Distribution), Tendeka Matatu (Director, Ten10 Films), Sanjeev Singh (Director Acquisitions, Distribution and Exhibitions – VideoVision Entertainment), Martina Della Togna (Rainbow Circle Films, IKON Series distribution), Driki van Zyl (Nu Metro).

Africa in Focus: How Correct Post Production Decisions Affect Film Sales

14h00-15h30

Venue: ROYAL-MR

Covering digital intermediates work-flows, visual effects integration, sound post, formats, aspect ratios, theatrical and video deliveries, and the implications of "that" sale delivery list. Presented by Tracey Williams (Director of Post Production, Refinery).

Africa in Focus: The Art of Pitching – Part 2 of 2

14h00-17h30

Venue: ROYAL-PA

14h00-15h15: Durban FilmMart producers pitch to a panel of producers.

15h15-17h30: Pitching by selected participants from morning workshop. Panelists include Pierre Merle (Arte France) and others. Facilitated by David Max Brown.



OPEN WORKSHOPS

MONDAY 26 JULY

ANIMATION DAY: The Art of Animation

Venue: CFAD

10h00-12h00 Basics of animation. Drawing and painting for animation. Led by Nanda Soobben and Zayne Nakamura.

12h00-13h45 Panel discussion based on the first session.

14h00-15h30 Screening of DIFF short animations *Great Expectations* (Romania), *Dreaming a Whole Life* (Spain) together with CFAD student and lecturer animations.

Africa in Focus: Working with Broadcasters

10h00-11h30

Venue: ROYAL-MR

Producers Talk Shop with Broadcasters. Panelists: Piere Merle (France, ARTE), Kethiwe Ngcobo (SABC Drama), Leena Pasanen (Finish Broadcasting Company, YLE), Meinolf Zurhorst (ARTE ZDF) and other broadcasters.

Imagination Lab Documentary Filmmaking Workshop

12h00-13h30

Venue: Ekhaya Multi-Arts Centre

Screening of documentary *The Battle For Johannesburg* and discussion with the director, Rehad Desai.

Spotlight Case Studies

12h00-13h30

Venue: ROYAL-BR

- **World Cinema Fund Spotlight:** *Shirley Adams* won numerous awards including DIFF 2009 prizes for Best First Feature Film, and Best South African Film. Director Oliver Hermanus, producer Jeremy Nathan and Sonja Heinen (World Cinema Fund, Berlinale Co-Production Market) unpack the production process and the involvement of the World Cinema Fund.
- **Göteborg International Film Fund and Hubert Bals Film Fund Spotlight:** *Soul Boy* had its world premiere at the Göteborg International Film Festival and also won the Dioraphte Audience Award for the most highly regarded film made with a contribution from the Hubert Bals Fund at the Film Fest Rotterdam. Ghanaian-Kenyan director Hawa Essuman, Iwana Chronis (Manager, Hubert Bals Fund) and Ulf Sigvardson (Coordinator, Göteborg International Film Festival Fund) discuss this film's creative journey.

Africa in Focus: The Value of Film Festivals and Markets

14h00-16h00

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Festival and market representatives discuss: What festivals can do for your film. How to identify the right festival/market for your film. How to plan your festival and market strategy. Representatives from AfricaDoc, Göteborg International Film Festival, Berlinale Film Festival, Durban International Film Festival, IDFA, Dubai International Film Festival and others. Facilitated by Marit van den Elshout (Manager, Cinemart, International Film Festival Rotterdam).

TUESDAY 27 JULY

Imagination Lab Documentary Filmmaking Workshop

12h00-13h30

Venue: Ekhaya

Screening of documentary *Driving with Fanon* and discussion with the director Steve Kwena Mokwena.

The Next Stop

13h00-15h00

Venue: ROYAL-PA

- From Talent Campus to Durban International Film Festival and the Durban FilmMart: Jonathan Boynton-Lee (director, *Jozi Kings*), Jessie Chisi (DFM Project, *Woman on Hold*, Zambia), Carlos Francisco (director, *American Foulbrood*), Caroline Kamyra (director, *Imani*), Astrid Atodji Mbourou (director, *Koundi and the National Thursday*) and other talents discuss their experiences.
- Berlinale Talent Campus: Talent Campus Berlin and Talent Campus Durban presentation on how to become a Talent with Christine Tröstrum (Project Manager of the Berlinale Talent Campus) and Monica Rorvik (Talent Campus Durban).

Facilitation by Dorothee Wenner (Berlinale's special representative for India and Sub-Saharan Africa).



WEDNESDAY 28 JULY

Vega Imagination Lab Documentary Filmmaking Creativity Panel

10h00-12h00

Venue: VEGA

Interrogating the creative life of filmmakers. Sara Blecher (*Surfing Soweto*), Fred Nordström (DOP, *Bull on the Roof*), Savo Tufegdžic (director, *Sons of the Sand – the Strini Moodley Interview*)

No Time for Extra Time – Africa in Conversation with Itself

12h00-13h30

Venue: ROYAL-PA and then DAG

Lecture with Footshack Movie House's artist/filmmakers Peter McKenzie and Doung Anwar Jahangeer followed by a Durban Art Gallery Tour of the Exhibition titled "No Time for Extra Time" – Africa in conversation with itself. Footshack Movie House is a special cooperative project that took place at the 30th Durban International Film Festival and was created by artists/filmmakers and their colleague in art, Guy-André Lagesse. The exhibition ends on 1 August.





THURSDAY 29 JULY

Imagination Lab Documentary Filmmaking Workshop

12h00-13h30

Venue: Ekhaya

Screening of documentary *Fool in a Bubble* (South Africa/USA) and discussion with the director Joshua Sternlicht (USA).

Cellphilmmaking: Cinema, Cellphones and New Media Film

12h00-14h00

Venue: MTB

Lecture and presentation by Jonathan Dockney from the Centre for Culture and Media Studies, UKZN, centred on the documentary film *Tehran Without Permission/Tehran Bedoune Mojaves* (Iran/France) which was shot by director Sepideh Farsi entirely on a cell phone.



OPEN WORKSHOPS

FRIDAY 30 JULY

Scriptwriting

12h00-14h00

Venue: LUTHULI

Scriptwriting at Luthuli Museum: Mtutuzeli Matshoba discusses the process of scriptwriting, especially focusing on indigenous language scriptwriting as part of the festival's partnership with Luthuli Museum.

Eco Revolution: Filmmakers, the Voice of the Environment

15h00-17h00

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Andre Cronje (*50/50* presenter/Baobab Pictures) will lead the discussion on nature filmmaking in Africa and together with Graham Duane (*Earth-Touch*) will cover some of the practical issues: How to reach your audience. I want to make nature documentaries – now what? The new age environmentalist. Hands-on film tips and other hot topics.



SATURDAY 31 JULY

Meet the Filmmakers: Stories from the Creative Path

10h00-11h30

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Alexander Kleider (director, *When the Mountain Meets its Shadow*), Terry Westby-Nunn (director, *Letters from Teddy*), and others.

NFVF Bursaries, SEDIBA and SPARK

12h00-13h30

Venue: ROYAL-PA

Presentation by Pretty Mthiyane (NFVF) on the many National Film Video Foundation supported opportunities for training and professional development in South Africa.



3rd TALENT CAMPUS DURBAN

Talent Campus Durban is an intensive five-day programme of workshops and seminars for African filmmakers delivered by film professionals, academics and intellectuals. The Talents, who were selected through a rigorous application process, will also have the opportunity to attend screenings and events at the 31st Durban International Film Festival. The 3rd Talent Campus Durban, themed **Focusing on Africa: Unleashing Talent in 2010**, will centre activities on the development and strengthening of partnerships between African filmmakers. Talent Campus Durban is held in cooperation with the Berlinale Talent Campus, the eighth edition of which formed part of the 60th Berlin International Film Festival in February this year.

Talent Campus Durban is part of a global partnership and, apart from the main event in Berlin, Talent Campus partnerships take place at selected festivals in Buenos Aires, Guadalajara and Sarajevo. It is a considerable privilege and a sign of the success of our first two editions that DIFF has again been invited to host a Talent Campus. Another positive

sign is that Durban Talent Campus alumni films appear in all sections of the festival, including the feature film category. Congratulations to Caroline Kanya whose *Imani* had its world premiere at the Berlinale. And DIFF is proud to host the world premiere of Jonathan Boynton Lee's *Jozi Kings*. Berlinale's director says by 2025 all films in the Berlinale should be made by Talent Alumni. DIFF is shooting in that direction with Talent Campus Durban alumni having seven films in the festival and two from new Talents.

This year's focus on strengthening partnerships is especially important as the Durban FilmMart (see page 27), which specifically targets African projects, launches at the festival and runs parallel to Talent Campus.

Talent Campus Durban's over 43 participants representing nearly 20 African countries, are set to gain even more momentum from this project. Congratulations to our Talent Durban 2009 alumnus from Zambia, Jessy Chisi, who has a spot for her project *Women on Hold* in the inaugural Durban FilmMart.

3rd Talent Campus Durban is a partnership project between the Durban International Film Festival in cooperation with the Berlinale Talent Campus, Berlin International Film Festival, and is supported by the German Embassy in South Africa, the Goethe-Institut, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, KwaZulu-Natal, the Commonwealth Foundation and Art Moves Africa.



▲ 2nd Talent Campus

DURBAN

FILMMART 23-26 JULY 2010

The inaugural Durban FilmMart (23-26 July 2010) is a joint programme of the Durban International Film Festival and the Durban Film Office, supported by the City of Durban.



Durban FilmMart comprises

FINANCE FORUM: an opportunity for selected African filmmakers to pitch their projects to potential investors on a one-to-one basis.

PRODUCERS' FORUM: a four-day specialised workshop programme of pitching and packaging workshops for producers.

AFRICA IN FOCUS: a series of workshops and seminars with special focus on the development of African content. The Durban FilmMart will also facilitate networking opportunities for African and international filmmakers to form alliances for future collaborations.

Registration for the Producers Forum is by application and payment.
For further details see www.durbanfilmoffice.com or contact Tel: (+27) 031 311 4092

The Africa in Focus and other DIFF workshops and seminars take place at the Royal Hotel.
Entry is free. Bring your ID or passport for registration. See www.cca.ukzn.ac.za for details.

The Durban International Film Festival honours filmmakers who have invested their creative capacities into noteworthy cinematic works.

After a thorough adjudication process by the International Jury (see opposite page), the Awards Night is on 31 July, where awards are announced for Competition Features in the following categories: **BEST FEATURE FILM, BEST FIRST FEATURE FILM, BEST DIRECTION, BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY, BEST SCREENPLAY, BEST ACTOR and BEST ACTRESS.** The award for **BEST FEATURE FILM** carries a cash prize of R50,000.

A cash award of R25,000 is also awarded to the **BEST SOUTH AFRICAN FEATURE FILM** and R20,000 to **BEST FIRST FEATURE FILM.**

Further awards are adjudicated in the following categories: **BEST DOCUMENTARY, BEST SOUTH AFRICAN DOCUMENTARY, BEST SHORT FILM, BEST SOUTH AFRICAN SHORT FILM, AUDIENCE CHOICE BEST WAVESCAPES FILM and AUDIENCE CHOICE BEST FILM.**

Additional awards include:

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DURBAN HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Organised in conjunction with Amnesty International Durban and the Movies that Matter project of Amnesty International, this award is presented to the documentary film that best reflects human rights issues. The award carries a cash prize of €2500.

The jury comprises:

Nonhlanhla Mkhize, **Director, Durban Gay and Lesbian Centre**
Poonitha Naidoo, **Amnesty International Durban**
Lindy Stiebel, **Head, School of English, University of KwaZulu-Natal**
Coral Vinsen, **Amnesty International Durban**

BEST SOUTH AFRICAN FEATURE FILM JURY

Peter Machen, **Journalist and Film Critic**
Darren Murray, **Collective Film and Video**
Madoda Ncayiyana, **Filmmaker, Vuleka Productions**

DOCUMENTARY FILM JURY

Val Adamson, **Photographer**
Junaid Ahmed, **Filmmaker, Fineline Productions**
Mwelela Cele, **Historian and Librarian, Campbell Collections**

SHORT FILM JURY

Sizakele Moloko, **Lincolnwood**
Andile Ntimbane, **Collective Film and Video**
Marco Torrens, **Actor**



Meet the International Jurors

AIHARA HIROMI began working with Japanese independent films in 1976, when she joined the film editorial division of Pia, which presents the PIA Film Festival. As an independent producer and a consultant for international festivals and promotions, she established her own company, Bewiz, in 1995. She promoted Japanese films and worked for UNIJAPAN until 2009. In March, she founded the Japan Image Council (JAPIC), a new organisation that will promote Japanese films and stimulate cultural exchange internationally. Her producing credits include: *TETSUO II/The Body Hammer* (1992) and *Tokyo Fist* (1995) by Tsukamoto Shinya; *Last Life in the Universe* (2003) and *Invisible Waves* (2006) by Pen-ek Ratanaruang; and *Children of the Dark* (2008) by Sakamoto Junji.



BHEKIZIWE PETERSON is Professor of African Literature at the University of the Witwatersrand. He has held invited fellowships at Yale University and Birmingham University (UK) and has served on various editorial, statutory and artistic committees, juries and boards across the continent. He has published extensively on African Literature, Performance and Cultural Studies as well as Black Intellectual Traditions in Africa and the Diaspora. He has been active as a writer, activist and participant in black cultural practices since the late seventies and he was a founding member of the Afrika Cultural Centre and the Dhlomo Theatre. He is the writer and/or producer of internationally acclaimed films including the features *Fools* and *Zulu Love Letter* (directed by Ramadan Suleman) and the feature documentaries *Born into Struggle* and *The Battle for Johannesburg* (directed by Rehad Desai)



CHRISTOPH THOKE is a German film producer and the driving force behind Mogador Film, a production house that targets international co-production and new German cinema. Christoph has worked with highly acclaimed directors such as Rachid Bouchareb, Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne, Bruno Dumont and Apichatpong Weerasethakul. His films have been officially selected for main competition in Cannes, Venice and Berlin and have been candidates for the European Film Award, the Golden Globes and the Foreign Oscars. His films have also been invited approximately 520 times to film festivals around the globe and garnered more than 115 awards, including two wins in Cannes. Apart from producing, Christoph has an extensive experience as tutor and consultant for teaching programmes and media training. He also regularly works as moderator for 'The Producers Network' of the Cannes Film Festival.



COMPETITION FEATURES



BLESSED

Australia 2009, English, Video, 112 min

Director: Ana Kokkinos

Screenplay: Andrew Bovell, Patricia Cornelius, Melissa Reeves, Christos Tsiolkas

Cinematographer: Geoff Burton

Cast: Frances O'Connor, Miranda Otto, Deborra-Lee Furness, Victoria Haralabidou

Print Source: Bankside Films

This emotionally raw multiple narrative film chronicles 24 hours in the life of a group of working class teenagers in distress. *Blessed* consists of two distinct sections, each recounting the same 24-hour period, firstly from the children's perspective and then from the mothers. Alienated but likeable Daniel (Harrison Gilbertson) accidentally kills elderly Laurel (Monica Maughan) while Katrina (Sophie Lowe) and Trisha (Anastasia Baboussouras) skip school in order to drink and steal. Orton (Reef Ireland) is a young runaway who has been tracked down by his younger sister while Trisha's gay brother (Eamon Farren) auditions for a pornographer. The film tenderly and truthfully explores the difficulties involved in growing up and the primal relationships we have with our mothers and they with us.

Blessed's combination of unflinching honesty and deep feeling for its characters makes for a riveting cinematic experience. Beautifully shot, with an ensemble of superb performances at its centre, the film's portrait of maternal relationships offers little salvation, but the warmth and depth of its compassion will stay with you long after you've left the theatre.

25 Musgrave B 20h15; 28 Suncoast B 18h00

ANA KOKKINOS was born in Melbourne, Australia in 1958. Her previous films include the two bold and provocative films, *Head On* (1998) and *The Book of Revelation* (2008). Kokkinos boasts several awards for her work, including Best Film for *Head On* at the Milan International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival.



BROTHERHOOD (BRODESKAB)

Denmark 2009, Danish with English subtitles, 35mm, 90 min

Director: Nicolo Donato

Screenplay: Rasmus Birch, Nicolo Donato

Cinematographer: Laust Trier-Mørch

Cast: Thure Lindhardt, David Dencik, Nicolas Bro, Claus Flygare, Michael Grønne

Print Source: Danish Film Institute

Brotherhood is a story about love and identity that takes place against a backdrop of neo-Nazi activity in contemporary Denmark. Lars, 22, is reluctantly drawn to the neo-Nazi scene, and to the good looking Jimmy and a love affair soon develops between the two of them. Though homosexual activity is far from accepted in their circles, their attraction to each other is so strong that they continue their affair in the face of the condemnation of their peers and the threat of violence.

As their sexual relationship turns into love, Jimmy is forced to reconsider his ideological approach and is urged by Lars to leave the gang before they are found out. While the film's subject matter is sensationalist, its content is not and the unlikely relationship between the two men is played out with sensitivity and honesty. The remarkably accomplished debut feature from Danish director Nicolo Donato won the top prize at the Rome Film Festival last year.

27 Musgrave A 18h00; 29 Suncoast B 20h00

NICOLO DONATO was born in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1974. After years of working as an art and fashion photographer, he made his first short film *Marcus* in 2003. He has directed music videos, commercials and a few other short films. *Brotherhood* is his first feature-length film.



DOGTOOTH (KYNODONTAS)

Greece 2009, Greek with English subtitles, 35mm, 94 min

Director: Giorgos Lanthimos

Screenplay: Efthymis Filippou, Giorgos Lanthimos

Cinematographer: Thimios Bakatatakis

Cast: Christos Stergiogiou, Michele Valley, Aggeliki Papoulia, Mary Tsoni

Print Source: MK2

This unforgettable film from Greece tells the story of a family who live on the outskirts of a city in a house surrounded by a tall fence. The three children have never been beyond that fence. Kept separated from the world, with no access to media or cellphones, they are brought up entirely by their parents, with no influence from society. As a result, their reality is constructed from the truths, semi-truths and lies fed to them by their father and mother; they believe that Frank Sinatra is their grandfather and that the toy planes they find lying in their garden are the same ones they see flying through the sky.

Christina, who works at the father's business, is the only person who is allowed to enter the house – which she does to satisfy the sexual urges of the son, an arrangement set up by the father. But when she gives the eldest daughter a headband with stones that glow in the dark and asks for something in return, the intrusion of the outside world proves disastrous. Brilliantly directed and superbly written, *Dogtooth* is chilling, thought-provoking and darkly funny.

Filmmaker in attendance

23 Musgrave A 20h30; 25 Musgrave A 22h00

Winner of the Un Certain Regard prize at the 2009 Cannes Film Festival, Greek director **GIORGOS LANTHIMOS** has been compared to the likes of Herzog and Kubrick and draws inspiration from Bresson and Cassavetes. Both *Dogtooth* and his 2005 offering *Kinetta* have received a number of awards.



I KILLED MY MOTHER (J'AI TUE MA MERE)

Canada 2009, French with English subtitles, 35mm, 100 min

Director: Xavier Dolan

Screenplay: Xavier Dolan

Cinematographer: Stephanie Weber-Biron

Cast: Xavier Dolan, Anne Dorval, Suzanne Clement, Francois Arnaud

Print Source: Rezo Films

Hubert Minel is an intelligent and precocious gay 17-year-old who detests his mother but also deeply loves her and becomes obsessed with their dysfunctional relationship. Everything she does annoys him, from the way she eats to the way she talks to her middle class notions of style. Hubert, in turn, is constantly rude to her and takes her to task for what he sees as her multiple failures. Confused and torn by his obsession and unable or unwilling to reveal his sexuality or his relationship with his long-suffering boyfriend to her, Hubert decides that the only solution is for him to move out of home and live by himself.

I Killed My Mother is a remarkably executed account of the relationship between a boy and his mother, made all the more impressive by the fact that 20-year old Xavier Dolan both directs and takes the lead role. This is a film about love, sex and existential identity that will appeal to anyone who's ever had difficulty traversing the rocky road of adolescence.

23 Sneddon 20h00; 29 Nouveau 20h30

Canadian filmmaker and former child actor **XAVIER DOLAN** was born in 1989 in Quebec. Dolan attracted international attention with this first film as a director, screenwriter and actor which won three awards at the 2009 Cannes Film Festival. Dolan wrote the semi-autobiographical script when he was seventeen.

COMPETITION FEATURES



IMANI

Uganda 2009, English, Video, 81 min

Director: Caroline Kamyá

Screenplay: Agnes Kamyá

Cinematographer: Andrew Coppin

Cast: Phillip Buyi Roy, Rehema Nanfuka, Stephen Ocen

Print Source: Caroline Kamyá

This Ugandan multiple narrative film tells the stories of a young domestic worker who has to find money to get her wrongly accused sister out of prison, a hip-hop dancer who is returning to his home town for a performance and must face the consequences of faded friendship, and a young child soldier who is returned to his family after being separated from them during the war.

These three different tales gradually flow into a single narrative that overflows with restless energy. Director Caroline Kamyá references American director Paul Thomas Anderson at the beginning of *Imani* and her film combines the structure of films such as *Magnolia* with an African approach to aesthetics and narrative. With intimate and true-to-life dialogue, Kamyá has created a film that might be a tribute to another filmmaker but is nonetheless the product of her own singular vision.

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Suncoast B 18h00; 26 Suncoast B 18h00

Award-winning filmmaker **CAROLINE KAMYÁ** worked in television in London for several years prior to setting up a production house in Kampala. In 2006, she attended the Maisha Film Lab in Uganda and completed her first three short films. Kamyá participated in the 2007 Berlinale Talent Campus and the 2009 Talent Campus Durban.



LIFE, ABOVE ALL

Germany/South Africa 2010, Pedi with English subtitles, 35mm, 106 min

Director: Oliver Schmitz

Screenplay: Dennis Foon, Allan Stratton

Cinematographer: Bernhard Jasper

Cast: Khomotso Manyaka, Keabaka Makanyane, Lerato Mvelase, Patrick Shai, Harriet Manamela

Print Source: Bavaria Film International

From Oliver Schmitz, who gave us the groundbreaking *Mapantsula* and *Hijack Stories*, comes this touching and heart-wrenching story of the relationship between a mother and daughter in contemporary South Africa. Based on Allan Stratton's bestselling novel *Chanda's Secret*, this is a drama about a bright, hardworking young girl (Khomotso Manyaka) who fights the fear and prejudice that is poisoning her community. *Life, Above All* has special meaning in South Africa, but the film's resonance is universal. With a great performance from Manyaka and perfectly controlled direction from Schmitz, the film received a 20-minute standing ovation at its premiere in Cannes.

This powerful, character-driven drama about the challenges faced by the poorest of South Africa's children is a remarkable addition to the South African film canon and another singular triumph for Schmitz. *Life, Above All* is a beautiful example of African filmmaking.

Filmmaker in attendance

29 Suncoast A 20h00; 31 Musgrave A 18h00; 01 Sneddon 17h30

South African director and scriptwriter **OLIVER SCHMITZ** was born in 1960. He has directed eleven films since 1988, including his iconic debut feature *Mapantsula*. After directing *Hijack Stories* in 2000, Schmitz was one of twenty-one international directors whose short films made up the 2006 film *Paris, je t'aime*.



LOLA

Philippines 2009, Tagalog with English subtitles, 35mm, 110 min

Director: Brillante Mendoza

Screenplay: Linda Casimiro

Cinematographer: Odyssey Flores

Cast: Anita Linda, Rustica Carpio, Tanya Gomez, Jhong Hilario

Print Source: The Match Factory

This latest film from prolific DIFF favourite, Brillante Mendoza (*Foster Child*, *Slingshot*), returns to the director's documentary style naturalism. Set during a typhoon, *Lola* tells the story of devoted grandmother Sepa (Anita Linda), whose grandson was murdered for his cellphone. The camera follows her as she tries to raise the money for the funeral. Meanwhile, the grandmother of Mateo, the killer who is now residing in jail awaiting his trial, takes her grandson food and tries to set up a financial deal with Sepa in order to avoid a prison term.

Telling a simple story, uncorrupted by twists or double-crosses, *Lola* is another example of how Mendoza's authentic and uncompromising approach to film manages to maintain cinematic tension without resorting to narrative manipulation. His refusal to dramatise and his desire to keep things as grounded in the real world as possible delivers remarkable dividends. Filled with compassion for its characters, *Lola* is another tender and moving glimpse into the working-class life of Manila and its streets.

30 Suncoast B 18h00; 31 Suncoast A 18h00

Director, producer and cinematographer **BRILLANTE MENDOZA** was born in 1960 in San Fernando in the Philippines. He has numerous directing credits, including *Service* (2009), *Slingshot* (2008), and *Foster Child* (2008), which won the DIFF Best Film award. Mendoza is the first Filipino to win Best Director at Cannes for a feature-length film.



MOLOCH TROPICAL

Haiti/France 2009, English, French and Creole with English subtitles, Video, 107 min

Director: Raoul Peck

Screenplay: Jean-René Lemoine, Raoul Peck

Cinematographer: Eric Guichard

Cast: Zinedine Soualem, Sonia Rolland, Mireille Metellus, Nicole Douge

Print Source: Velvet Films

Moloch Tropical is a dark and scathing political comedy from Raoul Peck who gave us the astounding *Lumumba* and *Sometimes In April*. His latest film is an account of the last 24 hours of a fictitious Haitian president whose monstrous ways have precipitated the revolution that is taking hold all around him. Based partly on Henri-Christophe, an early 19th-century Haitian ruler, but set in contemporary Haiti during the bicentennial of its independence, Peck's portrait of power in decline resonates with Shakespearean overtones.

Increasingly deranged and with his support base crumbling, the president can barely command the attention of his ladies in waiting but still sees himself as some kind of infinite emperor. While Peck focuses on the monstrous behaviour of one man in *Moloch Tropical*, the film reflects not only the sins of Haitian leaders but those of the leaders of many other countries in the 20th century. Peck has said of the film that it "does not apply just to Haitian presidents, but also to politicians such as Richard Nixon, Bill Clinton, Silvio Berlusconi or Vladimir Putin."

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Suncoast A 20h30; 27 Suncoast B 20h00

One of the greatest filmmakers to come out of Haiti, **RAOUL PECK** has won numerous awards. Peck spent much of his life in the Democratic Republic of Congo where he schooled before studying film in Berlin. Also a political activist, Peck's 2000 offering *Lumumba* earned him tremendous international attention. *Sometimes In April* won the DIFF Best Film award.

COMPETITION FEATURES



MONGA

Taiwan 2010, Mandarin with English subtitles, 35mm, 140 min

Director: Doze, Niu Chen-Zer

Screenplay: Tseng Li-Ting

Cinematographer: Jake Pollock

Cast: Ethan Ruan, Mark Chao, Rhydian Vaughan, Ke Jia-Yan

Print Source: Distribution Workshop (HK) Ltd

This Taiwanese gangster film is set in the Wanhua District of Taipei, otherwise known as Monga, and takes place in the mid-1980s, after the end of the military dictatorship in that country. *Monga* centres on five boys who join a gang because they are tired of being pushed about. Zhilong (Rhydian Vaughan), whose father is an underworld kingpin, leads the gang of five, and together they skip class and spend their days engaging in street fights, clubbing and flirting with girls. They relish their new social standing but soon discover that being gangsters comes at a price. Other gangs have their hearts set on the thriving locale of Monga and soon the boys' world is thrown upside down.

Vividly filmed in supersaturated colour, with great performances, this is a thoroughly engaging variation on the gangster genre that invites comparisons to the work of Martin Scorsese. Bathed in nostalgic fondness for '80s-period Taiwan, *Monga* is a unique and powerful film.

28 Nouveau 20h30; 31 Nouveau 18h00

Actor, director, writer and producer **DOZE NIU CHEN-ZER** was born in Taiwan in 1966. Chen-Zer has acted in several films since the eighties. His directing credits include *What On Earth Have I Done Wrong* (2007) and *Taipei 24H* (2009). He also founded the Red Bean Production Company in 2002.



PAJU

South Korea 2009, Korean with English subtitles, 35mm,

110 min

Director: Park Chan-Ok

Screenplay: Yu-Rim Lee, Park Chan-Ok

Cinematographer: Woo-Hyung Kim

Cast: Lee Syeon Kun, Seo Woo, Shimyi Young

Print Source: MLine Distribution

This masterful and heart-breaking film from Park Chan-Ok tells the story of fugitive housing activist Joong-shik (Lee Sun-kyun) who flees Seoul after an accident involving his girlfriend Ja-young (Kim Bo-kyung). Arriving in the city of Paju, close to the demilitarised zone between North and South Korea and where vestiges of the Korean War still define the landscape, he takes a job at a church run by his cousin and embarks on an affair with Eun-soo (Shim E-young).

As the film moves back and forth in time, the mysteries and secrets behind Joong-shik, the death of his girlfriend and the stories behind the other women in his life are gradually unfurled. Beautifully filmed and constructed with psychological precision, *Paju* offers a dark symphony of political and emotional realism orchestrated by Chan-Ok and performed by his brilliant ensemble cast. This remarkable film provides an intimate and complex portrait of a confused, guilt-ridden man and of the powerful and complex women in his life.

