

Celebrating
the Cinematic Works
of **Women** All Over the World

Los Angeles
Women's

International Film Festival

March 26th - April 1st 2010

Film Schedule/Quick Guide

Laemmles Sunset 5

8000 Sunset Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA 90046

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OPENING NIGHT GALA BENEFIT SCREENING



Serious Moonlight

Directed by Cheryl Hines

Written by Adrienne Shelly

After she arrives at her country home for a romantic weekend getaway, things don't go exactly as planned for high-powered Manhattan lawyer Louise (Meg Ryan). First, her husband of 13 years, Ian (Timothy Hutton), tells her that he's leaving her for a younger woman (Kristen Bell). One thing leads to another and Ian finds himself held captive by an oddly cool Louise who explains that she won't release him until he professes his love for her and commits to working on their marriage. And that's when things REALLY start to go wrong. The unexpected arrival of an opportunistic young gardener (Justin Long) and Ian's impatient mistress only serve to complicate the crisis even further, while somehow forcing Louise and Ian to reckon with their past and realistically deal with their future.

Friday, March 26 7:00pm

Laemmle's Sunset 5
8000 Sunset Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Benefit Reception to Follow at
The Libertine
8210 Sunset Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Proceeds Given to The Adrienne Shelly Foundation

CENTERPIECE GALA SCREENING



The Waiting City

Written and Directed by Claire McCarthy

Outwardly happy Australian couple Ben and Fiona journey to Calcutta, India to collect their adopted baby, but on arrival find that the arrangements at the agency have yet to be finalized. They have no option but to wait in this chaotic, foreign place. The vulnerability of their marriage begins to reveal itself as the intoxicating mystic powers of the Indian city pulls them each in separate and unexpected directions. Forced to confront their differences and the concealed deep secrets that they've both been long avoiding, Ben and Fiona ultimately rediscover themselves and a belief in life's possibilities, their marriage and the invigorating power and joy of the human spirit

Tuesday, March 30 7:00pm

Laemmle's Sunset 5
8000 Sunset Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90046

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CLOSING NIGHT GALA SCREENING



Empire of Silver

Written and Directed by Christina Yao

China, 1899. A hedonistic young man must assume the role of heir to a banking empire he cares little about. Following the tragic kidnapping of his brother's wife, Third Master reluctantly submits to pressure from his overbearing father. Powerful bank-owner Lord Kang is determined to prepare Third Master for financial leadership by molding his son into his own image, but idealistic Third Master has always questioned his father's autocratic rule and ethics. The tense relationship is further complicated by Third Master's undying love for his beautiful young stepmother, his first and only love stolen from him by his own father. Embarking on a metaphysical journey, Third Master must decide whether to follow his father's path or find his own. Greed, deception and jealousy surface under the pressures of war and the impending change from silver to paper bills.

Thursday, April 1 8:00pm

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PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF WOMEN IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

FEATURE COMPETITION



LAND GOLD WOMEN

THE MAGISTICAL (Animation Feature)

Directed by: John & Lori Cernak

Written by: John & Lori Cernak

Once upon a time the Magistical was chosen to watch over all living things. Hoping to preserve all precious life, she created a spell that would grant the last of every type of creature immortality. However, to one very evil Draken the spell would carry a very different meaning than intended. By killing all other Drakens she would become the last. Without fear of death, such a beast could rule the world. Now only one baby cub stands between her and her evil ambitions. And between them stands a small, but determined, obstacle, named Foible.

Saturday March 27 11:00am (trt 99 mins)

LAND GOLD WOMEN

Directed by: Avantika Hari

Written by: Avantika Hari

Seventeen-year-old Saira has great ambitions for herself as she is about to finish school and explore a new world with David, her aspiring writer boyfriend. She's sure her India native father Nazir will support her decisions since he has indulged her interests in all things English and Western. Saira's life is turned upside down when her uncle Riyaaz visits with his own ideas of how India women are to be raised. Riyaaz arrives with a proposal of marriage for Saira. She is caught between her family and the love of her life. Both decisions come with serious consequences.

Tuesday March 30 9:30pm (trt 109 mins)

TALES FROM THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ELVIS

Directed by: Mercy Malick & Michael Traynor

Written by: Mercy Malick

Outrageous film adaptation brings to life writer/actor/singer Mercy Malick's award-winning play about growing up as a Catholic school girl in Las Vegas with a cast of eclectic characters including God, Jesus, Elvis, a voyeuristic nun, a lecherous octogenarian amputee, mobsters and showgirls. Against the odds, young Mercy survives and learns that even in the craziness that is Las Vegas, humanity survives and triumphs.

Wednesday March 31 2:45pm (trt 86 mins)

FEATURE COMPETITION



16 TO LIFE

16 TO LIFE

Directed by: Becky Smith

Written by: Becky Smith

Kate is a rural American teenager whose angst about sexual inexperience drives a comic quest for love and understanding on a birthday to end all birthdays. Kate is turning 16 and has never been kissed! Before the clock strikes midnight, Kate will learn more about love than most sixteen-year-olds could imagine.

