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Every year, New York Int'l Children's Film Festival presents new, inspiring, passionate films that invite families to travel the world and expand their horizons from the comfort of a local theater. Ticket sales cover only 26% of our operating costs. Our continued success depends on the support of audience members like you.

Make a tax deductible donation to the Festival now:

- In the theater lobby
- Online: gkids.com/donate
- By phone: 212.349.0330
- By mail: NYICFF, 225 Broadway, Suite 2610 NY, NY 10007

Please make checks payable to NYICFF. Thank you!
March 7, 2014

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the 2014 New York International Children’s Film Festival.

It is vitally important that we provide all of our City’s young people with a well-rounded education that inspires their creativity and prepares them for successful careers. Engagement in the arts is a critical part of every school’s curriculum, and for nearly two decades, NYICFF has given young New Yorkers the chance to experience intelligent and thought-provoking films at its annual festival. And thanks to its work with our public schools and its scholarship programs, this organization takes this experience even further, offering aspiring filmmakers the chance to go behind the camera through its filmmaking camps and workshops. This month, students from across the five boroughs will gather in theaters to watch the best in children’s cinema and play the role of critic as they vote for their favorites. We applaud NYICFF for once again bringing this event to our city, and look forward to these young audience members one day debuting their own films at this exciting festival.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, congratulations to the filmmakers whose work is being featured here this month. Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful festival and enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

March 7 – March 20, 2014

New York International Children’s Film Festival
225 Broadway, Suite 2610
New York, NY 10007

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the 2014 New York International Children’s Film Festival. Welcome to the great City of New York!

Since 1997, NYICFF has promoted engaging and high-quality cinematic works for youngsters. These efforts are designed to be provocative, educational, inspirational, and entertaining. As the largest event for children and teens in North America, this festival will give thousands a variety of opportunities to enjoy opening and closing nights, competitions, gala premieres, and retrospectives.

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

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

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governer

We Work for the People.
AMAZONIA
France – US PREMIERE
Live Action, Thierry Ragobert, 2013, 82 min
No Dialogue
Recommended ages 5 to adult
Director present on March 7th for post-screening Q&A

Get ready to meet the cutest animal in the entire known universe — a baby capuchin monkey with impossibly huge eyes and impossibly human expressions — on a stunningly photographed 3D adventure into the heart of the Amazon rainforest. Meticulously captured over two years of filming, Amazonia reveals the deep mystery and beauty of the Amazon and features more exotic animals per minute of running time than any film we can recall. This is not a documentary, it is an adventure story about a monkey named Sai, born in captivity, who finds himself stranded in the jungle and must fend for himself. As he explores his new world, so do we — and his every step (and tumble, and fall) exposes the immense beauty and danger of his new environment. Amazonia follows a long line of French nature films, from Jacques Cousteau to Winged Migrations to March of the Penguins, but never before has an animal conveyed such incredible human-like expressiveness and emotions on the big screen. It is impossible not to get caught up in the ride as we respond to his curiosity, fear, hope, and affection, his shrinking shyness, or his wide-eyed wonder.

After the show, help us kick off NYICFF 2014 at the Opening Night Celebration!
2014 JURY

JOHN CANEMAKER
Academy Award®
winning animator
(The Moon and the Son)

GEENA DAVIS
Academy Award®
winning actor
and Founder,
the Geena Davis
Institute on
Gender in Media

LYNNE MCEVIEGH
Associate Professor of
Children’s Media
at NYU Tisch
School of the Arts

MATTHEW MODINE
Award-winning
actor (Full Metal
Jacket, The Dark
Knight Rises)

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Director Emeritus
New York Film
Festival, Columbia
University
Professor of Film
Studies

BILLY PLYMPTON
Academy Award®
nominated
filmmaker (Guard
Dog, Idiots and
Angels)

DANA POINTS
Editor-in-chief,
Parents Magazine

SUSAN SARANDON
Academy Award®
winning actor (Dead
Man Walking, 
Arbitrage)

JAMES SCHAMUS
Award-winning
filmmaker
(Brokeback
Mountain, The Ice
Storm)

HENRY SELICK
Academy Award®
nominated
director (Coraline)

EVAN SHAPIRO
President of
Participant
Television

UMA THURMAN
Academy Award®
nominated actor
(Pulp Fiction, Kill
Bill Vol. 1 & 2)

CHRISTINE VACHON
Award-winning
filmmaker (Boys
Don’t Cry, Kill
Your Darlings)

GUSS VAN SANT
Academy Award®
nominated
director (Good
Will Hunting, 
Promised Land)

TAIKA WAITITI
Academy Award®
nominated
director (Two
Cars One Night, 
Boy)

JEFFREY WRIGHT
Award-winning
actor (Basquiat, 
The Hunger
Games)

BEST OF THE FEST: AWARDS & PARTY
Recommended all ages • 75 minutes plus party

NYICFF 2014
AWARDS CEREMONY
Rub elbows with filmmakers and special guests at the presentation of the 2014 Festival Awards. The kid-friendly awards ceremony is followed by a one-hour screening of the winning films - as determined by the votes of audience members (that’s you!) and the Festival Jury.