26 Nouveau 18h00; 30 Sneddon 22h00; 01 Suncoast A 20h00

PARK CHAN-OK was born in South Korea in 1968. Chan-Ok is the writer-director of *Jambok* (2004) and *Jiltuneun naui him* (2002). She also edited the latter. Her most recent work *Paju* received the Netpac Award at the Pusan International Film Festival.



PARADISE STOP

South Africa 2010, English, Tswana, Zulu, Sotho, and French with English subtitles, Video, 90 min

Director: Jann Turner

Screenplay: Kenneth Nkosi, Rapulana Seiphemo, Jann Turner

Cinematographer: Wille Nel

Cast: Kenneth Nkosi, Rapulana Seiphemo, Vusi Kunene, Nick Boraine, Charmaine Kwenyane, Sonia Sedibe, Mary Twala, Maduvha Madima, Lucky Legodi

Print Source: Stepping Stone Pictures

Following the box office hit *White Wedding*, Jann Turner returns with *Paradise Stop*. In any one month thousands of cargo-carrying sixteen wheeler trucks are moving freight north bound out of South Africa to Zimbabwe and the heart of Africa. Near the freeway outside a sleepy town is Ben Khumalo's Truck Stop complete with bar, restaurant, and ladies of the night.

Ben's friend, Potso is a good cop in a rotten system. This is the tale of two big men in a small town, the best of friends but working on opposite sides of the law. *Paradise Stop* is peopled with a cast of eccentric characters – the arrogant mayor, a spirited small-time gangster's lackey, an easily beguiled desk sergeant, a simple minded swimming pool maintenance man, and a feisty, sexy security investigator. A madcap comedy thriller of errors, *Paradise Stop* has a captivating humour and is an acute but loving look into the vibrant ups and downs of life in contemporary South Africa.

Filmmakers in attendance

23 Suncoast A 20h00; 25 Musgrave B 18h00

NYU Film School graduate **JANN TURNER** is an award-winning filmmaker, journalist and author. Turner's first feature film, *White Wedding* (2009) was extremely well-received in South Africa and released internationally in 2010. The film was also South Africa's official entry for Best Foreign Language Film at the 2010 Academy Awards.



PEEPLI LIVE

India 2009, Hindi with English subtitles, Video, 106 min

Director: Anusha Rizvi

Screenplay: Anusha Rizvi

Cinematographer: Shanker Raman

Cast: Onkar Das, Raghuvir Yadav, Shalini Vatsa, Farrukh Jaffar

Print Source: Avalon Group

Peepli Live takes place on the eve of national elections in the Indian village of Peepli. Natha and Budhia are two poor farmers whose land and livelihood is threatened by an unpaid government loan. In an attempt to improve their situation, the two seek help from a local politician. But the apathetic bureaucrat suggests that they should kill themselves so that their families may receive compensation from a government programme that aids the families of indebted deceased farmers. When the story gets picked up by a local journalist, a media frenzy ignites and the national debate centres around whether Natha will commit suicide or not.

Both hilarious and deeply disturbing, *Peepli Live* is a warm and engagingly human comedy and a siren call for political accountability in India – where little has been done to end the tidal wave of farmer suicides – and around the world, where the working classes seldom receive much attention from their governments. With a cast drawn largely from a troupe of rural folk actors, this beautifully made film engages the heart, the mind and the funny bone.

Filmmakers in attendance

24 Suncoast-Supernova 20h30; 25 Suncoast A 16h00

First-time writer and director **ANUSHA RIZVI** graduated with a history degree from St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi. Rizvi also holds a diploma in human rights from the University of Jamia, New Delhi. She started her career in television production and later became an independent filmmaker.



RUNNING ON EMPTY

Japan 2009, Japanese with English subtitles, Video, 80 min

Director: Dai Sako

Screenplay: Dai Sako

Cinematographer: Yuta Tsukinaga

Cast: Katsuya Koabayashi, Mihiro, Nobumitso Onushi, Ren Osugi, Shun Sugata

Print Source: Pictures Dept

The gorgeous Azami is tired of her boyfriend, Hideji, who is persistently penniless and whose lazy ways increasingly irritate her. Determined to end their relationship, Azami must first extract from him the money he has come to owe her during the time they have spent together. She decides to stage her own kidnapping and gets Hideji to pay a ransom. But while she has no problem finding a man to help her with her scheme, when it comes down to it Hideji doesn't seem very interested in paying the ransom. He's more interested in pursuing his dead-end musical career with fellow band members who are less than loyal to him.

Amid the shenanigans, however, there is a dark secret between Azami and Hideji that gradually reveals itself. Set in the heart of industria, with a fascinating soundscape, this funny, occasionally dark and always entertaining film comes from Japanese director Dai Sako who wrote the screenplay for the acclaimed *Vacation*.

Filmmaker in attendance

24 Suncoast B 20h15; 27 Suncoast B 22h30

DAI SAKO was born in Kanagawa, Japan in 1971. His road movie *Still Paradise* received critical-acclaim in Japan. His writing credits include *Festival In Abraxas* and *Vacation*, which won the Muhr AsiaAfrica Special Jury Prize at the 2008 Dubai International Film Festival.



A SCREAMING MAN (UNE HOMME QUI CRIE)

France/Belgium/Chad 2010, French and Arabic with English subtitles, 35mm, 92 min

Director: Mahamat-Saleh Haroun

Screenplay: Mahamat-Saleh Haroun

Cinematographer: Laurent Brunet

Cast: Youssef Djaoro, Diouconda Koma, Emile Abossolo M'bo, Djénéba Koné, Hadje Fatime N'Goua

Print Source: Pyramide Films

A Screaming Man takes place in Chad and tells the story of aging hotel pool attendant Adam (Youssef Djaoro) whose position is downgraded to guarding the front entrance when the hotel falls under new management. To make matters worse, Adam, who was a swimming champion in his youth, is being replaced by his son, a situation which he is determined to do something about.

Taking place against Chad's ongoing civil war, the tension of life lived under the siege of conflict is palpably communicated in this fourth film from Mahamat-Saleh Haroun (*Bye Bye Africa*, *Daratt*). Directed with restraint and elegance, and with a tender performance from Djaoro in the lead role, this is an engaging meditation on family and betrayal and also a powerful allegory for the political situation in Chad and many parts of Africa.

Another significant work from one of Africa's leading cinematic talents, *A Screaming Man* explores the ways in which national narratives inevitably permeate the personal.

27 Suncoast A 20h00; 29 Musgrave A 20h15

Chadian director **MAHAMAT-SALEH HAROUN** has made a number of award-winning films including his first feature film, *Bye Bye Africa* (1999), *Abouna* (2002) and his 2006 film *Daratt*. *A Screaming Man* took the Jury Prize at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival, making Haroun the first Chadian director to win an award in the main Cannes competition.



SEBBE

Sweden 2010, Swedish with English subtitles, 35mm, 92 min

Director: Babak Najafi

Screenplay: Babak Najafi

Cinematographer: Simon Pramsten

Cast: Sebastian Hiort af Ornäs, Kenny Wählbrink, Eva Melander, Adrian Ringman

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

This superb film takes us into the life of a young misfit and his negligent mother. Sensitive and likeable Sebbe (Sebastian Hiort af Ornäs) is constantly picked on at school where a group of bullies make his life unbearable and his home life, on a rundown housing estate, is little better.

His emotionally abusive thirty-something mother (Eva Melander) is herself on the edge of stressed out desperation. Unable to cope with the financial and emotional challenges of single parenting, she takes it out on her adoring son with little compassion for his plight. Sebbe's only escape from his oppressive environment lies in his remarkable ability to recycle discarded junk into functional objects.

Beautifully filmed, with riveting performances from Ornas and Melander, this compassionate portrait of difference is the feature debut from writer-director Babak Najafi and marks him as a major talent in social realist cinema. Those who enjoy the films of Ken Loach and the Dardenne brothers will find much to appreciate in *Sebbe*.

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Musgrave A 17h00; 28 Suncoast A 20h15; 01 Suncoast A 18h00

Born in Tehran in 1975, **BABAK NAJAFI** relocated to Sweden at the age of twelve. After making a number of short films such as *Elixir* (2003), *Pablos Fodelsedag* (2001) and *Gosta Och Lennart* (2000), Najafi was honoured with the Berlin Film Festival's Best First Film Award for his debut feature, *Sebbe*.



A SMALL TOWN CALLED DESCENT

South Africa 2010, English, Xhosa and Zulu with English subtitles, 35mm, 102 min

Director: Jahmil XT Qubeka

Screenplay: Jahmil XT Qubeka

Cinematographer: Jahmil XT Qubeka

Cast: Vusi Kunene, Paul Buckby, Hlubi Mboya, Fana Mokoena, Bubu Mazibuko

Print Source: Moments Entertainment

A Small Town Called Descent is a riveting cop drama from South African writer-director Jahmil XT Qubeka. The film follows three Scorpion agents in their investigation of a heinous crime that took place in a small, remote town. Against the backdrop of xenophobic riots that have swept across the country, two Zimbabwean brothers along with a local girl (*Isidingo's* Hlubi Mboya), are brutally attacked and one of the brothers is killed. But are the three Scorpions (Vusi Kunene, Paul Buckby, Vuyo Dabula) the right men for the job? Guided by the zealous hand of an eccentric cleric (John Savage) they manoeuvre through the small town's complex social dynamic to get to the truth.

A darkly humorous look at South Africa's political dynamics from the eyes of civilians, the film features powerful performances from its all-star cast. *A Small Town Called Descent* showcases a strong, unapologetic voice and an honest but resonant portrait of South African life.

Filmmakers in attendance

24 Suncoast A 20h00; 25 Ekhaya 18h00; 31 Musgrave B 18h00

JAHMIL XOLANI THANDIKHAYA QUBEKA started out as a documentary filmmaker. Qubeka's 2004 documentary *Talk to Me* won the coveted Peabody Award for actuality television in the USA. His action-fantasy short film *Shogun Khumalo is Dying* featured at DIFF 2006. Qubeka wrote, directed, shot and co-edited this debut feature.

COMPETITION FEATURES

OPENING FILM



STATE OF VIOLENCE

South Africa 2010, English, Tswana, Zulu and Tsotsitaal with English subtitles, Video, 84 min

Director: Khalo Matabane

Screenplay: Khalo Matabane

Cinematographer: Mathtys Mocke

Cast: Fana Mokoena, Presley Chweneyagae, Neo Ntlatleng

Print Source: DV8 Films

Khalo Matabane won best South African film at DIFF in 2007 for his *Conversations on a Sunday Afternoon*. He returns to the festival with the remarkable film *State Of Violence*. Set in Johannesburg, the film tells the story of a man whose wife is murdered in what seems like a random act of violence. He embarks on a journey to search for the killer, only to discover that the killing is linked to the darkness in his past. From one of South Africa's most talented filmmakers, this is a complex meditation on the consequences of violence on contemporary South African life.

Through the eyes and point of view of the lead character, Bobedi, the film reveals how acts of violence in the past can affect family life today. It asks more questions than it provides answers, and reveals how complex the issues of forgiveness and revenge are in any society with a violent political past. *State Of Violence* is a film about memory and denial which confronts all South Africans with the uncomfortable truths of the past and present.

Filmmakers in attendance

22 Suncoast – Supernova 19h00; 24 Sneddon 20h30; 01 Musgrave B 16h00

KHALO MATABANE is an award-winning South African filmmaker whose films have brought him national and international acclaim. Matabane has directed a four-part drama series *When We Were Black* (2006) and five documentaries including *Conversations on a Sunday Afternoon* (2005), for which he was recognised by Cannes MIPDOC as one of four Global Trailblazers.



THE TIME THAT REMAINS

UK/Italy/Belgium/France 2009, English, Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles, 35mm, 109 min

Director: Elia Suleiman

Screenplay: Elia Suleiman

Cinematographer: Marc-André Batigne

Cast: Elia Suleiman, Saleh Bakri, Samar Qudha Tanus, Shafika Bajjali

Print Source: Wild Bunch

This semi-autobiographical film chronicles the life of a Palestinian family from 1948 until recent times. Taking place in four separate chapters, the film is a portrait of the daily lives of those Palestinians who remained in Israel, living as a minority in their own homeland. Inspired by the diaries of the writer-director's father and the letters of his mother to family members who were forced to leave Palestine, *The Time That Remains* offers an intimate insight into the personal histories of life in the occupied territories, while at the same time exploring the broader narrative of the modern state of Israel. The result is a touching and insightful black comedy that spans six decades of political absurdity, and communicates the feeling of a lifetime of stifling oppression. This astounding, highly personalised film is the third in Suleiman's trilogy of movies about the Israeli state and the Palestinian people, following on from *Chronicle of a Disappearance* (1996) and *Divine Intervention* (2002).

26 Suncoast A 20h00; 28 Musgrave A 20h00

ELIA SULEIMAN was born in Nazareth, Israel in 1960. Suleiman's debut feature *Chronicle of a Disappearance* (1996) won the Best First Film Prize at the 1996 Venice Film Festival. His 2002 film, *Divine Intervention*, won the Jury Prize at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival.



THE WHITE MEADOWS (KESHTZAR HAYE SEPID)

Iran 2009, Farsi with English subtitles, 35mm, 92 min

Director: Mohammad Rasoulof

Screenplay: Mohammad Rasoulof

Cinematographer: Ebrahim Ghafoori

Cast: Hassan Pourshirazi, Younes Ghazali, Mohammad Rabbani, Mohammad Shirvani

Print Source: Azadeh Ravanbakhsh

Shot in the other-worldly landscape of Iran's salt-encrusted Lake Urmia, *The White Meadows* follows a man who moves from village to village to hear people's sorrows and collect human tears. The sincere and respectful Rahmat (Hasan Pourshirazi) moves along the waterline of a nameless sea in his rowboat, each stop the site of remarkable events and adventures.

In one village, an attractive young woman has died, her body preserved in salt and kept in a cave filled with salt stalactites. In another village, a dwarf laden with glass jars in which people whisper their woes is lowered into a well. Elsewhere, a beautiful woman is forced to marry the sea, and an artist is punished for his distorted vision. Gorgeously shot and filled with arresting images, *The White Meadows* is a powerful allegory for the situation in modern Iran. By creating his own mythological language and setting it against such a physically strange landscape, director Mohammad Rasoulof has created a film that is unlike anything you've ever seen.

23 Suncoast A 18h00; 01 Suncoast A 14h00

MOHAMMAD RASOULOF was born in 1973 in Shiraz, Iran. He has made six short films and three feature films, including the award-winning *Iron Island* (2005). Despite detainment, governmental opposition and intensive censorship, Rasoulof continues to offer artistic social commentary on the collective condition of Iran.



WINTER'S BONE

USA 2009, English, 35mm, 100 min

Director: Debra Granik

Screenplay: Debra Granik, Anne Rosellini

Cinematographer: Michael McDonough

Cast: Jennifer Lawrence, John Hawkes, Kevin Breznahan, Dale Dickey

Print Source: Fortissimo Films

Winter's Bone follows 17-year-old Ree Dolly (Jennifer Lawrence) as she sets out to track down her father who has put the family house up for his bail bond and then disappeared. If Ree, whose family already hunt squirrels for food and lives on hand-me-downs, fails to find him, they will all be evicted from their home and forced to live in the Ozark woods. In her quest to find her outlaw father, she risks her life to journey through a grim landscape of lies, evasion and aggression from her criminally inclined relatives, but eventually Ree rises to the formidable challenge in front of her and begins to figure out the truth.

Using the Ozarks as a backdrop, director Debra Granik provides a portrait of a woman who has been forced, through her own unconditional love and dedication, to sacrifice her future on the altar of family. This remarkable and compelling journey through the backwoods of America won the Grand Jury Prize at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

28 Suncoast B 20h15; 30 Musgrave A 20h30

DEBRA GRANIK is a graduate of the New York University film programme. Her debut feature, *Down to the Bone* (2004) won the Sundance Dramatic Directing Award while *Winter's Bone* won the Grand Jury Prize for Drama also at the Sundance Film Festival.



ALTIPLANO

Germany/Belgium/Netherlands 2009, English, Spanish, Quechua, French and Persian with English subtitles, 35mm, 109 min

Director: Peter Brosens, Jessica Hope Woodworth
Screenplay: Peter Brosens, Jessica Hope Woodworth
Cinematographer: Francisco Gózon
Cast: Magaly Solier, Jasmin Tabatabai, Olivier Gourmet
Print Source: Meridiana films

A beautiful example of the globalised story made popular by Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu's *Babel*, *Altiplano* is structured around the stories of two women from very different realities. Grace (Jasmin Tabatabai) is a disillusioned war photographer whose doctor husband has gone off to work with the indigenous Andean people in Peru, while Saturnina (Magaly Solier) is a young Peruvian woman who has just become engaged. But Saturnina's fiancé dies as a result of mercury contamination from a local factory while on a journey to acquire some sacred water for the wedding ceremony. The mercury is poisoning the community and in the resulting conflict between them and the factory owners, Grace's husband is killed. Devastated by grief, Grace leaves for Peru to establish what happened to her husband. Rich in beautifully shot imagery, the Andean landscapes and the symbolism of the area are breathtakingly captured. *Altiplano* is a masterpiece which explores everything from faith and devotion to the Iraq war and the behaviour of multinational corporations, lyrically connecting globalised dots across time and continents.

25 Musgrave A 12h30; 01 Sneddon 13h00

Belgian filmmaker **PETER BROSENS** was born in Leuven, Flanders in 1962. His ethnographic interests have inspired him to make films such as the internationally acclaimed three-part documentary, *The Mongolia Trilogy*. Born in 1971, **JESSICA HOPE WOODWORTH** studied film at Stanford University. Woodworth is a former television writer, producer and director. Her films include *Urga Song* (1999). *Khadak* (2006) was Brosen and Woodworth's first collaborative feature film.



AMREEKA

USA/Canada/Kuwait 2009, English and Arabic with English subtitles, 35mm, 97 min

Director: Cherien Dabis
Screenplay: Cherien Dabis
Cinematographer: Tobias Datum
Cast: Nisreen Faour, Melkar Moullem, Hiam Abbass, Yussef Abu Warda
Print Source: E1 Entertainment

Amreeka chronicles the trials and tribulations of Muna, a single mother from Ramallah who emigrates with her family to the United States. Muna has applied for a visa to the US and when it unexpectedly arrives, her son Fadi, an excellent student, convinces her they should go. After making their way through US customs, they join Muna's sister and her family in Illinois. But Muna, who managed to lose all her savings on the way over, desperately needs a job. Despite her two degrees and long experience in the banking sector, she is forced to settle for a job at a local fast food joint, although she tells her family that she is working at a nearby bank.

Meanwhile, Fadi meets prejudice at school, partly in misguided response to the fact that the US has invaded Iraq. This charmingly made film is a moving account of immigrant life in the US that shows compassion and callousness to be sides of the same American coin.

24 Suncoast A 16h00; 29 Suncoast A 18h00

Born to Palestinian immigrant parents, **CHERIEN DABIS** is a 2004 alumni of Columbia University's Masters of Fine Arts film programme. She has made several award-winning short films. Also an accomplished television writer and co-producer, Dabis worked on three seasons of Showtime Network's *The L Word*. *Amreeka* is her debut feature.



THE APE (APAN)

Sweden 2009, Swedish with English subtitles, 35mm, 81 min

Director: Jesper Ganslandt

Screenplay: Jesper Ganslandt

Cinematographer: Fredrik Wenzel

Cast: Olle Sarri, Françoise Joyce, Niclas Gillis

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

This daringly minimalist feature from director Jesper Ganslandt is a sparse, carefully considered account of a middle-aged driving instructor named Krister (Olle Sarri) who wakes up bloodied on the bathroom floor. The camera follows him as he goes to work, abandons a pupil in mid-lesson, visits his mother, attends a church service and generally goes about his day as if nothing has happened. Within this claustrophobic narrative, Ganslandt skilfully approximates the texture of an ever-worsening nightmare using first-person perspective and handheld camera work to increase the sense of intimacy and proximity to an incomprehensible protagonist.

The result is a sustained study in alienation, guilt and psychological breakdown that will linger in your mind long after you've left the theatre. This descent into one man's personal hell is an innovative and emotionally convincing masterpiece. Beautifully photographed, with a phenomenal performance from Sarri as a man on the very edge, *The Ape* is a remarkable piece of contemporary cinema.

26 Suncoast A 22h30; 29 Suncoast A 22h15; 31 Musgrave B 22h00

JESPER GANSLANDT was born in Falkenberg, Sweden in 1978. He is a self-taught filmmaker who has directed a number of music videos and short films, in addition to directing and editing for television. Other films include *Falkenberg Farewell* (2006) and the 2009 documentary, *The Film I'm No Longer Talking About*.



AT THE END OF DAYBREAK (SHAM MO)

Malaysia/Hong Kong/South Korea 2009, Mandarin with English subtitles, 35mm, 94 min

Director: Ho Yuhang

Screenplay: Ho Yuhang

Cinematographer: Gay Hian Teoh

Cast: Kara Hui, Tien You Chui

Print Source: Golden Scene

This is a beautifully shot account of the illicit relationship between a complicated young man and an under-age teenager. Looking to escape the burden of his alcoholic mother, poor 23-year-old Tuck Chai strikes up a relationship with a 15-year-old schoolgirl and soon begins an illicit affair with her. When their relationship is discovered by the girl's mother, the well-off parents threaten to sue but instead reach a monetary settlement for their silence, adding a strain of class conflict to the narrative. When the parents subsequently attempt to sue Chai anyway, he meets with the young girl in order to convince her to change her parents' minds. But by now, their relationship has changed and everything is different between them. A storm of controversy follows, with murderous consequences.

In this tenderly rendered narrative, based on real-life events, director Ho Yuhang (*Rain Dogs*) goes beyond the sensationalist surface to explore universal issues of class, identity and sexuality while giving his two central characters very real depth and complexity. The result is a disturbing and chilling social tragedy, redeemed only by the beauty of the filmmaking.

24 Suncoast A 22h30; 01 Sneddon 15h30

HO YUHANG began his career shooting commercials in the mid-1990s. In 1999, he made the six-part documentary series *Semangat Insan: Masters of Tradition*. His 2003 and 2006 films *Min* and *Rain Dogs* earmarked him as one of the most talented young filmmakers to emerge in Asia in recent years.



ATTACK OF THE INDIAN WEREWOLF

South Africa 2010, English, Video, 83 min

Director: Masood Boomgard

Screenplay: Masood Boomgard

Cinematographer: Tyrone Marcus

Cast: Neville Pillay, Kajal Maharaj, Sanjeev Singh

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

This cheerfully irreverent spoof of the werewolf genre comes from Durban writer and filmmaker Masood Boomgard. East Coast Radio radio jock and comedian Neville Pillay plays Brandon, a timid, hardworking and honest electronics store clerk who has been overtaken by a werewolf demon after a chance encounter with the mystical jadoo bean. He and his best friend Kuben, together with his childhood sweetheart Samantha (Kajal Maharaj), try to vanquish the demon inside him, along the way meeting and killing a few of their friends, including Brandon's cheating girlfriend (Avashnee Vandiar) and his abusive boss.

Indian Werewolf is a light hearted look at the horror genre with a uniquely Durban flavour. Pillay, also plays several other roles in the film, including an aging, bumbling policeman. Logie Naidoo, the Deputy Mayor of Durban, also appears in the film.

Indian Werewolf also features Survivor SA contestant Nichal Ramchander and rapper Eighteen Eighteen, a.k.a. Nesan Pather, who introduces viewers to his alter ego, Rajiv, a hilarious aspirant hip hop artist whose rhymes feature prominently in the film.

Filmmakers in attendance

25 Sneddon 20h30; 31 Suncoast B 18h00

Durban filmmaker and journalist **MASOOD BOOMGARD** is a graduate of the University of KwaZulu-Natal where he studied Media and Communications and Politics. Boomgard is also a stand-up comedian and a columnist with *The Sunday Tribune*. He makes his directorial debut with *Attack of the Indian Werewolf*.



AU REVOIR TAIPEI

Taiwan/USA/Germany 2010, Mandarin and Taiwanese with English subtitles, 35mm, 85 min

Director: Arvin Chen

Screenplay: Arvin Chen

Cinematographer: Michael Fimognari

Cast: Jack Yao, Amber Kuo, Joseph Chang, Lawrence Ko, Frankie Gao

Print Source: Beta Cinema

Au Revoir Taipei comes from first-time writer-director Arvin Chen whose beautifully rendered film is a tribute not only to urban life in Taipei but to the bright lights that shine in the darkness of every big city. The film follows an ensemble of characters in a shimmering multiple narrative located in a small, cosy neighbourhood.

After his girlfriend moves to France, Kai (Jack Yao) is desperate to leave Taipei and join her, regardless of whether she wants him to do so or not. When he is given an opportunity for a free airfare in exchange for couriering an illicit package, he embraces the opportunity. But nothing goes as planned and his evening, his plans and his relationship are all about to go seriously awry. This is a beautifully crafted film that overflows with warmth, joy and romance. Filled with surreal moments and with some superb performances, *Au Revoir Taipei* marks Chen as a major talent.

28 Nouveau 18h30; 01 Nouveau 16h00

ARVIN CHEN grew up in San Francisco and completed his Master's in film production at the University of Southern California's prestigious School of Cinematic Arts. He then moved to Taipei to apprentice with Taiwanese filmmaker Edward Yang (*Yi Yi, A Bright Summer Day*). *Au Revoir Taipei* is his first feature film.



BAARIA

Italy/France 2009, English, Sicilian and Italian with English subtitles, 35mm, 150 min

Director: Giuseppe Tornatore

Screenplay: Giuseppe Tornatore

Cinematographer: Enrico Lucidi

Cast: Francesco Scianna, Margareth Made, Raoul Bova, Giorgio Faletti

Print Source: Nu Metro

This latest film from Italian master Giuseppe Tornatore (*Cinema Paradiso*, *The Legend of 1900*) is an autobiographical epic which takes place in the Sicilian village of Baaria where the director was born and follows three generations of an Italian family. Bathed in personal and national mythology, *Baaria* is an ambitious full-blown epic in the tradition of old-school Italian cinema to which Tornatore has clearly always felt so indebted. Yet the film is held together not by the arc of its historical narrative but by the director's compassion and love for the places and people from where and whom he came.

This sprawling Sicilian family epic captures some of the same mythical magic found in the director's earlier works such as *Cinema Paradiso* and *The Legend of 1900*, but with even greater artistic ambition. A lyrical comment on the nature of family and the impact of modernity on traditional life, this heartfelt tribute to the power of personal history opened the Venice Film Festival.

24 Nouveau 12h00; 25 Nouveau 20h30

Born in 1956, prolific auteur **GIUSEPPE TORNATORE** began his cinema career as a documentary filmmaker and television director. Tornatore made his feature film debut in 1986 with the crime thriller *Il Camorrista*. His highly successful 1988 offering *Cinema Paradiso* won an Oscar for Best Foreign Film.



BAD FAMILY (PAHA PERHE)

Finland 2010, Finnish with English subtitles, 35mm, 90 min

Director: Aleksi Salmenperä

Screenplay: Aleksi Salmenperä

Cinematographer: Tuomo Hutri

Cast: Ville Virtanen, Lauri Tilkanen, Pihla Viitala

Print Source: Finnish Film Foundation

This darkly comic psychodrama comes from Finnish writer-director Aleksi Salmenperä (*Producing Adults*) and tells the story of Mikael (Ville Virtanen), an overly protective and controlling father who suspects incest is taking place between his son Dani (Lauri Tilkanen) and his long-lost daughter (Pihla Viitala) who has recently returned home after the death of his ex-wife, from whom he has long been divorced. Mikael's growing suspicions and concerns quickly descend into obsession and delusion as he becomes increasingly unrelenting in his quest to end the supposed love affair between his children.

Things come to a bizarre head when Mikael decides to have his son kidnapped for his own good. With performances of great psychological depth from the three members of the *Bad Family* and hyper-real cinematography, this is a compelling and disturbing account of psychological collapse and family history. Framed with restrained direction from Salmenperä, *Bad Family* is best described as bleakly hysterical.

24 Musgrave A 14h00; 31 Musgrave A 22h30

Director, scriptwriter, actor and cinematographer **ALEKSI SALMENPERÄ** was born in Finland in 1973. He is a graduate of the University of Art and Design in Helsinki. Salmenperä's other films include *Producing Adults* (2004) and *Man's Job* (2007) which both received numerous accolades.



**THE BULL ON THE ROOF
(LE BOEUF SUR LE TOIT)**

South Africa 2010, English, German, Swedish, Finnish and Sotho with English subtitles, Video, 85 min

Director: Jyoti Mistry

Screenplay: Jyoti Mistry

Cinematographer: Fred Nordström

Cast: William Kentrige, David Goldblatt, Mandla Langa, Suketu Mehta, Kjell Westö

Print Source: Shadowy Meadow Productions

Le Boeuf Sur Le Toit is an experimental feature directed by Jyoti Mistry that deals with disparate narratives in Johannesburg, Helsinki, Vienna, and New York. The cities form a constellation of the director's personal relationship with each of these places and are not a function of geo-political conditions. The result is a kaleidoscopic snapshot of urban spaces – walking through cities, taking ferries, riding trains, having an escapist picnic – which manipulates the viewers' sense of place. The geographic disorientation is further heightened by voice-overs in multiple languages, but everything is held seamlessly together by the familiarity of day-to-day life; making love, doing laundry, drinking coffee, reading, writing and the universal sanctuary of a bath.