Wednesday March 31 5:00pm (trt 91 mins)

LEFTOVERS

Directed by: Robin Nations

Written by: Robin Nations

Dr. Carol Nichols is a prominent psychologist. She and her husband, David, are devoted to their two adult daughters, Katie and Lauren, and to Emily, their beloved granddaughter. Despite the obvious strength of their bonds, the Nichols family is far from perfect, and they struggle to come to grips with a dark secret from their past. Carol's unexpectedly collides with Anna's a troubled, single mother of three rowdy-but-lovable young boys. Despite their differences, the two families are soon woven together in a sweet tangle of interdependence, as Carol and David discover new life in a relationship, surprisingly nourished by hearty helpings of love, laughter, drama and of course... a few leftovers.

Wednesday March 31 7:45pm (trt 90 mins)

OUT OF THE FOG

Directed by: Maya Batash

Written by: Maya Batash

Sarah Portico, a geologist and scientist travels to the remote Boreal Island near the North Pole to investigate the mysterious deaths of thousands of migrating birds whose cause of death is believed to be environmental. Upon her arrival she begins to experience strange visions and unearthly dreams. As she takes soil samples in the forest, she is haunted by these visions, which turn dark and terrifying. She turns to Dr. Grimes for advice, the medical director of the only hospital on the island. George Sage, the handsome, yet hermit-like local forest ranger, is assigned to help her with her investigation. Yet as time goes by, and they develop a relationship, she begins to wonder if he is somehow involved in causing her terrifying experiences.

Wednesday March 31 10:00pm (trt 86 mins)

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CENTERPIECE DOCUMENTARY BENEFIT SCREENING



**Poto Mitan: Haitian Women,
Pillars of the Global Economy**

*Directed by Renee Bergan
Written by Edwidge Danticat*

Told through the compelling lives of five courageous Haitian women, *Poto Mitan* gives the global economy a human face. Each woman's personal story explains neoliberal globalization, how it is gendered and how it impacts Haiti. Even though *Poto Mitan* offers in-depth understanding of Haiti, its focus on women's subjugation, worker exploitation, poverty and resistance demonstrates these are global struggles. Initiated by the subjects themselves, *Poto Mitan* aims to inspire solidarity activism to end injustice in the global economy. This documentary reminds us that our struggles have a common thread.

**Sunday March 28th 8:00 pm
Laemmle's Sunset 5
8000 Sunset Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90046**

Benefit Reception to Follow at
**The Libertine
8210 Sunset Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90046**

Proceeds donated to PIH
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DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION



SUNSHINE

SUNSHINE

Directed by: Karen Skloss

Written by: Karen Skloss

Woven together from over ten years of super 8 and video home movies, intimate family interviews, shimmering dance sequences and stylized reenactments filmmaker Karen Skloss explores the meaning of family. As an unwed teenager Skloss' mother went to a home for unwed mothers and gave Karen up for adoption in 1975. Now as the pair reconnect, Karen contemplates her relationship with her own daughter Jasmine. Young, pregnant, single and unprepared, this director struggles with the incredible ironies of the family — that history somehow repeated itself, and that the most strenuous efforts to protect the idea of family can actually do the most to pull families apart.

Sunday March 28 2:00pm (trt 73 mins)

STOCK SHOCK

Directed by: Sandra Mohr

Written by: Sandra Mohr

Sirius Satellite Radio seemed like a sure-fire investment with its commercial free music and blockbuster talent. After buying out their only competition in 2008, the stock was poised to go through the roof, but something went horribly wrong. Like fellow investors who had put their money in the once-safe holdings of banks and mortgage lenders, Sirius XM stockholders stood by helplessly as the value of their retirement funds disappeared and with it their life savings. Was it the bad economy, mismanagement, or something even more sinister? Stock Shock exposes the down-and-dirty schemes and calculated market manipulations behind the glitter of Wall Street.

Sunday March 28 4:00pm (trt 73 mins)

SAVING CARREN

Directed by: Deborah Gregory

Written by: Deborah Gregory

A retired cop risks everything to save his daughter, who has fallen prey to the destructive power of methamphetamines. Beginning with Carren's rape at the age of 14, the film takes its audience on a journey through the darkest corners of Carren's pasts. Alternating between stark animation and riveting personal narrative, this documentary allows access to the private nightmare of a meth addict's world. Is a father's love strong enough to bring both himself and his daughter back from the brink of death?

