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The Special Jury Award and other festival prizes will be presented March 14th at the NYICFF Awards, Best of the Fest Closing Night Party.
Dear Friends,

I am pleased to have this opportunity to send my greetings to each of you attending the New York International Children’s Film Festival. I would also like to take this opportunity to send my congratulations to each of the outstanding filmmakers who have their work on display.

The arts have always been a unifying force in our world, bringing people together across vast cultural, social, economic and geographic divisions. The artists whose work you view share with us the precious gifts of curiosity, imagination, and understanding. They challenge us to embrace the future, confident that with an open mind and a lively spirit we will find in the new millennium a universe of possibilities for our creative gifts.

I thank you for your work to broaden the cultural horizons of the children and teens of New York. I hope that you have a wonderful event and wish you the best in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
February 2010

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather for the 2010 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,

Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator
February 26 – March 14, 2010

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 discriminating 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, NYCFF 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 A. Paterson

David A. Paterson

www.ny.gov

February 26, 2010

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome all those attending the New York International Children’s Film Festival.

From *Annie Hall* to *Goodfellas*—and from *Annie Holle Alone 2*—New York City has been the setting and shooting location for countless classic films. That’s why our City is delighted to once again host this terrific festival, which draws upon New York’s rich cinematic tradition to showcase some of the world’s best children’s movies. Founded as a means of encouraging the production of smart, high-quality films for young people, the Festival features a broad array of movies that are sure to entertain and enlighten everyone in attendance. What’s more, children will have an opportunity to talk with filmmakers, participate in workshops, debate the movies they see, and vote on Festival winners, helping them to hone their critical thinking skills and gain a greater appreciation of everything that cinema has to offer.

On behalf of the City of New York, I applaud everyone whose hard work and dedication made this year’s festival possible—and send my best wishes for continued success. Enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor
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New York Marriott Downtown is proud to support the 2010 New York International Children’s Film Festival.

OPENINGNIGHT GALA

SUMMER WARS—US PREMIERE

A Man with a Mission, 2009, 114 min
In Japanese with English subtitles

Recommended ages 9 to adult

Q&A with director Mamoru Hosoda following the film

NYCFF 2010 opens with the scintillating new feature from emerging anime star Mamoru Hosoda, a film whose “dazzling fluency of motion and unuttered brilliance of invention makes the usual fantasy anime look childish and dull” (The Japan Times). Kenji is a teenage math prodigy recruited by his secret crush, Natsuki, for the ultimate summer job—passing himself off as Natsuki’s boyfriend for four days during her grandmother’s 90th birthday celebration. But when Kenji solves a 2,056 digit math riddle sent to his cell phone, he unwittingly breaches the security barricade protecting Oz, a globe-spanning virtual world where millions of people and governments interact through their avatars, trading everything from online shopping and traffic control to national defense and nuclear launch codes. Now a malicious AI program called the Love Machine is hijacking Oz accounts, growing exponentially more powerful and sowing chaos and destruction in its wake. This “intriguingly intelligent” cyberpunk/sci-fi story is a visual tour-de-force, with the amazing world of Oz as the highlight. Like the Internet as conceived by pop artist Haruki Murakami, Oz is an hallucinatory pixel parade of cool avatar designs, kagis, pachinko machines, toothy bears, and a fleeting rainbow of colors.

PARTY!

After the show help us kick off NYCFF 2010 at the Opening Night Gala, an all ages food and cocktail reception.

Comment: Violence and some mild language.
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Le Roi et l'Oiseau
The King and the Mockingbird
Animation, France, Paul Grimault, 1960, 81 min

Don't miss this rare screening of Paul Grimault's gloriously imaginative animated masterwork, based on the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale "The Shepherdess and the Chimney Sweep." A pompous, cross-eyed ruler named King Charles V + III = VIII + VIII = XVI is in love with a painting of a shepherdess. But she has eyes for the dashing young chimney sweep in the next painting over — and so the two decide to elope, stepping out of their frames and into Grimault's endlessly inventive and bizarre castle town, where elevators are beetles attached to telescoping antennas, buildings hang like barnacles from gargantuan Roman pillars, the King gives chase in a throne-turned-burger car, and a towering blue robot watches over all.

For tickets & info email info@GKIDS.com or visit GKIDS.com/benefit
NYICFF 2010
AWARDS CEREMONY

Join filmmakers and special guests for the presentation of the NYICFF 2010 Awards. The kid-friendly awards ceremony is followed by a one-hour encore screening of the winning short films—as determined by NYICFF audience voting throughout the festival.