Using various visual strategies including cinema verité, surveillance, performance and animation, *Le Boeuf Sur Le Toit* is a striking impressionistic essay about the small details of our lives that bind us all together. Blending what is essentially documentary footage into a gorgeous, fragmented narrative, the film holds up fresh possibilities for the construction of cinematic fiction.

Filmmakers in attendance

26 Suncoast B 20h00; 01 Musgrave B 14h00

JYOTI MISTRY is a filmmaker and associate professor at the University of the Witwatersrand's School of Arts. Mistry's filmography includes short films and documentaries. She has taught at New York University, University of Vienna and Arcada Polytechnic in Helsinki.



BURIED SECRETS (DOWAHA)

Tunisia 2009, Arabic with English subtitles, 35mm, 91 min

Director: Raja Amari

Screenplay: Raja Amari

Cinematographer: Renato Berta

Cast: Hafsia Herzi, Sondos Belhassen, Wassila Dari

Print Source: Fortissimo Films

This fascinating second feature from Tunisian director Raja Amari continues her exploration of the female struggle between tradition and modernity. *Buried Secrets* follows the story of Aicha (Hafsia Herzi), a teenage girl who lives with her spinster sister (Sondos Belhassen) and mother (Wassila Dari) in the basement of a decrepit abandoned mansion in a remote area.

The three women live in almost total seclusion, bar the occasional journey into town. When a young couple (Wassila Dari and Dhafer L'Abidine) moves into the main part of the mansion, they maintain their isolated existence in their hideout and continue to live their extremely private and anonymous lives. But Aicha's hopeless fascination with the couple and her desire to enter their world of parties, high heels and lipstick is an affront to her sheltered mother and sister, who do everything in their power to keep her from it. *Buried Secrets* is a feminist coming-of-age thriller bathed in the disturbing magic of a dark fairy tale.

25 Suncoast A 14h00; 01 Suncoast A 12h00

Born in Tunisia in 1971, **RAJA AMARI** trained as a dancer and later pursued film studies in Paris. After directing a few short films, Amari made her award-winning debut feature *Red Satin* in 2002. The film enjoyed an excellent reception from audiences and critics alike.



CHICKS (LA VIE AU RANCH)

France 2009, French with English subtitles, 35mm, 90 min

Director: Sophie Letourneur

Screenplay: Sophie Letourneur

Cinematographer: Claire Mathon

Cast: Sarah-Jane Sauvegrain, Eulalie Juster, Mahaut Mollaret, Elsa Pierret

Print Source: Umedia

This superb debut feature from French director Sophie Letourneur centres on a group of student girlfriends in their twenties who always get together on the sofa of an apartment on the left bank of Paris shared by two of them. At the apartment, which they fondly refer to as 'the ranch', they talk, drink, smoke and dance their way through life. The film celebrates the group's vivacity and humour but also questions whether their utopian friendships can last as they enter their adult lives.

This accurate and affectionate portrait of the last days of youth is gorgeously rendered by Letourneur who grants her characters all their foibles and weaknesses without allowing them to enter the realm of spectacle. This charming account of the intense communality of female friendship is far from your average chick flick, dispensing with notions of catharsis and dramatic arc, allowing instead an intimate relationship between the viewer and the group of friends.

23 Nouveau 20h00; 25 Nouveau 16h00

Director, writer and actress **SOPHIE LETOURNEUR** was born in France in 1978. Letourneur studied plastic arts and then film at the French National School of Decorative Arts (ENSAD). She has made a number of short films. *Chicks* is her feature debut.



COLD WATER OF THE SEA (AGUA FRIA DE MAR)

Costa Rica/France 2010, Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 80 min

Director: Paz Fábrega

Screenplay: Paz Fábrega

Cinematographer: María Secco

Cast: Luis Carlos Bogantes, Lil Quesada Morúa

Print Source: Films Boutique

Over the New Year's holidays, young couple Mariana and Rodrigo drive to the coast where Rodrigo has to sell a property. There, they find a small girl named Karina, sitting on the beach by herself late at night in the middle of nowhere. She tells them that her parents are dead and that her uncle abuses her, which we already know not to be true. But the fictions of Karina's making are echoed, both in the existential ennui which bathes the adult world, and in the parallel realities of the middle class couple and Karina's family, who are vacationing in tents on the beach.

Cold Water of the Sea is as beautiful and unsettling as any beach at night. Most of the action in the film takes place not on screen but in the characters' heads and it is to the credit of first time writer-director Paz Fábrega that the interior world of her characters is so accessible and the film so engaging. That *Cold Water of the Sea* is the first film to emerge from Costa Rica in many years, makes it all the more remarkable.

24 Musgrave B 16h00; 31 Musgrave B 12h00

PAZ FÁBREGA was born in 1979 in Costa Rica. She studied photography and journalism before going to the London Film School. She has written and directed a number of short films. *Cold Water of The Sea* is her first feature.



THE CONCERT

France/Italy/Romania/Belgium/Russia 2009, French and Russian with English subtitles, 35mm, 105 min

Director: Radu Mihaileanu

Screenplay: Radu Mihaileanu, Matthew Robbins, Alain Michel-Blanc

Cinematographer: Laurent Dailland

Cast: Aleksei Guskov, Melanie Laurent, Dmitri Nazarov, Valeri Barinov

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

Thirty years ago, the renowned conductor of the Bolshoi orchestra was fired for hiring Jewish musicians. Now a mere cleaning man at the Bolshoi, he intercepts an official invitation from the prestigious Théâtre du Châtelet that is meant for the orchestra. He decides to gather together his former musicians, now aging alcoholics, to perform in Paris in place of the current Bolshoi, completing the Tchaikovsky concerto that was interrupted three decades earlier. He is also determined to include a young virtuoso solo violin player named Anne-Marie Jacquet to accompany his band of outsider musicians.

If they all overcome the hardships ahead this very special concert will be a triumph. Beautifully constructed with immaculate direction and superb cinematography, *The Concert* is a wickedly absurd satire and a poignant commentary on life under Soviet rule with one of cinema's most moving and satisfying emotional payoffs in years. The film also has an autobiographical element in that Romanian-born director Radu Mihaileanu, the son of a Jewish Communist, emigrated from his native land under the iron hand of Ceausescu's dictatorship.

24 Nouveau 20h00; 31 Musgrave A 20h00

RADU MIHAILEANU is a Jewish Romanian-born French film director and screenwriter. He left Romania in 1980 and graduated from the Institute for Advanced Cinematographic Studies (IDHEC) in Paris. Mihaileanu has made a number of award-winning films such as *Train of Life* (1998) and *Live and Become* (2005).



COPACABANA

France 2010, French with English subtitles, 35mm, 105 min

Director: Marc Fitoussi

Screenplay: Marc Fitoussi

Cinematographer: H el ene Louvat

Cast: Isabelle Huppert, Lolita Chammah, Aure Atika, Jurgen Delnaet

Print Source: Pascale Ramonda

In this carefully observed dramatic comedy, Isabelle Huppert abandons her usual ice-queen persona for a free-wheeling comic role. Set in Belgium, the film tells of Babou, a bohemian mother who comes to realise the extent to which she has alienated her long-suffering daughter Esmeralda, when she is not invited to her wedding. Determined to win back her love, she enters the dubious world of real estate agents, trying to sell timeshare apartments in the coastal resort town of Ostend.

Despite never having held down a steady job, Babou does extraordinarily well in this cut-throat world without sacrificing any part of her insouciant personality. But when Babou meets a local dockworker and immediately begins an affair with him, it's clear that it won't last. Visually lovely, and superbly directed, *Copacabana* is a gorgeous breeze of a film. The film's title comes from the eponymous Astrid Gilberto song with which Esmeralda is obsessed, inviting a comparison between the freewheeling life described in the song, and the constrained parameters of Ostend.

24 Musgrave A 18h15; 30 Nouveau 18h15

Writer and director **MARC FITOUSSI** was born in Paris, France in 1974. In 2002, Fitoussi directed his first short film, *Sachez Chasser* alongside Elsa Barrer e. After a few more short films, he made his feature directorial debut with the 2007 comedy *La Vie d'Artiste*.



FOUR LIONS

UK 2010, English, 35mm, 101 min

Director: Christopher Morris

Screenplay: Jesse Armstrong, Sam Bain, Simon Blackwell, Christopher Morris

Cinematographer: Lol Crawley

Cast: Benedict Cumberbatch, Kayvan Novak, Riz Ahmed, Preeya Kalidas

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

This entertaining satire tells the story of four would-be jihadists who live in Sheffield and collectively decide to become suicide bombers. Omaj and Waj attend a terrorist training camp in Pakistan while Faisal and Barry (who is a convert to Islam) take a different approach and attempt to train crows as bombers. The film culminates in the four ideologically confused young men trying to blow themselves up at the London Marathon.

While *Four Lions* raises important questions, it is not so much a political commentary as it is an exploration of the aimlessness and confusion of its thirty-something protagonists, who just so happen to be Islamic extremists. This debut feature from British director Christopher Morris is a biting yet warm-hearted comedy that humanises its subjects even as it takes the mickey out of them. With great acting and superb writing, the film pulls off the difficult balancing act of constructing a comedy about terrorism without sacrificing the serious nature of its subject matter on its altar of laughs.

23 Musgrave B 18h00; 27 Musgrave A 20h00; 31 Suncoast A 16h00

CHRISTOPHER MORRIS has amassed an impressive body of work in the UK as a writer, director, actor, satirist and prankster. In 2003, Morris was listed in *The Observer* as one of the 50 funniest acts in British comedy. *Four Lions* is his debut feature.



GIANT (GIGANTE)

Spain/Germany/Uruguay/Argentina 2009, Spanish with English subtitles, 35mm, 90 min

Director: Adrián Biniez

Screenplay: Adrián Biniez

Cinematographer: Arauco Hernández

Cast: Horacio Camandule, Leonor Svarcas, Fernando Alonso, Diego Artucio

Print Source: The Match Factory

In this intimate and highly intelligent film, Jara (Horacio Camandule), a shy and burly supermarket security guard, falls in love with Julia (Leonor Svarcas), an accident-prone cleaning woman through the store's surveillance cameras and begins to stalk her from a distance. Most of the film takes place within the giant supermarket and its surveillance room and the result is both a visual tribute to the white austerity of the supermarket and a comment on its alienating inhumanity. At the same time, *Giant* is a gentle and moving romance, with the twist being that director Adrián Biniez uses the voyeuristic tone of the film not to oppress viewers, but to enchant them.

Beautifully shot and edited, and directed with a remarkable precision, *Giant* is a small, elegant masterpiece which suggests that in the spaces within ourselves, each of us contains a giant. By jettisoning the romantic conventions of cinema, Biniez gives us a film that is more genuinely moving than all of Hollywood's swirling overtures.

25 Suncoast A 18h00; 31 Nouveau 16h00

ADRIÁN BINIEZ was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1974. A former singer and composer for Argentinean indie pop band, Reverb, Biniez has also worked as an actor and scriptwriter. After two award-winning short films, Biniez made *Giant*, his debut feature.



THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO

Sweden/Denmark 2009, Swedish with English subtitles, 35 mm, 152 min

Director: Niels Arden Oplev

Screenplay: Nikolaj Arcel, Rasmus Heisterberg

Cinematographer: Jens Fischer, Eric Kress

Cast: Michael Nyqvist, Noomi Rapace, Lena Endre, Peter Haber

Print Source: Nu Metro

When Harriet Vanger disappeared from a family gathering forty years ago on the island owned and inhabited by the powerful Vanger clan, her body was never found, yet her uncle remains convinced that it was murder and that the killer is a member of his own tight knit, dysfunctional family. He employs disgraced financial journalist Mikael Blomkvist and the ruthless, tattooed computer hacker Lisbeth Salander to investigate his niece's death.

When the pair link Harriet's disappearance to a number of grotesque murders from the same period, they begin to unravel a dark and appalling family history. But the Vanger's are a secretive clan, and Blomkvist and Salander are about to find out just how far they are prepared to go to protect themselves. Based on the best-selling book from Stieg Larsson, who died suddenly in 2004, leaving behind three unpublished novels, this is an immersive, beautifully crafted thriller.

Filmmaker in attendance

30 Suncoast A 21h00; 01 Musgrave A 20h00

NIELS ARDEN OPLEV graduated from the National Film School of Denmark and went on to direct numerous successful short films, documentaries and television dramas. His award-winning 2006 feature *We Shall Overcome* was the highest grossing Danish film of the year. *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo* is the most successful Scandinavian film in history.



HARRY BROWN

UK 2009, English, Video, 103 min

Director: Daniel Barber

Screenplay: Gary Young

Cinematographer: Martin Ruhe

Cast: Michael Caine, Emily Mortimer, Charlie Creed-Miles, David Bradley

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

In *Harry Brown*, Michael Caine plays a retired soldier who, after the death of his wife, has resigned himself to a life of solace in his London apartment in an increasingly crime-ridden public housing complex. Brown tries to ignore the drug dealing and violence that is growing around him but when his best friend Leonard is killed by gang members while travelling through their territory, something in him snaps and the pensioner turns vigilante. While the police seem powerless in the face of the crime wave, Brown's one man army quickly begins to impact on the criminal world. But his actions reveal a darkness at the heart of Harry Brown – he brandishes his weapons with a little too much enthusiasm and his 'interrogation techniques' are a little too enhanced.

This is an astonishing debut feature from British filmmaker Daniel Barber whose short film *The Tonto Woman* earned him an Oscar nomination. With overtones of the western genre and another flawless performance from Caine, this is an accessible and powerful film that is not afraid to ask difficult questions about the nature of society and violence.

23 Musgrave B 20h00; 25 Musgrave B 22h30; 31 Suncoast B 16h00

DANIEL BARBER was born in London and has worked as a graphic designer and commercials director. His short film *The Tonto Woman* was nominated for an Academy Award in 2008. *Harry Brown* is his first feature film.



HEIRAN

Iran 2009, Farsi with English subtitles, 35mm, 88 min

Director: Shalizeh Arefpour

Screenplay: Shalizeh Arefpour, Naghmeh Samini

Cinematographer: Hossein Jafarian

Cast: Farhad Aslani, Baran Kosari, Zhaleh Sameti, Mehrdad Sedighian

Print Source: Sheherazad Media International

In this touching tale, a young schoolgirl named Mahi (Baran Kosari) falls in love with Afghani immigrant Hieran (Mehrdad Sedighian). But her family opposes the union and when her father finds out that he has been living illegally he gets him fired from his job. In his search for a new job Hieran heads for Tehran while Mahi waits patiently for him at home. When she doesn't hear from him, she heads after him with her grandfather in tow on a bizarre train journey. She eventually tracks down Hieran and, with the blessings of her grandfather, the couple get married. But Hieran's employment as an itinerant worker is unstable and the young couple's troubles are far from over.

Heiran is a moving account of one man's story which echoes the situation of both the three million illegal Afghani workers in Iran and similar situations all over the globe.

24 Suncoast A 14h00; 29 Musgrave A 22h15;
31 Suncoast A 14h00

SHALIZEH AREFPOUR was born in Tehran in 1970. She is a cinema graduate from the Filmmaking Training Center. She has directed a number of short films and documentaries including *Under The Skin Of Baran* (2001), *The Goel in the Dark* (2003) and *The Shadow of the Moon* (2004). *Heiran* is her debut feature.



THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES OF HANNA HOEKOM (DIE ONGELOOFLIKE AVONTURE VAN HANNA HOEKOM)

South Africa 2010, Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 90 min

Director: Regardt van den Bergh

Screenplay: Gustav Kuhn

Cinematographer: Tom Marais

Cast: Anna-Mart van der Merwe, Gys de Villiers, Anneke Weidemann, Tertius Meintjies, Helene Lombard

Print Source: Nu Metro

Hanna is an intelligent and imaginative young girl and the next teen writing sensation. She has earned herself the nickname 'Hoekom', because she is forever questioning life, the status quo and the universe. When her eccentric mother, who wears paintbrushes in her hair, decides that the family – including her gay biological dad, an actor stepfather, a detestable half-brother and two stepbrothers – should spend their winter holiday in a remote house on a mountain as a type of extended 'family honeymoon', they end up stranded with nowhere to go and no one to turn to except each other.

Based on the top-selling children's novel by Marita van der Vyver, and directed by Regardt van den Bergh (*Faith Like Potatoes*), this is an endearing coming-of-age dramatic comedy seen through the eyes of a teenager.

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Sneddon 18h00

REGARDT VAN DEN BERGH made his directing debut in 1980 in the field of television. His first feature, *Boetie Gaan Border Toe* (1984), broke box office records in South Africa. Subsequent films such as *Faith Like Potatoes* (2006) and *Hansie* (2008) ensured van den Bergh's status as one of South Africa's foremost film directors.

CLOSING FILM



THE INFIDEL

UK 2010, English, 35mm, 105 min

Director: Josh Appignanesi

Screenplay: David Baddiel

Cinematographer: Natasha Braier

Cast: Omid Djalili, Richard Schiff, Archie Panjabi, Amit Shah, Yigal Naor

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

Mini-cab driver Mahmud (Omid Djalili) is a loving husband, doting father and a devout but undogmatic Muslim. After his mother dies, however, his world is turned upside when he finds his birth certificate and discovers that not only was he adopted at birth, but he's actually Jewish and his real name is Solly Shimshillewitz! As the somewhat distressed Mahmud-now-Solly tumbles headlong into a full scale identity crisis, the only person he can turn to is an alcoholic Jewish cabbie (Richard Schiff) who agrees to give him lessons in the fine art of Jewishness.

This exploration of religious identity is highly entertaining and very funny indeed. Written by British comedian David Baddiel, with confident but sensitive direction from Josh Appignanesi, *The Infidel* asks some serious and complex questions in between the laughs but it remains a tender, warm-hearted film that resists the temptation to edge into subversive satire. With a wonderful performance from Djalili at its centre, this is a charming and intelligent film.

31 Suncoast – Supernova 18h30; 01 Sneddon 20h00

British film director, producer and screenwriter **JOSH APPIGNANESI** is best known for his 2006 feature film *Song of Songs* which won several awards. Appignanesi has also written and directed a number of award-winning short films including *Little Man* which was shot in Cape Town in 2004.



JOZI KINGS

South Africa 2010, English, Ibo, Tswana and Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 95 min

Director: Jonathan Boynton-Lee and Jamie Ramsay

Screenplay: Justice Umeh

Cinematographer: Jamie Ramsay and Craig Marchalik

Cast: Anele Beke, Prince O Sechukuvu, Itumeleng Lobelo

Print Source: Black Irish Productions

When Chuks (Anele Beke) arrives in Johannesburg with the hope of changing his life for the better, little does he know that he will soon be riding a wave of drugs, love and betrayal. Amid the hustle and bustle of contemporary downtown Johannesburg, he is soon pulled down into the undercurrent of crime in a world where only the strongest survive. For those who dare, this is a world of abundant wealth and success and the chance to become the King of Jozi but much has to be sacrificed along the way.

Jozi Kings is a portrait of a group of people involved in a wide range of criminal activity. But more than anything, it is a film about staying sane in an insane world. The film shows the real Johannesburg, revealing the beauty as well as the grit and grime of one of the world's most mythologised cities. Filled with betrayal, action, and violence, *Jozi Kings* is a rollercoaster ride through a chaotic society.

Filmmakers in attendance

26 Suncoast B 22h15; 28 Ekhaya 18h00

JONATHAN BOYNTON-LEE began his career writing, directing and performing in theatre before venturing into television and film. He has been voted by South African audiences as one of the country's top twelve directors and participated in Talent Campus Durban in 2009. Twenty-four-year-old **JAMIE RAMSAY** studied filmmaking at AFDA and was the director of photography on Oliver Hermanus' award-winning *Shirley Adams* (2009).



KAMUI (KAMUI GAIDEN)

Japan 2009, Japanese with English subtitles, 35mm, 120 min

Director: Yoichi Sai

Screenplay: Kankurō Kudō, Yoichi Sai

Cinematographer: Tomoo Ezaki, Junichi Fujisawa

Cast: Ken'ichi Matsuyama, Koyuki, Suzuka Ohgo, Sei Ashina,

Print Source: Shochiku

Kamui is a live action adaptation of the manga classic *The Legend of Kamui*, originally published in the '60s and early '70s and subsequently adapted for television and translated into English. This new version, directed by Japanese-Korean filmmaker Yoichi Sai, is one of the most expensive Japanese films ever made. Starring the prolific cult actor Kenichi Matsuyama as the brooding title character, *Kamui* tells the story of a 17th century rebel ninja who is unlucky in love and ostracised by his peers. On the run, and in search of real freedom, Kamui is constrained by the oaths he has taken as a ninja and by the idea that weakness equals death. But when he is brought by fate to an old fisherman's village, he finally starts opening up to others.

Sai's faithful recreation of the two dimensional world of the manga series is beautifully rendered, balancing reverence for the original series with an embrace of the liberating technologies of 21st century cinema. Highly entertaining and packed with visual jokes, this is one of the finest ninja movies ever made.

27 Nouveau 18h00; 29 Sneddon 20h30

YOICHI SAI was born in Nagano, Japan in 1949 and studied film at the Yonsei University of Korea. Sai sprang to fame following his 1993 film *Tsuki, Ha Docchi Ni Deteiru*. His 2004 film *Quill* was a box office hit. Sai has over fifty awards to his name.



THE KILLER INSIDE ME

USA 2009 English, 35mm, 109 min

Director: Michael Winterbottom

Screenplay: John Curran, Jim Thompson, Michael Winterbottom

Cinematographer: Marcel Zyskind

Cast: Casey Affleck, Kate Hudson, Jessica Alba, Ned Beatty

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

Based on the noir novel of the same name by cult writer Jim Thompson and directed by the prolifically talented Michael Winterbottom, *The Killer Inside Me* takes us into the life of small town lawman Deputy Sheriff Lou Ford (Casey Affleck). Good looking, charming and unassuming, Ford's life has evolved into an ongoing stream of problems involving women and the law. Meanwhile, the victims of a serial killer keep piling up in his West Texas jurisdiction and, when a local prostitute (Jessica Alba) is murdered, Ford himself comes under suspicion. But in this bleak and savage world, nothing is ever what it seems, and so begins a descent into unrestrained violence and evil.

With a career-changing performance from Affleck, *The Killer Inside Me* is every bit as dark and disturbing as Thompsons' novel. Masterfully directed and gorgeously photographed, this flawless film from Winterbottom is a remarkably intelligent exploration of violence and the underlying human emotions which catalyse it.

24 Musgrave B 20h00; 28 Sneddon 20h00; 01 Suncoast B 20h00

Prolific director **MICHAEL WINTERBOTTOM** was born in Blackburn, Lancashire. His numerous films represent possibly the most striking and varied body of work of any British director to emerge from the late 20th century. He has directed sixteen films in the past thirteen years, and received numerous awards.



LEBANON

Israel/France/UK 2009, English, Hebrew, Arabic and French with English subtitles, 35mm, 93 min

Director: Samuel Maoz

Screenplay: Samuel Maoz

Cinematographer: Giora Bejach

Cast: Yoav Doat, Itay Tiran, Oshri Cohen, Michael Moshanov

Print Source: Tamasa Distribution

Lebanon takes place on the first day of the 1982 First Lebanon War, when a lone tank and a platoon of paratroopers head off to search a hostile town that has already been bombed by the Israeli Air Force. The apparently straightforward mission turns into a nightmare and the four platoon members, none of whom have ever fought in a war before, soon lose control of the situation. While *Lebanon* is ostensibly about a specific conflict that took place between two countries, it is really about all wars and all conflicts, in its depiction of the desperate attempts of its four protagonists to maintain their sanity and humanity amid the overwhelming chaos.

With a masterful screenplay and superb cinematography which takes you directly into the action, this visceral and claustrophobic account of the torments of war is a raw, bold and disturbing first film from director Samuel Maoz. Those who found themselves moved by Kathryn Bigelow's *The Hurt Locker* will find *Lebanon* every bit as engaging.

24 Sneddon 22h30; 01 Nouveau 20h00

SAMUEL MAOZ is an Israeli film director born in 1962. Maoz trained as a cameraman at the Academy of Art Beit Tzvi. *Lebanon* is based on Moaz's personal experience as a twenty-year-old soldier in 1982 and won the Golden Lion at the 66th Venice International Film Festival.



LIFE DURING WARTIME

USA 2009, English, 35mm, 98 min

Director: Todd Solondz

Screenplay: Todd Solondz

Cinematographer: Ed Lachman

Cast: Shirley Henderson, Michael K Williams, Rosslyn Ruff, Allison Janney

Print Source: Fortissimo Films

This latest feature from one of America's most talented leftfield writer-directors is a sequel of sorts to his disturbing, emotionally raw 1998 masterpiece *Happiness*. For *Life During Wartime*, Solondz has resurrected the central characters from his earlier film, once more following the intersecting narrative of a group of middle class residents of Miami. Using different actors and set ten years later, the result is an unforgettable and darkly comic triumph and may be the director's best work yet.

Walking the line between tenderness and brutality, Solondz once again extracts a strange warmth from the obsessions and perversions of his troubled, alienated characters. While those familiar with the first film will delight in seeing the characters a decade later, *Life During Wartime* is spell-binding as a stand-alone narrative which chronicles the universal experience of trying to find a place for yourself in an unpredictable and chaotic world. Consummately directed, with stellar performances from an outstanding ensemble cast and superb cinematography from Ed Lachman.

24 Musgrave A 20h15; 30 Sneddon 20h00

Graduate of New York University Film School, **TODD SOLONDZ** was born in Newark, New Jersey. Solondz is renowned for his dark, thought-provoking, socially conscious and satirical filmmaking style with which he examines the dark underbelly of American suburbia. His work includes the award-winning *Happiness*, *Storytelling* and *Palindromes*.



LOOSE CANNONS (MINE VAGANTI)

Italy 2009, Italian with English subtitles, 35mm, 110 min

Director: Ferzan Ozpetek

Screenplay: Ferzan Ozpetek and Ivan Cotroneo

Cinematographer: Maurizio Calvesi

Cast: Riccardo Scarmarcio, Alessandro Preziosi, Nicole Grimaudo, Ennio

Print Source: Fandango Portobello

This latest film from Ferzan Ozpetek (*Saturno Contro, The Turkish Baths*) is a delightful coming-out story involving a wealthy pasta-making family from southern Italy. Tommaso, the youngest son, tells his older brother Antonio that he is going to reveal to his family that he's gay. But at the dinner table that night, Antonio beats him to it and confesses to his own homosexual activity, causing their father to have a heart attack.

Now Tommaso, who lives a secret life with his lover in Rome, is stuck running the pasta factory because his brother has been excommunicated by his father, who is recovering in hospital. And so begins a rollicking tragicomedy which unfolds the complex intersections of family and sexuality. With touching performances, and overflowing with double entendres, *Loose Cannons* has more in common with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* than it does with the language of contemporary queer cinema. This broadly comic tale about always being true to oneself is another sterling addition to Ozpetek's body of work.

24 Musgrave A 16h00; 01 Musgrave B 18h00

Born in Istanbul and schooled in Italy, **FERZAN OZPETEK** worked as an assistant director before making his directorial debut in 1996 with the internationally acclaimed *Hamam*. After numerous successful films, Ozpetek was offered a retrospective by the Museum of Modern Art in New York.



MACHANSA

South Africa 2009, English, Zulu and Xhosa with English subtitles, 35mm, 106 min

Director: Muntu Zwane

Screenplay: Siyabonga Shibe

Cinematographer: Collin Rematlo

Cast: Siyabonga Shibe, Mnatha Vika, Nkonzo Zwane, Maggy Williams, Thami Africa, Themi Mntambo, Luzuko Nkqeto

Print Source: Siyabonga Shibe

Machansa, a heart-warming comedy, tells of a successful middle-class businessman who has a severe gambling problem and is living on the streets as a result of a bet he made with his former business partner. Now Machansa must survive a year without gambling if he is to regain control of his company and return to middle-class life.

Boisterous, tender and deeply human, *Machansa* is an engaging comedy and an insightful comment on the culture of conspicuous consumerism that is increasingly defining life in South Africa. Siyabonga Shibe, who audiences will know from his appearances in *Gaz'lam* and *Bay of Plenty* gives a memorable performance as the eponymous lead character, giving Machansa a full and deep humanity even as he locates him in a slapstick existence. With a great supporting cast, this low-budget production is a genuine delight, and also an insightful comment on the artificial strictures of class.

Filmmakers in attendance

24 Ekhaya 18h00; 27 Luthuli 14h00; 31 Ekhaya 18h00

MUNTU ZWANE was born in Mabopane and studied speech and drama at Fuba Academy in the late eighties. Zwane has worked as a television director for many years, directing the award-winning drama series *Soul Buddyz* and *Bay of Plenty*. He is a former South African Film and Television Awards Best Director nominee.



MAMMOTH

Sweden/Denmark/Germany 2009, English, Tagalog and Thai with English subtitles, 35mm, 125min

Director: Lukas Moodysson

Screenplay: Lukas Moodysson

Cinematographer: Marcel Zyskind

Cast: Gael Garcia Bernal, Michelle Williams, Marife Necesito, Natthamonkam Srinikornchot

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

In this immaculately executed piece of cinema from Swedish director Lukas Moodysson, Gael Garcia Bernal plays Leo Vidales, a successful dot.com entrepreneur who is in Thailand to sign a big contract when he meets a beautiful Thai girl, who is under no illusions about the transient nature of their relationship. Meanwhile his doctor wife (Michelle Williams) is at home, struggling with the ennui of her daily existence, while their domestic Filipino worker is desperately missing her children.