Sunday March 28 6:00pm (trt 53min)

DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION



A SECULAR PILGRIM IN JERUSALEM

THE LEGEND OF PANCHO BARNES AND THE HAPPY BOTTOM RIDING CLUB

Directed by: Amanda Pope

Written by: Nick Spark

Florence "Pancho" Barnes was one of the most important women in 20th century aviation. A tough and fearless pilot, Pancho flew on Amelia Earhart's wingtip, performed as a barnstormer throughout California and made a name for herself as Hollywood's first female stunt pilot in the 1920's and 30's. Just before WWII she opened Happy Bottom Riding Club, a ranch near Edwards Air Force Base that became a famous -- some would say notorious -- hangout for test pilots and movie stars.

Tuesday March 30 4:00pm (trt 66 mins)

A SECULAR PILGRIM IN JERUSALEM

Directed by: Elena Canetti

Written by: Elena Canetti

Elena wakes up to the emptiness of her life. She is forty-five years old with no children, and no faith. Elena embarks on a cautious journey among the world's three monotheistic religions, all found in the streets of her city. Unexpected meetings challenge her beliefs. What will she find at the end of the road? Will it be the answer she has been looking for?

Tuesday March 30 5:45pm (trt 99 mins)

VEILED VOICES

Directed by: Brigid Maher

Written by: Karen Bauer

Veiled Voices introduces American audiences to the world of Muslim women religious leaders, women who are reviving their leadership role in Islam across the Arab world. In winters 2007 and 2009, filmmaker Brigid Maher ventured into a world never before filmed, meeting extraordinary women in Syria, Lebanon and Egypt. This documentary concentrates on the stories of three women and their public and private struggles as religious leaders in their communities.

Wednesday March 31 1:00pm (trt 60 mins)

DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION



WHICH WAY TO THE WAR?

A.W.O.L.

Directed by: Sue Useem

Written by: Sue Useem

Filmed over a three-year period, *Which Way to the War?* delves into the heart of religious conflict in Poso and Indonesia. American filmmaker Sue Useem and her team traveled to some of the most remote regions of Indonesia to document the dynamics and anatomy of religiously motivated violence in this overwhelmingly tolerant nation. With hundreds of hours of filming and scores of this film reveals the true story of the wrenching Poso conflict, and their redeeming rehabilitation in the conflict's aftermath.

Tuesday March 30 1:30pm (trt 100min)

THE STEM CELL DIVIDE

Directed by: Barbara Langsam Shuman, Jill Mogil, Sharon Pollack

Written by: Barbara Langsam Shuman

The Stem Cell Divide examines the controversy over embryonic stem cell research. This documentary shows how Missouri became a central battleground in the debate. Showing both sides and challenging assumptions, this film explores the passions and principles of patients, citizen advocates, scientists and policy makers.

Thursday April 1 1:30pm (trt 90min)

A.W.O.L (A WAY OF LIFE AFTER BREAST CANCER)

Directed by: Peggy Free

Written by: Peggy Free

Dr. Francine Zorehkey and Joanna Herr-Hanks both had an interest in helping women who had been disfigured, be it through a mastectomy or the effects of cancer treatment such as loss of hair. Together they created A.W.O.L., a retreat for breast cancer survivors to help them deal with body image issues, self-esteem and emotional wellness, issues often not dealt with in conventional cancer treatment but no less important because they deal with quality of life.

Thursday April 1 6:00pm (trt 78 mins)

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ANIMATION SHORTS PROGRAM ONE



Animation Shorts Program One
Saturday March 27 1:30 PM

SEARCHING

MEMORY

Directed by: Ashley Freeman

Written by: Ashley Freeman

After years of not knowing her father a young woman comes to terms with the only memory she has of him.

SEARCHING

Directed by: Hyun Joocho

Written by: Hyun Joocho

While desperately searching for his beloved pet, a young boy recalls his memories.

WE ARE THE PUNKY PETS

Directed by: Paula Unger

Written by: Paula Unger

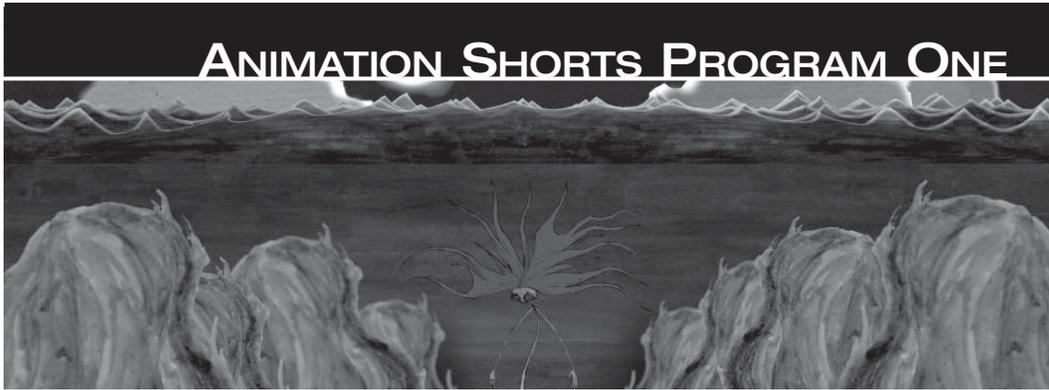
We Are the Punky Pets is the first Music Video from the animated punk rock band The Punky Pets. All of the pets come from different countries and their message is "Unity through music."

