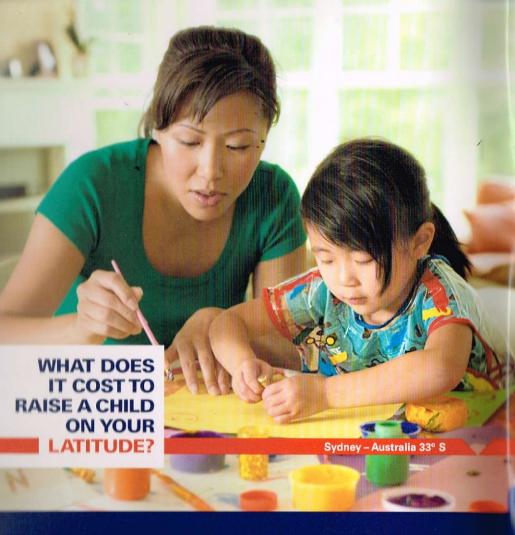




New York International CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL



When it comes to your family's financial security, nobody wants to take risks.

That's where your personal HSBC Premier Relationship Manager comes in. They'll help you to create and manage a long-term strategy, with a mix of savings and other financial solutions, to ensure your family is covered.

Start a Premier relationship today. Stop by your nearest HSBC branch or visit us online at HSBCPREMIERUSA.com



FESTIVAL DIRECTORS

Eric Beckman, Emily Shapiro

FESTIVAL STAFF

Paul Brewster, Assistant Director David Jesteadt, All-purpose GKIDS person

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Beckman, Michele Browne, Rachel Leventhal, Heather McRay, Lynne McVeigh, Theodore Petrolis, Elyn Rosenthal, Michael Rubin, Emily Shapiro, Karen Shapiro, Christine Vachon

HIRY

Adam Gopnik, Lynne McVeigh, Rob Minkoff, Matthew Modine, Susan Sarandon, James Schamus, Evan Shapiro, John Turturro, Gus Van Sant, Christine Vachon

OFFICE INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS

Leigh Baker, Zelda Blair, Lorna Brann, Vanessa Duran, Ani Katz, Jordan Kurtzman, Martina Lee, Jonathan Marsh, Rachel Mersky, Concetta Panzariello, Sofia Romero, Bina Santos, Daphne Schmon, Kara Torsney-Weirs, Genevieve Waltcher, Sabrina Wilensky, Mary Williamson

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Mo Ström/Afterwhat

PLATINUM SPONSORS

HSBC X PREMIER

The world's local bank



GOLD SPONSORS

■SCHOLASTIC

Parents



MAJOR SUPPORTERS



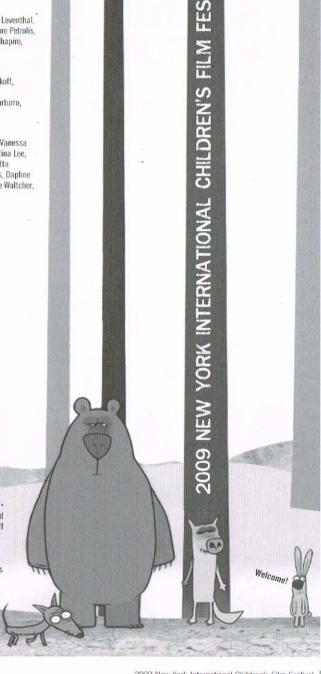


SUPPORTERS

Bank of America - Pfizer Foundation -Prospect Hill Foundation - Soros Fund Charitable Foundation - The Randolf Foundation - Viacom

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTORS

Gee Whiz • Mercer Hotel • Tonnie's Minis



NYICFF ONLINE AUCTION!

Rare items from Pixar, Aardman Animations, Focus Features, top NYC restaurants, plus unique experiences like recording sessions, director-for-a-day, and much much more. Bidders can also show their love for the festival by "endowing" festival programs, and 100% of your donation is tax-deductible.



BIDDING BEGINS FEB 27!

To VIEW & BID on items, go to: gkids.cmarket.com



THANK YOU! Individual Donors

\$1000+

Nasim Alikhani & Akis Petroulas Becky Berman

Michele Browne & Michael Culver

Joyce Chang Rachel Leventhal Heather McRay

Raul Pineda Susan Sarandon Karen Shapiro



\$500-\$999

Anonymous • Michele Arazi • Miguel Chayez • Jennifer Clarke • William Harney • Sally Huxley • Lisea Lyons • Susanna Mancini • Kelly Mateo • Lynne McVeigh • Kathryn Ogawa • Susannah Page • Dafna Recanati • Ronald Rolfe & Sara Darehshori - Robin Shanus & Stephen Merkel - Howard Shin - Amy Smith - Kyle Solomon - Herbert Spiro & Vanessa Spiro • Janet & Gil Spitzer • Brande Stellings • Jordan Tamagni • Keiko Tase • Aimee Telsey • Aleksandra Wagner • Karen & David Waltuck • Margaret & Jay Wareham

Up to \$499

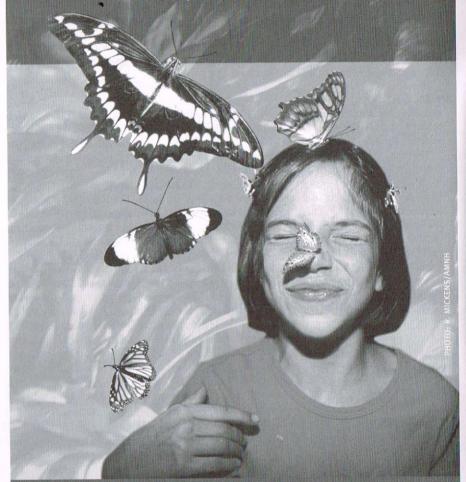
Amal Abadi-Biscaino • Abigail Amsterdam • Mary Ann Howkins • Elizabeth Baez • Laurie Beard • Melissa Bell & Leo Schmidt • Deanna Benson • Honey Berk • Maren Berthelsen & Jesse Karp • Mike & Jane Blumenfeld • Amanda Bouquet Donna Boyer Joan & Don Brancaccio Jacalyn Brecher Jay & Diane Brewster Nadia Burgard Kathy Burkett & Peter Arndsten • Donald Campbell & Catherine Amendolara • Cynthia Cannell • Matt Cantor • Anne Carey • Holly Carter - Yuet Chan - Yvonne Chan - Art Chang - Christa Chang & Paul Sutton - Michael Cohen - Francesca Connolly -Heidi Cunnick • Maria Cvetanoski • Delphine & Adrian Dannatt • Erik Detiger • Elizabeth Dobell • Tracy Dockray Rudd Brian Driscoll & Angela Vella
 Brenda Earl
 Victoria
 Ben Feder
 Jill Fergus
 Nina Fine
 Sheryl
 Jeffrey Flug Elizabeth Fox • Chris Friden • Lorna Friedman • David Glatstein • Julie Glynn & Andrew Mattson • Dayna Gonzalez • Rita Gordon • Alexander Grinzayd • Tessa Grundon • Jose Guillem • Betsy Haddad • Mary Hammann & Richard Kaplan Jill Harris
 Jacinta Hayne
 John Heilemann
 Linda Heller
 Sylvia Helm
 Daniel Armstrong
 Bonnie Hlinomaz Petr Hlinomaz • Gregory & Jillian Holch • Deborah Holmes • Susan Holmes & Mathew Heller • Penelope Hort • Diane Hounsell • David Kallick & Elisabeth Dyssegaard • Rhoda Kanaaneh • Barbara Katz • Alsun Keogh • Andrew Knox • Colleen Kong-Sayage • Stephen Kopian • Elizabeth Kreutz • Christopher Lamb • Jeremy Landis & Jennifer Landis • Hali Lee & Peter von Ziegesar • James Lee • Jenifer Lee • Cecilia Lehar • Jennifer Lemberg & William Greenberg • Mara Leventhal • Ellen Lewis • Susan Logan & Michael Garabedian • Carmen Malvar • Micaela Martegani • Ellen McClain • Raul & Cynthia Melo • Sally & Alan Mendel • Margot & Dan Milberg • Alexandra Min • Elizabeth Mitchell • Eric Moffat · Libby Moroff · Trish Neve · Barbara Norman · Leslie Overton · Maureen & David Packer · Lana Parker · Suzana Peric - Joseph Quirk - Pamela Raab - Kavitha Ram - Miguel Raya - Margaret Rietveld - David Rievman - Roland Riopelle & Leslie Gale Kanter • Wendy Roberts • Gideon Rose • Felicia Rosenfeld & David Linde • Carol Rosenthal • Natalie Rosenthal • Lydia Ross • Norma Russo • Angelique Schipani • Linda Scott • Lynne Shapiro • Elizabeth Sharp • Hugh Sinclair & Genevieve Reichle - Randi & Brett Singer - Debra Solomon - Silvia Spagnoli-Berman - Mary Thombs - J.R. & Elizabeth Tracy • Michael Vachon • David Van Osdol • Amy Weiner • Richard White • Penelope Willgerodt • Stanley Wine & Lillian Tang • Karen Wolff • Barbara Woods • Jacob Worenklein • Nancy Workman & Jonathan Miller • Peggy Wreen • Leslie Wright & Mason Nye, Jr. • Lesley Yeo • Shi Yuan Kuang

And a special thank you to:

