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March 4, 2011

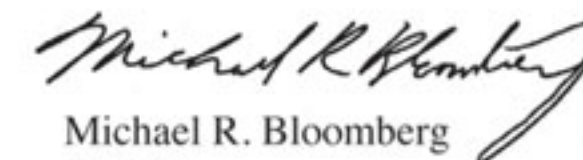
Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the New York International Children's Film Festival.

New York City is truly a capital of the film industry, which is why we are proud to be home to this exciting annual event. Since 1997, the New York International Children's Film Festival has captured the imaginations of thousands of young people throughout the five boroughs. And with films from every corner of the globe, traditional narratives, animated features, documentaries, and much more, there is sure to be something to spark the interest of every young discerning film critic.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, I commend everyone associated with the New York International Children's Film Festival for helping to cultivate a future generation of film aficionados. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable week of screenings and much continued success.

Sincerely,


Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor



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March 4 – March 27, 2011

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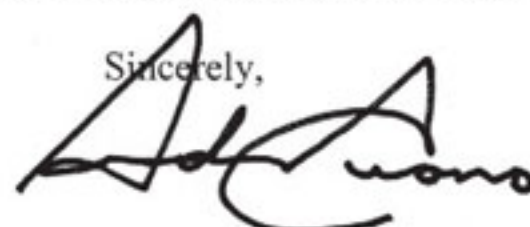
I am delighted to send words of welcome to all who have come to enjoy the *New York International Children's Film Festival*.

As the cultural capital of the world, the great City of New York is the perfect place to take in an exhibit, a show or a movie, no matter what your age. We are known for discerning and discriminating audiences, even among our youngest residents. Each winter, Manhattan is treated to an amazing collection of animated, live action, and experimental shorts and features from around the globe – the best in new film for ages 3 through 18.

Since 1997, NYICFF has been promoting engaging and high-quality cinematic works for youngsters and youth. These efforts are designed to be thought-provoking, educational, inspirational, and most of all, entertaining. As the largest event for children and teens in North America, this Festival will afford thousands the opportunity to enjoy opening night, a thrilling competition, gala premieres, and retrospectives, as well as filmmaker question-and-answer workshops, receptions, and a concluding awards ceremony.

I am certain that children of all ages will be thoroughly enchanted with this city-wide extravaganza, representing the best in new, international children's films. I commend all affiliated with the New York International Children's Film Festival for this remarkably creative and exciting initiative.

With warmest regards, and best wishes for an enjoyable festival.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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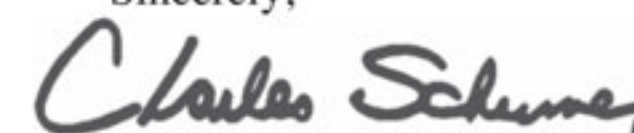
March 2011

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings as you gather for the New York International Children's Film Festival. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize NYICFF, its leadership, members, and everyone who has made this wonderful event possible.

Since its inception in 1997, NYICFF has become the largest festival of film for children and teens in North America, with an annual attendance of over 20,000. Its mission of encouraging the creation and distribution of intelligent, stimulating, high-quality cinematic works for children as young as 3 and as old as 18, NYICFF is helping to define a new, more compelling "film for kids" and plays a crucial role in the cultural life of many New York families. I applaud NYICFF's dedication to helping children, teens, and families enrich their lives through film and the arts.

Again, congratulations and thank you for your commitment and hard work. I know that New York International Children's Film Festival will continue to inspire families and children in New York and around the globe for many years to come. Best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

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Workshops take place at the new, beautiful Battery Park City School (55 Battery Place, Manhattan), which is near the 1 train (South Ferry) and 4/5 trains (Bowling Green). Full scholarships are available to qualifying applicants!

Children ages 6 to 16 work side by side with filmmakers to write, storyboard, animate, perform, shoot, and edit a short film from conception to completion.

Workshops run Monday to Friday, from 10am to 4pm (early drop-off and late pick-up available).

APRIL 18–22, 2011

- Create-a-Cartoon with Small Factory (ages 6-10)
- Claymation with London Squared (ages 8-12)
- Cut-out Animation with London Squared (ages 10-16)

JULY 5–15, 2011 (2-week workshops!)

- Rotoscope Animation with London Squared (ages 6-10)
- Stop-Motion Animation with London Squared (ages 8-12)
- Flash Animation with Rauch Bros. Animation (ages 10-16)

For more info and to register: www.gkids.com/workshop

OPENING NIGHT GALA

MARS NEEDS MOMS — SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING



MARS NEEDS MOMS

USA — SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING — 3D

Animation, Simon Wells, 2011, 88 min
In English — Rated PG



Recommended ages 6 to adult

Special Event — *Mars Needs Moms* picture book and other gifts for all families!

Be the first person on the planet to see *Mars Needs Moms*, Disney's new 3D space adventure comedy from motion capture pioneers ImageMovers Digital (*Polar Express*) and producer Robert Zemeckis (*Back to the Future*, *Forrest Gump*). Based on the beloved book by Pulitzer Prize-winning Berkeley Breathed, the film centers on sarcastic 'tween Milo who is chafing under the rules and regs of a nagging mother he doesn't appreciate. But when Mom is kidnapped by Martians in desperate need of Earth moms to raise their unruly young, Milo stows away on a spaceship in hot pursuit — and lands in an awe-inspiring, red-hued, futuristic world where the combination of wild technology and zero gravity provides plenty of fun and danger. With the help of slacker/hacker earthling Gribble and Martian girl-pal Ki, Milo sets out on a quest to find and save his mother. Featuring the voices of Seth Green, Joan Cusack and Dan Fogler.



After the show, help us kick off NYICFF 2011 at the Opening Night Gala, an all-ages food and cocktail reception.

CLOSING NIGHT GALA

BEST OF FEST, AWARDS & PARTY

Recommended all ages • 75 minutes plus reception

NYICFF 2011 AWARDS CEREMONY

BEST OF THE FEST!

Join filmmakers and special guests for the presentation of the NYICFF 2011 Awards. The kid-friendly awards ceremony is followed by a one-hour encore screening of the winning short films—as determined by NYICFF audience voting throughout the festival.

GRAND PRIZE — SHORT FILM GRAND PRIZE — FEATURE FILM

Selected by NYICFF audience members 18 years and younger



SPECIAL JURY AWARD BEST ANIMATED SHORT BEST LIVE ACTION SHORT

Selected by the NYICFF Jury Adam Gopnik, Lynne McVeigh, Matthew Modine, Michel Ocelot, Dana Points, Susan Sarandon, James Schamus, Evan Shapiro, Uma Thurman, John Turturro, Christine Vachon, and Gus Van Sant



AUDIENCE AWARDS

Ages 3-6, ages 5-10, ages 8-14, ages 12-18



HSBC ENVIRONMENTAL FILM AWARD



PARENTS' AWARD

Selected by NYICFF audience members 19 years and older

Parents



The NYICFF Award statuette was created by renowned public sculptor Tom Otterness.



After the movies, it's party time with complimentary hors d'oeuvres, tasty treats for kids of all ages, and an open wine and beverage bar.

