

2002 Portland LGBT Film Festival Online Lite Guide
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Welcome to the Sixth Annual Portland Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Film Festival



Guardian of the Frontier



Luster



Treading Water

Sensory Perceptions welcomes you to the Sixth Annual Portland Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Film Festival! Since our last festival, America, and indeed the world, has changed in subtle but noticeable ways. The obvious influences of recent world events have affected humankind's sense of place, security, community, and family. While some may be experiencing anxiety in the face of uncertain times, there seems to be a bolder force at work causing citizens of the world to re-examine what's important in their lives. While programming this year's festival, we discovered that this force has permeated LGBT filmmaking manifesting in an abundance of film that deal with family, faith, and community. What we saw while watching this year's selections is that, in filmmaking, artifice has been replaced by substance, reckless individuality replaced by the yearning to reconnect, and there is a renewed interest in spirituality in all its forms.

Consequently, this year's festival has the most diverse, thoughtful, and even poignant collection of films we've ever programmed. In films like *By Hook or By Crook*, *Exploding Oedipus*, and *Happy Birthday* we watch as characters struggle and come to terms with difficult parental relationships ranging from disturbing to heartwarming. We've also assembled several excellent documentaries that run the gamut of human experience from the story of the first transsexual ever elected into national

office in *Georgie Girl*, to a highly informative and intellectual look at "kinky" sex in *Beyond Vanilla* to a gay male couple's process of adopting and caring for children in *Daddy and Papa* to the topical *Some Real Heat* about women fire fighters.

Another exciting element of this year's programming is our shorts packages. We've nearly tripled the amount of shorts programs from last year including *Diverse Voices* a collection of shorts from people who are not always represented in the LGBT community and , *Lost*, a heady, highbrow collection that looks into the cracks of the fabric that makes up human consciousness.

Don't be overwhelmed by all the thought-provoking programming. We haven't forgotten how to have fun! Both our Opening Night Films, *A Family Affair* and *The Trip* are humorous and optimistic looks at contemporary lesbian and gay life. Our Closing Night Feature, *All the Queen's Men* is a hilarious cross between *Some Like It Hot* and *The Guns of Navarone* and stars the hunky Matt LeBlanc from TV's "Friends." Also, you won't want to miss the fun, entertaining *Gaymation* a collection of shorts that utilizes varying types of animation.

Regardless of what draws you to the festival, we hope you have fun, learn something new, and that your lives are enriched by the experience!

John Campos
Executive Director

Gabriel Mendoza
Artistic Director

Debbie Caselton
Development Director

Lan Yu



His Secret Life



A Family Affair



Tickets & Passes

General Admission Ticket \$7

Sixth Anniversary Gala Ticket \$7

The Sixth Anniversary Gala will be held at the newly remodeled Fez Ballroom on Sunday, September 22 from 8PM to 12 Midnight. Join us as we celebrate our sixth anniversary. There will be food, Absolut Vodka drink specials, dancing, entertainment, and prizes.

Half Pass \$75

The Half Pass permits the pass holder to:

- Attend 16 Festival Programs (that's \$4.69 a program!)
- Attend The Sixth Anniversary Gala

Full Pass \$125

The Full Pass permits the pass holder to:

- Attend All 32 Festival Programs (that's an incredible value at \$3.91 a program!)
- Attend The Sixth Anniversary Gala

Platinum Pass \$175

The Platinum Pass permits the pass holder to:

- Attend All 32 Festival Programs
- Attend The Sixth Anniversary Gala

plus

- No Waiting In Line! (you may enter the theatre at any time)
- A Seat in the Reserved Section! (until 10 minutes before showtime)

Where To Get Tickets & Passes

Online / Internet

All tickets and passes are available for purchase online at www.TicketWeb.com

By Phone

All tickets and passes are available for purchase by telephone through TicketWeb at 866.468.7623.

Store Outlets

All passes (Platinum, Full and Half) are available in advance of the Festival at the following outlets. Cash or Check only.

Balloons On Broadway

617 SW Washington St.

(at Broadway)

ph. 503.241.3336

Gai Pied

2544 NE Broadway St.

(at 25th Ave.)

ph. 503.331.1125

At The Door

Tickets for all programs will be available at Cinema 21 Box Office on the day of the show. The Box Office will open one hour before that day's first program and remain open until fifteen minutes after the last program of the day has begun.

Passes and Gala Tickets will be available for purchase at the Will Call Desk. The Will Call Desk will open one hour before that day's first program and remain open until fifteen minutes after the last program of the day has begun.

Will Call

All passes for the festival will be available for purchase at the Will Call Desk. Passes and tickets on hold are available for pick up at the Will Call Desk. The Will Call Desk will open one hour before that day's first program and remain open until fifteen minutes after the last program of the day has begun.

Festival Sponsors

Premiere Sponsors

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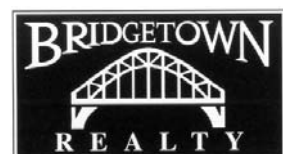
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New Directors Showcase

Sensory Perceptions is proud to announce the inauguration of the New Directors Showcase. The festival programmers have selected films by first or second time directors that show an emerging talent for filmmaking. The films were selected based on their uniqueness of voice or style, quality of narrative, and overall craftsmanship. The jury has been assembled to choose the one film that best exhibits these qualities. That filmmaker will receive special recognition by the Portland LGBT Film Festival and a \$500 cash award. In addition, a short film will be selected by the jury for recognition. That film will receive a \$250 cash award.

The Films



By Hook or By Crook



Exploding Oedipus



A Family Affair



Group



Guardian of the Frontier



Happy Birthday



Luster



The Trip

Jury Members

Mike S. Broder: Michael S. Broder is the President of Small Planet Pictures, a fledgling independent film distribution and consulting company. Small Planet's first release will be Hilary Birmingham's *Tully*, starring Anson Mount and Julianne Nicholson. In addition, Mr. Broder and Small Planet will be assisting TLA Releasing with its slate of theatrical releases, including *Food of Love*, *P.S. Your Cat is Dead* and *KM.O*. Prior to starting Small Planet, Mr. Broder served as VP, Domestic Distribution for Arrow Entertainment. During his tenure at Arrow, Broder was responsible for the acquisition and theatrical distribution of *The Independent* starring Jerry Stiller and Janeane Garofalo, Denis Villeneuve's Genie Award Winner *Maelstrom* and Atsushi Funahashi's *Echoes*. Broder's distribution career includes stints at Winstar Cinema as Head of Operations and Stratosphere Entertainment. Exhibition highlights include a post as Director of Marketing and Publicity with Florida based Art House chain Sunrise Cinemas and a brief run with United Artists.

Byrd McDonald: After graduating from the New York University Film Program, Byrd McDonald began work for Jonathan Demme's production company Clinica Estetica. McDonald held various positions while working for Demme, including editing assistant on *Mandela*, story editor and finally Creative Executive. Byrd was actively involved in the development of Demme's *Beloved*, Victor Nunez' *Ulee's Gold*, and *Subway Stories*, an omnibus movie directed by various independent filmmakers including Spike Lee, Ted Demme, Julie Dash, Abel Ferrara and others. McDonald was a founding producer of *Phat Shorts*, a short film festival held in New York City from 1995-2001. During its run, *Phat Shorts* garnered a reputation of excellence. McDonald is currently completing *Haunters*, a film he co-produced and co-directed with Brian Johnson. *Haunters* explores the lives and trials of people who work in the haunted attraction industry. McDonald moved to Portland in January 2001 and has no intentions of leaving.

