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ReelHeART

International Film Festival



JUNE 19-24,
2006 Toronto

Welcome to RHIFF!

Our niche is no niche, at the ReelHeART International Film Festival (RHIFF) as we continue to break away from the flurry of narrow themed festivals and return to the true spirit of a varied and open film festival.

Late in 2005, an interesting thing happened. In the midst of our submission season, we started to see changes that held vast importance to the team at RHIFF. Our website traffic was growing rapidly and our international submissions were increasing on a daily basis.

Now, as we launch the 2nd annual RHIFF, we have been able to include those numbers in everything we talk about these days. Why-because we are excited and we want to shout it from the rooftops: International submissions are up over 40% for 2006 and web site traffic has increased by 170%.

There's more that we know this year. We know our "Programmers Pledge" worked for our filmmakers last year. Many who won their first award at RHIFF have gone on to win awards at other festivals and have secured broadcast and distribution deals.

We also know that the quality of the films submitted to RHIFF this year are of a higher caliber because the scoring rounds tell us so, with scores averaging 10% higher than last year across all categories. This makes the awards competition tougher; increases the film going audience experience and boosts the filmmaker camaraderie of the visiting filmmakers when they support each other's screenings.

Last year, our programming notes about production values to submitters echoed throughout the filmmaking community, as the bar for sound and editing was definitely raised on films for our 2006 season. As a result, the RHIFF committee made the decision to add two new awards for RHIFF 2006: Best Sound and Best Editing.

RHIFF stands very firm in our commitment to support the need for exposure for all levels of independent filmmakers around the world, where filmmakers can be recognized for their art, rather than their credits.

This year that aspect of our mission statement will be clear to all journalists and film buffs alike, as you see the breadth of filmmakers finding their voice at RHIFF; many entrusting us with world premieres of their films. The HeART and soul of each filmmaker is truly palpable and up there on the big screen.

If you missed us last year, I urge you to find a place for RHIFF this June in your culture and entertainment calendar. Show your support for RHIFF, known warmly as the "upstart film festival" of Toronto. We're making a name for our self, for filmmakers submitting to RHIFF and, we're securing a solid foothold in the arts, entertainment and expressive framework of the city.

Thank you for being film enthusiasts with ReelHeART!

Shannonn Kelly, Director RHIFF
ReelHeART International Film Festival [RHIFF]
www.reelheartfilmfestival.com

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*And the remaining cast of RHIFF Volunteers!
And the sequestered cast of RHIFF Programmers!*

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RHIFF PROGRAMMERS PLEDGE

Do you get the feeling that festival programmers only watch the first 10 minutes or less of your film?

"We, the RHIFF Programmers, pledge that we will watch every minute of every submission sent to the ReelHeART International Film Festival. We will give each film the attention it deserves. From opening credits to the closing Thank You's, Location Credits and cruelty to animals waiver. We will watch your film from moment one-moment none..."

ReelHeART International Film Festival JUNE 19-24, 2006 Toronto, ON, Canada

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Main Program \$ 8.00
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TUESDAY JUNE 20, 2006

PAY BLOC A

Show Time 2:00 PM

Lyra Lezama

Canadian Premiere
Director's Choice
Clayton Haskell
SF 00:17:38
Havana, Cuba/Brooklyn USA



A young woman living in Havana Cuba wins a special US visa lottery. Based on a true story, Lyra explores her inherited culture of post revolution Havana while trying to understand what the win means to her and those she love. First time actress, Anabel Bouza who plays Lyra Lezama will be immigrating to New York this year...

The Letter Writer

Canadian Premiere
Christian Vuissa
SF 00:12:00
Austria/Utah USA



"The Letter Writer" is about habits – the lovely habits some people can have, by capturing the beauty of selfless service and love when Sam writes a warm and compassionate letter with the fervor of a true master craftsman...

Anna und der Soldat [Anna and The Soldier]

Toronto Premiere
Christian Prettin
SF 00:10:07
Hamburg, Germany



Italy 1950. An 18-year-old Italian girl, Anna is haunted by her past. Six years prior Anna lost her whole family in a massacre by the German Wehrmacht. Now she is living a hard and lonely life in her small village. The

moment of revenge has come. But is she really able to bring it to the deadly end?

Inshallah Europa

North American Premiere
David Fonteca
SD 00:42:00
Morocco/Barcelona, Spain



Inshallah Europa explains the life of sub-Saharan immigrants that try to reach Spain jumping the fence around the autonomous city of Melilla in the North of Morocco. Those who do not succeed go back to the camp, where they clean their injuries and get ready for a new attempt.

PAY BLOC B

SHOW TIME: 4:00 PM

The Endless Rayce

Canadian Premiere
Founder's Favorite
Brett Darken
FD 01:25:00
Nashville, USA



Every two years, the American Solar Challenge gives the world one of its greatest car races while at the same time, challenging the future reliance on cars, cash, oil and energy. The Endless Rayce captures the drama of the America Solar Challenge, following twenty American and Canadian colleges racing from Chicago to Los Angeles along Route 66, in custom-built, solar powered cars across the American West without burning one drop of gas!

TUESDAY JUNE 20, 2006

PAY BLOC B

From previous section ...

Show Time: 4:00 PM

Ten Souls Rising

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Emily Rosdeitcher
SF 00:19:15
Brooklyn, USA



Eight New Yorkers and two French tourists get stuck in an elevator in a New York City. Mayhem ensues when the electricians' union and the mechanics' union reach an impasse over who has authority to fix the elevator, the passengers take matters into their own hands...

Return to Florence

Canadian Premiere
Director's Choice
Nick Brandestini
LD 00:50:00
Italy/Zurich, Switzerland



"Return to Florence" takes a humorous look at Anglo-American art students in romantic Florence, Italy. In an intimate school setting, they learn the painting techniques of the Renaissance period, while being isolated from modern influences. The documentary compares the students' expectations with what they actually experience, exploring as well, their love affairs and conflicts.

PAY BLOC C

Show Time 7:00 PM

Lucky

Canadian Premiere
Avie Luthra
SF 00:20:00
S. Africa, London, United Kingdom

Upon the death of his mother, Lucky is forced to move from rural Zululand to Durban to live with his

uncle who gives Lucky a tape of his mother's last message made just before she died. Lucky struggles in his new environment searching for love and acceptance, the hardest lesson for anyone to learn...



Last Stop for Paul

Canadian Premiere & Founder's Favorite
Sponsored by Toronto Tours
Neil Mandt
FF 01:20:00
Los Angeles, USA



30-somethings, Cliff and Charlie work together selling bathroom supplies. Charlie, the seasoned traveler, has been to over 50 countries. Cliff dreams of travel, but, always find an excuse not to go. Things change when Cliff gets a phone call informing him that his childhood friend Paul has suddenly died. At the funeral, Cliff learns his friend Paul had been planning a trip around the world. Cliff takes Charlie up on his offer to travel and, with Paul's ashes in tow; all three embark on a trip of a lifetime.