NEW FEATURES

IN COMPETITION



MIA & THE MIGOO

France — WORLD PREMIERE
(ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSION)

Animation, Jacques-Rémy Girerd, 2008/2011, 92 min
In English

Recommended all ages

NYICFF presents the world premiere of the new English language version of *Mia & the Migoo*, which was NYICFF opening night film in 2009 and went on to win Best Animated Feature at the European Film Awards. Created from an astounding 500,000 hand-painted frames of animation, the film is a breathtakingly beautiful and thrilling adventure that pits wild-haired young heroine Mia against profit-hungry developers, with the future of life on Earth in the balance. One night Mia has a premonition. So after saying a few words of parting at her mother's grave, she sets out on a cross-continent journey across mountains and jungles to search for her father, who has been trapped in a landslide at a disaster-plagued construction site on a remote tropical lake. In the middle of the lake stands the ancient and gnarled Tree of Life, watched over by innocent, bumbling forest spirits called the Migoo, who grow and change shape as they please, morphing from small childlike beings to petulant giants. It is the Migoo who have been sabotaging the construction to protect this sacred site and — now together with Mia — they join in a fight to find Mia's father and save the Tree.

NEW FEATURES

IN COMPETITION



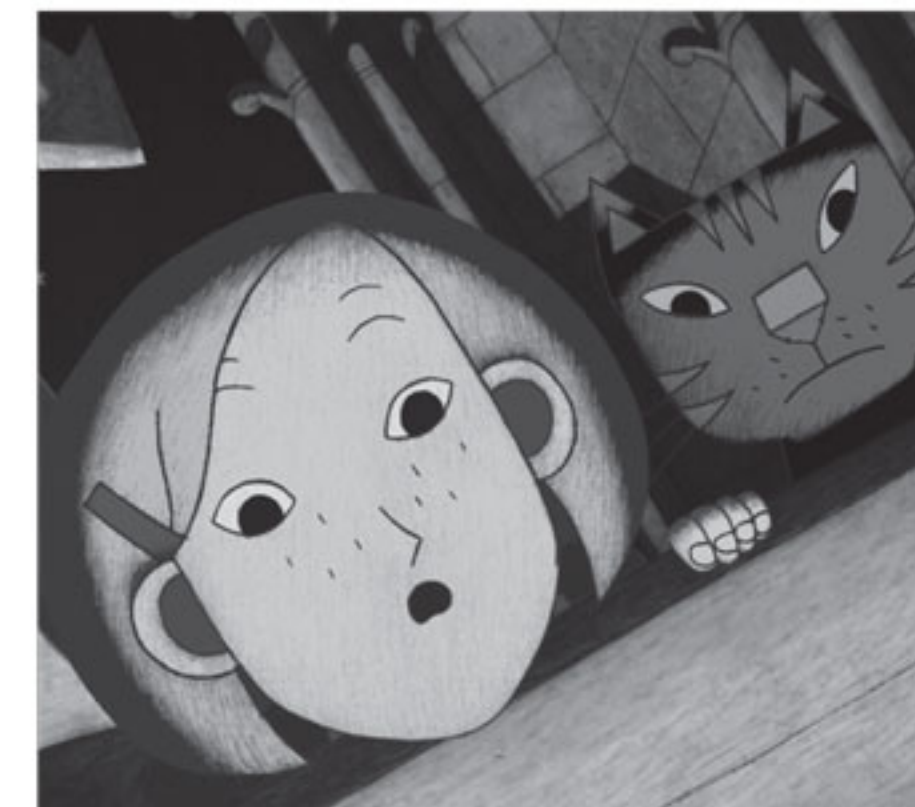
WELCOME TO THE SPACE SHOW

Japan — US PREMIERE

Animation, Koji Masunari, 2010, 136 min
In Japanese with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult

With an intergalactic cast of thousands, Koji Masunari's colorfully explosive debut feature sets a new high for visual spectacle and sheer inventiveness of character design — in what has to be one of the most gleefully surreal depictions of alien life forms ever portrayed in cinema. It seems like just another lazy summer is in store for Amame and her older cousin Natsuki. Lolling about the countryside, the days are blithe and boundless. But boredom quickly vanishes when they find an injured dog in the woods and bring him back to the cabin — only to discover that he is not a dog at all, but Pochi, an alien botanist sent to Earth to track down a rare and powerful plant called Zughaan (better known to Earthlings as wasabi root). Before long, Pochi has whisked the kids away to a space colony on the dark side of the moon, an interstellar melting pot where we experience a non-stop parade of humorous alien creatures, jellyfish spaceships, dragon trains, and — if that weren't enough — a theme song from UK pop anomaly Susan Boyle. (Really? Yes, really.) The plot twists come fast and furious, and with such a glorious barrage of color and invention washing across the screen, you just want to hit pause and gawk at the wonder of what you are seeing.



A CAT IN PARIS

France — US PREMIERE

Animation, Gagnol/Felicioli, 2010, 65 min
In English

Recommended ages 6 to adult

NYICFF is thrilled to present the US Premiere of the brilliant new feature from Folimage, the animation studio behind *Mia & the Migoo* and *Raining Cats and Frogs*. *A Cat in Paris* is a beautifully hand-drawn caper set in the shadow-drenched alleyways of Paris. Dino is a pet cat that leads a double life. By day he lives with Zoe, a little mute girl whose mother, Jeanne, is a detective in the Parisian police force. But at night he sneaks out the window to work with Nico — a slinky cat-burglar with a big heart, whose fluid movements are poetry in motion — as he evades captors and slips and swishes from rooftop to rooftop across the Paris skyline. The cat's two worlds collide when young Zoe decides to follow Dino on his nocturnal adventures — and falls into the hands of Victor Costa, a blustery gangster planning the theft of a rare statue. Now cat and cat burglar must team up to save Zoe from the bumbling thieves, leading to a thrilling acrobatic finale on top of Notre Dame. *A Cat in Paris* is a warm and richly humorous love letter to classic noir films and the stylized wit of the *Pink Panther* cartoons — and Dino, the literal cat burglar, manages to steal the show with little more than a subtle swish of the tail and quiet mew.



THE STORYTELLING SHOW

France/Luxembourg – NY PREMIERE

Animation, Jean-Christophe Roger, 2010, 77 min
In French with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult

Don't miss the hilarious new comedy from the producers of *Kirikou and the Sorceress*, *The Triplets of Belleville* and *The Secret of Kells*. Laurent is so good at telling bedtime stories that his kids decide to enter him in a reality-show TV contest, where the competing dads are given cues and have to invent a bedtime story on the spot. Who will tell the best story? Will it be the music loving dad? The know-it-all professor? The dad with severe anger management issues? Or will it be Eric, Laurent's manipulative, lying, cheating co-worker, who will stop at nothing to see Laurent fail? The deceptively simple animation clears space for rapid fire joking and visual humor – as the scene shifts back and forth between the studio sound stage and the fathers' imagined stories, where princesses ride dolphins and prehistoric cavemen sing operettas – riffing on everything from Harry Potter to Mick Jagger along the way. Inspired by the director's own childhood memories, *The Storytelling Show* is a raucous tribute to the joys of imagination and the limitless possibilities of a good story.

Comment: Film contains mild language and some naked artwork (scandal!).