Andy & Peter, Nasim Alikhani, Lainie Anderson, Carla, Charlie Bardey, Milo Beckman, Romy Beckman, Willa Beckman, Honey Berk, Courtney Berlin, Steve Bernstein, Jennifer Birmingham, Jay and Diane Brewster, Ed Budz, Kathy Burkett, Matthew Campbell, Darren Critz, Harris Dew, Lisa diLiberto, Billy DiMichele, Pete Docter, Jake Durand, Lisa Farrow, Jill Fergus, Rebekah Fisk, Maureen Fitzgerald, Greg Ford, Suzanne Giuliani, Alex Gonzalez, Barry Gordon, Jim Gurfein, William Hoehauser, Peter Hoffman, Bob Holmes, Haifa Ijaz, Allison Jackson, Monica Monzingo, Denise Jones, Susan Joyce, Sophia Juarez, David Kaplan, Alexis Kim, Jason Kimler, David Klein, Debra Lee, Peter Lord, Margaritte Malfy, Jennifer Maxwell, Tony Maxwell, Cheryl McGinnis, Beverly Mesch, Emily Miller, Lisa Morra, Jennifer Morrisey, Heather Nesle, Diane Newman, George Noeth, Julia Ofman, Tom Otterness, Tanya Rivera, Rosy Rosenkrantz, Susan Rosenfeld, David Schwartz, Nico Sidotti, Rini Soemarwoto, Chris Spadaccini, Phil Stober, Felipe Tewes, Mary Thombs, Myriam Tinman, Lisa Trollback, Edna Velasquez, Karen and David Waltuck, John Wittruck, Amy Wood, Peg Wreen, Linda Zingg

NOW THROUGH MAY 25, 2009

The Butterfly Conservatory Tropical Butterflies Alive in Winter



American Museum 5 Natural History 🏗



Central Park West at 79th Street, New York City • 212-769-5100 • amnh.org

JURY2009

The Special Jury Award and other festival prizes will be presented March 15th at the NYICFF Awards, Best of the Fest Closing Night Party.



ADAM GOPNIK Author, essavist and New Yorker contributor



JAMES SCHAMUS Award winning filmmaker, Brokeback Mountain. Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon, The Ice Storm, Taking Woodstock (uncoming). President of Focus Features



LYNNE McVEIGH Associate Professor of Children's Media at NYU Tisch School of the Arts



EVAN SHAPIRO President of IEC TV/Sundance Channel



ROB MINKOFF Director, The Lion King, Stuart Little, Forbidden Kingdom



JOHN TURTURRO Award winning actor. Barton Fink, Do the Right Thing, Quiz Show, Oh Brother Where Art Thou?, Nutcracker: The Untold Story (upcoming)



MATTHEW MODINE Award winning actor. Birdy, Full Metal Jacket, Married to the Mob. Weeds



CHRISTINE VACHON Award winning filmmaker. I'm Not There, Hedwig and the Angry Inch. Boys Don't Cry, Motherhood (upcoming)



SUSAN SARANDON Academy Award winning actor, Enchanted, Dead Man Walking, Bull Durham, Thelma and Louise, Pretty Baby, The Hunger, The Lovely Bones (upcoming)



GUS VAN SANT Award winning director, Milk, Drugstore Cowboy, My Own Private Idaho, Good Will Hunting, Last Days



Parents is a proud sponsor of the

2009 New York International Children's Film Festival

THE PARENTS NETWORK | Parents **baby**

www.parents.com



STATE OF NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

ALBANY 12224

DAVID A. PATERSON GOVERNOR

February 27 - March 15, 2009

Dear Friends:

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,

David D. Paterson

David A. Paterson

CHARLES E. SCHUMER NEW YORK

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 2009

COMMITTEES JOINT ECONOMIC

BANKING JUDICIARY RULES CINIARICE

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather for the 2009 New York International Children's Film Festival. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize this one-of-a-kind film festival and everyone who helped make this magnificent event possible.

Since its inception, NYICFF has dedicated itself to promoting and creating intelligent, high-quality cinematic works for children and teens 3-18 years of age. Through events such as these, the New York International Children's Film Festival is able to create a new definition of "film for kids." One that is provocative, inspirational, educational and entertaining. I applaud the NYICFF for their dedication and commitment to fostering an interest in film and cinematography in our youth. Your dedication to this noble endeavor serves as an inspiration to us all.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, I thank you for your devotion to our state and our community. It is my hope that the New York International Children's Film Festival will continue to inspire thousands of children through film for many more years to come. Congratulations once again and best wishes for a wonderful event.

> Sincerely, ales Schemen

Charles E. Schumer United States Senator



THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR NEW YORK, NY 10007

February 27, 2009

Dear Friends:

It's a pleasure to welcome everyone to the 2009 New York International Children's Film Festival.

The five boroughs are home to a thriving film and television industry, which employs nearly 100,000 New Yorkers and contributes \$5 billion to our economy every year. The real value of the movies, though, is not something that can be measured in dollars and cents-it is the power to completely capture our imaginations, and no one appreciates that kind of magic more than children! That's why for more than a decade this film festival has been one of our City's favorites. I commend all those whose hard work and vision have made it possible, and we look forward to this year's line-up of exciting live-action and animated movies sure to delight audiences of all ages.

On behalf of the City of New York, please accept my best wishes as you unwrap your candy, silence your cell phones, and sit back to enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg

Michael & Rembe

Mayor

LIKE MOST **NEW YORKERS, WE'RE NICER** THAN YOU THINK.

comfort inn midtown 129 west 46th st.

(off broadway)

the hotel @ times square

59 west 46th st. (btw 5th & 6th avenues)

la quinta manhattan

17 west 32nd st. (btw broadway & 5th avenue)

red roof inn manhattan

6 west 32nd st. (btw broadway & 5th avenue)

ramada eastside

161 lexington ave. (at 30th street)

Apple Core Hotels is a proud sponsor of the 2009 New York International Children's Film Festival.

FREE WIRELESS INTERNET

FITNESS CENTERS

COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST

IRONS, IRONING BOARDS & HAIR DRYERS IN EVERY ROOM

VOICE MAIL

LAUNDRY & VALET SERVICES.

IN-ROOM COFFEE MACHINES

KEYLESS CARD ENTRY SYSTEMS

FREE WEEKDAY NEWSPAPERS

FLAT-SCREEN TVs

FREE PHONE CALLS WITHIN THE U.S.

Check into any of our five convenient Manhattan locations by calling 800-567-7720 or visiting applecorehotels.com



OPENINGNIGHTGALA

MIA AND THE MIGOO—US PREMIERE



MIA AND THE MIGOO

France/Italy — US PREMIERE Animation, Jacques-Rémy Girerd, 2008, 92 min French with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult

Q&A with director Jacques-Rémy Girerd following the film!

NYICFF 2009 opens with the US Premiere of the gorgeous new second feature from French animator Jacques-Rémy Girerd. Mia and the Migoo is a work of art, breathtaking to behold. Figures are outlined in pencil and then bathed in rustic watercolors, for a stunning, handcrafted look with backgrounds that burst at the seams with painterly detail, like a Miyazaki film painted by Van Gogh. The story is an eco-adventure that pits plucky, wild haired young heroine Mia against profit-hungry capitalists, 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 bids good-bye to her elderly-aunt caretakers and, with lucky trinkets in hand, sets out on a cross-continent journey through cities, mountains and jungles to find her father, a laborer 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, gnarled Tree of Life, watched over by stone-like forest spirits, called Migoo-innocent, almost bumbling creatures who can 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 from destruction.



Party!

After the show help us kick off NYICFF 2009 at the Opening Night Gala, an all ages food and cocktail reception.



We are proud to support the 2009 NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL











Exceptional cupcakes, specialty cakes & our gourmet carrot cakes

TONNIE'S MINIS

CUPCAKE & COFFEE BAR

120 McDougal Street, New York, NY 10012 • 212.228.6303

To order online: TONNIESMINIS.COM

SPECIALEVENT

NYICFF BENEFIT: FILM & FOOD

A MOUTH-WATERING BENEFIT!



Milk Drinking Contes.





Western Spaghetti

INTERNATIONAL

CAPTIVATING CUISINE

ASTOUNDING AUCTION ITEMS

SUNDAY MARCH 1, 2009 3:00 TO 5:00 P.M.

An afternoon of cinematic and culinary exploration with a one-of-a-kind food-themed film program, followed by an international feast.

GIFTS FOR KIDS, **FOOD & DRINKS FOR EVERYONE!**

FOR TICKETS & INFO, EMAIL EMILY@GKIDS.COM OR GO TO GKIDS.COM/BENEFIT



WORDGIRL IS PROU TO SUPPORT THE CREATIVE* MINDS OF THE NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL!

*CREATIVE: (ADJECTIVE) ORIGINALITY OF THOUGHT. EXPRESSION: IMAGINATIVE

■SCHOLASTIC

SCHOLASTIC to purchase WordGirl Books! tore www.scholastic.com/store

Weekdays on



© 2009 Schola

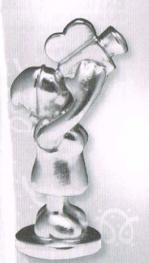
BEST OF FEST. AWARDS & PARTY

Recommended all ages . 75 minutes plus reception

Awards! Film!