Roger Paulson: Roger has been in the movie theatre business since high school. Beginning as a projectionist, he managed theatres in Salem and Portland before becoming Advertising Director of Tom Moyer Theatres. Later he was Marketing Director of Moyer Theatres. He hosted local press tours for John Cassavetes, Peter Falk, Charlton Heston, Peter Bogdanovich, Joan Rivers, Harold Ramis, Cliff Robertson, Jamie Lee Curtis, Janet Leigh, Russ Meyer and others. Since 1989 Paulson has been an independent marketing consultant, representing Miramax Films, Fine Line Features, Sony Classics and other specialized studios. In addition to publicity, Paulson has booked the KOIN Cinemas and the late Movie House since the mid-90s. Leaving publicity in 2000, he currently programs art screens for independent theatres as well as Regal Cinemas (Fox Tower locally) and Wallace Theatres in 35 cities from Miami to Honolulu. He attends film festivals in Palm Springs, Toronto, Seattle and occasionally the highly over-rated and excessively over-priced Sundance Film Festival.

Lisa Bradshaw: Lisa Bradshaw is the Arts & Culture Editor at *Just Out*, Oregon's only queer newsmagazine. She writes about everything from the gay softball league to Leather Pride Week, but lights up like a firefly for film reviews. She has a BA in Humanities from Washington State University and an MA in Women and Literature from the University of Hull in England. She's a lesbian who lives in S.E. Portland with her partner but, despite this, has NO dogs or cats.

A Family Affair

OPENING NIGHT FEATURE - DIRECTOR/STAR HELEN LESNICK IN ATTENDANCE
Friday, September 20 • 7:00 PM

USA • 2001 • 108 min.

Director: Helen Lesnick

Cast: Helen Lesnick, Erica Shaffer, Michele Green, Suzanne Westenhoefer

Written, directed and starring Helen Lesnick, *A Family Affair* is the charming, witty, and warm story of Rachel Rosen (Lesnick), a commitment phobic Jewish lesbian dealing with the struggles of love and family. After another tough break up with a girlfriend, Rachel decides to leave New York and head for San Diego where her retired parents, Leah and Sam live. Despite an unhappy track record in the love department, Rachel is determined to find “Mrs. Rightowitz.” After a series of disappointing but hilarious dates in which Rachel tries to adjust to the health conscious, tanned California girls, she finally let’s her mother set her up on a blind date. When she meets Christine (Erica Shaffer), Rachel is wonderfully surprised to find herself attracted to her. The two become immediately involved. Rachel’s friends and family marvel at her luck (as they wait for her to screw things up!). As the relationship becomes very serious, Rachel wonders if she can overcome her fears of commitment and her attachment to her ex-girlfriend. Two parts Woody Allen, and one part *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *A Family Affair* is an honest and comic look at modern day lesbian romance with its losses, discoveries, and joys.



The Trip

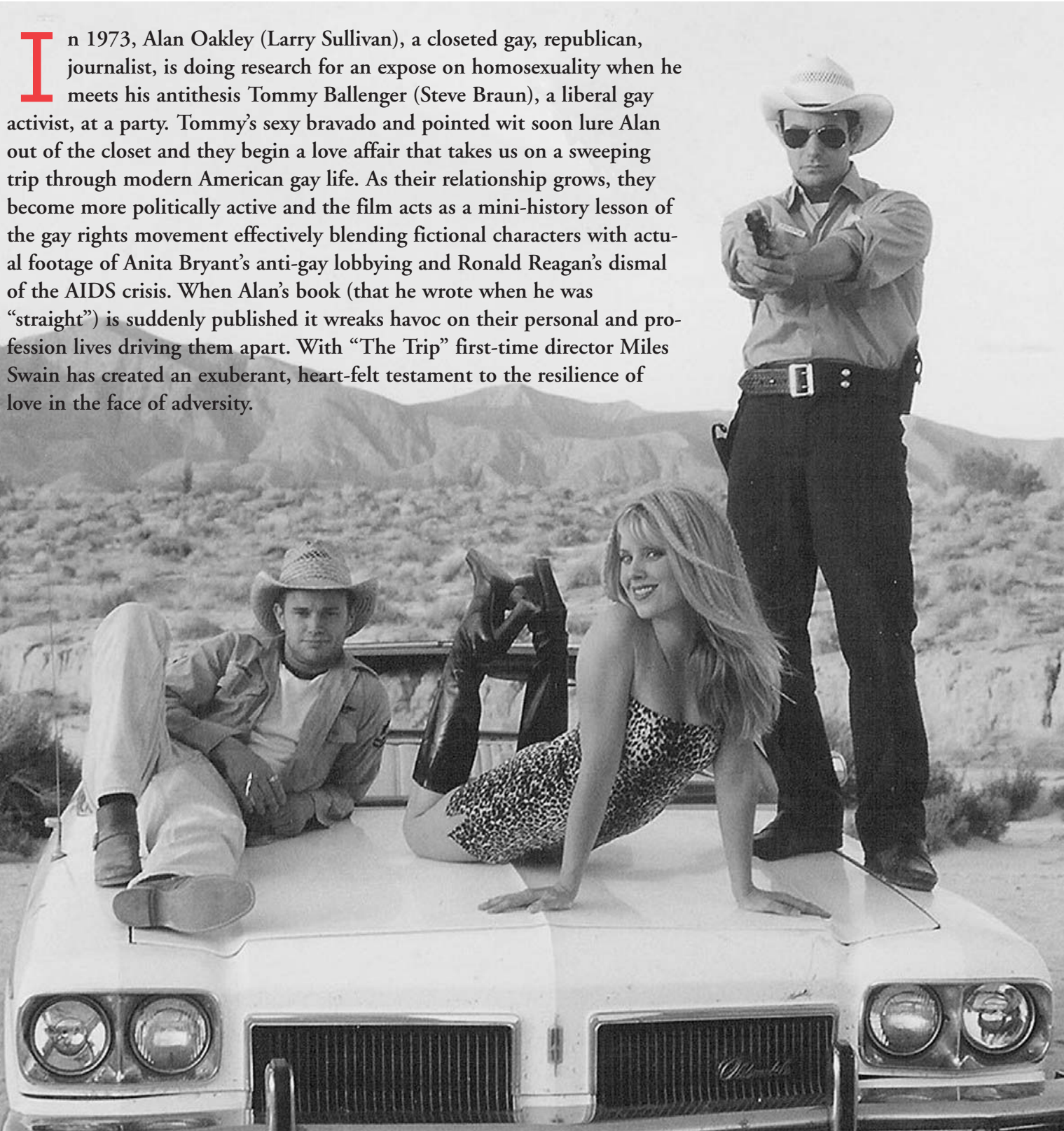
OPENING NIGHT FEATURE - DIRECTOR MILES SWAIN ATTENDANCE
Friday, September 20 • 9:30 PM

USA • 2002 • 92 min.

