

BEYOND GAY

THE POLITICS OF PRIDE

SEPTEMBER 2009

Thank you for screening our film.

We are very excited about premiering internationally at festivals this Fall and Winter.

The film examines growing globalization of LGBT Pride and the organizers work to draw attention to the important need for human rights protections for queer people in different parts of the world.

Please find attached the required support materials and feel free to contact us directly for any digital versions that you may require. A full time-coded transcript is available with a clean copy for subtitling if needed.

Please contact us should you have any questions or comments at this time. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours with Pride,

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

Gay Pride marches and festivals are happening all over the world - sometimes under heavy opposition and violence. Vancouver's Pride parade director travels to places where Pride is steeped in protest to experience the powerful oppression that still exists, and discovers Pride is more than a parade, it's a giant step on the road to global human rights.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Gay Pride marches and festivals are happening all over the world - sometimes under heavy opposition and violence. Beyond Gay – The Politics of Pride is the most comprehensive look at the role of these events ever undertaken. This feature length documentary follows the Vancouver Pride Society's (VPS) Parade Director Ken Coolen and his VPS colleagues as they travel to places where Pride is still steeped in protest to personally experience the rampant homophobia that still exists. They also travel to Sao Paulo Brazil for the world's largest gay parade and New York City, the birthplace of the modern gay liberation movement.

Increasingly the Pride movement is globalizing. Coolen and many Pride organizers in North America and Europe, where celebration has overtaken political action, strive to remind their communities that Pride is at its heart a global fight for human rights.

Despite the hundreds of thousands of people cheering in the streets, Pride is much, much more than a parade and a party. It is a giant step on the road to true equality. The GLBT community during Pride is an entertaining and engaging multi-ethnic group that can bring attention to the issue of human rights with diversity, insight, and of course plenty of fabulousness. Some highlights include:

InterPride 2007, Zurich Switzerland: Coolen and co-parade director, Dean Nelson, attend this international conference of Pride organizations. Many human rights activists are interviewed, including American artist and activist Gilbert Baker creator of the first rainbow flag.

Sao Paulo Pride Parade, Brazil: This begins a tour Coolen and the crew will never forget. VIP access to the world's largest Gay Parade where 4 million people take part in their government sponsored Pride: a street party that defies the imagination. Their theme this year: Homophobia Kills! Then, 7 days later ...

Moscow Pride: Coolen and crew are the only foreigners involved in the clandestine preparations for this event. Secret meetings, hidden identities, police harassment, the first successful peaceful Pride March, and a violent counter protest reveal just how passionate people can be about a parade.

Pride Colombo, Sri Lanka: Pride events here are only advertised after they take place, in order to protect the identities of those brave enough to attend. Our host, Pride organizer Sahran Abeyesundara, later travels to Canada to be a Grand Marshal in Vancouver's Parade.

Vancouver Pride, "Celebrating 30 Years of the Rainbow": Back in Vancouver, where equal marriage is legal and the parade entertains half a million people, Ken struggles to make the parade have some meaning after all he has seen. Through Ken we discover that despite thousands of people cheering in the streets, Pride is much, much more than a parade and a party. It's a giant step on the road to true human equality.

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BEYOND GAY: THE POLITICS OF PRIDE

Documentary: Canada: 85 Minutes: 2009

English with subtitles

Director: Bob Christie

Digi Beta / HD Cam / DVD-R

World Premiere: Image + Nation LGBT Festival; Montreal Canada, October 2009

International Premiere: Mix Brasil; São Paulo Brazil, November 2009

European Premiere: Florence Queer Festival; Florence Italy, December 2009

Human Rights Festival Premiere: This Human World; Vienna Austria, December 2009

PRINCIPAL INTERVIEW LIST:

Ken Coolen	Parade Director Vancouver Pride Society
Gilbert Baker	Creator of the GLBT Rainbow flag
Sahran Abeyesundara	Director of Equal Ground Sri Lanka
Tomasz Baczkowski	President Warsaw Equality Parade
Dean Nelson	Director Vancouver Pride Society
Libby Davies	Member of Parliament, Vancouver East
Fatima Amarshi	Executive Director Pride Toronto
Scott Long	Human Rights Watch
Rev. Brent Hawkes	Metropolitan Church of Toronto
Gareth Henry	J-FLAG Jamaica
Franco Reinado	President Gay & Lesbian Travel Assoc of Brazil
Nikolai Alekseev	Founder Moscow Pride
Cleve Jones	Creator of Names Project Memorial Quilt, Friend to Harvey Milk

PRINCIPAL CREDITS LIST:

Oliver Lindsay	Executive Producer - Transmission
Kristian Andresen	Executive Producer - Transmission
Charlie David	Executive Producer - Border2Border Entertainment
Bob Christie	Writer & Director
Morris Chapdelaine	Producer
Joshua Kurt Rainhard	Director of Photography
Steve Schmidt	Editor
Aerlyn Weissman	Story Editor and Narration
Michael Wiskar	Original Score

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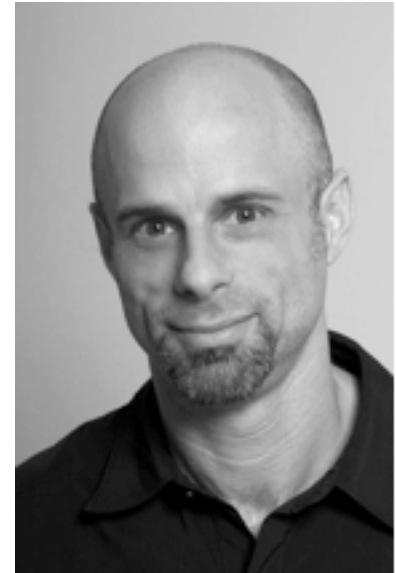
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DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY & FILMOGRAPHY

Bob Christie was born and raised in the suburbs of Vancouver, BC. He began his career in film and television as an actor, studying with Peter Breck of Big Valley fame. Working as an extra on 21 Jump Street, quickly shifted Bob's interests to the job potential behind the camera. He entered Simon Fraser University and graduated in 1997 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in film. He won three production scholarships during his studies, and his films, one drama and one documentary, were accepted to the national student competitions at the Montreal World Film Festivals in 1995 and 1997.

Bob's short acting career and lengthy education also provided for an established career in restaurant management, and after graduation that experience was quickly harnessed in the world of television commercial production. He has since coordinated, managed or produced over a hundred television spots for companies such as ILM, Tool, Radke, and Industry Films. The flexible nature of this industry also allowed him the opportunity to work in different capacities on independent features, documentaries, short films and music videos. As a proud member of the gay community, Bob has also helped to produce events such as Whistler Gay Ski Week, AIDS Walk, and Vancouver Pride.



In 2002 he began directing and editing video installations, corporate, promotional and music videos. In 2006 Bob began production on The Royal Eight a one-hour documentary about his father's family. It was awarded completion funds from the National Film Board of Canada and will be released in early 2009. He is currently working with Transmission on Beyond Gay, a feature length documentary that examines the global politics of Gay Pride.

TITLE	YEAR	TRT	TYPE	AWARDS
Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride	2009	85min	Documentary	
The Royal Eight	2008	56min	Documentary	NFB FAP Award
Love is in the Air	2005	4min	Music Video	
Auntie Culture	1997	38min	16mm Student Film	Student Competition Montreal World Film
The Other Thing	1995	18min	16mm Student Film	Student Competition Montreal World Film

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