GRAND PRIZE—SHORT FILM
GRAND PRIZE—FEATURE FILM
Selected by NYICFF audience members 18 years and younger

SPECIAL JURY AWARD
Selected by the NYICFF Jury: Adam Copnik, Frances McDormand, Lynne McVeigh, Matthew Modine, Michel Ocelot, Dana Points, Susan Sarandon, James Schamus, Evan Shapiro, Uma Thurman, John Turturro, Christine Vachon, and Gus Van Sant

PARENTS' AWARD
Selected by NYICFF audience members 19 years and older

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

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PARTY!

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.
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Lizards & Snakes Alive! is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (www.amnh.org).

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the first natural history museum in the United States, The American Museum of Natural History presents a traveling exhibition that showcases the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians. Visitors will see live lizards, snakes, and other reptiles in their natural habitats, learn about their behavior and habits, and discover how they contribute to the ecosystem.

WORKSHOP & FILM: I'M NO DUMMY

USA – EAST COAST PREMIERE

Documentary, Directed by R. Silver, 2006, 15 minutes

Recommended ages 8 to adult

Funny, whimsical, and insightful, I'm No Dummy takes a rare look inside the world of ventriloquist, from its mystical origins in ancient times, to radio, television, standup comedy, and the films of today, showcasing the rich history of this unique art-form. The film pays homage to legendary “voices” Edgar Bergen, Paul Winchell, Don輕t Wences and Jimmy Nelson, with rare performance footage not seen in 50 years, and features hilarious clips and interviews with contemporary voices, including Jay Johnson of silicon Valley fame, whose alter-ego Bob voiced all the critters in the show's original series, and Jeff Dunham, whose Comedy Central routines have become the network's most popular specials.

WORKSHOP: The film will be followed by a 30 minute ventriloquism class led by Tony Award-winner Jay Johnson, Lynn Trefzger, and Tom Lachtar. All audience members will receive instruction with their own take-home sock puppet and workbook.

Comment: Film contains some mild adult language.

NYICFF FILM PRODUCTION WORKSHOPS

NYICFF offers production workshops throughout the year! Children ages 6 to 16 work side by side with filmmakers to write, storyboard, animate, perform, shoot, and edit a short film from conception through completion. Finished films will be shown at NYICFF and on gkids.com! For complete information, visit gkids.com/workshop

WORKSHOP: GET A GRIP

45 min.

Recommended ages 8 to adult

Everyone knows what a director's job is, but do you know what a grip does? How about a Foley artist? And what in the world is a best boy?

NYICFF invites you and your family to view a sound stage in action and meet the people who work behind-the-scenes to make movie magic. Attendees will watch a scene being shot live and then break up into groups to visit the different film artists and technicians. From Foley artists, to costume, makeup, lighting and set design, each presenter will demonstrate and discuss what their job is, how they contribute to a film, and why they like doing what they do. Each group will get to work with all the presenting film artists, so come watch, ask, interact, and learn all about how to make a movie!
IN THE ATTIC
Czech Republic/Slovakia/Japan — EAST COAST PREMIERE
Animation, 85 mins. In Czech with English subtitles.
Recommended ages 8 to adult

Legendary Czech stop-motion animation master Jiří Barta’s first feature in over 20 years is a diabolically inventive tale, four parts: 1. Boy Story and 2. one part David Lynch, as a group of abandoned toys stage an ambitious rescue of their kidnapped friend. Set behind the doors of a dusty attic, an adorable doll named Buttercup lives in a steamer trunk and plays mom to a motley group of friends: the station master Teddy Bear, lump clay-animated ball Schubert, and the Quixotic marionette knight Sir Handsome, who attacks his enemies valiantly with a sharpened pencil. But in this enchanting world where every day is a birthday, evil is lurking. One day a black cat appears, kidnaps the beloved Buttercup, and takes her to the Land of Evil ruled by the Villainous Head, a maniacal Cold War military bunt who commands an army of mechanical, machete-wielding cockroaches and an all-seeing spring eye. Both a spooky children’s fairy tale and Sierpinski triangle allegory, In the Attic marks a career highpoint for Barta, who along with Jan Svaníček and The Brothers Quay made stop-motion animation an art form, and paved the way for modern hits like The Nightmare Before Christmas, Coraline, and Fantastic Mr. Fox.