Director: Miles Swain

Cast: Larry Sullivan, Steve Braun, Alexis Arquette

In 1973, Alan Oakley (Larry Sullivan), a closeted gay, republican, journalist, is doing research for an expose on homosexuality when he meets his antithesis Tommy Ballenger (Steve Braun), a liberal gay activist, at a party. Tommy's sexy bravado and pointed wit soon lure Alan out of the closet and they begin a love affair that takes us on a sweeping trip through modern American gay life. As their relationship grows, they become more politically active and the film acts as a mini-history lesson of the gay rights movement effectively blending fictional characters with actual footage of Anita Bryant's anti-gay lobbying and Ronald Reagan's dismal of the AIDS crisis. When Alan's book (that he wrote when he was "straight") is suddenly published it wreaks havoc on their personal and profession lives driving them apart. With "The Trip" first-time director Miles Swain has created an exuberant, heart-felt testament to the resilience of love in the face of adversity.



All the Queen's Men

CLOSING NIGHT FEATURE

Saturday, September 28 • 8:45 PM

USA/Germany/Austria/Hungary • 2002 • 105 min.

Director: Stefan Ruzowitsky

Cast: Matt LeBlanc, Eddie Izzard, James Fox

Loosely based on a true story, *All the Queen's Men*, is an over-the-top espionage comedy set in World War II Germany. Hunky Matt LeBlanc, star of TV's "Friends," is Steven O' Rourke, an American officer who must lead a group of British soldiers into Germany to steal an "enigma" machine, a decoding device that will help end the war. However, with many German men on the front lines, the Enigma factory is staffed entirely by women. Enter Tony (Eddie Izzard) a former soldier and current drag queen. With his help the men are trained in the skills and arts of...being women!

Once in Germany, hijinks and hilarity ensue as the ragtag group form alliances, plan their infiltration, and prove that whether men or queens, this troop won't "skirt" their patriotic duties!

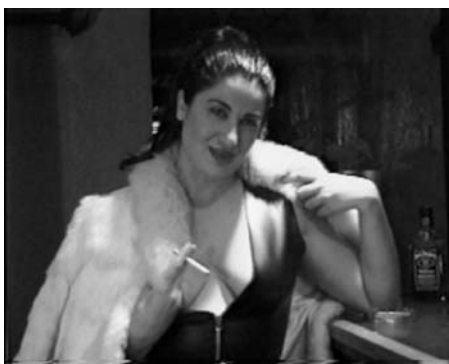
Described as a cross between *Some Like it Hot* and *The Guns of Navarone*, *All the Queen's Men* is a slapstick comedy in the spirit of the Golden Age of Hollywood with an assured performance from LeBlanc and a career-making turn from Izzard.



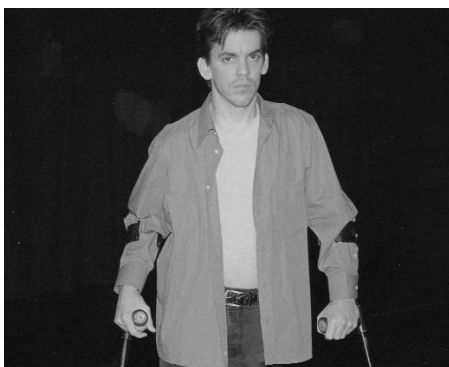
Shorts Programs



Glaadiator from Celebration



from *RAW*



Crip Shots from Diverse Voices



Viðrar Vel Til Loftátása from Celebration

Celebration: Boys' Shorts I



Sunday, September 22 • 4:30 PM
 Sunday, September 22 • 9:30 PM

In *Celebration*, a nervous young Alex makes an astonishing announcement to his family, and friends. When the family of a neglectful mother finds comfort and inspiration in the old queen who lives in a trailer next door it is truly a *Sweet Thing*. The stakes are high with diamond earrings and a pair of Manolo Blahniks on the table as two women match wits and set out to discover the true meaning of "lay preacher" in *The Mormon Conquest*. An un-masculine past time brings a young boy trouble and friendship in the beautiful *Viðrar Vel Til Loftátása (Good Weather For Airstrikes)* featuring a soundtrack by Icelandic band Sigur Rós. A war veteran is visited by a handsome *Siren*, or is it his lost wartime love returned? After a late night of cheap beer two guys who witness a bizarre infomercial for a special *Target Audience*. This *Gladiator* is a curiously altered saga about a general, who became a slave, who became a gladiator, who became...fabulous! 10 year-old Caroline leads an unremarkable life until she learns that her pet rabbit is attracted to rabbits of the same gender in *Early Frost*. Curious assortments of people are waiting in *The Parlor* and have even more curious conversations while they wait, for? Find out what happens when a gay, Jewish, pop idol-loving teenager has a crush on a hot boy at school in *Boychick*.

Program runtime: 109 minutes.

- Hung Frankenstein*, Dir. Kurt Koehler, 3 min
- High Street Love Story*, Dir. Rob Leggo, 10 min
- The Mormon Conquest*, Dir. Jackie Schultz, 5 min
- Sweet Thing*, Dir. Mark Robinson, 14 min
- Viðrar Vel Til Loftátása*, Dir. Celebration, 8 min
- Siren*, Dir. Charles Bracewell, 7 min
- Celebration*, Dir. Daniel Stedman, 4 min
- Target Audience*, Dir. David Kittredge, 12 min
- Glaadiator*, Dir. Luka Pecel, 7 min
- Early Frost*, Dir. Pierre Pinaud, 17 min
- The Parlor*, Dir. Geoffrey Haley, 10 min
- Boychick*, Dir. Glen Gaylord, 12 min

Diverse Voices



Sunday, September 22 • 12:00 PM

For Straights Only, explores the prejudices, sexism, and homophobia faced by the gays and lesbians coming out in modern day India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal and their religious and social context. In a bilingual documentary about how Latino families are replacing the deep roots of homophobia with the even deeper roots of love and tolerance, *De Colores*, moves us through personal stories about how families are breaking cultural barriers and how love prevails. Eight gay men, baby boomers and Gen-Xerus, discuss their different experiences with safe sex, barebacking and the cultural images of safe sex and HIV/AIDS in *Our Brother, Our Son*. A powerful documentary, *XXXY*, is a portrait of Krista and Howard; two intersex individuals born with ambiguous genitalia and their struggle against the medical establishment and society's enforced gender system. *Crip Shots* documents the work of six performance artists. Judy Smith dances in her wheelchair, Greg Walloch proves there is humor in everything, Chris Hewitt recites a touching poem about being lifted up, John Killacky transforms an MRI scan into a meditation on the body, Terry Galloway reflects on the etiquette of suicide, and Bill Shannon makes his crutches an indispensable part of his art in dance.

Program runtime: 116 minutes

- For Straights Only*, Dir. Vismita Gupta-Smith, 22 min
- Zyklon Portrait*, Dir. Elida Schogt, 13min
- De Colores*, Dirs. Peter Barbosa & Garrett Lenoir, 27 min
- Our Brothers, Our Sons*, Dir. Jim Arnold, 24 min
- XXXY*, Dirs. Porter Gale and Laleh Soomekh, 13 min
- Crip Shots*, Dirs. John R. Killacky & Larry Connolly, 17 min

Shorts Programs

Gaymation: Animated Shorts



Sunday, September 22 • 2:00 PM

Animation in all possibilities and styles is explored and exploited in this program of queer films including hand-processed super 8, handcut animation, gomation, computer animation, claymation, and traditional animation. Highlights include festival favorites, *Rick & Steve: The Happiest Gay Couple in the World*, with three more episodes of life in their own special Leggoland®. Computer animation takes hilarious and sublime directions in *Piki & Poko: A Perfect Match* and *Numb* respectively. Traditional animation brings us the last two episodes of those gay super heroes, Ace & Gary, *The Ambiguously Gay Duo*, and from Switzerland, the wild world of Kim in *La Difference*, the story of a man who dreams of being a woman. And, in an amazing film that took four years to make, more than clay is thrown as Miss Lola Lick reminisces about sobriety and times gone by and enters a spiraling abyss of alcohol, ulcer pills and in *Tales From the Powder Room*. Program Runtime 118 minutes.

