

The background of the entire page is a dark, textured surface, possibly a film negative or a dark wall. Overlaid on this are several large, translucent green circles of varying sizes. A black film strip with white sprocket holes is draped across the center, looping around the green circles. The film strip has a glossy, reflective quality, showing highlights and shadows. In the top right corner, there is a solid green rectangular box containing the text 'PROGRAM BOOK' in white. In the top left corner, the 'REELWORLD' logo is displayed in a serif font, with a thin arc above it. Below the logo, the text 'ReelWorld Film Festival' is written in a smaller, sans-serif font, followed by 'REELWORLD.CA' in a similar font.

REELWORLD
ReelWorld Film Festival
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PROGRAM BOOK

OUR STORIES. OUR TALENT. OUR FILMS.

8TH ANNUAL REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL
APRIL 2-6, 2008

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celebrating unique voices

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une diversité à célébrer

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with the ReelWorld Film Festival

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REELWORLD
ReelWorld Film Festival

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REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL & FOUNDATION



TONYA WILLIAMS
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT

In 2001, ReelWorld Film Festival premiered in Toronto. Thousands of individuals came, saw and supported the dream. Eight years later we come together again to experience the richness of diversity that is Canada. How fortunate we are to be able to show the world our unique tapestry of our culture and our heritage.

This year, I proudly saw filmmakers who found their opportunity at ReelWorld, return and join the board of directors – I saw the passing of the baton and it was a beautiful sight. ReelWorld is about giving back – it's rooted in the very basic diverse cultures we celebrate. On the shoulders of one are many! Our board, our staff, our supporters, our talent and our audiences grow with us each year – and I'm grateful to them all!

Enjoy ReelWorld Film Festival 2008!

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'T' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

"We are not victims of our circumstances, but rather our circumstances are the gifts that allows us to reach our fullest potential."

FESTIVAL ROOTS

Tonya Williams founded ReelWorld in 1999 and opened her unique vision for the festival to the world in 2001. Having started her career as an actress in Toronto, but now living and successfully working in Los Angeles, she wanted to create something lasting that would help Canada's emerging talent find their own voices through the screen. Her passion, hard work and dedication brought together a village of people, including the board of directors, staff members, sponsors, government agencies and talent to share and implement her vision. Stronger than ever, with an amazing line-up of films and filmmakers we welcome you all to the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival ... Enjoy!

ABOUT THE FOUNDER

Born in London, England, to Jamaican parents and arriving in Canada at the age of 12, Tonya's career spans over 30 years in film and TV. She has been honoured with two NAACP Image Awards, two Emmy nominations, a Harry Jerome Award, the ACTRA Award of Excellence, an African Canadian Achievement Award, and recently the Walk of Fame Award in Oshawa, Canada. As a black actress in the entertainment industry Tonya knows only too well the obstacles that exist. But none of that has ever stopped her from achieving her dreams. Tonya believes that each and every human being is created to fulfill a specific destiny. "We are not victims of our circumstances, but rather our circumstances are the gifts that allows us to reach our fullest potential."

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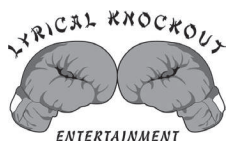
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WELCOME LETTERS



MICHAËLLE JEAN
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

I am pleased to send my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival.

Never before have we had access to so many works of imagination and so much universal knowledge. Modern technology has united the world in a way not previously experienced, and the solitudes of language, race and geography are being broken down. As civilizations of the world are mirrored through creative expression, we come to realize how similar we really are.

For years, this festival has given talented Canadians the opportunity to showcase their films, allowing upcoming stars the chance to work and be seen alongside established artists. I applaud all of your efforts in bringing this successful event to life, and I wish everyone an enjoyable experience.



STEPHEN HARPER
PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival, being held at the Cineplex Odeon Carlton Cinema and the Scotiabank Theatre in Toronto.

Showcasing an impressive array of feature films, documentaries, animations, shorts and music videos, the ReelWorld Film Festival is a premier event on the independent film circuit. Uniquely Canadian in its origin, the ReelWorld Film Festival significantly contributes to the strength and vitality of our nation through its inspired celebration of diversity and multiculturalism.

I would like to applaud the achievements of this year's contributors and the efforts of the many talented individuals behind the scenes who have dedicated themselves to their craft. Special thanks are also due to the organizers, and to all the volunteers and sponsors, for making this festival such a success. I commend everyone involved for sharing their passion for film.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, please accept my best wishes for a vibrant and memorable festival.



JOSÉE VERNER
MINISTER OF CANADIAN
HERITAGE, STATUS OF WOMEN
AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

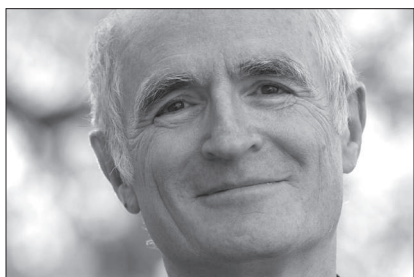
Greetings to all those taking part in the ReelWorld Film Festival.

A celebration of Canada's filmmakers of diverse origins, this festival demonstrates the power of film and video to expose us to other realities and improve our understanding of diverse cultures. The festival's seminars, workshops and special events provide young people with an opportunity to explore potential careers in Canada's film industry.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, Status of Women and Official Languages, I applaud the ReelWorld Film Festival organizers and volunteers for their dedication to promoting diversity in the film industry and cross-cultural understanding in society.

Enjoy the films!

WELCOME LETTERS



TOM PERLMUTTER

GOVERNMENT FILM COMMISSIONER
AND CHAIRPERSON, NATIONAL
FILM BOARD OF CANADA

Canada is one of the most culturally diverse societies on earth, and in the few short years since it was established, ReelWorld Film Festival has blossomed into a vibrant international showcase of film, video and new media exploring this diversity. The National Film Board of Canada is proud to be a partner in the 2008 edition.

We're delighted to be presenting the award for most outstanding Canadian documentary and to be hosting a series of animation workshops for young people as part of this year's festivities. As Canada's public producer, it gives us great pleasure to be bringing our expertise in the animation arts to new communities.

ReelWorld Film Festival celebrates the great multicultural experiment that is Canada with remarkable imagination and vigour – and it's an honour to be part of it.



S. WAYNE CLARKSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TELEFILM CANADA

From urban life and dramatic landscapes to inspiring heroes and personal struggles, all this – and more – makes for distinctive Canadian storytelling. Fittingly, ReelWorld has put together a diverse program of works that spotlights Canada, and other cultures from around the world.

Part of celebrating outstanding Canadian productions is also recognizing the talent behind them, and ReelWorld plays a valuable role in showcasing Canada's creators and their productions.

Canadian film continues to evolve as an art form that remains vibrant and alive by relying on the energies and ingenuity of a new generation.

For these very reasons, and in the spirit of our commitment as a cultural investor to help Canadian works reach audiences, Telefilm Canada is a proud partner of this festival.

On behalf of the board of directors and staff of Telefilm, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you and invite you to discover what Canadian cinema has to offer.

Congratulations to the organizers, volunteers and community whose hard work has helped make the 8th edition of the ReelWorld Film Festival possible.



DAVID C. ONLEY

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
OF ONTARIO

It is with pleasure that I extend greetings to everyone attending the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival.

I applaud your ongoing commitment to excellence, and the promotion of emerging diversity in film, video and new media. You have ably presented a wide variety of artists' work to Canadian and international audiences over the years. Your forums offer numerous opportunities for participants to network with potential producers and investors. You have also provided training through seminars, workshops and special events for everyone wishing to participate. This season presents something for everyone with features, short narratives, documentaries, animation, music videos, and works created for children and youth.

I congratulate the board of directors, staff and volunteers, and all the artists on another season of remarkable achievement.

As The Queen's representative in Ontario, I extend my best wishes for another enjoyable and successful festival.

WELCOME LETTERS



DALTON MCGUINTY
PREMIER OF ONTARIO

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival.

Ontario's diversity gives us both strength and our unique character as a province. And we are a society united by a common desire to co-exist in a spirit of harmony. That is why I am very pleased that once again, Ontario is playing host to the ReelWorld Film Festival – an event that does so much to celebrate our tremendous diversity and our values of mutual respect and understanding.

Every year, ReelWorld captures the multicultural tapestry of this country by giving exposure to emerging filmmakers of diverse and multi-racial descents and by screening the works of talented artists from around the globe.

The success of this festival is due in large part to the devoted individuals who stage the festival, the enthusiastic audiences who attend and, of course, the exceptional artists who tell their stories through film and video.

I offer my thanks to the dedicated and hard-working staff, volunteers and board members of ReelWorld for giving audiences a chance to see films from Canada and around the world, and for giving filmmakers a valuable forum for their work. Please accept my best wishes for a successful and memorable event.



AILEEN CARROLL
MINISTER OF CULTURE

I am delighted to welcome everyone attending the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival.

Thanks to Tonya Williams' vision in establishing the ReelWorld Film Festival and the hard work of its dedicated staff and volunteers, the five-day event has become a great success. I am very proud of the cultural diversity that we are fortunate to have in Ontario. This important festival provides emerging filmmakers of various backgrounds with an exciting and valuable opportunity to showcase their talents. Its presentations, including documentaries, animation and music videos, play a significant role in promoting and supporting multiculturalism in film in Ontario and Canada.

On behalf of Ontario's Ministry of Culture, please accept my best wishes for another successful festival.



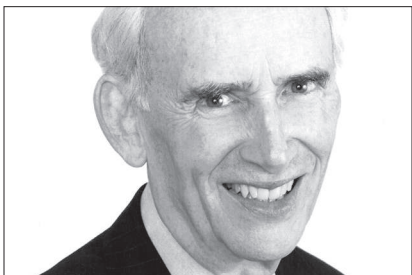
MARTHA DURDIN
CHAIRPERSON, ONTARIO
ARTS COUNCIL

The Ontario Arts Council (OAC) is pleased to support the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival as it showcases work by Canadian artists from diverse backgrounds. The festival provides emerging artists with an important launching pad to enter the film and television industry. It is also a forum for filmmakers at all stages of their careers.

The Ontario Arts Council's more than 50 granting programs support the remarkable range of artistic activity that exists in Ontario. These programs address our strategic priorities including funding for Francophone, Aboriginal, culturally-diverse and regional communities. In 2006-2007, OAC funded 1,224 individual artists and 867 organizations for a total of \$36.4 million. These grants were of benefit to artists and arts organizations in 255 communities across Ontario.

On behalf of the OAC board and staff, it is my pleasure to extend best wishes for this year's ReelWorld Film Festival.

WELCOME LETTERS



JOHN MCKELLAR
CHAIRPERSON
TORONTO ARTS COUNCIL

Greetings from the Toronto Arts Council. We are pleased to welcome attendees to your 8th annual program.

The ReelWorld Film Festival is an important venue for the presentation of feature films, animations, documentaries, short films and music videos from around the world as well as by local filmmakers. It also serves as an important industry gathering place, and provides a welcome opportunity for emerging artists to tell their stories and to be an active part of the burgeoning international community of Toronto filmmakers.

Toronto is an exciting place for the creation of film and video. We are sure that general audiences and film professionals alike will enjoy this extraordinary festival and we are proud to support it.



DAVID MILLER
MAYOR OF TORONTO

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and welcome to everyone attending the 8th annual ReelWorld Film Festival.

Cinema is a powerful medium that entertains and captivates us, allowing us to connect with the story being told on the screen. We are often moved by imagery that empowers and awakens within us the meaning and truth of the human experience in more perceptive and tangible forms.

Each year, this five-day festival presents the highest calibre of film and video. And it is a celebration of excellence and diversity that brings artists and their creative and inspiring work to the forefront. In Toronto, we welcome events such as this that give audiences the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of entertainment.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I congratulate the organizing committee and volunteers for making this event possible, and thank everyone for supporting this event. Please accept my best wishes for another memorable and successful festival.



ELLIS JACOB
PRESIDENT & CEO
CINEPLEX ENTERTAINMENT

Welcome to the 2008 ReelWorld Film Festival dedicated to celebrating and recognizing excellence and diversity in the Canadian entertainment industry.

Cineplex Entertainment is pleased to once again sponsor the ReelWorld Film Festival and celebrate the diversity that exists in Canadian society as part of our ongoing commitment to culture and getting involved in the communities where we operate.

This year's event promises to be exciting, filled with screenings of the best features, documentaries, shorts, animated films and music videos from Canadian and international filmmakers. Canada's film and entertainment industries are a source of inspiration and the ReelWorld Film Festival is an important platform for artists, allowing them to gain great exposure. Showcasing Canadian talent, introducing rising stars and their work and discovering new films, brings our diverse community together for an amazing celebration of film and the arts.

Enjoy the festival.

WELCOME LETTERS



JOSEPH LIU

MANAGING DIRECTOR
REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL

Welcome to ReelWorld Film Festival 2008, a place of discovery, interaction, new and old relationships, and wonder for five exciting days. ReelWorld explores culture from many perspectives – through the lens of independent Canadian and international media-makers.

I feel honoured to be working with a group of dedicated staff, interns and volunteers, programming manager Hayet Benkara, the ReelWorld board of directors and founder Tonya Williams. As we celebrate the festival's 8th year, I'm excited about the future and our new venue at the Cineplex Odeon Carlton Cinema.

As a small organization that depends heavily on a community of volunteers, artists, activists and friends, this event would not be possible without your energy and assistance. Thank you. I invite you to get involved with ReelWorld and share your time, talents, advice and/or money!

Please take some time to let us know what you think about the festival, either by email, Facebook or by finding us at the theatre.



HAYET BENKARA

PROGRAMMING MANAGER &
INDUSTRY SERIES DIRECTOR
REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL

Welcome! ReelWorld is first and foremost a five-day celebration of diverse Canadian and international cinema. Once comfortably seated in the dark, how wonderful it is to surrender to a filmmaker's imagination and the world he or she has created no matter what his or her culture or origins are! The journey we expect to be taken on often turns into an inner voyage, allowing us to rediscover the too-often dormant power of our imagination, creativity and humanity.

I am proud to present inspiring films and documentaries, and to honour some of cinema's most courageous and visionary independent filmmakers, who passionately and fearlessly believed in their creative powers: St. Clair Bourne, Charles Burnett and Melvin Van Peebles. Armed with passion, determination and a camera, they believed "it" was possible and made it happen.

It is this message of "possibility" that I will communicate to young people who take part in our ReelYouth programs. Everyone is welcome to attend our Industry Series, where key industry professionals will share precious knowledge and give back.

Please join me in continuing to build this legacy of hope, social justice and artistic fearlessness. I look forward to seeing you at the theatres!

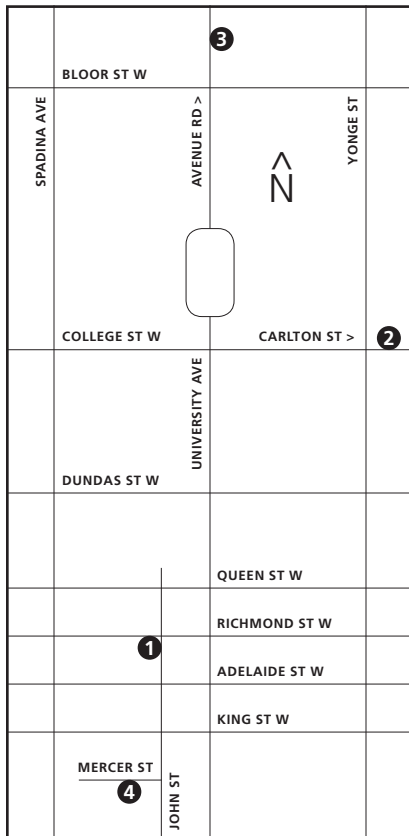
Celebrating diversity, promoting self-expression
and empowering youth.