CROCS, POTS AND WILDEBEESTS

Directed by: Lori Kefalos

Written by: Lori Kefalos

Alexandra the Great Pretender is a feisty 7 year old who is constantly battling with her mother to avoid homework. Her weapon of choice is her vivid imagination.



Animation Shorts Program One
Saturday March 27 1:30 PM

THE GIRL WITH LIQUID EYES

THE GIRL WITH LIQUID EYES

Directed by: Charlotte Boulay-Goldsmith

Written by: Charlotte Boulay-Goldsmith

The Girl With Liquid Eyes is a rhyming tale about love and loss. A girl cries her lost love until her tears flood the entire world.

REMEMBER ME

Directed by: Alyssa Rae Barber

Written by: Alyssa Rae Barber

At the request of Mrs. Bellweather, Timothy Bellweather gets a new hat.

ELLA & MEL

Directed by: Shawn Lenore Barnes

Written by: Shawn Lenore Barnes

A girl wanders into the forest to eat lunch and ends up forming a friendship that lasts a lifetime.

TOMBOY

Directed by: Joanna H. Griebel

Written by: Joanna H. Griebel

When a young girl is sent away for being different, she has to hold on to what matters most or risk losing herself.

THE COLLECTION

Directed by: Keren Albala

Written by: Keren Albala

A curious girl investigates the mysterious disintegration of her paper world.

SHORTS PROGRAM TWO



SALT & VINEGAR

Short Program Two

Saturday March 27 3:15 PM

SALT & VINEGAR

Directed by: Karyn Childs

Written by: Karyn Childs

Set in New Zealand 1978 this is a love story between two children who bond over a bag of chips. The children are drawn closer together in recognition that both of their lives include hardships and suffering which together they can help heal.

ARITHMETIC LESSON

Directed by: Wenhwa Ts'ao

Written by: Wenhwa Ts'ao

Gracie, a seven-year-old girl finds the courage to defy and survive the traumatic abuse of her care giver while her mother is comatose. This short illustrates the courage of the human spirit through the eyes of a child.

SAMPALATAYA

Directed by: Erykah Del Mundo

Written by: Erykah Del Mundo

Mayumi a twelve-year-old blind orphan has dreamed of a colorful world her whole life. She undergoes a risky surgery that leaves her seeing in black & white. Conflicted on how to accept the world, she finds color and beauty in the people around her.

SHORTS PROGRAM THREE



THE ACORN PENNY

Short Program Two
Saturday March 27 3:15 PM

THE ACORN PENNY

Directed by: Tiffany Ann Laufer

Written by: Tiffany Ann Laufer

The Acorn Penny unfolds through the eyes of Kinshasa, a girl dreaming herself into another reality, one where family, home and love abide. In an effort to quiet her ever barking dog, Kinshasa wanders outside only to have four magical acorns fall at her feet and thus begins a journey into the past, present and future of young girl at the edge of the world.

UNREST

Directed by: Christina Rubenstein

Written by: Christina Rubenstein

Nine-year-old Minnie finds herself caught between the opposition in the Philippine Revolution of Manila in 1986. Amidst the chaos, Minnie inadvertently sets off a devastating chain of events that tests her mother's love, and transforms Minnie in to a victim of social unrest.

JESUS MARIA

Directed by: Caroline Kava

Written by: Caroline Kava

Stefania has long held secret that keeps her and her daughter apart until her granddaughter visits at Christmas with gifts that may bring all to light.

SHORTS PROGRAM THREE



Short Program Three
Saturday March 27 5:30 PM

MEDIA'S SON

MEDIA'S SON

Directed by: Annetta Marion

Written by: Ela Thier

Billy returns to his childhood home to find out why his parents have not yet responded to the invitation to his wedding. The homecoming brings up old and unhealed resentments. During the trip home, Billy takes baby steps towards repairing broken relationships.

THE HANDS

Directed by: Charise Studesville

Written by: Charise Studesville

The Hands is a story of the love between a father and daughter that can't last in its original pure state. As the grown-up daughter now sits at her father's bedside in his final hours, she becomes fixated upon his hands which represent all of who he was, as a man and as a father.

MEETING MR. TILLER

Directed by: Lucy Patrick Ward

Written by: Lucy Patrick Ward

Tom, a young writer with severe writer's block, runs through the park in procrastination and in search of inspiration which he literally runs into in the form of Mr. Tiller, a gruff, angry and disabled old man.