Spaghetti 8, Dir. Terra Poirier, 2 min

Jan-Michael Vincent Is My Muse, Dir. Jim Tushinski, 7 min

Piki & Poko: A Perfect Match, Dirs. David Cutler and Mark Ewert, 5 min

Rick & Steve The Happiest Gay Couple In The World #2: Scared Straight, Dir. Q. Allan Brocka, 8 min

Numb, Dir. Dino Alberto, 3 min

The Ambiguously Gay Duo #8: AmbiguoBoys Dir. J.J. Sedelmaier, 3 min

Pedro + Tony?, Dir. Don Thomas, 18 min

Rick & Steve The Happiest Gay Couple In The World #3: Potty Mouth Training, Dir. Q. Allan Brocka, 8 min

The Ambiguously Gay Duo #9: Trouble Coming Twice, Dir. J.J. Sedelmaier, 3 min

Rick & Steve The Happiest Gay Couple In The World #4: Ménage A Tiwat, Dir. Q. Allan Brocka, 8 min

Tumbleweed Town, Dir. Samara Halperin, 8min

Sexy, Dirs. Tom Whitman & Dustin Woehrmann, 10 min

La Difference, Dir. Rita Küng, 9min

Jeffery's Hollywood Screen Trick, Dir. Todd Downing, 11 min

Tales From The Powder Room, Dir. Darren Burgess, 12 min

Interviews With My Next Girlfriend: Girls' Shorts I



Sunday, September 21 • 4:45 PM

Bar Talk offers an interpretation of what is said and what is really meant in a bar pick-up. In *Rev High, Never Idle*, the futuristic world is rife with trouble, and a motorcycle racing Robin Hood must avenge her sister's death. What's so funny about a gang of lesbian gangsters? Part homage, part spoof, Gay Propaganda presents four all-girl reinterpretations of classic and cult favorites in *Goodfaigolas*, the *Graduate Lesbian*, *Reservoir Dykes*, and *Taxi Lesbian*. In a hilarious fight to win the title of Next Girlfriend, nine women are exposed in *Interviews With My Next Girlfriend*. After years together, a geriatric couple realizes they have nothing more in common and are *Stuck*. Sometimes life gives you more than you can handle and in *Size 'em Up* sporty Samantha finds herself in the hands of the "bra ladies." A Surinamese girl working in her mother's beauty parlor struggles to come to terms with the fact she's lesbian in the funny and touching *You 2*.

Program runtime: 96 minutes.

Bar Talk, Dir. Cheryl Furjanic, 8 min

Rev High, Never Idle, Dir. Elizabeth McCarthy, 15min

Goodfaigolas, Dir. JD Disalvatore, 2 min

The Graduate Lesbian, Dir. Meredith Kadlec, 3 min

Reservoir Dykes, Dir. JD Disalvatore, 2 min

Taxi Lesbian, Dir. J.D. Disalvatore, 3 min

Interviews With My Next Girlfriend, Dir. Cassandra Nicolaou, 13 min

Stuck, Dir. Jamie Babbit, 8 min

Size 'Em Up, Dir. Christine J. Russo, 15 min

You 2, Dir. Pascale Simmons, 25 min

A Lesbian Survival Guide: Girls' Shorts II



Tuesday, September 24 • 7:00 PM

In *The Bounty*, two women who desperately want to have a baby, steal a rare sperm sample from a sperm bank and high tale-it with a chauvinist bounty hunter hot on their heels. The animated *Ladies Tea* dissects the dynamic patterns that occur in a women's dance bar. *Turn Me On* uncovers the secrets of vibrators, from their early days as a medical tool to their emergence as mass-marketed consumer toys. The silent fairy tale cum B-horror, *Pussies From Outta Space*, tells the cartoonish adventures of two girls – a worker-waif and her artist-girl lover. It's 1975 and ten-year old budding butch Cassie, who worships Joe Namath and her father, musters up the courage to invite the cute femme down the street to a football game in *Shaving*. *Marcilla*, loosely based on "Carmilla", a lesbian vampire story, this gothic black and white film updates the tale by taking it to the modern university. *The Seamstress* turns the sewing table on a uppity super model. What happens when your friends are not just your friends ... they are also your dating pool? Find out in the hilarious and instructional story about *The 10 Rules (A Lesbian Survival Guide)*.

Program runtime: 113 minutes.

The Bounty, Dir. Thomas Olsen Jr., 18 min

Ladies Tea, Dir. Paula Durette, 3 min

Turn Me On, Dir. Catherine Chauchat, 17 min

Pussies from Outta Space, Dir. Nanci Gaglio, 13 min

Shaving, Dir. Caren McDonald, 20 min

Marcilla, Dir. Jenelle Troxell, 12 min

The Seamstress, Dir. George Lyter, 9 min

The 10 Rules (A Lesbian Survival Guide), Dir. Lee Friedlander, 27 min

Shorts Programs

Lost Souls: Four Stories from the Edge



Thursday, September 26 • 7:00 PM

Barney and Dimi are young and in love. A road trip to visit Barney's dying father becomes a journey of loss, self-discovery, and redemption in *Saturn's Return*. *Touch*, an uncompromising work about emotional scarring, the cycle of abuse, and the perverse nature of desire, is a disturbing tale of a teenage boy who is held captive for a period of years. When he is mysteriously set free after this of deprivation, he is unable to adapt to the "normal" world of functional beings and remains isolated and remote. *Roberta Loved* is the life of Roberta, a 350 lb. secretary who turns fifty, gets laid off, and is diagnosed with a deadly brain tumor all on the same day. As her sickness progresses, she opts for physician-assisted suicide. Alone on her last night on earth, she phones Kevin, a bisexual hustler past his prime, who advertises that "freaks" are his specialty. As her final hours rush by, they develop an intense, sublime, and disturbing relationship. In *Take-Out*, Rory is a typical high school student who has a lousy after-school job delivering chicken. On a delivery, Rory meets Pete, a man in the midst of a breakdown and is drawn into a friendship that proves to be a catalyst for facing his sexuality.

Program runtime: 118

Saturn's Return, Dir. Weona Byrne, 26 min

Touch, Dir. Jeremy Podeswa, 29 min

Roberta Loved, Dir. Q. Allan Brocka, 27 min

Take-Out, Dir. Jean-Francois Monette, 38 min

Night Trade: Boys' Shorts II



Tuesday, September 24 • 9:30 PM

In *Rock Bottom*, a lonely John picks up a charming young street hustler and the two join in unexpected ways. Reality bites hard and leaves marks on the *Night Trade* in this beautiful, dark, and moody film about love, war, and the resilience of the human spirit. A phone call brings with it a flood of memories about the first sexual fumbling of a twenty-something in *Baby Blue*. *Dizzy* is a love story that tries to make sense of our fragile alignment in the modern world. The rich *Neon* glow of night fades as the double life lead by Arno causes internal conflicts and danger at his day job. "Red ribbons or red tape?", asks the film *Lost Causes* in this satire exposing the frustration people with AIDS can experience in dealing with the organizations designed to help them. Booze, boys, and bathrooms. It's "Foucault Night" at the local leather bar, a basher is on the loose, and the new trade everybody wants to take home asks "Foucault Who?" An Australian man recalls an outrageous story of his mean-spirited mother and his coming-out, in *In Search of Mike*. A poignant longing for what could have been permeates *The Moment After*, in which Tracey marks his birthday by making a choice from which there's no turning back.