• 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:
  John Canemaker, Geena Davis, Lynne McVeigh, Matthew Modine, Richard Peña, Bill Plympton, Dana Points, Susan Sarandon, James Schamus, Evan Shapiro, Uma Thurman, Christine Vachon, Gus Van Sant, Taika Waititi, and Jeffrey Wright

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

• PARENTS’ AWARD
  Selected by NYICFF audience members 19 years and older

Party! Gift Bags!
Join us for the Closing Night Celebration, with delicious food and drinks for everyone. PLUS—free gift bags for all attendees!
PATEMA INVERTED
Japan – NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Animation, Yasuhiro Yoshiura, 2013, 99 min
In Japanese with English subtitles
Recommended ages 9 to adult
The new feature from Time of Eve director Yasuhiro Yoshiura is a perspective-twisting sci-fi adventure about two kids separated by opposite gravities. Patema lives in an underground world of tunnels, the long-abandoned ruins of a giant industrial complex. Though she is a princess, she is held back by the rules imposed by the elders of her clan. One day when she is exploring in a forbidden zone, she is startled by strange bat-like creatures and tumbles headlong into a void — and out into the wide open world above the surface, a place with reversed physics, where if she let go she would fall into the sky. When he spies Patema hanging upside-down from a tree, he pulls her down to safety, struggling with all his might to keep her earthbound as she grips on to him for dear life. Together their weights cancel each other out, and once the animation taking on greater complexity and variety as his weightless girl sends him on a journey from his native Edinburgh to Andalusia, Jack decides to challenge the rules that govern his very existence. Nothing in Jack and the Cuckoo Clock Heart is executed on a small scale: sweeping expanses of Andalusian countryside are dotted with extravagant circus towns and snow-covered mountaintop villages; trains gallop through the Alps; and barrios of decoupage phantasmagoric characters with delicate alabaster skin look like porcelain dolls that would live atop Tim Burton’s desk; and every nook and cranny of the film is filled with ghoulish romantic delights. Produced by Luc Besson, who gave us the 2012 opening night feature A Monster in Paris, this breathtaking gothic musical is the passion project of writer/director/composer Mathias Malzieu, adapted from his best-selling novel and the 2007 concept album from his rock band Dionysos.

JACK AND THE CUCKOO CLOCK HEART
France – NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Animation, Mathieu Malzieu/Stéphane Berla, 2013, 89 min
In English
Recommended ages 8 to adult
Director Stéphane Berla present on March 22nd for post-screening Q&A
Jack is born on a day so cold that his heart freezes. In its place he is given a mechanical wind-up heart, which comes with some very peculiar rules — the gravest of which is that he is forbidden from falling in love. Yet when a chance encounter with an equally unusual girl sends him on a journey from his native Edinburgh to Andalusia, Jack decides to challenge the rules that govern his very existence. Nothing in Jack and the Cuckoo Clock Heart is executed on a small scale: sweeping expanses of Andalusian countryside are dotted with extravagant circus towns and snow-covered mountaintop villages; trains gallop through the Alps; and barrios of decoupage phantasmagoric characters with delicate alabaster skin look like porcelain dolls that would live atop Tim Burton’s desk; and every nook and cranny of the film is filled with ghoulish romantic delights. Produced by Luc Besson, who gave us the 2012 opening night feature A Monster in Paris, this breathtaking gothic musical is the passion project of writer/director/composer Mathias Malzieu, adapted from his best-selling novel and the 2007 concept album from his rock band Dionysos.

BOY AND THE WORLD
Brazil – US PREMIERE
Animation, Atl Abreu, 2013, 80 min
No Dialogue
Recommended ages 5 to adult
Director present on March 8th for post-screening Q&A
Brazilian artist Atl Abreu brings to screen a strikingly unique visual style to show the world through the eyes of a young boy. A child, Cuca, lives a life of quiet contemplation, until one day his father leaves for the city, prompting him to embark on a quest to reunite his family. The young boy’s journey unfolds like a tapestry, opening a giant bushels of cotton lining the night like a giant Lite Brite. The story depicts an incredible love story for a boy and a girl where one is human and the other is a robot. With the help of a large bird that he befriends, the boy encounters with an alabaster skin look like porcelain dolls that would live atop Tim Burton’s desk; and every nook and cranny of the film is filled with ghoulish romantic delights. Produced by Luc Besson, who gave us the 2012 opening night feature A Monster in Paris, this breathtaking gothic musical is the passion project of writer/director/composer Mathias Malzieu, adapted from his best-selling novel and the 2007 concept album from his rock band Dionysos.