Canwest is proud to support the eighth annual
ReelWorld Film Festival and **ReelYouth** program.



REELWORLD 101

Whether you're new to ReelWorld or a seasoned pro, here's everything you need to know to get the most from your festival experience.



GET THERE

- 1 OPENING AND CLOSING NIGHT GALA SCREENINGS**
 Scotiabank Theatre
 259 Richmond Street West
- 2 ALL OTHER SCREENINGS & INDUSTRY SERIES**
 Cineplex Odeon Carlton
 20 Carlton Street
- 3 BRUNCH WITH BRILLIANCE**
 Manyata Courtyard Café,
 Hazelton Lanes
 55 Avenue Road
- 4 OPENING & CLOSING NIGHT AFTER-PARTIES**
 Rockwood Grass
 31 Mercer Street

WHAT'S NEW?

There are many things to be excited about this year at ReelWorld. Use this book as your guide or visit reelworld.ca for the latest updates and late-breaking additions.

NEW LOCATION

First, we have a new home for most screenings. All regular screenings and Industry Series panels are now at the Cineplex Odeon Carlton, located at 20 Carlton Street, just steps away from College Street subway station (see map). Opening and Closing Night screenings take place at the state-of-the-art Scotiabank Theatre, at the corner of Richmond Street West and John Street.

NEW AWARDS CEREMONY

This year, ReelWorld is hosting one stellar awards ceremony, and it's no longer in the theatre before the closing night film. Instead, it's a sophisticated brunch at Yorkville's elegant Manyata Courtyard Café, now called the Brunch With Brilliance.

NEW SCREENINGS

You wanted flexibility and now you have it. ReelWorld is offering repeat screenings this year so you don't have to miss a thing. See the schedule on page 19 for details.

WHAT IF A SCREENING IS SOLD-OUT?

Single tickets to sold-out screenings may become available 5 to 10 minutes before the scheduled screening time. These rush tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

SINGLE TICKETS/PACKAGES*

Regular Screening	\$10
Opening or Closing Night	\$20
Gala Screening	
Opening or Closing Night Package	\$25
(Screening and Party)	
Industry Series Panel	\$10
Industry Series Package	\$50
(All Panels plus ReelSpeak)	

PASSES*

VIP Pass.	\$500
(Includes two tickets to each screening, ReelSpeak, Opening and Closing Night VIP Receptions, Opening and Closing Night After-Parties and deluxe gift)	
Festival Pass.	\$150
(Includes one ticket to each screening, Industry Series panels, and Opening and Closing Night After-Parties)	
Student/Senior Festival Pass	\$50
*All passes and tickets are non-refundable	

ARE THE FILMS RATED?

Most films at ReelWorld will be reviewed by the Motion Picture Association of America and therefore will have a rating. To help you make your choices, we've included details about the content of each film, starting on page 21.

THE INDUSTRY SERIES LOOKS INTERESTING, BUT WHO'S ON THE PANELS?

ReelWorld chooses senior executives, industry veterans and creative visionaries to sit on panels, but our press deadline was before most of these people were confirmed. For a complete list of speakers, visit reelworld.ca.



Proud supporters of the

ReelWorld Film Festival



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EVENTS & PROGRAMS

This year we've outdone ourselves with a phenomenal line-up of special events and programs – free to all VIP passholders. If you don't have a VIP pass, you can buy individual tickets à la carte.

REELYOUTH: TAKE ONE

An extension of the year-round program, ReelYouth during the festival aims to educate, enhance and support children and youth, particularly those from at-risk communities in the Greater Toronto Area.

APRIL 2, 3, 4

10:00 AM | CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:

NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA
ANIMATION WORKSHOP

12:30 PM | TEEN'S PROGRAM:

CUTTIN' DA MUSTARD

CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON

PRESENTING SPONSOR



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BRUNCH WITH BRILLIANCE AWARDS CEREMONY

Brunch With Brilliance is an intimate and elegant brunch for 100 special guests, where we honour filmmaking excellence and achievement. It will feature a sumptuous brunch service, live musical entertainment and the awards presentation. This year, ReelWorld is pleased to recognize over 10 artists with awards including legendary filmmaker Charles Burnett, who will receive the ReelWorld Award of Excellence. See page 44 for more information.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 | 11:00 AM

MANYATA COURTYARD CAFÉ, HAZELTON LANES

SPONSORED BY



FACE2FACE

Are you an emerging talent – actor, director, writer or producer – interested in meeting key decision-makers from the industry? Then Face2Face is for you! This session gives you exclusive one-on-one access to the people who can make or break your career. For complete details, visit reelworld.ca.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3 | 2:00 PM

CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON

SPONSORED BY



REELSPEAK WITH CHARLES BURNETT

This is your opportunity to get up close and personal with a well-known artist who's made a significant impact on the film industry. This year, film critique Cameron Bailey interviews director Charles Burnett, after the screening of Burnett's latest film *Namibia: The Struggle For Liberation* (see page 30).

SATURDAY, APRIL 5 | 8:00 PM

CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON

BFC AT THE NFB

CitizenShift of the National Film Board of Canada invites you to a special screening event taking place during ReelWorld Film Festival for the FIRST FIVE FILMS from the Burundi Film Center (BFC). For more information on the films, visit reelworld.ca.

ABOUT BFC

The Burundi Film Center (burundifilmcenter.org) is a media development project launched by three Canadian filmmakers in the little-known East African nation of Burundi. With no outside funding, their own equipment and some resourceful friends, the Canadians (two from Ottawa, one from Montreal) were able to train 36 students, aged 18 to 25, the basics of film production and produce five short dramatic films. Already wooing audiences around East Africa, the films now come to Toronto for the first time.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 | 7:30 PM

**NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA,
150 JOHN STREET**

For more information, contact Christopher Redmond, BFC Co-Founder, 613-697-7946, credmond@canadianfilm.com.

REELWORLD FOR THE INDUSTRY

Informative. Innovative. Compelling. Fun. ReelWorld's Industry Series is back to tackle today's most relevant topics in a forum that encourages dialogue, sharing and exchange. And we'll be adding expert guests right up until showtime, so check reelworld.ca regularly for the latest updates. All panels are open to the public!



CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: PRODUCING FOR INTERACTIVE

Whether it is through online forums or in the theatre itself, the future of cinema is all about audience interaction. As a producer or filmmaker how do you prepare for this coming (r)evolution? How do you get funding, what is the criteria, what legal parameters must you consider, how do you find capital outside the public system, and what are the current trends in cross-platform productions? Come and find out.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 | 10:30 AM | CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON



TELEFILM CANADA CASE STUDIES: TWO CANADIAN SUCCESS STORIES

How She Move & Amal

Although they followed two different paths, Ian Iqbal Rashid's *How She Move* and Richie Mehta's *Amal* are two successful Canadian films. How did each one capture the attention of Telefilm Canada and audiences alike? What steps did their producers take to navigate the funding system? Learn from them and Telefilm Canada representatives how our national funder can be your best friend, if you know how to play by the rules.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 | 2:00 PM | CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON



HOW TO WORK IN THE USA

What are the new immigration laws concerning Canadian talent looking to work in the USA? Every year, the laws change and you need to be in the know. Find out from top immigration and entertainment lawyers exactly what you need to know, so that you don't waste precious dollars and time. Get the correct information. Doing it wrong is one mistake you don't want to make!

SATURDAY, APRIL 5 | 10:00 AM | CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON

INDUSTRY SERIES



**SHORTS: FESTIVAL STRATEGIES,
DISTRIBUTION AND SALES**

Now that you've got a short film to shop around to festivals, distributors and sales agents, what do you need to know to make the biggest impact? Are you ready if somebody wants to buy or sell your film tomorrow? Which festival will enhance its value? Hear from a panel of experts, who share their knowledge and expertise in the areas of festival strategies, clearance, distribution and sales.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5 | 12:00 PM | CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON

THE REEL EXPERIENCE: HOW THEY MADE IT HAPPEN

Join us and hear from filmmakers and top professionals in the industry about their journey from nowhere to there! These are successful individuals who've mastered the art of making it happen. What made them consider this crazy career in the first place? What were the steps they took to achieve their goals? We know you need talent, dedication and persistence – but what else? Come and find out!

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 | 10:00 AM | CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON



SCHEDULE

TIME	VENUE	EVENT
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2008		
10:00 AM	Carlton 6	ReelYouth – Children’s Program National Film Board of Canada Animation Workshop 90 min
12:30 PM	Carlton 6	ReelYouth – Teen’s Program Cuttin’ da Mustard (Feature, USA) 110 min
7:00 PM	Scotiabank Theatre	Spinning Into Butter (Feature, USA) 96 min; Appetite for Accents (Short Animation, Canada); After-Party Rockwood Grass Nightclub, 31 Mercer St.
THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2008		
10:00 AM	Carlton 6	ReelYouth – Children’s Program National Film Board of Canada Animation Workshop 90 min
12:30 PM	Carlton 6	ReelYouth – Teen’s Program Cuttin’ da Mustard (Feature, USA) 110 min
6:00 PM	Carlton 6	The Limits (Feature, Canada) 94 min; Q&A to follow
8:00 PM	Carlton 6	Heartlines (Feature, South Africa) 95 min; The Tease (Short, Canada) 3 min
10:30 PM	Carlton 6	A Tune for Her (Feature, Canada) 99 min
6:30 PM	Carlton 8	Bullying: A Culture of Silence (Documentary, Canada) 58 min; Q&A to follow
8:30 PM	Carlton 8	Billo: The Great Dakhaar (Feature, Italy) 90 min
10:30 PM	Carlton 8	Faltu Utpatang Chutpati Kahani (Feature, Canada) 95 min; Q&A to follow
7:00 PM	Carlton 9	I’m Through With White Girls (Feature, USA) 90 min
8:30 PM	Carlton 9	How to Eat Your Watermelon in White Company (and Enjoy It) (Documentary, USA) 85 min; Q&A to follow
FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008		
10:00 AM	Carlton 6	ReelYouth – Children’s Program National Film Board of Canada Animation Workshop 90 min
12:30 PM	Carlton 6	ReelYouth – Teen’s Program Cuttin’ da Mustard (Feature, USA) 110 min
5:30 PM	Carlton 6	Welcome To Nollywood (Documentary, Nigeria) 58 min
7:30 PM	Carlton 6	Short Program 1 – Nappy Heads (Canada, 3 min); Jenny (Canada, 4 min); Keys (USA, 23 min); Souvenirs from Asia (Canada, 12 min); The Second Coming (USA, 9 min); Under Construction (France, 10 min); From One Dream to Another (Canada, 2 min); Boxed (USA, 12 min); Pariah (USA, 27 min); Q&A to follow
10:00 PM	Carlton 6	Dirty Laundry (Feature, USA) 100 min; Q&A to follow
6:00 PM	Carlton 8	Losing my Religion (Documentary, Canada) 48 min; Nosaltres (Documentary, Senegal) 63 min; Say a Prayer (Short, UK) 4 min
9:00 PM	Carlton 8	American Visa (Feature, Bolivia/Mexico) 93 min; Canopy (Short, Canada) 13 min
10:30 AM	Carlton 9	Industry Panel 1 – Choose Your Own Adventure: Producing For Interactive
2:00 PM	Carlton 9	Industry Panel 2 – Telefilm Canada Case Studies: Amal/How She Move
6:00 PM	Carlton 9	Tribute: Stanley Tookie Williams 1953-2005 (Documentary, USA) 92 min; Q&A to follow
8:30 PM	Carlton 9	This is the Life (Feature, USA) 97 min; Changes in Concrete (Short, UK) 5 min
11:00 PM	Carlton 9	Music Video Program

SCHEDULE

TIME	VENUE	EVENT
SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008		
10:00 AM	Carlton 6	Industry Panel 3 – How to Work in the USA
12:00 PM	Carlton 6	Industry Panel 4 – Shorts: Festival Strategies, Distribution and Sales
2:00 PM	Carlton 6	Khanah Ma: These Places We Call Home (Documentary, Canada) 90 min Q&A to follow
4:30 PM	Carlton 6	Cuttin' da Mustard (Feature, USA) 110 min; Recitation (Short, UK) 4 min Q&A to follow
7:30 PM	Carlton 6	America the Beautiful (Documentary, USA) 58 min; Q&A to follow
2:00 PM	Carlton 8	Midnight Ballads (Documentary, Canada) 53 min; Algorithms (Short, USA) 21 min
4:00 PM	Carlton 8	Coyote (Feature, USA) 94 min; Horn OK Please (Short, UK) 9 min
6:30 PM	Carlton 8	Ocean of Pearls (Feature, Canada) 97 min Q&A to follow
9:00 PM	Carlton 8	The Disciple (Feature, USA) 102 min
10:00 AM	Carlton 9	FREE – Family Hour Short Program: Afia (Canada, 10 min); Me, Masi & Mr. Clean (Canada, 8 min); Wing: The Fish that Talked Back (Netherlands, 13 min); Lights for Gita (Canada, 7 min); The Birthday (Canada, 14 min); Horn OK Please (UK, 9 min)
1:30 PM	Carlton 9	Jamesie: King of Scratch (Documentary, Virgin Islands) 70 min
4:30 PM	Carlton 9	Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation (Feature, USA) 161 min
8:00 PM	Carlton 9	ReelSpeak: Director Charles Burnett Interviewed by Film Critic Cameron Bailey
9:30 PM	Carlton 9	Driving With My Wife's Lover (Feature, South Korea) 92 min
SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2008		
10:00 AM	Carlton 6	Industry Panel 5 – The Reel Experience: How They Made It Happen
1:00 PM	Carlton 6	Nosaltres (Documentary, Senegal/Spain) 63 min; On the Map (Documentary, Barbados) 32 min
3:30 PM	Carlton 6	Short Program 2 – Darkness Calls in Gitxsan (Canada, 20 min); The Playground (UK, 12 min); Binding Borders (Canada, 18 min); Muntazir (Pakistan/USA, 11 min); Finding Father's Toe (Canada, 15 min); Hope's War (USA, 13 min)
10:30 AM	Carlton 8	Repeat Screening TBD
12:30 PM	Carlton 8	How to Eat Your Watermelon in White Company (and Enjoy It) (Documentary, USA) 85 min
3:30 PM	Carlton 8	I'm Through With White Girls (Feature, USA) 90 min Q&A to follow
11:00 AM	Carlton 9	Buffy Sainte-Marie: A Multimedia Life (Documentary, Canada) 90 min
1:00 PM	Carlton 9	Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation (Feature, Namibia/USA) 161 min
11:00 AM	Manyata	Brunch With Brilliance and Awards Ceremony Manyata Courtyard Café – Hazelton Lanes, 55 Avenue Road
6:00 PM	Scotiabank Theatre	Apna Asmaan (Feature, India) 110 min Q&A to follow After-Party Rockwood Grass Nightclub, 31 Mercer Street

Schedule subject to change without notice. Visit reelworld.ca for updates.



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OPENING NIGHT GALA TORONTO PREMIERE



SPINNING INTO BUTTER

MARK BROKAW

Based on Rebecca Gilman's acclaimed Broadway play, *Spinning Into Butter* is a fascinating look at the psychoses surrounding race in America. Set at a small Arts College in Vermont, the story begins when someone leaves racist notes on the dorm-room door of an African-American student.

Not wanting to appear insensitive, the college immediately calls a campus-wide meeting to discuss the situation. What results is a gripping tale that pushes all the unspoken hot buttons of racism in today's society.

As the hate crimes and media attention intensify, the school's student dean (Sarah Jessica Parker) is placed in a position where she must examine her own feelings about race and prejudice, while maintaining her administration's politically correct policies.

Spinning Into Butter depicts honestly how far behind the mainstream is in coming to grips with the reality of racism and multiculturalism.



Mark Brokaw is an accomplished stage director and choreographer. Over the years, he has received many accolades for his work including a directing fellowship from the Drama League of New York. He is a member of the drama department M.F.A. at the Yale School of Drama. *Spinning Into Butter* is his feature film debut.