High Infidelity

World Premiere
David Hansen
SD 00:10:00
Melbourne, Australia

High Infidelity is a precise, distinct and conclusive short documentary where the filmmaker examines his own ideas about sex and love. Hansen ventures into the world of swingers; where sexual partners are interchangeable and have nothing to hide in a world where polygamy reigns supreme and its lonesome counterpart, monogamy is taboo.

PAY BLOC D

Show Time 9:15 PM

Le Chase

Canadian Premiere
Scott Teems & Charlie Shanian
Programmers Pick Founders Favorite
SF 00:19:58
Los Angeles, USA

Shot in the cinematic style of French New Wave Film, Le Chase takes a comic look at the unlikely romance between Hero, an ordinary man trying to bring beauty to the world, and Francie, a street tough trapped in a life of vandalism and petty thievery. With the help of a kindly French whore and an extreme make over, Hero is able to face his fears and convince Francie's band of hoods, "Les Punks," to give up their hooliganism and allow Francie to unlock the heart that beats beneath her bad-girl shell.



Photomateurs

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Pascal Tosi
SF 00:18:48
Paris, France



If you thought the 'talking pictures' from Harry Potter was inventive, you've yet to see Photomateurs. Set in 1952, an odd twist of a tale that's part "The Secret Life Of Walter Mitty" with hints of "The Projectionist". Hen-pecked and underappreciated Marcel daydreams of a much different life, which inadvertently begins to happen every time he takes a picture with his very new, very strange camera...

TUESDAY JUNE 20, 2006

PAY BLOC D

From previous section ...

Show Time 9:15 PM

Fudge 44

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Graham Jones
EXP 01:10:50
Dublin, Ireland



In this Roswell New Mexico-type backwards spoof, the mockumentary, Fudge 44 recounts a series of events, which occurred in Tokyo last spring when hundreds of Japanese people claiming to have bizarre encounters with eccentric, three-foot tall creatures. Many now believe they were puppets from an old children's puppet theatre threatened with closure, pulling off a heist in a last ditch attempt to save their beloved home.

PAY BLOC E

Show Time 11:30 PM

Know Your Nothing #2

Canadian Premiere
Ted Lee
MV 00:01:17
Amherst, MA/USA



This is an extremely fast, extremely FUN, nerdy, kooky, weird, music video from Ted Lee. Just remember to know your nothing. So, enjoy....

Solutions

World Premiere
Programmers Pick
Kim Wai Yuen
SF 00:13:33
Hong Kong, China



Yi Dan, a lonely woman finds that life is nothing but boredom and emotional pain. She invents a little game; sending postcards that publicize 'crimes of the heart' committed by uncaring men she's never met. Yan Song, works as a washroom attendant who accidentally discovers a game of his own, stabbing women's buttocks. The director says his film's "mark your target-stamping-game" was inspired by the Animal Channel...

Night Out

World Premiere
Wei Chen
SF 00:20:00
Taipei, Taiwan



Night Out focuses on the myth behind the Ku-Nian Temple "A holy land for no man" for girls who die young and whose spirits contact young male travelers, while villagers pray for their souls. One traveler falls in love with a ghost and tries to create a dialogue between the real and illusion, hunting for "touchable" reality.

Missing Pages (Amended Version)

Director's Choice
Canadian Premiere
Jerome Olivier
AN 00:24:02
Tokyo, Japan



Kiyoshi Tanokura [played by the commanding Hasegawa Hatsunori], is the head engineer of a large research firm. After developing a time machine, Tanokura learns how his invention is twisted to serve the purposes of an elite few. Along with a group of rebels, Tanokura must find a way to save himself and humanity from absolute tyranny. Missing Pages (Amended Version) is an animation created entirely with still photos manipulated in an original, award winning technique dubbed Fotomation, a truly unique visual experience.

Divide

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Masato Tsujioka
LF 01:00:00
Tokyo, Japan



"Youth is not inability, it's a condition". Divide, by popular Japanese actor, Masato Tsujioka, is the story of unknowingly separated sisters; Saki an over-achieving high school senior and Yuki, the leader of a "girls for sex and crime gang" in Tokyo. Both girls are forced to mature through circumstances of their very different lives. Both share the experience of heartache and pain such as the death of a parent and the unwitting search to connect the bonds of sisterhood.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21, 2006

PAY BLOC A

Show Time 2:00 PM

Note of Triumph: The Golden Age of Norman Corwin

Canadian Premiere
Director's Choice
Eric Simonson
SF 00:39:58
Los Angeles, USA



On the evening of VE Day, May 5th, 1945, Norman Corwin, the often called the "poet laureate of radio drama", presented a radio program, which galvanized and electrified the nation. The broadcast "ON A NOTE OF TRIUMPH" was a moment that would mark the end of a long national struggle, and in another sense, set a new standard for the art of radio drama. This documentary is an examination of one of the greatest radio presentations in the history of the medium and how it remains eerily prescient in light of today's current events.

Deeper than Y

World Premiere
Director's Choice
Ilona Siller
LD 01:00:00
New York, USA



"I definitely will not go to heaven if there is no swimming pool", says Gerty Agoston. Deeper Than Y is character driven documentary following the lives of 7 eccentric, elderly New Yorkers who have faithfully attended the same water exercise class at the Vanderbilt YMCA for over 10 years.

The Barber Farm

North American Premiere
Programmers Pick
Gretchen Siegchrist
SD 00:21:22
Northampton, MA USA



Since the 1700s the Barber Farm has been a fixture in its small Vermont town. Doris Marshall and her husband purchased the farm in the fifties, raised their children there, and ran a successful dairy for several decades. 'The Barber Farm' spends a summer with 90 year-old Doris, who struggles to find the best solution that will take care of her family as well as ensure her legacy and the future of the land when she passes on to other pastures...

PAY BLOC B

Show Time: 4:00 PM

Binta y la gran idea [Binta and the Great Idea]

Director's Pick
Javier Fesser
SF 00:30:00
Senegal,
Africa/Madrid, Spain



Using a wonderful mix of cultures and language to follow the title character, Binta, a 7 year-old girl who lives in a small village in southern Senegal. She goes to school, but her cousin Soda does not have the same good fortune. Between brainstorming for a way to get Soda into school and the admiration Binta has for her loving father, a humble fisherman, the story reveals volumes about beliefs and passion for education and culture with an amazing array of filmic techniques, imagery and color.

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WEDNESDAY JUNE 21, 2006

PAY BLOC B

Show Time: 4:00 PM

From previous section ...

Awakening

World Premiere

Joel Weber

LF 00:47:40

Afghanistan/Santa Barbara
USA



In Bihar, India's poorest state, Sister Mary Lobo organizes women's groups who learn to save small sums and invest as a group. A new ideology is spreading that far transcends rural women's traditional roles. In Afghanistan, Awakening reveals the lives of Afghan women few Westerners have seen. They talk openly about life under the Taliban and their current initiatives for economic development and rights specifically geared to the country's women.