TURTLE: THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY
UK/Austria — NY PREMIERE
Documentary, 51 mins. In English.
Recommended ages all ages

This awe-inspiring nature film follows the personal story of a single loggerhead turtle, one of hundreds of adorable, vulnerable babies born in the sands of the Florida coast, as she grows into a strong-willed adult braving the six-thousand mile journey that has been the species’ perilous ritual for millions of years. Critically acclaimed for “visually resplendent” nature footage on par with Planet Earth or March of the Penguins, the film features sweeping aerial shots and vast, majestic underwater seascapes that help underscore the epic scope of the journey with a survival adventure as tense as any Hollywood thriller. After narrowly escaping a legion of threatening crabs and scurrying into the waves, the young turtle is joined on her ocean adventure by a kaleidoscopic array of dolphins, stingrays, whales and other shimmering deep sea creatures as she rides the Atlantic Gulf Stream from Florida to the Arctic — with waters bathed in the green glow of the Aurora Borealis — and then south to Portugal and the coast of Africa. But on this wonder-filled journey, the turtle’s greatest foe is revealed to be not a razor-toothed shark or poisonous jellyfish, but floating bits of shiny trash, oil-slicked waters, long-line fishing, and other man-made obstacles.

MAI MAI MIRACLE
Japan — US PREMIERE
Animation, 85 mins. In Japanese with English subtitles.
Recommended ages 8 to adult

This sumptuously animated film about friendship and the passing of childhood is as “splendidly colorful and beautifully illustrated as a Matisse landscape” (Hollywood Reporter). Shinko spends her days running barefoot among the endless green wheat fields in her small country village, imagining she is playing 1,000 years ago when the area was the local capital and home to a beautiful young princess kept hidden from society. Shinko gets a new partner for her games when she befriends Yoko, a shy transfer student from Tokyo whose nice clothes and modern manners immediately set her apart from the other kids. Together, the two girls spend their afternoons daydreaming, building dams, chasing animals, and living an otherwise simple and idyllic life — until learning adolescent responsibility and harsh growth-into-true adults begin to encroach on their make-believe world of princesses. In the end, a dream comes true for Shinko and Yoko when they return to their carefree childhood. Director Sunao Katabuchi worked with Hayao Miyazaki as assistant director on his Delivery Service, and the influences show, from Miyazaki’s stunning animation and evolving focus on nature, to the film’s happy-end nostalgia for the endless days of summer and the tender portrayal of a young girl at the transition between childhood and adult.

STELLA
France / USA
Documentary, 97 mins. In French with English subtitles.
Recommended ages 14 to adult

In this wonderfully tender, autobiographical coming-of-age story, a precocious young girl made wise beyond her years from a bohemian upbringing is forced to adjust when she enters a wealthy private school. Stella’s parents run a working-class bar filled with a revolving mix of artists, vagrants and drunks, so though she is flunking out of school, she has gained an alternate education in card games, cocktails, and pop music. Her world-weary attitude is offset by her classmates as impressively dull. The one exception is her new friend Gladys, who introduces Stella to Cocteau and Balzac, and awakens a desire to escape the dissolute home life that continually threatens to drag her down. The film features stunning cinematography with an ethereal light that makes even the grimy bar floors and wood-paneled hotel rooms look like beautiful postcards to a bygone era, and is backed by a superb instrumental soundtrack infused with French disco hits. But the true standout is newcomer Lea Barbara, whose multifaceted performance as the shy philosophical Stella is both prickly and lovable, a charming outsider you want desperately to succeed.

Comment: Film includes strong language, same sexual suggestiveness, violence, and adults frequently drinking and smoking.
ELEANOR’S SECRET
France/Italy – US PREMIERE
Animation, Dominique Musy, 2009, 76 min
In English

Recommended ages 3 to 8

In this colorfully animated film perfect for our youngest audiences, characters from classic fairytales and children’s books come alive to help a young boy learn to read. Nat has fond memories of his eccentric Aunt Eleanor reading to him from her enormous collection of storybooks, but is frustrated and embarrassed by his inability to read the books himself. So he is less than thrilled when his aunt leaves him the keys to her attic library—and he rejects the gift. But just as Nat’s parents are sorting the collection to a shady antiques dealer, Nat discovers that the library is magical—the books housed in the attic are all original first editions of history’s most popular fairy tales, and the characters come to life! Now with the help of Alice in Wonderland, the Ogre, Peter Pan and others, he must get back the books and learn to read. In an ancient spell to keep the characters alive, they become the perfect way for future generations of children.