SHORTS PROGRAM THREE



Short Program Three
Saturday March 27 5:30 PM

NEXT OF KIN

NEXT OF KIN

Directed by: Rose Schramn

Written by: Rose Schramn

When a family member from her past is drawn back into her life after an attempted suicide, Angela uses the crisis as an opportunity to recreate the love she has been craving. She welcomes Laurie into her home, but her generosity backfires when Angela realizes that what she wants is unobtainable.

BEAVERTON

Directed by: Valesca Cnossen

Written by: Keri Smith

Alex has spent many typical holidays with her dad but this Christmas isn't one of them. Hiding out with her father in a motel, Alex must set aside her judgment to help her and her dad survive the night.

EVERYTHING IS ORDINARY

Directed by: Noelle Brower

Written by: Noelle Brower

Family dramas unfold in the house of a dying grandfather. His granddaughter Sarah appears invisible to the adults in the house, so she shares her discoveries with the one person who can hear her.

SHORTS PROGRAM FOUR



Short Program Four
Saturday March 27 7:30 PM

SINDOOR

SINDOOR

Directed by: Mangla Bansal

Written by: Mangla Bansal

Megha is a young modern Indo-Canadian woman. She is madly in love with Armaan, a young man with great potential. Megha's parents are traditional. Soon after her wedding, Megha loses her husband in a car accident. Being the son of a prominent industrialist, the news hits the papers.

O RE MANVAA

Directed by: Mitu Kumar

Written by: Mitu Kumar

Sandha is forced to examine her life and relation with a married Uday when she ends up at party with him, his wife and her own secret admirer.

BAIT

Directed by: Michal Vinik

Written by: Michal Vinik

On a Hot summer day, tomboy teenager Nitzan is on her way fishing but will she catch the right fish? Every woman has her 'first time' and rarely does it play out the way we were taught it would.

GROWN UP

Directed by: Dana Neuberg

Written by: Dana Neuberg

In the confusing time between childhood and adolescence, fifteen year old Shira discovers the world of sexuality, jealousy and seduction. When her mother's date arrives earlier than expected, the evening gets out of control.

SHORTS PROGRAM FOUR



ARITHMETIC LESSON

Short Program Four
Saturday March 27 7:30 PM

STOCKHOLM

Directed by: Tiffani Yoon

Written by: Tiffani Yoon

A woman struggles with the abuse she endured from her stepfather as a child. Will she learn to overcome it or will she continue the abusive cycle?

BEAN

Directed by: Giovanna Federico

Written by: Giovanna Federico

Bean, a fifteen year old writer, says goodbye to her surrogate father Johnny. Her mother Julie has a new boyfriend, Scoot, a lazy redneck. Bean wants Julie to stop cycling through men and start being a mother. When Julie is unreceptive, Bean takes action to gain her mother's attention.

MI VIDA (HIP HOP)

Directed by: Stefanie Perez

Written by: Stefanie Perez

Chucky is a young 19 year old male who aspires to be a rapper. His mom sees his dream of becoming a rapper in a negative way, thinking that it will cause him to become a gang banger and abandon her. Throughout the film we follow Chucky as he deals with his mother's pressures and daily stressors to become a better person, accepted by his mother.

SHORTS PROGRAM FIVE



Short Program Five
Saturday March 27 10:00 PM

THE MUSKRAT BOY OF GRIFFITH PARK

THE MUSKRAT BOY OF GRIFFITH PARK

Directed by: Emmy Grinwis

Written by: Emmy Grinwis

Meet Elsa. She lives alone on the corner of Pineapple and Perishing with a view of the highway and two palm trees. She has no friends, no family, and certainly no lovers. Then one day she meets Lucas, the strange and scruffy boy from Griffith Park. From that moment forward her life will never be the same.

THE VISIONARY

Directed by: Gwydhar Bratton

Written by: Whitney Bratton

The Visionary is a three minute, color short shot digitally with live action and animation about a gentleman in an art gallery who experiences the surrounding artwork coming to life.

TRUE LOVE

Directed by: Ana Lily Amirpour

Written by: Ana Lily Amirpour

A single guy goes to a restaurant and tries to figure out what to order; his indecision becomes even more stressful when the couple at the table next to him want to say hello. He ends up ordering the special, True Love, but when it shows up, it's not exactly what he anticipated.

SHORTS PROGRAM FIVE



Short Program Five
Saturday March 27 10:00 PM

NOTHING HAPPENED

NOTHING HAPPENED

Directed by: Julia Kots

Written by: Jessica Provenz

Barb visits her best friend Liza at her erotic art gallery to confide in her. The girlfriends have shared everything in the past, but this is the one secret Barb is scared shouldn't be shared.

FEEDING BAUDELAIRE

Directed by: Kristin Ellingson

Written by: Kristin Ellingson

A sexy and mysterious woman moves in next to a couple with a new baby whose marriage has seen better days. The couple agree to house sit their new neighbor's cat. Little do they know about what awaits them in their exotic neighbor's apartment.