FEATURE DRAMA
USA, 2007
86 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST

SARAH JESSICA PARKER, MIRANDA RICHARDSON, BEAU BRIDGES, PHILIP ADKINS, MARGARET BAKER, MYKELTI WILLIAMSON

DIRECTOR
MARK BROKAW

PRODUCERS

NORMAN TWAIN, LOU PITT, RYAN HOWE

WRITERS
DOUG ATCHISON, REBECCA GILMAN

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CLOSING NIGHT GALA CANADIAN PREMIERE



APNA ASMAAN

KAUSHIK ROY

How far would you go to make your child a genius? *Apna Asmaan* examines a family faced with that very question. Ravi and Padmini's marriage is strained as a result of their son, Buddhi. Buddhi is a mildly autistic boy with a flair for the arts, but his parents neither recognize nor encourage his talent. Instead they chase an unrealistic dream of seeing their son as a "normal" boy, destined to be an engineer or a doctor. When Ravi has a chance meeting with Dr. Sathya, a maverick scientist, their wildest dreams seem within reach. He introduces them to an experimental drug that will make Buddhi a genius. But will it really work? Or will this unnatural drug reveal something neither parent bargained for?

Apna Asmaan is a touching tale, inspired by director Kaushik Roy's son, Orko, and their journey as a family. Shobana and Irfan Khan's performances bring an unparalleled humanity to this incredible story. It won the German Star of India Award for Best Feature Film at the Stuttgart Festival.



Kaushik Roy has no formal training in art, filmmaking or advertising, but he has had success in each. Over his 30-year career in advertising, marketing and communications, he's held senior positions with many of India's most prestigious agencies. Despite this, his first love has always been cinema. *Apna Asmaan* is his feature film debut.

FEATURE DRAMA
INDIA, 2007
110 MINUTES
HINDI WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PRINCIPAL CAST

SHOBANA, IRFAN KHAN, DHURV PIYUSH PANINANI, RAJAT KAPOO, ANUPAM KHER

DIRECTOR
KAUSHIK ROY

PRODUCER
UMANG PAHWA

WRITER
KAUSHIK ROY

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FEATURES

TORONTO PREMIERE



A TUNE FOR HER

SAMIT BRAR

Shot in Vancouver, *A Tune for Her* is a Canadian story, but also a universal story. A tale of human desire confronted by duty and controlled by destiny, it examines the merging of two worlds, the Canadian mosaic and Indian culture.

A star-crossed love develops between Aman (Arya Babbar), a music composer, and Grace (Chrystal Loschuk), a singer. Grace has just signed a contract to sing on an album for a Toronto-based music company and Aman has been hired to compose the music. It's love at first sight but there's only one problem: Aman is promised to another woman, and is determined to fulfill his grandmother's wish to get married before she goes into surgery. But then a car accident plunges Grace into a coma and everything changes. Will Aman be able to make the right choice?



Born in India, Samit Brar came to Canada at an impressionable age with a dream and urge to pursue his passion for movies. He produced *Asa Nu Mann Watna Da*, in the year 2004, which was released theatrically in Canada and globally. *Yaraan Naal Baharaan* followed. *A Tune for Her* is his directorial debut.

FEATURE DRAMA
CANADA, 2007
97 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST
ARYA BABBAR,
CRYSTAL LOSCHUK,
JONATHAN LOVE,
REBECCA REINHART,
LARRY HOFFMAN

DIRECTOR
SAMIT BRAR
PRODUCER
PREETPAL SHERGUILL
WRITERS
SAMIT BRAR,
DUNCAN
OLLERNSHAW

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INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

DARRYL ROBERTS

In 2004, Americans spent \$12.4 billion (yes, billion!) on cosmetic surgery. The estimated cost for basic nutrition and healthcare in developing countries: \$13 billion. If those figures don't convince you that our priorities are skewed, then consider that they're merely the tip of the iceberg. The real cost of this obsession becomes clear when you look at the growing epidemic of eating disorders, the rising number of complications and deaths from unnecessary surgeries, and the low-self esteem of young people who are told – in some 40,000 media messages a year – that they're not good enough.

In this far-reaching and fascinating documentary, filmmaker Darryl Roberts talks with movers and shakers in advertising, fashion, entertainment and the media; with educators, healthcare professionals and scientists; and with hundreds of ordinary men, women and teens. Their answers are astounding, with consequences far more than skin deep.



Darryl Roberts is president of Sensory Overload Entertainment and an established writer, producer and director. He's best known for *How U Like Me Now*, the independent film about relationships in the 90s. He has also directed commercials and music videos, including Gloria Gaynor's "I Never Knew."

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
USA, 2007
108 MINUTES

DIRECTOR
DARRYL ROBERTS
PRODUCERS
DARRYL ROBERTS,
KURT ENGFEHR,
STELA GEORGIEVA

WRITER
DARRYL ROBERTS

PRINT SOURCE
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CANADIAN PREMIERE



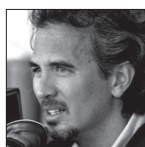
AMERICAN VISA

JUAN CARLOS VALDIVIA

Shot entirely in Bolivia, *American Visa* is a simple, honest and earthy film, adapted from a popular Bolivian novel. Strong dialogue, visuals and performances make it a riveting film.

Mario Alvarez (Demián Bichir) is a teacher who wants to reunite with his son in Miami and start a new life. But in post-9/11 Bolivia it's almost impossible to get an American visa. Desperate, Mario looks for any means possible to gain an entry visa, and decides his only option is to plan a robbery. But what is Mario really looking for? Is it the American dream? Or is it peace? Then he meets Blanca (Kate Del Castillo), a nightclub dancer. She opens the door to a life full of dreams, and invites him to join her on a new journey: the Bolivian dream.

American Visa was nominated for the Spanish Academy Awards (Goya) and won an Ariel award for best adapted screenplay from the Mexican Academy.



Juan Carlos Valdivia is a Bolivian-Mexican filmmaker, who studied film at Columbia College in Chicago. His previous credits include the award-winning *Jonah and the Pink Whale*, and *The Last Gospel*, which is currently in post-production. *American Visa* is his third feature.

FEATURE DRAMA
BOLIVIA/MEXICO, 2005
100 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
SPANISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PRINCIPAL CAST
DEMIÁN BICHIR,
KATE DEL CASTILLO,
JORGE ORTIZ,
CLAUDIA LOBO,
ALBERTO ECHEVERRY,
ROBERTO BARBERI,
ALEJANDRA LANZA

DIRECTOR
JUAN CARLOS
VALDIVIA

PRODUCERS
ALEJANDRO
GONZALEZ-PADILLA,
FELIPE GALDO,
OSCAR QUINTELA

WRITER
JUAN CARLOS
VALDIVIA

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INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



BILLO: IL GRAND DAKHAAR

LAURA MUSCARDIN

Billo: Il Grand Dakhaar is a bittersweet comedy about a young Muslim Senegalese tailor, Billo, who arrives in Italy with big dreams. He takes the Italian fashion scene by storm – and his hopes and dreams appear within reach. Only he didn't foresee himself living two lives, one Italian and the other Senegalese. But when Billo finds himself with two wives, two names and two kids on the way, his entire existence is threatened. Torn between his life in Italy and his African roots, what will he do?

Based on a true story, *Billo* is a staggeringly honest portrayal of immigrant life. It's also about an inevitable betrayal. As every immigrant knows, no matter what country they come from, no matter where they go, the moment they decide to integrate in a new social environment, they betray their roots. Music score and produced by Youssou N'dour.



Laura Muscardin is a Rome University PhD and founder of Gold Mist, an independent production company. Her first feature, *Giorni*, was based on her Solinas award-winning script. Her 2005 documentary, *Figli di Roma Città Apperta*, was an official selection at New York's Tribeca Film Festival.

FEATURE COMEDY
ITALY, 2007
90 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST
THIERNO THAIAM,
SUSY LAUDE,
MARCO BONINI,
PAOLO GASPARINI,
PAUL N'DOUR,
CARMEN DE SANTOS

DIRECTOR
LAURA MUSCARDIN

PRODUCERS
MARCO BONINI,
JACQUES
LIPKAU GOYARD,
YOUSSEU N'DOUR

WRITERS
MARCO BONINI,
MBAKE GADJI,
LAURA MUSCARDIN,
LUCILLA SCHIAFFINO

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FEATURES

TORONTO PREMIERE



BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE: A MULTIMEDIA LIFE

JOAN PROWSE

Buffy Sainte-Marie: A Multimedia Life is beautiful documentary about peace activist and songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie. Her protest song "Universal Soldier" became a 60s peace movement anthem, and she was so outspoken about the Vietnam war and Native American rights that the White House flagged her as an artists whose work "deserved to be suppressed." She has written hundreds of songs, scored numerous films, established educational initiatives across North America, was a regular on Sesame Street, pioneered early digital platforms, received a medal from Queen Elizabeth II and won an Academy Award. Yet, until now, there has never been a major documentary about her.

Joan Prowse had unprecedented access to Sainte-Marie's life. The film beautifully combines recent performance footage and archival clips, including a 1964 Newport Folk Festival performance. It's a great reminder of the impact one dedicated individual can have on the world. Inspiring!



Joan Prowse has more than 15 years of experience as a writer, producer, director and editor. She co-founded the production company CineFocus Canada to make thought-provoking shows and documentaries, and has created more than 20 hours of arts, biography and social issues programming.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
CANADA, 2006
63 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST
BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE,
JONI MITCHELL,
TAJ MAHAL,
RANDY BACHMAN,
BILL COSBY,
ROBBIE ROBERTSON,
JOHN KAY

DIRECTOR
JOAN PROWSE

PRODUCERS
JOHN BESSAI,
GILLES PAQUIN,
JOAN PROWSE

WRITER
JOHN EINARSON

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WORLD PREMIERE



BULLYING: A CULTURE OF SILENCE

SUNNIE MCFADDEN-CURTIS

Bullying: A Culture of Silence explores the troubling and pervasive topic of young schoolyard bullies, and the anguish their actions cause for victims and those around them. The profound and lasting consequences affect not only the victim, but also the victim's families, friends and bystanders as well as the bullies themselves. The film investigates the rationale behind the silence that surrounds bullying and delves deep into the culture, talking to experts from the legal, medical and law enforcement fields who offer startling accounts from first-hand knowledge.

Inspired by personal experience, *Bullying: A Culture of Silence* takes a unique and in-depth look at the destructive culture of long-term bullying, and aims to spark discussion into the cause of this silence. It also offers tools to educate and assist families who are embroiled in these devastating situations.

Bullying: A Culture of Silence is a candid and poignant documentary filled with heartfelt accounts from victims and their families.



Sunnie McFadden-Curtis is a talented and seasoned actor with over 20 years in the business. Her TV credits include *Family Passions*, *Soul Food: The Series*, and co-host of *Black World*. For her first documentary *Bullying: A Culture of Silence*, she took her passion for film and TV behind the camera.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
CANADA, 2005
55 MINUTES

DIRECTOR
SUNNIE
MCFADDEN-CURTIS

PRODUCER
SUNNIE
MCFADDEN-CURTIS

WRITER
SUNNIE
MCFADDEN-CURTIS

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FEATURES

CANADIAN PREMIERE



COYOTE

BRIAN PETERSEN

There's a line you cross and in this surprising film that line is the U.S. border. Inspired by a true story, *Coyote* is a most unlikely comedic tale.

After their friend is deported to Mexico, two young Americans decide to smuggle him back across the border, a single event that quickly escalates into a lucrative, full-time business venture that becomes more complicated than they ever thought possible. Sophomore director/actor/co-screenwriter Brian Petersen radiates with talent in front of the camera and behind it, sharing that savvy with co-writer Brett Spackman who dazzles as the likable J, while cinematographer Robb Hunt turns their vision into titillating eye candy. This unlikely journey takes the viewers on one heck of a ride ... with no borders.

Coyote has won awards at several festivals including the San Diego Film Festival and the Big Bear Lake International Film Festival.



Brian Petersen graduated from the film program at Brigham Young University in 2000. He then worked as an assistant director on the indie hit *Napoleon Dynamite*. After that, he wrote and directed his first feature film, *Think Tank*. He co-founded with Brett Spackman the production company Side Street Productions.

FEATURE COMEDY
USA, 2007
95 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
SPANISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PRINCIPAL CAST
BRIAN PETERSEN,
BRETT SPACKMAN,
CARLEY ADAMS,
MARINA VALLE

DIRECTOR
BRIAN PETERSEN

PRODUCERS
CHRIS WYATT,
DEVIN COLVIN

WRITERS
BRIAN PETERSEN,
BRETT SPACKMAN

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INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



CUTTIN' DA MUSTARD

REED MCCANTS

Cuttin' da Mustard is an urban comedy with a serious take. Loosely based on director Reed McCants' journey as a young struggling actor, it takes an uncommon look at a common problem: illiteracy. Starring a captivating Sinbad as a bartender with a troubled past and the likable Brandon T. Jackson as an aspiring actor with a fatal secret, *Cuttin' da Mustard* shines a bright light on the impact of illiteracy on urban ambitions.

The film chronicles the lives of young aspiring community theatre actors in Queens, New York, who perfect their craft while grappling with personal problems. Spirits sour and soar in the face of obstacles like puppy love and its heartbreak, illiteracy and low self-esteem.

Cuttin' da Mustard freshly injects socio-political commentary through humour and wit into the ever-growing problem of illiteracy. It won the Festival Choice Award for Best Picture at the Pan African Film Festival in 2007.



Reed McCants is a 20-year veteran of film, television and stage. A graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Reed started in improvisation and stand-up comedy, moved to acting, and then turned to screenwriting. He is also the founder of the 10-year-old Live Theatre Gang. *Cuttin' da Mustard* is his feature film directorial debut.

FEATURE COMEDY
USA, 2006
104 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST
CHARLES DUTTON,
SINBAD, KEISHA
KNIGHT PULLIMAN,
BRANDON T. JACKSON,
LIL ZANE,
CHICO BENEYMON,
ELAINE BOOSLER,
ADRIENNE BAILON,
JONATHAN WESLEY,
SHAUN BAKER,
DEBRA WILSON

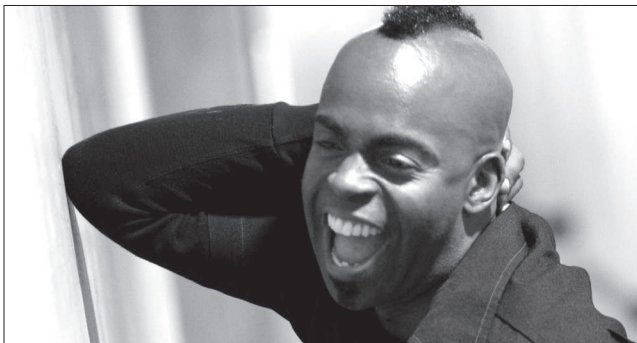
DIRECTOR
REED MCCANTS

PRODUCERS
KIM OGLETREE,
NEEMA BARNETTE,
REED MCCANTS

WRITER
REED MCCANTS

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CANADIAN PREMIERE



DIRTY LAUNDRY

MAURICE JAMAL

Dirty Laundry is a modern-day prodigal son story with a twist... a rather large one at that. In the back-to-your-roots story, Sheldon (Rockmond Dunbar), a gay African-American magazine writer meets a young son he didn't know he had, and revisits his extended family in an intolerant Southern town he once fled in the name of self-respect.

After 10 years, Sheldon, who now goes by his middle name, Patrick, returns from New York City to Paris, Georgia. His chain-smoking force-of-nature mother Evelyn (Loretta Devine) isn't exactly happy to see him, and neither is his sister or his jealous brother. They feel betrayed by him and haven't accepted his homosexuality.