Program runtime: 119 minutes.

Rock Bottom, Dir. Nancy Feuer, 22 min

Night Trade, Dir. Barbara Karpinski, 13 min

Baby Blue, Dir. Patrick McGuinn, 7 min

Dizzy, Dir. Andrew Hull, 13 min

Neon, Dir. Claus Withopf, 17 min

Lost Cause, Dir. Glen Gaylord, 7 min

Foucault Who?, Dir. Jed Bell, 15 min

In Search Of Mike, Dir. Andrew Lancaster, 8 min

The Moment After, Dir. Gerald McCullough, 13 min

RAW



Saturday, September 21 • 11:30 PM

From the producers of last year's *Huge*, comes *RAW*, a daring and cutting-edge collection of short films. With no-budget, 20 directors were given 1 day to shoot and 2 days to edit a 3 minute short digital video interpreting the word RAW in any way they saw fit. The result is a program of honest, innovative, and entertaining work. *RAW* features films from emerging new talents as well as established, groundbreaking directors from around the world.



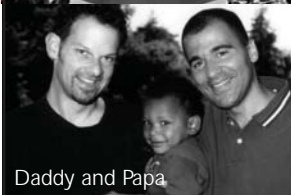

RAW features short's from the following directors:

Hima B., Jurgen Bruning, Carolyn Coal Todd Downing, Jörg Fockele, Andre Hereford, Hoang A Duong, Christina Grace, Mona Eldahry, Karen Jaronesky, John Krokidas, Bruce LaBruce, Barbara Malaran, Terence McFarland, Bo Offenbaker, Victoria Perez, Dianna Ray, Greta Schiller, Andrea Weiss, Rose Troche, James Westby, Margaret Zigman

USA/Canada/Germany, 2002, 72 min.

EXPLICIT CONTENT.
NO ONE UNDER 18 WILL BE ADMITTED.

Calendar At-A-Glance

Friday 20	Saturday 21	Sunday 22	Monday 23	Tuesday 24
 <p>Luster</p>	<p>12 PM Diverse Voices p. 13</p> <p>2:30 PM By Hook or By Crook p. 20</p> <p>4:45 PM Interviews ... Girlfriend: Girl's Shorts I p. 14</p>	<p>12 PM Georgie Girl p. 21</p> <p>2:00 PM Adventures In Gaymation: Animated Shorts p. 14</p> <p>4:30 PM Celebration: Boy's Shorts I p. 13</p>	 <p>Guardian of the Frontier</p>  <p>Daddy and Papa</p>  <p>Happy Birthday</p>	
<p>7 PM A Family Affair p. 7</p>	<p>7 PM Lan Yu p. 25</p>	<p>7 PM PS Your Cat Is Dead p. 27</p>	<p>7 PM Treading Water p. 29</p>	<p>7 PM A Lesbian Survival Guide: Girl's Shorts II p. 14</p>
<p>9:30 PM The Trip p. 8</p>	<p>9:15 PM His Secret Life p. 23</p>	<p>9:30 PM Celebration: Boy's Shorts I p. 13</p>	<p>9:15 PM Food of Love p. 21</p>	<p>9:30 PM Night Trade: Boy's Shorts II p. 15</p>
	<p>11:30 PM Raw p. 15</p>			







THE SIXTH ANNIVERSARY GALA!

Sunday, September 22, 8 PM to 12 AM
at The Fez Ballroom, 316 SW 11th at Stark

Join us as we celebrate our Sixth Anniversary at the newly remodeled and always fabulous Fez Ballroom. Your Sunday will be a blast filled with wonderful films and then the Gala with food, Absolut Vodka drink specials, dancing, entertainment, and prizes! Join us, won't you!

P.S. Your Cat Is Dead

Wednesday 25 Thursday 26 Friday 27 Saturday 28 Sunday 29

 <p>Boy's Shorts II</p>	 <p>Girl's Shorts I</p>	 <p>Gaymatron</p>	<p>12 PM Ke Kulana He Mahu p. 25</p>	 <p>Exploding Oedipus</p>	
 <p>Boy's Shorts II</p>		 <p>Treading Water</p>		<p>1:45 PM Happy Birthday p. 23</p>	<p>1:30 PM Some Real Heat p. 29</p>
<p>7 PM Luster p. 27</p>		<p>7 PM Lost Souls p. 15</p>	<p>7 PM Guardian of the Frontier p. 23</p>	<p>6:15 PM Group p. 21</p>	<p>5 PM 8 Women p. 19</p>
<p>9:15 PM Exploding Oedipus p. 20</p>		<p>9:30 PM Km.0 p. 25</p>	<p>9:30 PM Mr. Smith Gets A Hustler p. 27</p>	<p>8:45 PM All The Queen's Men p. 10</p>	<p>7:30 PM Special Sneak Preview p. 19</p>
				<p>11:15 PM Beyond Vanilla p. 19</p>	

Theatre Rules

1. Movies and showtimes are subject to change. Please visit www.sensoryperceptions.org or call the Festival Hotline at 503.242.0818 for the latest schedule information.
2. Please arrive early as seating is limited and not guaranteed.
3. Please silence all mobile phones, pagers, watches, or other audible devices during all programs.
4. There is no 'in & out'. If you leave the theatre between shows you will be required to wait in line to re-enter.
5. Patrons who are in possession of tickets or passes for successive programs are permitted to remain in the theatre during program intervals.
6. Saving seats for patrons not in the theatre is not allowed. Abuse of this will result in the need to completely clear the theatre between shows. So, please be considerate of others.

Km.0

Features

SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW



Sunday, September 29 • 7:30 PM

USA • 2002 • 107 min.

Director: Surprise

Cast: Surprise

Although we can't tell you the title of this very special screening, we are honored and excited to bring this sneak showing to Portland. At press time, this film has not screened at any other festival in the country! The film's director is a New Yorker who now makes Portland his home. Over the last decade, he has created thoughtful, provocative films that explore human nature and interaction with uncommon depth and intelligence. His films have won several awards and recognition at film festivals world wide including: Cannes, Sundance, Berlin, Edinburgh, and Seattle. He will be attending this screening along with some cast and crew! Get your tickets early for this very special evening before they're gone!

8 Women



Sunday, September 29 5:00 PM

France • 2002 • 109 min.

Director: Francois Ozon

Cast: Catherine Deneuve, Isabelle Huppert, Emmanuelle Beart, Fanny Ardant, and Danielle Darrieux

The new film from France's most daring and inventive writer/director, Francois Ozon, *8 Women* is a comedic murder mystery uniting an all-star lineup of French cinema's top actresses. A boxoffice smash in France, *8 Women*, was honored at the 2002 Berlin International Film Festival with a Silver Bear Award for its Ensemble cast. At an isolated mansion in the snowy countryside of 1950s France, a family is gathered for the holiday season...but there will be no celebration for their beloved patriarch has been murdered! The killer can be only one of the eight women staying in the house. Eight women. Each is a suspect. Each has a motive. Each has a secret. Beautiful, tempestuous, intelligent, sensual, and dangerous. One of them is guilty. Could it be his powerful wife? Or his spinster sister-in-law? Maybe his miserly mother-in-law? Or even the insolent chambermaid or the loyal housekeeper? Could it possibly be one of his pretty young daughters? Humorous situations arise as the search for the killer unearths dark family secrets. With glamorous costumes, colorful art direction, and set decorations for each musical number, *8 Women* is destined to become a camp classic!