Anamnesis

Brendon Foster-Algoo

EXP 00:09:55

Toronto, Canada



An experimental film about two boxers' abusive childhood memories that return to haunt them as they fight each other in the ring. Moreover, Anamnesis is a statement about how violence in childhood has a profound negative impact on its victims and how victims interpret the world in relationship to this violence in adulthood.

God Is

World Premiere

Jonathan Yudis

RHF 00:01:20

South Pasadena, USA



God Is explores some interesting home video footage of the 2 year-old son of filmmaker

Jonathan Yudis, who says: 'I want to make a movie.' Sometimes the deepest and most beautiful Truths are revealed in the most unexpected places (and in this case under two minutes).

The Snowman

Katarzyna Kochany

SF 00:08:00

Mississauga, Canada



A sweet story about finding joy when we'd rather not. A crusty old man's heart is melted by a chance encounter with a little girl.

Gone Postal

Canadian Premiere

Lisa Sanow

SF 00:19:20

Los Angeles, USA



When a 60ish widow played by Lee Meriwether ("Catwoman" on TV's Batman) decides to run a personal ad, love gets the stamp of approval from the local post office employees.

Incident At Alma

Canadian Premiere

Programmers Pick

Dick Fisher

SF 00:29:58

Tucson, USA



In rural post Depression Arizona, a preacher has only a few minutes to administer last rites to a condemned black farm worker and save his soul. During an intense emotional confrontation, the preacher is forced to examine his basic beliefs and the very meaning of his own life. Dick Fisher (producer/DP/editor of The

Brothers McMullen) directs this cautionary tale of racial prejudice and personal redemption...

PAY BLOC C

Show Time 7:00 PM

Global, Inc.

Canadian Premiere

Rich Newey

SF 00:32:03

Venice, USA



What if the world were a corporation and everyone who worked there each represented a country? When the destruction of a prized trophy in the boss' office mimics thoughts of the Twin Towers and being fired is likened to war...the result will anger many, while others simply nod their head in agreement. No matter what your politics, you cannot deny the controversy inside 'Global, Inc.' Are you ready for the revolution?

You Did What?

Canadian Premiere

Programmers Pick

Jeff Morris

FF 01:27:00

Redondo Beach,
USA



You Did What? is a heartfelt comedy based on the true-life experiences of first time writer/director Jeff Morris. The story chronicles marriage phobic Charlie (Ed Kerr, What I Like About You) as his perfect two-year relationship with his girlfriend Ashley (Kathy Wagner) is turned up side down when his brother (A.J. Buckley, Blue Car) proposes to a girl (Kelly Overton) he's known less than 24 hours. Charlie is forced to deal with why it's not him and Ashley planning their own wedding...

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21, 2006

PAY BLOC D

Show Time 9:15 PM

My Last Confession

Programmers Pick
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight
Sat June 24
David Finley
SF 00:21:00
Toronto, Canada



Award winning fiction writer, David Finley crafts a 1960's comedy, suggesting a terrifically creepy twist, in his first film outing. Meet Danny (played wonderfully by Graham Kartna), an imaginative, young catholic boy, who dreads confessing the most grievous of all sins: "impure thoughts and deeds"...

Planting Melvin

Canadian Premiere
Kari Nevil
FF 01:38:20
Menlo Park, CA, USA



Billie Lawrence has it all - beauty, diamonds, pearls, and a gorgeous home. Everything, except a husband that doesn't beat her. One night after an especially brutal attack, Billie leaves everything behind to find solace in a remote community next door to a dying WWII veteran named Melvin. The two strike up an unusual friendship, which helps each other bury the past and move forward without fear...

PAY BLOC E

Show Time 11:30 PM

Joyride

Canadian Premiere
John Cernak
AN 00:05:10
Winston-Salem, USA



Queen's "Bicycle Song" leads the narrative to this very "not for children" animated short when a

creepy old man steals a little girls bicycle to go for a "joy ride". Do not be late or you'll miss the hilarious opening credits...

Sex, Love & Z-Parts

Canadian Premiere
Marcus Russell
SF 00:29:59
Los Angeles, USA



Sex, Love & Z-Parts

chronicles the last day in town of two best friends Disco & Mitch and their love for a car which they co-own - a 1976 Datsun 280Z. Down on their luck, hated by their respective ex-girlfriends, the two opt to rig the outcome of a minor league baseball game to score some quick cash. The success of the scam yields only frustration. With unpaid accomplices beginning to become restless and an active rumour mill indicating their present whereabouts, the two decide it's best to leave town. Too bad the Z breaks down before they can escape.

Streets Of Wonderland

Carey Lewis
Canadian Premiere
FF 01:26:00
St. Catherine's ON,
Canada



A very earnest film about the disenfranchised youth of Niagara Falls, Canada which finds its lead character living in the shadow of dreams and wonder that is Niagara Falls. But not everyone living in this tourist trap lives inside the frames of a postcard, and most characters of this drama must finally come to terms with (and accept responsibility for) his or her own villainy.

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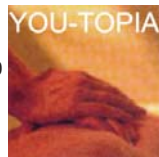
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THURSDAY JUNE 22, 2006

PAY BLOC A

Show Time 2:00 PM

Prescription for Disaster

Gary Null
Canadian Premiere
FD 01:28:00
New York, USA



An in-depth investigation into the symbiotic relationships between the pharmaceutical industry, FDA, lobbyists, lawmakers, medical schools, and researchers, and the impact this has on consumers and their healthcare.

Reflections of a Life

Kathi Carey
Canadian Premiere
SF 00:30:00
Sherman Oaks, USA



An experimental approach and intimate dramatization of a woman diagnosed with breast cancer. The filmmaker positions the camera in one fixed spot thereby revealing the personal emotional journey so that the audience will not be detached observers of the survivors in our midst...

PAY BLOC B

Show Time: 4:00 PM

Frank Mills

World Premiere
David Schmoeller
RHF 00:02:50
Las Vegas, USA



"I met a boy called Frank Mills/On September twelfth right here/In front of the Waverly/But unfortunately, I lost his address..." are the first few lines from FRANK MILLS, originally a song from the HAIR soundtrack, being given a different treatment here to tell the touching of a 9-year-old girl who falls in love with a fun-loving 11-year old boy, the day before he dies...

United We Stand, Divided We Fall

Paul Kroll
Canadian Premiere
SF 00:08:55
Flanders NJ, USA



"United We Stand, Divided We Fall" is a different look back at the effects September 11th, 2001 had on our world. It looks at the positive changes in the American people following the attacks, and the fall off of humanity since those days.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Marco Aguilar, Cheyenne Quintanar
Canadian Premiere
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight,
Sat June 24
LD 01:07:00
Canoga Park, USA



As a result of the 9/11 attacks on U.S. soil in 2001, the U.S. launched a war on terror that became the 'so-called' immediate global solution to fight terrorism. In the spring of 2004 filmmakers Marco Aguilar and Cheyenne Quintanar picked up their cameras and began interviews through Western Europe, Canada, and the USA to gain a global perspective on how people feel about the Bush administration, and the U.S. led war in Iraq.