Old arguments flare up – between mother and son and between brothers. Sheldon wants no part of fatherhood or his family. Then, someone else from New York shows up at Evelyn's door, bringing a new set of challenges. Will this family ever stop airing its dirty laundry?



Maurice Jamal is a director, producer, writer and actor. He is one of the only contemporary African-American filmmakers to specialize in gay themes and characters. His first film, *The Ski Trip*, told a poignant and often riotous tale about a group of black homosexual men on vacation. *Dirty Laundry* is his second film.

FEATURE COMEDY
USA, 2006
100 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
FRENCH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PRINCIPAL CAST
ROCKMOND DUNBAR,
AARON GRADY SHAW,
MAURICE JAMAL,
LORETTA DEVINE,
JENIFER LEWIS,
TERRI J. VAUGHN,
VERONICA WEBB,
ALEC MAPA

DIRECTOR
MAURICE JAMAL
PRODUCER
RE'SHAUN FREAR
WRITER
MAURICE JAMAL

PRINT SOURCE
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TORONTO PREMIERE



FALTU UTPATANG CHUTPATI KAHANI

(FREAKY USELESS SPICY STORY)

KALPESH PATEL

Innovative and vibrant in style, *Faltu Utpatang Chutpati Kahani* concentrates on the adventures of two Mumbai street hustlers in their search for a huge diamond that inexplicably disappears and reappears after they have stolen it.

The two small-time crooks, shaped as comic book characters, react funnily and unpredictably in weird situations and circumstances in a city that pulsates around the clock. With humour and lightness, the plot brims over with incredible coincidences and chaotic moments. The dynamic and visually appealing photography supports the loosely structured dramaturgy.

New for Indian cinema, Kalpesh Patel's unconventionally structured film brings freshness by its style and charm. Although it's nothing like most Indian popular cinema – Patel takes pride in having grown up with Bollywood dreams that are "bigger than life," as he puts it. His film is fun to watch and invites contemplation. It screened at Rotterdam earlier this year.



Kalpesh Patel is a Canadian-Indian filmmaker with a post-graduate diploma in film and television from Sheridan College. His experimental featurette, *Echo*, screened at the Calgary International Film festival in 2004. *Faltu Utpatang Chutpati Kahani* is his first feature film in Hindi.

FEATURE COMEDY
INDIA, 2007
90 MINUTES
HINDI WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

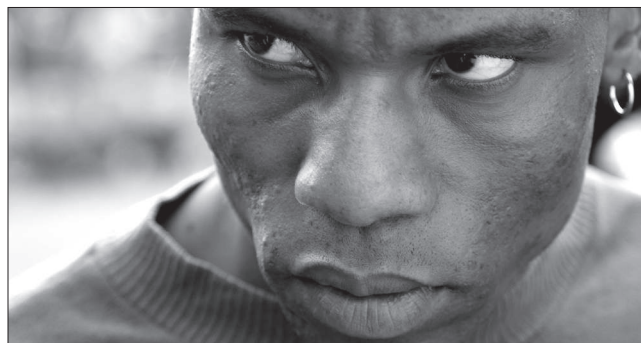
PRINCIPAL CAST
AAKASH BERI,
SUDEPTA
ANIL KUMAR,
PRABHAKAR SWAPNIL,
CYRUS POONIWALLA,
DEVDRAM SANGLE

DIRECTOR
KALPESH PATEL
PRODUCER
KALPESH PATEL

WRITER
KALPESH PATEL

PRINT SOURCE
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TORONTO PREMIERE



HEARTLINES

ANGUS GIBSON

A timely and relevant film, *Heartlines* is the final episode of the critically acclaimed television series of the same name. The touching story tackles such themes as second chances, forgiveness and the power of unconditional love.

After serving a jail sentence, Manyisa is offered a second chance at life when he's taken in by a pastor and his family. Pastor Jacob, whose brother died due to gang violence, sees his late brother in Manyisa. And a tender bond forms between Manyisa and Jacob's young son. Very quickly Manyisa is drawn into assisting with the church choir, and soon finds himself accepted by the congregation. But this chance at a new life is threatened when Manyisa's former crime boss has other ideas. Then a robbery occurs at Manyisa's work where a foreman is killed and Manyisa disappears. All of a sudden, it's no longer about redeeming himself in the eyes of others, it's about giving himself a second chance.



Angus Gibson began his filmmaking career in the 80s. He later formed Free Film-Makers, an organization that encouraged the creation of films that reflect the South African reality. His best-known work is the Oscar-nominated biography *Mandela, Son of Africa, Father of a Nation*, which won the Amnesty International Media Spotlight and Pare Lorentz awards.

FEATURE DRAMA
SOUTH AFRICA, 2006
95 MINUTES
ENGLISH, ZULU AND
XHOSA SOTHO WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PRINCIPAL CAST
MPHO JOSEPH
MOLEPO,
MDUDUZI MABASO,
THABO TSHABALALA,
S'THANDIWE
KGOROGI,
MBONGENI NGEMA

DIRECTOR
ANGUS GIBSON
PRODUCERS
MARIKI PRETORIOUS,
DAVID JAMMY,
HARRIET GAVSHON

WRITERS
MICHELLE ROWE,
ANGUS GIBSON

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W CURIOUS.CO.ZA

CANADIAN PREMIERE



HOW TO EAT YOUR WATERMELON IN WHITE COMPANY (AND ENJOY IT)

JOE ANGIO

Those familiar with Melvin Van Peebles know him as the driving force behind the 1971 film *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song*, which grossed more than \$10 million, making it the most successful independent film of its time.

This documentary about his life is full of rare archival footage, including interviews and unforgettable stories from Spike Lee, Mario Van Peebles, Gil Scott-Heron and St. Clair Bourne. Naturally, by insisting on doing things his way, Van Peebles stepped on some toes, yet he refused to back down. "My politics is to win," he declared. This maverick, modern-day Renaissance man whether making guerrilla-style films, flying Air Force sorties over the Pacific, studying astronomy in Amsterdam, writing novels in self-taught French, composing music, writing stage plays, recording albums or trading options on Wall Street, has blazed his own path, making a mark in each endeavour he's pursued.

Humorous, serious and incisive, this film is a story about the power of fearlessness. It received the Lancia Award and Audience Award at the Biografilm Festival in 2006.



Joe Angio is an award-winning filmmaker and magazine editor. Other credits include *A Feast of Fools*, a short on the clash of cultures at Mardi Gras in New Orleans, which won Best Documentary at the Festival of Illinois Film and Video Artists. *How to Eat Your Watermelon in White Company (and Enjoy It)* is his first feature-length film.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
USA, 2006
85 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
FRENCH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR
JOE ANGIO
PRODUCER
MICHAEL SOLOMON
WRITER
JOE ANGIO

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CANADIAN PREMIERE



I'M THROUGH WITH WHITE GIRLS

JENNIFER SHARP

I'm Through With White Girls is a laugh out loud view of commitment phobia and the erratic behaviour that inevitably accompanies it. A 30-year-old storyboard artist/sci-fi junkie, Jay Brooks (Anthony Montgomery) is the only black guy in his indie-rock social scene. After a string of failed relationships with white women, Jay decides to begin "Operation Brown Sugar" by giving up white women cold-turkey, and trying to find himself a black girlfriend. Jay fails miserably with the "sistahs." At last he meets the dynamic Catherine (Lia Johnson), a misunderstood "Half-rican Canadian," who's as righteously quirky as he is. To win her heart, Jay must confront his fears as he realizes commitment is a bigger issue than race. *I'm Through With White Girls*, written by Courtney Lilly (*Arrested Development*, *Everybody Hates Chris*, *My Boys*), is a quirky romantic comedy addressing race, class and cultural identity in America that is fresh, funny and fabulous.



Jennifer Sharp graduated from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She won awards for her first feature, *I'm Through With White Girls*, and received wide acclaim for her short, *Boxed*, also screening at ReelWorld this year. Most recently, she received the Panasonic Grand Prize at the IFP Market for her screenplay *Native Honkeys*.

FEATURE COMEDY
USA, 2006
89 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST

ANTHONY MONTGOMERY,
RYAN ALOSIO,
LIA JOHNSON,
LAMMAN RUCKER,
KELLEE STEWART,
ALAINA REED HALL,
JOHNNY BROWN

DIRECTOR
JENNIFER SHARP

PRODUCERS
LIA JOHNSON,
CHRIS ADAMS,
CAMILLA RANTSEN

WRITER
COURTNEY LILLY

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TORONTO PREMIERE



JAMESIE, KING OF SCRATCH

ANDREA E. LELAND

James Brewster "Jamesie" is an uncompromising musician from the Caribbean island of St. Croix who's dedicated to preserving scratch music. The 79-year-old is known for his humorous, provocative and playful compositions, and lively performances. Scratch music is an indigenous, grassroots form of folk music that originated over a century ago in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Today, it's the official music of the Virgin Islands. The lyrics are a form of oral history used to immortalize historical events, spread gossip about one's neighbours and relay the day-to-day trials and tribulations of living on a small island.

Jamesie, King of Scratch brilliantly injects harmony into the soul. It's a magnificent tribute to the legacy of the descendants of the slave trade in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The film played in festivals in the Bahamas, Miami, Park City and Germany, and won a gold medal for best documentary on a musical subject and the People's Choice Award at the Bay Street Film Festival.



Andrea E. Leland has produced and directed several award-winning documentaries about Caribbean and Latin American cultures. In Haiti, Belize, Chiapas and several Caribbean islands, she works with community members to provide a voice for their untold stories, personal challenges and compelling triumphs.

FEATURE DOCUMENTARY
USA, 2006
70 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND CREOLE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

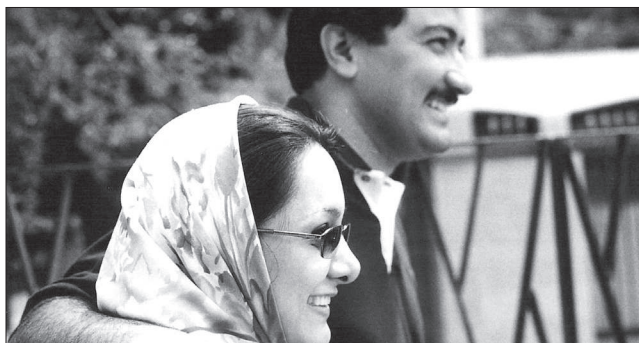
DIRECTOR
ANDREA E. LELAND

PRODUCER
ANDREA E. LELAND

WRITER
ANDREA E. LELAND

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TORONTO PREMIERE



KHANEH MA: THESE PLACES WE CALL HOME

ANNA FAHR

Khaneh Ma examines questions of cultural identity by presenting three generations of Iranians, divided on three continents and reunited on one journey. This intimate portrait of diaspora begins with the director's return to Iran, her country of cultural origin, where she reacquaints herself with family she has not seen in over 10 years – and rediscovers a culture that has remained a quiet yet ever-present part of her life in Canada. As the journey unfolds, we uncover rarely seen aspects of Iranian culture, as experienced by the director, while witnessing first-hand the process of leaving an old culture behind and the journey into a new one. The film is full of memorable images, like a memorial procession of self-flagellating men, and sweetly candid moments, like a grandpa hand-crushing dried herbs at the dinner table for his daughter to bring home.

Khaneh Ma is a compelling family portrait and a record of the immigrant experience, complete with glimpses into the little-known aspects of Iranian culture.



Anna Fahr is an award-winning graduate of Concordia University's film program. *Khaneh Ma*, her first feature-length documentary as an independent director, has screened to much acclaim at festivals throughout North America and Europe. Recently, she was one of 20 young filmmakers to participate in ReelWorld's Indie Film Lounge.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
CANADA, 2006
90 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
FARSI WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR
ANNA FAHR
PRODUCER
ANNA FAHR

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MIDNIGHT BALLADS

DIEGO BRISENO-ORDUZ

Midnight Ballads plunges into the reality of five Latino immigrants living in Montreal. Mauser is new on the job after recently escaping political persecution in Mexico. Marco is a flamboyant Colombian cook. He is now on welfare, and struggling with chronic illness and sexual discrimination. Elizabeth is a sociologist and daughter of Portuguese immigrants. Remberto is a joyful percussionist and single parent. He loves the flexible schedule of the job, which allows him to play in his band and take care of his daughters. Sergio works the night shift, but his day job is much more interesting. He is an evangelical pastor in a church he co-founded with his wife, and describes himself as a "television station" that communicates God's message to the marginalized Latino community.

With this documentary, audiences are invited inside the lives of these impassioned individuals to discover a rarely seen Latino subculture in Canada.



Diego Brisen-Orduz is a Colombian-born and award-winning director, editor and producer based in Montreal with over 12 years in the business. His credits include *A Saddle Tree*, *Things Never Said in Playa Perdida*, *Chronique Urbaine* and *Souvenir Kids*. He is currently working on new fiction and non-fiction ventures.

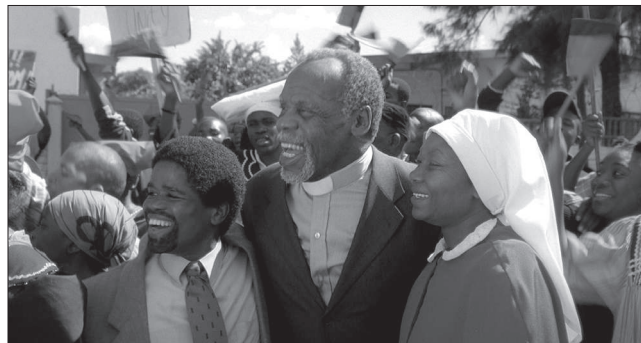
FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
CANADA, 2007
53 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
SPANISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR
DIEGO
BRISENO-ORDUZ
PRODUCER
YANICK LETOURNEAU
WRITER
DIEGO
BRISENO-ORDUZ

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FEATURES

CANADIAN PREMIERE



NAMIBIA: THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION

CHARLES BURNETT

Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation is an award-winning fictional tale about the real-life rise to power of Samuel Nujoma, a prominent leader in Namibia's struggle for independence and the country's first president. It opens with a young Nujoma learning that he's a direct descendant of royalty. But with his country under constant oppression from South Africa, he goes to live with an aunt for safety reasons. While there, he befriends a religious man (Danny Glover) who has a profound impact on his life. Later he forms the SWAPO political movement that, with the assistance of some foreign governments, eventually earns Namibia its independence.

This epic and visually compelling film examines the Namibian people's long struggle for independence with grace and brutal honesty. Rather than a documentary-style history of the brutal conflict, the film mixes real and composite characters to explore the spirit and sacrifices of the struggle that culminated in independence in 1990. Covering over 60 years of history, *Namibia* details the events, people and places that shaped Nujoma's political consciousness.



Considered one of America's greatest filmmakers, Charles Burnett studied film at UCLA. His first feature, *Killer of Sheep*, won a prize at Berlin in the 80s. Other credits include *The Glass Shield*, *The Wedding*, *The Annihilation of Fish*, *Olivia's Story* and countless TV productions. He has also worked as a writer, producer and cinematographer.

FEATURE DRAMA
NAMIBIA, 2007
161 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST
CARL LUMBLY,
DANNY GLOVER,
JOEL HAIKALI,
CHRISIAN APPOLLUS,
OBED EMVULA

DIRECTOR
CHARLES BURNETT

PRODUCERS
ABIUS AKWAAK,
STEVE GUKAS,
UAZUVA KAUMBI

WRITER
CHARLES BURNETT

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CANADIAN PREMIERE



NOSALTRES

MOUSSA TOURÉ

Nosaltres is a powerful documentary shot in Catalonia, a small province outside Barcelona, Spain. Award-winning Senegalese filmmaker Moussa Touré takes us to the Catalan village of Saint Feliu where immigrants from Mali have changed the cultural makeup of the village. The film portrays the reality between Mali and Catalonia, two communities struggling to share the same city and yet ignoring each other's existence. Moussa Touré deeply explores the underlying social issues between those two communities, following their stories, their fears, and shows how pride and ignorance can affect human relationships.