BEST FEST! NYICFF 2009 CLOSING PARTY

Join filmmakers and special guests for the presentation of the NYICFF 2009 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 Selected by NYICFF audience members

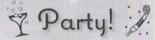
18 years and younger

Special Jury Award Selected by the NYICFF Jury Adam Gopnik, Lynne McVeigh, Rob Minkoff, Matthew Modine. Susan Sarandon, James Schamus, Evan Shapiro, John Turturro, Gus Van Sant and Christine Vachon

Parents' Choice Award Selected by NYICFF audience members 19 years and older

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

HSBC Environmental Film Award HSBC (X) PREMIER



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



HEY HEY IT'S ESTHER BLUEBURGER

Australia - NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Cathy Randall, 2008, 103 min. In English

Recommended ages 12 to adult

Hey Hey It's Esther Blueburger vaults over coming-of-age genre conventions with a droll sense of humor that celebrates the awkwardness of youth and plays like a cross between Mean Girls and Welcome to the Dollhouse. The cast features Oscar-nominated Toni Collette (The Sixth Sense, Little Miss Sunshine) and indie darling Keisha Castle-Hughes (Whale Rider), but the true standout is newcomer Danielle Catanzariti, whose winning performance in the title role is as funny and sweet as it is honest. It just plain feels good to spend ninety minutes with this girl! Plagued by puberty, beset by cliques at her private school, misunderstood by her parents and facing an upcoming Bat Mitzvah that no one will show up for, Esther Blueburger sulks from home to school and back gamely enduring each day's humiliations. Her only companion is a cute adopted duckling named Normal... until she befriends Sunni, a rebellious outcast from the local public school, and finds the freedom to experiment with more outrageous forms of behavior. Drama ensues-but one of the film's best assets is not taking itself too seriously, and the result is an utterly charming film that will leave you smiling from ear to ear. (A hysterical early scene with Esther and her brother practicing their Hav-Torah is worth the price of admission alone.)

Comment: Film contains some drinking and cigarette smoking, sexual references, and swearing.



BATTLE FOR TERRA

USA - SPECIAL EVENT

Animation, Aristomenis Tsirbas, 2008, 80 min, In English

Recommended ages 7 to adult

Q&A with director Meni Tsirbas following the film!

Director Aristomenis "Meni" Tsirbas follows up his short film The Freak with a dazzling feature debut—an exquisitely animated sci-fi epic that plays like a cross between WALL-E and Star Wars. The film takes place on the beautiful planet of Terra, a richly imagined, flowing world where flying whales emerge from clouds and float slowly and serenely through pink-hued skies, while below, towering mushroom trees with sea-urchin tentacle roots make homes for the planet's inhabitants. Terra is home to a race of peaceful, tadpole-like people who have seemingly evolved beyond conflict, war and greed. One day a darkness covers the sky and a fleet of terrifying ships arrive-an invasion of humans. Earth has long-ago been destroyed by war and environmental devastation, and the last remaining Earthlings are isolated on a dilapidated spaceship called the Ark, desperately seeking a new planet to colonize before their oxygen runs out. So while the Terrians celebrate their Festival of Life, the humans attack and the peaceful planet is plunged into chaos. During the upheaval, a young Terrian girl Mala befriends an injured human pilot, Lt. James Stanton, and as the battle rages, the two struggle to find a solution that will allow both races to live. This Oscar-caliber film is a drop-dead gorgeous visual treat and delivers a powerful and timely message: given an "us or them" choice, the true heroes are those who seek a third way.



CIRCUS SCHOOL

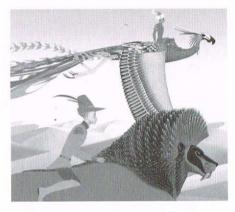
China - NY PREMIERE

Documentary, Guo Jing/Ke Dingding, 2006, 103 min Mandarin with English sublitles

Recommended ages 12 to adult

Awe inspiring, shocking and poetic, Circus School takes us behind the scenes of the Shanghai Circus School, where child acrobats are undergoing grueling training in preparation for the prestigious national acrobatic finals. For American audiences who watched spellbound at the precision choreography of the Beijing Olympic opening ceremonies and the near flawless grace of the young Chinese floor team, this film will be an eye-opening look at the trials and sacrifices these athletes must undergo to attain such a level of poise and perfection. Under tremendous pressure to succeed, the coaches appear to prefer threats and humiliation to encouragement, and as the filmmaker's camera takes a silent, fly-on-the-wall approach we see young performers subjected to verbal tirades and physical training so intense that it borders on torture (one coach yells so hard, he is driven to a heart attack). But then, beyond the injuries and adversity we get the triumphs: acrobatic routines of rare beauty, cheering crowds, lithe little Xu Lu flying through the air like a rocket, and 13 year old Cai Yong displaying such strength, flexibility and control that his movements appear utterly impossible. This is an amazing film; you sit in disbelief, mouth agape at the beauty and tragedy of what you are witnessing.

Comment: Film contains adult language. Some scenes of forced stretching are difficult to watch.



AZUR AND ASMAR

France - SPECIAL EVENT

Animation, Michel Ocelot, 2006/2008, 99 min, In English

Recommended ages 6 to adult

Q&A with director Michel Ocelot following the film!

NYICFF is thrilled to welcome director Michel Ocelot back to New York for a celebration of his stunning film Azur & Asmar. The event will include an audience Q&A, door prizes, and giveaways—including not-yet-released DVDs for the first 50 families in line! Azur & Asmar is a poetic, fairytale-like story set within a shimmering landscape of incomparable brilliance and beauty. Audiences and critics have been unanimous in their outpouring of praise for this film: "Quite simply, it's a visual masterpiece that combines cutouts with CGI and the mesmeric beauty of Islamic art to create a magical world, in which scarlet lions with blue claws and birds with rainbow wings stand between the blonde Azur and Asmar, the estranged Arab friend of his childhood." Empire Magazine, "Beautiful!" New York Times, "Mesmerizing! Dazzling! A Feast for the Eyes!" Seattle Times, "Five Stars! Absolutely Gorgeous!" Time Out New York, "Impossibly Gorgeous! The year's most beautiful animated film!" Salon, "Sheer Dazzlement! Cinema whose every frame could be hung on an art gallery wall!" Financial Times, "Is it too early to announce the most beautiful film of 2009? It's hard to imagine a more transporting cinematic experience coming our way than this animated feature from the French writer-director Michel Ocelot." Chicago Tribune.



THE SECRET OF MOONACRE

Hungary/UK/France - US PREMIERE Live Action, Gabor Csupo, 2008, 97 min, In English

Recommended ages 5 to 12

The Secret of Moonacre is a fantasy adventure complete with misty castles, a danger-filled forest, a magic pearl necklace, and a reluctant city-girl-turned-princess, decked out in an ever-growing collection of opulent, Victorian-era dresses. Newly orphaned Maria Merryweather is forced to leave civilized London and live with her reclusive uncle at Moonacre Manor, the family's remote and rundown estate in the woods. She soon discovers a secret within the walls of the large and crumbling castle. Long ago, a bitter feud between the Merryweathers and the rival De Noir family placed a curse on the land that only the young Moon Princess can undo. So Maria leaves the safety of Moonacre and enters the forbidden forest, where she comes face to face with a gang of marauding De Noir banditsthough with their black eye-liner and coordinated bowler hats. these smooth-faced young ruffians are about as menacing as an 80's New Wave boy band. But this is a fairy tale and all is for the best, as soon the head boy-bandit and scion of the De Noir clan has switched sides, defying his father to help Maria find the magic pearls and fulfill her quest. Directed by Gabor Csupo (Bridge to Terabithia) and starring Dakota Blue Richards (The Golden Compass) and Tim Curry.

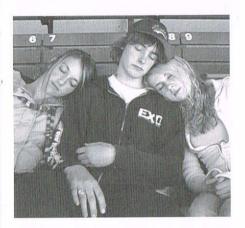


France - FAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Arthur Qwak/Guillaume Ivernel, 2008, 82 min, In English

Recommended ages 5 to 12

This action-packed, Jusciously animated adventure from France is set in a fantastic kingdom in the sky, a decaying world of floating, interconnected islands suspended in midair. Lord Hector fears the impending awakening of the World Gobbler, a monstrous dragon who will bring apocalyptic destruction with him. Hector's niece, the brave and adorable Zoé, dreams of being a legendary dragon-dueling knight like the kinds she reads about in her books, but all her uncle wants to do is send her off to the Crooked Teeth Convent for a safe and proper upbringing. Zoé gets her chance to escape this dull fate when two thirdrate warriors show up at the castle doors. Gargantuan and kind-hearted Lian-Chu (voiced by Forest Whitaker) and his wily, money-hungry partner Gwizdo seek a job that will finally pay the bills and allow them to buy the small, relaxing farm of their dreams—and because they are two of the few living warriors remaining, they are quickly drafted by Hector to destroy the World Gobbler. Zoé sneaks off to join the duo, and together they set off on the path towards the End of the World, finding new friends and plenty of danger along the way. Dragon Hunters is set apart by its heartfelt characters (Lian-Chu and Gwizdo reference Lenny and George from Of Mice and Men) and an imaginative world, filled with intricate backgrounds, unpredictable physics and exotic monsters, such as the Red Cloud, a creature formed from thousands of individual bats, and the skeletal monstrosity that is the World Gobbler himself.