WE ARE THE BEST!
Sweden
Live Action, Lukas Moodysson, 2013, 100 min
In Swedish with English subtitles
Recommended ages 13 to adult
Lukas Moodysson’s fantastic new picture about trio of 13-year-old schoolgirls trying to form a punk band is overflowing with energy and youthful exuberance. Set in 1982 Stockholm, the film has a raw authenticity, perfectly capturing the spirited naiveté of the period. There is so much to love: the wonderful terrible music, the punking-out of the straight Christian girl (chopping off of her hair with paper scissors), the pubescent suburban punk boys with their babyfat cheeks and vinyl records, the out of touch adults, the way the girls can’t sing or play but it just doesn’t matter. Absorbing non-stop insults from schoolmates, they go about learning their instruments, thinking up suitably incendiary things to sing about, and preparing for their debut at a community center Christmas show. But plot is not what is important here — mostly it is about these girls growing and experiencing themselves in the world, trying on new attitudes to see if they work, fighting, making up, taking chances, realizing that they are the center of the universe.

Comment: Film contains very strong language and instances of underage drinking.
ERNEST & CELESTINE

France – NEW YORK THEATRICAL PREMIERE
Animation, Renner/Patar/Aubier, 2014, 79 min
In English

Recommended ages 5 to adult
Director Benjamin Renner present on March 14th, 15th, and 16th for post-screening Q&As

NYCFF 2013 Grand Prize winner returns as a Best Animated Feature Oscar®-nominee! Director Benjamin Renner is our guest for the theatrical premiere of the new English language version, featuring Forest Whitaker, Mackenzie Foy, Lauren Bacall, Paul Giamatti, William H. Macy, Megan Mullally, Nick Offerman, and Jeffrey Wright. Deep below snowy, cobblestone streets, tucked away in networks of winding subterranean tunnels, lives a civilization of hardworking mice, terrified of the bears who live above ground. Unlike her fellow mice, Celestine is an artist and a dreamer — and when she nearly ends up as breakfast above ground. Unlike her fellow mice, Celestine is an artist

ZIP & ZAP AND THE MARBLE GANG

Spain – NEW YORK PREMIERE
Live Action, Oskar Santos, 2013, 92 min
In Spanish with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult
Director present on March 22nd for post-screening Q&A

Fresh from premieres at Sundance and Toronto, Zip & Zap is one of the most talked about family films on the festival circuit — a classic mystery adventure in the vein of Harry Potter, Indiana Jones, and The Goonies. As if school during summer vacation wasn’t punishment enough, brothers Zip and Zap find themselves under the watchful eye-patch of Headmaster Falconetti, a toy-loving, no-nonsense disciplinarian intent on transforming his unruly students into productive members of society. Unwilling to waste their summer following rules, they recruit some fellow students to form the secretive Marble Gang, whose members are committed to making life miserable for their totalitarian headmaster and his staff. What starts out as a series of innocent pranks leads them to a dark discovery — and a cryptic map that promises abundant treasure. With Falconetti’s Doberman nipping at their heels, the Marble Gang dashes through secret passageways, dark caverns and trap doors as they solve riddles, uncover secrets and indulge in a few too many bonbons.

AUNT HILDA!

France – NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Animation, Jacques-Rémy Gierd/Benji Cheez, 2013, 89 min
In French with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult
Director Jacques-Rémy Gierd present on March 16th for post-screening Q&A

Jacques-Rémy Gierd, creator of A Cat in Paris and Mia and the Migoo, returns to NYCFF with his latest hand-drawn gem, Aunt Hilda!, a glorious throwback to the flower power classics like Yellow Submarine and The Point. Hilda lives high above the city, happily at home with tens of thousands of rare and luscious plants in her palace of a greenhouse. But down below, a new, genetically modified super-grain threatens to disrupt the delicate natural harmony. Distributed by the diabolical, money-and-honey-hungry Dolores, head of the DOLO Corporation, the bio-engineered monstrosity is promoted as the solution to world hunger — but only Hilda can see the inevitable danger and destruction it will cause. There’s a controlled chaos to the loosely-drawn, watercolor-dripped animation style that mirrors the characters’ over-the-top personalities. The corpulent Dolores is depicted in all her fleshy glory teetering on high heels, or barely contained in her overflowing hot tub office — while Hilda swooshes across the screen, color trailing behind, Lucy in the Sky-like, as she tends to her flowerpots or does battle with the agents of power and greed. The film’s not-so-subtle eco-message (no nuanced arguments here!) builds to a suitably cataclysmic, technology-gone-haywire finale, as the destructive power of the Frankenplant is unleashed and Hilda must help the Earth save itself from a very colorful biological mayhem.

FOOSBALL

Argentina – US PREMIERE
Animation, Juan José Campanella, 2013, 106 min
In Spanish with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult
Oscar®-winner Juan José Campanella’s first animated film obliterated box office records in his home country of Argentina and puts Hollywood on notice that high-end CGI is not the exclusive purview of the major US studios. Amadeo spends his time ruling the foosball table in the back room of his parents’ café, where he has customized the tiny footballers with little uniforms and hairstyles, and individualized personalities to match. What he lacks in social skills, he more than makes up for in foosball chops — an early gameplay sequence where he humiliates local bully Grosso is a tour-de-force of animation art direction and a teaser for more to come. Flash forward several years; Amadeo is still languishing in his parents’ bar while Grosso has gone on to soccer super-stardom — and now returns with bulldozers and wrecking crews to exact his revenge by demolishing the little town that was the scene of his only defeat. With all seemingly lost to reunite the rest of the team. Voiced by Argentine comedians who improvised much of the dialogue, the players’ rapid fire banter provides non-stop amusement as they join together in a showdown match to save the town.