THE SECRET OF KELLS
Ireland/France/Belgium – OSCAR NOMINATED
Animation, Tomm Moore, 2009, 75 min
In English

Recommended ages 6 to adult

Don’t miss this award-winning animated masterpiece from the producers of Kinos and the Secret of the Sword. The Secret of Kells has taken top prizes at festivals worldwide and has been nominated for an Academy Award® for Best Animated Feature. Magic, fantasy, and Celtic mythology come together in a riot of color and detail that dazzles the eyes, in a sweeping story about the power of imagination and faith to carry humanity through dark times. Young Brendan lives in a remote medieval outpost under siege from barbarian raiders. But a new life of adventure beckons when a celebrated master illuminator arrives from foreign lands carrying an ancient but unfinished book, brimming with secret wisdom and powers. To help complete the magical book, Brendan has to overcome his deepest fears and venture into the enchanted forest where mythical creatures hide. It is here that he meets the fair Asling, a mysterious young wolf-girl, who helps him fulfill his dangerous quest. “Absolutely Luscious to Behold!” — Variety “Shimmering! A cascade of light, color and wonder burst from the screen!” — The Irish Times. “Holds the spectator in a waking dream from beginning to end!” — Le Monde

OBLIVION ISLAND
Japan – US PREMIERE
Animation, Shinkai Hiko, 2009, 38 min
In Japanese with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult

The creators of Ghost in the Shell mix exquisitely detailed 2D backgrounds with modern 3D character designs in a dazzling animated adventure that plays like Alice’s fall through the rabbit hole into a world of topsy-turvy, anime dream-logic. When Reiko replaces a hand-mirror that was a keepsake from her mother, she stumbles upon a portal to the underwater world of Oblivion Island, a place where strange masked creatures gather up all the childhood trinkets humans abandon as they grow older, and attend Dream Theaters where they can watch and feel the memories locked in these forgotten objects. The land is ruled by an evil waterlord, the Baron, who craves the power created by the memories locked in Haruka’s cherished mirror—a power that will allow him to rise beyond his world of discards and take over the world of humans! Aided by Too, a lanky junk collector, and Cotton, her old stuffed animal brought back to life, Haruka struggles to recapture the mirror from the Baron, and to rediscover the fleeting moments of childhood innocence and friendship that are among life’s most precious treasures.

LITTLE WHITE LIES
Germany – US PREMIERE
Live Action, Moritz Streuhold, 2009, 100 min
In German with English subtitles

Recommended ages 9 to adult

Set in 1991 Germany, the gripping, beautifully executed new feature from Marcus Rosenmuller, writer/director of NYCFF 2008 favorite Grave Decisions, foreshadows coming fascism through the microcosm of a school. Based on the novel by Anna Maria Joki, the film centers on Alexander, an A class student who accidentally spills ink on a book he borrowed from a friend in the B class. Taking the easy way out, Alexander destroys the evidence and denies everything. This seemingly innocent and harmless lie has devastating consequences, as it is used as the basis for a hate campaign against the B class, ultimately leading to situations far more serious than schoolyard politics. Dreamlike, darkly atmospheric visuals straight out of the German Expressionist tradition, with gothic lighting, bong, shadowy corridors, abandoned factories and dusty shops, create a fable-like feeling both timeless and foreboding in this thought-provoking and highly-engaging parable about how lies, big and small, can accumulate and create unexpected consequences.

Comment: Some neo-nazi rhetoric and a brief morally suggestive scene.
Breathtaking and rarely screened animated films from French auteurs Paul Grimault, Sylvain Chomet, René Laloux, Michel Ocelot, Serge Elledsalo, Marie Caillois, Jacques-Rémy Girerd, Jean-François Laguionie, Jérôme Boulbes and more.

KIRIKOU AND THE SORCERESS
Maurice Jaëgger, 1997, 62 minutes
In English
Recommended ages 5 to adult

The first feature from Azur & Asmar creator Michel Ocelot is one of the most stunningly beautiful, poetic and entertaining films ever created for children, and ushered in a modern renaissance in French feature animation. The film is an exquisitely animated African tale of a small boy, Kirikou, with extraordinary abilities. When he discovers that his village is cursed by Karaba, a terrifying sorceress, Kirikou sets off on an adventure to rid the village of Karaba's curse by understanding what has made her so angry. With an original soundtrack by Yossou N'Dour, Kirikou and the Sorceress is winner of dozens of animation awards, including the Grand Prix at Annecy, and has become an absolute classic of animated cinema. NYCCF first presented Kirikou at the 2000 festival and Michel Ocelot is currently a member of the NYICFF jury.

RAINING CATS AND FROGS
René-Luc Lagageot, 2001, 80 minutes
In English with English subtitles
Recommended ages 7 to 11

La Prophétie des Grenouilles, the award-winning first feature from director Jacques-Rémy Girerd, founder of Folimage animation studio and director of last year's stunning Opening Night film Mia and the Magic, is a delicate and charming tale of Fennecward, an old sea captain who unwittingly becomes a modern day Noah when a torrential flood washes over the planet and the animals from the local zoo escape into his floating house. But all is not peaceful aboard the comically louver-shaped houseboat, and when a code of strict vegetarianism is imposed to protect the gentler animals, their carnivorous shipmates plot mutiny. Winner of prizes at Berlin and Ottawa and showcased at over a dozen of the world's top festivals, the film took over six years to create, and was the first animated film in two decades to be made entirely in France.