Beyond Vanilla



Saturday, September 28 • 11:15 PM

USA • 2001 • 91 min.

Director: Claes Lilja

Much as the title suggests, *Beyond Vanilla* explores the kinkier aspects of sex. With interviews, demonstrations and a good dose of how-to instructions, this documentary covers the gamut of fetishes and SM practices. From bondage, flogging and fisting to knife play, fire and golden showers, director Claes Lilja takes you on an unforgettable journey to the wilder side of sex. Unlike many other films on the subject, *Beyond Vanilla* is neither exploitive nor clinical, rather the film explores its subject with an honest, humanistic approach seeking out the most informed, intelligent spokespeople for each subject. Sharing fantasies, experiences and pleasures, over 100 people are interviewed for this film; many are well-known experts in their field including: Nina Hartley, Cole Tucker, Chi Chi LaRue, Troy Steele, Carol Queen, and Bud Cockerham. *Beyond Vanilla* helps to blur boundaries and shed new light on sexuality and sexual practices.

EXPLICIT CONTENT.
NO ONE UNDER 18 WILL BE ADMITTED.

Features

By Hook or By Crook



Saturday, September 21 • 2:30 PM

USA • 2001 • 98 min.

Director: Harriet Dodge & Silas Howard
Cast: Harriet Dodge & Silas Howard

A lesbian buddy film, *By Hook or By Crook* chronicles three weeks in the life of a handsome, gender-bending, small-town butch with a nagging messiah-complex. Emotionally defeated since the death of her father, Shy heads to the big city to sink herself into a “life of crime”. She is quickly distracted by Valentine, a deliriously expressive, wise-acre adoptee on a misguided search for her birthmother. The two freaky grifters join forces and learn the true meaning of “poise under pressure” in this visually stunning and wonderfully acted, anti-authoritarian tale of friendship, trust and redemption. Exploiting the full potential of digital video, the film’s vibrant colors and luminous presence sustain a photographic vision, relaying imagery from an American gothic landscape without dipping toward sentimentality or the voyeur’s wink. Directed with lush detail by first-time directors—the artist/rockstar duo Dodge and Howard—*By Hook or By Crook* opens a carnival peephole into a world almost never before captured in a narrative film: the lives of real, working class butches (and the ladies who love them).

IN COMPETITION: NEW DIRECTORS SHOWCASE

Daddy and Papa



Saturday, September 28 • 4:00 PM

USA • 2002 • 57 min.

Director: Johnny Symons
Cast: Johnny Symons

Daddy and Papa explores the personal, cultural, and political impact of gay men who are making a decision that is at once traditional and revolutionary: to raise children themselves. Director Johnny Symons takes us inside four gay male families, including his own. *Daddy and Papa* traces the day-to-day challenges and the larger, critical issues that inevitably intersect their private lives—the ambiguous place of interracial families in America, the wonder and precariousness of surrogacy and adoption, the complexities of marriage and divorce within the gay community, and the legality of their own parenthood. As fathers, these men must take on numerous challengers: from conservatives who regard them the very antithesis of family; to average Americans who believe mothers are essential to a child’s development; to the gay community, where hard-won independence and sexual freedoms often clash with the demands of parenting. *Daddy and Papa* enters into the heart of the debate over gay fatherhood, examining the value of alternative households, the effects of gender and sexual orientation on children, and the changing face of the American family.

Exploding Oedipus



Wednesday, September 25 • 9:15 PM

USA • 2001 • 84 min

Director: Marc Lafia
Cast: Bruce Ramsay, Juliana Hatfield, and Tanya Von Beauvier

Seeking refuge in a seedy hotel, Hilbert (Bruce Ramsay), isolates himself with only a suitcase full of books and home movies. Lying in the darkness of the room, he watches a small 8 mm projector. Images from his childhood flicker on a bed sheet, tacked onto the lured green walls; his tenth birthday party where he was the only child, the time his mother slapped him and his father refused to come to his aid. Left alone with dark memories, Hilbert struggles to reconcile his troubled relationship with his parents. As he retreats further into self-reflection, he begins to unravel. His life loses coherence as he rejects his successful advertising career, his friends, and Susan, his loving girlfriend. There begins Hilbert’s journey into the stained underworlds of drugs, booze, bathroom sex, and San Francisco’s avant-garde art scene. In his directorial debut, Marc Lafia weaves a rich visual fabric to create an emotional texture that is sensual and sophisticated. Provocative cinematography, and a poetic juxtaposition of flashback sequences create an unsparing portrait of a young man breaking free. *Exploding Oedipus* is a story of transgression, exposing the complex relationships between memory, fear, and desire.

IN COMPETITION: NEW DIRECTORS SHOWCASE

Features

Food of Love



Monday, September 23 • 9:15 PM

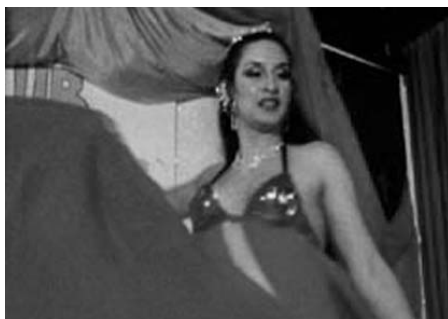
Spain/Germany • 2002 • 105 min.

Director: Ventura Pons

Cast: Juliet Stevenson, Kevin Bishop, Paul Rhys

When Paul (Kevin Bishop), a young, charming, talented music student, gets a job as a page turner for the world famous Richard Kennington's (Paul Rhys) one-night only piano recital in San Francisco, the two are instantly drawn to one another. Paul is star struck by his idol, a man whose footsteps he'd like to follow in and Richard finds Paul's intensity, beauty, and innocence irresistible. While vacationing in Europe with his mother Pamela (Juliet Stevenson), Paul and Richard meet again in Barcelona and have a torrid, but secret affair. Paul returns home to attend a prestigious music school where he begins to question his music ability and dates older, experienced, artistic men seeking validation of his talent. Based on acclaimed author David Leavitt's novel *The Page Turner*, *The Food of Love* is a gorgeous film shot in San Francisco, New York, and Barcelona by Spanish director Ventura Pons. Kevin Bishop's subdued and honest performance brings to the screen all the poignancy that love and self-discovery embody and the heartbreak that confronts each of us as we all make our way through life.

Georgie Girl



Sunday, September 22 • 12:00 PM

New Zealand • 2001 • 69 min.

Director: Annie Goldson & Peter Wells

Cast: Georgina Byer

Georgie Girl is the extraordinary and inspiring story of Georgina Beyer, the first transsexual to hold national office. Born George Beyer, one-time prostitute turned politician Georgina Beyer was elected to New Zealand's Parliament in 1999, becoming the world's first transsexual to hold a national office. Amazingly a mostly white-and naturally conservative - rural constituency voted this former sex worker of Maori heritage into office. Chronicling Georgina's transformations from farm boy to celebrated cabaret diva to grassroots community leader, the documentary couples interviews and sensual images of Beyer's nightclub and film performances with footage from a day in the life of the Minister of Parliament. The film presents a remarkable account of Beyer's precedent-setting accomplishment, revealing her intelligence, charisma, and humor.