Ginga

Canadian Premiere
Directors Choice
Gustavo Moraes
D/M 00:55:00
Brazil/ New York, USA



Ginga means "swing" in Portuguese and it's this movement that's an essential element to the natural rhythm of Brazilian music, dance and spirit and a

metaphor for the five teenagers from the outskirts of Salvador, Bahia, who become inspired by Capoeira Master Jelon Vieira to train as capoeiristas. When invited by their Master to become official members of his dance troupe, DanceBrazil and travel to the United States with his company, their lives are changed forever...

See Jane Dance

Canadian Premiere
Mona Nash
D/M 00:12:58
North Hollywood, USA



When suburban housewife Jane, finds herself in the humdrum of daily life, she takes a Brazilian dance class that renews the way she views herself hereby changing her outlook on life.

Take Me Out Tonight

Emily Rosdeitcher
Canadian Premiere
D/M 00:12:00
Brooklyn, USA



Sybil is a troubled 30-something woman who lives and works with her mother Hortense, a famous writer of science-fiction romance novels. Sybil's desire to strike out on her own and find herself finally bubbles to the surface when she discovers the empowerment of flamenco...

Intouchable

North American Premiere
Simon Heymans
SF 00:12:20
Ciney, Belgium



A man facing a curious visitor in his kitchen recalls his childhood. His memories hurt him as he barely accepts his state of being an old man. He has only one aim: to find the person responsible for this situation.

THURSDAY JUNE 22, 2006

PAY BLOC C

Show Time 7:00 PM

ctrl+alt+del

North American Premiere
Programmers Pick
Saurabh Gupta
SF 00:24:37
New Delhi, India



Kabir has been searching for the perfect way to die. Tonight's the night. This has taken a long time. The research. The planning, the procrastination and now, finally, the moment Kabir has been waiting for. As he's just about to take the final plunge, his telephone rings. Coincidence? Destiny? A Sign? Friend? Lover? How about the most 'technically perfect' pizza tracking delivery sales girl you ever hope to talk to...

Deadpan Valentine

World Premiere
Programmers Pick,
Directors Pick
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight
Sat June 24
Robin Lindsey
FF 01:20:00
London, United Kingdom



Two young men, Scott and Jamie, share a grubby London council flat. Scott, and actor seems to think he's got it made; he's got a lovely head of hair, a beautiful new girlfriend and a bit on the side. Jamie an out of work stand-up comic is severely and ironically depressed. Valentine's Day is just one more horrible day for Jamie and suicide today seems oddly fitting until a gun toting stranger shows up to change his plans...

PAY BLOC D

Show Time 9:15 PM

TWENTY

World Premiere
Sponsored by the
Toronto Blues Society
Sue Turner-Cray
MV 00:07:00
Los Angeles, USA



'Twenty' is a music video, which follows the return of a soldier from Iraq, however as the story unfolds it reveals a very different conclusion. Multiple Grammy award-winning artist Robert Cray, teamed up with director Sue Turner-Cray and the touring exhibit 'Eyes Wide Open', along with conscientious objector Aidan Delgado who served in Iraq for a year and a half. Together they have made a very powerful music video.

WhiteFlag - Playing With The Enemy

Sponsored by the Toronto
Blues Society
Izzy Abrahami North
American Premiere
LD 00:58:00
Switzerland, Netherlands



White Flag is a music group unlike any other. These musicians, from Tel Aviv and Palestine from the refugee camps of Gaza strip started creating music together in 1999. The deadly Intifada of 2000 prevented them from meeting again. They suffered oppression, imprisonment, even torture, to have their voices heard. Five years later, a Swiss music producer has mobilized all what was needed to reunite the band in Lucerne. 'White Flag - playing with the enemy' tells the story of the band and against all odds, their song of hope...

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THURSDAY JUNE 22, 2006

PAY BLOC D

From previous section ...

Show Time 9:15 PM

Refuseniks

North American Premiere
Programmers Pick
Sonja de Vries
LF 00:56:20
Prospect KY, USA



Refuseniks is a moving portrait of Israeli men and women who have been willing to risk imprisonment in defence of their stands against the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza by refusing to serve in those regions or refusing to serve in the military at all. A high school student, a career military officer, an army medic, and others tell a conflicted and passionate story of how they have come to believe that taking a stand is crucial to their own humanity and to the future of their country.

PAY BLOC E

Show Time 11:30 PM

self/worth/less

Canadian Premiere
Scott Halford
D/M 00:21:00
Farmington, UT USA



Dancer/Director Scott Halford and Chelsea Goff mesh and mingle with their external and interior environment in this "dance for the camera", letting the forces of nature collectively control and dictate their physical world as they relate to the emotions and maturity of "Mother Nature".

A Cigar at the Beach

Toronto Premiere
Programmers Pick
Stephen Keep Mills
SF 00:15:00
Malibu, USA



A man withdraws to an empty beach to smoke a cigar and daydream. An approaching storm out across the water mirrors the storm inside him as his fantasies propel him to the very edge of himself and to a surprise yearning greater than flesh or adventure.

Visitas

Toronto Premiere
Programmers Pick
Pedro Lange
FF 01:30:00
Venezuela Cincinnati
USA



Three intertwined stories about different visits to Bogotá: the first, a wounded unknown man is found by Irene, a troubled upper-middle class woman, provoking an unexpected transformation on her. The second story is about a naive Chilean businessman who finds himself involved in the uncanny mystery. The last story presents a family displaced by violence in an indifferent, uncompassionate city.

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FRIDAY JUNE 23, 2006

PAY BLOC A

Show Time 2:00 PM

Hog Island

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Tom Clyde
FF 02:00:00
Berkeley, USA



Wearing only her robe and slippers, a woman named Katherine drives north, leaving behind her comfortable life in San Francisco. She rents a house on Tomales Bay where she eventually befriends two drifters: Jake and Rich. As Jake and Rich vie for the affections of the mysterious Katherine, their rivalry grows tense and lies and hidden pasts erupt into a violent encounter...

PAY BLOC B

Show Time: 4:00 PM

CREDO

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Keith Snyder
EXP 00:09:00
Reno Park NY USA



CREDO is a 9-minute original screen musical in which God, realizing 'Thou shalt not kill' has never worked, takes responsibility for setting a bad example and withdraws all endorsement of murder. CREDO blends opera, cinema, humor, and verse in a response to those who use religion to justify violence. Amen...for the incredible wit and voice of Larry Picard...