MILESTONE

Directed by: Melissa Jernigar

Written by: Julie Tortorici

When tubs of ice cream, drinking with friends and sad movies don't get you past your heartbreak it's time to pull out the big guns. Milestone is a short comedy with a big gun.

MY HAPPY FACES

Directed by: Marie Argeris

Written by: Marie Argeris

When a plastic surgeon offers his assistant Nell free surgery, she delivers an emphatic no. That is, until she dreams up a procedure that will not only change her life but the whole world.

SHORTS PROGRAM SIX



Short Program Six
Sunday March 28 11:00AM

MOTHER DAUGHTER

DEEDAH

Directed by: Brooke May

Written by: Brooke May

Deedah is a touching and often humorous firsthand account of a seven-year old girl's relationship with her six-year old brother who has Down syndrome.

IN THEIR BOOTS: OUTSIDE THE WIRE

Directed by: Amanda Spain

Written by: Amanda Spain

The women served their country bravely and when they returned, they were denied healthcare. These women are on missions, not only to help themselves, but the women who have yet to come home.

LINK IN THE CHAIN

Directed by: Lincoln Tanyi

Written by: Tamara Turner

By revealing the details of his turbulent youth, Douglas J. Fort unfolds the unadulterated reality of how he became a link in the chain of a struggling community.

PHELOPHEPA-TRAIN OF HOPE

Directed by: Arabella Weston Smith

Written by: Arabella Weston Smith

The Phelophepa Train is a sixteen-carriage train staffed with doctors and medical students who travel to the remote rural areas of South Africa and treat 45,000 people every year who would otherwise never see a doctor.

THE FLEA THEATER: A PORTRAIT

Directed by: Bethany Jacobson

Written by: Bethany Jacobson

This documentary follows the 2008 season of the award winning Flea Theater in New York City, combining behind-the-scenes footage of various productions with more formal interviews.

SHORTS PROGRAM SEVEN



Short Program Seven
Monday March 29th 9:30 PM

GOING DOWN

GOING DOWN

Co-Directed by: Sandra Seeling & Rainer Lipski

Co-Written by: Sandra Seeling & Paulo De Sousa

Susie's longtime relationship with her boyfriend is about to get serious. Filled with doubt Susie escapes to visit her sister in Los Angeles. When her sister is detained on a job, Susie meets Sandy a free spirited photographer who turns Susie's life upside down.

MOTHER DAUGHTER

Directed by: Ileana Chan

Written by: Vera Miao

Audrey's mother dies leaving her a piece of property in upstate New York. What Audrey discovers on the inherited property uncovers her mother's past and leaves Audrey questioning her own life.

LOOKING FOR

Directed by: Michelle Pollino

Written by: Jeff Paglei

Tracy Lawrence has returned to the dating scene after a long absence, and is getting nowhere fast. So, what does she do when love desperation arises? She rest her hopes on the 'Last Resort Dating Agency'.

TENGO ALGO QUE DECIRTE

Directed by: Ana Torres Alvarez

Written by: Ana Torres Alvarez

Susana is Pablo's girlfriend but Pablo has just realized he's gay and he is in love with Javi, his best friend who is also dating Susana. How are going to tell each other? How will they react?

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

Directed by: Eunice Wu

Written by: Eunice Wu

A lesbian couple face the challenge of their relationship when same sex marriage is banned in California.

TOOLS 4 FOOLS

Directed by: Kate A. Brandt

Written by: Kate A. Brandt

Comedienne Julie Goldman stars as an infomercial huckster promoting "recycled sex toys for girls" in this hysterically funny mock television ad.

SHORTS PROGRAM EIGHT



Short Program Eight
Thursday April 1 3:45pm

IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM

IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM

Directed by: Isabel Cueva

Written by: Isabel Cueva

After an army Squad is ambushed, an American soldier becomes captive in the hands of the enemy. While being interrogated and tortured inside a cave for days, she is surprised by another prisoner, who changes her life.

TAKE NOTE

Directed by: Elite Zexer

Written by: Elite Zexer

Anna, a new immigrant to Israel from Russia, is an unsuccessful army commander. Her strong will to fit in leads her to volunteer to take command over the mess hall cleanup. As her self confidence and ability to control the soldiers are challenged, she loses her faith in the system and herself.

ENOUGH ROPE

Directed by: Lynne Hardwood

Written by: Lynne Hardwood

Based on a true story, Iris leads the action to block a dual carriageway to stop delegates getting through to the G8 summit. But things get out of control when one policeman will stop at nothing to get the traffic moving.