Beautifully made and layered with discomfiting tension, this is an emotionally precise study of the impact of globalisation on our lives, hearts and minds. With remarkable performances from the ensemble cast, *Mammoth* feels like a riveting thriller, but it is really an intensely observed psychodrama about life on earth, detailing the ripple effects caused by life's smallest choices, and the mammoth ironies that bind us all together. Beautifully filmed, with immaculate direction and editing, *Mammoth* marks Moodysson as one of global cinema's strongest talents.

24 Musgrave A 22h15; 30 Musgrave A 18h00; 31 Sneddon 22h15

LUKAS MOODYSSON was born in Malmö in 1969 and studied at the Dramatiska Institutet in Sweden. His first feature film *Fucking Åmål* won four Guldbagge awards including Best Film. Other films by the director include *Together* (2000) and *Lilya 4-ever* (2002).



ME, TOO (YO, TAMBIÉN)

Spain 2009, Spanish with English subtitles, 35mm, 120 min

Director: Alvaro Pastor, Antonio Naharro

Screenplay: Alvaro Pastor, Antonio Naharro

Cinematographer: Alfonso Postigo

Cast: Pablo Pineda, Antonio Naharro, Pedro Alvarez Osorio, Isabel Garcia Lorca, Lola Duenas

Print Source: The Match Factory

Me, Too is the story of Daniel (Pablo Pineda), a Spanish man with Down's Syndrome whose mother decided when he was little that he was just as capable as anyone else of going to university. And so Daniel came to earn a degree in educational psychology and now lives the life of a 'normal' person. But when he meets and falls in love with Lara (Lola Duenas), who seems apparently normal but has a disability of a different kind, Daniel's parallel realities become entangled. *Me, Too* is a quirky and affectionate film that asks some serious questions about sexuality, disability and that pervasive but intangible thing we call 'normal'. The film explores the challenges we all face when looking for love and the ways in which stereotypes of all kinds derail that process.

With astonishing performances from its two leads, *Me, Too* deals sensitively and intelligently with the main issues at hand. This first film from writer-directors Alvaro Pastor and Antonio Naharro establishes them as major talents to watch.

24 Musgrave A 22h15; 30 Musgrave A 18h00; 31 Sneddon 22h15

ALVARO PASTOR was born in 1972 in Madrid, Spain. He has directed a number of short films, usually alongside actor, writer, director and producer **ANTONIO NAHORRO**. The two-man directing unit has picked up awards for Best New Director for *Me, Too* and Best Short Film for *Uno más, uno menos* (2002) at the Goya Awards amongst others.



**MEMORIES OF A BURNING TREE
(KUMBUKUMBU ZA MTI UUNGUAO)**

Tanzania 2009, Swahili with English subtitles, 35mm, 86 min

Director: Sherman Ong

Screenplay: Peter Mbwago, Hamis Mtwinga, Sherman Ong

Cinematographer: Sherman Ong

Cast: Smith Kimaro, Link Reuben, Abdul Khalfan Malaika, Khalid Saleh Bilal

Print Source: International Film Festival Rotterdam

Commissioned by the International Film Festival Rotterdam for their Forget Africa programme, *Memories of a Burning Tree* is the work of Singaporean director Sherman Ong who made the film in Tanzania and shot it in the native Swahili language. The result is a riveting, multilayered ensemble piece that is a truly global in its intent.

The film's narrative centres on a man known only as Smith who arrives in Dar es Salaam to tie up some loose ends. He quickly meets Link, a tourist guide, who agrees to help him. Along the way they receive further assistance in their quest from Abdul, a grave digger, and Toatoa, a metal scavenger, who themselves are searching for the answers to their own questions. Eventually the group's search leads them to the realisation that this is a never-ending journey, full of dreams and disappointments.

Beautifully photographed and made with a cast of non-actors and an improvised script, this is a stirring and original tribute to the road movie genre.

24 Suncoast B 22h15; 31 Suncoast B 14h00

SHERMAN ONG is an award-winning Singaporean filmmaker, photographer and educator. Straddling fiction and documentary, his films have been shown in Europe, the US, Brazil and Asia and have won awards in Hong Kong, Greece, Italy, Indonesia and Malaysia. Other films include *Hashi* (2008) and *Wanita yang berlari* (2003).



METROPIA

Sweden/Denmark/Norway/Finland 2010, English, 35mm, 86 min

Director: Tarik Saleh

Screenplay: Fredrik Edin, Tarik Saleh, Stig Larsson

Cinematographer: Sesse Lind

Cast: Vincent Gallo, Juliette Lewis, Udo Kier, Stellan Skarsgård,

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

This exquisite animated film takes place in a near future where oil reserves are running dry and Europe's underground subways are all connected to each other. Navigating the web of tunnels, the film's protagonist, Roger (Vincent Gallo), hears voices in his head, with one in particular dominating his thoughts. In his attempts to rid himself of the voice, he combines forces with super-model Nina (Juliette Lewis) and discovers a bizarre mind control conspiracy at the centre of society. *Metropia's* distinct and striking visual style, combined with its mesmerising story, makes it an instant cult classic. Highly innovative but never gratuitous in its use of technology, the film's eerily unsettling animation uses digitally manipulated footage to create a remarkable hybrid of animation and live action. *Metropia's* vision is heavily indebted to Orwell, Kafka and Terry Gilliam's *Brazil*, and like most science fiction it is really a parable for our contemporary reality, in this case a world where advertising and multinationals are the dominant influences of our time.

23 Sneddon 22h15; 27 Musgrave A 22h15; 30 Musgrave A 22h45

Egyptian-Swedish director, animator, publisher, journalist and television producer **TARIK SALEH** was born in Stockholm in 1972. Saleh has directed numerous award-winning documentaries. He has also worked as a television presenter and was, in the nineties, one of Sweden's most prominent graffiti artists.



THE MILK OF SORROW (LA TETA ASUSTADA)

Spain/Peru 2009, Spanish and Quechua with English subtitles, 35mm, 95 min

Director: Claudia Llosa

Screenplay: Claudia Llosa

Cinematographer: Natasha Braier

Cast: Magaly Solier, Susi Sanchez, Efrain Solis, Marino Ballon, Antolin Prieto

Print Source: The Match Factory

This powerful drama tells of the beautiful Fausta, who suffers from a rare disease called The Milk of Sorrow, which is transmitted through the breast milk of pregnant women who are raped during or soon after pregnancy. Fausta, who lives in constant fear and confusion as a result of the disease, embarks on a quest to finally grant her mother a proper burial. *The Milk of Sorrow* is an account of one person's search for wholeness and a metaphor for the damage inflicted on the Peruvian people by the civil conflict of the 1980s and 1990s. The film, which won the Golden Bear at Berlin, was inspired by a study of the effects of the war on Peruvian women by a Harvard anthropologist and deals with the mythology of grief and suffering from a feminist perspective.

This good-looking second film by Claudia Llosa (the niece of famous novelist Maria Vargas Llosa) is a vividly observed portrait of life and loss in rural Peru.

26 Musgrave A 18h00; 01 Musgrave A 14h00

Peruvian writer and director **CLAUDIA LLOSA** holds a degree in Communication Studies from the University of Lima. Llosa also studied at the film academy Escuela TAI. Her first film *Madeinusa*, won numerous awards at film festivals across the world. *The Milk Of Sorrow* was nominated for an Academy Award.



MOTHER (MADEO)

South Korea 2009, Korean with English subtitles, 35mm, 128 min

Director: Bong Joon-ho

Screenplay: Bong Joon-ho, Park Eun-kyo

Cinematographer: Kyung-Pyo Hong

Cast: Won Bin, Kim Hye-Ja, Jin Goo

Print Source: CJ Entertainment

Director Bong Joon-ho, responsible for the 2007 DIFF hit, *The Host*, has made a very different film with *Mother*, a deeply moving account of the relationship between a single mother and her emotionally fragile adult son. Twenty-something Do-joon (Weon Bin) is the son of feisty acupuncturist Hye-ja (Kim Hye-ja) and her reason for living. He is also naive, slightly simple and completely dependent on his mother.

One night, on the way home, he encounters a young girl on her own and follows her for a while. When the girl is found dead in an abandoned building, Do-joon is accused of her murder. As a result of an ineffectual police force and an uncaring lawyer, the young man is quickly found guilty despite minimal investigation and the circumstantial nature of the evidence.

But his mother refuses to allow that to be the end of things, and takes it upon herself to prove her son's innocence. With a superb performance at its centre, *Mother* is an intense and complex portrait of a mother's devotion stripped of all sentimentality.

26 Nouveau 18h00; 30 Sneddon 22h00; 01 Suncoast A 20h00

Coming from an artistic family, **BONG JOON-HO** decided to become a filmmaker at a fairly young age. His first feature film *Barking Dogs Never Bite*, became widely known in his home country and his 2003 film *Memories of Murder*, awarded him both commercial success and critical acclaim. His 2007 film *The Host* played at a number of festivals around the world.



MUNDANE HISTORY

Thailand 2009, Thai with English subtitles, 35mm, 82 min

Director: Anocha Suwichakornpong

Screenplay: Anocha Suwichakornpong

Cinematographer: Ming Kai Leung

Cast: Arkanæ Cherkam, Paramej Noiam, Anchana Ponpitakthepkij, Phakpoom Surapongsanuruk

Print Source: Pascale Ramonda

Mundane History explores the three-way relationship between a young man who is paralysed from the waist down, the male nurse who attends to him and the young man's father. Newly disabled in the wake of an accident, Pun (Arkanæ Cherkam) is initially cold, petulant and unengaging towards his nurse Ake (Phakpoom Surapongsanurak). But Pun's manner doesn't throw Ake off and he continues to look after him with earnestness and sincere compassion. Eventually Pun starts to open up and the two young men begin to talk candidly to each other. At the same time, Pun also comes to terms with his newly imposed physical limitation and the difficult relationship he has with his father (Paramej Noiam).

Mundane History is an intimate and life affirming film that takes a multitude of issues in its conversational stride. Idiosyncratically edited and paced, this is an impressive debut effort from director Anocha Suwichakornpong. Shot on a tiny budget, this ambitious drama won a Tiger at Rotterdam.

27 Suncoast A 18h00; 01 Nouveau 18h00

Scriptwriter, director and producer **ANOCHA SUWICHAKORNpong** was born in Thailand in 1976. She spent the 1990s in the UK where she attended universities and graduated with bachelor and masters degrees. She then received her MFA at Columbia University. *Mundane History* is her debut feature.



MY GOOD ENEMY (MIN BESTE FJEND)

Denmark 2010, Danish with English subtitles, 35mm, 90 min

Director: Oliver Ussing

Screenplay: Oliver Ussing, Søren Grinderslev Hansen

Cinematographer: Charlotte Bruus Christensen

Cast: Nikolaj Støvring Hansen, Katrin Alfredsdottir, Rasmus Lind Rubin, Jonas Eilskov Jensen

Print Source: Danish Film Institute

This charming film tells the story of young Alf who has had enough of being bullied and humiliated at school. He decides to take action against his tormentors and begins by allying himself with a classmate. Together they form a secret pact and, inspired by the struggles of Niccolo, the hero of a Manga comic book, the two underdogs challenge the structure of power in the classroom.

By disturbing the hierarchy, they change the rules of the game. Or do they? The manga comic Niccolo is a adaptation of Italian political philosopher Niccolò Machiavelli's famous 1513 work *The Prince*. The comic was created specifically for this movie and was written by director Oliver Ussing and screenwriter Søren Grinderslev Hansen, with Spanish artist Ignacio Ferraras illustrating.

28 Sneddon 11h00; 01 Nouveau 12h00

OLIVER USSING was born in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1970 and graduated in Film and Media Studies. He made his feature directorial debut with the appealing romantic comedy *Rule #1* in 2003. Ussing has also worked as a script consultant for a number of established directors.



NOTHING PERSONAL

Ireland/Netherlands 2009, English, 35mm, 85 min

Director: Urszula Antoniak

Screenplay: Urszula Antoniak

Cinematographer: Daniel Bouquet

Cast: Lotte Verbeek, Stephen Rea

Print Source: Bavaria Film International

This impressive debut feature from Polish director Urszula Antoniak explores the limits of solitude and the need for human companionship. Alone in her empty flat, Anne (Lotte Verbeek) watches her personal belongings which she has left on the pavement being snatched up by passers-by. She is leaving Holland for a new life in Ireland and, as a final gesture, she takes a ring off her finger. Once in Ireland, she leads a lonely life, striding aimlessly through the austerity of the local landscape. But Anne's solace is interrupted when she discovers a hermit named Martin (Steven Rea).

When he offers her food in exchange for gardening work, she accepts the deal, but won't answer any questions or divulge her name. Gradually the two gravitate towards each other, although little about their interactions is predictable. Verbeek won the best actress prize at Locarno for her performance in this gorgeously observed study in the limits of solace. *Nothing Personal* marks Antoniak as a directorial talent to watch.

24 Nouveau 16h00; 31 Sneddon 18h00

URSZULA ANTONIAK graduated from both Polish and Dutch Film Academies. Her television film *Bijlmer Odyssey* was one of the few Dutch television productions sold in numerous territories in and outside Europe. *Nothing Personal* has won more than eleven awards including Best First Film at the Locarno International Film Festival.



NYMPH (NANG MAI)

Thailand 2009, Thai with English subtitles, 35mm,

109 min

Director: Pen-Ek Ratanaruang

Screenplay: Pen-Ek Ratanaruang

Cinematographer: Chankit Chamnivaikpong

Cast: Pornnip Papanai, Wanida Termthanaporn, Chamanun Wanwinwatsara, Noppachai Chainam

Print Source: Fortissimo Films

Thai director Pen-ek Ratanaruang (*Last Life in the Universe, Ploy*) returns to DIFF with this off-kilter tale of an urban husband and wife whose frayed relationship has little life left in it. May and Nop barely talk to each other anymore and signs of physical attraction are even rarer. Nonetheless, May decides to travel with Nop on a photography trip deep into the jungle where two men were mysteriously struck dead while attempting to rape a woman. The husband becomes seduced by the spirit of the jungle while May ventures into the darkness to look for answers of her own.

But what begins as a metaphysical ghost story set against the wilderness of the jungle landscape, gradually turns into an exploration of a disintegrating relationship and a haunting meditation on what it means to love another person. Gorgeously photographed and beautifully paced, with great performances from the central characters, *Nymph* is another thoughtfully constructed low-key masterpiece from this modern auteur.

27 Suncoast A 22h15; 31 Sneddon 20h00; Suncoast A 20h00

Writer and director **PEN-EK RATANARUANG** was born in 1962 in Bangkok, Thailand. Ratanaruang made his debut feature film, *Fun Bar Karaoke* in 1997 and followed with titles such as *Ruang Talok 69* and *Monrak Transistor*. Ratanaruang is considered to be one of Thai cinema's leading New Wave auteurs.



PEPPERMINTA

Switzerland/Austria 2009, German with English subtitles, 35mm, 80 min

Director: Pipilotti Rist

Screenplay: Pipilotti Rist, Chris Niemeyer

Cinematographer: Pierre Mennel

Cast: Ewelina Guzik, Sven Pippig, Sabine Timoteo, Elisabeth Orth

Print Source: The Match Factory

This marvellous film from acclaimed Swiss video artist Pipilotti Rist chronicles the imaginative world of the red-haired Pepperminta, a young, cheerful anarchist who is determined to spread her rainbow coloured vision into the grey and boring world of mainstream reality. The endearing Pepperminta lives in a multicoloured house with a magical bathtub and a special fridge in which she stores her menstrual blood. Colours are her friends and she makes pets of both strawberries and snails.

Together with her shy and overweight lover (Sven Pippig) and her beautiful best friend (Sabine Timoteo) who talks to tulips, she sets out on a journey towards a better and more compassionate world. Wherever these three musketeers appear, things take a turn for crazy as they go around transforming people's lives in the most gentle and colourful way.

With a perfectly appropriate soundtrack, flamboyant cinematography and frenetic editing, this is an exuberant and eye-opening journey into a very special world filled with miracles and wonders.

23 Nouveau 18h00; 31 Musgrave A 14h00

Born Elizabeth Charlotte Rist, **PIPILOTTI RIST** is a popular video artist who grew up in Switzerland and now lives and works in Zurich and Los Angeles. Rist studied at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna and later studied video at the School of Design in Basel, Switzerland. *Pepperminta* is her first feature.



R

Denmark 2010, with English subtitles, 35mm, 95 min

Director: Michael Noer, Tobias Lindholm

Screenplay: Michael Noer, Tobias Lindholm

Cinematographer: Magnus Nordenhof Jønck

Cast: Johan Philip Asbæk, Dulfri Al-Jabouri, Roland Møller, Jacob Gredsted

Print Source: Danish Film Institute

This riveting prison drama comes from young Danish directors Michael Noer and Tobias Lindholm. At the beginning of the film, a young man named Rune (Pilou Asbæk) arrives in Denmark's toughest prison to serve a sentence for violent assault. Reduced to a mere letter, the cocky, good-looking R is placed in the most hardcore ward where he is just another inmate in a parallel world filled with rules, honour and debts. In this world, bars cover the windows, blood stains the floor and R's future depends on him quickly adapting to his new reality. Here he must find his place in the system and fight for his survival. Along the way, he makes friends with a young Muslim prisoner named Rachid. Rachid becomes Rune's friend and accomplice, defying the rigid racial stratifications that exist among the inmates.

Filmed in a real prison with ex-con extras and a fearless performance from Pilou Asbæk, this raw and brutal film is a powerful comment on the prison system.

28 Suncoast B 22h30; 31 Suncoast A 20h15

MICHAEL NOER was born 1978 in Denmark. Noer graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 2003. He has several award-winning documentary films to his name. *R* is his feature film debut, alongside fellow film school graduate, **TOBIAS LINDHOLM**. Lindholm has written for television and scripted Thomas Vinterberg's *Submarino* which was nominated for a Golden Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival earlier this year.



SEX&DRUGS&ROCK&ROLL

UK 2010, English, 35mm, 115 min

Director: Mat Whitecross

Screenplay: Paul Viragh

Cinematographer: Chris Ross

Cast: Andy Serkis, Naomie Harris, Olivia Williams, Bill Milner

Print Source: Metropolis International Sales

This mesmerising film chronicles the remarkable life of Ian Dury, one of British music's most important and unconventional singer-songwriters. Dury (played by Andy Serkis) was crippled by polio as a young boy but his determination, perseverance and talent led to him becoming one of the founders of the British punk movement in the 70s.

Taking an appropriately non-linear approach to Dury's life story, the film keeps his extraordinary music at its centre, in the form of a live performance punctuated by narrative strands which explores the singer's education at a school for the disabled, his relationship with his distant father (Ray Winstone) and the inability to commit emotionally to relationships which defined his personal life. With a furiously fiery performance from Serkis that humanises the mercurial darkness of Dury without ever domesticating him or even asking us to like him, this is one of the most energetic musical biopics you're ever likely to see .

23 Musgrave A 22h30; 25 Musgrave A 14h45

Thirty-year-old **MAT WHITECROSS** started making films at the age of thirteen using his father's camera. After co-directing *Road to Guantanamo* with Michael Winterbottom in 2006, Whitecross and Winterbottom came together again for the documentary *The Shock Doctrine* also screening at this festival. *Sex&Drugs&Rock&Roll* has been extremely well-received.



SLOVENIAN GIRL (SLOVENKA)

Slovenia/Germany 2009, English and Slovenian with English subtitles, 35mm, 87 min

Director: Damjan Kozole

Screenplay: Damjan Kozole, Matevž Luzar, Ognjen Sviličić

Cinematographer: Aleš Belak

Cast: Nina Ivanšič, Peter Musevki, Primož Pirnat, Maruša Kink

Print Source: M-Appeal

Slovenian Girl tells the story of the unnervingly beautiful Aleksandra, a gifted 23-year-old English-language student from a small town who is studying literature at university. Now living in Ljubljana, Aleksandra secretly runs personal ads under the nickname, 'The Slovenian Girl' and earns a remarkable amount of money from prostitution. She takes out a mortgage on a sleek modern apartment, buying expensive furnishings and generally living way beyond the means or dreams of any student. But when one her clients has a heart attack and turns out to be a member of the European Parliament, the double life of the Slovenian Girl is soon threatened.

Scared, alone and faced with the unwelcome attention of two pimps, the only person she seems to care about is her father, a faded singer from a rock band who can barely get by in life. With a superb performance from newcomer Nina Ivanšič, *Slovenian Girl* is an edgy and nuanced comment on the changing values of Eastern Europe.

26 Musgrave A 22h15; 31 Musgrave A 12h00

Acclaimed filmmaker **DAMJAN KOZOLE** was born in Brezice, Slovenia, then Yugoslavia. At the age of twenty-two, Kozole made his first feature film, *The Fatal Telephone*, one of the first independent films ever made in Slovenia. Kozole's 2003 film *Spare Parts* won numerous international awards.



SOUL BOY

Kenya/Germany 2010, Swahili with English subtitles, Video, 60 min

Director: Hawa Essuman

Screenplay: Billy Kahora

Cinematographer: Christian Almesberger

Cast: Samson Odhiambo, Leila Dayan Opou, Krysteen Savane, Frank Kimani, Joab Ogolla

Print Source: Hubert Bals Fund

When fourteen-year-old Abila's father (Joab Ogolla) tells him that his soul has been stolen because he is feeling too ill to open their tiny grocery shop, the young boy (Samson Odhiambo) takes matters into his own hands and confronts a female spirit who is said to steal the souls of men. The spirit gives Abi seven challenges to complete in exchange for the return of his father's soul, and along the way Abi learns wisdom and maturity from the spirit.

Raising the narrative beyond moral didacticism, the screenplay by Kenyan writer Billy Kahora covers a range of contemporary issues, from tribal tensions to campaigns for teen celibacy and HIV education. The film also contrasts the poverty and crime of the vast slum with the privileged milieu of white Kenyans in their gated communities. With great performances from its cast of non-actors, this energetic and heartfelt film from first time director Hawa Essuman is an insightful, moving and remarkably polished film for both children and adults.

Filmmakers in attendance

25 Suncoast B 20h00; 27 Sneddon 11h00; 29 Sneddon 11h00; 31 Musgrave B 14h00

Ghanian-Kenyan writer, director and producer **HAWA ESSUMAN** shares her time between film and television. In 2008, Essuman directed the television drama *Makutano Junction*. She is also working on two feature films, *The ? Of Being Selfish* and *The Lift*. *Soul Boy* is her debut feature.



SOUL KITCHEN

Germany 2009, German and Greek with English subtitles, 35mm, 99min

Director: Fatih Akin

Screenplay: Fatih Akin, Adam Bousdoukos

Cinematographer: Rainer Klausmann

Cast: Adam Bousdoukos, Moritz Bleibtreu, Pheline Roggan, Anna Bederke

Print Source: The Match Factory

This farcical comedy from the usually more serious Fatih Akin (*Head On*, *The Edge of Heaven*) tells the story of distraught restaurant owner Zinos (Adam Bousdoukos), whose girlfriend (Pheline Roggan) has just moved to Shanghai, and who is struggling to convince his regular customer base, who are used to deep-fried schnitzels and burgers, of the merits of his new haute cuisine chef. But even when a hipper crowd embraces the culinary perspective of the *Soul Kitchen*, Zinos remains too heartsore to function.

With this joyful and relatively harmonious portrait of multicultural Hamburg where property moguls, rock stars, hipster entrepreneurs and aging seamen collide, Akin, who is himself a Turkish German, provides a scathing commentary on the conflicts that take place elsewhere on the planet. Masterfully written, with lovingly developed characters, *Soul Kitchen* is reminiscent of a frenetic Marx Brothers' comedy in which chaos and coincidence are king. The film won the Special Jury Prize at the 2009 Venice Film Festival.

28 Suncoast A 22h15; 01 Musgrave A 18h00

FATIH AKIN was born of Turkish parentage in Hamburg in 1973. Akin studied Visual Communications at Hamburg's College of Fine Arts where he wrote and directed his first award-winning short film, *Sensin – You're The One!* (1994). His first feature film, *Short Sharp Shock* (1998) won the Bronze Leopard at Locarno.



STREET DAYS (QUCHIS DGEEBI)

Georgia 2010, English and Georgian with English

subtitles, 35mm, 86 min

Director: Levan Koguashvili

Screenplay: Levan Koguashvili, Boris Frumin, Nikoloz Marr

Cinematographer: Archil Akhvediani

Cast: Guga Kotetishvili, Irakli Ramishvili, George Kipshidze, Zura Begalishvili

Print Source: Ketii Machavariani

Street Days takes place in contemporary Georgia and tells the story of unemployed heroin addict Checkie, who came of age in the heady days of the early '90s. Two decades later, he is 45 and a textbook example of wasted potential. At the other end of the spectrum is his old classmate Zaza (Zura Sharia) who is now a successful government minister who is willing to help his old friend out in small ways every now and then. When he is arrested by the cops, Checkie is pressurised into introducing Zaza's son Ika (Irakli Ramishvili) to drugs, so that the police can in turn blackmail Zaza. In desperate need of money, Checkie agrees, but when the boy is about to shoot up, he reconsiders.

Street Days explores how people who are basically good cope with a world that demands more of them than they're capable of delivering. Checkie's addiction is neither demonised nor glamourised, but depicted as a crutch that offers very little relief. Beautifully shot, this is a wonderful example of contemporary neo-realism.

25 Nouveau 14h00; 31 Suncoast A 22h30

LEVAN KOGUASHVILI was born in Georgia in 1973. He studied Film at the Russian State Institute of Film and the New York University Graduate Film Program. Between 2002 and 2007, he lived in New York where he made several short films and documentaries. *Street Days* is his debut feature.



**TALES FROM THE GOLDEN AGE:
COMRADES LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL
(AMINTIRI DIN EPOCA DE AUR)**

**Romania/France 2009, Romanian with English subtitles,
35mm, 90 min**

Directors: Cristian Mungiu, Hanno Höfer, Razvan Marculescu, Constantin Popescu and Ioana Uricaru

Screenplay: Cristian Mungiu

Cinematographers: Oleg Mutu, Alex Sterian, Liviu Marghidan

Cast: Diana Cavallioti, Radu Iacoban, Vlad Ivanov Tania Popa, Liliana Mocanu, Alexandru Potocean, Teodor Corban, Emmanuel Parvu, Avram Birau, Virginia Mirea, Gabriel Spahiu, Avram Birau, Paul Dunca, Viorel Comanic.

Print Source: Voodoo Films

In *Tales from the Golden Age*, five different directors present their takes on urban legends of the late communist period in Romania. A village is brought to the edge of madness by the prospect of a motorcade, Ceausescu's hat causes a crisis, an attempt is made to discreetly murder a pig and two enterprising youngsters make money out of air.

Written, produced and co-directed by Cristian Mungiu (*4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days*), this gentle and unconventional satire mixes wry laughs and tiny tragedies to depict the madness of life in Romania under the iron hand of Nicolae Ceausescu. With its quintessentially Romanian balance of comedy and tragedy, *Tales from the Golden Age* is fine work from a group of promising filmmakers. The film's title is a reference to the fact that Ceausescu's propaganda machine referred to the period as the Romania's Golden Age when in fact it was the darkest time in the country's history.

24 Nouveau 18h00; 28 Musgrave A 22h30

CRISTIAN MUNGIU collaborated with directors **HANNO HÖFER**, **RAZVAN MARCULESCU**, **CONSTANTIN POPESCU** and **IOANA URICARU** to produce this darkly humorous Romanian New Wave film. True to the style, *Tales From a Golden Age* exhibits the dry black humour that kept Romanians alive through Nicolae Ceausescu's dictatorial era.



TRASH HUMPERS

USA/UK 2009, English, Video, 78 min

Director: Harmony Korine

Screenplay: Harmony Korine

Cinematographer: Harmony Korine

Cast: Harmony Korine, Rachel Korine, Brian Kotzur, Travis Nicholson

Print Source: Visit Films

Trash Humpers, the latest film from Harmony Korine, chronicles the exploits of a group of ultimate outsiders in middle America. A gang of masked miscreants (including Korine) perform an array of bizarre and grotesque activities on the urban edge of Nashville, Tennessee. Their pastimes include destroying televisions with sledgehammers, 'killing' plastic dolls, urinating indiscriminately and – yes – humping trash. Both completely appalling and utterly gripping, Korine's nightmare vision of contemporary America resonates with a dark poetry that compares the freedom of these social outcasts with the oppression of American mainstream reality. By the film's end this singular director has achieved a very strange triumph constructed from bizarre acting, bad make-up and what appears to be a deteriorated VHS cassette. *Trash Humpers* is a descent into another world, strangely beautiful in its determined ugliness and literally like nothing you've ever seen. With this latest film, which ignores all the premises and conventions of film, Korine shows himself to be working at the very edge of cinema.

27 MUSGRAVE B 22H15; 29 MUSGRAVE B 22H00

Writer of the popular and controversial 1995 film *Kids*, **HARMONY KORINE** is an American director, writer and producer born in 1973. Directing films such as *Gummo* (1997) and *Mister Lonely* (2007), Korine has been a prominent figure in independent film, music and art throughout the past decade.