Gwen and the Book of Sand
Hélène Charrière, 1984, 16 minutes
In French with English subtitles
Recommended ages 11 to adult
Shown with Madagascar, A Journey Diary
France, Berlin Critics, 2009, 11 minutes

NYCCF is proud to present a rare screening of the only existing English subtitled print of Jean-François Laguionie's trance-like masterpiece, Gwen, le livre de sable, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the prestigious Annecy animation festival. Gwen is a young girl born into a tribe of desert nomads wandering in a surreal, post-apocalyptic world where monstrous, broken relics from some giant past civilization rain down upon the dunes in lightning storms called the Makou, or "Terrible Thing." When her friend is kidnapped by the Makou, Gwen leaves the tribe and sets out with a mysterious old woman on a journey through the desert to save him. Laguionie used gauache, a medium that's a cross between watercolor and pastel, to create a breathtaking work of art that feels like a moving painting. Viewers are punctuated by Radiant colorful animals and the film exudes an air of melancholy mystery and somberness that is as close to pure poetry as cinema can get.

FANTASTIC PLANET
René Laloux, France/Scandinavia, 1973, 72 minutes
In French with English subtitles
Recommended ages 11 to adult

This psychedelic landmark in feature animation by Rene Laloux has become a cult classic, influencing decades of pop culture with its trippy sci-fi tale of humans enslaved by an alien race of super-intelligent Blue giants and treated as dumb pets. When one human child escapes from his master he opens up a new world of knowledge to the humans and spurs a rebellion. Like an etched cross between Planet of the Apes and Yellow Submarine, the film captures the contemporary zeitgeist with bands of scrappy humans battling their highly-evolved, meditation, pill-eared overlords through a sinister alien landscape filled with bizarre Hieronymus Bosch plant and animal life, all painstakingly rendered in beautifully detailed crosshatch drawings. This visionary and beautiful work won the Grand Prix at the 1973 Cannes Film Festival and remains a mind-bendingly entertaining touchstone of counterculture art.

Comment: Animated nudity, including non-explicit alien "nuptial rituals", cannot be more "art avant-garde" than titillating. Also some violence.

AMUSE-BOUCHE
FRENCH SHORT ANIMATION
90 minutes
Recommended ages 8 to 11

A tantalizing collection of recent works from some of France's most creative and influential animators. Anchoring the line-up, Sylvain Chomet's The Old Lady and the Pigeons revels in its quirky, hand-drawn detail and humorous characters that border on the grotesque. The film garnered top prizes at Annecy and BAFTA, an Oscar nomination, and powered the way for his next film, the ground-breaking Triplets of Belleville. Also included is current Oscar-nominated French Roast from Fabrice Jacquet, and additional award-winning shorts from cartoon masters Serge Elledsalo, Marie Caillois, Jérôme Boulbes and others.

OLD LADY AND THE PIGEONS
Sylvain Chomet, 1998, 25 minutes
FRENCH ROAST-4TH PREMIERE-Oscar Nominated
Fabrice Jacquet, 2005, 11 minutes

Other films:

Joseph's Smalls - Us Premiere
Sand Californie, 2005, 17 minutes
Black Tea - Us Premiere
Serge Elledsalo, 2010, 24 minutes
Masks - Us Premiere
Jérôme Boulbe, 2010, 15 minutes
Marika and the Wolf
Serge Calle, 2011, 3 minutes
OXTAPPODI - Oscar Nominated
Boule de Neige, 2002, 6 minutes
White Birds, Black Birds
Bruno Gironi, 2002, 6 minutes
A Mouse's Tail
Benedikt Menz, 2002, 4 minutes

Special thanks to the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and Culture France.
SHORTS FOR TOTS
Recommended ages 3 to 6 • 65 minutes

BOO
Sweden – NY PREMIERE
Animated, Anna Bersvends, 2008, 7 min
Bouncy little Boo wants to play with the bigger bunnies and tries his best to keep up, despite their taunts and teasing. But when the older bunnies get into trouble with a scary dog, Boo gets to show them what he is made of.

ELECTRIC CAR
USA – EAST COAST PREMIERE
Animated, Marc Poutiers, 2009, 3 min
This insanely catchy music video from They Might Be Giants uses mixed media animation, as an electric car rolls across the landscape and a girl and her dog get to join the world to join them on a journey into a new day.