WALLY

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Bob Fink
FD 01:17:00
Everett, WA USA



Wally is a cinema verité style documentary, which follows a family crisis when the parents of a 56 year-old profoundly disabled man die in rapid succession without making any plans for his future care. As Wally has

never been taught the skills of independent living, it was expected his younger, married sister to move in and take over their role as caretaker. Her husband threatens divorce if she becomes her brother's caretaker, thus setting up a battle between the husband, his wife and her brother Wally...

Spirit Of Tsunami

Anne Burke, Chris Bell
Canadian Premiere
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight
Sat June 24
SD 00:37:36
Denver, USA



For weeks after the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia in December of 2004, news outlets around the world reported on death and destruction. 'Spirit of Tsunami' takes the viewer beyond the initial disaster coverage and reveals the road to recovery. This documentary profiles survivors in India and Sri Lanka and a group of Jesuit priests who work with the more marginalized people in these two countries.

Time & Tide

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Julie Bayer, Josh Salzman
LD 01:00:00
Venice, USA



Time & Tide is a poetic and absorbing documentary about a land and its people as they head toward irreversible tragedy. The story is told through the eyes of a group of expatriates from the island nation of Tuvalu. When they return to their home island after being away for many years, they find a place vastly different from the one they remember- the forces of globalization and global warming are severely reshaping the land and people they once knew so well.

PAY BLOC C

Show Time 7:00 PM

SON

Canadian Premiere
Directors Choice
Glynn Beard
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight
Sat June 24
SF 00:27:00
Ventura, USA



A dying "been there, done that", father, videotapes himself giving his own unique brand of 'fatherly advice' to his son.

Tysta rop (Hidden Despair)

Directors Choice
Canadian Premiere
Jan-Eje Ferling
SF 00:29:43
Stockholm, Sweden



The first of two terrifically complex films by Swedish writer, actor, director Jan-Eje Ferling. The story of Tysta rop tries to untangle a very complicated knot of love and acceptance as a young wife suspects her husband is being unfaithful. She consults her mother-in-law who denies every suspicion, only to eventually find out that her husband is seeing someone: an older man...

Little Auteur

World Premiere
Darren Heroux
SD 00:34:11
Vancouver, Canada



Darren Heroux always dreamed of being an 'auteur' -- a director of distinction. But faced with rejection from film schools, he opted for a different path to fame. He enlists his daughter Sophie and embarks on a three year endeavour to teach her the art of filmmaking. The result of Sophie's movie will surprise you...

FRIDAY JUNE 23, 2006

PAY BLOC C

From previous section ...

Show Time 7:00 PM

Final Curtain Call

World Premiere
Founders Favorite
Jan-Eje Ferling
LF 00:45:20
Stockholm, Sweden



Final Curtain Call gives a close and uncomfortable portrait of the characters and the claustrophobic feeling of an old handicapped actress and her symbiotic relation to her son, also an actor, on the fall of their careers. This film has humor and tragedy but made with great love and care for the characters. The screenplay is based on the book "Edit" by Swedish film actor, director, writer Jan-Eje Ferling.

PAY BLOC D

Show Time 9:15 PM

In Religioso Disagio (Disturbing Religion)

North American Premiere
Programmers Pick
Massimiliano Maci
Verdesca
SF 00:18:00
Milan, Italy



Marcello, a heavy metal guitarist, is chosen by God to take the signs of his sorrow: Stigmata. This event will totally change the balance in Marcello's life, who finds himself completely lonely as he makes his efforts to achieve worthiness to accept the role God gave him.

The Faith of Joey Rail

Matt Robertson
Canadian Premiere
SF 00:07:08
Austin, USA



On a whimsical Sunday afternoon, Noel Howard lures Joey Rail out of church and into the backwoods of East Texas to take a closer look at the big picture.

Nearer My God To Thee

Programmers Pick
World Premiere
Marc Israel
FD 01:26:11
Northampton, MA USA



Suffering from ongoing mental troubles, heartbreak, and severe tendonitis, filmmaker Marc Israel embarks on a desperate journey to Brazil to seek out famed healer & psychic surgeon John of God. Here Israel encounters not only this controversial "Miracle Man" but, unavoidably, his own Self. Nearer My God To Thee emerges as a deeply personal yet surprisingly humorous process in which the very act of filmmaking is perhaps the best medicine.

PAY BLOC E

Show Time 11:30 PM

Confederate Zombie Massacre!

Devi Snively
Canadian Premiere
SF 00:15:52
Mishawaka, IN USA



It's love and gore in the Civil War. The very true story of a fictitious battle during the Civil War in which the use of chemical weapons results in mayhem of

"zombastic" proportions. Heads fly, breasts heave and love is in the polluted green air.

Netherworld

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Greg Connors
EXP 00:15:20
Mermaid Waters, QLD
Australia



After sacking a small Latvian village for worshipping a Golgotha demon all Gabriel wanted to do was to unwind with a warm mug of goat's milk. Fate however, can ruin any evening. God has bet against his finest angel in the next boxing match and the stakes are high, the fifth millennium high. Will Gabriel throw the fight to save the fifth millennium and stay in God's good graces? See you at fight night.

The End of The Beginning

Sabu Quinn
World Premiere
FF 01:35:37
New York, USA



Geoff Wyman is almost 30. An age where he should grow up and get a real job, because working at The Chicken Shack won't cut it forever. Freshly dumped by his girlfriend, he moves out to a boring life in a bachelor pad. That is, until he finally hooks up his phone and it rings. But that first call is for Annie Danilov. As Geoff is bombarded with calls for Annie, his imagination begins to wander, as callers seem so desperate to find her...

SATURDAY JUNE 24, 2006

PAY BLOC A

Show Time 2:00 PM

After Roberto

Canadian Premiere
Programmers Pick
Louis Fusco, Marc Fusco
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight
Sat June 24
FF 01:58:00
Pound Ridge, NY USA



A Mystery? A Fantasy? A love story? This psychological drama takes you on a journey through undiscovered locales as Roberto, a displaced New Yorker living in Genoa, northern Italy, finds himself the subject of a mysterious stalker. Travel with Roberto through the transient streets of Genoa's historic port, complete with shady characters, suspense, intrigue and disillusionment. Who is 'After Roberto'...?

PAY BLOC B

Show Time: 4:00 PM

The Wolves' Alphabet

Programmers Pick
Canadian Premiere
Arnaud Kühlehn
FF 01:35:45
Haute-Garonne, France



A young hitchhiker named Dante is dropped off in a small village, lost in the middle of the desert. As Dante's journey unwinds, a handful of villagers from a desert town decide to push a young wanderer to his limits to make his mind grow stronger. But their plan is very disorganized and the game of strength spins out of control when the wanderer's wolf gets killed. Slowly, the desert makes new rules for everyone.