VISA/VIE

South Africa 2010, English, Video, 75 min

Director: Elan Gamaker

Screenplay: Elan Gamaker

Cinematographer: Chris Wessels

Cast: Melodie Abad, David Isaacs, Keren Tahor, Charles Tertius

Print Source: Big World Cinema

Anna (Melodie Abad) is a French-Moroccan immigrant who is caught working illegally as a waitress in Cape Town. Given 48 hours to leave the country, she hits upon the solution of marrying a South African. But glamorous Anna, who has fled a nasty domestic situation in France, is a loner with few options. Then an idea hits her – to announce her plight on the radio and see who turns up. But after an exhausting interview process which takes place at the restaurant she works at, the only man who appears suitable doesn't actually have a South African passport.

Featuring superb performances and based on the true experiences of Abad in her quest to make Cape Town her home, *Visa/Vie* is a hilarious and unique comedy. From writer/director Elan Gamaker, *Visa/Vie* is a truly independent South African film featuring a strong selection of local talent.

Filmmakers in attendance

24 MUSGRAVE B 18H00; 27 SUNCOAST B 18H00; 31 SNEDDON 12H00

Writer/filmmaker **ELAN GAMAKER** was born in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1974. Following bachelor degrees in English, Linguistics and Drama & Film, he worked in the film industry in Cape Town and London between 1998 and 2003.



THE WELL (VIHIR)

India 2009, Hindi and Marathi with English subtitles, 35mm, 115 min

Director: Umesh Vinayak Kulkarni

Screenplay: Sati Bhave, Girish Kulkarni

Cinematographer: Sudhir Palsane

Cast: Mohan Agashe, Madan Deodhar, Alok Rajwade, Jyoti Subhash

Print Source: Umesh Vinayak Kulkarni

This luminous second feature from Indian director Umesh Vinayak Kulkarni (*Valu The Bull*) tells the story of two school-going cousins from Maharashtra. Nachiket (Alok Rajwade) is the older of the two and longs to escape his stifling origins and family life, something that the city-slicker Samir (Madan Deodhar) does not fully understand. But when Nachiket drowns in a well where the two used to swim together, Samir's consciousness is utterly changed – his cousin's death takes over his own life as he become lost in a web of fear and uncertainty. But there is no one to guide Samir and he must find the road to meaning on his own.

This tender and contemplative family drama is a small, gentle triumph for Marathi cinema. Set against the beauty of the Sahyadri Mountains, Kulkarni's film unfolds with universal resonance while granting its characters a complex humanity. The joy, confusion and transience of childhood are beautifully explored, as the dream of youth gradually dissolves into a disturbing, low key nightmare.

Filmmaker in attendance

24 Suncoast A 18h00; 26 Suncoast A 18h00

UMESH VINAYAK KULKARNI was born in Pune, India in 1976. He studied directing at the Film and Television Institute Of India. His first feature film *Valu* (2008) received much acclaim and was extremely successful with critics and audiences alike.



WHAT MORE DO I WANT (COSA VOGLIO DI PIU)

Italy/Switzerland 2010, Italian with English subtitles, 35mm, 126 min

Director: Silvio Soldini

Screenplay: Silvio Soldini, Dorian Leodeff, Angelo Carbone

Cinematographer: Ramiro Civita

Cast: Alba Rohrwacher, Pierfrancesco Favino, Teresa Saponangelo, Giuseppe Battiston

Print Source: Pyramid Films

The story of an illicit love affair is told frankly and without sentimentality in this eighth feature from Swiss director Silvio Soldini. While the narrative is powerfully recounted in raw and sometimes explicit detail, Soldini nonetheless manages to maintain a light human touch. Office-worker, Anna (Alba Rohrwache) has a brief flirtation with Domenico (Pierfrancesco Favino) at her workplace. She scribbles down his phone number and, after texting him on a whim, meets him in her office. After nearly being caught by Anna's sister, the two embark on an affair, even though Domenico acknowledges having a wife and two kids. The two lovers meet once a week in a motel, but very soon the situation becomes unsatisfying for Anna, who becomes increasingly needy as the affair continues. The film's semi-documentary style, which makes much use of handheld camera and carefully observed close-ups, helps us to get inside the characters' heads, while the raw and nuanced performances from the film's two leads provides an intense intimacy. *What More Do I Want* is a tenderly rendered tale of infidelity.

23 Musgrave A 18h00; 25 Nouveau 18h00

Prolific director **SILVIO SOLDINI** was born in Milan and moved to New York in 1979 to study film at NYU. Upon returning to Milan in 1982, Soldini began what would become a streak of highly successful and acclaimed filmic endeavours. His films have earned him high regard with critics and audiences alike.



WHITE MATERIAL

France/Cameroon 2009, French with English subtitles, 35mm, 100 min

Director: Claire Denis

Screenplay: Claire Denis, Marie N'Diaye, Lucie Borleteau

Cinematographer: Yves Cape

Cast: Isabelle Huppert, Christopher Lambert, Isaach de Bankóle, Nicolas Duvauchelle

Print Source: Wild Bunch

White Material is set in an unnamed African country in the throes of revolution. Maria (Isabelle Huppert) is determined to maintain stability on her coffee plantation while the country is falling apart around her. Fully aware of the hardships and dangers involved in staying, Maria is nonetheless not prepared to give up her life in Africa. But her former husband (Christopher Lambert) has his own ideas about where things should be headed and their lazy son is worse than useless. Meanwhile, unbeknownst to Maria, a wounded revolutionary known as the Boxer (Isaach De Bankolé) hides from the local militia on her plantation.

This engaging film from French director Claire Denis features another dazzling performance from Huppert as a woman trying to maintain order on the edge of apocalypse. With immaculate cinematography, a brilliant script from edgy contemporary writer Marie N'Diaye and bathed in existential disquiet, *White Material* is another fine example of contemporary French cinema.

Filmmaker in attendance

26 Musgrave A 20h00; 30 Nouveau 20h30

CLAIRE DENIS was born in Paris, France and raised in colonial Africa. Her debut feature film *Chocolat* (1988), a semi-autobiographical meditation on African colonialism, won her critical acclaim. Other films include *Friday Night* (2002), *The Intruder* (2004) and *35 Shots of Rum* (2008).



THE WHITE RIBBON (DAS WEISSE BAND)

Austria/Germany/France/Italy 2009, German, Italian, Polish and Latin with English subtitles, 35mm, 144 min

Director: Michael Haneke

Screenplay: Michael Haneke

Cinematographer: Christian Berger

Cast: Ulrich Tukur, Susanne Lothar, Mercedes Jadea Diaz, Michael Kranz

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

This latest work from modern master of ennui, Michael Haneke, details the strange and disturbing events which take place in a small parish village in the north of Germany during the years just before World War I. The film depicts a series of mysterious and increasingly vicious cruelties which appear to be ritual punishment. As a handful of good people are suffocated by the constantly encroaching forces of evil, *The White Ribbon* takes us through a chasm of anxiety and mystery in which innocence is sacrificed on the altar of evil.

A disturbing account of human behaviour and a depiction of the emergence of fascism, national socialism and ultimately Nazism, *The White Ribbon* brings the inherent political concerns of Haneke's broader body of work to the surface. As disturbing and harrowing as anything Haneke has done, this is possibly his finest work thus far. With superb performances and brilliant cinematography, *The White Ribbon* asks questions of history, whose answers are either unspeakable or unknowable.

25 Musgrave A 19h00; 27 Sneddon 20h30; 29 Suncoast B 22h00

Son of German actor and director, Fritz Haneke and Austrian actress Beatrix von Degenschild, **MICHAEL HANEKE** made his feature film debut with *The Seventh Continent* (1989). In 2001, Haneke made the critically successful *The Piano Teacher*. *The White Ribbon* won the Cannes Palme d'Or for Best Film and the Golden Globe for Best Foreign Language Film.



WILD GRASS (LES HERBES FOLLES)

France/Italy 2009, French with English subtitles, 35mm, 104 min

Director: Alain Resnais

Screenplay: Alex Reval, Laurent Herbiet

Cinematographer: Eric Gautier

Cast: André Dussollier, Sabine Azéma, Emmanuelle Devos, Mathieu Amalric

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

Half a century after establishing his place in cinema with *Hiroshima Mon Amour*, French director Alain Resnais continues to deliver the goods with his latest film *Wild Grass*. Based on the 1996 novel *L'incident* by Christian Gailley, the film tells the story of how a stolen wallet leads to an unlikely love affair. George is a happily married family man with two children, while Marguerite is a single dentist who flies airplanes as a hobby. But when George sees a photo of Marguerite in the wallet, he is immediately drawn to her and eventually tracks her down in an overassertive manner that forces Marguerite to call the police. With dazzling cinematography and superb performances, Resnais connects the destinies of several complex adults into an intriguing web of emotions and personal digressions. Although *Wild Grass* is certainly more light-hearted than the director's early films, Resnais nonetheless continues to take the power and possibilities of cinema as seriously as ever. With *Wild Grass*, he adds one more masterpiece to his substantial body of work.

26 Nouveau 20h30; 31 Musgrave A 16h00

Internationally acclaimed director **ALAIN RESNAIS** has had a long and fruitful career and is best known for three early works *Night and Fog* (1955), *Hiroshima Mon Amour* (1959) and *Last Year at Marienbad* (1961). Associated with both the French New Wave and the Left Bank Group, Resnais is one of France's most distinctive filmmakers.



THE WINDOW (JANALA)

India 2009, Bengali with English subtitles, 35mm, 107 min

Director: Buddhadeb Dasgupta

Screenplay: Buddhadeb Dasgupta

Cinematographer: Sunny Joseph

Cast: Shankar Chakraborty, Swastika Mukherjee, Tapas Pal, Indraneil Sengupta

Print Source: Reliance Big Pictures

This latest film from Indian master Buddhadeb Dasgupta tells the story of a solitary man who attempts to take action in an apathetic world. When Bimal visits his old school, he decides that he needs to give something back to the place that educated him, and he begins trying to restore the broken window of his favourite corner classroom. Bimal is a poor man and he is forced to approach a moneylender to finance his philanthropy. But when the moneylender fails to deliver the goods, he uses the money that his fiancé has been saving for the imminent birth of their child. When he delivers the window, however, the school board rejects the gift, suggesting that a cash donation would have been more welcome.

In this gently paced masterpiece, the window is both a metaphor for the political landscape of India and for the timeless dreams of possibility induced by nostalgia. Once more Dasgupta's remarkable and lyrical vision captures the nuances of human emotion while his visual style lifts the day-to-day into the realm of magic.

28 Suncoast A 18h00; 30 Suncoast A 16h00; 01 Suncoast A 16h00

Filmmaker and poet **BUDDHADEB DASGUPTA** was born in Anara, India. Some of his most acclaimed films are *Bagh Bahadur*, *Tahader Katha*, *Charachar* and *Uttara*. Dasgupta has won several awards and a special jury prize for directing at the 2000 Venice International Film Festival.



A WOMAN, A GUN AND A NOODLE SHOP (SAN QIANG PAI AN JING QI)

China 2009, Mandarin with English subtitles, 35mm, 95 min

Director: Zhang Yimou

Screenplay: Jianquan Shi, Jing Shang

Cinematographer: Xiaoding Zhao

Cast: Honglei Sun, Dahong Ni, Ni Yan, Xiao Shen-Yang

Print Source: Videovision Entertainment

A Woman, a Gun and a Noodle Shop comes from modern master of cinema Zhang Yimou (*Hero*, *Curse of the Golden Flower*) and is a remake of the Coen brothers' brilliant *Blood Simple*, with the original film's dark, deadpan humour replaced by a Chinese thriller-farce and the Texan bar now a solitary noodle joint in the Chinese desert run by Wang Mazi (Ni Dahong) and his shrewish wife (Yan Ni).

For the past couple of months, Wang's wife has been canoodling with the cook Li Si (Xiao) and when the local sheriff tells him of the infidelity, Wang hires him to assassinate the lovers. And so ensues a series of hilarious double-crosses further complicated by the fact that Wang's two servants have their eye on the money in his safe.

This global collision of some of contemporary cinema's most revered talents is a rambling delight that overflows with gung-ho energy and is bathed in Yimou's profound grasp of colour and tone.

24 Sneddon 18h30; 29 Nouveau 18h00; 31 Nouveau 20h30

Internationally acclaimed director **ZHANG YIMOU** made his directorial debut in 1987 with the film *Red Sorghum*. He has won several awards for his groundbreaking works. Yimou's *Ju Dou* (1990) was the first Chinese film to be nominated for an Academy Award. His 2002 film *Hero* was nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.

INGMAR BERGMAN

SWEDISH FILM IS BERGMAN



Louis Hucht/Svensk Filmindustri

INGMAR BERGMAN (1918-2007) was a Swedish director, writer and producer for film, stage and television and one of cinema's greatest talents. His influential body of work confronts the human situation, in all its bleakness and despair, its comedy and hope. Described by Woody Allen as "probably the greatest film artist, all things considered, since the invention of the motion picture camera", Bergman is universally recognised as one of the most accomplished dramatic artists of all time. He directed over sixty films and documentaries for cinema release and for television,

most of which he wrote himself, and also directed over one hundred and seventy plays. His company of actors included Liv Ullmann, Bibi Andersson, Erland Josephson and Max von Sydow. His films were nearly always set in the Swedish landscape and his recurring themes were death, illness, betrayal and insanity, although a strangely dispassionate joy is maintained in even his darkest works. His passing in 2007 leaves us with one of the greatest artistic legacies of the twentieth century.

The Ingmar Bergman Retrospective is presented at DIFF through the support of the Swedish Film Institute.



CRIES AND WHISPERS (VISKNINGAR OCH ROP)

Sweden 1973, Swedish with English subtitles, 35mm,
91 min

Director: Ingmar Bergman

Screenplay: Ingmar Bergman

Cinematographer: Sven Nykvist

Cast: Harriet Andersson, Kari Sylwan, Ingrid Thulin,
Liv Ullmann

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

Cries and Whispers depicts the final day of Agnes (Harriet Andersson), who lies in bed with cancer. Those dearest to her – her sisters, Maria (Liv Ullmann) and Karin (Ingrid Thulin), and her housekeeper and friend Anna (Kari Sylwan) – watch over her. In this highly formalised film, Bergman restricts his palette to the colors of blood and his close-ups to images of the soul. Both sisters have already had brushes with death: Maria has had an affair which prompted her husband's suicide, while Karin has long wanted to do away with herself, and Anna has suffered the death of a child. The four women desire the strength to face life, to overcome fear and to remove the veils from behind which they look and admire, but they do not go forth to touch. They are the same person in different stages of life, realising that to love is to empty oneself of desire, and that life's meaning is to be saved – by giving one's body and soul.

23 Sneddon 18h00; 31 Musgrave B 20h00



FANNY AND ALEXANDER (FANNY OCH ALEXANDER)

Sweden 1982, Swedish with English subtitles, 35mm,
188 min

Director: Ingmar Bergman

Screenplay: Ingmar Bergman

Cinematographer: Sven Nykvist

Cast: Pernilla Allwin, Bertil Guve, Börje Ahlstedt,
Allan Edwall

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

Bergman's dreamlike family chronicle takes us into the life of an upper-middle-class family who are sheltered from the chaos of the world by their own pervasive sense of drama. In this most graceful of his films, a tumultuous year in the life of the Ekdahl family is viewed through the eyes of ten-year-old Alexander (Bertil Guve), whose imagination fuels the magical goings-on leading up to the death of his father. When his mother (Ewa Fröling) gets remarried to a stern clergyman, all joy is banished from Alexander and his sister Fanny's (Pernilla Allwin) life, and they – and the movie – are thrust into a kind of gothic horror. Filled with poetry, passion and humanity, the film's rejection of the dehumanised priest in favour of kindness, life and love, is one of Bergman's most moving statements about cinema and the world. This triumph of a film is a lyrical comment on the human impulse to temper life and memory with romance, nostalgia and narrative structure.

25 Sneddon 14h00; 31 Nouveau 12h00



SMILES OF A SUMMER'S NIGHT (SOMMARNATTENS LEEENDE)

Sweden 1955, Swedish with English subtitles, 35mm,
108 min

Director: Ingmar Bergman

Screenplay: Ingmar Bergman

Cinematographer: Gunnar Fischer

Cast: Ulla Jacobsson, Eva Dahlbeck, Harriet Andersson,
Margit Carlqvist

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

One of the cinema's great erotic comedies, *Smiles of a Summer's Night* centres around a network of love affairs and intrigues involving a middle-aged lawyer, his young wife who remains a virgin, his former mistress who is a sophisticated stage actress, her lover, and his wife. All of the characters in this complicated arrangement gather for a weekend at the country estate of the actress's elderly mother, who works a kind of magic on the ménage of infinite possibilities. A true parody of the archetypal male, *Smiles of a Summer's Night* is a comic exploration of the idea suggested so tragically in other Bergman films – that men are primal animals who turn to women to save them from total humiliation – which, as the film suggests, is not always the smartest of moves. This delicious satire of absurdist masculinity was brilliantly reworked by Woody Allen in *A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy* and also inspired the well loved Broadway play *A Little Night Music*.

24 Sneddon 14h00; 01 Musgrave B 20h30



WILD STRAWBERRIES (SMULTRONSTÄLLET)

Sweden 1957, Swedish with English subtitles, 35mm,
90 min

Director: Ingmar Bergman

Screenplay: Ingmar Bergman

Cinematographer: Gunnar Fischer

Cast: Victor Sjöström, Bibi Andersson, Ingrid Thulin, Gunnar
Björnstrand

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

In *Wild Strawberries*, Bergman's most thorough examination of male vanity, the director does it with mirrors and dreams in a surrealist manner reminiscent of Dali and Kafka. But these dream sequences, in their function as a mirror of the mind, are no less memorable than the gorgeous scenes in which natural settings are brilliantly transformed into dreamscapes of equal beauty and abstraction. Honouring his debt to early Swedish cinema and its tradition of nature cinematography, Bergman cast the great silent film director and actor Victor Sjöström as an elderly physician, Professor Isak Borg, who dreams his own death, revisits his youth as a spectator and generally becomes aware of the nature of his own mortality. As he travels to Lund to receive an honorary award after 50 years of medical practice, Borg finds himself repeatedly affected by intrusive dreams and hallucinations that expose his darkest fears. He slowly comes to realise that the choices he made in the past have created a cold and empty life. Finally, he achieves redemption amid the forgiving wild strawberries.

30 Sneddon 18h00; 01 Musgrave A 16h00



Svensk Filmindustri

WINTER LIGHT (NATTVARDSGÄSTERNA)

Sweden 1963, Swedish with English subtitles, 35mm,
80 min

Director: Ingmar Bergman

Screenplay: Ingmar Bergman

Cinematographer: Sven Nykvist

Cast: Ingrid Thulin, Gunnar Björnstrand, Gunnel Lindblom,
Max von Sydow

Print Source: Swedish Film Institute

On a cold winter's Sunday, Tomas (Gunnar Björnstrand), the pastor of a small rural church performs a service for a tiny congregation, despite the fact that he is suffering from both a cold and a severe crisis of faith. After the service, he attempts to console a local fisherman (Max von Sydow) who is tormented by anxiety, but Tomas can only speak about his own troubled relationship with God. A school teacher (Ingrid Thulin) offers him her love as consolation for his loss of faith, but he resists her as desperately as she offers herself to him. This captivating film is the second in Bergman's trilogy of films dealing with man's relationship with God. One of Bergman's most inward-looking and cold pieces, *Winter Light* features superb performances, particularly from Thulin as the spinster who cannot penetrate the pastor's soul. This microscopic study in desperation and depression is a masterpiece of psychological cinema and required viewing for Bergman fans.

28 Sneddon 18h00; 01 Musgrave A 12h00



THE 4TH REVOLUTION: ENERGY AUTONOMY

Germany 2010, English and German with English subtitles, Video, 83 min

Director: Carl-A. Fechner

Cinematography: Sorin Dragoi

Print Source: fechnerMEDIA GmbH

Sun, wind, hydro and geothermal power are natural energy sources accessible to people all over the world. What's more is that they are free and sustainable. *The 4th Revolution: Energy Autonomy* systematically and engagingly outlines the tantalising possibility of switching to 100% renewable energy sources within the next 30 years.

The 4th Revolution presents the global economic recession as an opportunity for change, and offers practical instances of exemplary projects around the world that demonstrate that energy autonomy could be a reality and not just a thing of our dreams. It is simply up to us make it happen. The film's protagonists encompass a prominent environmental activist, Nobel laureates, innovative businessmen and politicians, and it convincingly shows that the energy revolution is the surest path to sustainable economic development and social and economic fairness. "The transition is possible. The only precondition: We need to want it!"

24 Musgrave B 14h00; 25 Royal 16h00; 29 Luthuli 14h00

CARL-A. FECHNER is a German journalist, filmmaker and producer. He studied media education and received his diploma in 1980. Since 1989, he has been the managing director of fechnerMEDIA GmbH. As head of the editorial department, he is responsible for the content and artistic realisation of fechnerMEDIA films and media campaigns.



AISHEEN – STILL ALIVE IN GAZA

Qatar/Switzerland 2010, Arabic with English subtitles, Video, 88 min

Director: Nicolas Wadimoff

Cinematography: Franck Rabel

Print Source: Akka Films

A few weeks after Israel's January 2009 offensive, a little boy asks a theme park attendant where the ghost town is. But it has been bombed. An old man bemoans the loss of his 600-year-old olive groves. A clown tries to draw some children's attention away from the devastation, but the popping of his balloons reminds them of bombs. In a space of such sustained destruction, it is hard to believe that for the inhabitants of Gaza, life must go on. Amidst rocket fire, children continue to go to school, hip-hop musicians continue to rap, even the skeleton of a whale continues to be reconstructed at the zoo.

Calmly, without intention to provoke, *Aisheen* tells of the tenacity of daily existence. In the midst of crisis, the ordinary persists in what the director calls "the world's largest prison". While some despair, and others express anger, mostly people try to find the strength simply to live.

23 Suncoast B 20h00; 25 Suncoast B 12h00

Swiss director **NICOLAS WADIMOFF** studied Communications with a specialisation in cinema at the University of Quebec. He worked at the Swiss television channel TSR as a director before shooting his first feature-length fiction film, *Clandestins* (1997) which won more than 15 awards at international festivals. In 2003, he started Akka Films.



AMERICAN FOULBROOD

South Africa 2010, English, Afrikaans and Xhosa with English subtitles, Video, 90 min

Director: Carlos Francisco

Cinematography: Carlos Francisco

Print Source: Carlos Francisco

Pollination by bees is crucial to food production, but bee populations worldwide are dramatically dwindling, falling victim to disease. Sub-Saharan bees, on the other hand, have shown no sign of being affected. Until now. Since last year, the most serious of bee diseases, American Foulbrood, has been discovered in South Africa, threatening both bee populations and the livelihood of beekeepers across the country.

Despite this, many beekeepers refuse to tamper with nature and compromise the genetic integrity of the African bee. Will the bees be able to build a natural tolerance to the disease before the destruction it wreaks has gone too far? Filmed over the course of a year, this film introduces us to a number of charismatic South African beekeepers, who share their deep concern for the bees they keep, which are now under threat. It paints a picture of real passion for the practice that stands in sharp contrast to the mass breeding techniques of the USA and Europe.

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Musgrave B 16h00; 27 Royal 17h00; 29 Luthuli 10h00

CARLOS FRANCISCO is a director, producer, editor and camera operator with vast experience in television production and NGO and corporate communications. He is currently producing several independent feature documentaries and heads up African Heartbeat Films Initiative. Carlos attended Talent Campus Durban 2009.



THE BATTLE FOR JOHANNESBURG

South Africa 2010, English, Zulu and Xhosa with English subtitles, Video, 71 min

Director: Rehad Desai and Darryl Els

Cinematography: Jonathan Kovel and Darryl Els

Print Source: Uhuru Productions

The Battle for Johannesburg captures the changing face of a city preparing to host the 2010 FIFA World Cup. It's a tale of property developers vying for sections of the crumbling city with renewed excitement, of a city council determined to create a world class city and ultimately of how this affects the hundreds of thousands of people who have made the city slums their home.

The city, now almost a century and a half old, has seen itself through 10 years of decline to once again become a boom town. Thousands of inhabitants who left behind rural existence to find fortune, now find themselves displaced in the process of trying to tame the wild and disorderly urban jungle of the inner city. With the eyes of the world on South Africa, the film raises universal questions such as, does urban development have to mean gentrification, and is it possible to create a world class city for all?

Filmmaker in attendance

23 Suncoast B 18h00; 26 Ekhaya 12h00; 30 Royal 13h00

REHAD DESAI is the CEO of UHURU Productions, a wholly black-owned production house with offices in Johannesburg and Cape Town. He began his career in print media and in 1996 entered the television and film industry, where he has focused much of his energy on historical and socio-political productions. DIFF has screened a number of innovative and often provocative films made by Rehad Desai.



CAMEROON: COMING OUT OF THE NKUTA (CAMEROUN: SORTIR DU NKUTA)

France 2009, French with English subtitles, Video, 52 min

Director: Céline Metzger

Cinematography: Céline Metzger

Print Source: Les Films du Balibari

As in a number of other countries in Africa, homosexuality is a criminal offence in Cameroon, and in this particular instance, carries a sentence of five years imprisonment. When a list of fifty influential people denounced as being gay appears in local newspapers, the issue, already volatile, becomes inflamed. Homosexuals are portrayed as the source of all societal ills and homosexuality as distinctly un-Cameroonian.

A variety of individuals share with us the difficulties they experience in facing the outright hostility of society to alternative sexualities: a lesbian couple reluctant to identify themselves, a group of men awaiting trial after having been rounded up and arrested in a bar, and an infectiously optimistic activist and lawyer fighting for legalisation of homosexuality. The lively and informative *Cameroon: Coming out of the Nkuta* introduces us to a number of brave Cameroonians who struggle for a sense of value and legitimacy for gay people within their communities.

25 Sneddon 12h00; 29 Royal 13h00

Director **CÉLINE METZGER** began her career as a camera operator in Montaigu, France, before leaving for Pakistan and Afghanistan to film and co-direct *Under the Law of Taliban* (2001). This journey sparked a love of discovering and documenting other cultures. In 2006, she began work on *Cameroon: Coming out of the Nkuta*.



CONGO IN FOUR ACTS

Democratic Republic of the Congo/South Africa 2010, French and Lingala Bashi with English subtitles, Video, 69 min

Director: Dieudo Hamadi, Divita Wa Lusala, Patrick Ken Kalala, Kiripi Katembo Siku

Cinematography: Deschamps Matala and Divita Wa Lusala

Print Source: Suka! Productions

Congo in Four Acts is a quartet of powerful short documentaries that lay bare the reality of everyday life in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The films – *Ladies in Waiting*, *Symphony Kinshasa*, *The Shrinking Press* and *After the Mine* cover a range of Congolese microcosms, unlikely to ever receive attention from the outside. These include: the absurd everyday life of a maternity ward; a journey into the breathtaking labyrinth of Kinshasa's transformed infrastructure; the life of a young female journalist whose father – a government opponent – was murdered; and one of the many haunting mining towns to which Congo owes its immense wealth.

The films' characters speak for themselves, telling rarely heard stories from a country which is known to the rest of the world mostly through 30 second news clips. Joseph Conrad called the Congo the 'Heart of Darkness'. *Congo in Four Acts* brilliantly reclaims its image from writers such as Conrad, who have, until now, projected their own ideas onto its space.

25 Musgrave B 14h00; 29 Royal 17h00

DIEUDO HAMADI works as an editor, producer, and assistant director and has worked for Suka! Productions. **DIVITA WA LUSALA** works as an editor and cameraman for Suka! Productions in South Africa. Director **PATRICK KEN KALALA** also works as a producer, cameraman, actor, and scriptwriter and has made several short films. **KIRIPI KATEMBO SIKU** is a producer, photographer and painter.



THE CRADOCK FOUR

South Africa/France 2010, English, Video, 91 min

Director: David Forbes

Cinematography: David Forbes

Print Source: Shadow Films

Matthew Goniwe was a popular schoolteacher in Cradock. His inspirational community leadership in resisting apartheid resulted in the government secretly ordering his "permanent removal from society". Late on the winter's night of 27 June 1985, a secret police death squad abducted Goniwe, and three fellow activists, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkonto and Siculo Mhlauli and brutally murdered them. They became known as the Cradock Four.

One of the Apartheid's murkiest and most controversial moments, the murders were a turning point, and triggered the state of emergency in South Africa that ultimately led to the release of Nelson Mandela five years later. By looking at the intimate details surrounding the murders, the film shows the oppressive climate of the racist regime. The use of archive materials, incisive interviews and dramatic recreations is compelling as it reveals the ideals which led Goniwe and his friends to support the liberation struggle. World premiere.

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Suncoast B 16h00; 26 Luthuli 14h00; 29 Ekhaya 18h00

DAVID FORBES has worked as a cinematographer, journalist and sub-editor. He has also worked in 32 countries around the world producing content for major TV stations and broadcasters. He is also a producer, writer, editor and CEO of Shadow Films.



DRIVING WITH FANON

South Africa/Sierra Leone 2009, English and Krio with English subtitles, Video, 72 min

Director: Steve Kwena Mokwena

Cinematography: Steve Kwena Mokwena

Print Source: Steve Kwena Mokwena

Driving With Fanon is more of a visual jazz improvisation than a documentary. It started as an accident on the way to a movie, quite literally, as a car crash interrupts director Steve Kwena Mokwena's original plans. The chaotic public aggression that is unleashed suddenly becomes the subject of this inspired freeform aesthetic meditation on postcolonial Africa.