CHERRY ON THE CAKE
UK – NY PREMIERE
Animated, Martin Scott, 2009, 7 min
It's Cherry's birthday and she's excited about spending it with her family. But Mom and Dad and Sister and Brother are all caught up in their own worlds, and the smaller Cherry feels, the smaller she gets. Will she disappear all together?

ANIMALS
Sweden – US PREMIERE
Animated, Michael Store, 2008, 5 min
Super cool, color-saturated blob-like creatures whack each other on the head, then weave to a techno vibe, against a live action urban backdrop.

LOST AND FOUND
UK – NY PREMIERE
Animated, Philippikt, 2010, 14 min
A sweet and tender tale of love and adventure, based on the award-winning book by Olivier Jeffers. A young boy finds a penguin at his doorstep and decides to return him to the South Pole in a homemade rowboat, encountering along the way a tremendous storm, a ruthless oil tanker, and a giant octopus who turns out to be a friend.

MR. SHAPE
Japan – WORLD PREMIERE
Animated, Masahiro Ando, 2010, 12 min
There are various shapes in the world. These shapes can break, unite, and change its shape, it's their own style! With a little surprise and discovery, by simple method, to make viewers feel fun!

THE HAPPY DUCKLING
UK – EAST COAST PREMIERE
Animated, Gill Dole, 2008, 5 min
In this colorful computer animated film designed to look like a pop-up book, a boy is pursued by a very persistent cluck who does not realize the danger he is in.

VEETI AND THE BEANSTALK
Finland – US PREMIERE
Animated/Live Action, Susanna Kohonen, 2005, 13 min
Brimming with warmth, this mixed media, stop-motion film uses visual humor to tenderly convey the emotions of love, loss, and hope. Veeti's mother cries so much that her house becomes flooded and rivers of tears start to flow from the windows. Try as he might, Veeti can't make her stop. So he decides to go in gashes and smiles some and grows a magical tree to the clouds to escape the deluge.

BIGBOX SINGSONG JOHN
Canada – US PREMIERE
Animated, Benjamin Poulin, 2000, 1 min
His name is John. He's not a leprechaun. He just happens to think a pipe and a hat are cool.

RUNAWAY
Canada
Animated, Cardell Barker, 2008, 9 min
In this cartoon metaphor for capitalism run amok, happy passengers are having a great time on a speeding train, oblivious to the unknown fate that awaits them around the bend. The ensuing crisis leads to a class struggle that is as amusing as it is merciless.

CHICKEN COWBOY
USA
Animated, Stephen Neary, 2010, 6 min
Shelly the chicken wasn't looking for a fight, but he found one. Can he face his fears and stand up for himself? Multi-award winning student animation from NYU's Stephen Neary.

DAHLIA
USA
Experimental, Michael Langdon, 2008, 3 min
A moving portrait of the hustle and permanence of a city, Dahlia juxtaposes the forms and patterns of urban life with the frenetic activity of human behavior. Or something like that. Really, it's just fun to watch!

THE BIRD THAT COULD TELL FORTUNES
Iran – NY PREMIERE
Live Action, Azam Moradi, 2008, 28 min
Every day after school Sadjad and his friends meet at the square in front of the largest Mosque in the city to sell fortunes to passersby, proving the great Persian poet Hafez picked at random from a box. Through great perseverance Sadjad saves his money and buys a beautiful green bird, who he names Bohol and trains to pick fortunes. The bird brings him luck and wisdom, and they soon become the closest of friends. Set in present-day Isfahan, this enchanting, fable-like film provides a window into Persian culture and tradition.

LEBENSADER
Germany – US PREMIERE
Animated, Angela Strassner, 2009, 6 min
A little girl finds the whole world in a leaf.
**FILMS IN COMPETITION**

**SHORT FILMS TWO**
Recommended ages 8 to 14 • 80 minutes

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**MOKOPUNA**
New Zealand – NY PREMIERE
Liz Action, Misti Collins, 2009, 10 min

Mary lives in middle class suburban New Zealand. After briefly befriending a young Mosori boy at her school, she becomes curious about his culture. But when he turns his curiosity towards her, it soon becomes clear that Mary is not quite ready to embrace her own roots.

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**ART**
Canada – US PREMIERE
Animaclay, Andrea Bertin, 2010, 2.5 min

This sweet handmade music video for Halifax indie singer/songwriter Tanya Davis is June soundtrack meets middle school art class, and checkful of hummable love.

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**PIG ME**
Denmark – EAST COAST PREMIERE
Animaclay, Solveig Smaken/Christina Græsbøl, 2009, 7 min

The story of a pig who escapes from a slaughter house. He finds his way to the safety of a pig shop but realizes that nobody wants to buy a pig. What is the solution? Will anybody love this lovable pig?