When a number of African men wash up on a beach populated by sunbathing Catalans, the Catalans quickly grab their beach towels and wrap them around the shivering men. Touré perfectly captures the humanity of a simple gesture of kindness.

Nosaltres is a documentary that everyone should see with a lesson that no one should forget!



Moussa Touré began his film career in 1987 with the short film *Baram*. He also worked as an assistant on films such as François Truffaut's *Adèle H.* and Bertrand Tavernier's *Coup de Torchon*. His first feature, *Toubab Bi*, won several prizes and awards. His other film, *TGV*, won the Public Prize at the Milan African Film Festival.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
SENEGAL/SPAIN, 2006
63 MINUTES
CATALAN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR
MOUSSA TOURÉ

PRODUCER
LES FILMS
DU CROCODILE

WRITER
MOUSSA TOURÉ

PRINT SOURCE
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SCREENING SPONSOR



CANADIAN PREMIERE



OCEAN OF PEARLS

SARAB S. NEELAM

Amrit Singh is a Sikh physician who desperately wants to fit in, but is his religious background holding him back? This at least seems to be the case when his dream of becoming chief of transplant surgery is threatened due to his appearance. Not wanting to give up his dream, Amrit takes matters into his own hands by going against tradition and cutting his hair. Keeping this secret from his girlfriend and family is only the start in a series of compromises Amrit must make as he battles with healthcare injustices. When this deception results in the death of a patient with whom he has a deep bond, Amrit must re-examine the values he's turned his back on. He soon learns that he must first define his own singular identity before he can achieve inner peace.

Ocean of Pearls carefully weaves Sikhism, personal identity and the problems facing healthcare systems together into a compelling tale. The film examines the struggle to balance romance, spirituality, ethics and family in today's complex society.



Sarab S. Neelam was born in India and raised in Canada. Although he practices medicine in the U.S., he never lost his childhood desire to make movies and put Sikhs in front of the camera (something he never saw in movies or television while he was growing up). He finally realized his lifelong dream with *Ocean of Pearls*, his first film.

FEATURE DRAMA
USA, 2008
98 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST
OMID ABTAHI,
NAVI RAWAT,
HEATHER MCCOMB,
RON CANADA,
BRENDA STRONG,
AJAY MEHTA,
KT THANGELVU,
DENNIS HASKINS,
RENA OWEN,
TODD BABCOCK

DIRECTOR
SARAB S. NEELAM
PRODUCERS
JIM BURNSTEIN,
JEFF DOWD,
SARAB S. NEELAM,
JASPAL K. NEELAM
WRITERS
VERINDER PRASAD,
SARAB S. NEELAM

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THE DISCIPLE

RODNEY CHARLES

The Disciple takes us into the lives of a group of seemingly free-spirited transcultural friends: Pete, an American mid-westerner; Jud, a Black European; and Lisa, a first generation Polish-New Yorker, who share a house in Los Angeles.

Together with their South African friend Mary, the group is coaxed into temporarily escaping from their complex lives and the façade of happiness when Michael, Jud's ex-military cousin, who served in the Iraq war, comes to visit from London. However, as secrets are revealed and the deadly nature of Michael's visit begins to emerge, the friends are soon forced to re-evaluate their own lives and question who they really serve. Are they free or are they slaves to dogmatic forces that they are too afraid to confront?

Rodney Charles explores many transcultural and socio-political themes that affect us all today: love, family, identity and relationships – and how the choices we make ultimately create our reality.



Rodney Charles has worked as a performer throughout Europe. A member of the Writers Guild of Great Britain, he won the Greater London Arts award for his screenplay, *Once Upon a Time*, which once completed screened at the Venice, London, New York and Burkina Faso film festivals. *The Disciple* is his directorial debut.

FEATURE DRAMA
USA, 2007
102 MINUTES

PRINCIPAL CAST
RACE OWEN,
CHRISTOPHER JAMES,
CHARLIE CHARLES,
AGATHA NOWICKI,
RODNEY CHARLES,
MICHAEL ANDERSON,
RICHARD LEE,
MEL WINKLER,
BENJAMIN OCHIENG,
CARL EDWARDS

DIRECTOR
RODNEY CHARLES
PRODUCERS
RODNEY CHARLES,
ARNOLD SAMPSON
WRITER
RODNEY CHARLES

PRINT SOURCE
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W THEDISCIPLEMOVIE.COM

FEATURES

TORONTO PREMIERE



THE LIMITS

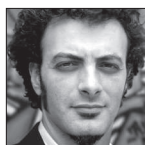
BEN MAZZOTTA

Told over the span of three days, *The Limits* unites four seemingly disparate stories at a seedy motel near one of Toronto's roughest neighbourhoods. Kelly, a social outcast resolves to fulfill his every fantasy a week before ending his life. Tyrel, a troubled youth on the run from an inner city gang finds work with the motel's East Indian proprietors, Sanjeet and Satia. Alan, a suburban family man begins an illicit affair, and Mel, an ex-prostitute who's found God is haunted by her past when her old pimp is released from prison.

These marginalized characters are all running from their past, all of them finding temporary refuge at the Maple Leaf Motel. Their intimate stories expose us to lives less ordinary, and reveal in all of us the pressures of coping when pushed to the limits.

The colliding stories first present us with social and ethnic stereotypes and then challenge conventional assumptions about class and racial identity.

The Limits invites the viewer to take a closer, more insightful look at the lives of these misfits, and asks what would you do in their place?



Ben Mazzotta was the DOP, co-producer, editor and storyboard artist on John L'Ecuyer's international award-winning short film, *Use Once and Destroy*. His company Little Engine Moving Pictures completed its first commissioned piece for OMNI called *DiverseCity*. Ben also works as a freelance art director and creative consultant. *The Limits* is his feature directorial debut.

FEATURE DRAMA
CANADA, 2007
94 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND HINDI
WITH ENGLISH
SUBTITLES

PRINCIPAL CAST
BEN WATSON,
SHASHI BHUSHAN,
JASMINE D'COSTA,
LIAM CARD,
BRYAN D. WALSH,
JOANN NORDSTROM,
PETER READ

DIRECTOR
BEN MAZZOTTA

PRODUCERS
MARIA KENNEDY,
DRAZEN BARIC

WRITERS
BEN MAZZOTTA,
MARIA KENNEDY

PRINT SOURCE
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SCREENING SPONSOR



TORONTO PREMIERE



THIS IS THE LIFE

AVA DUVERNAY

This is the Life is the story of a little-known group of teenagers who gathered at a small healthfood store in Los Angeles called The Good Life. Their mandate? To explore the musical boundaries of hip-hop.

The film reveals the true poetry of hip-hop and how a very defined set of rules – like no swearing – can push artists to be truly creative. And thanks to amazing original footage, it gives audiences an up close look at these extraordinary artists.

But while their innovations have yielded billions for the recording industry, The Good Life emcees have toiled in relative obscurity. And like the jazz heroes of a bygone era, these street poets have garnered a rabid and musically sophisticated fan base abroad, with a cult-like following in Europe and Japan.

Directed by former Good Life emcee Ava DuVernay, this award-winning film (Best Documentary, 2008 Pan African Film Festival) chronicles the rise and fall of this unusual family of artists, and examines their obstacles to commercial success. Truly inspirational!



Ava DuVernay has worked in film as a marketer and publicist for more than 14 years, forming The DuVernay Agency in 1999. Her award-winning firm has provided strategy and execution for more than 80 campaigns by acclaimed directors such as Steven Spielberg, Michael Mann, Raoul Peck and Gurinder Chadha. Her documentary, *This is the Life*, marks her feature directorial debut.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
USA, 2008
97 MINUTES

DIRECTOR
AVA DUVERNAY

PRODUCER
ELLENE V. MILES

WRITER
AVA DUVERNAY

PRINT SOURCE
DUVERNAY AGENCY
210-6605 HOLLYWOOD BLVD
LOS ANGELES, CA, 90028, USA
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F 323-860-7065
E FORWARDMOVEMENTFILMS@GMAIL.COM
W GOODLIFELOVE.COM

SCREENING SPONSOR



WORLD PREMIERE



TRIBUTE: STANLEY TOOKIE WILLIAMS (1953-2005)

BARBARA BECNEL, SHIRLEY NEAL

Tribute: Stanley Tookie Williams (1953-2005) is the first of a three-part documentary series honouring the extraordinary legacy of death row prisoner, Nobel Peace Prize nominee Stanley Tookie Williams. Known as the founder of the Crypts gang in Los Angeles, Williams' execution on December 13, 2005, rocked a community who believed in his innocence.

The tearful speeches by rap artist Snoop Dogg, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Muslim leader Minister Louis Farrakhan and Tony Robbins at the memorial service are both inspiring and heart-breaking. Directed by his long time friends Barbara Becnel and Shirley Neal, this film ultimately exposes the deep wounds of a community plagued by the injustice of his execution and the political motivations that accompanied it.



Barbara Becnel worked with Stanley Tookie Williams for 13 years, helping him publish his award-winning books for at-risk children. She also organized an international campaign for clemency to try to save his life and co-produced the award-winning TV film *Redemption: The Stan Tookie Williams Story*.



Shirley Neal is a veteran TV producer, and production and marketing executive with over 20 years experience. Her TV production credits include The Travel Channel, A&E, NBC Enterprises, TV One, CBS, Spike TV and TV Land. She currently works at the Africa Channel Network.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
USA, 2007
92 MINUTES

DIRECTORS
BARBARA BECNEL,
SHIRLEY NEAL

PRODUCERS
BARBARA BECNEL,
SHIRLEY NEAL

WRITERS
BARBARA BECNEL,
SHIRLEY NEAL

PRINT SOURCE
BARBARA BECNEL
STW LEGACY NETWORK
820 23RD STREET
RICHMOND, CA, 94804, UNITED STATES
T 510-235-9780
F 510-235-3112
E BARBARA.BECNEL@STWLEGACY.NET

CANADIAN PREMIERE



WELCOME TO NOLLYWOOD

JAMIE MELTZER

The Nigerian film industry, known as "Nollywood," has exploded in the last 10 years. Now the most popular cinema in all of West Africa, Nollywood is the third largest film industry in the world, generating \$286 million per year for the Nigerian economy. And yet this vibrant, profitable industry is virtually unknown outside of Africa.

Jamie Meltzer has created a fascinating look into this newly emerging film culture, exploring its peculiar inner workings, economic challenges, and diverse array of colourful films. Travelling to the country's chaotic capitol, Lagos, Meltzer spent 10 weeks following three of Nigeria's hottest directors, each different in personality and style, as they shot films about love, betrayal, war and the supernatural.

In Nigeria, you're not a real filmmaker until, like Chico Ejiro (aka "Mr. Prolific") you've made so many films that you don't remember the plotlines. This is a lesson in guerilla filmmaking, Nigerian style. Welcome to Nollywood.



Jamie Meltzer began his filmmaking career as a news stringer, shooting natural disasters, police chases and fires for the San Francisco Bay Area TV News. *Off the Charts: The Song-Poem Story*, his feature film debut, was broadcast nationally on PBS in February 2003. Meltzer teaches documentary film production in the MFA program for documentary film and video at Stanford University.

FEATURE
DOCUMENTARY
USA, 2007
57 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
PIDGIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR
JAMIE MELTZER

PRODUCERS
CAYCE LINDNER,
HENRY S. ROSENTHAL

WRITER
JAMIE MELTZER

PRINT SOURCE
WELCOME TO NOLLYWOOD LLC
535 STEVENSON STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA, 94110, USA
T 415-864-8123
E SONGPOEMCD@YAHOO.COM
W WELCOMETONOLLYWOOD.COM

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SHORTS

WORLD PREMIERE



AFIA

Being a kid is tricky. Just ask Afia. She's a misunderstood nine-year-old Michael Jackson fan that can't keep herself out of trouble, only now she must go head-to-head with the resident public school bully. *Afia* is a quirky little film with a fresh attitude, just like its precocious protagonist.

Lacey Duke is an up-and-coming Toronto filmmaker. She's made a handful of short quirky films, including *Dance*, which appeared at the Canadian International Annual Film Festival. She was named one of ReelWorld's "Emerging 20" in 2006.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
10 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
LACEY DUKE

PRODUCERS
LACEY DUKE,
AMY DAVIS

PRINT SOURCE
LACEY DUKE (YORK UNIVERSITY)
T 416-736-5149
E LACEYDUKE@ROGERS.COM

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



ALGORITHMS

Algorithms are pre-defined procedures used to solve problems in mathematics, data analysis and particularly criminal profiling. Jamila learns how to use algorithms to spot a terrorist the FBI way and doesn't like what she finds.

Cheryl Kanekar grew up in Mumbai, India, and lives in San Diego, California. Her other film, *A Pyramid of Women*, screened at film festivals across the world.

NARRATIVE
USA, 2007
8 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
CHERYL KANEKAR

PRODUCERS
BART CAMERON,
MICHAEL JEFFERS,
CHERYL KANEKAR

PRINT SOURCE
EON ENTERPRISES
T 619-795-0122
E CHERYLKANEKAR@YAHOO.COM
W EON-ONE.COM



APPETITE FOR ACCENTS

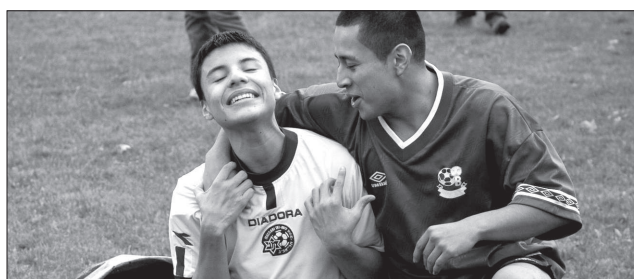
3 black eyes: Jesus runs in after witnessing a brawl with a group of seven-year-old activists. Jesus, who is usually the town crier in these cases, runs frantically to inform his friend Keith.

Avionne Simisola Akanbi is a Toronto-based animator and creative writer from Buffalo, with a passion for drawing characters and social commentary. She began writing *Appetite for Accents* while studying at Howard University.

ANIMATION
CANADA, 2007
3 MINUTES

**DIRECTOR/
WRITER/PRODUCER**
AVIONNE
SIMISOLA AKANBI

PRINT SOURCE
AKANBI ANIMATION
T 416-748-0733
E FEEDBACK@APPETITEFORACCENTS.COM



BINDING BORDERS

Toronto represents various ethnic backgrounds in one richly diverse city. But each newcomer has a different story to tell. In *Binding Borders* discover what it's like to experience unexpected flashbacks of life before coming to Canada.

Tiffany Hsiung is a graduate of Ryerson University's film program. Her goal is to expose, educate and revolutionize a better society for the next generation through film.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
18 MINUTES
ENGLISH, FRENCH,
SPANISH, TAGALOG
AND VIETNAMESE
WITH ENGLISH
SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
TIFFANY HSIUNG

PRODUCERS
ANNIE ZHU,
MELANY SERQUINA

PRINT SOURCE
GOLDEN NUGGET FILMS
T 416-899-0669
E TIFFANY@GOLDENNUGGETFILMS.COM

SHORTS

CANADIAN PREMIERE



BOXED

Boxed is a quirky little package that provides an entertaining look at what's stopping us in our lives. Like so many people, Olivia has baggage. Only in her case, it literally weighs her down. Eventually she finds tranquility and forgets all about it. But can she free herself of her burden?

Jennifer Sharp graduated from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Most recently, she received the Panasonic Grand Prize at the IFP Market for her screenplay *Native Honkeys*.

NARRATIVE
USA, 2006
12 MINUTES

**DIRECTOR/
WRITER/PRODUCER**
JENNIFER SHARP

PRINT SOURCE
SHARPFILMS
T 310-281-9952
E JENSHARP99@AOL.COM
W JENNIFERSHARPFILMS.COM

CANADIAN PREMIERE



CANOPY

Sally lays concealed beneath a canopy of her own making to shield herself and hide from the world. She's a woman blinded by her own misery and sees misery where there is none. Ironically, it takes a blind woman to help her see clearly.