Images and sound unfold into a dub remix of the radical philosophies of Frantz Fanon and Steve Biko, immersing us in the beauty and sadness of thinking, and being African. *Driving with Fanon* is a filmic meditation on violence, memory and the human condition in post-colonial Africa as avant-garde filmmaker Mokwena travels through Freetown, Sierra Leone with the ghost of Frantz Fanon, engaging a new generation in conversation about the radical black scholar, psychiatrist and revolutionary thinker.

Filmmaker in attendance

27 Ekhaya 12h00; 30 Luthuli 10h00

STEVE KWENA MOKWENA was born in Soweto and studied history, African politics and sociology at WITS University. He also holds an MA degree from Leeds University. He is particularly interested in history and memory and has directed *A Blues for Tiro* (2007), *Our Father who art in Memory* (2008) and *Biko's Trail* (2008).



THE FAIRWAY

South Africa 2010, English, Sotho and Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 44 min

Director: Mzimasi Gova

Cinematography: Thabo Lenos and Mzimasi Gova

Print Source: Mzidi Productions

The game of golf is one that has been traditionally reserved for the white middle class and historically, the golf fairways of South Africa have been anything but fair to South Africa's small but enthusiastic band of black golfers. This insight forms the backbone of *The Fairway*, Mzimasi Gova's considered exploration of the state of affairs in South African golf.

The film reflects on the brief history of post-apartheid golf development in black townships and these contemporary scenes are intercut with interviews with veteran black golfers. We hear about the challenges that black golfers experienced during the apartheid era as well as their resilience in keeping the game alive in black communities. With anecdotes by golfers who were playing on the greens of South Africa from as early as the 1950s, contrasted with the picture of the game in the present day, this documentary illustrates our nation's transition into democracy from an unusual perspective.

Filmmaker in attendance

26 Ekhaya 18h00; 30 Royal 17h00

MZIMASI GOVA is a South African producer, scriptwriter, and director. He began his career as a researcher and producer for various television programmes commissioned by the SABC. *The Fairway* is his directorial debut and he is currently working on the development of his first feature film *The Boardroom*.



FOOL IN A BUBBLE

USA/South Africa/Swaziland 2010, English, Zulu and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 84 min

Director: Joshua Sternlicht

Cinematography: Joshua Sternlicht

Print Source: Joshua Sternlicht

Fool In A Bubble, a must-see for music lovers, explores the journey and conflicts of cult Durban musician/poet, Syd Kitchen, who has been a vital force in the South African artistic community for over forty years. The film weaves Syd's past, present and foreseeable future as he records a landmark album in New York with South African musicians from Paul Simon's *Graceland* album.

He speaks of his life and freedom as told in the words of one of his songs: "... a need to be free and all my life I've been lost in his history, all my life I've felt so alone. I offer love, I ask redemption." Syd is remarkably candid in his interviews, revealing a fragility and self-awareness that makes for compelling viewing. Ultimately, this is a film about hope, music, poetry and power of the human spirit. *Fool in A Bubble* is arguably, one of the finest documentaries ever made about a South African musician. World Premiere.

Filmmakers in attendance

26 Sneddon 20h30; 29 Ekhaya 12h00; 01 Musgrave B 12h00

JOSHUA STERNLICHT is an independent filmmaker based in Brooklyn, New York. He studied film at Columbia University and, since graduating in 2000, has worked as an editor and cinematographer on several productions. He is the founder and creative force behind the production company Eyespot Films.



THE GAME OF DEATH (LE JEU DE LA MORT)

France 2010, French with English subtitles, 35mm, 95 min
Director: Christophe Nick, Thomas Bornot, Gilles Amado and Alain-Michel Blanc
Cinematography: Jean-Michel Racaud
Print Source: Rezo Films

The controversial *The Game of Death* follows contestants signing up for what they think is the pilot for a game show. However, it is not what it seems. The show is, in fact, fake, and what they are really taking part in is an adaptation of the infamous Milgram experiments – a 1960s study in authority and obedience that involved volunteers administering increasingly powerful electric shocks.

In the TV version, a glamorous presenter orders the contestants to shock their fellow players when they fail to answer a question correctly. The participant is not actually 'shocked,' but neither the questioner nor audience are aware of this. The film is an interesting social comment on the effects of humiliation – amusing, compelling and disturbing, it interrogates the inherent dangers of humans' relationship with authority and also about the manipulative power of television itself.



GASLAND

USA 2009, English, Video, 107 min
Director: Josh Fox
Cinematography: Josh Fox
Print Source: International WOW Company

This Sundance Jury Prize Winner explores the shocking consequences of massive natural gas drilling across the USA, which has been spurred on by global oil uncertainties, and which often bypasses long-standing laws protecting air, water, and humans. On a cross-country journey, filmmaker Josh Fox makes a horrendous discovery: water that can be lit on fire, right out of the tap!

He goes on to find mysteriously ill residents, all with the same symptoms, killer toxic waste, massive gas explosions, and state and federal cover-ups. Part verite travelogue, part exposé, part mystery, part showdown, Fox and his banjo encounter inspiring and heart-wrenching stories of ordinary Americans fighting against fossil fuel giants. Fox's marvellous cynical undertone turns elements such as toxic waste and contamination, drinking water that turns into flame, mismanagement and corruption, into a highly entertaining thread in a personal story that becomes unavoidably politicised.

24 Musgrave B 22h15; 01 Suncoast B 12h00

CHRISTOPHE NICK is a journalist, author, director and producer. In 2006 he founded Yami 2, a documentary production company. **THOMAS BORNOT** is an assistant director who has worked alongside Nick on several documentaries produced by Yami 2. French editor and director **GILLES AMADO** works in television and film. **ALAIN-MICHEL BLANC** is a director and writer.

25 Cler 15h00; 28 Musgrave B 22h00; 30 Sneddon 11h00

JOSH FOX is the founder and Artistic Director of International WOW Company, a film and theater company that works closely with actors and non-actors from diverse cultural backgrounds to create new work that addresses current national and global social and political crises. *Gasland* is his first documentary feature.



HAVE YOU HEARD FROM JOHANNESBURG: FAIRPLAY

USA 2009, English, Video, 93 min

Director: Connie Field

Cinematography: Tom Hurwitz

Print Source: Clarity Films

One of the greatest weapons in the struggle against apartheid was the international sports boycott. Featuring a youthful Dennis Brutus at his brilliant best, Sam Ramsamy, Peter Hain, sports personalities and administrators, this meticulously researched documentary, with rare footage and revealing back story, unpacks the process of how the boycott took shape and effect. Step by difficult step, a dedicated and growing group of activists orchestrated the isolation of South Africa from the sports arenas, culminating in South Africa's exclusion first from the Olympics, and then, finally, where it hurt most, from international rugby.

This new documentary by acclaimed director Connie Field, tells the story that precedes the heroic story of Clint Eastwood's *Invictus* – showing how the call by activists and athletes around the world for fairness, both on and off the field, brought the human rights abuses of the apartheid regime to the forefront of global attention.

Filmmaker in attendance

24 Musgrave B 12h00; 25 Ekhaya 12h00

CONNIE FIELD is a highly acclaimed American documentary filmmaker and producer. Her feature documentary *Freedom on My Mind* (1994) was nominated for an Academy Award and won the Grand Jury Prize for best documentary at Sundance. She is a recipient of the John Grierson Award for most outstanding social documentarian and is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture, Arts and Sciences.



KINSHASA SYMPHONY

Germany 2009, Lingala with English subtitles, 35mm, 95 min

Director: Claus Wischmann and Martin Baer

Cinematography: Martin Baer

Print Source: Sounding Images

Two hundred orchestral musicians are playing Beethoven's Ninth – Freude schöner Götterfunken. A power cut strikes just a few bars before the last movement. Problems like this are the least of the worries facing the only symphony orchestra in the Congo. *Kinshasa Symphony* shows how people living in one of the most chaotic cities in the world have managed to forge one of the most complex systems of human cooperation ever invented: a symphony orchestra.

Among the people guiding us through the city are salesgirl Chantal Ikina, electrician and hairdresser Joseph, artisan Albert Matubenza and preacher Armand Diangienda. What they all have in common is their love of music. They may be unorthodox, but their music is uplifting beyond the notes we hear their instruments produce. We follow the orchestra's collective music-making, their rehearsals and their concerts, and a stunning picture of Kinshasa in all its diversity, speed, colour, vitality and energy emerges.

Filmmaker in attendance

26 Sneddon 11h00; 27 Sneddon 18h00

CLAUS WISCHMANN is an author, director and executive director at Sounding Images. After studying the piano he has written and directed over forty documentaries and television features. **MARTIN BAER** is a cinematographer, author and director. His documentaries focus mainly on historical subject matter and on Africa. He is also the author of several texts on African history.



KOUNDI AND THE NATIONAL THURSDAY

Cameroon 2010, Maka du Nord and French with English subtitles, Video, 86 min

Director: Ariane Astrid Atodji

Cinematography: Isabelle Casez

Print Source: Goethe-Institut Yaounde

Situated in the East Province of Cameroon, Koundi is a village of some 1200 inhabitants. The land is rich for the harvesting of timber, and almost every member of the community has come to depend exclusively on the forest as their primary source of income. The villagers, who have organised themselves as a communal organisation, obtain the rights to run a small forestry operation. But soon enough they realise, quite wisely, that the forest will not last forever, and that a more sustainable means of generating income must be created. They begin the process of creating something more permanent – a cacao plantation.

Gorgeously shot, *Koundi and the National Thursday* is a heartfelt and non-intrusive look at life inside a communal society that is negotiating the demands of globalisation and the search for uniquely African solutions. It also marks Ariane Astrid Atodji, a Talent at last year's Talent Campus Durban, as a significant new voice to watch out for.

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Suncoast B 22h15; 29 Royal 15h00

ARIANE ASTRID ATODJI is a Cameroonian filmmaker based in Yaounde. She holds a bachelors degree in theatrical arts from the University of Yaounde and has done practical training as a first assistant director at LN International Yaounde Filmmaking School. Ariane Astrid was a participant in Talent Campus Durban 2009.



LETTERS FROM TEDDY

South Africa 2010, English, Video, 72 min

Director: Terry Westby-Nunn

Cinematography: Terry Westby-Nunn

Print Source: Terry Westby-Nunn

Set against the backdrop of British colonial society in Aden in the 1950s, *Letters From Teddy* explores the emotional repercussions of an ill-fated relationship between director Terry Westby-Nunn's grandfather, Teddy, the Chief Justice of Aden, and her grandmother, Sally – and its impact on their illegitimate son, Tony. The young parents could not marry, and when their secret was discovered, it shook their small family to the core.

The film is a deeply personal one to director Westby-Nunn, who receives a box of letters exchanged between her two grandparents, on the eve of Sally's death. Her father initially refuses to read them, reluctant to face the haunting spectre of his past. Through the dynamic use of 8mm family archive footage, riveting correspondence between Teddy and Sally, as well as interviews with her highly entertaining father, Tony, Westby-Nunn pieces together the sad story of her paternal grandparents. At the heart of this fascinating story is the vindictive colonial society which tore her father's family apart.

Filmmaker in attendance

30 Musgrave B 22h00; 01 Suncoast B 16h00

After graduating from Rhodes University, **TERRY WESTBY-NUNN** worked in Johannesburg and London as an editor. In 1998, her first documentary was licensed to e.tv and won the TravelTour Media Award. She has done work for National Geographic, Discovery, BBC, SABC and M-Net. Her documentary, *White People Also Dream: The Shamanic Journey of a Sangoma*, premiered at DIFF last year.



MUGABE AND THE WHITE AFRICAN

United Kingdom 2009, English and Shona with English subtitles, Video, 90 min

Director: Lucy Bailey and Andrew Thompson

Cinematography: Andrew Thompson

Print Source: Arturi Films

A tale of defiance, hope and perseverance. Michael Campbell is one of the few hundred white farmers who have not left Zimbabwe since President Robert Mugabe began his violent land reform programme. Since then, the country has descended into chaos. In 2008, Campbell took the unprecedented step of challenging Mugabe in an International Court; accusing him and his government of racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights.

In response to an environment characterised by a tone of ethnic cleansing and outright racial injustice, Bailey and Thompson take their film in a brave and possibly unpopular direction by making a strong case for the recognition of the "White African" as an acceptable, respectable figure, like "White Australian" or "White Canadian". *Mugabe and The White African*, much of it shot covertly, is an award-winning, moving and often terrifying account of one man and his family's extraordinary courage in the face of overwhelming injustice and systematic brutality.

25 Suncoast B 14h00; 31 Musgrave B 16h00

LUCY BAILEY has over ten years experience as a director in television, with the majority of shooting done on the African continent, often covering sensitive subjects. ANDREW THOMPSON is a BAFTA and RTS nominated cameraman who has over 12 years experience filming all over the world for C4, BBC, National Geographic and Discovery. In 2008, Bailey and Thompson formed Explore Films.



MY HUNTER'S HEART

South Africa 2010, English and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 80 min

Director: Craig and Damon Foster

Cinematography: Craig and Damon Foster

Print Source: VideoVision Entertainment

Created by the award-winning documentary filmmaking team of Craig and Damon Foster, produced by Anant Singh and scored by multi award-winner Trevor Jones, *My Hunter's Heart*, explores the world's most ancient shamanic culture, now on the brink of extinction. Shot patiently over three-and-a-half years, it tracks the Khomani San of the Central Kalahari, the oldest living indigenous tribe in the world, who are genetically linked to every human being on planet Earth.

In modern times, their traditional nomadic way of life has changed and westernisation has severed their link to the land and the animals. The film follows younger members of the clan as they embark on an epic journey to try to recapture some of the knowledge and skills of their ancestors. The children feel there is no future and the elders are faced with haunting reminders of their past.

30 Suncoast A 18h30; 01 Suncoast B 18h00

Brothers CRAIG and DAMON FOSTER are renowned documentary filmmakers and co-owners of Sense Africa, a Cape Town based production company. Their work is largely focused on the natural and cultural dynamics of Africa and they have received over 50 international awards for it. *Ice Man* and *The Nature of Life* screened at DIFF last year.



PICTURE ME: A MODEL'S DIARY

USA 2009, English, Video, 80 min

Director: Ole Schell and Sara Ziff

Cinematography: Ole Schell

Print Source: 25th Frame

The raw and intimate *Picture Me* charts model Sara Ziff's rise from fresh face to one that adorns billboards and magazines around the world. Filmmakers Ole Schell and Sara Ziff co-direct, lifting the veil on the often exploitative world of high fashion modelling, from photo shoots with celebrated photographers to runway shows in New York, Milan and Paris. Ziff, discovered at age 14, found the fashion industry ideal as a rebellion against an academic family background.

Ziff and her boyfriend, filmmaker Ole Schell, began shooting behind the scenes of Ziff's shows, and for five years recorded parties, castings, life on the road, and backstage shenanigans. But this film is by no means air-headed or frivolous, rather, it depicts a remarkably even-handed picture of the darker side of the industry's fetishising of the (often very) young women. Featuring in-depth interviews with noted photographers and designers and appearances by models Missy Rayder, Cameron Russell, Diana Dondoe, and Caitriona Balfe, photographers Gilles Bensimon and Sam Haskins, designers Nicole Miller, Hussein Chalayan, and numerous others.

23 Suncoast B 22h00; 01 Suncoast B 14h00

Director, actor and writer **OLE SCHELL** is a graduate of NYU Film School. His directorial debut was *Votergate* in 2004 and he also co-directed *Win in China* (2009). **SARA ZIFF** is an American fashion model and documentary filmmaker. She is reading for an undergraduate degree at Columbia University and has plans to start a union to protect the rights of models.



RFK IN THE LAND OF APARTHEID – A RIPPLE OF HOPE

South Africa/USA 2010, English, Video, 58 min

Director: Tami Gold and Larry Shore

Cinematography: Tami Gold and Edin Velez

Print Source: Shoreline Productions/Scipio Entertainment (Pty) Ltd

Drawing comparisons between the US Civil Rights Movement and South Africa's struggle for freedom, this film tells how a visit by one man sent a ripple of hope across the land in the midst of one of the most oppressive periods of apartheid. In 1966, US Senator Robert Kennedy embarked on an historic journey through South Africa, visiting universities and struggle heroes, and complicating the Cold War fear of communism that characterised America's unwillingness to stand against apartheid.

A high point of the film is footage of Kennedy's meeting with the then president of the African National Congress, Albert Lutuli, in his remote rural home, where he was under house arrest. The film travels to places we find familiar in present-day South Africa, and colours them with history. Filled with rare archival footage, RFK's historic, but relatively unknown speeches reignite a flame of hope for an undivided South Africa.

Filmmaker in attendance

29 Sneddon 18h30; 01 Ekhaya 18h00

TAMI GOLD is an award winning documentary filmmaker. Her films have screened at many festivals and museums, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Sundance Film Festival. **LARRY SHORE** grew up in Johannesburg and moved to the United States in 1973, where he continued to be active in the anti-apartheid movement. Both are professors in the Film and Media Studies Department at Hunter College in New York.



SCIENTISTS UNDER ATTACK

Germany 2010, English, Video, 88 min

Director: Bertram Verhaag

Cinematography: Waldemar Hauschild

Print Source: Denkmal-Film

With technologies like genetic modification, global food production drifts increasingly further from nature, and our only protection against the inherent dangers of this is research and regulation. But in a world where only money talks and even universities accept funding from private business, the question must be asked: can science, our first line of defence, still be trusted? The commercial interest of corporates in food research mean censored results and unanswered questions.

One example raised by this film is that of microbiologist Árpád Pusztai, who published results showing significant differences between rats that had eaten genetically modified potatoes and those that had eaten "normal" ones. He was subsequently fired, became victim to an online viral campaign meant to discredit him, and the magazine *Nature* published an apology for publication of the work. This thriller-documentary exposes the influence of Big Corporates in the active suppression of negative results regarding harmful foods and how scientists must put their careers on the line to bring you the truth about what you consume.

24 Suncoast B 14h00; 29 Ekhaya 15h00; 31 Royal 13h00

BERTRAM VERHAAG is a German freelance director and co-founder of DENKmal-Film. His company has produced more than 60 documentaries and feature films for theatre and television. He studied Sociology and Political Economics and also trained at the Munich Academy for Television & Film.



SOMETHING UNKNOWN IS DOING WE DON'T KNOW WHAT

South Africa 2009, English, Video, 86 min

Director: Renée Scheltema

Cinematography: Renée Scheltema

Print Source: Renée Scheltema

Is it possible that some people can read your mind? Or look into the future? Why is it that some people can cure themselves while in the last stages of a deadly cancer? Does mind over matter really exist, and if so how do we explain this? People claim to 'see' distant objects or places. Do they really 'see' something? And where is the boundary between 'real' magical powers and fraud? Can these miracles of the mind be explained?

When a few curious psychic events happened around her all at once, documentary filmmaker Renée Scheltema decided to set out to the US and meet with the top scientists, para-psychologists, psychologists, physicians and doctors who are doing research in this field. She investigates how today's scientific experiments could reveal numerous kinds of connections: 'mind to mind', 'mind to body' and 'mind to world', and whether psychic abilities could, in fact, be part of our human nature.

Filmmaker in attendance

25 Jazz 10h30; 27 Royal 15h00; 28 Royal 15h00

RENÉE SCHELTEMA is a Dutch documentary filmmaker and photographer. She has 25 years experience working for Dutch television as a director, producer and camera-person and some of her documentaries have been selected for international film festivals. As a photographer, Renée has worked for magazines and newspapers in Holland, the USA and South Africa.



THE SHOCK DOCTRINE

United Kingdom 2009, English, 35mm, 79 min

Director: Michael Winterbottom and Mat Whitecross

Cinematography: Ronald Plante and Rich Ball

Print Source: E1 Entertainment

The Shock Doctrine is a cinematic interpretation of Naomi Klein's bestseller and outlines the rise of "disaster capitalism" – the opportunistic exploitation of periods of man-made and natural disaster by modern Western governments to push through economic reforms from which they stand to benefit, but which often bring with them catastrophic consequences for ordinary people. Winterbottom and Whitecross simultaneously analyse the global economic crisis of the last few years, which took place after the publication of Klein's book, and within the context of a critique of free market policies, seek to trace its origins.

From Pinochet's Chile to the War on Terror, the film systematically unpicks history as we know it, revealing a far more terrifying account of the development of American economic policy, and its dark trail of violent repression of protest against its imperatives of privatisation and deregulation. Will make you think again about the "free" in "free market".

28 Musgrave A 18h00; 01 Nouveau 14h00

In his prolific career **MICHAEL WINTERBOTTOM** has been nominated for five BAFTA Awards and won with the film *In This World* (2002) which also won three awards at the Berlin International Film Festival. *The Killer Inside Me* was nominated for a Golden Bear at this year's Berlinale. **MAT WHITECROSS** has worked as an editor and director with Winterbottom on several films and has made several music videos for Coldplay. His feature debut *Sex&Drugs&Rock&Roll* screens at DIFF this year.



SONS OF THE SAND – THE STRINI MOODLEY INTERVIEW

South Africa 2010, English, Video, 88 min

Director: Savo Tufegdzc

Cinematography: Steve White

Print Source: Creative Media

"I believe that as long as I am regarded and treated as a non-white, then I can never be a full human being in the context of my everyday existence. And black consciousness brings back into my life my psychological humanness." This is a statement that Strini Moodley, co-founder of the Black Consciousness Movement made in the May/June 1972 edition of the South African Students Organisation's newsletter.

Soon thereafter, Moodley, co-founder of the Black Consciousness Movement, was banned and arrested. Tried under Section 6 of the notorious Terrorism Act, he was sent to Robben Island in 1976. *Sons of the Sand* is built around Moodley's last known filmed interview and intercut with recollections of his family, friends and comrades and traces his story, from early childhood through his experiences as a student activist and playwright. It is a riveting testament to a hero who fought for liberation and a democratic country.

Filmmaker in attendance

24 Suncoast B 18h00; 27 Ekhaya 18h00; 30 Royal 15h00

SAVO TUFEGDZIC began his career in theatre working for the Black Sun Theatre Company. In 2001, he joined Steven White's Creative Media where he directed corporate, commercial and educational videos. His debut feature length film *Crime – It's a Way of Life* premiered at DIFF last year.



SURFING SOWETO

South Africa 2010, English, Sotho, Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 95 min
Director: Sara Blecher and Dimi Raphoto
Cinematography: Dudley Saunders and Richard Davies
Print Source: Cinga Productions

This amazing coming of age story follows a group of Soweto teenagers who surf moving trains. Over the course of the last three years, the filmmakers followed and documented the lives of three of the most notorious train surfers in Soweto: Bitch Nigga, Lefa and Mzembe. It involved following them onto the top of hurtling trains, into the heroin dens of Hillbrow and into prisons with names like Sun City – all in the hope of understanding their frustrations and documenting the lives of the new generation of youth in Soweto.

Two years ago, a version of the story was shown at DIFF and on SABC's *Special Assignment*. The footage of young boys riding trains at speed ducking cables with over 3 000 volts of electricity running through them was so dramatic the piece was picked up by CNN. But that was only the beginning of the story. *Surfing Soweto* tells of a forgotten generation and is filmed with riveting camera work. Think *Dogtown and The Z Boys* meets *Rebel Without A Cause*.

Filmmaker in attendance

29 Suncoast B 18h00; 01 Ekhaya 12h00

SARA BLECHER and DIMI RAPHOTO are documentary directors and producers. They produced the Emmy nominated drama series, *Zero Tolerance*, for SABC 2. Raphoto has also previously produced work for *Special Assignment*, Channel 4 Britain and Big Brother Africa. Blecher is co-founder of Cinga Productions and is currently shooting her debut feature film in Durban.



TEHRAN WITHOUT PERMISSION

Iran/France 2009, Persian with English subtitles, Video, 83 min
Director: Sepideh Farsi
Cinematography: Sepideh Farsi
Print Source: Rêves d'Eau Productions

Shot entirely on a cellphone, *Tehran Without Permission* captures the city not as a metropolis but as a character. Leading up to the controversial elections of last year, the film is conversely an intensely personal collage of Tehran and its people. Sepideh Farsi left Tehran in her teens, yet has always remained entranced by Iran's lively capital. Here, she creates a collage-style portrait of a city in flux.

She comments: "The challenge was to remain unnoticed, in order to shoot as freely as possible, not only to escape the omnipresent surveillance of the authorities, but also to reduce the distance between the one who films and the one who is filmed. Therefore, I decided to shoot the film with a mobile phone." This covert filming reveals a city beset with social and political tensions, yet held aloft by the indomitable spirit and character of its population. The results are intimate and illuminating, and a compelling account of a city in transition.

24 Suncoast B 12h00; 31 Royal 15h00

Born in Tehran, SEPIDEH FARSI left Iran to study in Paris. Her first two feature length documentaries, *Dreams of Dust* (2003) and *The Gaze* (2005) premiered at Rotterdam. Farsi is currently finishing her next film *The House Under The Water* and writing for a feature project called *The Other Shore*.



WASTE LAND

UK/Brazil 2010, English and Portuguese with English subtitles, Video, 98 min

Director: Lucy Walker, João Jardim and Karen Harley

Cinematography: Dudu Miranda

Print Source: E1 Entertainment

Winner of audience awards at Sundance and Berlin, *Waste Land* travels with acclaimed artist, Vik Muniz, to the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, to a particularly unusual site of creative production. Art and poverty collide at Jardim Gramacho – the world's largest rubbish dump.

What starts for Muniz as a simple project of documenting an unknown aspect of the society from which he originates becomes a profound encounter with a band of catadores, who make a living picking recyclable materials.

The creative collaboration that ensues deals not only with important environmental and social issues, but restores dignity to a group of people tossed aside by society, like the garbage with which they work. One of the more unusually inspirational films of the year, there is a moving magic in witnessing the ability of people at the bottom-most rung of society to transform that which is repugnant into treasured objects in which they can take pride.

Filmmaker in attendance

24 Suncoast B 16h00; 26 Sneddon 18h00

LUCY WALKER is an English documentary filmmaker whose film successes include the multi-award-winning *Blindsight*. Brazilian co-director **JOÃO JARDIM's** debut documentary *Janela Da Alma* (2002) was highly acclaimed and screened for 48 weeks at the Brazilian box-office. **KAREN HARLEY** has directed several short documentaries on Brazilian artists. *Waste Land* is her first foray into directing feature-length films.



WHEN THE MOUNTAIN MEETS ITS SHADOW

Germany 2009, English, Afrikaans and Xhosa with English subtitles, Video, 75 min

Director: Alexander Kleider and Daniela Michel

Cinematography: Alexander Kleider

Print Source: DOK-WERK Filmcooperative

When The Mountain Meets Its Shadow tells the stories of Ashraf, Mne, Zoliswa and Arnold, who fight for survival in the informal settlements and townships around Cape Town, a city where the gap between rich and poor is, arguably, starker than anywhere else in the country. While Ashraf and his friend Mne fight against evictions, and water and electricity cut-offs, Zoliswa and Arnold hope to find better employment. When the city council attempts to clear an entire informal settlement, Ashraf and Mne are confronted with their own, unresolved experiences from the apartheid years.

The nature of the historical moment is accurately described by Ashraf, when he says, "this city used to be divided by black and white, now it is divided by rich and poor." Two different experiences of this divide are depicted in the film – the equally inspiring stories of the activists, taking matters into their own hands in the face of antagonism from the authorities, and the story of the workers, whose patience and civility epitomises the strength of the human spirit.

Filmmakers in attendance

31 Sneddon 14h00; 01 Ekhaya 14h00

DOK-WERK Filmcooperative was founded by German filmmakers **ALEXANDER KLEIDER** and **DANIELA MICHEL** with the aim to produce captivating documentaries about challenging issues. Both have been making feature-length documentaries, as well as magazine items for theatrical release, television (ZDF, ARTE) and radio since 2001 and currently lecture on documentary filmmaking.



WINNEBAGO MAN

USA 2009, English, Video, 87 min

Director: Ben Steinbauer

Cinematography: Bradley Beesley and Berndt Mader

Print Source: Kino International

"One of the funniest documentaries ever made!" – Michael Moore.

Jack Rebney is the most famous man you've never heard of – an RV salesman whose hilarious, foul-mouthed outbursts circulated underground on VHS tapes in the 90s before turning into a full-blown Internet phenomenon in 2005. Originally intended as an inside joke, today, the "Winnebago Man" has been seen by more than 20 million people worldwide, and is regarded as one of the first and funniest viral videos. Filmmaker Ben Steinbauer goes in search of Rebney and finds him living alone on a mountain top, unaware of his fame and more savvy, deep, weird, and cool than anyone could have imagined.

Winnebago Man is a laugh-out-loud look at viral culture and an unexpectedly poignant tale of one man's response to unintended celebrity. "...a funny and thought-provoking investigation into the nature of overnight online notoriety (featuring several hilarious and wince-inducing clips of comparable interweb superstars like the Star Wars kid and Aleksey "Impossible Is Nothing" Vayner)..." – Nerve.com

26 MUSGRAVE B 22H00; 31 SNEDDON 16H00

BEN STEINBAUER is a director, writer and producer. He is the recipient of the 2007 Princess Grace Foundation Award for filmmaking. *Winnebago Man* is his feature directing debut and was voted a Top Ten Audience Favourite at the Hot Docs Film Festival in May 2009. He teaches film at the University of Texas.