WEST OF PLUTO

Canada - US PREMIERE

Live Action, Myriam Verreault/Henry Bernadet, 2009, 95 min French with English subtitles

Recommended ages 14 to adult

Q&A with directors Myriam Verreault and Henry Bernadet following the film!

This subtle, brilliantly constructed film paints a dead-on, unfiltered portrait of the high-school experience and brings up an existential question for a "children's" film festival: what is film for young people, anyway? The truth is that most teenagers' actual lives would be rated R, so by this standard young people are restricted from viewing realistic depictions of their own experience. West of Pluto gives us just that, and with unsurpassed emotional honesty. The film is a snapshot, a day in the life of a small cul-de-sac of suburban Quebec-a seemingly random corner of the world, where ten teens start pretentious garage bands, give class presentations, fall in and out of love, score pot, fight with parents, throw house parties that spiral out of control, and go through the quintessential experiences that make adolescence a churning mix of awkwardness, friendship, petty cruelty, and larger than life emotions. Beginning in an almost documentary style, the film builds into tense and compelling drama, with moments of exuberance, turmoil, and heart-wrenching pathos. The entire cast should receive acting awards, as the performers' mix of improvised and scripted dialogue creates an authentic and richly nuanced realism that is so natural it doesn't seem like acting at all.

Comment: Film contains drinking, pot smoking, sexual situations, and adult language.



SITA SINGS THE BLUES

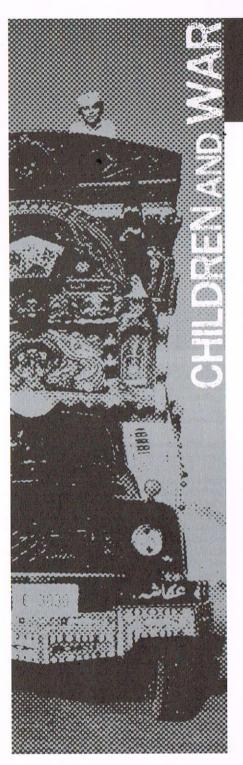
USA - SPECIAL SCREENING

Animation, Nina Paley, 2007, 82 min, In English

Recommended ages 9 to adult

Q&A with director Nina Paley following the film!

Tragedy, comedy and musical collide in this gloriously animated film from Nina Paley, New York's own "One Woman Pixar" (Wired Magazine). Sita is a goddess separated from her beloved Lord and husband Rama. Nina is an animator whose husband moves to India, then dumps her by email. Three bickering shadow puppets with Indian accents act as comic narrators as these old and new stories are interwoven in a post-modern retelling of the ancient Indian epic Ramayana, animated in a dazzling mix of traditional and collage animation styles, and backed by a soundtrack from legendary 1920's jazz singer Annette Hanshaw. Sita Sings the Blues follows in the line of Triplets of Bellville, Spirited Away, and Persepolis to exemplify animation as a "serious" art form. The panoply of monsters, gods, goddesses, warriors, sages, and winged eyeballs fill the screen with vivid color from start to finish, while the narrators' improvisational debates over the Rama legend join the filmmaker's own tragicomic story and Hanshaw's done-me-wrong tunes to layer a modern feminist commentary on the ancient tale. The result is a subtly subversive, visually stunning, highly original work that is as enjoyable for children as it is for adults.





SON OF A LION

Australia/Pakistan - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Live Action, Benjamin Gilmour, 2008, 92 min Pashto with English subtitles

Recommended ages 12 to adult

Son of a Lion offers a rare window into the tribal regions of Northwest Pakistan near the Afghan border, where guns are a way of life, the Taliban is accepted/tolerated, and where some believe the World Trade Center attacks were a US plot. Niaz works for his father, a former mujahedeen, making weapons in a small Pashtun village. Although he is 11 years old, Niaz is illiterate and has never been to school. Taking his uncle's advice to "learn the use of computers, not the pistol," Niaz tries to convince his fiercely traditional father of the value of a good education, but in a worldview where military exploits earn more glory than a diploma and kids play equally with kites and Kalashnikovs, this argument is a hard one to make. Like the films of Mohsen Makhmalbaf or Abbas Kiarostami, Son of a Lion uses personal family drama to comment on the current political realities in post-9/11 Islamic society. The film achieves a natural feel with beautiful cinema verite camerawork, offering a sensitive and compassionate look at a different kind of childhood.

Comment: This film contains brief scenes of violence, a goat being slaughtered, and some mild adult language.

CHILDRENANDWAR



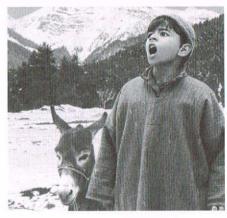
HEART OF FIRE

Kenya/Italy/Austria - NY PREMIERE Live Action, Luigi Falerni, 2008, 94 min Ethionian with English subtitles

Recommended ages 12 to adult

Heart of Fire is the powerful new film from the award winning director of The Story of the Weeping Camel. The story centers on ten year old Awet, who is taken from an orphanage run by Italian nuns to live with the washed-up rebel father she has never met. Awet and her older sister are soon recruited, along with other children, to become soldiers for the Eritrean Liberation Front, engaged in desperate guerrilla fighting with a rival rebel group. At the rebel camp, young Awet finds a role model in the powerful and independent female guerrilla leader, Ma'azza, a charismatic revolutionary and newfound parental figure. But when the war takes a turn for the worse and the children are given rifles and sent to fight, Awet becomes disillusioned by the hypocrisy and pointlessness she sees, and she lashes out with a pacifistic action both courageous and dangerous. Inspired by the controversial memoir by Senait G. Mehari, Heart of Fire is elevated by the expressive debut performance of Letekidan Micael as Awet, whose commanding presence conveys an undiluted sense of justice, and whose eyes never fail to reflect her chronic disappointment in the adults around her.

Comment: This film contains realistic battle scenes, including violence and bloodshed.



India - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Live Action, Santosh Sivan, 2008, 105 min Hindi with English subtitles

Recommended ages 8 to adult

Tahaan, from award winning director Santosh Sivan, is a stunningly shot, fable-like story set in scenic but strife-ridden Kashmir. The conflict is used as backdrop for the story of an eight year old boy, Tahaan, who tries to gain back his beloved pet donkey that has been sold along with his family's possessions to pay the family debt. With his father missing in action for three years, Tahaan lives with his older sister, his loving, parable-telling grandfather, and mute mother, but is left more or less on his own to wander village and countryside, navigate border checkpoints, and negotiate with merchants and money lenders in an effort to regain his lost pet. More than a war movie, this is a film about striving, finding life-purpose and, finally, of right and wrong—as Tahaan is recruited by a young terrorist/rebel to throw a grenade into an army compound, building up to a heart-thumping (but thankfully non-tragic) final scene. Like Sivan's earlier films, Tahaan is told with warmth, humor and simple honesty, while gorgeous cinematography offers breathtaking views of Kashmir's snow-covered mountain passes and shimmering lakes, and a recurring encounter with a group of mystic Sufi singers contributes to the fable-like atmosphere and provides a compellingly exotic musical bed.

This series follows NYICFF's longstanding philosophy of moving beyond entertainment to engage young people in real-world topics, and of using film as a springboard to pursue deeper understanding, connection and exploration of the world.

FILMSINCOMPETITION

SHORTS FOR TOTS

Recommended ages 3 to 6 . 65 minutes

NO MONKEY

Germany - US PREMIERE Animation, Harry Flosser, 2007, 4 min

This feel-good, Jamaica-pop, flower-power ditty unleashes the irrepressible forces of music, freedom and love to bring color and life to a grey, dystopian monkey world. Download the song from iTunes and you will always be happy!

BREAKING THE MOULD

UK - US PREMIERE

Animation, Manley/Paulli, 2008, 1 min

In this one-minute cycle-of-life from NYICFF regular Rebecca Manley, an intrepid young apple decides to go out and see the world. until he finally discovers a home where he belongs.

DINOSAUR SONG

IISA - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Christian Robinson, 2008. 3 min

The journey of a colossal dinosaur takes us from his life to millions of years later, when his bones are eventually put on display at the museum. This colorful student-made natural history lesson is animated in collage style and backed by a bouncy tune.







SPOT AND SPLODGE IN SNOWSTORM

Sweden - WORLD PREMIERE Animation, Geffenblad/Geffenblad, 2008/2009, 8 min

It snows outside and Spot and Splodge run about building a snowman, having a snowball fight, and making snow angels. All of a sudden the wind is strong, the snow sticks all over their bodies, there isn't a spot of Spot to be seen. And where is Splodge? Where's the house?

HORSIE

to survive?

Finland - US PREMIERE Animation, Sara Wahl, 2006, 2 min

A carefree, simply-drawn horse trots across a meadow, until she encounters a large, properly-drawn horse whose size, sophistication and severity make her feel inadequate. What can a horsie then do

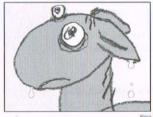
7 DAYS OF THE WEEK

IISA

Animation, McBride/Cowles, 2007, 3 min

This music video from They Might Be Giants uses cut-out animation and the band's trademark sound to extol the pleasures of play vs. work. I'm thinking we declare March 16 national "skip school and work day" and all go for chocolate shakes. Anyone?







7 Days of the Wee







HEDGEHUG

Animation, Dan Pinto, 2007, 5 min

In this sweet, gentle animation, a lonely hedgehog searches for someone to love.

THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER ZZZEEE

France

Animation, Thomas Szabo. 2006. 5 min

In an inventive blend of gorgeously shot nature footage and 3D cartoon characters. a group of computer animated leaf-cutter ants struggle to carry a stick on a path across high cliffs and running rivers.

ASTON'S STONES

Sweden - WORLD PREMIERE

Aston feels sorry for the stones he finds along the path on the way home. They are lonely, bored and frozen. So one by one he picks them up and takes them home to care for them, giving each a warm bath and tucking them gently into bed. But soon the stones have taken over the home and so Father suggests a solution. A beautifully made, gentle, poetic film.

THE TRUE STORY OF THE THREE LITTLE

USA - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Konstantin Bronzit, 2008, 10 min

From Academy Award nominee (Lavatory Lovestory) and NYICFF Grand Prize winner (At the Ends of the Earth) Konstantin Bronzit. The wolf finally gets a chance to tell his side of the classic "three little pigs" fairy tale in this amusing, tongue-incheek adaptation of Jon Scieszka's awardwinning book, narrated by Paul Giamatti,

THE NEW SPECIES

Latvia - EAST COAST PREMIERE

Animation, Evalds Lacis, 2008, 10 min

When an entomologist captures two bugs out on a picnic, the little-kid bugs must come to the rescue before their parents are turned into museum pieces! A humorous. sweet, stop-motion film from Latvia's esteemed Film Studio AB.

LABAN. THE LITTLE **GHOST**

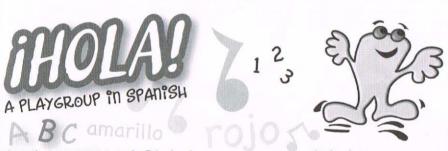
Sweden

Animation, Lasse Persson, 2007, 5 min

Laban is a very small ghost in a very large castle. He lives there with Mother and Father and his little sister Labolina. Laban is a happy and well-loved little ghost, except for one problem: he is not very good at scaring people.



Loban, the Little Ghoss



(917) 648 5006 info@holaplaygroup.com www.holaplaygroup.com

FILMSINCOMPETITION

SHORT FILMS ONE

Recommended ages 5 to 10 • 70 minutes

MADAM PRESIDENT

USA - WORLD PREMIERE

Animation, Pete List, 2008, 10 min

In this sly, witty recitation of a President's responsibilities, a ponytailed girl has the list down pat: give executive orders (to her cat), negotiate treaties (between said cat and a dog), kiss babies, and veto, veto, veto, ... Based on the storybook by Lane Smith.

GOOD ADVICE

Sweden - US Premiere

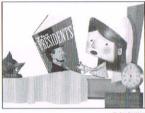
Live Action, Andreas Tibblin, 2008, 14.5 min

Ten-year-old Rasmus is tired of his parents never listening to him and decides to run away from home. But before leaving he records a cassette tape with advice for his soon-to-be-born brother, on how to handle life with his difficult parents.

Tanzania/Germany - NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Ismail Sahin, 2008, 15 min

A story about the short life of a boy in Africa who finds his last home in an orphan's village. This beautifully shot, touching film allows the story of AIDS to be told with a gentle sadness and acceptance that is not overwhelming.



Madam Provident





MERMAID

Australia

Live Action, Matt Tomaszewski, 2007, 2 min

This stunningly shot short film warns of the heartbreaking effects of pollution and global warming on the reefs and oceans of the world.

KJFG NO.5

Hungary - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Alexey Alexeev, 2008, 2 min

Three musicians, the Bear, the Rabbit, and the Wolf, are working on their hit song in the forest, when suddenly the hunter turns up...

ANIMACAT

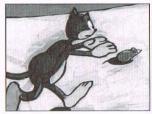
Switzerland - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Andreani/ Schwizgebel/Delachaux/Andreani 2007, 6 min

The classic cartoon trope: "cat chases mouse", using five different animation techniques.

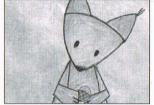










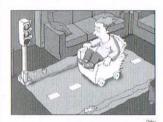


POWER HOUSE

Brazil - US PREMIERE

Animation, Maria Leite/Daniel Herthel, 2007, 5 min

Cool soundtrack propels this visually engaging, stop-motion film showing the inner workings of a strange, wooden machine.



HOW I PASSED MY CHILDHOOD

Hungary - EAST COAST PREMIERE

A humorous, nonsensical "just-so" story about one man's journey through life.

CYBER

Germany

Animation, Stefan Eling, 2007, 5 min

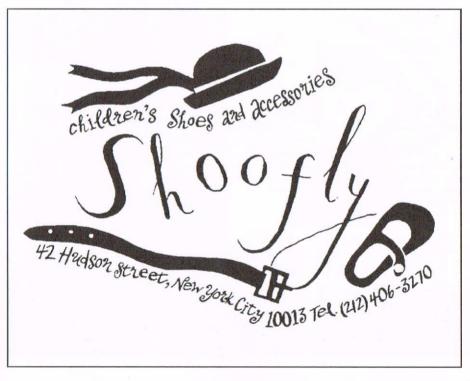
In his living room a man experiences a fast-paced trip through an ever-changing virtual world.

SOONER OR LATER

Switzerland - US PREMIERE

Animation, Jadwiga Krystyna Kowalska, 2007, 5 min

A squirrel and a bat live in a colorful, pencil-drawn world controlled by underground gears. Day is separated from night by the turning cogs, so they can never reach one another-though they can exchange gifts of acorns. One day, an acorn gets stuck in the cogs, stopping time between day and night, and the two have to work together to find the cause of the problem.



FILMSINCOMPETITION

SHORT FILMS TWO

Recommended ages 8 to 14 . 80 minutes .

IF EYES CAN'T SEE

Mexico - NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Marisol Jasso, 2007, 10 min

Emilio is a blind boy with a naïve, happy perception of the world. But his mother, overwhelmed with taking care of him, abandons him in a carpentry shop with an aloof and lonely old man who expects nothing more from life. Two worlds so different are destined to find a family in one another.

ZOOLOGIC

AZII

Animation, Nicole Mitchell, 2007, 4.5 min

An overbearing zookeeper attempts to maintain order by arranging the animals to his liking. But his rule begins to crumble when he encounters a chubby little penguin who hates the cold.

NEW BOY

Ireland

Live Action, Steph Green, 2007. 11 min

This Oscar nominated festival favorite captures the experience of being the new kid in school through the eyes of Joseph, a nine year old African boy whose new schoolmates have no idea of the violent history he has witnessed.







LIFELINE

Hungary - US PREMIERE

Animation, Tomek Ducki, 2007, 6 min

A close encounter between two mechanical cog-people speeding smoothly in ice-skating motions down metal tracks, falling apart and rejoining, seeking a way to be together in a world where paths are narrow, mistakes are fatal, and there is no way back.

MOMMY, I LOVE YOU

France - US PREMIERE

Animation, Abensur/Dell'Omodarme/Collet, 2007, 7 min

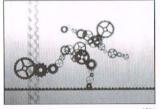
A darkly comedic, Pixar-style computer animation, in which a man tries to get out of having a picnic in the country with his mother.



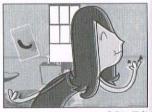
UK - US PREMIERE

Animation, Jones/Luu, 2006, 3 min

In this retro, jazzy, UPA-styled animated mystery, cats are being stolen by mechanical arms for nefarious purposes! One young boy races through the strange city on a detective mission to save his cat and reveal the dark secret of Pig City.



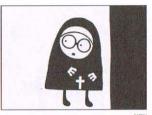




The Mystery of Pig Cit,







FUGGY FUGGY

UK - NY PREMIERE

Animation, The Brothers McLeod, 2008, 5 min

Wise man say: he who struggles and endures will become Ninja. Fuggy Fuggy!

POST!

Germany - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Asmussen/Bruhn, 2008, 13.5 min

Sweet, humorous story of a mailman who replaces people's real letters with ones he composes himself, and so brings joy to his small community.

LAPSUS

Argentina

Animation, Juan Pable Zaramella, 2007, 3.5 min

A curious nun ventures into the darker side of her animated world.

BOB

France

Animation, Jean-Pierre Poirel, 2006, 4 min

Ghost-in-the-machine-themed animation uses highly stylized graphics and sound to playfully explore the possibility of individuality and expression in a mechanized world.

DON'T LET IT ALL UNRAVEL

UK - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Sarah Cox, 2007, 2 min

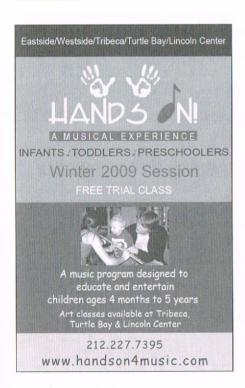
Eco-themed film shows a world literally unraveling.

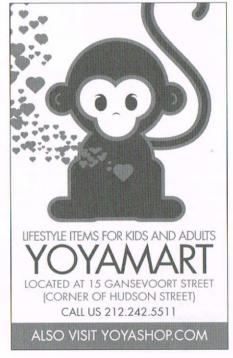
BLACK AND WHITE

Canada - US PREMIERE

Animation for Izen 2008 2 min

They're baaaack! Enjoy the newest adventures of David and Steven, the craziest two squares the world has ever seen.