Group



Saturday, September 28 • 6:15 PM

USA • 2001 • 84 min

Director: Marilyn Freeman

Cast: Carrie Brownstein, Nomy Lamm, Tony Wilkerson

Inventive and original, Marilyn Freeman's *Group* was shot on digital video with an improvised script and utilizing multiple frames to present the story from six different viewpoints simultaneously. The loosely structured narrative follows nine women for 21 weeks of "queer friendly" therapy. The women in the group consist of an assortment of odd and intriguing characters including a sex rocker, a born-again Christian, a bisexual punk amputee, a hypochondriac, a goody-two-shoes, a tramp, a bigot, a binger, and their therapist. At the center of the group is Grace, the hypochondriac, played by Carrie Brownstein of the all-girl rock band Sleater-Kinney. *Group* is a dynamic study of female bonding in face of personal emotion challenges that transcend race, religion, class, and sexuality. The film features a soundtrack some of Olympia, Washington's indie rock bands.

IN COMPETITION: NEW DIRECTORS SHOWCASE

Features

Guardian of the Frontier



Friday, September 27 • 7:00 PM

Slovenia • 2002 • 100 min.

Director: Maja Weiss

The first Slovenian film directed by a woman, *Guardian of the Frontier* is a suspenseful tale of friendship, freedom and sexual awakening. Three students, Alja, Zana and Simona, decide to take a canoe trip on the Kolpa River, the river that divides Slovenia from Croatia. As the girls float deeper into the woods and further away from their suburban homes, their carefree adventure takes some unexpected twists and turns. They encounter a mysterious cast of characters, including the Guardian of the Frontier, the self-defined defender of “traditional” Slovenian values. While Alja and Zana grow closer and more flirtatious, Simona is drawn to the Guardian and all that he stands for. The story gathers force, culminating in a fantastical night these three friends will never forget. This gorgeous, impressive film reveals the complex borders affecting young women coming of age in a transitioning Eastern Europe. In completing her first feature film, director Maja Weiss created a gorgeous and challenging psychological drama. This award-winning film is a tale of bold young women crossing boundaries and challenging their own ideas of what is permissible and what is forbidden.

IN COMPETITION: NEW DIRECTORS SHOWCASE

Happy Birthday



Saturday, September 28 • 1:45 PM

USA • 2001 • 92 min.

Director: Yen Tan

Yen Tan’s directorial debut, *Happy Birthday*, is a quiet, sensitive, and in many regards, masterful work about five people in crisis, all of whom share the same birthday. Ron is a gay preacher devoutly ministering to a group of men trying to become straight, but he secretly watches gay porn yearning for a man’s love. Tracy, a student from Taiwan living in the States must hide her sexuality or confront her conservative mother when she comes to town. Javed, a Pakistani disowned by his Islamic family because he is gay, faces deportation having to leave his American lover behind. Jim is an overweight gay man who suffers from a debilitating low self-esteem and who, ironically, is a top telemarketer for a weight loss system. And then there is Kelly, a young woman on the verge of a meltdown over a recent breakup, who spends her time obsessing over a former college roommate. As their birthday approaches, all five must confront these issues causing them to explore the nature of love, family, and personal boundaries. *Happy Birthday* is a rare film—astutely directed with assured performances— that causes viewers to reflect on their own lives

IN COMPETITION: NEW DIRECTORS SHOWCASE

His Secret Life



Saturday, September 21 • 9:15 PM

Italy • 2001 • 105 min.

Director: Ferzan Ozpetek

Cast: Stefano Accorsi, Margherita Buy

Antonia and Massimo have been married for over ten years. They live in a beautiful villa in Italy and are a happy couple. Then on day, Massimo suddenly dies in a car accident. Antonia gives way to absolute grief and unable to pull herself together she doesn’t go to work, she neglects her friends and colleagues, and she shuts herself off in her pain. Accidentally, she discovers a clue that Massimo may have been having an affair. As her resignation turns into anger she follows the lead and finds not just an affair, but, he has had a lover for seven years and it’s not another woman, but a man, Michele. Michele is surrounded by supportive family and friends, open to the rest of the world, where people associate without regard to sexual orientation, age, race, and social class. This “second family” sharply contrasts the closed and sheltered unit Massimo had with his wife, Michele. Eventually, Antonia and Michele learn become friends helping Antonia overcome her grief and to discover a new way of looking at life. From director Ferzan Ozpetek, (*Steam*), *His Secret Life*, is a hopeful look at life after loss.

Features

Ke Kulana He Mahu: Remembering a Sense of Place



Saturday, September 28 • 12:00 PM

USA • 2001 • 67 min.

Director: Kathryn Xian, Brent Anbe

A fascinating documentary about about the struggles of Hawaii's indigenous people, the Kanaka Maoli, *Ke Kulana He Mahu: Remembering a Sense of Place*, features interviews with writers, performers, social workers, educators, religious leaders, and activists shedding light on the negative influences of Western culture on this part of the world. The film shows how Western religion gave rise to homophobia and intolerance in high Hawaii destroying the sacred place Mahu (androgynous or transgendered) in the ancient culture of the Kanaka Maoli. Using footage of Hula performed by Mahu dancers and archival lithographs and paintings we are shown how the traditional role of the transgendered and same-sex partnered in Hawaiian culture has changed since contact with the West. As they attempt to regain what has been lost through years of cultural genocide, the public may learn by their example the true meaning of unconditional love and community solidarity. *Ke Kulana He Mahu* not only displays the beauty and hope of Hawaii's indigenous people but also the importance of land and identity (sexual, spiritual, or social) which comes into direct conflict with impending globalization in the name of progress.

Km. 0



Thursday, September 26 • 9:30 PM

SPAIN • 2001 • 90 min.

Director: Yolanda Garcia Serrano & Juan Luis Iborra

It's the hottest day of the year and the city of Madrid is simmering - with sexual tension. Seven couples arrange to meet at Kilometer 0, located in the capital's Plaza del Sol, the imaginary center point of Spain and a popular cruising spot. In a comedy of errors of epic proportions, these fourteen strangers get hopelessly tangled up in mistaken identities and second chances. An ignored housewife meets up with a gigolo who may or may not be her long-lost son; a groom determined to lose his virginity plans to meet a hooker but goes off with a man instead; and the hooker ends up with a wannabe film director who is looking for a movie star. That's just the beginning of this hopelessly tangled but seamlessly connected story as the metrosexuals collide (and disrobe) on a sultry Spanish August afternoon in this delightful romantic comedy.

Lan Yu



Saturday, September 21 • 7:00 PM

Hong Kong/China • 2001 • 86 min.

Director: Stanley Kwan
Cast: Hu Jun, Liu Ye

Lan Yu, Stanley Kwan's remarkable new film, is not only a stylish, uncompromising look at the love affair between two headstrong, modern Chinese men, but also a daring political feat as the script was not approved by Chinese censors forcing Kwan to film in secret at locations throughout Beijing. Based on a gay erotic novel anonymously published on the internet, the film is about the love affair between Handong (Hu Jun), a successful, emotionally distant business and Lan Yu (Liu Ye), an architecture student who has recently become prostitute. Lan Yu falls in love with Handong who bluntly admits that he'll maintain the relationship as long as it interests him and then it will simply end. Lan Yu meekly accepts his limited place in Handong's life and the two begin a decade long association filled with love, intimacy, loss, jealousy and an intense tumultuousness that only the deeply in love experience. Kwan masterfully stages this relationship against a sumptuous backdrop of light and shadow that mirrors the nuances and bonds between the two men creating a mesmerizing and haunting love story.