THE DREAMS OF JINSHA

China – EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Chen Deming, 2010, 85 min
In Mandarin with English subtitles

Recommended ages 8 to adult

Five years in the making, Chen Deming's Oscar-shortlisted, animated feature blends Chinese history and mythology in a time-travel, fantasy adventure – as a young boy from Beijing hurtles back in time 3,000 years to the Jinsha Kingdom and finds himself at the center of an ancient prophecy. Entering a world of sweeping hand-drawn landscapes filled with serene rivers, spirit-filled forests, and seas of lotus blossoms, the boy Xiao Long meets a young princess riding a white lion, who escorts him to the palace of the Jinsha king. There he discovers that his arrival has been pre-ordained, and that the pendant that hangs around his neck – a gift from his father – has the power to either bring peace or unleash untold devastation upon the Kingdom and its people. Longing to return home, but also enchanted by his surroundings and newfound friends, Xiao Long faces a difficult choice between leaving the past behind, or staying and risking his life to save Jinsha. The animators clearly drew inspiration from the work of Hayao Miyazaki (Studio Ghibli fans will note references to *Castle in the Sky*, *Nausicaa*, and *The Cat Returns*) to create this epic but child-friendly fable about friendship, power, and self-sacrifice.



ECHOES OF THE RAINBOW

Hong Kong

Live Action, Alex Law, 2010, 112 min
In Cantonese with English subtitles

Recommended ages 10 to adult

Winner of the Crystal Bear (youth audience award) at the Berlin Film Festival and Hong Kong's official entry for this year's Oscars, *Echoes of the Rainbow* is a graceful and emotionally powerful tale based on the filmmaker's real-life childhood. It's the spring of 1969 and the world will have to wait another six months before Neil Armstrong sets foot on the moon – but our young hero "Big Ears" is running through the streets of Hong Kong with a goldfish bowl on his head. Big brother Desmond (played wonderfully by Cantopop heartthrob, Aarif Lee) is a gold-medal track star and ace student who plays guitar and nurtures a nascent romance with soft-spoken cutie pie Flora. Meanwhile, their parents work their fingers to the bone running a tiny neighborhood shoe store. Their dream is simple: all they want is for their children to have a better life than they did – and this mood of nostalgic optimism and yearning is reflected perfectly by the sappy 60's pop ballads wafting from big brother's transistor radio. But the sunny tone soon darkens as the family is beset by a slumping economy, social unrest, and the onset of Hong Kong's annual typhoons – presaging an even more wrenching family tragedy. This wonderful, bittersweet saga is almost epic in scale, evoking good times and bad times, love and loss, with sincerity, humor, and tenderness.

Comment: Contains emotionally charged situations and brief but strong images.



BOY

New Zealand – NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Taika Waititi, 2010, 87 min
In English

Recommended ages 12 to adult

Using his own childhood hometown as a luscious backdrop, Oscar-nominated director Taika Waititi delivers a delightfully playful, delicately poignant film that gracefully scales comedy and drama and is simply a joy to watch. It is 1984, Michael Jackson rules the airwaves, and eleven-year-old "Boy" lives with his kid brother and a slew of cousins in a small, dirt-poor community tucked away amongst the lazy beaches of rural New Zealand. Boy spends his days trying to impress crush Chardonnay with his "Thriller" dance moves and fantasizing about the day his father will come home from jail to take him on amazing adventures. When his father finally does return, it is not for familial bonding, but to dig up the bag of money he hid while running from the police and to set up in the garage with his gang of hapless hooligans. It isn't long before Boy realizes that his father is not the combination war hero/deep sea diver/rugby captain that he imagined him to be – but a loutish, selfish buffoon whose opulent delusions are even more childish than his own. It is a coming of age story for both father and son.

Comment: Film includes plentiful drinking and pot smoking, sexual references, and violence.



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NEW FEATURES IN COMPETITION



TIME OF EVE

Japan - US PREMIERE

Animation, Yasuhiro Yoshiura, 2010, 106 min
In Japanese with English subtitles

Recommended ages 11 to adult

Covering territory explored by *Blade Runner* and *I, Robot* (the film makes frequent allusions to Asimov's Three Laws of Robotics), *Time of Eve* is an exquisitely drawn, sci-fi allegory that probes questions of artificial intelligence while flirting with the moral and personal implications of human-robot romance. It is the future and household androids are becoming common. Completely lifelike and indistinguishable from humans, androids are programmed to serve with devotion – so it is no wonder that highschooler Rikuo begins to have unsettling feelings towards his android Sammy, feelings heightened when he discovers a curious phrase recorded in her activity log, “Are you enjoying the Time of Eve?” Investigating with his buddy Masaki, they discover an enigmatic underground café, a robot safe-zone, where androids and humans interact as equals – in apparent violation of guidelines set by the all-powerful Robot Ethics Committee. Inside the café distinctions between human and android are blurred and both seem to reveal layers of emotional complexity not apparent in the outside world.

Comment: Film contains mild sexually suggestive situations.