Comment: A character in the film has some moments of banter that provide non-stop amusement as they join together in a showdown match to save the town.

Presentation with support from
more in common than an
Itching for an answer, she follows Yisel in hopes of punitive, complete with flying headmistresses and cackling punishment, which is too much for Anina, and she discovers the black wax-sealed envelope and told they must carry it out on another girl, Yisel, and an ensuing tussle lands the punishment inside. The character is envious, with her bright ruddy red hair, striped leggings, and big head. Her name is a palindrome — meaning it reads the same both backwards and forwards — and it causes her grief from taunting classmates. She in turn takes it and reads the same both backwards and forwards — and it
character is handcrafted from materials gently worn and loved. The title simply-but-beautifully animated picture with a look that seems
There is an oddly comforting charm about Anina, a quirky, warm, simply-but-beautifully animated picture with a look that seems handcrafted from materials gently worn and loved. The title character is endearing, with her bright ruddy red hair, striped leggings, and big head. Her name is a palindrome — meaning it reads the same both backwards and forwards — and it causes her grief from taunting classmates. She in turn takes it and reads the same both backwards and forwards — and it

ANINA
Uruguay
Animation, Alfredo Soderguit, 2013, 80 min
In Spanish with English subtitles
Recommended ages 7 to adult
Spanish speakers ages 5 to adult

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MOTHER, I LOVE YOU
Latvia — NEW YORK PREMIERE
Live Action, Janis Nords, 2013, 83 min
In Latvian with English subtitles
Recommended ages 9 to adult

Don’t let the sappy title scare you off. Winner of top prizes at the Berlin and Los Angeles Film Festivals, Janis Nords’ instantly engaging second feature combines coming-of-age drama with slow-burn thriller to tell the story of a boy who is unable to extricate himself from a growing web of lies. Raimonds lives with his single mother, Sylvia, an overextended doctor who struggles to split her time between patients and son. Left more or less on his own, the 12-year-old spends his time riding through town on his scooter and getting into mild mischief with his friend Peteris, whose mother works cleaning the houses of wealthy neighbors. The boys occasionally hang out in these luxurious digs while the owners are away, and though they know it is wrong, the thrill of trespassing has its attractions. Meanwhile, when an incident at school lands Raimonds in trouble, fear of his mother’s reaction leads him to hide the truth — setting in motion a cycle of increasingly bad choices, each one digging him deeper into a hole. The film’s portrait of preteen rebelliousness has been compared to Truffaut’s iconic The 400 Blows and the Dardennes’ The Kid with a Bike. But no degree in cinema studies is required to enjoy this captivating and emotionally profound film.

Comment: Film contains some mature subject matter.

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MUPPETS SING-A-LONG
USA – SPECIAL EVENT
Live Action, James Bobin, 2011, 103 min
In English
Rated PG
Live Sing-a-Long Event led by songwriter Bret McKenzie and Muppet pal Walter!
Join award-winning composer and producer Bret McKenzie in an interactive sing-a-long screening of the 2011 Disney hit The Muppets, suitable for Muppet lovers of all ages. The film features Bret’s Oscar®-winning Man or Muppet, plus Pictures in My Head and lots of other toe-tapping classics. Come sing along!

While on vacation in Los Angeles, Walter, the world’s biggest Muppet fan, his brother Gary, and friend Mary, uncover a diabolical plot to raze Muppet Studios. So the Muppet-loving trio decide to reunite the long-disbanded Muppets and stage a telethon. But the gang have all gone their separate ways: Kermit is living a life of seclusion in his Bel Air mansion, and Animal has just returned is Oscar®-winning no-nonsense prison guard and Interpol’s Fugitive Unit’s top man. But, as always, mayhem follows the Muppets overseas, and they find themselves unwittingly entangled in an international crime caper headed by Constantine – the World’s Number One Criminal and a dead ringer for Kermit – and his dastardly sidekick Dominic, aka Number Two. Adding to the action is Nadya (Tina Fey), a no-nonsense prison guard and interpol agent. And, in the grand tradition of the Muppets, be on the lookout for blink-and-you’ll-miss-it appearances by a slew of famous faces. James Bobin, who (like us) can’t seem to get enough of the Muppets, returns to the directing chair after the 2011 hit The Muppets. Also returning is Oscar®-winning songwriter Bret McKenzie, who is a star in his own right as half of the musical comedy duo Flight of the Conchords.