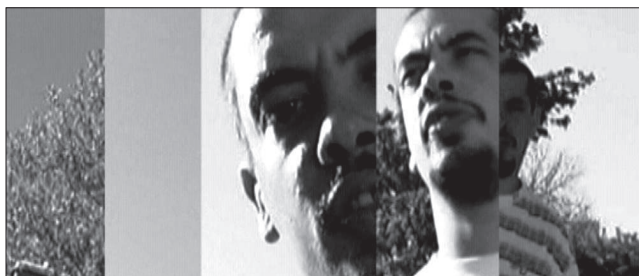
Heejoo Yoon's second short film, *Begin to Begin*, won the Best Canadian Film Award at the Art of Love Film Festival in 2005, and screened at over 15 film festivals across North America. *Canopy* is her third short film.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
14 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
HEEJOO YOON
PRODUCERS
GRACE BAI,
CAITLIN NICHOLLS

PRINT SOURCE
B2B FILMS
T 416-275-0989
E HEEJOOYOON@GMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



CHANGES IN CONCRETE

When hip-hop and film collide something just like *Changes in Concrete* happens. Featuring Manchester-based Cypher Crew, it uses hip-hop and spoken word to tell its stories and juxtaposes images of a tranquil countryside with the brash urban setting.

Ali Gadema is a recording artist, performance poet and educator, mainly coming from a background of hip-hop for the last 13 years.

NARRATIVE
UNITED KINGDOM,
2007
5 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
ALI GADEMA
PRODUCERS
ALI GADEMA,
JARMAN PATRICK

PRINT SOURCE
B3 MEDIA
T 44-0-2072742121
E STUDIO@B3MEDIA.NET

WORLD PREMIERE



DARKNESS CALLS IN GITXSAN

In this fresh and imaginative animation, traditional First Nations storytelling and characters are placed in a contemporary setting to address the topic of suicide prevention among First Nations youth. It's all about overcoming your own demons and fears.

Anthony Wong made his first movie at the age of 11. Eighteen years later, he returned to his childhood desire. Thanks to today's digital revolution, he's able to shoot, edit and distribute his projects.

ANIMATION
CANADA, 2007
20 MINUTES
GITXSAN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR
ANTHONY WONG
PRODUCER
SEAN MUIR
WRITER
STEVEN KEEWATIN
SANDERSON

PRINT SOURCE
THE HEALTHY ABORIGINAL NETWORK
T 604-831-9151
E DIGITALSTORYTELLER@HOTMAIL.COM
W THEHEALTHYABORIGINAL.NET

SHORTS

WORLD PREMIERE



FINDING FATHER'S TOE

Finding Father's Toe is no metaphor – this fanciful film is literally about finding father's toe. What seems like a regular old day at the homestead turns into a day of reckoning when a troubled family's secrets rise to the surface after a lawn mower accident.

Andrea Blundell's first short script won the Worldwide Short Film Festival's screenplay giveaway and her first feature script secured her a spot at the Canadian Film Centre. *Finding Father's Toe* is her fourth short.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
15 MINUTES

**DIRECTOR/
WRITER/PRODUCER**
ANDREA BLUNDELL

PRINT SOURCE
MISREADHEAD INC.
T 416-272-5863
E MISREADHEAD@GMAIL.COM
W MISREADHEAD.COM

WORLD PREMIERE



FROM ONE DREAM TO ANOTHER

This film is a visually stunning piece that examines identity and cultural assimilation. Sharing with the viewer what feels like a lucid dream, an indigenous girl is drawn by the allure of urban society. But she arrives, only to lose herself amidst the concrete.

Jason Lujan uses his work to explore hybridization between American Indian culture and global communities. He aims to raise awareness of indigenous cultures by incorporating them into existing popular cultural artifacts.

EXPERIMENTAL
CANADA, 2007
2 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
JASON LUJAN

PRODUCER
RITA SU

PRINT SOURCE
CINEBOT PRODUCTIONS
T 416-617-6722
E RITA.SU@GMAIL.COM

CANADIAN PREMIERE



HOPE'S WAR

The post-traumatic effects of war are far-reaching. Just look at Sam, a U.S. soldier recently back from Iraq. He desperately wants to return to normal life, but war continues to haunt his mind. Coping with this mental trauma leaves him vulnerable and threatens to destroy him.

Ya'Ke's shorts have been honoured with a Director's Guild of America Award, nominated for a Student Academy Award and an HBO Short Film Award from the American Black Film Festival. Ya'Ke plans to shoot his first feature next year.

NARRATIVE
USA, 2006
13 MINUTES
ENGLISH WITH
SOME ARABIC

DIRECTOR/WRITER
YA'KE
PRODUCERS
YA'KE,
MIKALA GIBSON

PRINT SOURCE
EXODUS FILMWORKS
E YAKE83@HOTMAIL.COM
W EXODUSFILMWORKS.COM

CANADIAN PREMIERE



HORN OK PLEASE

Horn OK Please takes us on a wild ride while following a day in the life of a downtrodden Indian taxi driver, who longs to buy the air-conditioned taxi of his dreams. Just when it seems that his dream may be in reach, the blistering hot day takes its toll on our beloved taxi driver.

Joel Simon is the founder of Flickerpix Ltd., a stop-motion animation studio in Belfast, which produces TV, short films and commercials. His other credits include *Second Helpings* and *CiderPunks*.

ANIMATION
UNITED KINGDOM,
2006
9 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
JOEL SIMON
PRODUCERS
SCOTT BOLDT,
JOEL SIMON

PRINT SOURCE
FLICKERPIX LTD.
T 00-44-2890-450206
E EVELYN@FLICKERPIX.COM
W WWW.FLICKERPIX.COM

SHORTS

WORLD PREMIERE



JENNY

Jenny is a Muslim woman who tries to hide her true identity. But in her attempt to assimilate, she neutralizes her own culture. Obviously insecure with her decision to live a lie, the sight of a traditionally dressed Muslim woman rocks her to the core and she is confronted with her own self-loathing.

Varoujan Torossian is a Toronto-based filmmaker. He has directed nine short films and one feature. Ramtin Lotfabadi is an Iranian-Canadian filmmaker. He concentrates on educational productions and mockumentaries.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
4 MINUTES

**DIRECTORS/
WRITERS/PRODUCERS**
VAROUJAN
TOROSSIAN,
RAMTIN LOTFABADI

PRINT SOURCE
VAROUJANTOROSSIANFILMS
T 416-736-5149

CANADIAN PREMIERE



KEYS

Keys is a bittersweet story that depicts the journey of a family torn apart by racism. After being diagnosed with cancer, a woman and her biracial son travel back to her childhood home in an effort to make amends with her estranged father.

Christopher Babers is an accomplished TV actor who's recently moved behind the camera. He's finishing his last semester of film school. Next he intends to jump straight into an MFA program at the American Film Institute.

NARRATIVE
USA, 2007
23 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
CHRISTOPHER BABERS

PRODUCERS
DAMIEN FLETCHER,
CHAD WILLIAMS,
EDWARD SHEN

PRINT SOURCE
MICROCOSM FILMS
T 323-533-6891
E DAMIEN@MICROCOSM-FILMS.COM
W KEYSMOVIE.COM



LIGHTS FOR GITA

Young Gita can't wait to celebrate Divali, the Hindu festival of lights, in her new home. But a terrible ice storm cuts off the power, making a Divali celebration impossible. Or is it? As Gita experiences the icy streets, the light festival comes alive.

Michel Vo studied classical animation at Montreal's Institut de Création Artistique et de Recherche en Infographie. He is also interested in web animation and illustration for children's books and comics.

ANIMATION
CANADA, 2007
7 MINUTES

DIRECTOR
MICHEL VO
WRITER
TAMARA LYNCH
PRODUCER
SUGITH VARUGHESSE

PRINT SOURCE
NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA
T 416-973-3012
W NFB.CA

CANADIAN PREMIERE



LOSING MY RELIGION

Amina is a Muslim woman who, after rejecting Islam, wants to adopt a baby with her non-Muslim husband. Pradeep is a boxer, who was banned from competing after refusing to shave his beard. Felix is a good Catholic, who learns about the Goan Inquisition. This film explores the role of religion in our identity.

Rama Rau-Swaroop moved to Toronto from India a few years ago. Her company, TriNetra Productions, has completed several projects including *Fingers of Fire*, on Indo-Canadian tabla player Vineet Vyas.

DOCUMENTARY
CANADA, 2007
48 MINUTES

**DIRECTOR/
WRITER/PRODUCER**
RAMA RAU-SWAROOP

PRINT SOURCE
TRINETRA PRODUCTIONS
T 416-733-7956
E TRINETRA.PRODUCTIONS@GMAIL.COM

SHORTS

TORONTO PREMIERE



ME, MASI & MR. CLEAN

Me, Masi & Mr. Clean is a charming tale about a young girl's struggle with self-acceptance. Seema, a precocious 11-year-old, is constantly picked on by her aunt Masi about her dark skin. Fed up, she resorts to an unusual means to confront the problem.

Nina Sudra has worked on independent films, educational video, documentary and narrative projects. She is a recipient of the 2007 National Screen Institute's drama prize and was nominated for an AMPIA award.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
8 MINUTES

DIRECTOR
NINA SUDRA

WRITERS/PRODUCERS
NINA SUDRA,
PATRICK MCLAUGHLIN

PRINT SOURCE
BUTTERFLYTYPHOON PICTURES
T 403-277-8763
E INFO@BTPIX.CA

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



MUNTAZIR (THE LONG AFTER)

Muntazir is a breathtaking film about love and loss. The film opens on Jaya who is waiting for Naseer, her estranged husband, at an abandoned train station. The non-linear narrative explores the moments of their last meeting before Naseer commits suicide.

Afia Serena Nathaniel's short films have garnered critical acclaim at various international festivals including, Rotterdam, Toronto and Montreal. Her directorial debut, *Nadah*, was nominated for the Golden Reel Award in Los Angeles.

NARRATIVE
PAKISTAN, 2007
11 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
URDU WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**DIRECTOR/
WRITER/PRODUCER**
AFIA SERENA
NATHANIEL

PRINT SOURCE
ZAMBEEL FILMS
E AFIA.NATHANIEL@GMAIL.COM

CANADIAN PREMIERE



NAPPY HEADS

Nappy Heads is a celebration of the glorious Afro. Shot on Super 8, this upbeat short experimental documentary draws joyful portraits of women, men and children who agreed to show their hair to the camera. Just try not to smile when watching it.

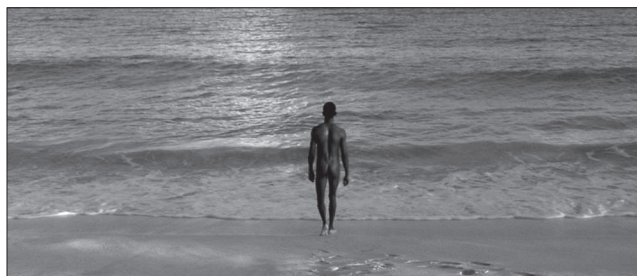
Sabrina Moella is a Toronto-based filmmaker, writer and producer. She graduated from La Sorbonne University's media studies program, and worked as a journalist and TV writer in Paris before moving to Toronto. *Nappy Heads* is her third short film.

DOCUMENTARY
CANADA, 2007
3 MINUTES

**DIRECTOR/
WRITER/PRODUCER**
SABRINA MOELLA

PRINT SOURCE
SABRINA MOELLA
T 647-868-2412
E SABRINAMOELLA@HOTMAIL.COM

CANADIAN PREMIERE



ON THE MAP

On the Map offers insight into the Caribbean's emigration problems and raises legitimate questions about changes proposed by the Caribbean Single Market and Economy Organization to lift border restrictions between 12 Caribbean countries. Are these countries ready to be responsible social partners?

Annalee Davis was born in Barbados. She completed a BFA at the Maryland Institute, College of Art and an MFA at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. In 1989, she returned to the Caribbean, where she lives and works.

DOCUMENTARY
BARBADOS, 2007
32 MINUTES
ENGLISH AND
CREOLE WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**DIRECTOR/
WRITER/PRODUCER**
ANNALEE DAVIS

PRINT SOURCE
MANPURA INC.
T 246-435-1952
E ANNALEEDAVIS@GMAIL.COM
W CREOLE-CHANT.BLOGSPOT.COM

SHORTS

TORONTO PREMIERE



PARIAH

A lesbian teenager juggles multiple identities to avoid rejection from family and friends. This poignant drama explores the duality between who you are and who you are thought to be – and the immense courage it takes to be your truest self.

Dee Rees is a graduate of New York University's film program and a 2007 Sundance screenwriting fellow. She has written and directed several short films. *Pariah* won the Audience Award for Best Short at the 2007 Los Angeles Film Festival and screened at Sundance.

NARRATIVE
USA, 2007
27 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
DEE REES

PRODUCER
NEKISA COOPER

PRINT SOURCE
NORTHSTAR PICTURES INC.
E NEKISA@NORTHSTAR-PICTURES.COM
E NORTHSTAR-PICTURES.COM

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



RECITATION

Recitation is an abstract interpretation of a poem by Jarmain Patrick that examines stereotypes and terrorism. It was made as part of the U.K.-wide experimental pilot project, Identities.tv, which is focused on bringing together artists, who work in different media for creative projects.

Kevin Logan was born in 1964. He received an MA in multimedia production and design and a BA in Fine Art from Liverpool John Moores University. He currently lives in London.

NARRATIVE
UNITED KINGDOM,
2007
5 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER
KEVIN LOGAN

WRITER
JARMAIN PATRICK

PRINT SOURCE
B3 MEDIA
T 44-0-2072742121
E STUDIO@B3MEDIA.NET
W B3MEDIA.NET

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



SAY A PRAYER

This beautiful film is the story of an adult woman who reminisces about a childhood memory, against a backdrop of the sights and sounds of Bangladesh and London. The combination of Super-8 footage, animation and soothing voiceover gives it a peaceful, ethereal quality.

Singer and writer Sarah Sayeed has been an associate producer of the Lychee Lounge arts festival, education and outreach director for theatre company Peshkar Productions, and involved in numerous music and arts program for young people.

NARRATIVE
UNITED KINGDOM,
2007
4 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
SARAH SAYEED

PRODUCERS
SARAH SAYEED,
MARTIN SMITH,
KEVIN LOGAN

PRINT SOURCE
B3 MEDIA
T 44-0-2072742121
E STUDIO@B3MEDIA.NET
W B3MEDIA.NET



SOUVENIRS FROM ASIA

Souvenirs from Asia explores the cultural misunderstandings in cross-cultural adoption. It follows sisters and Korean adoptees Serenity and Hanjoo on their journey through life with a white mother, whose well-intentioned but misguided attempts to identify with her daughters' culture is hilarious to watch.

Joyce Wong's films often explore themes about diversity and the Asian diaspora experience. She is a past-participant of the Berlinale Talent Campus and recently returned from a research exchange at the Beijing Film Academy.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
12 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
JOYCE WONG

PRODUCER
S. BRENT MARTIN

PRINT SOURCE
ILLUMINATED PICTURES
T 647-226-1561
E JOYCE@JOYCEWONG.CA
W JOYCEWONG.CA

SHORTS

TORONTO PREMIERE



THE BIRTHDAY

Faced with the pending death of his sick wife, an elderly man throws her a birthday party against his family's wishes. This film is a truly heartwarming tale of rebirth where tradition must take a backseat to love and faith replaces religious mores.