SAMMY'S ADVENTURES: THE SECRET PASSAGE

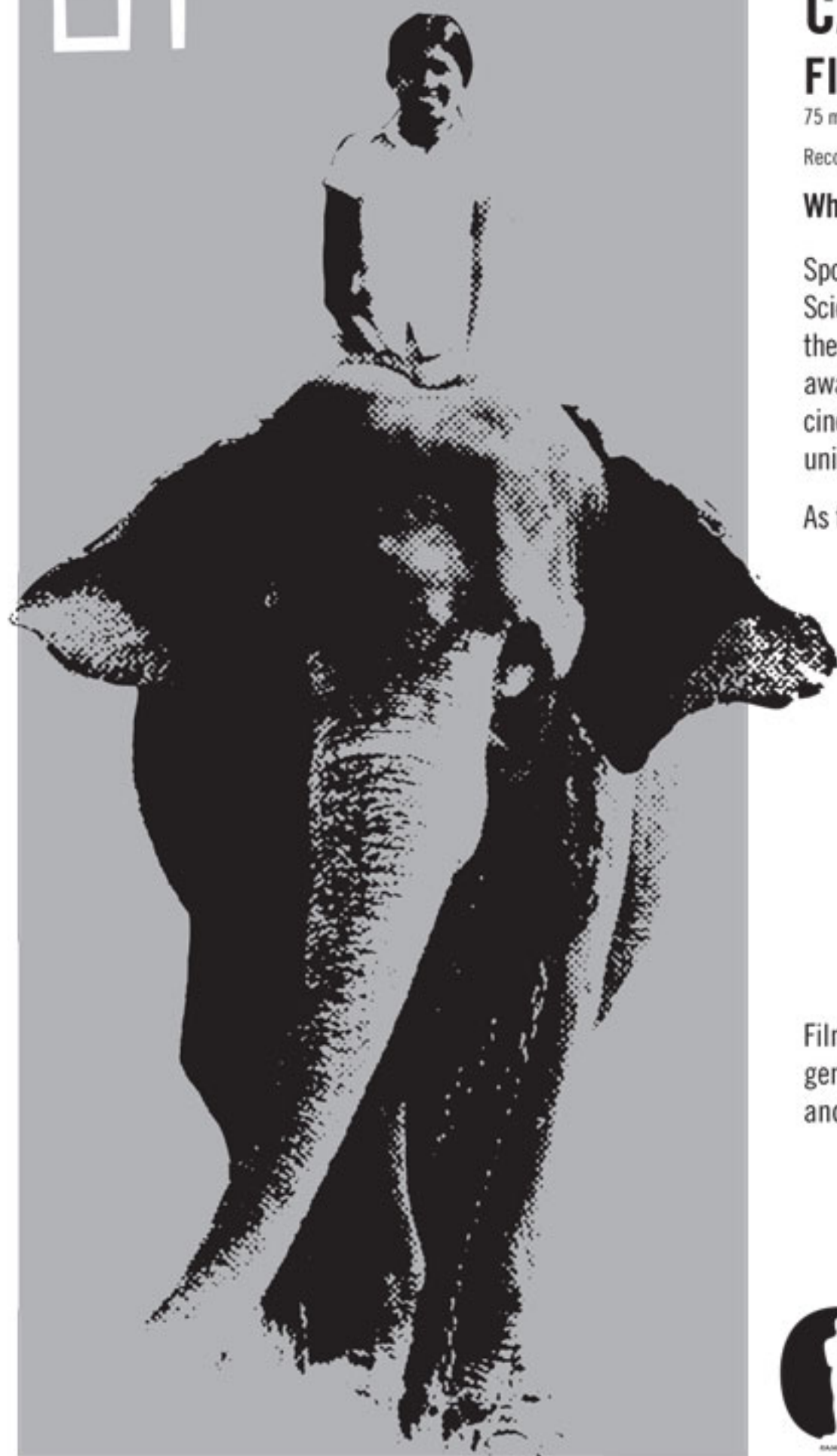
Belgium – US PREMIERE – 3D

Animation, Ben Stassen, 2010, 85 min
In English

Recommended all ages

This delightful, kid-friendly eco-adventure utilizes the immersive 3D experience to the fullest: you will feel like you are snorkeling in a fabulously colorful, animated undersea world. When Sammy and his fellow turtle hatchlings are born, they face a dangerous journey from shore to sea, a trek that can seem like a marathon to a newborn sea turtle. Before they reach the surf, Sammy and a young female turtle named Shelly are scooped up by seagulls, and Sammy must act fast to save them both. Only hours old and already a hero, Sammy is almost too exhausted to continue on his path to the ocean, and the two part ways as Shelly begins her new life at sea. But a lifetime of adventure is in store for Sammy as he begins a 50-year odyssey, inspired by the real experience of a sea turtle. Along the way he gets washed ashore and adopted by a commune of hippies who draw a peace sign on his shell – carrying this proud symbol on his back, he crosses the globe making friends and facing obstacles from oil spills to natural predators as he tries to reunite with his long lost Shelly. Film features stunning, vibrant 3D visuals and a soundtrack peppered with pop songs from Bruno Mars and Michael Jackson.

Sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences®, Girls' POV presents an eye-opening selection of short and feature films celebrating the trials and triumphs of girls from different cultures and backgrounds – while honoring and supporting current and future women filmmakers!



BREAKING INTO THE BOYS CLUB: GIRLS BEHIND THE CAMERA

FILMMAKER PANEL EVENT

75 min

Recommended ages 10 to adult

What is it like to be a woman working in Hollywood?

Sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences®, this NYICFF panel event will give audiences the chance to hear from, speak with, and ask advice of award-winning women directors, producers, composers, cinematographers – and more – to better understand the unique experience of the female filmmaker.

As this program goes to print the panel includes:

- **Lisa Cortes**
Producer, *Precious* – six Oscar nominations including Best Picture)
- **Christine Vachon**
Killer Films—*Boys Don't Cry, I'm Not There*
- **Claudia Raschke**
Cinematographer, *Mad Hot Ballroom*
- **Lisbeth Scott**
Composer, *The Chronicles of Narnia*
- **Kori Rae**
Pixar—*The Incredibles, Monsters, Inc.*
- Additional panelists to be added!

Filmmakers will share their experiences, discuss gender-based roadblocks they've faced in the industry, and offer advice for aspiring young filmmakers.



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CHANDANI: THE DAUGHTER OF THE ELEPHANT WHISPERER

Germany/Sri Lanka – NY PREMIERE

Documentary, Arne Birkenstock, 2009, 52 min

In English and Sinhalese with English subtitles

Recommended ages 8 to adult

From the producers of last year's *Turtle: The Incredible Journey* comes a stunning true-life story set in the magnificent Sri Lankan tropics. Chandani dreams of following in the footsteps of her father and becoming the first female mahout – a guardian of wild elephants. When Chandani is given a baby elephant, she works with him every day, memorizing the guiding techniques and mixing the herbal remedies that have been passed down from generation to generation, inscribed by her great-great grandfather in a book of dried palm leaves. But despite her obvious skill, she is chastised for performing a job considered suited only for men. *Chandani* is a moving story of ambition, strained traditions, and familial bonds – with astounding footage of Sri Lankan wildlife and close-ups of elephants being trained and cared for (including an adorable sequence of an elephant playing soccer). When she is given permission to participate in the Perahera – a ceremonial procession of fire-dancers, acrobats, and elaborately costumed elephants – Chandani will get the chance to prove whether a girl can, indeed, learn the artistry and patience of a great mahout.

Shown with short film *The Way to Heaven*



The Way to Heaven



AURELIE LAFLAMME'S DIARY

Canada – US PREMIERE

Live action, Christian Laurence, 2010, 108 min

In French with English subtitles

Recommended ages 8 to adult

Aurelie Laflamme suspects she is an alien. That would explain why she feels different from everyone else, why she can't string two words together without making a fool of herself, and why boys really get on her nerves. Aurelie's endearing clumsiness positions her as a pitch-perfect, French-Canadian version of a Judy Blume character as she navigates her way around the strange conventions of planet Earth. With her school days a complete waste of time and her cleaning-obsessed mother too uptight, Aurelie finds solace in the bright lights of the video arcade, playing Dance Dance Revolution and drinking slushies with her best friend, Kat. Whenever her situation becomes too unbearable, her imagination trails off into elaborate fantasy sequences that provide temporary escape – and much amusement for the viewer – but only seem to land her in more trouble. The whims of Aurelie's imagined world grow more absurd as she is thrown deeper into the clutches of adolescence, facing teachers, tampons, fake tans, and first crushes. *Aurelie Laflamme's Diary* juxtaposes these ridiculously silly situations with moments of genuine tenderness, reminding us that Aurelie's calamitous journey to adulthood is anything but alien.



SHORTS FOR TOTS

Recommended ages 3 to 6 • 65 minutes

SAARI

Spain – US PREMIERE

Animation, Pablo Jordi, 2008, 3 min x 2

Stunning colors, character design, and art direction show influences of Miró in this Spanish series about the creative adventures of a group of friends living together on the animated island of Saari.