MUPPETS MOST WANTED
USA – SPECIAL EVENT
Live Action, James Bobin, 2014, 107 min
In English
Rated PG
NYCFF is thrilled to present a special sneak preview screening of Disney’s Muppets Most Wanted. The latest adventure from the beloved Muppet gang takes them across the globe as they embark on an international tour, selling out grand theaters in some of Europe’s most exciting destinations including Berlin, Madrid, Dublin, and London.

The film stars the beloved Muppet gang, plus Jason Segel (who co-wrote), Amy Adams, and a host of celebrity cameos.

RIO 2
USA – SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING
Animation, Carlos Saldanha, 2014, 100 min
In English
Recommended all ages
Director present on March 30th

Fly to Brazil ahead of the flock, with this special pre-release screening of Rio 2, the latest from Oscar®-winning Blue Sky Animation Studio. It’s a jungle out there for Blu, Jewel, and their three kids, after they’re hurtled from the magical city of Rio de Janeiro to the wilds of the Amazon. As Blu tries to fit in, he goes head-to-head with the vengeful Nigel and meets the most fearsome adversary of all — his long-lost father-in-law, who has been hiding out with a group of other Macaws. The Rio characters are joined by Oscar® nominee Andy Garcia, Grammy® winner Bruno Mars, Tony® winner Kristin Chenoweth, and Oscar®/Emmy®/Tony® winner Rita Moreno – plus new Brazilian artists and original music by Janelle Monae and Wondeiland.

LAIKA: BEHIND THE MAGIC
30 min workshop, 100 min screening
In English
Recommended ages 9 to adult
Experience the magic of stop-motion through a rare behind-the-scenes presentation from Laika studios – creators of the Academy Award®-nominated Coraline and ParaNorman. Laika’s Mark Shapiro will give insights into the intricate stop-motion animation process, using footage of time-lapse production, exclusive clips of Laika animators at work, and a demonstration using the actual character models from the movies. Then put your newfound stop-motion knowledge to work during a complete screening of the film Coraline and a sneak peek at footage from the upcoming Laika feature The Boxtrolls. After the films there will be an audience Q&A.

Directed by NYCFF jury member Henry Selick (The Nightmare Before Christmas, James and the Giant Peach) and based on the best-selling novella by Neil Gaiman, Coraline is an enchantingly spooky tale about a young girl who discovers a secret passage to an alternate world where her normal family has been replaced with creepy button-eyed imposters.
GIOVANNI’S ISLAND
Japan – NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Animation, Mizuo Nishikubo, 2014, 102 min
Japanese with English Subtitles
Recommended ages 12 to adult

Screening for the first time outside of Japan, Giovanni’s Island is the latest grand opus from famed anime studio Production I.G (A Letter to Momo, Jin-Roh: The Wolf Brigade). Spanning multiple generations and locations, the film delicately weaves the true story of two young brothers whose life on the small, remote island of Shikotan becomes forever changed in the aftermath of WWII. Giovanni and Campanella, nicknamed after characters in the beloved Japanese novel Night on the Galactic Railroad, live a free-spirited island life, chasing each other along beach-side cliffs and dreaming about adventures on the Galactic Railroad. But when the Red Army occupies their tiny island following Japan’s surrender, they are suddenly confronted with new foreigners – including a peculiar and enticing new neighbor, the golden-haired Tanya, daughter of the Soviet commander. Learning about each other’s exotic and strange cuisines, music and language creates a quick bond for the children – even while the occupation brings on heavier implications for their families. An elegance and beauty permeates the hand-drawn animation and symphonic score of the film, creating a timeless drama where moments of emotional impact are tempered by animated flights of whimsy and fantasy, as the brothers prove much larger in spirit and strength than their rosy-cheeked, small frames would suggest.

Comment: While there is no overt violence on screen, the film deals with the hardships of war including a true-to-life sense of loss.

MINUSCULE: VALLEY OF THE LOST ANTS
France – NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Animation, Thomas Szabo/Hélène Giraud, 2013, 89 min
No Dialogue
Recommended ages 5 to adult

Humorously bug-eyed animated insects battle it out within lush live action backgrounds in this enormously inventive comic adventure from award-winning animators Thomas Szabo and Hélène Giraud. The unique combination of real life landscapes – a micro-world shot in extreme and stunning close-up – and wonderfully animated creepy-crawlies engaging in playful antics, will leave the viewer both dazzled and amused. As the film opens, a montage of breathtaking forest landscapes zooms in on an abandoned picnic just as a gang of black ants is moving in to steal a coveted treasure: a tin box filled with sugar cubes. But before they can get away with the loot, a newly-born ladybug gets trapped inside the box, and is soon spirited away as the ants try to transport their prize across the woods toward their colony. When a rival clan of powerful red warrior ants appears on the scene, the resourceful ladybug comes to the aid of the black ants, and a furious chase ensues where everyday objects become creative tools in the battle. The audience is treated to Q-tip javelins, dollar bill paper airplanes, and a high-speed river race on an old soda can … along with humorous references to Star Wars, Close Encounters and even a shot-for-shot recreation of a scene from Hitchcock’s Psycho (not scary, we promise!). Based on the popular short animated series, Minuscule opened #1 at the French box office and is making its North American premiere at NYICFF.