Invisible

Canadian Premiere
Konstantin Bojanov
FD 01:30:00
Bulgaria/Brooklyn USA



After the crumbling of the Soviet empire, heroin flooded the streets of many cities behind the former Iron Curtain. It offered an alternative lifestyle largely unknown until then. In the late 1990s heroin addiction in Eastern Europe had reached epidemic proportions. 'Invisible' takes place in Sofia, Bulgaria and follows a group of six young people on a three-year journey through the highs and lows, dreams and tribulations of life with heroin addiction.

PAY BLOC C

Show Time 7:00 PM

The Cole Nobody Knows

Canadian Premiere
Giveaways Provided By
Jazz FM 91
Clay Walker
SD 00:21:00
Atlanta, USA



Musician Freddy Cole often refers to himself as "The Cole Nobody Knows" because he is the somewhat unknown younger brother of legendary pianist-vocalist Nat 'King' Cole and uncle of renowned singer Natalie Cole. Cole's vocals - suave, elegant, formidable and articulate - are among the most respected in jazz. Even though he has been nominated for a Grammy Award and a recording artist for more than fifty years, Cole has yet to be accepted into the mainstream public's consciousness. Featuring never-before-seen performance material...

Jazz Funeral for Democracy

Canadian Premiere
Giveaways Provided By Jazz FM 91
Luke Fontana
SD 00:43:58
Metairie, LA USA



Jazz Funeral for Democracy: A Wake for Peace took place January 20, 2005 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Thousands of concerned citizens, war veterans and persons of peace from all walks of life joined hands, protesting the inauguration of George W. Bush. This documentary records a traditional New Orleans Jazz Funeral, mourning the death of America...

Mississippi Forgotten

Canadian Premiere
Sponsored by Southern
Accent Restaurant
Timothy Burdick
SD 00:15:03
Ventura, USA



Mississippi Forgotten is a moody and awakening piece dealing with the issues and emotions that Mississippi Gulf Coast residents are still struggling with many months after Hurricane Katrina, which finally gives the citizens of Mississippi a chance to speak their concerns and needs that many will never get to express. "We still haven't seen FEMA" and "All we heard on the news was New Orleans, New Orleans, New Orleans..." these are the voices that have been ignored and forgotten until now.

SATURDAY JUNE 24, 2006

PAY BLOC C

From previous section ...

The Healing Gardens of New York

Canadian Premiere
Sponsored by Raindrops
Programmers Pick
Alexandra Isles
LD 00:54:00
New York, USA

Show Time 7:00 PM



In a city dominated by steel, glass, jackhammers and cranes, the importance of green spaces as a source of stability and emotional well-being is generally overlooked. The Healing Gardens of New York is about lives and communities that have been transformed by gardens created in response to crime, neglect, poverty and recidivism ranging from gardens in Times Square, to Rikers Island to Harlem and more.

PAY BLOC D

Show Time 9:15 PM

STOP

Canadian Premiere
Richard Chassler
SF 00:34:45
Los Angeles, USA



Daniel Martin gets pulled over for running a stop sign. When the policeman takes his license he realizes that Daniel was the bully from elementary school through high school that terrorized him. A suspenseful psycho-thriller with a twist of an ending that will keep you on the edge of your seat! Look for George Clooney's favorite funny guy and BFF - Spint City's Richard Kind.

Ten 'til Noon

Canadian Premiere
Official Closing Film RHIFF 2006
Scott Storm
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight
Sat June 24
FF 01:27:40
USA

In this very strongly crafted and efficient suspense filled thriller, Larry Taylor wakes to find two complete strangers in his bedroom and he is told that in the next ten minutes, everything in his world will drastically change... and it does!



PAY BLOC E

Show Time 11:30 PM

Fly

Canadian Premiere
Ben Weeks
SF 00:12:33
Evanston, IL USA

Ben Weeks is a 21 year-old Northwestern University film student, who submitted his film, while looking for a place to live. His next stop might be LA, because he has made a very funny comedy about Louie, played by Nick Kanellis who has great difficulty making a good first impression with women. Much of this is a product of Louie's own insecurities and odd idiosyncrasies: namely, his crippling habit of constantly checking that his fly is zipped up...



EXIT

Canadian Premiere
Glynn Beard
Lunch n' Learn Spotlight
Sat June 24
SF 00:19:15
Ventura, USA

Jim, played by (the "Nicolas Cage School Of Acting" newest poster boy, Ethan Wilcox), is an ambitious middle manager in a growing but dubious corporation who is given an aggressive time-lined project. Corporate has given a mandate that all of the middle managers must re-do their fiscal budgets to reflect a 24 month model after completing the work on a 12 month model with very little lead time for a very important shareholders meeting. Eventually, Jim snaps under the pressure with horrifying results...



Four Weeks, Four Hours

Programmers Pick
Canadian Premiere
Sponsored by You-Topia
Alexis Hukman
FF 01:21:00
Venice, USA

Two women are stranded in the desert on opposite ends of the earth. A photographer gets lost when her plane crashes in a war-torn middle-eastern country. Halfway around the world, a Malibu socialite finds herself abandoned in the American southwest when her car breaks down on a deserted stretch of road. Their stories are woven together as they struggle to survive the unforgiving landscape, one in four weeks, the other in four hours...



Venue Programming

SOUTHERN ACCENT, 595 Markham Street

Monday, June 19, 7:30 PM

Danielson: A Family Movie

Official Venue Opener

JL Aronson, FD/MR 01:45:00, Brooklyn, USA

'Danielson: a Family Movie' is a documentary about unbridled creativity vs. accessibility, Christian faith vs. popular culture, underground music vs. survival, and family vs. individuality.

Riverside

Director's Choice

Todd Tinkham, SF 00:11:40, Chapel Hill, NC USA

On a warm summer day, while having fun with her friends, one young woman finds out what it means to have her life flash before her.

In Memory Of Me

Samantha Lavin, SF 00:24:27, Los Angeles, USA

After eight years, a young successful lawyer reluctantly goes back to her small hometown for her best friend's wedding and the memories of a love affair she had with another girl during high school start to resurface.

Mending Spirits

Programmers Pick

Monica Plunkett, LD 00:58:16, Cleveland Heights, USA

An often-neglected aspect of domestic violence, this documentary is an artistic presentation of healing that conveys both pain and celebration, featuring three northeast Ohio women.

Tuesday, June 20, 7:30 PM

Welcome to My World

Jiri Bakala, SD 00:28:13, Kelowna, BC, Canada

Director Jiri Bakala mixes a combination of powerful interviews from a group of brave women, who

share their harrowing experiences of violence perpetrated upon them by their partners.

By The Wayside

Director's Choice

Soozie Eastman, LD 00:57:37, Los Angeles, USA

Every night in America, 600,000 men, women and children go to sleep homeless. Every one has hope in their fight for a better life. Follow their stories as they struggle to rebuild lives ...

Pillow Girl

Programmers Pick

Ronnie Cramer, 00:08:00, Denver, USA

Pillow Girl was originally a sound-art work created for the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. The film makes use of 150 covers, with one morphing into the next.