Kabir Shaukat was born in Mumbai, but moved to Toronto as a child. He returned to Mumbai as a teenager to pursue training in the film industry by assisting Bollywood filmmakers. He now lives in Vancouver.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
14 MINUTES

DIRECTOR
KABIR SHAUKAT ALI
PRODUCER
DJ PARMAR

WRITER
RAJ GREWAL

PRINT SOURCE
DOXA PRODUCTIONS LTD.
T 604-780-6647
E DJ@PARMARENTERENTAINMENT.COM

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



THE PLAYGROUND

Jim is a lost soul trying to make a new home for himself. But while walking in his new neighbourhood, he's confronted by a gang of teenagers, who film their antics on their mobile phones. How will Jim deal with this confrontation? Will it push him over the edge?

The Playground is Jack Tarling's first completed film as a director and writer. Tarling followed up this film by gaining three separate commissions funded by the U.K. Film Council.

NARRATIVE
UNITED KINGDOM,
2007
12 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
JACK TARLING
PRODUCER
EMA LEA

PRINT SOURCE
SHUDDERFILMS
T 44-7-98-663-1710
E JAXFILMS@HOTMAIL.COM

CANADIAN PREMIERE



THE SECOND COMING

The Second Coming explores self-sacrifice, family and change. An estranged father returns home from prison to make amends with his grown son. When he discovers his son is on the same path that ruined his life, he must intervene before it's too late.

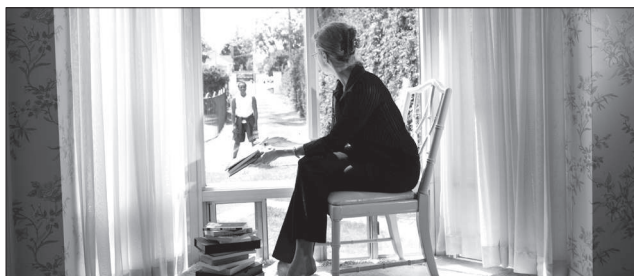
Ya'Ke's shorts have been honoured with a Director's Guild of America Award, nominated for a Student Academy Award and an HBO Short Film Award from the American Black Film Festival. Ya'Ke plans to shoot his first feature next year.

NARRATIVE
USA, MAY 2007
9 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
YA'KE
PRODUCERS
YA'KE;
MEGAN CARNATHAN

PRINT SOURCE
EXODUS FILMWORKS
T 210 363-2791
E YAKE83@HOTMAIL.COM
W EXODUSFILMWORKS.COM

WORLD PREMIERE



THE TEASE

A lonely housewife, ignored by her husband reaches out to the only person she has contact with every day, her gardener. Shot in black and white, *The Tease* is a thought-provoking film that draws audiences into the intense but unexpressed feelings of its characters.

Ada Vaughan lived in Hong Kong before coming to Canada in her late teens. Inspired by Ang Lee's *Brokeback Mountain*, she re-emerged from retirement to produce, direct and write controversial films featuring minorities of all races and creeds.

NARRATIVE
CANADA, 2007
5 MINUTES

DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCER
ADA VAUGHAN

PRINT SOURCE
SABLEFILMS
T 416-423-4931
E CASADEADA@YAHOO.CA

SHORTS

TORONTO PREMIERE



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Under Construction gives us a bird's eye view of the devastation of urban planning in Shanghai, where some unfortunate people are forced to live amid the debris, as they have nowhere else to go. Urban sprawl at any cost? *Under Construction* exposes just how great the price truly is.

Zhenchen Liu was born in Shanghai in 1976. He graduated from the painting program at the school of Fine Art in Shanghai and at Villa Arson & Le Fresnoy, Studio National in France. Currently he works as a freelance artist.

DOCUMENTARY
FRANCE, 2007
10 MINUTES
MANDARIN/
CANTONESE WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
ZHENCHEN LIU

PRODUCER
LE FRESNOY

PRINT SOURCE
LE FRESNOY
T 33-3-20-28-38-64
E NTREBIK@LEFRESNOY.NET
W LEFRESNOY.NET

CANADIAN PREMIERE



WING: THE FISH THAT TALKED BACK

Fantasy and reality mingle in this whimsical tale about an old lady, a fish and a cup of tea. Young Wing believes she must help her grandmother return to China. A magic potion, some goldfish and her spirit weave together a tale of sweetness and light.

Ricky Rijnke recently won a production grant for her first feature, *De Stillen*. This film is a part of the Netherlands' De Verbeelding (Imagination) project.

NARRATIVE
NETHERLANDS, 2007
13 MINUTES
MANDARIN/
CANTONESE WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DIRECTOR/WRITER
RICKY RIJNEKE

PRODUCERS
RICKY RIJNEKE,
WERKSTAD
PRODUCTIES

PRINT SOURCE
ROTTERDAM FILMS
T 31-10-465-85-65
E INFO@ROTTERDAMFILMS.COM
W ROTTERDAMFILMS.COM



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MUSIC VIDEOS

FRESH CANADIAN TALENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 | 11:00 PM, CINEPLEX ODEON CARLTON



If you think you know videos because you've seen them on TV, you haven't seen anything yet. I've always said videos are short films, so this year we're showcasing an all-Canadian line-up of videos as well as short musical films, funded by Bravo!FACT. I dare you to tell the difference.

Bravo!FACT is also generously hosting an "intermission" reception where you can take a break, digest the visual delights, and then go back for more. This is by far the best video line-up to date, so please join us. —Diego Fuentes, Music Video Programmer

SHARKS

ARTIST: CADENCE WEAPON
DIRECTORS: DUANE CRICHTON/CHRIS GRISMER

Old school video gamers are going to love this video.

ROMANCE

ARTIST: SHAREEF
DIRECTOR: SERGEI PETROV

Egyptian-Canadian hip-hop and rap captured in a European filmmaking style.

MAKE IT HOT

ARTIST: J. DIGGZ
DIRECTOR: RT!

Award-winning RT! has been in ReelWorld every year. Why stop now?

TRAVELLING

ARTIST: CHUCKY DANGER
DIRECTOR: WARREN SONODA

Asian-Canadian Warren Sonoda is one of this country's best video directors, here's proof.

HAVEN'T SEEN U SMILE

ARTIST: IMANN FAITH FEAT. MOPREME SHAKUR AND BIG SYKE
DIRECTOR: GOBI

Imann Faith bring his own unique style of hip-hop.

HIDDEN ISLAM

ARTIST: HIDDEN ISLAM
DIRECTOR: ATIYA FATIMA KHAN

This video is a chance to see another face of Islam in the Indian subcontinent.

DARU

ARTIST: RAI FEAT. SUAVE
DIRECTOR: JEFFREY LANDO

East Asian meets reggaeton.

REGGAE TIME REMIX

ARTIST: BLESSED
DIRECTOR: ROME

Two-time Juno Award-winning Blessed turns up the heat with this hit.

GUAJIRA SOLA

ARTIST: AMANDA MARTINEZ
DIRECTOR: NAOMI JAYE

Amanda brings her blend of Latin jazz to the screen.

ONE DRUM

ARTIST: LEELA GILDAY
DIRECTOR: HELEN HAIG-BROWN

One Drum is a beautiful song that demonstrates Leela's Aboriginal roots and pride.

YOU TREAT ME SO GOOD

ARTIST: DENZAL SINCLAIRE
DIRECTOR: PIERRE LAMOUREUX

Denzal Sinclair is Canada's favourite male jazz vocalist.

COLLECTIVE

ARTIST: ADHAM SHAIKH
DIRECTOR: DAVID RIMMER

A blend of fusion, dub, world beat, house and jazz.

MAWAL SABA

ARTIST: MARYEM TOLLAR
DIRECTOR: LIZ MARSHAL

Egyptian-Canadian Tollar has such a powerful voice.

TONIGHT

ARTIST: STARS
DIRECTOR: BENJAMIN WEINSTEIN

A touching look at the negative outcomes of the end of the cold war.

FALL APART AGAIN

ARTIST: PETER ELKAS
DIRECTOR: JONATHAN BENSIMON

This video can't be explained or described, it must be seen and experienced.

SECRET SERVICE

ARTIST: VICTOR QUIJADA, RUBBERBANDANCE GROUP
DIRECTOR: VICTOR QUIJADA

Great dancing and choreography in this video.

SIGH

DANCERS: JOE COBDEN AND SARAH MANNINEN
DIRECTORS: BENJAMIN STEIGER-LEVINE/JOE COBDEN

This cute video will for sure put a smile on your face.

TU BOCA LO QUITA

ARTIST: ALEX CUBA
DIRECTOR: CHRISTIAN BIELZ

Juno Award winner. Great song. Great video. Great hair.



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This award recognizes a Canadian director-producer team, who will share a \$5,000 credit from @Wallace Studios and a \$3,000 credit from AudioVision Canada.

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REELWORLD AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CANADIAN SHORT FILM

This award winner receives 35 mm film stock from Kodak Canada Entertainment Imaging (value \$5,000) and a \$3,000 credit from AudioVision Canada.

PRESENTED BY  

REELWORLD AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING CANADIAN DOCUMENTARY

This award winner enjoys a one-year FAP prize in technical services from the National Film Board of Canada (value \$5,000), a \$3,000 credit from AudioVision Canada and a \$2,500 credit from William F. White International Inc.

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REELWORLD AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CANADIAN MUSIC VIDEO

ReelWorld recognizes a music video director with this award.

REELWORLD AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL FEATURE & SHORT FILM

Each award honours an international director. The feature winner receives a \$3,000 credit from AudioVision Canada.

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STAR! REELCHOICE AUDIENCE AWARD

The audience picks this award by secret ballot. The winner will be profiled on an upcoming episode of *Star!*

PRESENTED BY  

TONY STOLTZ REELWORLD VISIONARY AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to the Canadian entertainment industry. It is in loving memory of former ReelWorld Film Foundation board member, Tony Stoltz, who passed away in 2002. This year, we salute broadcaster, journalist, producer and writer **Fil Fraser**. Check out his winner profile on the next page.

REELWORLD AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

This award goes to an accomplished artist who has risen to the top of the film industry. This year, we honour director **Charles Burnett**.

About Charles Burnett

In his 30-year career in the film industry, Charles Burnett has established himself as a strong voice in American cinema. His style is rarely violent and his most original work concentrates on the lives of the African American middle-class. His first film, *Killer of Sheep*, won a prize at Berlin in 1981 and garnered him worldwide attention. His latest project, *Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation*, is screening at ReelWorld this year (see page 30).

REELWORLD TRAILBLAZER AWARDS

Each year, ReelWorld recognizes individuals who strive to do things on their own terms. Each winner receives a beautiful timepiece from Pierre Laurent. The 2008 winners are **André Beraud, KC Collins, Jani Lauzon, Lisa Mahal, Austin Wong** and **Byron Wong**. Read about them on pages 46 and 47.

AWARD JURORS: ReelWorld thanks these individuals for their time in choosing the winners.

Jennifer Chen, General Manager, Distribution, Ouat Media; Tony Cianciotta; Marina Di Pancrazio, Manager, Canadian Independent Production, Astral Television Networks; Allison Duke, Filmmaker; Steven Glick, Talent Agent, The Glick Agency; Indira Guha, Business Affairs, Whizbang Films; Moe Jiwan, President/Founder, eTHNICgURU Inc.; Van Johnson, Manager, Untitled Entertainment; Joanna Miles, Director, Marketing, Maple Pictures Corp.; Pitof, Director, Writer, Editor; Teja Rachamalla, Legal Counsel, Air India Commission; Karina Rotenstein, Kana Entertainment & Programmer, Miami International Film; Shelby Stone, Senior VP, Production and Development, Foxx/King Entertainment.

FIL FRASER: WINNER OF THE 2008 TONY STOLTZ REELWORLD VISIONARY AWARD



TONY STOLTZ

ReelWorld pays tribute to its own unsung hero Tony Stoltz with the Tony Stoltz ReelWorld Visionary Award. This is made possible through the generous support of his wife, author/screenwriter/producer Lynne Stoltz, now a ReelWorld Film Festival board member, and daughter Sasha Stoltz. The award is a fitting dedication to a man who displayed expert knowledge of and passion for two things – business and Canadian film.

Tony was a savvy businessman – two qualities that serve emerging filmmakers well in today's competitive film industry. At the time he and Lynne launched their production company, Have Faith Productions, Tony was already at the helm of three successful companies: Sound Waves, Tomax Corporation and Tomax Credit Corporation.

Tony's first project produced under Have Faith Productions, *Loud Silence*, garnered attention from three of North America's most talented and revered artists – Mykelti Williamson, Alfre Woodard and Dr. Maya Angelou. The film was adapted from the novel written by his "forever soul mate" Lynne. He handled it all, with standards and integrity, never losing sight of what mattered most to him, his family and his friends.

Tony believed in the Canadian film industry and had great expectations of it. He joined the ReelWorld Foundation board to help bring its vision to life. Gone too soon? Yes, but not forgotten. It is in this spirit that ReelWorld is honoured, along with his family, to reward a unique talent with the Tony Stoltz ReelWorld Visionary Award. The award applauds an individual who is not afraid to pioneer and create opportunities for others, to open closed doors to make change happen. Tony was such an individual. Thank you Tony for the man you were and the man we still remember. We miss you.

This year, we honour Fil Fraser.



FIL FRASER

Fil Fraser is a life-long broadcaster, journalist, television program director and administrator, and a radio, television and feature film producer. Based in Edmonton, Alberta, he is the author of the best selling memoir *Alberta's Camelot – Culture and the Arts in the Loughheed Years* and *Running Uphill – the Fast, Short Life of Harry Jerome*, a biography of the Canadian Olympian sprinter. The rights to produce a feature documentary based on the biography have been optioned by the National Film Board of Canada. Fraser is an adjunct professor of communications studies at Athabasca University, Canada's pioneering distance learning institution. He has served as a member of the board of directors of Telefilm Canada since November 2003. He was the founding Chair of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards Foundation. He is a member of the Order of Canada, and was inducted into the Edmonton Cultural Hall of Fame in October 2005.

"I am both thrilled and humbled to follow Cameron Bailey to become the second recipient of the Tony Stoltz ReelWorld Visionary Award. It is so vitally important that we recognize the immense contributions made by Tony Stoltz and his wife Lynne, and that we do our best to champion the ideals that motivated them. I am honoured to be invited into this remarkable circle."

FIL FRASER

TRAILBLAZERS

INTERVIEWED AND EDITED BY NICOLE STAMP

**ANDRÉ BERAUD**

ARTISTIC HEAD OF FICTION,
BROADCASTER TF1, PARIS, FRANCE
BORN: MONTREAL
LIVES: PARIS

JOB, IN A NUTSHELL

Basically, I'm part of a team that finds and develops the network's programming.

RAISON D'ÊTRE

On a professional level, I want to do good TV. Since childhood, I've wanted to be part of the fabrication, to be behind the scenes and help achieve the talents' vision for the small screen, which for me is anything but small!

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

Breaking in was tough. My only solution was to learn my craft as best I could – through schooling, mentors, attending readings, and with hands-on experience – and then, when the time came, to have the humility to be a small part of a bigger thing. TV is not a one man show.

ADVICE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

In this industry, only a few succeed, and it's rare that anything is handed to you. It takes hard work to make it in the long run. So my advice, on a personal level, is to believe in yourself, and professionally, to apply yourself!

**KC COLLINS**

ACTOR
BORN: JAMAICA
LIVES: TORONTO/LOS ANGELES

ON PAYING DUES

I've been overlooked many times in my life. As an actor, there are lots of roles I wasn't cast in that I felt I should have got. But I try to keep moving forward.

PROUDEST ACHIEVEMENTS

I'm proud of the movie *Doomstown*. The story takes place in the projects in Toronto, and my character is caught in the drug game and tries to get out, which puts his family in danger. It was the first opportunity I got to carry a movie, and that was huge for me. In the film *Poor Boy's Game*, I only had a week to prepare to play a mentally challenged kid, which was tough. I did lots of research, and I'm proud of how it turned out.