THE ADVENTURE COMES HOME ON BLU-RAY™ & DVD MARCH 25!
SPECIAL BLU-RAY™ & DVD RELEASE SCREENING GIVEAWAYS FOR ALL FAMILIES
Saturday, March 22, 11:15am IFC Center
HELLO WORLD
France – US PREMIERE
Animation, Eric Serra, 2012, 3.5 min

In a collage forest crafted out of newspaper, plants, and paper mâché, a newborn owl wakes up and explores the complicated world around him.

WHAT IS MUSIC?
USA – WORLD PREMIERE
Animation, Christian Robinson, 2013, 3.5 min

Given a brief quiz on music, these kids provide some of the best – if not most accurate – answers possible.

ON THE WING
Russia – WORLD PREMIERE (English Version)
Animation, Vera Myakisheva, 2012, 6 min

A young chicken wonders how she can learn to fly, just like all the other birds.

THE LOVELY LETTER L
USA
Animation, Evan Spiridellis, 2012, 1.5 min

An infectious song about lemons, light bulbs, laundry and lots more.

THE SMORTLYBACKS
China / Switzerland – US PREMIERE
Animation, Ted Sieger / Wouter Dierickx, 2013, 5 min

A mahout and his herd of peculiar pachyderms live on a mountain plateau. Together they embark on an amazing and never-ending journey.

I WANT MY HAT BACK
USA – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Galen Fott, 2013, 9 min

Bear’s hat is gone and none of the animals have seen it. He is starting to become despondent, until his memory is sparked by a deer who asks just the right question.

MONSTERSYMPONIE
Germany – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Kiana Nagshineh, 2012, 4 min

Meet the band: four monsters, one girl, and some very silly instruments. And they’re definitely playing past their bedtime.

MY MOM IS AN AIRPLANE
Russia/USA – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Tanya Aronova, 2013, 6.5 min

There are all different kinds of mothers in this world. But can your mom fly?

SNOWFLAKE
Russia – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Natalia Chernysheva, 2012, 5 min

A boy receives a paper snowflake in the mail and sticks it under his pillow. In the morning he finds that his world has been transformed.

SKY COLOR
USA
Animation, Peter H. Reynolds, 2012, 7 min

When Marisol sets out to create a sky for the class mural, she discovers the blue is missing from her paints. This story celebrates the creative process and what it means to look at the world through the eyes of an artist.

HOPFROG
Russia – EAST COAST PREMIERE
Animation, Pavel Sheleg, 2012, 3.5 min

A series of non-scientific observations of the jumping fellows’ life.
THE NEW SPECIES
Czech Republic – US PREMIERE
Animation, Kateřina Karhánková, 2013, 6 min
Three friends discover a mysterious bone. With their imaginations running wild, they set out to discover the creature it belonged to.

DINGI
Bangladesh / Germany – NY PREMIERE
Live Action, Veit Helmer, 2012, 6 min
A group of rebellious children play a clever trick on the old boatmen who do not allow them to swim in the river Dhaka.

SEA LEGS
France – US PREMIERE
Animation, Olga Shchukina, 2012, 4 min
A Russian sailor comes back to the city after a very long time away at sea and finds that solid land can be difficult to navigate.

TOWN CALLED PANIC: THE CHRISTMAS LOG
Belgium / France – NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Animation, Stéphane Aubier/Vincent Patar, 2014, 26 min
Prepare for more zany, stop-motion mayhem as Stéphane Aubier and Vincent Patar follow-up their award-winning 2009 feature debut with this Yuletide sequel, detailing the misadventures of Indian and Cowboy, who become overexcited in anticipation of their Christmas gifts and have difficulty not being naughty.

Aboy in an abandoned observatory tries to show the city something incredible.

POHYPER
Taiwan – NY PREMIERE
Live Action/Animation, Hsi-ching Tseng, 2012, 3 min
In this inventive stop-motion film, the individual frames of animation are printed on t-shirts and an amusing variety of materials, for a music video that blends and blurs imagination and reality.

Big Block Sing-Song: Hair
Canada – US PREMIERE
Animation, Warren Brown, 2012, 2 min
From the people who brought us John the Leprechaun, a Kraftwerk-style electronic pop tune about the stuff that grows out of your head (and sometimes other places).

THE MOLE AT THE SEA
Russia – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Anna Kadykova, 2012, 5 min
Everyone’s off to the seaside – by car, truck and train. Not wanting to miss out, the mole starts digging.

BORROWED LIGHT
USA
Animation, Olivia Huyghe, 2013, 4 min
A boy in an abandoned observatory tries to show the city something incredible.

