

2004 Southwest Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

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2004 Southwest Gay & Lesbian Film Festival Showcases International And National Award-Winning Films

Editors Note: A schedule of film descriptions and screenings is attached

Albuquerque, New Mexico — The 2004 Southwest Gay & Lesbian Film Festival will feature premier screenings of award-winning gay-themed films from as far away as Thailand and as near as Truth or Consequences, NM. Many of the films in the Festival will be receiving their Southwest premieres.

The four-day Festival will screen 31 independent features and shorts from producers in the United States and the United Kingdom, Italy, Thailand, Australia, Spain, France, Germany and Russia. Included in the United States films is “The Truth or Consequences of Delmas Howe,” a study of internationally renown artist Delmas Howe’s return to Truth or Consequences, NM, after decades as an acclaimed painter in New York and San Francisco.

The Festival will feature screenings at three Albuquerque-area theaters and special parties in several of the city’s top social clubs. The Festival will run September 9 – 12 with screenings at the Century 14 Downtown, 100 Central Ave. SW; the Southwest Film Center in the Student Union Building (SUB) at the University of New Mexico; and The Guild Cinema, 3405 Central Ave. NE. Festival events will include an exclusive opening party at the Pulse/Blu nightclub on Sept. 9, and a closing party at the chic Liquid Lounge on Sept. 12.

A full schedule of films and activities is available by contacting Closet Cinema in Albuquerque at 243-1870 or by visiting www.closetcinema.org. Festival guides will be available at ticket outlets and participating stores in Albuquerque by September 3.

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Tickets to individual films and full-Festival passes will go on sale to Closet Cinema members Sept. 1, and to the general public on Sept. 3 at two Albuquerque area retail video locations; Alphaville Video, 3408 Central Ave. SE; and Burning Paradise Video, 800 Central Ave. SW. Full-Festival passes, which admit attendees to all screenings and parties are \$75; tickets to individual screenings are \$9; and tickets to the opening night, centerpiece, and closing night screenings are \$10 for each night.

This is the second year for the Festival, which featured nine films and seven shorts in one theater in its debut in Albuquerque in 2003. The Festival was produced by Closet Cinema, a non-profit organization in Albuquerque that promotes gay & lesbian issues and culture through film in New Mexico. Information about Closet Cinema is available at www.closetcinema.org.

The Festival examines the diversity and uniqueness of the gay, lesbian, bi- and transgender community worldwide. The films were selected from private screenings and open reviews at festivals in film centers in Los Angeles and San Francisco by Festival Director Roberto Appicciafoco.

“As a programmer, I feel that it is vital that I keep up-to-date with the latest gay and lesbian cinema. This year’s festival is a reflection of that,” said Appicciafoco. “I’m very excited to have expanded the festival to three venues this year, which enables the Festival to showcase a wider variety of films. It has broadened the scope of the festival, to the point where we can include more international fare and documentaries. Having the events and screenings in different parts of Albuquerque makes this truly a city-wide event.”

The Festival’s Premiere Sponsors are here!TV and Century Theatres. Presenting Sponsors are Century 21 Unica Real Estate, Bud Light, Coldwell Banker Legacy/Steve Benoit, Pulse/BLU Nightclub, OutinAlbuquerque.com, Peak 100.3, KBAC-FM, Pride magazine, ABQarts, Gay Web Monkey.

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Film Schedule & Description

Thursday, Sept. 9

Girl Play (US 2004)

7 PM, Century 14 Downtown

Cast as lesbian lovers in a play, two women find themselves so undeniably attracted to each other they each can't help but ask whether their respective relationships are manufactured. Of special comedic note, Dom Deluise plays the flamboyant stage director who directs the actresses through a series of exercises designed to "ensure intimacy in performance."

Friday, Sept. 10

The 24th Day (US 2004) 97 minutes

7 PM, Century 14 Downtown

When a married man discovers he is HIV-positive, he tracks down the one man he ever slept with and forces him to take an AIDS test. The 2-day waiting for results is a tense captor/captive game.

Beautiful Boxer (Thailand 2003) 116 minutes

9:30 PM, Century 14 Downtown

Based on the true life story of the Thai man who pays for his sex change operation to become a woman by entering the brutal world of Thai boxing.