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**A FILM ABOUT POO**
UK – US PREMIERE
Art and Clay, Ann Thruston, Emily Heseltine, 2009, 15 min

This is a film about poo and the things that you should and shouldn’t do.

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**O’MORO**
France – US PREMIERE
Christophe Collignon, 2009, 12 min

A tall and silent policeman called The Moor has to arrest thieves, vagrants, and lovers under the orders of a petty commandant. But across the Mediterranean the warm winds of Africa beckon, and one morning at the harbor, he meets a gypsy woman who will change his destiny.

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**VARMINTS**
UK
Animated, Marc Craste, 2008, 34 min

From Studio ARA and BAFTA-winner Marc Craste, Varmints tells the story of one small creature's struggle to preserve a world in danger of being lost forever through wantonness and indifference. Based on the book by Helen Ward.

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**THE NATURE OF BATTLE**
Canada – US PREMIERE
Animated, Nat Dart, 2008, 3 min

In a ruined world where mankind has brought destruction upon themselves, new hope arises in the form of a seed.

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**FEET ON THE GROUND**
France – NY PREMIERE
Animated, Franco Nuccio, 2008, 5 min

What do you do when you wake up and your whole world is turned on end?

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**THE INFLATABLE GRAMNA**
Spain – US PREMIERE
Live Action, Tomas Calvo, 2009, 9 min

On a family camping trip, the kids are driving their parents crazy. Dad knows just what to do.

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TIME OF EVE
Japan - US PREMIERE
Animated, Yasuharu Teshima, 2008, 15 min
In this impeccably drawn, pitch perfect anime, high school students Rikiyo and Masaki discover the Time of Eve, a mysterious café where humans and androids are treated the same — in direct conflict with social mores, as well as the dictates of the powerful Robot Ethics Committee.

PHOTOGRAPH OF JESUS
UK
Animated, Lewis Hill, 2008, 7 min
This wryly hilarious photo montage-documentary-fantasy is based on wild, actual requests to the Getty photo archives, such as: Can you provide a photograph of... Jesus, Jack the Ripper, a live disco in the wild, Adolf Hitler at the 1948 Olympic Games, the Loch Ness Monster.

THE LOST TRIBES OF NEW YORK CITY
USA
Animated, Documentary, Complied London, Judy Jonsir, 2009, 3 min
Humorously revealing, stop-motion “animadoc” recalls early Hardman’s Creature Comforts, as the voices of anonymous New Yorkers are brought to life with subtly animated pay phones, fire hydrants, suitcases, and other familiar objects.

MADAGASCAR, A JOURNEY DIARY
France - EAST COAST PREMIERE
Animated/Documentary, Nadine Dubois, 2009, 11 min
This visual travel diary uses gorgeous microscope animation to capture the luxuriant landscapes of Madagascar, as a Western traveler explores and observes the people, culture and customs of this foreign land.

THE EMPLOYMENT
Argentina - NY PREMIERE
Animated, Santiago Iba Grotes, 2008, 6.5 min
In this highly amusing bit of social commentary, a man begins a normal workday, immersed in a world where the use of people as objects is part of everyday life.

STAR GAMES
UK - US PREMIERE
Animated, Jessic Jakub, 2004, 3 min
True-looking, techy-fantastic, Esther Williams, retro sci-fi rave, with fluorescent planets and zeppelin spaceships beaming up bathing-beauties in a ray of ecstasy.

HITCHHIKER’S CHOICE
Sweden/UK - NY PREMIERE
Animated, Kristoffer Bloms, 2008, 8 min
This tour-de-force in DIY white board animation is a music video for Swedish progressive house techno-minimalists Minilogue.

THE LITTLE DRAGON
France - NY PREMIERE
Animated, Bruno Collet, 2005, 8 min
In this kung-fu spoof, an old Bruce Lee action figure comes to life and kicks some ass, despite a debonair rubber body. Epic battles include a long awaited rematch with cardboard Chuck Norris. Haay-yah!

SCREEN TEST
Germany - US PREMIERE
Animated, Richard Schnei, 2003, 3 min
A passionate amateur auditions for the leading role in a costume drama.

MY 13
France
Live Action, Luc Neel, 2007, 10 min
She loves me, she loves me not... Thirteen-year-old Jonathan has a bad crush on the cutest girl in school and needs to know if she feels the same. When he sneaks into her room and steals her diary, he gets a bit more information than he bargained for. Rambling notes of a movie is fueled by a great retro 80’s soundtrack, naturalistic performances, and a neat twist of plot guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

GEE WHIZ WELCOMES FRIENDS OF NYICFF.
THE TERRIBLE THING OF ALPHA-9
USA
Animated, Jane Annstrom, 2009, 3 min
In this stnent film from New Yorker, Jake Armstrong, an interstellar bounty hunter goes out in search of a killer space monster.