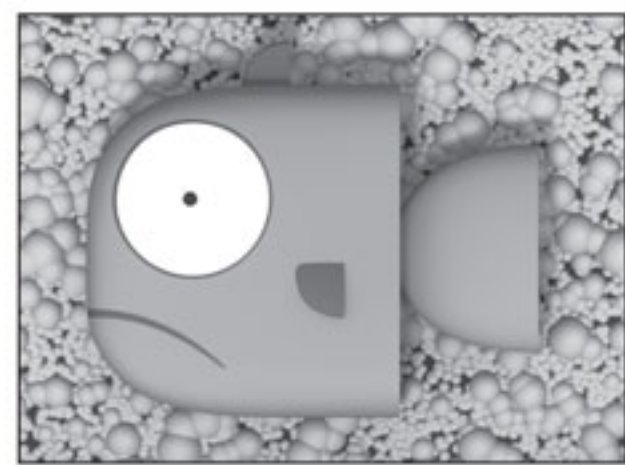
Saari

PRECISE PETER

Germany

Animation, Martin Schmidt, 2010, 5 min

An obsessive compulsive dad is excited about introducing his little boy to the joys of al fresco dining. The fish is ready, the table is set, the sun is shining, all seems perfect - but junior can't quite get with the program.



Precise Peter

MI'AU, MYAU

UK – US PREMIERE

Animation, Vida Vega, 2009, 1 min

In this lovely hand-drawn short animation, a group of birds sit together on a branch, chirping away each in their own native tongue. But when an unexpected visitor comes along, his words are universally understood.



Mi'au Myau

WHO'S THERE?

Slovakia – US PREMIERE

Animation, Vanda Raymanová, 2009, 9.5 min

Two boys hatch out of eggs and have an imaginative adventure. Sometimes as friends, sometimes as rivals, they build a house to protect themselves from the wolf.

THE YELLOW BALLOON

USA – NY PREMIERE

Animation, Ben Thompson/Rob Castillo, 2010, 3 min

The true story of a dramatic event that takes place on a New York City subway, featuring a little girl and her yellow balloon.



The Yellow Balloon

MOBILE

Germany – NY PREMIERE

Animation, Verena Fels, 2010, 6 min

Isolated on the edge of society, a cow tips the balance of destiny when she attempts to make a friend.

MURPHY'S SHORTS

USA

Animation, Todd Hemker, 2009, 2 min

A chubby kid on a diving board keeps bouncing higher and higher, as sister, dad, and baby watch from below with growing anticipation and concern.



Murphy's Shorts

ORMIE

Canada

Animation, Rob Silvestri, 2009, 4 min

Pig see cookie. Pig want cookie. But the cookies are frustratingly out of reach in glass jar on top of the fridge, just beyond his grasp... or are they? With inventiveness and relentless determination, Ormie employs Wile E. Coyote-type contraptions and half-baked plans in a series of increasingly desperate attempts to attain the sweet objects of his obsession.



Ormie



Johnny

JOHNNY

Germany – WORLD PREMIERE

Animation, Malena Modéer, 2010, 4 min

Colorful stop motion, goofy live action, surreal homemade sets, and a ridiculous pigeon costume come together to humorous effect in the story of Johnny – a hilariously narrated, tongue-in-cheek fable about what happens to little boys who don't drink their milk!



Snowflakes and Carrots



Whistleless

WHISTLELESS

Denmark – EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Siri Melchior, 2010, 5 min

In this fun, sweet, musical cartoon, a little bird struggles to find his voice in a world full of different noises. A colorful, hand-drawn gem from NYICFF alum Siri Melchior (*Dog Who Was a Cat Inside, Mambo*) makes its first East Coast appearance following a run of major festivals including Berlin, Toronto, Annecy, Seoul, and many more.

SNOWFLAKES AND CARROTS

Canada – US PREMIERE

Animation, Samantha Leriche-Gionet, 2010, 4 min

A little girl steals the carrot noses from all the snowmen she can find. But why?



All That Cats

ALL THAT CATS

Hungary – NY PREMIERE

Animation, Mátyás Lanczinger, 2009, 1 min x 3

In this series of short animations, a duo of hip hop cats perform beatbox rhythms to transform everyday situations into musical experiences.

HOW THE SHAMMIES BATHED

Latvia – NY PREMIERE

Mixed Media, Edmunds Jansons, 2010, 7 min

Collage and mixed media animation create a textural feast, with adorable animated characters designed in patterned fabrics, burlap, and buttons. A foreboding "drip-drop" coming from a dark room turns out to be only water in the tub – it's bath time for the Shammies!

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SHORTFILMSINCOMPETITION

SHORT FILMS ONE

Recommended ages 5 to 10 • 70 minutes

THE LITTLE BOY AND THE BEAST

Germany – WORLD PREMIERE (English Language)

Animation, Weiland/Heidschotter, 2009, 7 min

When your mother turns into a beast, a lot of things change.



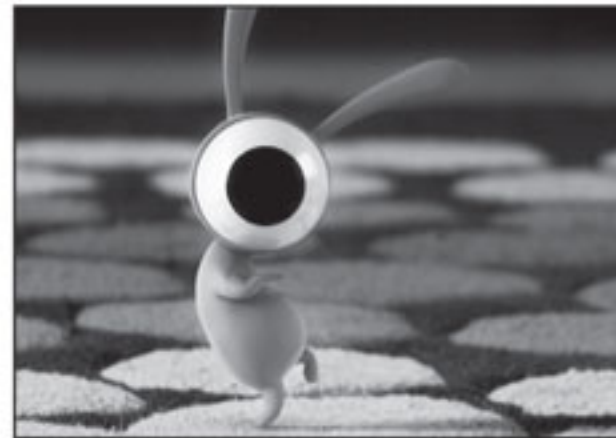
The Little Boy and the Beast

DON'T GO

Turkey – EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation/Live Action, Turgut Akacik, 2010, 4 min

Awesome, thumpy, electronic disco music propels this non-stop chase scene of a movie – as a cute, pink-bellied, one-eyed CGI bunny gets chased around an apartment by a live action black cat.



Don't Go

GRAVITY

Canada – US PREMIERE

Experimental, Renaud Hallee, 2009, 2 min

Falling objects are synchronized to produce rhythms and patterns.



Gravity

THE DEEP

USA – WORLD PREMIERE

Animation, PES, 2010, 2 min

Metallic objects come to life in the depths of the sea, in the newest film from New York's brilliant stop-motion artist PES – whose past NYICFF selections include *Western Spaghetti*, *Dogs of War*, and *Game Over*.



The Deep

MINNIE LOVES JUNIOR

Australia – US PREMIERE

Live Action, Andy Mullins/Matt Mullins, 2010, 13.5 min

A beautifully shot film about a little boy who loves the sea, and a little girl who loves the boy.



Minnie Loves Junior



Fluffy McCloud

FLUFFY MC CLOUD

Ireland – NY PREMIERE

Animation, Conor Finnegan, 2010, 3 min

A short film about man's mixed relationship with Mother Nature. Fluffy McCloud uses his powers of precipitation mostly to annoy. But when one of his pranks causes near calamity, he decides to use his meteorological skills to make people happy.



Tigers and Tattoos

TIGERS AND TATTOOS

Denmark – US PREMIERE

Animation, Karla von Bengtson, 2010, 42 min

Maj lives with her uncle Sonny and loves to sit with him when he "draws" on the tough women and hard-boiled men who frequent his tattoo shop. One day, a particularly large and scary customer dozes off and Maj ends up tattooing all over his huge back with her childish designs. Fearing the man's rage, Sonny and Maj make a hasty escape on Sonny's motorcycle – the start of an exciting adventure where they discover a magic forest filled with fairies and sprites, a circus mother and her son, and a man-eating tiger named Brutalis.