COMPUTER

Uganda 2009, Luganda with English subtitles, Video, 11 min

Director: Peggy Mbiyu

Cinematography: Raphael Khisa

Print Source: Maisha Film Lab



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1

Twenty-five-year-old savant Paul Sserunjaji is nicknamed Computer because of his remarkable ability to rapidly calculate complex mathematical sums in his head. What makes his ability even more special is that Paul is semi-literate. In this charming short, we follow him through the streets of Kampala, as curious onlookers and friends put him to the test.

FINDING STILLNESS

South Africa 2010, English, Video, 12 min

Director: Donald Mugisha and James Taylor

Cinematography: Julius Sebata, Donald Mugisha, James Taylor and Alex Ireta

Print Source: Rainbow Circle Films



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1

Julius is a carpenter based in Kampala who crafts furniture, fixes things and whittles pretty ornaments. He loves his trade but he also has other dreams. He has found a passion and aptitude for stills photography and videography. Despite the odds stacked against him, he is determined to pursue the dream of becoming a professional cameraman. Incidentally... he is also deaf.



GETTING THERE

Uganda 2009, Luganda with English subtitles, Video, 19 min

Director: Godfrey Mubuuke

Cinematography: Allie Mutaka Byansi

Print Source: Maisha Film Lab

SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 2

A city street in Uganda. A large bunch of bananas have to be transported by motorcycle from one part of the city to another. These are not usually the variables that make for spell-binding cinema but, in *Getting There*, director Godfrey Mubuuke and cinematographer Allie Mutaka Byansi manage to achieve just that. A kinetic love-letter to the dignity of work.

KHONEXTED

South Africa 2010, English and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 14 min

Director: Esley Philander

Cinematography: Shamiel Albertyn

Print Source: Rainbow Circle Films



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 2

"How do you celebrate diversity when distinctions were created by design?" asks Glen Arendse. As Khoi Khonnexion's Jethro Louw and Glen Arendse together with Ferdinand Von Tura make their way from the Cape Flats to a sacred KhoiSan site in Lion's Head, a conversation evolves that challenges contemporary ideas on culture and identity. Part of Ikon South Africa, Series 2.

THE KILLING OF THE IMAM

South Africa 2010, English, Video, 10 min

Director: Khalid Shamis

Cinematography: Khalid Shamis

Print Source: tubafilms



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1

In 1969, Imam Abdullah Haron was incarcerated and killed in detention under the terrorism act of 1967 in Cape Town. His was one of the early deaths in detention during apartheid. Mixing animation, documentary, interview and archive footage, *The Killing of the Imam*, directed by the Imam's grandson, offers an excellent précis of a principled life.

LAND OF MILK AND HONEY

South Africa 2009, English, Shona and Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 15 min

Director: Winnie Dummell and Tapiwa Chipfupa

Cinematography: Samantha Nell

Print Source: North South South Programme (WITS)



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 2

Land of Milk and Honey depicts a day in the life of Trish Tapoka, who lives in the Central Methodist Church in downtown Johannesburg. Like many of her co-inhabitants Trish is a refugee fleeing the economic crisis in Zimbabwe. She lives her life at the mercy of the larger forces in the area, and tries to survive to the best of her ability in a tough environment.



MR. EDDY'S DREAM FOR LAGOS

South Africa 2010, English, Video, 5 min

Director: James Taylor, Qudus Onikeku and Julia Raynham

Cinematography: Julia Raynham

Print Source: Rainbow Circle Films

SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 2

From a satellite view of Africa we track into Nigeria and drop out of the sky, into the middle of a downtown Lagos traffic jam, ending up in the cab of Mr. Eddy: businessman, entrepreneur and taxi-man. Eddy chats about the frustration and hope that drive the people of Lagos in a constant push and pull, much like downtown traffic. Part of Ikon South Africa, Series 2.

NAMRATA

Canada 2009, English, Video, 9 min

Director: Shazia Javed

Cinematography: Doug Cole

Print Source: National Film Board of Canada



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1

For the first time in 17 years, Namrata Gill wraps herself in her wedding sari. It doesn't bring back happy memories. Her husband was supposed to be Prince Charming – whisking her away from Punjab to a new life in Canada. But instead of living a fairy-tale dream, Gill found herself in a nightmare. One of the real-life inspirations for Deepa Mehta's feature, *Heaven on Earth*.

SARAH AND OMELGA

Malaysia/South Africa 2010, English, Video, 30 min

Director: Tan Chui Mui

Cinematography: Tan Chui Mui

Print Source: Da Huang Pictures Sdn. Bhd.



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1

Last year, filmmaker Tan Chui Mui shot a short science-fiction film in Durban during the Durban International Film Festival. While making the film she got to know some of the filmmakers of Durban. In Tan's native Malaysia, the Chinese and Malaysians do everything separately. How do the races here interact? She asked two Durban filmmakers: one black, one white.



SIYABONGA MAMA

South Africa 2010, Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 15 min

Director: Omelga Mthiyane

Cinematography: Omelga Mthiyane

Print Source: Omelga Mthiyane

SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 2

Durban filmmaker Omelga Mthiyane follows her mother across the legendary Warwick Market in Durban, an important source of income for generations of poor people. The market is now slated for demolition in order to make room for a mall. Mthiyane uses her trademark style of filtering the political through the personal, in this case her mother's concerns about her career as a filmmaker.



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

South Africa 2010, English and Xhosa with English subtitles, Video, 15 min

Director: Lukhanyo Calata

Cinematography: Zaid Harris and Lukhanyo Calata

Print Source: Rainbow Circle Films

SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1

Unfinished Business is a film by Lukhanyo Calata, the son of Fort Calata, a political activist who was killed by the apartheid regime alongside Matthew Goniwe, Sparrow Mkhonto and Sicelo Mhlauli. The men became known as the Cradock 4. Lukhanyo seeks the permission and support of his mother and that of the other widows and families in his quest to seek justice for his father's life.

WALK WITH A GUIDE

Poland 2009, Polish with English subtitles, Video, 11 min

Director: Maciel Cendrowski

Cinematography: Bartosz Nalazek

Print Source: The Polish National Film, Television and Theatre School



SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1

Remy is a masseur with passion. His passion is sound. Walking through Lodz on his way to work Remy is preparing a sound map of the city. He lets us into his world where if you want to see you need to close your eyes first. A remarkable experience for those of us 'blessed' with eyes.

SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 1: REALITY BITES

23 Luthuli 14h00; 24 EKHAYA 15h00 ; 31 Ekhaya 12h00

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WALK WITH A GUIDE

THE KILLING OF THE IMAM

NAMRATA

COMPUTER

FINDING STILLNESS

SARAH AND OMELGA

SHORT DOCUMENTARY PACKAGE 2: INSIGHT AFRICA

26 ROYAL 17h00; 30 Luthuli 14h00; 31 Ekhaya 15h00

GETTING THERE

MR. EDDY'S DREAM OF LAGOS

LAND OF MILK AND HONEY

KHONEXTED

SIYABONGA MAMMA



THE 31ST



DURBAN

INTERNATIONAL

FILM

FESTIVAL 2010

22 JUL - 01 AUG



The festival presents a selection of over 70 short films from around the world, including 30 from South Africa. The films have been carefully grouped in gastronomic-inspired packages (see page 105). We invite you to dig into this feast for your eyes and mind.



▲ *The Ancestor's Child*

AGTER DIE BERGE

South Africa 2009, Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 24 min

Director: Kyle Southgat

Print Source: AFDA JHB

BUNNY CHOW

Daniel Moses is tasked with an assassination as his initiation into a Cape Flats gang. After the operation is botched, Daniel is forced to hide out in a small farming community. The Solomons family offers him solace and guidance, however, his newfound tranquillity is disturbed when his past intrudes.

THE ANCESTOR'S CHILD

South Africa 2009, English and Sotho with English subtitles, Video, 11 min

Directors: Steven Mitchell and Rochan Redelinghuys

Print Source: Caitlin Robinson

POTJIEKOS

Maki is a strong-willed orphan who is struggling to settle into boarding school. Away from her parents, she conjures them to life much to the disturbance of her teasing peers. Unable to reconcile her cultural beliefs with her convent school's value system, she takes action to forge a future for herself.

AWAY FROM ME

South Africa 2009, English and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 12 min

Director: Craig Cameron-Mackintosh

Print Source: AFDA JHB

BUNNY CHOW

Cherie and Keith suffer a terrible tragedy that drives them apart. Keith finds new love while Cherie drowns in depression. Trapped in mourning for love and life lost, Cherie commits an extreme act that ultimately brings her and her estranged lover to a place of peace.

COLD TURKEY

Ireland 2009, English, Video, 11 min

Director: Gavin Keane

Print Source: Parallel Films

CHAKALAKA

A sound designer with a crush on his next door neighbour is tasked with creating the audio track for a fight scene in a film he is working on. After many unlucky endeavours, he resorts to absurd means to capture the audio he needs. Cue your laughter track for this hilarious comedy.



▲ *Away from Me*

CÓMO CONI'I A TU PADRE (HOW I MET YOUR FATHER)

Spain 2009, Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 9 min

Director: Álex Montoya

Print Source: Agencia Freak

PAELLA

Every couple has its story. Some more embarrassing than others. In this sexy comedy, Ana and Mikel go on a first date. At the end of the night, they stagger drunkenly back to her place. Can their budding romance survive Mikel's disastrous performance?

DAWA

Uganda 2009, English and Swahili with English subtitles, Video, 14 min

Director: Mark Kaigwa

Print Source: Maisha Film Lab

CHAKALAKA

An unlikely pair of city slicker conmen made up of grandfather and grandson start a new scam in a nearby village. They make attempts at exploiting simple village folk hoping that they will strike it rich. Too bad they didn't run their scheme past the established con artists in the area.

DEL AMOR, SEGÚN STENDHAL (ABOUT LOVE, ACCORDING TO STENDHAL)

Argentina 2010, No dialogue, Video, 10 min

Director: Goyo Anchou

Print Source: Goyo Anchou

POTJIEKOS

Love's birth and growth is told in the progression of the journeys of a woman on the beach and that of a group of seals, expressing the stages that love follows from Invocation to Birth to Admiration through to Crystallization. A surreal representation of love told through a series of arresting images.



▲ *Dawa*

DEMELKER

South Africa 2009, Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 12 min

Director: Kyle Lewis

Print Source: AFDA JHB

BUNNY CHOW

A small dorp in 1930s South Africa has not seen any rain for six years. Antoinette returns home with her illegitimate son to face her past and stand firm against the scorn of gossiping neighbours. But small town mindsets change as the little boy unravels the dark secret of its most infamous resident.

THE DEVIL BEHIND

South Africa 2010, Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 19 min

Director: Nonhle Dlodla

Print Source: Nonhle Dlodla

PHUTHU & MAAS

Two Durban women swindle men out of their money with good looks, charm and bad voodoo. Bheki falls victim to them and despite his lowly occupation and poor wages, he funds their needs. Bheki faces frightening consequences from his wife and neighbours for his foolishness.

DREAMING A WHOLE LIFE

Spain 2010, No dialogue, Video, 5 min

Director: Abel Sánchez Domínguez

Print Source: Agencia Freak

CHAKALAKA

26 CFAD 14h00

The protagonist in this clever tale has one problem: his face hangs from his head like a saggy cloth. An animated tale about the arduous attempts to assimilate oneself into a different society and the need to hold onto one's personal identity.



▲ *Dreaming a Whole Life*

EARLY CHECKOUT

Australia 2009, English, Video, 7 min

Director: Jim Lounsbury

Print Source: Jim Lounsbury

CHAKALAKA

Chris is awoken by his extremely anxious best friend Dan who moments earlier may have accidentally strangled his one-night stand to death. Understandably panicked, tired and hung-over, Dan and Chris join forces to try and solve this awkward dilemma by getting rid of the body. A morbidly delightful comedy.



▲ *Early Checkout*

THE END

South Africa 2009, No dialogue, Video, 12 min

Director: Momelezi Vuyisa Ntshiba

Print Source: Momelezi Vuyisa Ntshiba

SAMP & BEANS

A crafty carjacker outsmarts the authorities and leaves a trail of helpless victims in his wake. When he hijacks a car from a seemingly powerless young rich woman, he is stopped by police. What they find in the woman's car serves as not only a shocking surprise to the conman but also his comeuppance for his wrongdoings.

DURBAN SHORT FILM CHALLENGE

South Africa 2010, Various, Video, 5 min x 12

Director: Various

Print Source: Durban Film Society

29 KZNSA 20h00; 30 SPIGA 20h00

The Durban Short Film Challenge invited filmmakers from across South Africa to make a five-minute film in three weeks around a specific theme. The top entries won a screening at the 31st DIFF. Organised by the Durban Film Society.

Filmmakers in attendance

ENCUENTRO (ENCOUNTER)

Spain 2009, Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 21 min

Director: Nick Igea

Print Source: Nick Igea

PAELLA

A young man and woman accidentally have an encounter on the street three years after breaking up. Old feelings resurface leading to a fun but frank conversation at a nearby café. Delightfully awkward.

FATHER CHRISTMAS DOESN'T COME HERE

South Africa 2009, Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 14 min

Director: Bheki Sibiyi

Print Source: National Film and Video Foundation

BUNNY CHOW

A little girl, confused by contemporary standards of beauty, yearns to have long, straight hair like her late mother. She tries to reach her goal by using hair straighteners, but the pain she must endure obstructs her cause. She writes to Father Christmas asking for her heart's desire. Eventually she discovers the beauty of being herself.

A FLIGHT THAT LOST ITS FEATHERS

South Africa 2009, English, Xhosa and Sotho with English subtitles, Video, 16 min

Director: Jonas Staerk

Print Source: AFDA JHB

BUNNY CHOW

When a man dies, his young girlfriend and mother of his child are forced to move to the big city with their newborn baby. The young woman grows increasingly overwhelmed as she is immersed in the challenges of urban life. However, she finds a promise of hope in an enchanting neighbour.



▲ *Father Christmas Doesn't Come Here*



▲ *Homecoming*

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Romania 2008, No dialogue, Video, 3 min

Director: Alexei Gubenco

Print Source: Alexei Gubenco

BREYANI

26 CFAD 14h00

A handkerchief drying on the washing line is tempted by the grace and beauty of birds. Trying to mimic their freedom, the handkerchief struggles against the pegs that hold it down. The hanky dares to dream and launches out on an adventure beyond its powers.

HEMELCOMING

South Africa 2009, English and Hindi with English subtitles, Video, 24 min

Director: Kershan Panchar

Print Source: AFDA CT

SAMP & BEANS

Bharat, a culturally adrift twenty-something, must return to Durban when his mother is diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. He insists on surgery and cutting-edge medical procedures but his mother is equally adamant on healing herself traditionally and spiritually. Through this journey, Bharat is offered a chance to rediscover a culture forsaken.

I AM SAARTJIE BAARTMAAN

South Africa 2009, English, Xhosa and French with English subtitles, Video, 18 min

Director: Nobunye Levin

Print Source: Nobunye Levin

BREYANI

A poignant unearthing of the life and struggles of Sara Baartman, told through powerful and moving visual poetry. Connecting and relating Baartman's personal desire through two love affairs, this experimental feminist historiography seeks to offer an intimately human interpretation of Baartman.

IN A TIME WITHOUT LOVE

South Africa 2009, English, Zulu and Xhosa with English subtitles, Video, 24 min

Director: Mark Strydom

Print Source: Mark Strydom

POTJIEKOS

Confronted by death, Vuka tells his daughter the story of his first and greatest love, her mother Carmen. The couple found love with each other during an age when they could not be together and in a world that would never allow it. Vuka recalls their love and the risks they took for each other during the dark days of Apartheid.

IN RETURN

South Africa 2009, Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 12 min

Director: Zee Ntuli

Print Source: AFDA JHB

PHUTHU & MAAS

Kwanele is an ex-criminal turned security guard who is faced with the task of addressing a room of indifferent high school students. At first awkward before the youngsters, Kwanele shares his tumultuous life experiences. Delving into the darkness of his past, he brings out unexpected reactions.

JONAH AND THE VICARIOUS NATURE OF HOMESICKNESS

Germany 2010, English, Video, 12 min

Director: Bryn Chainey

Print Source: Anna Wendt Filmproduktion

PHUTHU & MAAS

One day, Jonah leaves his family and blasts off in his homemade spaceship. Without giving any explanation and without offering any goodbyes, Jonah takes off, only leaving behind a telephone number that redirects to a most peculiar answering machine. Winner of the Berlin Today Award.

A KIND OF LANGUAGE

South Africa 2010, English, Xhosa and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 25 min

Director: Phylia Dhlamini

Print Source: Lady Barker Productions

PHUTHU & MAAS

Based on the late novelist K. Sello Duiker's *Thirteen Cents* and *The Quiet Violence of Dreams*, the film takes the lead characters of each book, Azure and Tshepo, and places them in one world as they both struggle for survival. *A Kind of Language* explores the idea of the Self against a backdrop of inequality in post-apartheid South Africa.

LA DISCORDE (THE DISCORD)

Senegal 2008, French and Wolof with English subtitles, Video, 29 min

Director: El Hadji Samba Sarr

SAMP & BEANS

Parisian Paulele and her family are visiting their home village in Senegal when her father decides that they should stay permanently. He marries his daughter off to his cousin who is much older than Paulele. Paulele travels to the city of Saint Louis to seek clarity amidst a clash of customs and values. Director El Hadji Samba Sarr was a Durban Talent Campus 2009 participant who tragically passed away earlier this year.

LA HISTORIA DE SIEMPRE (THE SAME OLD STORY)

Spain 2009, Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 10 min

Director: José Luis Montesinos

Print Source: Agencia Freak

PAELLA

A man on a bus has a loud and personal conversation on the phone with his ex-wife. Uninhibited by the public arena, he lets out the troubles of his marriage and the responsibilities he struggles to bear. His fellow commuters become his captivated and curious audience but they soon understand the motive behind his exhibitionism.

LATITUDE: 9 CONTEMPORARY SHORT FILMS FROM AFRICA

Seeking to challenge African filmmakers to engage with representations of Africa in cinema, the Latitude short film package is the result of the Goethe-Institut Pan-African Short Film Competition which began in 2007. It is a series of films authored by young filmmakers from across the continent illustrating the diversity, complexity and ambiguity of Africa.



THE ABYSS BOYS

South Africa 2010, English and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 26 min

Director: Jan-Hendrik Beetge

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 2

23 Ekhaya 18h00

After his younger brother becomes enchanted with a gangster perlemoen poacher, a teenage boy, himself an ex-poacher, devises a plan to escape their small fishing village. Tragically, nothing can prepare him for what happens next.



▲ *The Abyss Boys*

BIDENAM: THE HOPE OF A VILLAGE

Togo 2010, French with English subtitles, Video, 23 min

Director: Gentille M. Assih

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 1

Returning home after studying abroad, Bidenam is incensed by the corruption and injustice she finds in her village. She takes action through innovation and leads the way for her community to stand up to exploitative government officials.

BLOODSTONES

Nigeria 2010, English, Video, 20 min

Director: Didi Cheeka

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 1

23 Ekhaya 18h00

Trapped as slave labour in a Nigerian stone quarry, two children plot their escape. A gripping plot, with compelling performances from a young cast, make this a disturbingly real watch.

THE CAMERA

Nigeria 2010, English, Video, 11 min

Director: Julius Morno

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 1

A commercial photographer is mugged of his camera hours before he needs to deliver photographs to a client. The camera is inadvertently passed from person to person, offering an intriguing snapshot of a Nigerian neighbourhood.

CRIES AT NIGHT

Namibia 2010, English, Video, 13 min

Director: Oshosheni Hiveluah

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 2

The past comes calling for Lazarus, a Namibian war veteran, when he happens upon his former torturer. This chance meeting sparks a violent desire for revenge and retribution in an otherwise reserved chess club owner.

MAHLA

Mozambique 2010, Portuguese with English subtitles, Video, 30 min

Director: Dario "Mickey" Fonseca

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 1

A patient and forgiving woman finally decides to leave her abusive husband and make a new life with her young son. However on the day of her decision, a terrible series of events unfolds, splitting them further apart than ever.

THE PAINTER

Uganda 2010, English, Video, 24 min

Director: Winnie Gamisha

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 2

23 Ekhyaya 18h00

Kefa, a young Ugandan artist, is selected to exhibit in Switzerland. His zealous mother organises a 'small' celebration and invites just about everyone she knows. Besieged by his community's greed and expectations, Kefa's girlfriend steps in to save the day.

PRESTIGE

Tunisia 2010, Arabic and French with English subtitles, Video, 20 min

Director: Walid Tayaa

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 2

A delightful slapstick comedy about an Arab family coming to terms with their daughter's black boyfriend. Outrageous in style, *The Prestige* tackles issues of racism and cultural prejudice without taking itself too seriously.

PUMZI

Kenya 2010, English, Video, 24 min

Director: Wanuri Kahiu

Print Source: Goethe-Institut

LATITUDE PACKAGE 1

23 Ekhyaya 18h00

A young woman in post-apocalyptic Kenya is determined to leave the confines of her hi-tech city and search for the dream of a green future. *Pumzi* is Kenya's first science fiction film and is a must-see at this year's festival.

LA MÉTAPHORE DU MANIOC (THE CASSAVA METAPHOR)

Cameroon/France 2010, French with English subtitles, Video, 15 min

Director: Lionel Meta

Print Source: Lionel Meta

POTJIEKOS

Cab driver, Coco, drives a beautiful woman to the airport. Upon reaching their destination, Coco comes to discover that the woman has strange expectations of him and an even stranger understanding of her destination and her means of arrival. Stuck with her, the driver must conjure up an ingenious method to reach a successful solution.

LOSERPOOL

Uganda 2009, English, Video, 8 min

Director: Ivan Kyambadde

Print Source: Maisha Film Lab

PAELLA

A young man believes that God speaks to him through Liverpool FC. With a religious conviction that his fortunes are inexplicably linked to those of his favourite club, he struggles to change a lifetime of bad habits. In so doing, he believes he will turn his luck around and that of the football club.



▲ *Pumzi*

▲ *Masala Mama*

LOVE FM LOVE' AGAIN

South Korea 2010, Korean with English subtitles,
Video, 15 min

Director: Chong-Kyu Kim

Print Source: Jun-Hyoung Kim

SAMP & BEANS

An aspiring illustrator works late hours at a convenience store. Each night he listens to his first love, a famous DJ on Love FM. He often sends in questions to her and shares tales of his happy memories of her, but never reveals his true identity. One night, a new love walks into his life.

LOVE IS...

Namibia 2009, English, Video, 22 min

Director: Perivi John Katjavivi

Print Source: Perivi John Katjavivi

BREYANI

Two lovers are forced to confront their fears when one decides to follow her dream of living abroad. Her beau is left distraught but moved to rethink his life. Is he pursuing his dreams or just letting life pass him by?

LOWLY LUCRETIA

UK 2009, No dialogue, Video, 5 min

Director: Lorraine Nolan

Print Source: Lorraine Nolan

SAMP & BEANS

Isolated and alone, a woman comes to terms with the violence committed against her body. A hard-hitting, disturbing portrayal of domestic rape. Based on the tragic history of Lucretia, a Roman noble woman whose rape and subsequent suicide caused the downfall of the Roman Monarchy.

MASALA MAMA

Singapore 2010, English, Tamil and Hokkien with
English subtitles, Video, 9 min

Director: Michael Kam

Print Source: Michael Kam

CHAKALAKA

A young boy has a passion for cartooning. Hungry to explore this fascination, he steals a comic book from an eccentric shopkeeper. Though the shopkeeper and the boy start off on a bad footing they are eventually united by a mutual foe – the boy's strict father.

MI AMIGO INVISIBLE (MY INVISIBLE FRIEND)

Spain 2010, Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 13 min

Director: Pablo Larcuen

Print Source: Agencia Freak

PAELLA

Tony is a painfully shy, overweight boy who is unable to utter a word to anyone, not even his parents. When he creates a friend for himself, Tony's life takes on a new dimension. He comes to know what his life would be like were he able to communicate with another. Quirky fun.

▲ *My Invisible Friend*

MY MOTHER IS MY CHILD

Togo/Benin 2009, French with English subtitles, Video,
28 min

Director: Ingrid Sodzine Agbo

Print Source: Ingrid Sodzine Agbo

POTJIEKOS

Justine is eight years old and lives with her mother Rita, who does not fulfil her motherly capacity at all. She is burdened by the task of taking care of her mother who acts more like a daughter than a parent. Events take a spin when Rita and Justine learn how to play their appropriate roles.



▲ *My Mother Is My Child*

NO WAY THROUGH

UK 2009, English, Video, 7 min

Director: Alexandra Monro and Sheila Menon

Print Source: Aneta Chalas

BUNNY CHOW

In a fictitious London reminiscent of the Middle East, a man runs a young girl over and tries to get her to the hospital. However, ridiculous restrictions placed on movement by checkpoints and soldiers prove an insurmountable hurdle and the man is unable to save the dying girl. A riveting exploration of the reality of Palestinian life in the West Bank.

NO WOMAN BORN

Malaysia/South Africa 2010, English and Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 24 min

Director: Tan Chui Mui

Print Source: Da Huang Pictures

BREYANI

Robot-like labourers work on gleaming white giant buildings. Women are absent and unnecessary. *No Woman Born* is the product of Malaysian filmmaker Tan Chui Mui's intention not to focus on the occasionally grim reality of today's South Africa, but to give an obscure and experimental view of South Africa from a tourist's perspective.

OMA RENNT! (RUN GRANNY RUN!)

Germany 2009, No dialogue, Video, 4 min

Director: Nikolaus von Uthmann

Print Source: Nikolaus von Uthmann

PAELLA

Sweet Granny is inching her way forward to her favourite spot in the park to feed the ducks when she is overtaken by Mrs Messala. Both ladies manoeuvre their wheeled walking-aides in a humorously violent snail-pace race. Whacky action-comedy.



▲ *Run Granny Run*

OWEYANGENA – NTLAHLA (THE UNLUCKIEST)

South Africa/UK 2010, Xhosa with English subtitles, Video, 9 min

Director: Justine Waddell

Print Source: A Farm Group Company

CHAKALAKA

A father is seen by his eldest son and by his community as a silly nitwit. When he suffers a fatal accident while fixing a fan, his son is left with the responsibility of burying him. He is moved to walk the wire in order to give his father the dignity he didn't have while he was alive.

THE PARDON

Rwanda 2009, English, Video, 13 min

Director: Joel Karekezi

Print Source: Joel Karekezi

SAMP & BEANS

When Manzi, a reformed Rwandan genocide perpetrator, is released from a 15-year prison sentence, his former best friend Karemera is incensed. Karemera wants justice for the crimes Manzi committed against his family. While Karemera tries to implicate Manzi and send him back to prison, Manzi offers the greatest sacrifice in an endeavour to prove his commitment to peace.



▲ *The Unluckiest*

PILLARS OF HOPE

South Africa/Zimbabwe/USA 2010, English, Video, 35 min

Director: Edmund Mumbo

Print Source: Edmund Mumbo

PAELLA

Tinashe is a young boy who has seen and lived through his family and community being torn apart by Government forces during the horrific 2008 election violence in Zimbabwe. When the government removes the community's much-loved soccer facilities, Tinashe courageously stands up to government forces and unites his beleaguered community.



▲ *Pillars of Hope*

PINATA

Australia 2009, English, Video, 18 min

Director: Sian Davies

Print Source: Yaman Fims

BREYANI

Rob and Wendy are two perfect strangers enduring a day besieged by loss. While at their lowest points, fate brings them together with terrifying consequences. Unexpectedly, a moment of grace comes upon them and reveals the way forward for both of them.

SHAVING SHEEP

South Africa 2009, Xhosa with English subtitles, Video, 12 min

Director: Carl Houston McMillan

Print Source: AFDA JHB

BREYANI

A father obsessed with boxing forces his son into the ring. His son however has no interest or aptitude for the sport. When his father's stubbornness eventually compromises their livelihood, it is up to the son to fight for what is truly theirs and challenge his father's lies.

▲ *Shaving Sheep*

SIN PALABRAS (WITHOUT WORDS)

Morocco 2009, Arabic, French and Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 19 min

Director: Othman Naciri

Print Source: Othman Naciri

POTJIEKOS

A black African man saves the life of an Arabic Moroccan fisherman and offers him a priceless luck charm. In so doing, the refugee sacrifices much more than he had envisaged. Realising that she owes her husband's life to the refugee, the fisherman's wife bestows upon him the greatest gift possible when all has been lost.

TOSFERINA (WHOOPIING COUGH)

Spain 2009, Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 9 min

Director: Álvaro Alonso

Print Source: Agencia Freak

PAELLA

Spain, 1949. Six-year-old Antoito has whooping cough. In a desperate era full of needs, his father, who works for the Spanish National Railway Network, cannot meet his son's health requirements. Therefore, Antoito's father devises an ingenious therapy coinciding with the Wednesday morning express.

TOUCH

USA 2009, English, Video, 11 min

Director: Jen McGowan

Print Source: Jen McGowan

PHUTHU & MAAS

While society continues busily about their ways, pre-occupied with their own worries, a young woman waiting for her train to arrive strikes up a conversation with an older woman. Although the woman takes note of the apparent melancholy in the older woman's eyes, she does not know that the woman is about to commit suicide. A small encounter of human interaction proves life-changing.

TRISHANKU (THE FLOATING POSITION)

India 2009, Marathi with English subtitles, Video, 17 min

Director: Dnyanesh Zoting

Print Source: Dnyanesh Zoting

CHAKALAKA

Vivek is an economically elite engineering student who belongs to a so-called inferior class of society termed Other Backward Castes. Vivek faces a dilemma between his caste identity and his higher economic status. The dilemma turns into a struggle of thoughts when a sophisticated Brahmin girl and a Dalit student activist enter his life.