SHORTS PROGRAM EIGHT



Short Program Eight
Thursday April 1 3:45pm

SHADOWS IN THE WIND

SHADOWS IN THE WIND

Directed by: Julia Guillen Creagh

Written by: Julia Guillen Creagh

New York, 1905. Sue and Johnsy are two painters who share a studio. Johnsy falls sick with pneumonia and doesn't improve. Sue notices that her friend is always looking through the window by her bed. The wind never stops howling. An old ivy vine climbing half way up the brick wall. It has been stripped of almost all its leaves. It is then when Sue realizes that Johnsy is convinced she'll die when the last leaf falls off.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS

Directed by: Nikki V. Roberts

Written by: Nikki V. Roberts

Jessica Andres (action hero in M. Night Shyamalan's upcoming *The Last Airbender*) stars as a tormented street teen in search of healing from the guilt of a horrific tragedy. Adrift in the gritty street, she embarks on a dark odyssey that tests the depths of her sanity.

THE EGG TIMER

Directed by: Emily Haddad

Written by: Emily Haddad

Ellen March, a biogenetics researcher has just discovered the cure to the childhood disease that killed her brother. She journeys to her home town to visit and share with her mother. On her arrival she uncovers another mystery that leads to a confession and reconciliation.

STUDENT PROGRAM 1



Monday March 29 1:30PM
Student Program 1

BLUES

BLUES

Directed by: Dena Greenbaum

Written by: Dena Greenbaum

Moshe is a thirteen year-old Orthodox Jewish boy growing up during the turbulent riots in Crown Heights. Ralph is also thirteen experiencing the times through an African-American perspective. Moshe and Ralph discover that they both have a passion for blues music and become friends despite the adversity surrounding them.

A STIR IN THE FOREST

Directed by: Madeleine Sims-Fewer

Written by: Madeleine Sims-Fewer

In 1942 Penny was evacuated from London, and taken to the countryside. During her short stay at a country manor house Penny finds herself enchanted by the mysterious gardener, who seems to hide a secret in the woods.

MICHAEL SAINTS

Directed by: Katie Mahalic

Written by: Katie Mahalic

Twelve year old Michael Saints is convinced that a miracle can happen if he can get hold of a vial of Lourdes' holy water from his catholic school church, a miracle can happen. Michael and his two best friends, scaredy cat Lloyd Dumpling and mischievous Franky Laroni, go on an adventure to steal the vial. In the process, the boys must get past a crabby nun, the watchful eye of a strict priest, and a creepy janitor up to no good.

UP JUMP THE BOOGIE

Directed by: Estella Chizhik

Written by: Estella Chizhik

Separated from her mom and now living with her grandparents, Portia is reluctant to make friends with the kids in the new neighborhood. One persistent boy changes her disposition.

STUDENT PROGRAM 2



Monday March 29 3:30PM
Student Program 2

FIASCO

FIASCO

Directed by: Nadia Hamzeh

Written by: Nadia Hamzeh

Noura, an Arab woman, is secretly married to her American best friend Daniel for a green card to stay in America and become a big artist. A fact that she hid from her conservative Arabic family. The green card interview is in two days and everything seems to be going as planned until Noura's conventional and strict father Fareez shows up for an unannounced visit.

LIGHTHOUSE

Directed by: Ling Li

Written by: Ling Li

Lighthouse keeper Joe saves a mysterious drowning girl from the ocean. Ann is unappreciative of Joe's efforts to rescue her. Instead, she insists that she is a fish and is happy and free in the ocean. Joe thinks that she is crazy, but he is also deeply attracted to her mysterious charm. He tries to change her mind by sharing with her the beauty and happiness of this world.

MM

Directed by: Alexandra Tengco

Written by: Alexandra Tengco

A story about a young woman who is just trying to find love for who she is despite having something special about her.

PROCESSION

Directed by: Beth Spitalny

Written by: Beth Spitalny

Shayna is unable to grieve her boyfriend's sudden death due because their relationship was kept a secret due to their religion. Unable to let her first love go, Shayna stows away in her boyfriend's hearse with the hope to bide some time and find some closure.

STUDENT PROGRAM 3



Monday March 29 5:15pm
Student Program 3

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Directed by: Jessica Hopper

Written by: Jessica Hopper

Samirah took out the garbage and never came back. She was found in rags after five years of being stabbed, starved and forced to sleep on the floor in a millionaire family's basement. She is survivor of modern day slavery.

BEYOND BOUNDARIES

Directed by: Betsy Jose

Written by: Betsy Jose

Individuals who do not conform to heteronormative expectations of society face unique challenges. This is compounded if they move to a new country and have to start life on their own in an unfamiliar territory.

DON'T UNPLUG THE ARTS

Directed by: Diana Lampiasi

Written by: Diana Lampiasi

At a time when budgets in public schools are being cut, funding for the arts is often the first thing to go. Entertainment industry professionals discuss the importance of keeping the arts in public schools.

FAST AS SHE CAN

Directed by: Kiran Goldman, Molly Goldman Snyder-Fink

Written by: Kiran Goldman, Molly Goldman Snyder-Fink

Jamaica won six gold medals during the 2008 Beijing Olympics. This film profiles two young female runners in Jamaica and explores the question of why Jamaicans are so fast.