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SHORT FILMS IN COMPETITION

SHORT FILMS TWO

Recommended ages 8 to 14 • 75 minutes

LEITMOTIF

Denmark

Animation, Jeanette Norgaard, 2009, 7.5 min

Fluid, expressive animation and a great retro jazz soundtrack bring *Triplets of Belleville* immediately to mind, as a lonely old musician tickles the ivories with his cat on his lap.



Leitmotif

MARCEL THE SHELL WITH THE SHOES ON

USA

Animation, Dean Fleischer-Camp, 2010, 3 min

An up-close and personal interview with Internet video star Marcel, a tiny shell with one eyeball, two shoes, and a really great personality!



Marcel the Shell with the Shoes On

THE INCIDENT AT TOWER 37

USA

Animation, Chris Perry, 2009, 11 min

A guard at a futuristic water tower intercepts a covert band of amphibian creatures trying to destroy the tower to rehydrate their planet.



The Incident at Tower 37

DOT

UK – US PREMIERE

Animation, Sumo Science, 2010, 2 min

Multiple Oscar®-winning studio Aardman Animations (*Wallace & Gromit*, *Creature Comforts*) has created the world's smallest stop-motion character. Dot measures just 9mm tall and was animated using a microscope and tweezers. In this miniature escape adventure, Dot runs away from unraveling thread, jumps over pins, and hitches a ride on the back of a bee... all before grabbing a pair of nails and wielding them like swords.



Dot

SAVAGE

Canada

Live Action, Lisa Jackson, 2009, 6 min

A woman sings a haunting Cree lullaby as we see a young girl preparing to attend a new school. But as we enter the classroom the film morphs into a Thriller-style zombie musical – in this moving short about the plight of Native American children separated from their parents and sent to residential schools to “take the Indian” out of them.



Savage

BOTTLE

USA

Animation, Kirsten Lepore, 2010, 5 min

This transoceanic love story, animated in stop motion on the beach, forest, and undersea, details a long distance friendship that blossoms between a sandman and a snowwoman who exchange gifts via a bottle in the water. But sand and snow cannot withstand water, so how can the two hope to be together?



The Lost Thing

WE ARE BOYS

Netherlands – US PREMIERE

Documentary, Tomas Kaan, 2009, 14 min

In this sun-bleached ode to boys' life, two best friends spend the waning days of summer pestering their neighbors, sailing their boat, catching frogs, and savoring the final, fleeting moments of their time together before one goes off to high school.



We Are Boys

HAMMERHEAD

UK

Live Action, Sam Donovan, 2009, 14 min

When a shark is spotted off a nearby beach, Boris seizes the opportunity to try to reunite his separated parents for a birthday road trip. But when the day arrives, he is disappointed to find that his biggest enemy is along for the ride – his mother's new girlfriend, Lilah.



Hammerhead

THE LOST THING

Australia/UK – OSCAR® NOMINATED

Animation, Andrew Ruhemann/Shawn Tan, 2010, 15.5 min

A boy encounters a strange creature on a beach and decides to find a home for it in a world where everyone believes there are far more important things to think about. This beautifully animated film comes from Passion Pictures, producers of past NYICFF favorites *City of Paradise* and *Dog Who Was a Cat Inside*.

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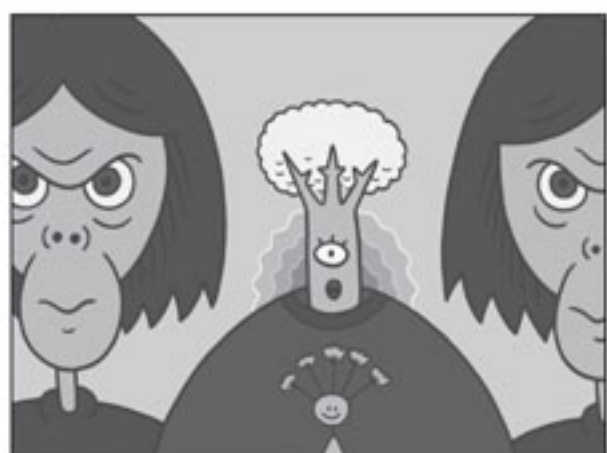
Recommended ages 12 to Adult • 80 minutes

LOVE & THEFT

Germany – EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Andreas Hykade, 2009, 7 min

Iconic figures from Betty Boop to Mao Zedong morph into one another in ever intensifying animated loops in this psychedelic tour-de-force from Andreas Hykade.



Love & Theft

THE GOLD BUG

Japan – US PREMIERE

Live Action, Nobuhiro Yamashita, 2010, 4 min

An ultra-low budget kaiju monster movie spoof, the brilliance of which may not be immediately apparent to the untrained viewer. But we assure you, this film is a masterpiece.



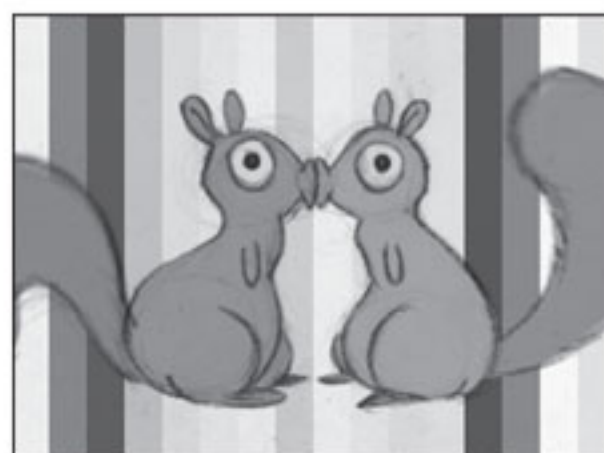
The Gold Bug

LET'S MAKE OUT

USA

Animation, Stephen Neary, 2009, 2 min

From the creator of last year's *Chicken Cowboy*, a musical tribute to the innocent joys of smooching and booty-shaking.



Let's Make Out

VLOG

Israel – US PREMIERE

Live Action, Yariv Barel/Mor Kaplansky, 2010, 8 min

A teenage runaway documents her pre-dawn escape. Videotaping a tearful goodbye to her sleeping family, she slips out the door, hops on her bike, sticks in her ear buds, and is free.



Vlog

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

USA

Animation, Dustin Grella, 2009, 8 min

This poignant animated memoir reveals the final thoughts of the artist's younger brother, who was killed in the current conflict in Iraq. Drawn with pastels on a slate chalkboard, the materials used to create the film are a metaphor for the impermanence of life.



Enrique Wrecks the World

HOW TO LOSE WEIGHT IN 60 SECONDS

Australia

Animation, Dave Carter, 2010, 2 min

From fad diets to stomach staples, a whirlwind minute road test of 12 approaches to weight loss. Do not try this at home.

ENRIQUE WRECKS THE WORLD

USA – NY PREMIERE

Animation, David Chai, 2010, 4.5 min

An unfortunate chain of events is set in motion when a boy shoots at a bird with a sling shot. Tasteless and crass. A hilarious blood bath. Parents, please leave the room.