THE CENTIPEDE AND THE TOAD
France – WORLD PREMIERE (English Version)
Animation, Anna Khmelevskaya, 2012, 10 min
In a faraway forest, the gracious, lissome Centipede is admired by all the other creatures. Except for the old Toad, haughty and jealous, who hates him. Based on the 19th century poem “The Centipede’s Dilemma,” this deliciously devious animated fable illustrates how our unconscious actions can be disrupted by conscious reflection.
**RABBIT AND DEER**

Hungary — NY PREMIERE

Animation, Péter Vácz, 2013, 16 min

Best friends Rabbit and Deer share everything, including a love of hot chocolate with marshmallows, but their friendship is challenged by the discovery of a third dimension.

**THE BIG HOUSE**

Yemen — NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Masa Sapaed, 2013, 3 min

When a poor Yemeni boy finds the keys to an empty mansion down the street, he lets himself — and his imagination — run wild in the big house. This official Sundance selection intercuts TV images of rebellion and unrest to create a powerful allegory.

**THE DAM KEEPER**

USA — NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

Animation, Dice Tsutsumi/Robert Kondo, 2013, 18 min

Set in a desolate future, a small town’s survival depends on a large windmill dam that acts as a fan to keep out poisonous clouds. Despite bullying from classmates, the dam’s young operator, Pig, works tirelessly to keep the sails spinning in order to protect the town. But when a new student joins Pig’s class, everything begins to change.

**CARPARK**

United Kingdom — WORLD PREMIERE

Animation, Ant Blades, 2013, 1.5 min

A simple shopping trip goes horribly wrong.

**WIND**

Germany — EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Robert Löbel, 2013, 3.5 min

A film about how people adapt to even the most extreme environments, Wind depicts the daily routines of settlers in an exceptionally windswept world. Created as his graduation project, Robert Löbel’s clever and breezy animated short has won more than 20 international festival awards.

**LEAVING**

France — NY PREMIERE

Animation / Live Action, Joana Lute, 2012, 2.5 min

The life of two characters unfold, on and beyond city walls.

**TOME OF THE UNKNOWN**

USA — EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Patrick McHale, 2013, 8 min

A slightly twisted tale from Adventure Time creative director Patrick McHale, featuring the vocal talents of Elijah Wood. Two brothers and their smart-mouthed bird find themselves lost in a mysterious place called the Unknown. Tired of walking, they decide to borrow a car from a rustic country singer made of vegetables, and head off to the big city.

**UNLOCKING THE TRUTH**

USA


Watch out, America: these sixth-grade metalheads from Flatbush, Brooklyn are on a mission to rock your socks off.

**LIVE BAIT**

Italy

Animation, Susanna Nicchiarelli, 2012, 6.5 min

A humorous contemplation of truth and mortality as fast-talking fish tries to talk his way out of being eaten by a bigger fish.

**THERE WAS A BOY**

France

Animation, David et Jérémie Dufresne, 2013, 10 min

A delightful tale that’s more than just a Wednesday or a Thursday, Friday.

**THE SUN**

United Kingdom — US PREMIERE

Animation, Paul Hill, 2013, 1.5 min

The Sun has come out to play. Run for your lives!
Daniel’s mother is comatose in the hospital, hanging on to life by a thread. But he is convinced that she can hear him. To what lengths will he go to try to save her?

Creativity has never been easier. Or scarier! (Kids, don’t try this at home.)

In an empty, timeless space, funny little figures wander around with no apparent purpose... until one day a stone falls from the sky. What they do with it reveals the true nature of these odd creatures.

Chintis Lundgren, creator of last year’s Dangerous Migration Routes, is back with more animated birds in her music video for “I Love Your Face” by Estonian alternative act Kalli Bris.

Minimalist visual style generates maximal humor in this Olympic-style fencing duel, in which the USA and Italy fight for victory using any means necessary.

Every year there is one film that we can’t decide whether to program for tots or teens. Hope we made the right choice!

In this Greek tragedy – acted out by Belgian roosters – Marcel survives the bird flu, alcohol, sleeping pills and his son, Max. A true story!

A short treatise on potentially harmful relationships.

A matador fights a goose, a cougar does motorcycle tricks, and they all tell some jokes.

Tired of the way rats are always getting slandered by humans, a trio of hipster rodents decide to write a book telling their side of the story. Featuring the voices of Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein.

One day I found a bear. Or he found me. A short treatise on potentially harmful relationships.

In an empty, timeless space, funny little figures wander around with no apparent purpose... until one day a stone falls from the sky. What they do with it reveals the true nature of these odd creatures.

In trouble with the juvenile courts and facing serious consequences, Sabrina must make a life-changing decision.
HEEBIE JEEBIE SHORTS
SPOOKY, FREAKY, & BIZARRE...
Recommended ages 10 to Adult • 80 minutes

BIRD FOOD
Ireland
Animation, Richard Keane, 2012, 4.5 min
One man. One sandwich. And a park full of pigeons. This isn’t going to end well.

SPELLBREAKER
Netherlands – US PREMIERE
Animation, Jean-Lay Epping / Elmer van Holten, 2013, 4 min
Two kids are building a sandcastle, seemingly best of friends. But when a beetle gets trapped underneath a bucket, their peaceful harmony gets disturbed.