Gypsy 83 (US 2001) 94 minutes

4 PM, Southwest Film Center

Two young misfits head for New York City to celebrate their idol and muse, Stevie Nicks, at The Night of 1,000 Stevies. Along the road, they discover their strengths and learn self-acceptance.

My Mother Likes Women (Spain 2002) 96 minutes

6:30 PM, Southwest Film Center

Sofia introduces her three adult daughters to her new lover, who is their age and happens to be a woman.

Hellbent (US 2004) 85 minutes

9 PM, Southwest Film Center

First gay slasher movie ever. Fun, gory, and scary.

The Raspberry Reich (Germany 2004) 90 minutes

Midnight, The Guild Cinema

Provocateur Bruce LaBruce returns with a double-barreled blast of social astringent, set among a group of inept would-be terrorists.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Twist 1 PM, Century 14 Downtown
(Canada 2003) 97 minutes

A gay re-telling of Charles Dickens' classic Oliver Twist that has been moved out of the poor house and into the hustler district of modern-day Toronto.

Bear Cub (Cachorro) 4 PM, Century 14 Downtown
(Spain 2004) 95 minutes

Parenthood is about to get a little hairer when Pedro, a gay man with an active social life and big circle of friends, takes in his young nephew for a couple weeks.

Callas Forever 7 PM, Century 14 Downtown
(Italy 2004) 108 minutes

Franco Zeffirelli's fictionalized account of the last days of opera singer Maria Callas, starring Fanny Ardant and Jeremy Irons.

Adored: Diary of a Porn Star 9:45 PM, Century 14 Downtown
(Italy 2004) 101 minutes

Italian porn icon Riki Kandinsky discovers the humanity burning beneath his legendary flesh.

Do I Love You? 1:45 PM, Southwest Film Center
(UK 2003) 74 minutes

You don't have to be a thirtysomething lesbian to appreciate Do I Love You? But if you are, you might have pondered many of the questions its philosophical heroine asks as she cycles around London trying to make sense of a crumbling relationship.

The Truth or Consequences of Delmas Howe 4:00 PM, Southwest Film Center
(US 2004) 95 minutes

A documentary about the internationally-recognized neoclassical painter, Delmas Howe, and the small New Mexican hometown he revisits after being away for decades.

Drag Queens on Tour 7:00 PM, Southwest Film Center
(US)

Information pending.

Graffiti Artist 9:15 PM, Southwest Film Center
(US 2004) 84 minutes

Writer/Director James Bolton probes into the consciousness of the "tagger" and "graffiti artist" sub-culture in Seattle and Portland.

The Adventure of Iron Pussy
(Thailand 2003) 90 minutes

Midnight, The Guild Cinema

7-Eleven clerk by day and a glamorous superheroine by night, the Thai government calls on Iron Pussy to infiltrate the suspect's lover's mansion as a maid. She discovers not only an illegal operation surrounding a mysterious pleasure-inducing drug, but also—to her (his) surprise—love, a very forbidden one at that.

Sunday, Sept. 12

You I Love

12:30 PM, Century 14 Downtown

(Russia 2004) 84 minutes

On their first anniversary, Vera comes home to discover her boyfriend, Tim, in bed with another man.

Ghostlight

2:30 PM, Century 14 Downtown

(US 2003) 80 minutes

A humorous glimpse into the turbulent world of legendary dancer/choreographer Martha Graham.

My Wife Maurice

4:45 PM, Century 14 Downtown

(France 2002) 102 minutes

Information pending.

Straight-Jacket

7:30 PM, Century 14 Downtown

(US 2004) 96 minutes

1950's Hollywood movie idol Guy Stone marries a studio secretary in order to conceal his homosexuality. Then Guy falls in love and his life is turned upside-down.

Clara's Summer

1 PM, Southwest Film Center

(France 2002) 90 minutes

Information pending.

Freedom to Marry

3:00 PM, Southwest Film Center

(US)

Information pending.

Dorian Blues

5 PM, Southwest Film Center

(US 2004) 88 minutes

Dorian finds himself in one absurd and awkward situation after another as he seeks enlightenment and happiness with the help of a cute therapist, a well-meaning priest, and a first boyfriend. A coming-of-gay story that transcends the genre.