Pixels

PIXELS

France – EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Patrick Jean, 2010, 2.5 min

Pixelated old-school video game icons take over New York City (and the world) in this video for French techno-pop band Naïve New Beaters.



Crossing



Muscles

MUSCLES

Australia – US PREMIERE

Live Action, Edward Housden, 2009, 14 min

A teen girl pulls the head off a Barbie doll and attaches it to the muscle-bound body of a male action figure. But the heart of the film falls on the girl's younger brother, a gentle outcast struggling to define his masculinity against a backdrop of violence – with a sister in training to be a competitive body builder and parents who spar in the boxing ring to see who will wash the dishes.

CROSSING

UK – NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Silvana Aguirre Zagarra, 2009, 12 min

Boy meets girl in a story about perception.



The Cow Who Wanted to Be a Hamburger

THE COW WHO WANTED TO BE A HAMBURGER

USA

Animation, Bill Plympton, 2010, 6 min

The latest film from NYICFF's favorite hometown hero, Bill Plympton, is a factory farming fable about the power of advertising, the meaning of life, and ultimately the test of a mother's love.

BACKWARDS

USA

Animation, Aaron Hughes, 2009, 4 min

A love story so backwards, it has to be told in reverse.

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SHORTFILMS IN COMPETITION

HEEBIE JEBIE SHORTS: SPOOKY, FREAKY & BIZARRE...

Recommended ages 10 to Adult • 80 minutes

THE BELLIES

France

Animation, Philippe Grammaticopoulos, 2009, 17 min

Fat capitalists dine on genetically altered snails in this nightmarish tale of gluttony and greed.



The Bellies

SCARY THERAPY

Australia – US PREMIERE

Animation, Suren Perera, 2009, 4.5 min

A vampire with first-date nerves, a zombie struggling with his brain-eating disorder, and a human-fly with parental issues. Everybody needs a little help from time to time.



Scary Therapy

THE WONDER HOSPITAL

South Korea/USA - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Beomsik Shimbe Shim, 2010, 11 min

A boy with a misshapen head looks to improve his appearance through the wonders of plastic surgery and altered reality, in this super creepy hospital/funhouse film.



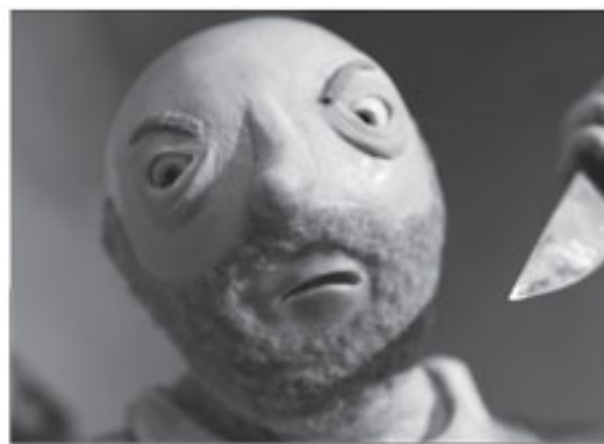
The Wonder Hospital

BENIGNI

Finland

Animation, Vuorinen/Ottelin/Partanen, 2009, 7 min

A lonesome xylophone player discovers a fleshy lump growing under his arm. But when he attempts to remove it, the tumor displays some unconventional qualities.



Benigni

MONSTRE SACRÉ

France - US PREMIERE

Animation, Jean-Claude Rozec, 2009, 9.5 min

In a twist on Hans Christian Andersen, a baby dinosaur is hatched into a family of ducklings and grows into a misunderstood monster and international superstar.



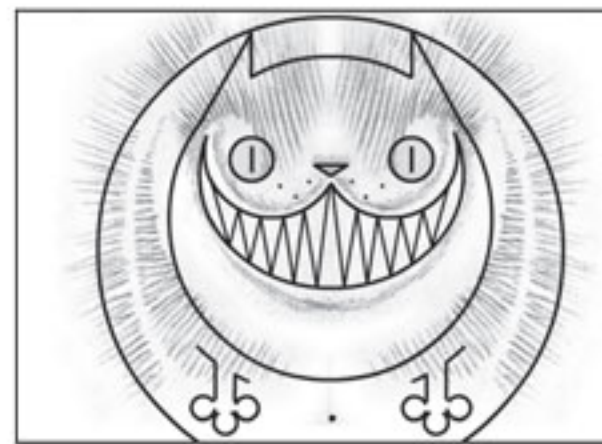
Monstre Sacré

THE PERSISTENT RESISTANCE OF VISION

UK – US PREMIERE

Animation, James Baker, 2009, 2.5 min

This experimental animated film mimics the optical illusion effect of a thaumatrope (look it up) by rapidly alternating still drawings of a bird, a cage, and a Cheshire-like cat to start-and-stop electro-circus music.



The Persistent Resistance of Vision



Something Left, Something Taken

SOMETHING LEFT, SOMETHING TAKEN

USA

Animation, Max Porter/Ru Kuwahata, 2010, 10 min

On their way to a forensics lecture, a young couple hitch a ride with a stranger who they slowly discover is none other than the Zodiac Killer – the infamous serial killer who has never been caught. As he veers off the highway to take a “shortcut” through the woods, they decide to leave evidence for the police. An award-winning dark comedy from the creators of last year’s *Electric Car*.



Ghild

GHILD

USA – WORLD PREMIERE

Live Action, David Yarovesky, 2010, 13 min

A story about a boy who was born a giant. Featuring Michael Rosenbaum (*Smallville*) and Harland Williams (*Half Baked*).

RUBIKA

France - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Guillaume Plantevin, 2010, 4 min

Welcome to Rubika, a planet with a fancy gravity.



Dry Fish

DRY FISH

UK - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Andy Martin, 2010, 2 min

A gently paranoid musical animation about finding yourself in unfamiliar surroundings.



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SHORT FILMS IN COMPETITION

GIRLS' POV SHORTS

Recommended ages 10 to Adult • 80 minutes

LIGHTNESS

Spain – US PREMIERE

Live Action, Lucia Del Rio, 2010, 16 min

Sofia wants to be a movie director and constantly follows her mother and teen sister, Lola, around with a camera. But while capturing her footage she makes the discovery that Lola secretly writes odes to hunger and longs to turn into a butterfly and “be taken by the wind.”



Lightness

I-DO-AIR

UK – NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Martina Amati, 2009, 7.5 min

A young girl is afraid to dive into the pool. Retreating to the locker room, she holds her breath and floats to a serene place within her head. Later she sees two unexpected creatures swimming gracefully under the water and takes a plunge into their magical world. This BAFTA winning film has played Berlin, LA and other top fests.



I-Do-Air

DAUGHTERS

China/USA

Live Action, Chloe Zhao, 2009, 9.5 min

A stunningly shot film, set in rural China, about a girl facing a monumental life decision. When her mother becomes pregnant with a boy, 14-year-old Maple is forced into an arranged marriage. Unwilling to resign herself to this fate, she takes a dangerous path to freedom – but is she willing to pay the price?



Daughters

DUST KID

South Korea – NY PREMIERE

Animation, Jung Yumi, 2009, 10 min

Waking up late on a cold winter's afternoon, Eujin finds a small dust kid under her bed – a miniature version of herself sitting alone and dejected in the shadows.