FILMSINCOMPETITION

SHORTS FOR TEENS

Recommended ages 12 to 18 • 85 minutes

FISH SOUP

Mexico

Live Action, Nuria Ibanez, 2007, 7 min

A suburban family in Mexico are sitting down to a meal when a bird suddenly flies into the house, perching itself above the table on the dining room light fixture. This disturbance reveals a surreal family drama with shades of Luis Bunuel, as the son is suddenly inspired to recite existential poetry, the daughter believes the bird is an angel sent by god, and mom gets the shotgun to try and take care of the problem ...

I MET THE WALRUS

Animation, Josh Raskin, 2007, 5 min

This Oscar-nominated documentary takes the audio tapes from then-14-year-old Jerry Levitan's secret interview with John Lennon, who in 1969 was in the middle of his Bed-In for Peace, and animates them into an intoxicating flood of stock photos, brilliant colors and psychedelic imagery. The style effectively captures and amplifies Lennon's boundless wit and enduring message of peace for a new generation.

THEIR FIRST JOURNEY

France - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Gregoire Sivan, 2007, 10 min

Ten-month-old Chloe and her father are going on their first train ride together. an occasion that allows the new dad to muse over how being a parent has changed his life, while his rambunctious new daughter nibbles on a neighbor's crossword book, decks the train car out in pea soup, and get stuck behind a vending machine. The film captures the everyday pleasures and frustrations of fatherhood with hilarious results.







I Met the Watrus



A CHILD'S METAPHYSICS

Japan - US PREMIERE

Animation, Koji Yamamura, 2007, 5 min

The wild imagination of NYICFF favorite Koji Yamamuri (Mt. Head, Bavel's Book) takes flight in this series of vignettes featuring kids undergoing all kinds of transformations, some humorous and some just plain weird. Made with line drawings on textured paper and set to the compositions of Sergei Prokofiev, the film is a remarkable and deceptively simple look at the possibilities within traditional animation.

ORGESTICULANISMUS

Belgium - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Matthieu Labaye, 2008, 9.5 min

A thought-provoking meditation on the nature of physical disability moves from still photos to an animated series of the kind of repetitive, everyday movements which combine to create a "shared human experience." Just when you think things look their bleakest and most robotic, the film bursts into a furiously morphing celebration of human potential, both kinetic and mental.

MY GRANDMOTHER BEIJING

Norway - US PREMIERE

Animation, Mats Ground, 2008, 9 min

A young boy admires the wisdom inherent in his grandmother's beautiful wrinkles. but his father insists that she get plastic surgery before her big birthday party, so she can look her best for the world. The film uses mixed media animation to great effect, with detailed clay figures surrounded by menacing construction cranes. in this wonderful yet subtle parable about what gets lost in the pursuit of China's rapid urban development.







OPERATOR

UK - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Matthew Walker, 2007, 2 min

On a boring and rainy day, a young man decides to call God to find the answer to a question that has nagged him for so long. A beautifully understated, and oddly touching film.

ATTRACTION

UK - WORLD PREMIERE

Animation, Rachinta Platts, 2008, 2.5 min

A heartwarming story of a man working at the newspaper stand and a beautiful but mysterious customer, who always conceals her face with a long, blue scarf.

00100 "UMO"

Japan - NY PREMIERE Animation, Shoji Goto, 2006, 4 min

In this awesome, heart-pumping music video from 00100 (a side project of the famous Japanese noise band, The Boredoms) a tribal drum circle and wild chanting voodoo doll figures are quick cut against images of environmental devastation, as the creatures who have lost their forest habitat join the Spirits in a dance of prayer to end the destruction of the world.

IT'S SUNDAY

France - NY PREMIERE Live Action, Samir Guesmi, 2008. 30 min

Ibrahim has failed out of school but. fearing a beating, he manages to convince his illiterate father that the dropout slip is actually a diploma. So the next day, the proud father insists on touring Ibrahim around to all of his friends to boast of his son's great accomplishment. setting up an excruciatingly humiliating moment for the dad, as the truth seems certain to come out. Meanwhile, Ibrahim watches on in helpless agony, desperate to escape his fate, and wanting only to keep the date with his girlfriend he has set for that very afternoon.





295 GREENWICH STREET * NEW YORK CITY * (212) 608-7200

FILMSINCOMPETITION

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

Recommended ages 10 to 18 • 75 minutes

THIS WAY UP

Animation, Smith/Foulkes, 2008, 9 min

In this Oscar nominated macabre comedy, two morticians encounter endless disasters in their attempts to bury a dead woman - who may not even be dead.

TEACHING THE ALPHABET

Germany - US PREMIERE Live Action, Volker Schreiner, 2007, 3.5 min

With sinister overtones, Volker Schreiner's found-footage work spells out the alphabet in a subtle montage of film sequences, some famous and some obscure

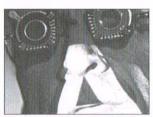
CAREFUL WITH THAT AXF

New Zealand - NY PREMIERE Live Action, Jason Stutter, 2008, 2 min

An anxiety-inducing lesson in what not to do with an axe. Do not try this at home!



This Way Up



Teaching the Alphabet



Canadal With That Ave.

THE DAILY ROUND

South Korea - WORLD PREMIERE Animation, Young Chan Jeon, 2008, 8 min

A man is chased relentlessly through a soulless, empty office building by a bowtie-wearing bear, leading to a life-ordeath fight on the rooftop. The film utilizes an innovative animation style that mimics the polygonal look of early 3D while injecting energy through furiously moving scribble lines. But the real kicker is the ultimate mind-bender of an ending.

SAINT FEAST DAY

France - NY PREMIERE Animation, Daffis/Marchand, 2007, 16 min

All ogres look forward to St. Feast Day, when they get to eat all the human children they want. But when one ogre gets his teeth knocked out in an accident, he fears his child-gobbling days may be over. When the big day arrives, his pantry is empty and all appears lost—until a knock on the door brings a delicious surprise: his lovely neighbor has asked him to babysit her two tender darlings for the night!

KEITH REYNOLDS **CAN'T MAKE IT**

UK - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Massie/Cox, 2007, 6 min

This is Keith Reynolds and today is Promotion Day. Having worked at the company eight years he's the most senior Junior Business Analyst in the building, and he's been waiting for this day for a very long time. When he gets his promotion he'll finally be a successful businessman. This is important because it means Sarah will like him.





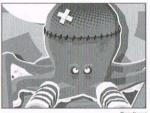




Chocolate Hare



Little Girl Writing



CHOCOLATE HARE

Netherlands - US PREMIERE Experimental, Lernert Engelberts, 2007, 2.5 min

This oddly beautiful film evokes the sadness of mortality, as a checolate bunny is subjected to various forms of melting. Deliciously creepy soundtrack is Aviva Pastoral by Nathan Larson.

LITTLE GIRL WAITING

Mexico - NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Esteban Reyes, 2007, 11 min

In this M. Night Shyamalan-styled thriller about a little girl lost in an airport, a seemingly harmless case of mistaken identity grows into a supernatural exploration of family and predestination.

MUSICOTHERAPIE

France - NY PREMIERE

Animation, Isrard/Picon/Javelle, 2007, 6 min

The mental asylum is alive with the sound of music! All the animals are loose and banging out catchy rhythms in a cool, highly stylized, music-video animation, chock full of deranged humor and cartoon gore.







CURIOSITY

Ireland - US PREMIERE Animation, Lorcan Finnegan, 2007, 1 min

From Lorcan Finnegan, a psychotic, manic mini-masterpiece about the impossibility of resisting temptation.

LOVESICK

Germany/Slovenia - NY PREMIERE Animation, Spela Cadez, 2007, 8.5 min

This Brothers Quay-style stop-motion film shows that broken hearts are difficult to treat, but fortunately not incurable

EVENING

Portugal - US PREMIERE Animation, Joana Toste, 2007, 3 min

One evening after dinner, a tragic prophesy begins to unfold.



FILMSINCOMPETITION

GIRLS' POV SHORTS

Recommended ages 10 to adult . 75 minutes

MUMS ARE FALLING

Italy - US PREMIERE

Animation, Rabitti/Ghieldi, 2007, 6 min

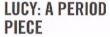
During a shower of meteorites, a young girl learns to confront her fears. In this beautifully abstract, nightmarish film. a haunting soundtrack evokes a moody atmosphere and dark watercolor figures shift shape, blend and bleed in a flowing dreamlike narrative, while the girl's rosy red cheeks glow steadily in the darkness.

THE YELLOW **ENVELOPE**

Belgium - US PREMIERE

Animation, Delphine Hermans, 2008, 9 min

In this sweet romantic comedy, a lonely young woman living with her dog decides to mail-order her perfect man. But when he finally arrives, she's introduced to a whole new world of practical problems. Will she ever find true love?



USA - NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Julie Sagalowsky, 2008, 13 min

Lucy is a tiny and shapeless 16-year-old girl, stuck with the "gynecological body" of a 12-year-old and desperate to finally enter puberty. Set in a deliberately artificial suburbia and narrated by the wry but loveable protagonist, the film shows how failing to fit in can sometimes reveal unexpected advantages.