UBUNTU

Directed by: Chanelle Rudder

Written by: Chanelle Rudder

In a nation plagued by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, Dawn Leppan founded a community center through donations that helps in the rehabilitation and education of effected people in the remote Valley of 1000 Hills.

STUDENT PROGRAM 4



Monday March 29 7:30pm
Student Program 4

138 ARLINGTON

138 ARLINGTON

Directed by: Meagan Hoecke

Written by: Meagan Hoecke

Two courageous women in a Baltimore psychiatric institution become survivors against all odds through their determination and audacity.

THE LAST BOGATR

Directed by: Sarah Lotfi

Written by: Sarah Lotfi

The most dangerous thing in war is faith. In World War II, a Soviet soldier fights the enemy and his own conscience, risking all to return to a life that is no longer his.

THE PARADE

Directed by: Giorgia Farina

Written by: Giorgia Farina

The Parade is a modern tragedy. Mysteriously locked together in a suffocating small room, Zoe and Aris await the return of their father.

PEARL CHANG

Directed by: I-Chen Chiu

Written by: I-Chen Chiu

A mother who wants her daughter to live the way she wants in the daughter's future. However, the daughter wants to become a dancer, which is not in the mother's expectation.

JOY IN THE MORNING

Directed by: Gina Atwater

Written by: Gina Atwater

When Nikki Hughes spends an unusual afternoon with her autistic niece Joy, she is forced to confront her own impending motherhood.

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2010 FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

	Friday March 26th	Saturday March 27th	Sunday March 28	Monday March 29th	Tuesday March 30th	Wednesday March 31st	Thursday April 1st
11:00am		The Mystical	Shorts Program 6				
12:00pm							
1:00pm						Veiled Voices	
2:00pm		Shorts Program 1 (1:30)	Sunshine	Student Shorts 1 (1:30)	Which Way to the War (1:30)		The Stern Cell Divide (1:30)
3:00pm		Shorts Program 2 (3:15)				Tales Catholic Church Elvis (2:45)	
4:00pm			Stock Stock	Student Shorts 2 (3:30)	Legend of Pancho Barnes		Short Program 8 (3:45)
5:00pm				Student Shorts 3 (5:15)		16 To Life	
6:00pm		Shorts Program 3 (5:30)	Saving Carren		A Secular Pilgrim Jerusalem (5:45)		A.W.O.L.
7:00pm	Serious Moonlight				The Waiting City		
8:00pm		Shorts Program 4 (7:30)	Poto Mitan Haitian	Student Shorts 4 (7:30)		Leftovers (7:45)	Empire of Silver
9:00pm				Shorts Program 7 (9:15)			
10:00pm		Shorts Program 5			Land God Women (9:30)	Out of the Fog	

TICKET AND PASS INFORMATION

Tickets for all screening can be purchased online
at www.lawomensfest.com.
Tickets can also be purchased at the **Laemmle box office**

PRICING

Opening Night Gala
“Serious Moonlight”
\$50

Centerpiece Gala
“The Waiting City”
\$25

Closing Night Gala
“Empire of Silver”
\$25

Fast Pass
(does not include galas)
\$100

All Regular Screenings
\$10

LOCATIONS

Screenings

Laemmle’s Sunset 5
8000 Sunset Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Receptions

The Libertine
8210 Sunset Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Discounts given to members of the following organizations:
Hair & Makeup Artists Network,
Women in Film, FIND and AFI.

Festival Contact
Diana Means
Dmeans25@yahoo.com
(818) 749-6162

NOTES

NOTES

Los Angeles Women's

International Film Festival

The Los Angeles Women's International Film Festival is produced by Alliance of Women Filmmakers Inc., a non-profit 501c(3) organization established by Diana Means to empower women filmmakers to create diverse roles for women. Each year in March the festival showcases narratives, documentaries, animation and student short films. The festival's programming reflects Diana's commitment to educate and inform audiences of social political and health issues impacting women globally.

Past films presented include;

"Coming Up Easy" which dealt with issues of domestic violence and how women get trapped in abusive cycles.

"White Rainbow" the story of women overcoming the stigma and cruelty widows experience in present day India.

"God Sleeps in Rwanda" captured the spirit of courageous women faced with the task of rebuilding their society after the 1994 genocide left their country 70% female.

"Rape for Who I Am" gives an account of the crisis in Africa as it relates to children who are abused because of the widespread African belief that virgins cure aids.

"Breast Cancer Diaries" exposed the flawed health care administration as it relates to detection and treatment of women under 40 with breast cancer.

In addition to providing women a platform to share their unique stories, the festival serves as a fundraiser for women causes. Our 2010 festival proceeds will go to The Adrienne Shelly Foundation, CARE Women Empowerment Campaign and Partners in Health.

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short films by, for, about Women™



CALL FOR ENTRIES

\$1,000 CASH PRIZE FOR THE WINNING FILMS

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For more information, visit us at lunafest.org or withoutabox.com

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