MORTIFIED
UK - US PREMIERE
Live Action, Robert Mactall. 2008, 2.5 min
A group of children playing hide-and-seek in an old house are stalked by the house's monstrous owner. For one of them, however, the day is about to get a whole lot worse.

MUTO
Italy
Animated, 8 min, 2008, 7 min
Life-size graffiti animation painted over the course of weeks on public walls in Buenos Aires.

MAN IN THE TUNNEL ALLEY
Japan - US PREMIERE
Anitaried, Kenji Kurosawa, 2008, 5 min
Kenji Kurosawa's self-produced short has been collecting international awards with its quirky-cool atmosphere, rain of Buddhas, and restless tale of robot love. By tracing live-action film with highly-detailed line drawings, the film captures a kind of yearning indifference and suspends the viewer between the real and unreal.

BATMILK
Canada - US PREMIERE
Animated, Brandon Browner, 2000, 2 min
Cute turns creepy! As black snowflakes fall, a soul escapes, ghost-like, eyes melt away, and a creature dies. But then a new pink baby falls from the sky, reattaches, and the ghost is reborn.

NEXT FLOOR
Canada
Live Action, Denis Villeneuve, 2008, 12 min
During an opulent and luxurious banquet, eleven pampered guests participate in ritualistic gastronomic carnage. Winner Best Short at Cannes Film Festival.

THE SIX DOLLAR FIFTY MAN
New Zealand - EAST COAST PREMIERE
Live Action, Mark Hillary, 2005, 15 min
Fresh from its win at Sundance, this intense short explores what it means to be different in the ruthless jungle of the schoolyard playground. Set in 1970s New Zealand, the film follows Andy, an outcast who lives in his own warped, super-hero fantasy world, where bullies cannot harm him and he can remain faithful to his best friend Mary. This remarkable film features a riveting performance by the young lead, whose rage and vulnerability are palpable as he breaks through his isolation to confront the real world.

ATORMENTA
Spain - NY PREMIERE
Animated, Cristo Ballestero/Mikel Garai, 2005, 1 min
She is waiting for you. Your time is over.

FARD
France
Animated, Louis Delcroix, David Pigon, 2005, 13 min
In a near future, the world seems to work in an effective and controlled way... but under the surface darkness lurks.

ALMA
Spain - NY PREMIERE
Animated, Estepa Bolve, 2001, 3 min
Alma, a little girl, is intrigued by a strange doll in an antique shop window. Fascinated, Alma decides to enter...
**PLASTIC**
*Australia*

Recommended, Live Action, Sandy Wibowo, 2008, 7 min

A young woman getting ready for a date is obsessing frantically over her appearance. In frustration, she gouges her fingers into her face and suddenly realizes that she is made of putty — she can sculpt her appearance into any shape she desires.

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**POPcorn AND PERIODS**
*Denmark - US PREMIERE*

An Unlucky Man (Strange Times), 2008, 3 min

Pinkly goes to the movies with her dad and has a Most Embarrassing Experience.

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**EVERYBODY WANTs TO GO TO HEAVEN**
*Sweden - US PREMIERE*

An Unlucky Man (Strange Times), 2008, 1 min

A young girl shares her thoughts on the irresistible world between life and death.

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**SEE YOU**
*Denmark – NY PREMIERE*

Live Action, Jasper Schroder, 2008, 14 min

When fourteen-year-old Nete’s twin brother is killed in an accident, her world collapses. Months later, she begins a new school. The same day a new boy, Jonas, also arrives. To everyone else, he is just the new boy — but Nete is in deep shock at what she sees.

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**MALBAN**
*France - US PREMIERE*

Live Action, Denis Bossard, 2001, 6 min

Breathtakingly beautiful animation has garnered this film a string of international festival prizes. A young girl is spending the holidays with her mother and brother in their beach house. One evening, an unknown man arrives seeking the island of the Birds, a place of memories or perhaps dreams.

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**MY QUEEN**
*Brazil - NY PREMIERE*

Live Action, Cecilia Marroquín, 2008, 16 min

A young girl looks forward to her big debut evening, flag-dancing in the Rio de Janeiro carnival, but things don’t turn out the way she imagined. A tender and lyrical portrait of first love, dreams and disillusionment.

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**POST IT LOVE**
*UK - NY PREMIERE*

Live Action, Simon Minns & Adam Priestley, 2000, 3 min

Girl meets boy in quirky office romance. Two like-minded souls, too shy to approach each other, find a way to show their love.

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