The Yelian Envelope



A STRANGER IN HER **OWN CITY**

Yemen - NY PREMIERE

Documentary, Khadija Al-Salami, 2006/2009, 12 min

Najmia, "Little Star", is a cocky, streetsmart 13-year-old Yemini girl with a radiant smile and a candid gaze. In the old town of Sana'a, everybody knows her and everyone has an opinion. Insolent and carefree, she does not wear a veil. For Naimia, openly showing her curls in the sunlight is a living challenge to centuries of ancestral tradition.

WHAT'S FUFU?

UK-US PREMIERE

Animation/Documentary, Greg Villalobos, 2008, 3 min

A Nigerian teenager questions concepts of family, culture and eventually the very idea of self-identity as she recounts her experience growing up in London with a white foster family.

OPENING NIGHT

Netherlands - US PREMIERE Live Action, Tim Leyendekker, 2009, 5.5 min

This absurdist experimental film ponders the mundane rituals of life, as it moves from barren school corridors to a large. empty auditorium, where an oddly emotionless girl performs a tap dance routine in front of a tiny audience. "Happiness is an option."









GIRLS ROOM

USA - NY PREMIERE

Live Action, Maria Gigante, 2007, 10 min

A young girl is forced to use the school's most decrepit and scary bathroom in this faux-horror film with a comedic twist. You may never pee again.

CUNARO

Venezuela - US PREMIERE

Live Action, Alexandra Henao, 2007, 14 min

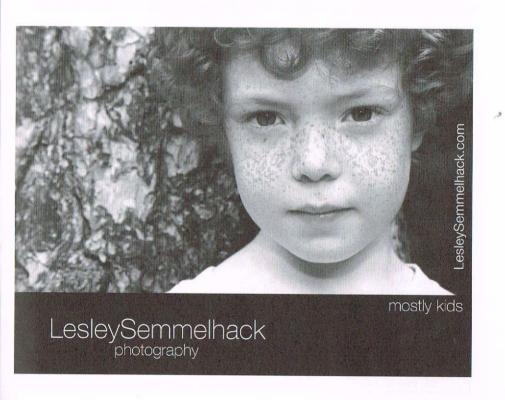
In this small fishing village, women are considered "of the Earth" and are therefore bad-luck omens on a boat. But Teresa wants to prove she can be fisherwomen and help her aged, wrinkled grandfather who has fished his entire life and knows no other existence. A beautiful film with some striking visual imagery.

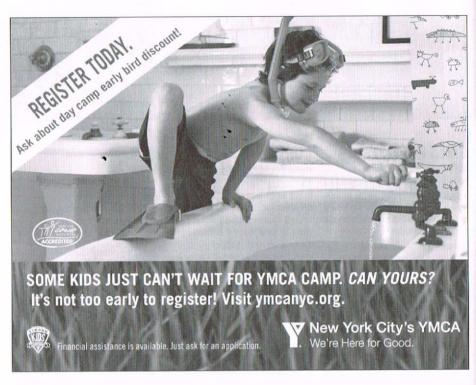
BUA

Ireland

Live Action, Sonya Gildea, 2007, 14 min

A young girl rides her horse fearlessly, and at great speed, across wide open country toward freedom-trying to leave behind a disturbing moment of human darkness between her and her grandfather.







Locations around NYC and Brooklyn. Visit our website for schedules, Special Events, Yoga Parties and our Children's Yoga Teacher Training.

The Karma Kids Yoga Studio

104 West 14th Street, between 6th and 7th Aves. NYC (646)638-1444 www.karmakidsyoga.com

Mind, Body. FUN!

FUN AND ENGAGING YOGA CLASSES FOR BABIES. TODDLERS. KIDS, TEENS AND FAMILIES!



Yoga Art and Free **Story Time** Yoga



Children's Museum of the Arts

Summer Art Colony

Summer Art Colony offers over 30 one or two-week long intensive art day camps for children ages 6 to 14. Featuring classes in everything from Animation to Textiles with new classes like Monster Movie. Documentary Film, and Aboriginal Art.

Classes are offered in two locations:

At Governor's Island ...an 8 minute ferry ride away! ages 7 to 14

At CMA/SoHo 182 Lafayette Street ages 6 to 12

Voted New York's

Best Day Camp

by ParentsConnect.com

For a complete list of classes, schedules & fees, please visit www.cmany.org, or call 212-274-0986

Children's Museum of the Arts

Redefining Summer Camp

BATTERY PARK CITY PARKS CONSERVANCY

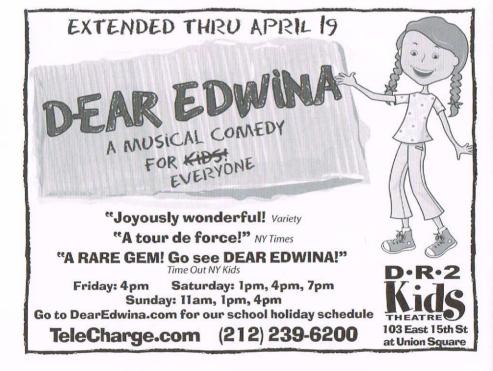
FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

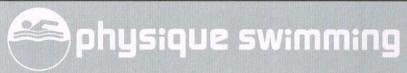
FREE Daily Programs & Special Events:

May 1 to October 31

Art • Dancing • Drumming • Fishing Gardening • Nature Programs • Sports Singing • Storytelling • Concerts

Info: 212.267.9700 www.bpcparks.org





Physique Swim Day Camp located on 200 beautiful acres at the College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ.

Our Action Packed Day offers:

- Individual/group sports Transportation Provided Daily
- Delicious lunch
- 2x/day swimming
 Fun & Adventure
- from NYC to Morristown, NJ: Official camp t-shirt pick up at 8am & drop off at 5pm.



All Year Round Swimming Lessons in NYC.

Register Now

212-725-0939 • Email: Info@PhysiqueSwimming.com www.PhysiqueSwimming.com



NY's famous entertainment source for kids/grown-ups/events

- Classy costume & theme characters
- D.J/karaoke
- Mimes/jugglers
- Magicians
- Face/body artist/tattoo
- Balloon animals
- and much, much more!
- (212) 874-0533

- Holiday celebrations
- Family events
- Birthday parties
- School shows
- Party planning
- Bar mitzvah
- Bat mitzvah

fofentertainers.com

FILM PRINT SOURCES

7 DAYS OF THE WEEK

Sean McBride heyseanmcbride@gmail.com

ANIMACAT

Premium Films 130 rue de Turonno 75003 Paris, France contact@premium-films.com

STONES

Swedish Film Institute Andreas Fock, Festival Manager Short Films Box 271 26 S-102 52 Stockholm, Sweden

ATTRACTION

Rachinta Platts rachinta.platts@gmail.com

AZUR & ASMAR

GKIDS Inc Dave Jesteadt daye@gkids.com

BATTLE FOR TERRA

Roadside Attractions 7920 Sunset Blvd, Suite 402 Los Angeles, CA 90046 info@roadsideattractions.com

BLACK AND WHITE

March Entertainment log Izen 322 King Street West, LL100 Toronto, Ontario M5V 1J2 info@marchentertainment.com

La Poudrière - École du Film d'Animation 12 rue Jean Bertin 26000 Valence, France

BREAKING THE MOULD

Slinky Pictures **Old Truman Brewery** 91 Brick Lane London, UK, F1 601 festivals@slinkypics.com

THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER ZZZEEE

Futurikan 12 rue de Turenne 75004 Paris, France into@tuturikon fr

Network Ireland Television 23 South Frederick St Dublin 2, Ireland info@network-irl-tv.com

CARFFILL WITH THAT AXF

NZ Film Commission Level 3, 119 Ghuznee Street P0 Box 11546 Wellington 6011. New Zealand shorts@nzfilm.co.nz

A CHILD'S METAPHYSICS

Shochiku Co. Ltd. 4-1-1, Togeki Bldg, 13F Tsukiji, Chua-ku Tokyo 104-8422 Japan ibd@shochiku.co.ip

CHOCOLATE HARE

KRO Broadcasting Postbus 23000 1202 EA Hilversum, Holland

CIRCUS SCHOOL

Independent Television Service 651 Brannan Street, Suite 410 San Francisco, CA 94107 itvs@itvs.org

CUISINE

Paranoid IIS 6634 Sunset Blvd. Los Angelos, CA 90028 paranoid@paranoidus.com

CUNARO

Centre Nacional Autonomo de Cinematografia Venezuela Avenida Diego Cisneros Edificio Centro Monaca Ala Sur. Piso 2, Oficina 2-B Urb. Los Ruices, 1071 Caracas - Venezuela

CHRIDSITY

Lovely Productions 14 Saint Kevin's Terrace New Bride Street Dublin 3, Ireland studia@lovelyproductions.com

CYBER

Moving Pictures Stefan Eling Moltkestrasse 99 50674 Koln, Germany info@eling.com

THE DAILY ROUND

Seoul Animation Center 514 Daechi-dong Gangnam-gu Seoul Korea

DINOSAUR SONG

Christian Robinson chatt noir@vahoo.com

DON'T LET IT ALL UNRAVEL

World of Arthur Cox 16 Whitehouse Street Bristol BS3AY, UK info@worldofarthurcox.co.uk

DRAGON HUNTERS

See The Bridge on the River ZZZees

EVENING

Portuguese Short Film Agency Salette Ramalho Apartado 214 4481-911 Vila do Conde, Portugal agencia@curtas.pt

FISH SOUP

Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografia Aleiandro Salvador Díaz San Vicente Insurgentes Sur 674, 2nd Floor Del Valle 03100 Mexico City.Mexico