Post No Bills (1992) Invite (non-competition)

Clay Walker, LF 00:57:00, Atlanta, USA

Political heavy-weights from the 90's such as Daryl Gates, Ronald Reagan and Oliver North populate this urgent and humorous documentary on the detonative mix of art and politics as embodied in the work of infamous "guerrilla" poster artist Robbie Conal.

Plip & Plop

Christiane Doering, 00:06:10, Weissenhorn, Germany

Two drops jump out of running water and take a girl on importance of water conservation.

The Unbroken Circle

John C. Ludwig, SF 00:27:57, Irvine, USA

The Unbroken Circle tells the "true to life" story of an Israeli family and a Palestinian family in Israel. Their young sons, hospitalized from injuries in the ongoing Israeli Palestinian conflict, are the catalyst for an unexpected bond.

YOU BE THE SKY...

Programmers Pick

LAVLIN THADANI, LD 00:54:20, New Delhi, India

The desire to empower human mind with positive thinking motivated Dr. Kiran Bedi, to try to reform the criminal mind of the diehard criminals by way of Vipassana meditation.

Wednesday, June 21, 7:30 PM

Elephant Cemetery

World Premiere & Programmers Pick

Mehran Vaziri, FD 01:23:00, Iran/ Wayne, NJ USA

A young Iranian film student arrives in the U.S. with the dream of becoming a movie director. Life then takes a sudden detour when he falls in love and marries a Jewish American girl.

Banou Hoshech Legaresh

Canadian Premiere

Ziva Postec, FD 01:30:00, Jaffa, Israel

An experimental workshop of educators from different ethnic groups in Israel gathers in order to write a 'different' educational book on common citizenship for all communities without ethnic, religious, and communal differences.

Variatzot al noseh: Liyyot Israelite Featuring LEA

Canadian Premiere & Founder's Favorite

Ziva Postec, FD 01:02:00, Jaffa, Israel

A saga about Israeli society from five feminine points of view: We focus on Lea, a settler born in Israel. The film examines the meaning of identity in a land of immigrants like Israel.

Venue Programming

SOUTHERN ACCENT, 595 Markham Street

Thursday, June 22, 7:30 PM

Mary's Garden

World Premiere
Programmers Pick

Sam Hampton, SD 00:28:00, Alexandria, VA USA

In the summer of 2005, filmmakers Sam Hampton and Sumit Ghose spent some time with glassblowers Paul Willsea and Carol O'Brien.

Vanishing Cultures: Bushmen of the Kalahari

World Premiere, *Programmers Pick*
Paula Ely, LD 00:55:00, Sherman Oaks, USA

The San people, are believed to be the earliest inhabitants of southern Africa. They have lived for 80,000 years as hunter-gatherers, and are well known for their expert survival skills in a harsh environment.

How Come You Walk Funny?

Programmers Pick
Tina Hahn, FD 01:19:12, Toronto, Canada

This documentary takes us inside a unique experiment in early childhood education, following nine physically challenged kids as they are joined by twelve able-bodied kids who come to live and learn on their 'turf'.

Children of Fate

Nastasha Baron, SF 00:11:38, Richmond Hill, Ontario

After the Soviet Army enters Hungary in the dead of winter 1945, and destroys most of Budapest, Anna, her critically injured husband and their two children find refuge in a barn with a kind country family.

Pawns of Paradise: Inside the Brutal Kashmir Conflict

World Premier
Programmers Pick
Zoltan Istvan, LD 00:54:30, Brookings, OR USA

With non-stop fighting since 1949, it's the longest ongoing conflict in the world today. Zoltan Istvan, a regular contributor to the National Geographic Channel, is traveling alone in the region, trying to capture the story of the 12 million Kashmiris who forge their lives in this land.

Friday, June 23, 7:30 PM

PLEASE KILL MR KINSKI Invite (non-competition)
David Schmoeller, SF 00:09:00, Las Vegas, USA

Filmmaker David Schmoeller gives an amusing, first hand account of what it was like directing enfant terrible Klaus Kinski in a movie shot in Rome, Italy.

The Absolute Truth About Pro Wrestling

Canadian Premiere
Mark Ezovski, FD 02:00:00, Brooklyn, USA

For six years, Mark Ezovski followed three individuals to explore the strange, fascinating and secretive world of professional wrestling.

HERO TO ME

Canadian Premiere
SCOTT HALFORD, SF 00:20:00, Farmington, UT USA

RyanPearce is an athletic karate instructor who one night happens upon a girl who's being assaulted. Ryan intervenes and is brutally beaten by the gang of punks and winds up in a wheel chair – or does he?

Irritation: A Radio Saga

Canadian Premiere
Sam Baharvar, SF 00:36:28, New York, USA

Sam Baharvar, has a second career as a filmmaker and brings us the in-your-face documentary on Dead Air Dave, irritated New York radio personality and in-house censor at the Howard Stern show.

Saturday, June 24, 7:30 PM

The World's Greatest Fair

Sponsored by Kernels Popcorn
Bob Miano Canadian Premier, FD 01:59:00, St. Louis, USA

Some might remember the song by Judy Garland, "Meet Me In St. Louie, Louie". This feature-length documentary, co-directed by first-time documentary filmmakers, Bob Miano and Scott Huegerich is about the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair.

BIG ENOUGH

Director's Choice
Canadian Premiere
Jan Krawitz, FD 00:53:00, Stanford, USA

In this intimate portrait, several dwarfs who appeared in Jan Krawitz and Thomas Ott's 1982 film "Little People" welcome the camera back into their lives once again. Through a prism of "then and now," the characters confront physical, emotional and lifestyle challenges with humor, grace, and often, frustration.

Arborian

Andre Kocsis, SF 00:12:40, Willowdale, Canada

The marketing company that employs Bruce (played by Damien Atkins) decides to launch a new religion rooted in convenience and targeted toward the stupidity of its followers.

SUCCESS *Canadian Premiere*

Glynn Beard, **Lunch n' Learn Spotlight, Sat June 24**
SF 00:27:00, Ventura, USA

The 3rd film in RHIFF 2006 is actually the 1st film from the "Oceans Of Storms" series by from writer, director actor Glynn Beard. Follow lead actor Ethan Wilcox [Exit] on an uncertain and confusing job interview that asks the one simple question, no other candidate wants to answer: "At what price, success...?"

RHIFF Judges

Carl Liberman began his career as an actor, mainly for radio and television at the age of 11. An Honours graduate of York University's Fine Arts Programme in theatre, Carl was the founder of the literary department at the Characters Talent Agency [CTA], the largest in Canada with billings over \$20 million dollars nationwide. In addition to screenwriters, Carl also represents top directors, producers, a-list cinematographers and internationally renowned production designers and film editors.



"We're open for business and were very merit driven. In other words, if something is good, and presses all the right buttons we'll sell it, no matter who wrote it. [You don't have to have a "name attached to it"]", say Carl. This business is all about relationships and in my humble opinion we have the best!" We welcome Carl back for his 2nd year as a RHIFF celebrity judge.