Dust Kid

STEP BY STEP

France – US PREMIERE

Experimental, Émilie Tarascou, 2009, 4 min

A short film about a girl who is literally bound by her inhibitions.



Step By Step

BOOK GIRL AND CABINET GIRL

USA

Animation, Jane Wu, 2010, 3.5 min

A sweet and tender story of friendship, jealousy, and love. Book Girl and Cabinet Girl meet and become friends. But then Scissors Boy comes along and cuts them apart.



Book Girl and Cabinet Girl



Little Miss EyeFlap



Chalk

MAKE-DOWN

Germany – US PREMIERE

Experimental, Maurice Hübner, 2009, 4 min

In a fantasy vision of transformation, a woman's face becomes a canvas.

LITTLE MISS EYEFLAP

Norway – NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Iram Haq, 2009, 9 min

A fantastical and magical fable of a young woman caught between two cultures. Little Miss EyeFlap is sent to grandma's house wearing a cap with blinders, so she will not be enticed by distractions along the way. But everything is so beautiful! Magic butterflies, snow capped mountains, flowering meadows, and an earnest young lover in lederhosen.

CHALK

UK – US PREMIERE

Live Action, Martina Amati, 2010, 18 min

Quiet emotions simmer on the screen in this beautifully realized film about two thirteen-year-old gymnasts competing for admittance to the national team. The girls' raw beauty is articulated by subdued tones and visual purity, as filmmaker Martina Amati eloquently captures the unspoken tension between friends who are also rivals.

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WORKSHOPS



WORKSHOP: MUSIC & SOUND DESIGN FOR FILM

75 min

Recommended ages 7 to adult

Learn about creating sound for film as top composers, musicians and producers work with the audience to score a film segment on the fly. What type of instrument is best suited for the tear-jerker, the comedy, or the action thriller? How are music and sound used to set mood, create suspense, trigger relief? Using live instruments and recording equipment, the group will go through the step-by-step process of layering music and effects onto film – taking input and cues from the audience – to create a completed sound design, while explaining the decisions and inspirations that direct their work. The live, interactive workshop will be led by composer, lyricist, and producer Michael Rubin, and composer, sound designer, and producer Nathaniel Reichman – with special guests to be announced.



WORKSHOP: GREEN SCREEN

75 min

Recommended ages 8 to adult

Have you ever wondered how cinema puts ordinary people into extraordinary landscapes? NYCFF invites you and your family to experience the magic of "green screen" special effects, used in films from *Tron* to *Harry Potter* to *Avatar*. Using a live, onstage studio setup, this interactive workshop explores each stage of the green screen, chroma key production process. You'll learn how to set up, light, and shoot the scene and how to place characters in different backgrounds with professional compositing software. After that, we'll look at how some of your favorite films use this process and how the technology has evolved over the years. Finally, everyone will get the chance to participate in a live demonstration. You will emerge with a better understanding of how filmmakers employ green screen to stretch the boundaries of the medium and create their art – and how you can begin to use these effects at home using simple video recording tools and software.

Presented in partnership with Take Two Film Academy.
www.taketwofilmacademy.com



NYCFF FILM PRODUCTION WORKSHOPS

The Workshops offered during the festival are a great introduction to film production. For more in-depth coverage of film production for ages 6 to 16, NYCFF offers week-long workshops throughout the year!

See page 15 or go to gkids.com/workshop to find out more.



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Mischief

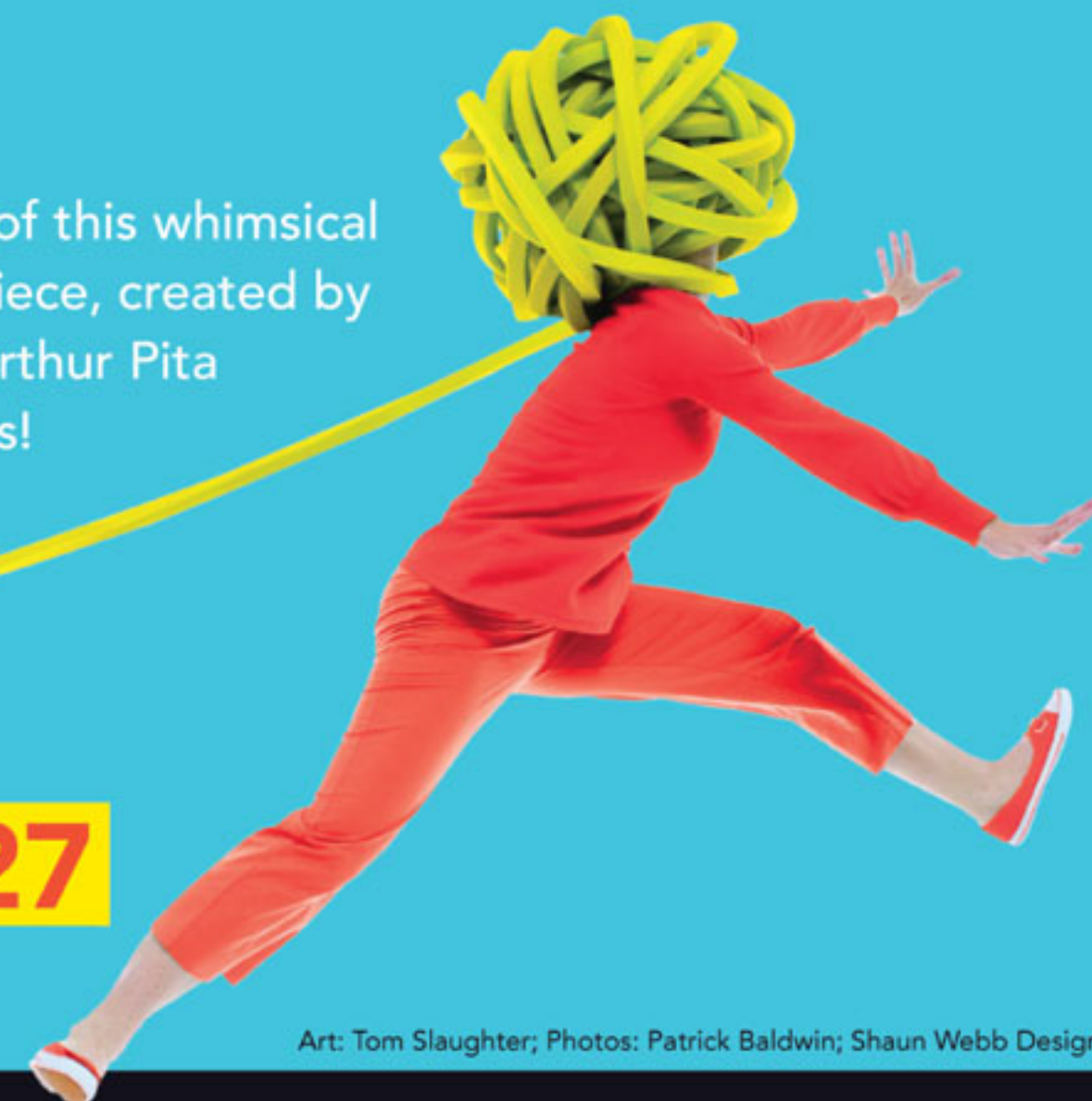
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