Features

Luster



Wednesday, September 25 • 7:00 PM

USA • 2002 • 91 min.

Director: Everett Lewis

Cast: Justin Herwick, Shane Powers

Plays w/*Baby Blue*, Dir. Patrick McGuinn, 7 min

Luster bursts onto the screen with the spirit and bravado of Queercore in this ensemble serio-comedy about the Los Angeles gay punk scene. Waking up confused after an orgy is only the beginning of an unforgettable weekend for Jackson, a blue-haired, 'zine producer, poet and record store clerk. Jackson thinks he's in love with Billy, whom he met at the orgy, but Billy just wants to be friends. Enter Jackson's hunky cousin Jed who is in town for the weekend. Jackson lusts after him, but you're not supposed to have sex with your cousin, right? Then there is Derek, a store customer who claims he knew the minute he laid eyes on him that Jackson was the "One." To complicate matters further, it seems that Sam, the record store owner and Jackson's best friend, may not be straight after all. And when Sonny (Willie Garson from "Sex and the City"), a closeted rock star, asks Jackson to help write lyrics for his next album, things really begin to spin out of control. *Luster* captures a certain moment in youth when the dividing line between callow and heartfelt is narrow and constantly shifting. Wildly entertaining, gritty and charming, *Luster* is a queer boy's adventures in lust, sex - and maybe even love.

IN COMPETITION: NEW DIRECTORS SHOWCASE

SIXTH ANNUAL LGBT FILM FESTIVAL

Mr. Smith Gets a Hustler



Friday, September 27 • 9:30 PM

USA • 2001 • 87 min.

Director: Ian McCrudden

Cast: Benjamin Hendrickson,

Alex Feldman

Hustlers and johns operate out of a swank, bar operated by the maleficent Mr. Lapp (Benjamin Hendrickson), who fields calls from businessmen in Midtown New York hotels and dispatches obliging trade in *Mr Smith Gets a Hustler*. Mr. Lapp's favorite lapster is a handsome 18-year-old who uses the name Bobby Blue (Alex Feldman). Bobby works for Mr. Lapp to support his mother, a helpless alcoholic (Anna Thomson). Enter the mysterious Mr. Smith (Larry Pine), a handsome middle-aged man who walks into Mr. Lapp's looking for companionship. He takes an immediate shine to Bobby and invites the good-looking hustler back to his room. After many repeat employments we discover that Mr. Smith is not the lonely out-of-towner he pretends to be and is interested in Bobby for more than his well-sculpted body. Ultimately no one in *Mr. Smith* is quite what they seemed in the beginning. Director Ian McCrudden's adaptation of the stage play is a sullen tale of broken hearts and homes. McCrudden not only provocatively traces the interactions between the mysterious Mr. Smith and his male street hustler, but also concerns us with larger issues.

P.S. Your Cat is Dead



Sunday, September 22 • 7:00 PM

USA • 2001 • 92 minutes

Director: Steve Guttenburg

Cast: Steve Guttenburg, Lombardo Boyar

Jimmy Zoole (Steve Guttenburg) is a loser. It's New Year's Eve, his girlfriend Kate (Cynthia Watros) is leaving him, he hasn't worked in a year, his best friend died recently, he's been robbed twice, and the only plans he has for the holiday is a stuffy party thrown by his emasculating aunt. And on this night, Jimmy is feeling especially unlucky. He has no immediate prospects and as he makes his way home, his apartment is being burgled—for a the third time. The crime is interrupted by Kate who has come to leave a goodbye note, however, when Jimmy arrives and confronts Kate, a huge lover's spat ensues. Afterwards, Jimmy discovers the burglar, Eddie (Lombardo Boyar), hiding under the bed and ties him to the kitchen sink while he contemplates his retribution. Based on the cult novel and play by Pulitzer-prize-winning author James Kirkwood, *P.S. Your Cat is Dead* is a unique, quirky, and touching comedy. Guttenburg, who also directed and co-wrote the film, is excellent as Jimmy, the down-on-his-luck everyman who's just this side of a nervous breakdown. Boyar brings charm and humor to his role as the wise-cracking, sexy, hustler/burglar.

Director and star
Steve Guttenburg
in attendance.

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Features

Questioning Faith



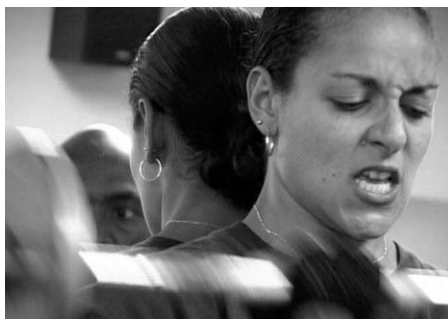
Sunday, September 29 • 3:00 PM

USA • 2002 • 84 min.

Director: Macky Alston

In his poignant new documentary, *Questioning Faith* award-winning director Macky Alston, explores the nature and resilience of faith in light of tragedy and extreme circumstances. Inspired by the death of his former seminary classmate and close friend Alan Smith, Alston returns to seminary to try to find meaning in his demise, to wrestle with his own faith, and to make this film. Alston interviews several fascinating people struggling with issues of faith. A teenager who suffered the suicidal loss of her father and the murder of her cousin, only to discover herself through Buddhism. A dentist's office receptionist whose son died of AIDS and whose church and family don't want to hear about it. A Muslim woman who claims to see angels, during brain surgery, who tell her that she will live and that her children will not be left alone;. An African-American pastor, living 15 years with cancer, who believes that each experience of suffering is another opportunity for her to connect with her congregation, full of suffering people. *Questioning Faith* is both a challenge to and a testament of various faiths and their place in each person's loves.

Some Real Heat



Sunday, September 29 • 1:30 PM

USA • 2001 • 54 min.

Director: Stefanie Jordan

In 1974 women were officially permitted to work in U.S. fire departments, but in California they didn't become part of the force until 1987. *Some Real Heat* offers a portrait of this upward climb by exploring the small and relatively new world of female firefighters in San Francisco. Armed with axes, chainsaws, muscle, heart and determination, six daring women demonstrate how they single-handedly turn gender roles upside down by putting their lives on the line everyday. As they passionately talk about the tools of the trade, overcoming their fears and helping others, we also learn the difficulties of working in a male-dominated field and the struggles they've faced to be accepted as female members of the force. Uncovering both the myth and reality of this dangerous profession, *Some Real Heat* intimately delves into the strength and character that distinguishes these women as true modern-day heroes.

Treading Water



Monday, September 23 • 7:00 PM

USA • 2001 • 95 min.

Director: Lauren Himmel

Cast: Angie Redman, Nina Landey

Set in a small coastal town in New England, *Treading Water* is a family story many of us will recognize. Casey is a longshore woman who seems to have everything she wants; she lives on a houseboat with her beautiful social worker girlfriend Alex, and they are very much in love. However, as the holidays approach, pressures from Casey's conventional family start to strain. Casey is feeling more compelled to be the daughter her uptight mother wants, while Alex is keeping a secret. Director Lauren Himmel isn't afraid to give the characters time and space to grow. As a result, she's created a treat that's all too rare - a lesbian couple that is at once sexy, inspirational, and yet very real.

from the London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival 2002

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Thank You

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