Bee Sack is the flautist for Canada's only all-female klezmer band, the Pomegranate Squad. A community activist as well as a musician, Bee says she always has a sci-fi film or two playing in her head and enjoys a good story woven into thoughtful visuals. The dark circles under her bloodshot eyes reflect her dedication to late night videos. She likes to keep her hands busy and can be found drawing, planting seeds and pruning shrubs in graveyards. She has organized community film festivals and is currently developing a short film about a queer pro-Palestinian klezmer band.



Carol Mark, Director of ACA gallery (www.acagallery.com) has been involved in the arts promoting visual and performance art. Images are an important part of our psyche and is a universal language crossing all borders in promoting the interconnectedness of us all.

ACA Gallery was founded in June 2004 by Carol to create an incubator for art and social change. She is involved in humanitarian grassroots projects locally and globally and has seen first hand how "love in action" can change lives for the better. From establishing a medical clinic in Afghanistan, to performing medical aid in the Yucatan, and helping build communities in Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Carol believes that art in any genre has the ability to shape attitudes and promote change.



d'bi.young a Jamaican-Canadian dub poet, actor, and playwright has performed throughout Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and Europe in numerous productions including hit musical drama "da Kink in My Hair", and Canada's first Afro-Canadian sitcom Lord Have Mercy". She's produced four dub poetry albums and is currently working on her fifth, entitled "Ky.Ky" (a Cuban-Canadian musical collaboration) launching in June at "Buddies in Bad Times" theatre. Her next publication is an English-Spanish edition of the first play in her "Three Faces of Mudgu" trilogy entitled "Blood.Claa"; set for launch August 2006. Her



written work has appeared in publications such as Fireweed, Contemporary Verse, She Speaks, and the African Canadian theatre review. d'bi.young's first book of poetry, "Art on Black", was just published this year. Her latest appointment is a two-year residency at the SoulPepper theatre academy. We welcome d'bi back for her 2nd year as a RHIFF celebrity judge.

Murtz Jaffer started his career at the age of 17 when he e-mailed the Sports Network everyday for a year to land his first writing gig. His tenacity was rewarded when he was given the opportunity to write for TSN's wrestling section on line. Soon after, Murtz started his own website, survivor-central.com, dedicated to the popular reality television program. He also managed to recruit many former contestants to write for the site, making his mark by predicting or publishing a "spoiler" for before the next episode aired.



An entertainment writer for Entertainment Tonight Canada and the Toronto Sun; interviewing everyone from Vernon Wells to Donald Trump; Murtz expanded [survivor-central](http://survivor-central.com), and is currently co-owner, TV/Movie editor and Chief Content Officer of insidepulse.com, an entertainment website that receives millions of hits per day.

Murtz, a graduate from the University of Toronto with an honors bachelor of arts degree in political science and English, enjoys movies with a dramatic flair and considers himself to be a "Toronteenoo", a Toronto-based Quentin Tarantino admirer.

RHIFF Judges

John Pungente SJ, has worked in media education for over 40 years. He has co-authored Media Literacy: A Resource Guide (1989), Meet the Media (1990), More than Meets the Eye: Watching TV Watching Us (1999) and Finding God in the Dark: The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Go To The Movies (2004). He has contributed to international journals and books on media education. He has degrees in English, Film, and Theology as well as two honorary doctorates for his work in media education.



John is creator and host of the award-winning Bravo! television show - Scanning The Movies and producer of the award winning video A Heart To Understand, and the 1996 award winning teaching resource, Scanning Television and Scanning Television 2 (2003) - both of which have received a number of awards.

Since 1985 he has given over 500 presentations across Canada and Australia, in Europe, Great Britain, the USA and Japan. He serves as a consultant to media professionals including CHUM Television and Warner Bros. Canada.

Currently John is president of the Canadian Association of Media Education Organizations (CAMEO) and Director of the Jesuit Communication Project in Toronto where he continues to promote media education.

Rosina Kazi is one of the primary foot soldiers in Toronto's underground electronic music scene. Rosina is the lead singer of the band Lal and has been instrumental in the growth of many of the city's female

artists and DJ's, providing venues and forums for their musical expression. More importantly, she has managed to add an air of consciousness and political awareness to many of those events, and this awareness is the most distinctive factor of her music.



She grew up singing and dancing traditional Bengali folk music and dance in the Bangladeshi community where politics and art went hand in hand. Ropsina moved to Toronto when she was 19 to attend university and while working part-time at a record store, she discovered the courage to pursue music. Her latest projects include programming music and co-producing the CD compilation for Masala! Mehndi! Masti! and for theatre Passe Muraille's "Stage 3 music series: Word. Sound. Power".

Chandra Bulucan is the sole proprietor of seven-year-running audio production company Puppy Machine Productions, an interdisciplinary artist, and touts the official financial advisor badge. A recent recipient of the Untitled Art Awards, she has been showing her work for over ten years in such places as the AGO, YYZ Artists' Outlet, and the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts, as well as helped many families with their crucial financial needs. Chandra has sat on many art and film committees such as the Inside Out Gay + Lesbian Film Festival



and Trinity Square Video, was a FADO board member, collaborated with groups such as Tops'n'Bottoms, Just Like the Movies and Instant Coffee, and has been featured in eye Weekly, Toronto Star, and the dearly missed Lola Magazine.

Safiya Rander is an award-winning filmmaker and experienced editor who has enjoyed international acclaim for films that have been featured in New York, Paris, Berlin, Italy and Toronto. She was awarded Best Experimental Short, Audience Choice Award for best short film and Directorial Innovation (Italy). Her films are experimental documentaries tempered with sensitivity and insight. Layering images and sound, creating texture in the canvas of moving light. Rander is a first generation South Asian-Canadian whose extensive volunteering experience both at home and abroad ensures that her work reflects a deep understanding of cultural and global issues. She currently lives and works in Toronto.

LUNCH N LEARN

Tuesday June 20. VideoFact! "The Making Of..." Music Video Funding : Paul Gagnon, Cherie Sinclair, John Nadlin, Ken Clarke

Wednesday June 21. TIPS: Toronto Indie Production Programme Inside ACTRA : Tasso Lakas

Thursday June 22. Convergence & Creative Thinking for Film & TV: Howard Rosen.

Friday June 23. Documentaries, Lifestyle Series and Tools Of The Trade: Barbara Barde, Muriel Rosilio

Saturday June 24. "I Made This", 2006 Filmmakers Talk About Their Films ...: Glynn Beard, Louis Fusco, David Finley, Scott Storm, Paul Osborne, Katherine Lee, Robin Lindsey, Marco Aguilar, Cheyenne Quintanar, Anne Burke & Chris Bell

ReelHeART

International Film Festival



Sin sin, níl aon scéal eile agam!