COLLECTORS
Switzerland – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Marcel Hobi, 2013, 5 min
Whether it’s butterflies, shoes, or friendships - collecting is a passion. One can never collect too much.

SLEIGHT OF HAND
Australia
Animation, Michael Cusack, 2012, 10 min
A man yearns to know his place in the world and how he fits in, when sometimes it’s better not to know.

THE DEEP END
USA – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Jake Fried, 2013, 1 min
Hand-drawn animation using ink, white-out and coffee.

ROOTLESS HEART
Japan
Animation, Toshiko Hata, 2013, 10 min
Two high school kids explore an abandoned house. There is something lurking in the dark.

THE BIG BEAST
France – US PREMIERE
Animation, Pierre Luc Granjon, 2013, 6.5 min
A legend says that a huge beast will come to eat you when you least expect it.

CORNEA
France – US PREMIERE
Animation, Stéphane Blanquet, 2013, 5.5 min
Blood drips into a bowl of soup… an ophthalmologist auscultates the eye of a patient… a couple walks hand in hand among the flowers… A surreal montage of nightmare images from the masters of creepy, Auteur de Minuit.

ON THE OTHER SIDE
France – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Icinori, 2013, 5.5 min
Tracking a doe in the woods, a hunter is stopped by a black wall that blocks his way. Making the choice to cross over, he enters a strange territory from which he may never return.

FERAL
USA
Animation, Daniel Sousa, 2012, 13 min
A wild boy is found in the woods by a solitary hunter and brought back to civilization. Alienated by a strange new environment, the boy tries to adapt by using the same strategies that kept him alive in the forest. A 2014 Oscar® nominated film.

THE FAT CAT
United Kingdom – US PREMIERE
Animation, Mike Hill, 2013, 1 min
What the fat cat wants, the fat cat gets and what the fat cat gets is… fatter.

THE DUKE
USA
Animation, Jonathan Caron, 2012, 1.5 min
This film is about a sandwich – a chicken parmesan hero sandwich.
NYICFF FILM CAMPS

Get behind the camera during school break! Kids work with professional filmmakers and artists to write, animate, perform, shoot and score a short film – from conception to completion. Finished films will be shown on the big screen at the Festival and online at gkids.com.

APRIL 14-18
- Animate Yourself: Stop Motion Pixilation (For Grades 3-5)
- Moviemaking Master Class (For Grades 6-8)

JULY 7-18 (2-week workshops)
Please visit www.gkids.com/workshop for details

Classes are held at P.S. 89 Liberty School in Tribeca and run Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm (9am-5pm extended day available)

For complete class descriptions and to register, visit www.gkids.com/workshop

KIDS MAKE MOVIES!

CROCODILES WITHOUT SADDLES
Germany – NY PREMIERE
Live Action, Britta Wandaogo, 2012, 10 min

This intimate portrait of 12-year-old Kaddi Wandaogo uses a mix of archive, interview and video diary footage to express her deep feelings and experience growing up between German and African families.

IVORY COAST: WAX
France – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Bastien Dubois, 2013, 3 min

The printed wraps worn by the girls and women in the Ivory Coast are more than decoration. They are a unique form of communication and expression.

THE PRINCESS, THE PRINCE AND THE GREEN-EYED DRAGON
Germany – NY PREMIERE
Animation, Bin-Han To/Jakob Schuh, 2011, 7 min

The Prince just wants to read his newspaper. The Princess is looking for some excitement. And a thoughtful dragon is searching for a useful birthday present for his grandmother. In the end, they each get what they deserve.

WINTER TREES
United Kingdom – US PREMIERE
Animation, Karni and Saul, 2013, 3.5 min

In this music video from Aardman Animations, a Llama-Owl carries his friend to safety, as their world is washed away in a flood.

NEVERLAND
France – NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
Live Action, Cécile Douyé, 2012, 18 min

Twelve-year-old Jeanne is spending a weekend with her parents at Disneyland in Paris. In a moment of indiscretion, Jeanne discovers a startling realization about her father.

A MONSTER IN THE RESEVOIR
South Korea – EAST COAST PREMIERE
Animation, Lee Sung-Gang, 2012, 11.5 min

A lonely monster lives in a secluded reservoir surrounded by mountains. He is almost discovered by a young girl, but is too scared to reveal himself. As time goes on, many different people visit the reservoir – but neither the girl nor the monster forget their chance encounter.

THE RED CARPET
Spain – NY PREMIERE
Live Action, Manuel Fernández/Iosu López, 2012, 12 min

Rubina was born into poverty in the slums of Mumbai – the only world she knew until she landed the role of Latika in the Academy Award®-winning film Slumdog Millionaire. Despite that experience, Rubina’s life seems remarkably unchanged as she talks about her home and her dream of seeing herself on the screen once again.

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THROUGH YOU
Netherlands – US PREMIERE
Animation, Luciette Braune, 2013, 8 min

A young woman struggles through the crowd on her way to the store. As she passes these strangers, some leave a mark – but only one leaves a mark that sticks.
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