TUESDAY

South Africa 2009, English, Video, 27 min

Director: Anton Krueger

Print Source: Tracy Hagerman

CHAKALAKA

Orton is a man with many questions. Like, why Tuesday comes around every week. When his girlfriend kicks him out of their flat for being spineless, Orton is challenged to ask more introspective questions, like why he's never had an enemy. This Tuesday, driven by Dostoevsky's *Underground Man*, Orton takes a surreal journey in search of his nemesis.

▲ *Saint Louis Blues*

THE TUNNEL

South Africa 2009, English, Afrikaans, Ndebele and Shona with English subtitles, Video, 25 min

Director: Jenna Bass

Print Source: Jenna Bass

BUNNY CHOW

Elizabeth is young girl living in Matabeleland in the 1980s. Her love for telling tall tales has earned her the nickname 'Rabbit.' When she arrives at a guerrilla camp desperate for help, she must tell the greatest story of all, wonderfully toying with illusion. But to save her village, Rabbit must face the reality that is nipping at her heels.

UNDEREXPOSED

France 2009, English, Video, 23 min

Director: Gregg Smith

Print Source: Capricci Films

PHUTHU & MAAS

Hubert Brown comes to a rural location for an interview in a land redevelopment project. However, the land is not only sacred to its residents but it also physically affects all who move through it, animating their gestures with sporadic dance. An experimental exploration of land development versus nature conservation expressed through the fluidity of movement.

UN TRANSPORT EN COMMUN (SAINT LOUIS BLUES)

France/Senegal 2009, French and Wolof with English subtitles, Video 35mm, 48 min

Director: Dyana Gaye

Print Source: Andolfi

23 Suncoast A 22h00; 25 Suncoast B 20h00;

31 Musgrave B 14h00

A group of passengers wait for their taxi to depart. An impromptu musical number begins as they translate their plight into lilting melodies, rising to an altogether different register from the world that surrounds them. A charming account of seven passengers crossing each other's destinies and recounting their lives through song. *Saint Louis Blues* will be shown together with *Soul Boy*, see page 61.

VELA AO CRUCIFICADO (CANDLE TO THE CRUCIFIED)

Brazil 2009, Portuguese with English subtitles, Video, 13 min

Director: Frederico Machado

Print Source: Frederico Machado

BREYANI

A burning candle flickers and dwindles. A poor man's son has died in the slums of Sao Luis, Brazil. The night of the boy's wake, the father attempts to arrange a dignified funeral for his son, despite extremely trying circumstances. A moving testimonial of a father struggling against his destiny.



▲ *Candle to the Crucified*

VRYHEID

South Africa 2009, English and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 13 min

Director: Garon Campbell

Print Source: AFDA JHB

SAMP & BEANS

Sergeant Thinus Coetzee transports a suspected terrorist, Raymond Matlaila to trial in order to testify against fellow activists. Raymond endures an agonising journey as he faces the officers that killed his brother. Thinus traverses a piercing journey of his own as he is forced to reflect on his values when he discovers the lies upon which his duties are based.

WEAKNESS

Kenya 2009, English, Video, 13 min

Director: Wanjiru Kairu

Print Source: Ekwa Msangi-Omari

CHAKALAKA

Nicky is a recovering alcoholic with a history of borrowing money from his brother to support his habit. Unable to pay for his daughter's college tuition fees, Nicky requests yet another loan from his brother. The tables are turned when Nicky discovers that his debt could never amount to what his brother has taken from him.

YOM MOR...WO YOM AMAR (BITTER DAYS)

Jordan 2010, Arabic with English subtitles, Video, 13 min

Director: Amjad Al Rasheed

Print Source: Amjad Al Rasheed

PHUTHU & MAAS

Asama earns a living as a shoe shiner to support her ailing mother and baby sister. She attempts to relieve her emotional woes by indulging in the escapism that sniffing glue provides. Forced to take her sister to work with her, Asama loses herself in her drug's spell, leaving her baby sister vulnerable to a grave danger.



▲ *Bitter Days*

SHORT FILM PACKAGES

SAMP & BEANS

24 ROYAL 14h30; 26 LUTHULI 10h00; 26 ROYAL 13h00; 30 SPIGA 22h00

La Discorde (The Discord)

Vryheid

The Pardon

Love FM Love' Again

Lowly Lucretia

The End

Homecoming

BUNNY CHOW

23 LUTHULI 10h00; 24 ROYAL 12h30; 24 ROGERS 20h00; 27 ROYAL 13h00; 30 CSC 18h00; 31 ROGERS 22h00; 31 SPIGA 20h00

Demelker

A Flight That Lost Its Feathers

Agter Die Berge

Away From Me

Father Christmas Doesn't Come Here

No Way Through

The Tunnel

BREYANI

28 ROYAL 17h00; 31 DOROTHY 13h00

Vela Ao Crucificado (Candle To The Crucified)

No Woman Born

Great Expectations

I Am Saartjie Baartman

Pinata

Shaving Sheep

Love Is...

PHUTHU & MAAS

24 ROGERS 22h00; 26 ROYAL 15h00; 27 LUTHULI 10h00; 28 ROYAL 13h30 30 EKHAYA 18h00

Jonah and the Vicarious Nature of Homesickness

In Return

Touch

Yom Mor...Wo Yom Amar (Bitter Days)

The Devil Behind

A Kind of Language

Underexposed

CHAKALAKA

23 SPIGA 20h00; 24 EKHAYA 12h00; 25 EKHAYA 15h00; 27 ROYAL 11h00; 27 EKHAYA 15h00; 28 LUTHULI 10h00; 28 KZNSA 18h00

Cold Turkey

Dawa

Oweyangena – Ntlaha (The Unluckiest)

Dreaming a Whole Life

Early Checkout

Masala Mama

Weakness

Trishanku (The Floating Position)

Tuesday

POTJIEKOS

23 ROYAL 13h00; 28 ROYAL 11h00; 28 LUTHULI 14h00; 30 EKHAYA 15h00; 31 SPIGA 22h00

Del Amor, Según Stendhal (About Love, According To Stendhal)

The Ancestor's Child

La Métaphore Du Manioc (The Cassava Metaphor)

My Mother Is My Child

Sin Palabras (Without Words)

In A Time Without Love

LATITUDE PACKAGE 1

23 SPIGA 22h00; 28 EKHAYA 12h00; 29 NELSO 20h00

Mahla

Bloodstones

Pumzi

The Camera

Bidenam: The Hope of A Village

LATITUDE PACKAGE 2

24 ROYAL 18h30; 24 SPIGA 22h00; 28 EKHAYA 15h00; 29 CSC 18h00; 29 KZNSA 18h00; 31 DOROTHY 11h00

The Abyss Boys

Cries at Night

Prestige

The Painter

PAELLA

24 SPIGA 20h00; 26 EKHAYA 15h00; 29 ROYAL 11h00; 31 ROGERS 20h00

Loserpool

Pillars of Hope

Cómo Conici A Tu Padre (How I Met Your Father)

Mi Amigo Invisible (My Invisible Friend)

La Historia De Siempe (The Same Old Story)

Tosferina (Whooping Cough)

Encuentro (Encounter)

Oma Renn! (Run Granny Run!)



CANCER TO CAPRICORN

**Australia/Micronesia/Hawaii/El Salvador/Mexico/
Indonesia 2010, English, Video, 44 min**

Director: Russell Brownley

Cast: Mick Fanning, Rob Machado, Tonino Benson, Mike Losness, Ben Bourgeois, Nick Rosza, Paul Fischer, Miss Reef

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

As it is with surfers, checking the surf is a precursor to riding waves. Here, surfers travel to exotic locations and find, well, see how long it takes for you to start gnawing on your passport and begging mom to loan you some money. Between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, tropical storms are tracked, scored, and scoured by some of the best surfers in the world. This is the path of the modern gypsy. Yes! Please!

28 Musgrave B 18h00; 30 Musgrave B 20h00

RUSSELL BROWNLEY is a freelance cameraman and editor specialising in projects for non-profit humanitarian organisations and also works as a cameraman for reality and documentary-based television shows. He has done work across the globe with his documentary production company The Wuss Productions. His film *Gum for my Boat* also screens at DIFF this year.

OPENING FILM



DEAR & YONDER

USA 2009, English, Video, 54 min

Director: Tiffany Campbell and Andria Lessler

Cast: Stephanie Gilmore, Belinda Baggs, Sofia Mulanovich, Stephanie Gilmore, Kassia Meador, Liz Clark, Prue Jeffries

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

Be propelled to a new level of skill and self-expression by a cast of beautiful people with supremely subtle and fluid grace at the most ridiculously good waves you will see, well, until the next Wavescapes film screens some of the most ridiculously good waves you will see, and so on, like a nested Matryoshka. Rich, heady visions take you into the present, and back on soul-filled forays to uncover the rich history of women's surfing.

25 Bay 19h00; 30 Musgrave B 20h00

Filmmakers **TIFFANY CAMPBELL** and **ANDRIA LESSLER** won the Breakthrough Filmmaker Award at the annual SURFER Poll Awards for *Dear & Yonder* in 2009. The award is recognised as one of the most prestigious in the surf industry because the nominees are determined by audiences.



THE DRIFTER

USA/Indonesia 2009, English, Video, 57 min
Director: Taylor Steele
Cast: Rob Machado
Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

The Horror! In the summer of 2008, iconic surfer and former Pipe Master Rob Machado flew to Indonesia to seek solitude and solace. Like Captain Kurtz, he goes a little loco, acts weird and surfs his nuts off. Deep, in the jungle, he surfs an unknown Indo reef, and gets barreled off his pip. His Zen-like mastery is a flowing counterpoint to American machismo. What did he discover? Dear Diary: Don't stop dreaming. Sick waves. Girls will go ga-ga.

27 Musgrave B 20h00

TAYLOR STEELE is an award winning surf filmmaker who has produced over 20 movies, music videos and television shows with his production company Poor Specimen Productions. Notable films include *Momentum* (1991) and *Sipping Jetstreams* (DIFF 2007). Steele is also the producer of *Modern Collective*.



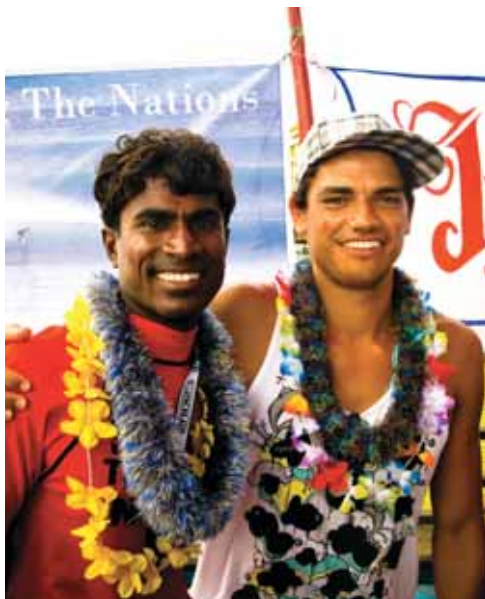
FIBERGLASS AND MEGAPIXELS

Hawaii 2010, English, Video, 48 min
Directors: Derek and Craig Hoffmann
Cast: Mick Fanning, Fred Pataccia Jr, Ian Walsh, Mark Healey, Jordy Smith, Scott Aichner, Pierre Tostee, Reef McIntosh
Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

The inside story of surf photography. As pro-surfer Mark Healey says, "Next time somebody asks me what I do for a living I'll just have them watch this movie." True to the sharp lens and camera technology of the digital age, this vivid doccie transports you through the eyes of the world's best surf photographers, including our own Pierre Tostee, to focus on the North Shore. Five awards this year and counting. Inspiring, sumptuous, and insanely rich in visuals.

27 Musgrave B 20h00; 30 Musgrave B 18h00

DEREK HOFFMAN is an experienced cinematographer whose footage is featured in over 50 films and many more commercials. **CRAIG HOFFMANN** holds a Masters Degree in Communication with an emphasis in Cinema/Television – directing and editing. *Fiberglass and Megapixels* is the Hoffman brothers' first production together under their newly formed company Sandy Beach Productions LLC.



GUM FOR MY BOAT

Bangladesh 2009, English, Video, 32 min

Director: Russel Brownley

Cast: Kahana Kalama, Bangladesh Surf Club members

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

Meet Jafar, Bangladesh's first surfer. A travelling Ozzie sold him a surfboard for 20 bucks in 1991, and he made history that has grown into a story about 70 stoked groms, Bangladesh's first surf club, and how surfing flourished in unlikely places. Narrated by hip, cool Kahana Kalana, a pro-surfer, this film sweeps you through the gritty streets and into the briny sea, where stoke abounds from street urchin to NGO volunteer. Feel good in the real world bru.

26 Musgrave B 18h00; 30 Musgrave B 18h00

RUSSELL BROWNLEY is a freelance cameraman and editor specialising in projects for non-profit humanitarian organisations and also works as a cameraman for reality and documentary-based television shows. He has worked across the globe with his documentary production company The Wuss Productions. His film *Cancer to Capricorn* also screens at DIFF this year.



LIVES OF THE ARTISTS

Tahiti/Greenland/England 2009, English, Video, 79 min

Director: Ross Cairns

Cast: Xavier De La Rue, The Gallows, Tom Lowe, Fergal Smith, Mikey Smith

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

Award-winning doccic about a freakish French snowboarder, big-balled Irish surfers and an angry British punk band seeking the summit of their skill. From wide-eyed rides in giant Chopes, terrifying slides down virgin chutes in Greenland or tattooed head-banging mayhem, they share the desire to find the salt-encrusted, powder-snowed, guitar-ghettoed grail of their inner artist. Not for the squeamish. Featuring Tom Lowe, Fergal Smith, Mickey Smith, Xavier De Le Rue and The Gallows. No under 16.

26 Musgrave B 20h00

ROSS CAIRNS is the founder and creative director of Erasmus, a brand creation agency that created Relentless, an energy drink for the Coca-Cola Company. His previous film, *Powers of Three* (2009), was also produced and released under the Relentless Energy brand.



MODERN COLLECTIVE

USA 2009, English, Video, 57 min

Director: Kai Neville

Cast: Dane Reynolds, Jordy Smith, Dion Agius, Mitch Coleborn, Dusty Payne, Yadin Nicol

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

Mind bending and air blowing, this action paced film is fast and frenetic, with an engaging emo-rock soundtrack. Evolution at its scariest! A collective of young rippers push the limits – Jordy Smith, Dion Aguis, Dusty Payne, Dane Reynolds, Mitch Coleburn and Yadin Nicol. It is the kind of movie that will leave the ballies shaking their heads in dismay and the groms and shredders dreaming incessantly of punting huge air reverses. Mad rad dad.

26 Musgrave B 18h00; 28 Musgrave B 18h00

KAI NEVILLE has worked with legendary surf director Taylor Steele for many years before embarking on his debut *Modern Collective*. He is also the creator of the four-part webisode series *The Landscape Altered* which follows a select group of surfers on a boat trip through Indonesia's Mentawai Islands.



THE PRESENT

USA 2009, English, Video, 74 min

Director: Thomas Campbell

Cast: Dave Rastovich, Dane Reynolds, Joel Tudor, Chelsea Hedges, Kassia Meador, Harrison Roach, Dan Malloy, Devon Howard, C.J. Nelson, Ry Craike

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

Wow. By the acclaimed director of *The Seedling and Sprout* here comes a multicultural exploration of surfing and surfers through a 16mm lens in Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, California, Indo and Peru. You know that with Campbell, it will be art, and at times visceral poetry. He LIVES in the film, like he camped in the celluloid. There is so much care in the shots, like Tarantino but without the chopsuey. Quirky moments too. Lank fun for everyone.

28 Musgrave B 20h00

Californian **THOMAS CAMPBELL** is an artist, photographer and filmmaker. In the late '90s Campbell was among a relatively small number of up and coming filmmakers who opted for the traditional 16mm instead of video.



QUEST FOR FEAR

USA/South Africa 2009, English, Video, 52 min

Director: Grant Washburn

Cast: Jeff Clark, Grant "Twiggy" Baker, Greg Long, Peter Mel, Ken Collins, Matt Ambrose, Flea, Randy Cone

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

Join the migratory hunt to ride a wave in the African Mavericks. You can guess where. On our doorstep. A ten year journey in pursuit of the ultimate big wave, with the dark thump of the Dungeons, Cape Town, holding court. Chase the swells of the decade and explore a monstrous new frontier. Re-cut with incredible footage from 2008, including the last Red Bull Big Wave Africa after 10 years. Features the Mermen. Narrated by Mavs great, Grant Washburn.

27 Musgrave B 18h00; 29 Musgrave B 18h00

GRANT WASHBURN is a big wave documentarian and ocean enthusiast who was part of the close knit group of Northern California surfers who helped pioneer big wave surf spot, Maverick's, in the early 90s. He made the first documentary film on the now world-famous spot, aptly titled *Mavericks - A Documentary Film*.



SEA OF DARKNESS

Australia/Indonesia 2010, English, Video, 88 min

Director: Michael Oblowitz

Cast: Bruce Raymond, Dave Burnett, Heath Ledger, Kelly Slater, Martin Daly, Shaun Tomson

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

Drug peddling, addiction, and ruination seep through grainy 16mm archives as you dig deep into the early stirrings of the surf travel dream. You'll jolt awake in a cold sweat as the two kilos of condomised China White squirm in your belly. At times macabre, this historically fascinating doccie follows Indies Trader owner Martin Daly and others as they bankroll the early exploration of Indo as drug smugglers. Some died. Others survived. The footage of two ous on one Uluwatu wave trading barrels is hoot-worthy. No under 16.

29 Musgrave B 20h00

Cape Town born filmmaker **MICHAEL OBLOWITZ** has directed several critically acclaimed films and produced and directed hundreds of commercials and music videos with a variety of international celebrities. His film *This World, Then the Fireworks* (1997) was officially selected for the Cannes and Sundance film festivals.



STILL FILTHY

USA 2009, English, Video, 54 min

Director: Jarrod Tallman

Cast: Andy Irons, Taj Burrow, Joel Parkinson, Dave Rastovich, Wade Goodall, Torrey Meister, Shane Dorian, TJ Barron, Occy

Print Source: Wavescapes Surf Film Festival

A fast-paced sequel to iconic '80s flick – the “raw and unapologetic” *Filthy Habits*, where the ous hit the lip so hard they knew they would hurt themselves, said Richie Collins then. The new Bong crew, with Andy, Parko, Taj, Wade and even our own Dooma, share the sentiments as they rip the planet. If the old crew had seen *Still Filthy*, they may have peed in their checkered rods. Hard-driving soundtrack and more airs than Victorian royalty at high tea.

27 Musgrave B 18h00; 29 Musgrave B 18h00

JARROD TALLMAN is a multi-skilled surfing filmmaker with several films to his name credited as editor, director, cinematographer and producer. He has directed films for Billabong and Quicksilver and wrote, directed and shot *Mundaka* (DIFF 2008). He is currently working on *Band of Horses – A documentary* produced by his company, HankFilm.

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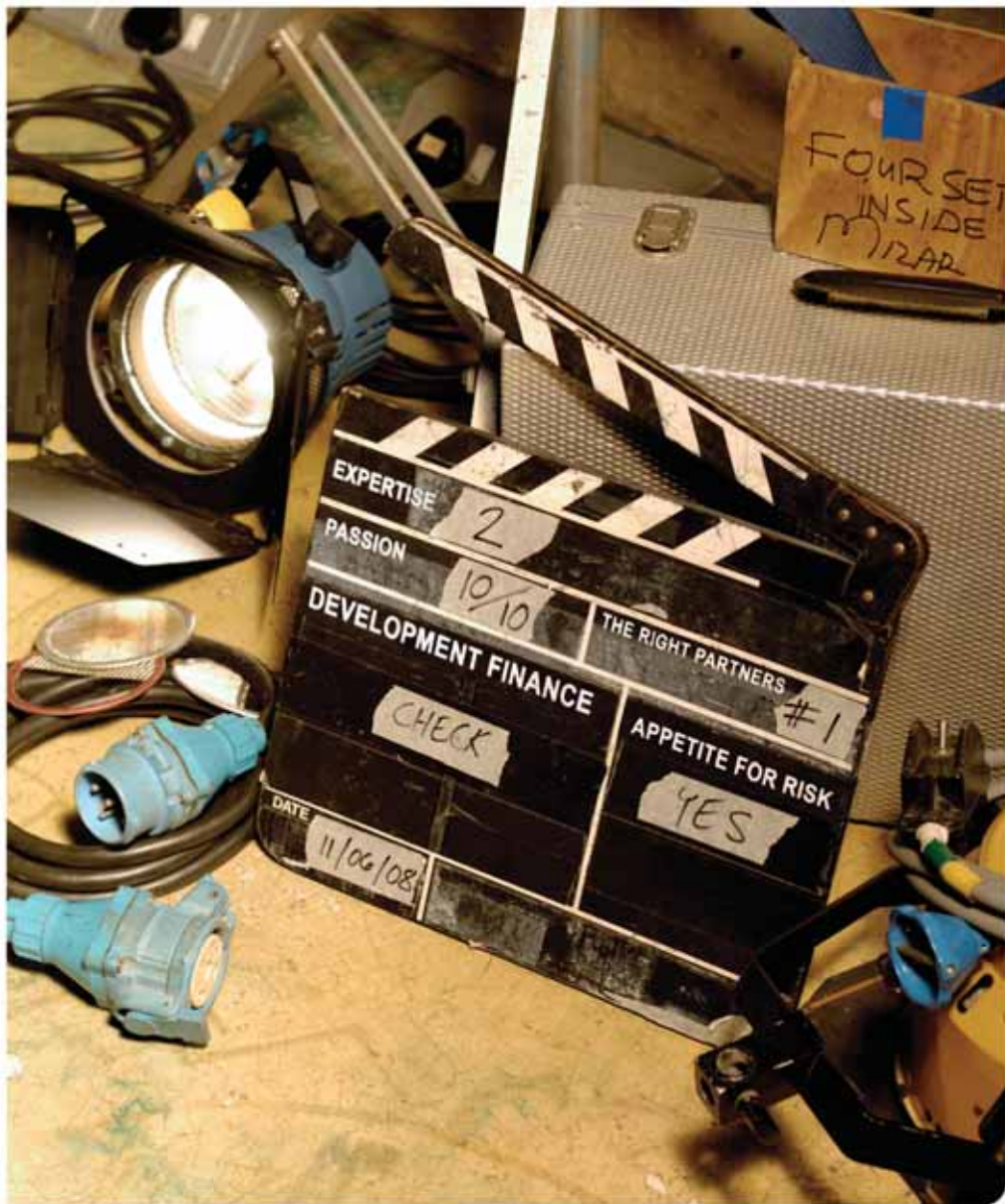
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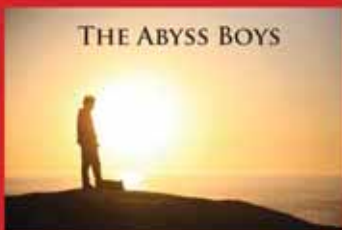
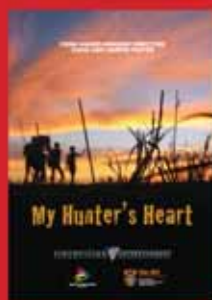


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Durban FilmMart's inaugural Finance Forum will provide selected African filmmakers with the opportunity to pitch projects to financiers and will facilitate networking opportunities in order for African and international filmmakers to form alliances for future collaborations.

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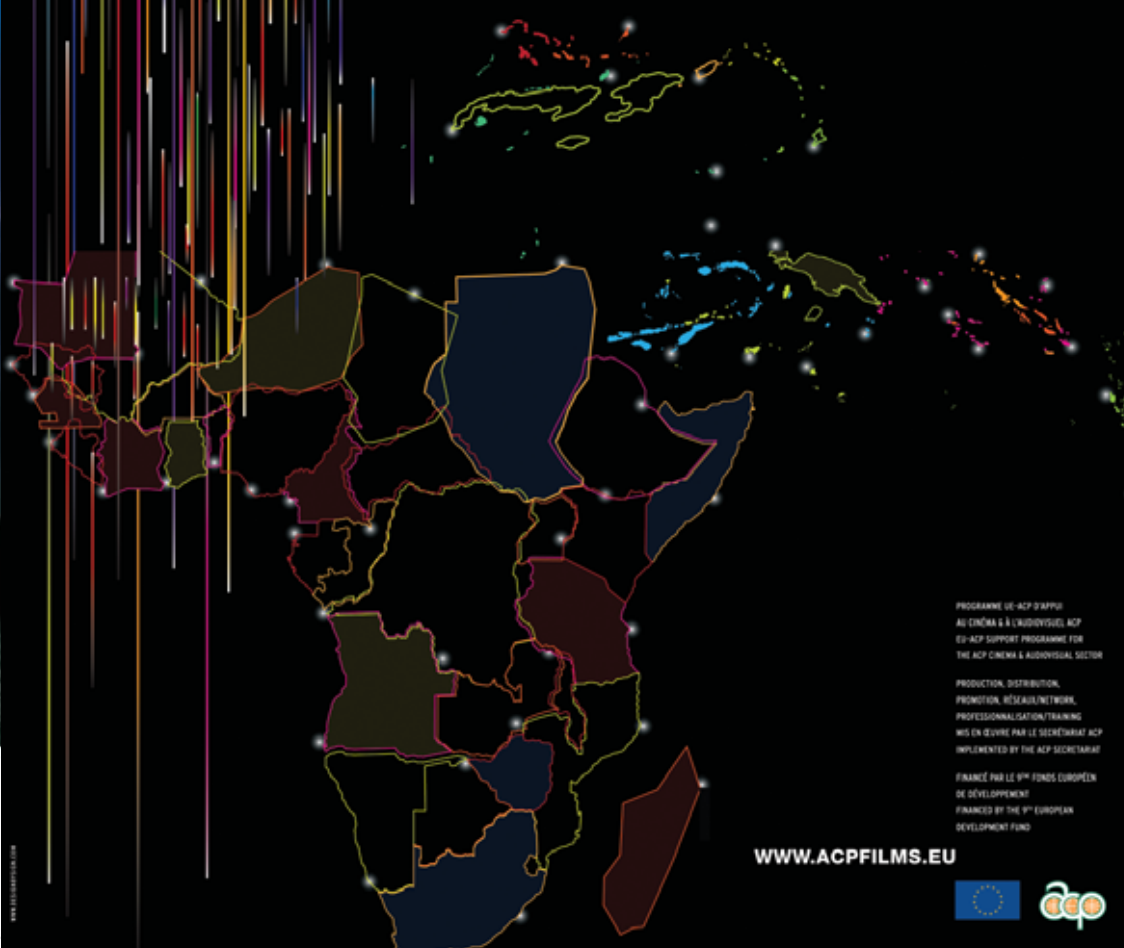


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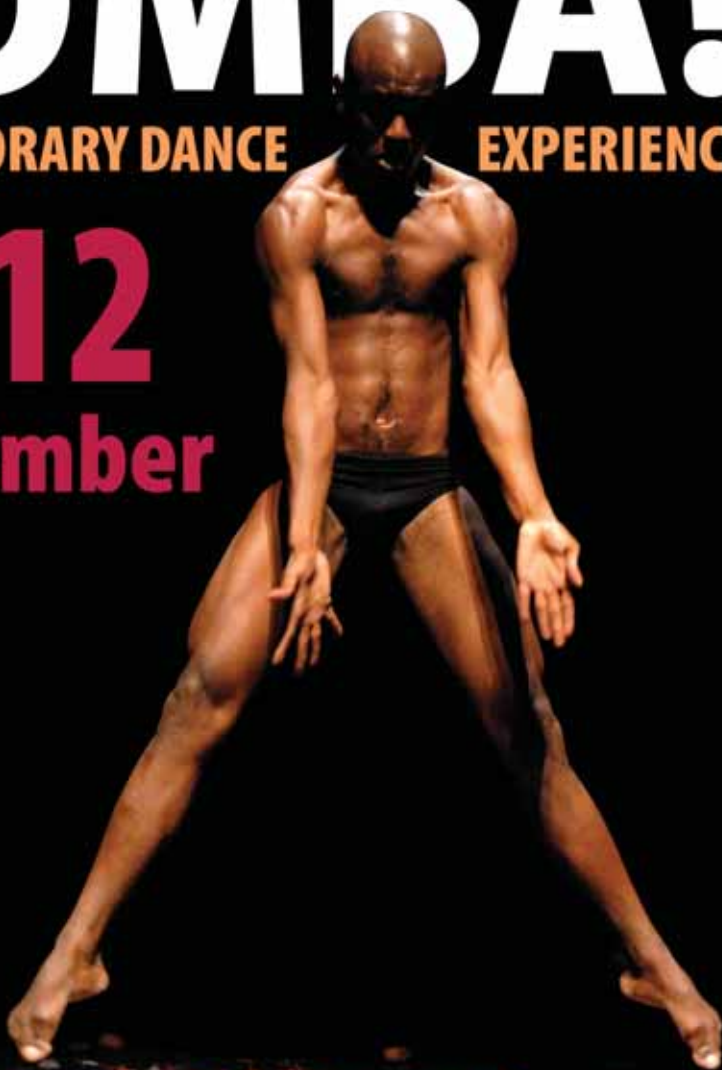
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