AN ACTOR PREPARES

Before an audition, I'll read the material, then step away. Then I read it again and break down what the story is about. Sometimes it's hard because you only get the sides [the scene that's used in the audition], and not the whole script, so you have to imagine a back story.

WHAT'S NEXT

Unless you've signed the dotted line, you don't really want to talk, because things do fall through, and you could look like an idiot! That said, I'm writing three feature films right now, and I have a few acting projects that should come through this year. We'll see!

**JANI LAUZON**

FREELANCE ARTIST, CO-MANAGING
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR FOR TURTLE GALS
PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE, CO-CHAIR
OF ACTRA TORONTO AND ACTRA
NATIONAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEES
BORN: BRITISH COLUMBIA
LIVES: TORONTO

JOB, IN A NUTSHELL

On a typical day, I drop my daughter at school on my way to a set or rehearsal, then make calls on behalf of ACTRA. When I'm working, I give it my full attention. At lunch, I review grant applications and reports, and at the end of the day, I scoop up my daughter and get home in time to read books and play some board games together.

STANDING UP

When choosing to speak up, we risk being called "difficult." I've been asked to translate and speak languages that I do not speak; and teach others to Throat sing, although I'm not Inuit and don't know how. I will not fake it, and I've been chastised for remaining firm. But when it comes to cultural specificity – especially from an Aboriginal perspective – I won't back down.

ABOUT CANADA

An Elder once told me that you cannot grow a tree if you do not feed its roots. I wish that Canadians had a better understanding of this country's history from an Aboriginal perspective. If Canada continues to mistreat its indigenous people, we cannot be a healthy country with many branches. If we can remain connected to nature, and believe in the importance of community and peace, then we will become world leaders.

TRAILBLAZERS



LISA MAHAL

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER, DIRECTORS
GUILD OF CANADA
BORN: BRAMPTON
LIVES: TORONTO

JOB, IN A NUTSHELL

The DCG is a national labour organization representing thousands of Canadians who work in the areas of direction, design, production and editing. We lobby for government policy that supports content, funding and regulation, we negotiate labour agreements, and administer important services for our members, like health benefits and pension plans. Specifically, my job is to bring attention to various issues affecting our membership and our industry. I'm lucky to work with a team I admire, in service to people I genuinely care about.

ON THE CANADIAN INDUSTRY

Canada has world-class talent creating shows that are internationally renowned. We have a national inferiority complex. People will say "Oh, that looks Canadian." But so many big U.S. films are shot here, with Canadian crews and talent. It's the same people, the same quality of work. The only difference is budget: one episode of a U.S. drama can be four million; in Canada it's \$400,000. We're dealing in very different dollars, but Canadians still manage to deliver quality.

BEST ADVICE

Canadian film and television is only getting better – so consume it! Watch Canadian TV, attend Canadian films on opening weekend and go to festivals. I think every group on earth has a film festival in this country, it's amazing.



AUSTIN WONG

VICE-PRESIDENT, BUSINESS AND
LEGAL AFFAIRS, RHOMBUS MEDIA
BORN: PETERBOROUGH
LIVES: TORONTO

JOB, IN A NUTSHELL

I convince people to let our company make movies. I secure financing and rights, hire writers, actors and directors, and negotiate deals with distributors and broadcasters. My goal is to contribute to the creation of ground-breaking films.

CHALLENGE SURMOUNTED

When I graduated from law school and despite skepticism from my friends, I turned down the lawyer jobs and took an entry-level position at Alliance to get film industry experience. A year later, I was offered a lawyer job at another company, which launched my career.

FAMILY MATTERS

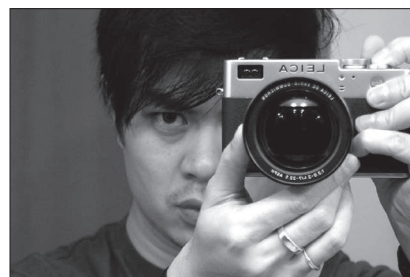
My family has always been supportive, even way back when I was closing deals for *Girls Gone Wild*. Now that I'm working with Oscar-nominated directors and Nobel Prize-winning authors, they can be openly proud.

LIKES & DISLIKES ABOUT CANADA

I wish Canadians would embrace homegrown talent more readily. I like that we have an unfussy attitude toward multiculturalism.

ADVICE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Don't have too much attitude about jobs that you perceive as below you. I know many people, myself included, who willingly started in lowly positions, but learned a lot and moved up quickly. Also, be polite and friendly to everyone you meet. You never know who's connected to who, and relationships are everything.



BYRON WONG

MEDIA AND TV PRODUCER,
E-COMMERCE ENTREPRENEUR,
RECORD PRODUCER, PHOTOGRAPHER,
FILM COMPOSER, MORE...
BORN: BRITISH COLUMBIA
LIVES: TORONTO

MULTIPLE CAREERS

Right now I'm working on seven different albums, and I help coordinate a shelter system for the homeless. I've made a career out of juggling careers by finding the common ground between them.

ADVICE TO NEWCOMERS

The connections you make can come from very random sources. If you stay open to opportunity, you can apply your experience to different things. I don't like to describe myself as a musician, although that's primarily what I've done in my life. But I use the process of making music, which is really creating something out of nothing and that can be done with anything, whether it's web development or design or TV programming or filmmaking.

PROUDEST ACHIEVEMENT

I'm proud that I still have the ability to try. It's really easy to feel a sense of entitlement, like I deserve this, so I hope I'm always hungry, because that ability to try is everything. When I was 14, my dad once called me lazy. I really respect his work ethic, so I swore he was never going to be able to say that again. We joke about it now – he's tried to take it back!

Nicole Stamp (nicolestamp.com) is a director, writer, actor and TV host.

REELWORLD FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

ReelWorld Foundation is a charity established in 2002 to coordinate year-round outreach activities that focus on providing film artists from diverse backgrounds with skill-development training and opportunities within the Canadian entertainment industry. ReelWorld Foundation's goal is to encourage, train and develop artists of Aboriginal, Asian, Black, Latin, Middle Eastern, South Asian and multi-racial descent, helping these artists find a positive place for themselves within the industry, and in turn, a viable and successful career.



indie film lounge

Where the spirit of creativity lives!

INDIE FILM LOUNGE

Launched in 2002, ReelWorld's Indie Film Lounge is a networking and skills development event that takes place during the Toronto International Film Festival. The Lounge brings young professionals and seasoned veterans together to meet one-on-one with domestic and international buyers. It's also an opportunity to present ideas, propose projects, and gain feedback and support from potential funding agencies.

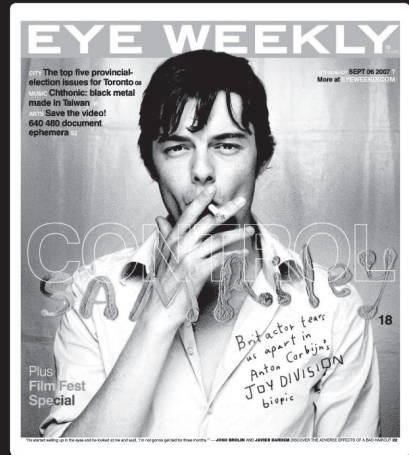
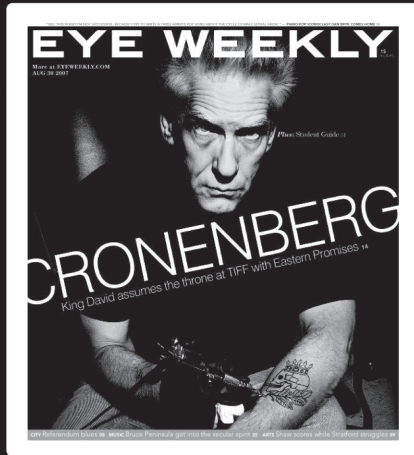
Emerging 20: The Emerging 20 is a group of young actors, producers, directors and writers, who are chosen to participate in ReelWorld's Indie Film Lounge. For information on how to apply, visit reelworld.ca.

REELYOUTH: TAKE ONE

ReelWorld Foundation supports children and teens through its ReelYouth: Take One program. The initiative is designed to educate, enhance and support youth, particularly those who live in at-risk communities in the Greater Toronto Area, by fostering and encouraging self-expression.

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SHOULD I SNIFF HER BUTT?

WILL SHE MIND IF I SNIFF HER BUTT? WHAT WILL IT

SAY ABOUT ME IF I SNIFF HIS BUTT? MAYBE I'M GAY? SHOULD I QUESTION

SNIFFING BUTTS SO MUCH? DO OTHER DOGS SNIFF AS MANY BUTTS AS I DO?

HOW MANY BUTTS HAVE I SNIFFED THIS WEEK?

I'M GUESSING IT'S A LOT IF I'M QUESTIONING IT SO MUCH. I LOVE SNIFFING BUTTS. I NEED TO SNIFF ONE RIGHT NOW. THERE AREN'T ANY AROUND. I HAVE TO GET HOLD OF MYSELF. WHO AM I KIDDING?

I NEED A BUTT AND I NEED IT NOW. NOW. GOOD GOD. **AM I LIVING A LIFE THAT'S GUIDED BY BUTT SNIFFING?**

I AM. MY PARENTS WARNED ME. I DIDN'T LISTEN. LIKE A HEAD TRAMP. A WHORE. I'M A BUTT SNIFFING WHORE. WHAT IF I TRIED TO CUT DOWN? NOTHING HEAVY. JUST A FEW SNIFFS A DAY. I CAN DO THAT. I KNOW I CAN. I'VE DONE IT BEFORE. BUT DO I REALLY WANT TO? I MEAN, THAT'S WHAT WE DO.

WE SNIFF BUTTS NO ONE LOOKS DOWN ON ME FOR IT. THERE WAS THAT GUY WHO GAVE ME

A LOOK WHILE I WAS IN MID-SNIFF. WHO IS HE TO JUDGE ME FOR SNIFFING A BUTT?

MAYBE I'M JUST BEING PARANOID. I GET LIKE THAT WHEN I HAVEN'T SNIFFED A BUTT.

I'LL STOP COLD TURKEY. BUT NOT NOW. THE FEVER'S TOO STRONG. A WHIFF WILL

GET ME THROUGH THE NIGHT. JUST ONE, HEARTFELT INHALE OF THE POODLE

ACROSS THE STREET AND I'LL BE SATISFIED. I LOVE HOW SHE RESISTS AT

FIRST AND THEN STICKS IT OUT WITH RECKLESS ABANDON.

WHAT A SLUT. WAIT. WHY IS SHE A SLUT?

I'M THE ONE GOING IN THERE. ALTHOUGH SHE'S ASKING FOR IT. THAT COY LITTLE LOOK AS SHE STRUTS DOWN THE STREET. SLUT



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Oh God. I just spent three
quarters of the day licking myself. I just sit
here, with a bowl of water, some toys and my urges - lonely one
minute and satisfied the next. Such a wicked paradox. I need to get out.
I need to meet people. I'm happy this way. It feels good. So good.

But my crotch shouldn't define me.

Was it the way I was raised? Did my dad bury his face in his crotch for hours on end?
Not dad. I never smelt it on his breath. Well maybe once, but I can't be sure that was crotch.
The guy ate garbage like it was going out of style. But really, some pages are better left unturned.
Am I the only one? I doubt it. That Rottweiler probably treats his nether regions like a buffet.
Look at me. I'm justifying my lack of discipline by making up stories about other dogs I don't even know.

I need a drink. Then I need to lick my crotch.

More like want. Is that selfish? Self-pleasuring myself for a half day?

Screw it. I'm going in. If my owner could do it, he would. So it's perfectly natural isn't
it? No. I'm going to resist it. I need a distraction. That ball looks okay.

Oh crap. I need something new. Something that doesn't involve my
crotch. It's all I've got. My walker's cool, but I can't lick
his crotch. It's going to take everything I've

got to make
it through
the night.

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Lara Dutta • Ritesh Deshmukh**



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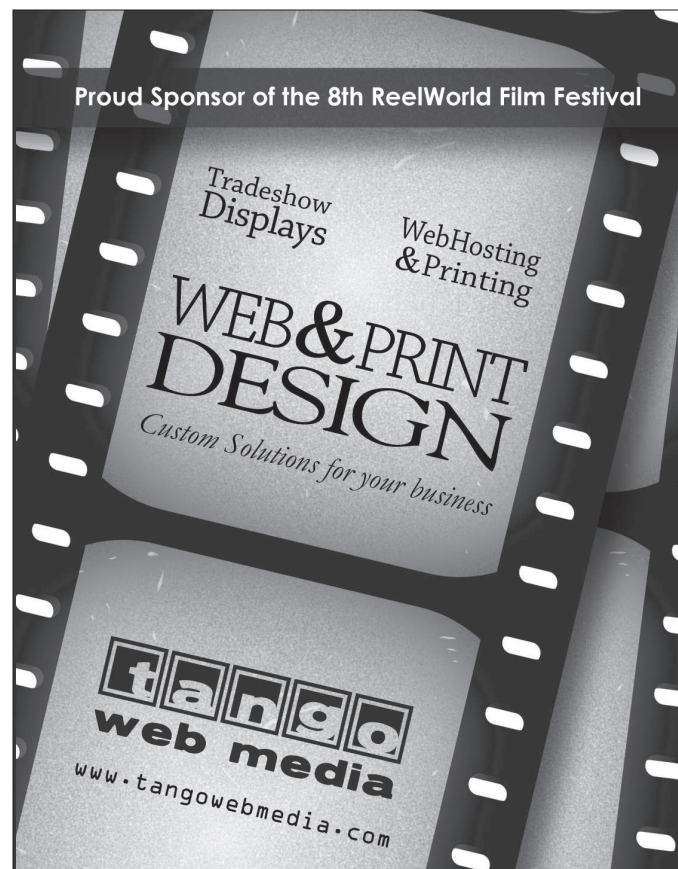
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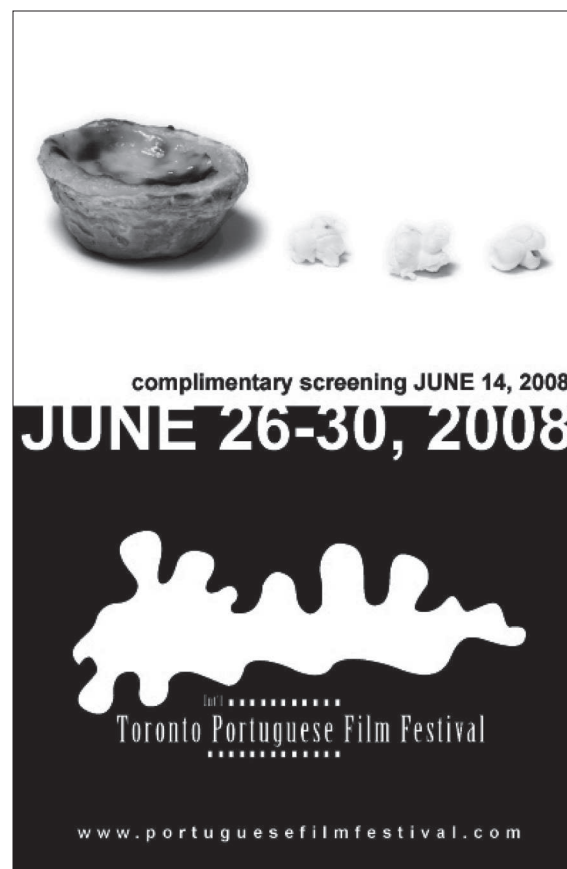


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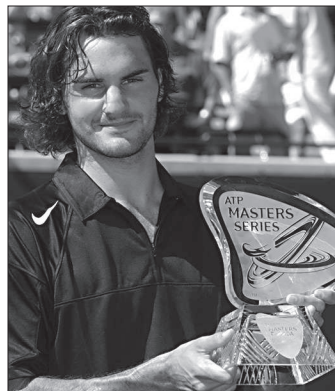


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