FUGGY FUGGY

The Brothers Mel end 4 Wellesbourne Grove Stratford upon Aven Warwickshire CV37 6PD, UK film@bromc.co.uk

GIRLS ROOM

Giganta Films Maria Gigante gigantemaria@yahoo.com

GOOD ADVICE

See Aston's Stanes

HAKIM

Ismail Sahin info@ismailsahin.de

HEART OF FIRE

7th Art Releasing 1614 N. Fairfax Ave Los Angeles, CA 90046 seventhart@7thart.com

HEDGEHUG

Dan Pinto dfpinto@gmail.com

HEY HEY IT'S ESTHER BLUFBURGER

Lightning Entertainment 301 Arizona Avenue, Suite 400 Santa Monica, CA 90401

Sara Wahl sara.wahl@gmail.com

HOW I PASSED MY CHILDHOOD

Kecskemetfilm Ltd. 6000 Kecksemet Liszt Ferenc u. 21, Hungary kfilm@kecskemetfilm.hu

I MET THE WALRUS

Electric Company Kim Jackson 284F College Street, 2nd Floor Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 1R9 imetthewalrus@gmail.com

IF EYES CAN'T SEE

See Fish Soun

KEITH REYNOLDS CAN'T MAKE IT TONIGHT

See Don't Let it all Unravel

KIEG NO 5

Studio Baestarts Budapest, S2inhas U. 5-9 H-1014 Hungary

LABAN THE LITTLE GHOST

See Aston's Stones

LAPSUS

SND Films P.O. BOX 15703 1001 NE Amsterdam, The Netherlands

LIFELINE

Moholy-Nagy University of Art & Design Zugligeti ut 9-25 1121 Budapest Hungary international@mome.hu

LITTLE GIRL WAITING

See Fish Soup

LOVESICK

Academy of Media Arts Cologne Peter-Welter-Platz 2 50676 Koln, Germany presse@khm.de

LUCY: A PERIOD PIECE

Julie Sagalowsky juliesagal@aol.com

LUNCHTIME

Zen Media Liusketie 6 D 19 00710 Helsinki, Finland raalto@zenmedia.fi

MADAM PRESIDENT

Weston Woods Christine Flaherty 143 Main Street Norwalk, CT 06851 cflaherty@scholastic.com

THE MARKET

Ana Husman ana@mi2.hr

MERMAID

Triton Media Matthew Tomaszewski 2/28 Rennett Street Neutral Bay NSW 2089, Australia matt@tritonmedia.com.au

MIA AND THE MIGOO

Celluloid Dreams 2 rue Turgot 75009 Paris, France

MILK DRINKING CONTEST

Videotivoli 1 PEK Maikki Kantola Pirkanmaan Elokuvakeskus 33101 Tampere, Finland

MOMMY, I LOVE YOU

See Animacat

MUMS ARE FALLING

Studio Ghiaccio Rua del Muro 9h 41100 Modena, Italy studioghiaccio@gmail.com

MUSICOTHERAPIE

See Animacat

MY GRANDMOTHER BEIJING

Nerwegian Film Institute Postbox 482 Sentrum N-0105 Oslo, Norway int@nfi no

THE MYSTERY OF PIG CITY

Garth lones garthiones@email.com

NEW ROY

THE NEW SPECIES

Animacijas Brigade 3 Smerla Str. LV 1006 Riga, Latvia ab.studija@apollo.lv

NO MONKEY

Harry Flosser Studios Kleiststr. 20 85521 Ottobrunn/Munich, Germany film@harryflosser.com

00100 "UMO"

Shoji Goto shoji@shojigoto.com

OPENING NIGHT

Absent Without Leave Tim Levendekker tim@absentwithoutleave.org

OPERATOR

See Don't Let it all Unrayet

ORGESTICULANISMUS

Camera Etc. 490 rue de Vise B-4020 Wandre, Belgium info@camera-etc.be

PICNIC

See The Bridge on the River ZZZeee

TrickStudio Lutterbeck GmbH Neusser Str. 476 D-50733 Koln, Germany info@trickstudio.de

POWER HOUSE

Maria Leite Fontes maryfontes@gmail.com

SAINT FEAST DAY

Lardux Films Christian Pfohl 28 Rue Kleher 93 Montreuil, France lardux@lardux.com

THE SECRET OF MOONACRE

Velvet Octobus Simon Crowe 3A Lower St. James Street London W1F 9EH, UK simon@velvetoctopus.com

SHIKASHIKA

Stephen Hyde sihvde@gmail.com

SITA SINGS THE BLUES

Nina Paley Productions Jean Paley paley.jean@gmail.com

SON OF A LION

Fortissima Films Van Diemenstraat 100 1013 CN Amsterdam, The Netherlands info@fortissimo.nl

SOONER OR LATER

Jadwiga Krystyna Kowalska contact@0x2a.ch

SPOT AND SPLODGE IN SNOWSTORM

See Aston's Stones

A STRANGER IN HER OWN CITY

Khadija Al-Salami kalsalam@yahoo.com

i Dream Independent Pictures Rohit Sharma 309 Gainsborough House 81 Oxford Street London W1D 2EU UK rohit@idreamproduction.com

TEACHING THE ALPHABET

Volker Schreiner mail@volkerschreiner.de

THEIR FIRST JOURNEY

See Animacat

THIS WAY UP

Nexus Productions Ltd Alice Wigley 113-114 Shoreditch High St. London EL 6IN UK alice@nexusproductions.com

WEST OF PLUTO

Sovilla Pictures Joeve Dupuis 400 De Maisonneuve Blvd. West. 11th Floor Quebec, Montreal, Canada H3A 1L4

WESTERN SPAGHETTI

Anonymous Content Susan Murphy 588 Broadway, Suite 308 New York, NY 10012

WHAT'S FUFU?

Bold Creative Relen Bueso 13a Boundary St London E2 7JE, UK belen@boldcreative.co.uk

THE YELLOW ENVELOPE

See Orgesticulanismus

ZFA

National Film Board of Canada Dylan McGinty 350 Fifth Ave. Suite 4280 New York, NY 10118 d.mcginty@nfb.ca

ZOOLOGIC

Nicole Mitchell zoologic.film@gmail.com





Time Warner Cable proudly supports

New York International Children's Film Festival.

HIGH SPEED ONLINE



TWCnyc.com

To receive schedule updates by email sign up at gkids.com (or email events@gkids.com)

11:00 12:00 1:00 2:00 3:00 6:00 7:00 6:00 pm OPENING GALA: MIA AND THE MIGDO Finday, Feb. 27 7:30 pm PARTY! 11:30 am Saturday, Feb. 28 SECRET OF MOONACRE (ages 5 to 12) SYMPHONY 4-38 nm 2-00 nm SPACE SHORT FILMS ONE BATTLE FOR TERRA tages 5 to 10 10:30 am Sunday, March ! 3:00 am CHOLASTIC THEATER SHORTS FOR TOTS SHORT FILMS TWO FILM & FOOD BENEFIT (ages 3 to 6) (ages 8 to 14 (all ages HO CENTER SHORTS FOR TEEMS taces 12 to 18 11:00 an HEEBIE JEEBIES 6-00 nm Katurday, March 7 10-30 am 1:00 om 3-00 nm WEST OF PLUTO SHORT FILMS TWO CIRCUS SCHOOL SHORTS FOR TEENS (ages 12 to 18) 11:00 am 1:30 pm SHORTS FOR TOTS AZUR & ASMAR tages 3 to 6) 11:15 am HEY, HEY IT'S ESTHER (ages 12 to adult) 11:00 am SON OF A LION (ages 12 to adult) 11:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm SHORT FILMS ONE SECRET OF MOONACRE SHORT FILMS ONE (ages 5 to 10) (ages 5 to 12) (ages 5 to 10) 11-30 an 2-00 nm 4:30 nm SHORT FILMS TWO SHORT FILMS TWO **BIRLS' POV** (ages 8 to 14 10:30 am 12:30 pm 3:00 nm SHORTS FOR TOTS SHORTS FOR TOTS HEEBIE JEEBIES (ages 3 to 6 (ages 3 to 6) (ages 10 to 18 TAHAAN (ages 8 to adult) 11:15 am HEART OF FIRE 12:30 pm 2:30 pm 4:30 pm Saturday, March 14 SHORT FILMS TWO SHORTS FOR TOTS SHORT FILMS ONE SCHOLASTIC THEATER (ages 8 to 14) (ages 3 to 6) (ages 5 to 10) 11:00 am 3:15 nm 1:00 am SYMPHONY GIRLS' POV SITA SINGS THE BLUES HEY HEY IT'S ESTHER .. (ages 10 to 18) (ages 9 to adult) 12:00 pm Dragon Hunters 4:00 pm NYICFF AWARDS & BEST OF FEST Sunday, March 15 (all ages) 5:30 pm PARTY! CANTOR Cantor Film Center 36 East 8th Street at University Place DGA Directors Guild of America 110 West 57th Street at 6th Avenue IFC IFC Center 323 Avenue of the Americas at 3rd Street

Scholastic Theater 557 Broadway between Prince & Spring Streets

Peter Norton Symphony Space 2537 Broadway at 95th Street

ST

SYMPH

HBO

IS PROUD TO SUPPORT

NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL

CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL