

WINNIPEG **FILM** GROUP'S

CINEMATHEQUE

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
SEPT • OCT 2009

Infoline: 925-3457

100 Arthur St. IN THE EXCHANGE

www.winnipegcinematheque.com

MONTREAL MAIN
(see page 3 for details)



Please join the Winnipeg Film Group for the release of our latest publication:

PLACE, a 128 page book featuring 13 essays on 13 independent feature filmmakers from Winnipeg

Wednesday, 21 October 2009
5 - 7 PM → 100 Arthur Street
→ Filmmakers and authors in attendance
For Sale → winnipegfilmgroup.com

PLACE

13 ESSAYS
13 FILMMAKERS
1 CITY



WITH ESSAYS BY

DANISHKA ESTERHAZY ON NORMA BAILEY | SOLOMON NAGLER ON JEFFREY ERBACH | JONAS CHERNICK ON SEAN GARRITY | IOANNIS MOOKAS ON NOAM GONICK | CAELUM VATNSDAL ON GREG HANEC LARISSA FAN ON CLIVE HOLDEN | TRICIA WASNEY ON PAULA KELLY KENNETH GEORGE GODWIN ON JOHN KOZAK | MIYE BROMBERG ON GUY MADDIN | MATTHEW RANKIN ON WINSTON WASHINGTON MOXAM GEOFF PEVERE ON JOHN PAIZS | JONATHAN BALL ON JEFF SOLYLO AND SEAN CARNEY ON CAELUM VATNSDAL



Cinema Lounge

Acclaimed Canadian director John Greyson introduces *Montreal Main*, by director Frank Vitale
October 25, 7:00 PM • See page 3 for details

DOCUMENTARIES OF THE 21ST CENTURY IN QUEBEC

October 23 - 25 • See page 4 for details

Poetic Passages: A PHILIP HOFFMAN RETROSPECTIVE

Wednesday Oct. 7, 7:00 & 9:00 PM • See page 5 for details

The Cinematheque is proud to be in partnership with **UMFM Campus Radio**...and is a sponsor of Winnipeg's only film talk radio show **Ultrasonic Film**. Tune to 101.5 on the FM dial every Thursday evening from 10 PM to 11 PM for the best in film reviews and discussion with hosts James and Lindsay.

The Winnipeg Film Group's Cinematheque gratefully acknowledges the on-going support of the Canada Council For The Arts, the Manitoba Arts Council, and the City of Winnipeg through the Winnipeg Arts Council. We also acknowledge the media sponsorship of CKUW 95.9 and UMF 101.5 FM.



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Conseil des Arts du Canada



CONSEIL DES ARTS DE WINNIPEG
WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL



Admission • \$8.00 general • \$7.00 students and seniors • \$6.00 Film Group and Cinematheque Members

\$1.00 of each admission goes toward our capital improvements, aimed at making your experience at the Cinematheque even more satisfying

Publications Mail Agreement
Number 40045468

Return to : Winnipeg Film Group
304-100 Arthur Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1H3

Members Pay Only \$6.00

Buy a membership! See page 6 for more information...

New WORLD CINEMA



■ **Fri Sept 4 to Sun Sept 6 – 7 PM**
24 CITY

Dir. Jia Zhangke | China | 2008 | 107 mins. | Mandarin with English subtitles

Starring Joan Chen, Tao Zhao

In honour of Winnipeg's Chinatown Centennial Celebrations, Cinematheque presents one of the most widely acclaimed Chinese films of last year, *24 CITY*. Jia Zhangke (*Still Life, The World*) is often hailed as one of the world's greatest directors and has topped even his best in this devastating depiction of change in the economic juggernaut of China. The subject is the enormous, state-owned Factory 420, built in the 1950's and about to be demolished, so as to pave the way for the luxury apartment complex of the title. Mixing documentary interviews and staged monologues, Jia reveals the

lives of 420's workers, who have devastating stories to tell and show their various paths. One of the essential films of the last decade that will reward multiple, fascinated viewings." (Travis Hoover)
Generously sponsored by the Winnipeg Chinese Cultural and Community Centre. Special thanks to Tina Chen.



溫城中華文化中心
THE WINNIPEG CHINESE CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

■ **Fri Sept 4 & Sat Sept 5 – 9 PM**
■ **Wed Sept 9 & Thur Sept 10 – 9 PM**

ADORATION

Dir. Atom Egoyan | Canada | 101 mins. | 2008

Starring Scott Speedman, Arsinée Khanjian, Devon Bostick, Ken Welsh, Rachel Blanchard

"This meticulously assembled montage weaves flashbacks and fantasies into an enthralling story of a boy's (Simon) search for the truth surrounding his parent's deaths in a car crash years earlier. Simon's imagination is also inflamed by a true story read in a high school class in Toronto by his teacher, about a terrorist who secreted explosives in the luggage of his pregnant girlfriend, who was travelling to Israel. Adoration's mood of sorrowful sensuality evokes the troubled histories of flesh and blood people whose complicated personal stories, if we knew them might or might not provide reasons for heinous crimes against humanity." (New York Times)



■ **Thur Oct 15 & Fri Oct 16 – 9 PM**

■ **Sat Oct 17 – Midnight**

POE: LAST DAYS OF THE RAVEN

Dir. Brent Fidler | 2008 | Canada | 80 mins.

Introduced With Q&A by Brent Fidler

Starring Brent Fidler, Mackenzie Gray, Olivia Rameau

The world's first feature on horror and mystery writer Edgar Allan Poe began as a one man stage play in 1983 at the Manitoba Theatre Centre. It toured Canada and ended up as a five week run at the Hollywood Court Theatre where it was seen by legends such as Ray Harryhausen and Forrest Ackerman (famous monsters of movieland). The character driven film paints a psychological portrait of the great American writer by exploring the extraordinary life experiences that shaped his fascinating imagination. By weaving through the ethnography of Poe's dreams and nightmares, particularly the dying moments of himself and his loved ones, a complex plot line of past and present intermingles while Poe hovers near death in his hospital bed...

2008 Winner: BEST FEATURE FILM, Cinema City International Film Festival

Repertory Cinema

Q: The Winged Serpent



■ **Sat Oct 31 – 7 & 9 PM**

Halloween Horrors:

Q: THE WINGED SERPENT

Larry Cohen | 1982 | 93 mins.

Starring Michael Moriarty, David Carradine, Candy Clark, Richard Roundtree

An all star cast and a homage to the great monster films of the 1950's featuring Michael Moriarty (*Law and Order*) Richard Roundtree (*Shaft*) and the late David Carradine in a rare 35mm print of this Larry Cohen cult classic. "A New York loser indebted to the mob finds an unlikely ally in a flying prehistoric creature nesting atop a skyscraper. The NYPD investigates eyewitness accounts of a gargantuan winged serpent in Manhattan and a string of senseless "ritual" killings. Against this backdrop, ex-junkie Jimmy Quinn finds work as a getaway driver for the mafia. One heist goes awry, so Jimmy hides out at the Chrysler Building's apogee. There, he sees "Q" – an Aztec god-beast that has been feasting on window cleaners and apartment residents." (Universe)

INDEPENDENT & EXPERIMENTAL SHORTS

■ **Wed Sept 16 & Thur Sept 17 – 9 PM**

GEORGE KUCHAR: A THUNDERCRACK OF PARLOR PERVERSITY

Curated by Irene Bindi

In a 1968 issue of *Film Culture*, filmmaker George Kuchar described his approach in a way that remains applicable today: "Usually you go into a theatre and there are three scenes. I mean three moments in the picture where it's intense. I don't believe in that. I believe the motion picture should be intense from beginning to end. No movie I've seen has had that... constant turbulence from beginning to end. So I have to go that way."

At the age of 12, Kuchar got his first camera and has now been making films and videos for over 50 years. He has been an inspiration for generations of underground filmmakers and artists, and is the recipient of the American Film Institute's Maya Deren Independent Film and Video Artists Award, The Los Angeles Film Critics Association Independent/Experimental Film and Video Award, and the New York Lesbian and Gay Film Festival's Peter S. Reed Achievement Award.

■ **Wed Sept 16 – 9 PM**

PROGRAM ONE – A Selection of George Kuchar Weather Films

Introduced by Irene Bindi

From his earliest to most recent work, Kuchar has always had an interest in extreme weather. This is most poignantly portrayed in his "weather diary" films which depict his tornado-chasing exploits during severe storm seasons in Oklahoma, where he habitually took up residence in hotel rooms and trailer parks in order to follow the storms as well as the

locals. This first program features *Weather Diary #2*, the 1968 *Knocturne* with Joyce Wieland, Frank Meyer and Bocko as well as the short storm film, *Wild Night in El Reno*.

■ **Thur Sept 17 – 9 PM**

PROGRAM TWO – Parlor Perversity: Mosholu Holiday & The Devil's Cleavage

Introduced by Irene Bindi

This program focuses on Kuchar's signature over-the-top trashy and tempestuous style of melodrama, inspired by the Hollywood melodramas of the 1940's and 50's, in *The Devil's Cleavage* and *Mosholu Holiday*.

MOSHOLU HOLIDAY

1966 | 10 mins.

A special guest appearance by Canadian TV star Bill Ronald along with the massive presence of "Mrs. Bronx" herself, Frances Leibowitz and her girlfriend Iris, make this film a must-see for travel enthusiasts and horror fans.

THE DEVIL'S CLEAVAGE

U.S. | 1973 | 122 mins.

Parodying the 1940's melodramas that he loves so, *The Devil's Cleavage* is a comedic masterpiece, referencing myriad Hollywood films, while keeping the slimy and cruddy side of domestic life in the foreground.



BACKGROUND / IRENE BINDI

Irene Bindi has an MFA in film and Video from York University as well as a BA in Film Studies and English from University of Western Ontario. She has an exceptional background in filmmaking, writing and curating, including having curated a retrospective on the films of Jack Chambers last year for Cinematheque.

■ **Wed Sept 23 & Thur Sept 24 – 7 PM**

HOW TO TALK BACK TO YOUR TELEVISION SET: Films that Challenge the "Boob Tube"

Curated and introduced by Jenny Bisch

**Wednesday post screening panel discussion with Jenny Bisch, Gene Walz and more*

Rise to the TV Turnoff Challenge! Walk away from the tube! This program of short films lashes out at television with anger, intrigue and humour. Television is one of the greatest inventions in the last hundred years, but most of us have a love/hate relationship with it. While it can be an effective communication tool, it can also obscure the truth and trick us into buying things we do not need. The TV Turnoff Challenge asks us to try to live without this medium for only one week – and it truly is a challenge for most people because TV is a part of daily life. Part of the Challenge is to find other things to do with your time, where normally you would watch television. These films show how prevalent TV is in modern life and reminds the viewer that not all moving images are mindlessly wrought.

BACKGROUND / JENNY BISCH:

Winnipeg filmmaker and curator Jenny Bisch has been involved in many filmmaking projects and has cultivated a passion for short experimental film. Her films, The Arousing Adventures of Sailor Boy, and Praying Mantis Upskirt (co-directed with Allison Bile), have been enjoyed by audiences around the world. She has curated many short film programs and successfully organized the first annual GREENMOVIEFEST for Earth Day, 2009 and more recently NONSENSE? NONSENSE! Films of Deirdre Logue and Shawna Dempsey and Lorri Millan. Her curatorial involvement with the 2006 Sugar and Splice Film Festival led to a strong interest in exhibiting the work of contemporary women filmmakers.

BACKGROUND / GENE WALZ

Gene Walz still remembers the arrival of his family's first television set in 1952 and his first TV heroes: Gabby Hayes and Tom Corbett, Space Cadet. He has taught courses on film at the University of Manitoba since 1974, including Popular Film and Television, and a couple of his films were made specifically for TV. His writing covers a wide variety of topics, though he is especially known for books on Canadian film, Charlie Thorson and Francois Truffaut.

WNDX

Winnipeg's Festival of Film and Video Art

• **Thursday, Oct. 8 – Sunday, Oct. 11 •**

The Winnipeg Film Group is proud to be a sponsor once again for this innovative film festival, which is now in its fourth year. Established in 2006, WNDX places special attention on the most innovative and groundbreaking work by Canadian filmmakers and video artists, with a special focus on the work of Manitoba and prairie artists. It celebrates the impetus to create in motion picture as a means of artistic expression and bring to the forefront works that may be overlooked by the mainstream. WNDX is a film festival that was created by filmmakers, in support of filmmakers.

WNDX screenings and events at Cinematheque include:

■ **Thur Oct 8**

5:00 PM – Master Lecture on Diary Cinema led by Philip Hoffman

7:00 PM – New Prairie Cinema (shorts)

■ **Fri Oct 9**

5:00 PM – Panel Discussion on Distributing Short Independent Films

7:00 PM – John Price: Second Childhood (shorts)

9:00 PM – Canada Avant Garde (shorts)

■ **Sat Oct 10**

5:00 PM – A Fragile Transition: Past + Present in Chilean Canadian Cinema (shorts)

7:00 PM – "All Fall Down", by Philip Hoffman (experimental documentary feature)

■ **Sun Oct 11**

2:00 PM – Great Experiments! Manitoba shorts... just for kids (FREE admission)

Please note there are additional events and screenings at other venues. Go to www.wndx.org for the full line-up, as well as information on tickets and passes.

REEL Documentaries

■ **Wed Sept 9 & Thur Sept 10 – 7 PM**

VALENTINO: THE LAST EMPEROR

Dir. **Matt Tyrnauer** | USA | 96 mins. | 2009 | Documentary

VALENTINO: THE LAST EMPEROR is a "bitchy, campy, fascinating insider look at the fashion industry. It's also a love story. The career of Valentino Garavani – known as just Valentino in the design world is a marvel of creativity and survival that spans almost 50 years. He became the designer who dressed Jackie Kennedy and other fashion icons, among them Audrey Hepburn and Diana, Princess of Wales. Everybody who was anybody was dressed by Valentino... Surprisingly touching." (Liz Braun / Toronto Sun)



■ **Fri Sept 11 & Sat Sept 12 – 7 & 9 PM**

■ **Sun Sept 13 – 7 PM**

■ **Wed Sept 16 & Thur Sept 17 – 7 PM**

BURMA IV: REPORTING FROM A CLOSED COUNTRY

Dir. **Anders Østergaard** | Denmark | 2008 | 85 mins. | English & Burmese with English subtitles

*Sept 11 and Sept 13 screenings introduced by Friedrich Louis Ulrich

How we view the relationship between traditional and new media should forever be changed by Anders Østergaard's terrific documentary about a loosely organized network of scrappy underground videographers who risked their lives photographing the abortive 2007 uprising against Myanmar's military dictatorship. The government shut down the Internet and local media and banned foreign journalists from covering the demonstrations, which were led by Buddhist monks and students with growing support from an emboldened public. *Burma IV* takes us on a roller coaster of alternating hope and despair as the young guerrilla reporters, always on the lookout for ubiquitous informers, wade into the thick of the struggle with Handycams hidden in bags, then transmit the footage to a hidden colleague, who smuggles it out of the country via satellite.

"SENSEI" FREDRICH ULRICH / BACKGROUND
Born in Lincoln, Nebraska, Friedrich Ulrich grew up in a Métis family of German/Iroquois/Winnebago heritage and studied Education at the University of Denver. He received an MA in Language Studies at the University of Colorado and taught in Germany. More recently he has been active in the Buddhist community as the Resident Minister of the Manitoba Buddhist Church since February of 1999. He gives workshops, speeches and spiritual consultation.

■ **Fri Sept 18 & Sat Sept 19 – 9 PM**

■ **Sun Sept 20 – 7 PM**

HIP HOP SAVED THE DAY: THREE MUSICAL PORTRAITS

TECHNOLOGY STOLE MY VINYL

Directed & Edited By **Adalena Franford** | Canada | 2009 | Produced by **Steve St. Louis**

Technology stole my vinyl examines the way in which computer software has transformed the art of making people dance. Historically, DJ's had to pay their dues by digging for rare records and shelling out the money for them. Now, a newcomer can download a top shelf music collection from the Internet in a short time and with little expense. *Technology stole my vinyl* features local Winnipeg players in their everyday environments at home, in their studios, in record shops and at the club. Into the Music's Greg Tonn, DJ CO-OP, Mama Cutsworth, Co-Wrekt, Hipnotic and others weigh in on how technology has impacted the DJ game in Winnipeg and beyond.

BRAKADA

Dir. **Randell Mauricio** | Canada | 25 mins. | 2009 | Documentary

Michael and Mitchell Francisco are motivated by the same things that drive today's Hip Hop recording artists. But more important than the money and fame, is the chance to pay respect to their late mother's sacrifices. *Brakada* explores the power of the human spirit by examining the struggles faced by two Winnipeg rappers over the last 11 years – self-doubt, disbanding, their upbringing in a broken home and the early passing of Dolores Francisco, who endured an abusive relationship with their father and eventually raised Michael and Mitchell as a single parent. Matured by these setbacks and determined to honour their strong-willed mother, the duo engages in one last push towards their goal of superstardom.



LIFE FROM 95 (THE MAKING OF "LIVE FROM 95")

Dir. **Jim Agapito and Ervin Chartrand** | Canada | 2009 | 27 mins. 40 seconds

Screens with "LIVE FROM 95" (5 mins.)

Artists Jim Agapito and Ervin Chartrand worked with the youth of IRCOM (the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba) over the past year on a rap video "LIVE FROM 95" that explores newcomer life at 95 Ellen Street, written and performed by the youth themselves. The filmmakers also made a documentary about the process, capturing both the challenges and rewards experienced by the youth from many countries prior to and since arriving in Winnipeg. The artists and the youth worked with Winnipeg music stars to create the video including hip-hop artist Wab Kinew and choreographer Dammecia Hall. The project was created through the Winnipeg Arts Council's Public Art WITH ART program which brings together communities and professional artists to collaborate in giving voice to the community through art.

■ **Fri Sept 18 & Sat Sept 19 – 7 PM**

■ **Sun Sept 20 – 2 PM**

■ **Wed Sept 23 – 9:30 PM**

■ **Thur Sept 24 – 9 PM**

FOOD, INC.

Dir. **Robert Kenner** | 93 mins. | USA | Documentary

"Eating can be one dangerous business. Don't take another bite till you see Robert Kenner's *Food, Inc.*, an essential, indelible documentary that is scarier than anything in the last five *Saw* horror shows. Deceptions have nothing on ears of corn when it comes to transforming into mutant killers. Kenner keeps his film bouncing with humour, music and graphics, just like the ads that shove junk food down our faces. The message he's delivering with the help of nutrition activists, including Eric Schlosser (*Fast Food Nation*) and Michael Pollan (*The Omnivore's Dilemma*), is an eye-opener. High-fructose corn syrup and its friend the E.coli virus are declaring war on national health, and federal agencies, lobbied by Big Agriculture, ain't doing a thing to stop it. Reason? Profits. The movie offers solid alternatives. If the way to an audience's heart is through its stomach, *Food, Inc.* is a movie you're going to love." (Peter Travers)

"Smart, gripping, and untainted by the influence of Michael Moore, this muckraking 2008 documentary transcends anticorporate demonology to build a visceral but reasoned case against modern agribusiness." (Chicago Reader)



■ **Fri Sept 25 & Sat Sept 26 – 7 & 9 PM**

■ **Sun Sept 27 – 7 PM**

■ **Wed Sept 30 & Thur Oct. 1 – 7 & 9 PM**

THE COVE

Dir. **Louie Psihoyos** | USA | 92 mins. | Documentary

Winner of 12 international awards, "the effectiveness of *The Cove* comes from its explosive cinematic craft, its surprising good humour and its pure excitement. A long time National Geographic photographer turned filmmaker, Psihoyos tells an amazing true story in *The Cove*. One of them is the shocking story of what happens every year in a sheltered cove near Taiji, Japan, 'a little town with a big secret.' Taiji is where hundreds of dolphins are captured and sold into the dolphinarium trade. Although its beautifully photographed and highly entertaining *The Cove* is also one of the most wrenching movies you'll ever see. It raises troubling questions about how badly we have befouled the 70 percent of our planet that's covered with water and about why we have treated the species closest to us in intelligence with such cruelty and contempt." (Andrew O'Hehir / Salon)

"The summer's most suspenseful thriller! Gorgeous, pulse pounding and shocking." (Elle Magazine)

■ **Fri Oct 2 & Sat Oct 3 – 7 & 9 PM**

■ **Sun Oct 4 – 7 PM**

FESTIVAL OF CATS AND DOGS

CAT LADIES

Dir. **Christie Callan Jones** | Canada | 2009 | 58 mins.

Cat Ladies is a one hour verité documentary that unravels the real story behind the oft-ridiculed 'cat lady' – a cultural stereotype and figure of ridicule for women of a certain age with too many furry companions. Through the intimate portrait of four unique 'cat ladies' we create a sensitive and emotionally honest portrait of women whose lives and self-worth have become intractably linked to cats. It's not the number of cats that defines someone as a 'cat lady', but rather their attachment, or non-attachment, to human beings. They create a world with their cats in which they are accepted and in control – a world where they ultimately have value.



with DOG STORIES

Dir. **Shereen Jerrett** | Canada | 1992 | 24 mins.

In a series of stories, many of them humorous, *Dog Stories* uncovers the world of people and their pets. The film reveals as much about the people telling the stories as the dogs they are describing. With humour and a candid eye, the dog owners are more honest in regards to their feelings about a dog than almost any other aspect of their life, and in the process they reveal a lot about themselves. Dogs featured in the stories include Sunny the lucky dog, whose owner has won a prize a week since she got him; Blitz, the world's smartest dog (sort of); border collie Jenny the baseball fanatic; and Ivana, the dancing poodle.

■ **Wed Oct 14 to Fri Oct 16 – 7 PM**

■ **Sun Oct 18 – 7 PM**

■ **Wed Oct 21 – 7:30 PM**

ENLIGHTEN UP!

Dir. **Kate Churchill** | USA | 82 mins. | 2009

"Twenty nine year old Nick Rosen was already a little skeptical about the value of yoga when he decided to embark on a personal quest to find out whether it could transform his nagging discontent into a state of bliss the way it seemed to do for so many other devotees. So, he agreed to allow his friend, filmmaker Kate Churchill, an avid yoga enthusiast, to follow him around with a camera as he traveled from New York to India stopping at a variety of gyms, clubs and ashrams along the way in search of inner peace. Were the yogis they encountered really capable of cosmic healing, or was the industry just a sham scamming millions of Westerners inclined to consume spirituality in the same way they buy sneakers and hot dogs? The upshot of his half year endeavour is this charming documentary, an alternatively funny and revealing flick which dares to knock some seemingly sacrosanct gurus off their lofty pedestals." (Kam Williams)

Cinema Lounge



Montreal Main

■ **Sun Oct 25 – 7 PM**

CINEMA LOUNGE: ACCLAIMED CANADIAN DIRECTOR JOHN GREYSON INTRODUCES MONTREAL MAIN, BY DIRECTOR FRANK VITALE
FREE ADMISSION!

The ongoing Cinema Lounge lecture series gives Canadian artists the opportunity to choose a Canadian film that has impacted them in their careers, and to write and speak about its importance. In this way, the Cinema Lounge series contributes to a larger public debate on Canadian cinema.

To open this year's series, we welcome Toronto professor, filmmaker and video artist John Greyson, who has selected to discuss Frank Vitale's early 1970's classic *Montreal Main*.

JOHN GREYSON INTRODUCES:

MONTREAL MAIN

Dir. **Frank Vitale** | 1972 | Canada | 88 mins.

"Distinguished by its improvised performances, confessional tone and lyrical construction, *Montreal Main* was widely praised by critics as an intensely personal and honest work. Its theme of sexual

diversity, its depiction of a place and people on the fringes of society, and its remarkable portrait of the gentle and understated relationship between Frank and Johnny were all revelations.... *Montreal Main* was produced on a modest \$20,000 budget and enjoyed considerable success with audiences in non-commercial theatres. Frank Vitale, a gay artist hanging on a little to the sixties, lives on Montreal's cosmopolitan St-Laurent Boulevard – the Main – in Montreal, where he and his friends have established an enclave outside the bounds of liberal society. Into this world comes Johnny, a young adolescent emerging from the suburbs. He and Frank meet by chance in a strange moment of mutual need and gradually develop an unconventional but deeply touching friendship. But Johnny's pseudo-hip, intellectual parents and Frank's gay friends intervene, refusing to allow the relationship to continue." (Canadian Film Encyclopedia)

ABOUT / JOHN GREYSON

The multi disciplinary John Greyson is a Toronto film and video artist whose features, shorts and installations include Fig Trees, Proteus, Zero Patience and Lilies. Most of his films have won major awards, most recently FIG TREES which won 2009, Best Documentary Teddy, Berlin Film Festival; and Best Canadian Feature at the Inside Out Festival.

His shorts, features and installations include: Fig Trees (2009), Proteus (2003), The Law of Enclosures (2000), Lilies (1996), Un@ut (1997), Zero Patience (1993), The Making of Monsters (1991), and Urinal (1988). He co-edited Queer Looks, a critical anthology on gay/lesbian film & video (Routledge, 1993), is the author of Urinal and Other Stories (Power Plant/Art Metropole, 1993), and has published essays and artists pieces in Alphabet City, Public, FUSE, and twelve critical anthologies. An associate professor at York University, he was awarded the Bell Canada Video Art Award, 2007.

As part of Gimme Some Truth • Fri Oct 23 to Sun Oct 25 • FREE ADMISSION

THE WINNIPEG DOCUMENTARY PROJECT

Thursday, Oct. 22 – Sunday, Oct. 25
www.gimmesometruth.ca

Now in its second year, GIMME SOME TRUTH: THE WINNIPEG DOCUMENTARY PROJECT is a unique, four-day documentary forum that features film screenings, panel discussions, master lectures and workshops – all intended to provide filmmakers and audiences alike the opportunity to discuss creative, ethical and technical issues related to the documentary form.

GIMME SOME TRUTH is a collaborative programming endeavour of the Documentary Organization of Canada – Winnipeg Chapter, the National Indigenous Media Arts Coalition, Urban Shaman Gallery and the Winnipeg Film Group.



Information on this comprehensive program is available at www.gimmesometruth.ca. Highlights include:

- Alanis Obomsawin (Montreal), Canada's leading Aboriginal documentary filmmaker, introducing the Manitoba premiere of her new film *Professor Norman Cornett: Since when do we divorce the right answer from an honest answer?*
- John Greyson (Toronto), introducing the Manitoba premiere of his Berlin Film Festival Teddy Award winning new documentary opera, *Fig Trees*, on AIDS activism
- Paul Cowan (Montreal), introducing the Manitoba premiere of his new film, *Paris 1919*, inspired by the Margaret MacMillan book *Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World*
- Oscar® nominated filmmaker Sam Green (San Francisco) with a live performance presentation of his new documentary in progress, *The Universal Language*, which meditates on the subjects of hope, the utopian impulse and the complex realities of 'human nature'
- Judy Irving (San Francisco) introducing *The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill*, a documentary about birds... and human nature
- Brett Gaylor (Montreal) introducing *RiP: A Remix Manifesto*, a documentary about copyright and the remix culture
- And, the Manitoba premiere of Jonathan Demme's newest documentary on Winnipeg's favourite son, Neil Young, *Neil Young Trunk show*.

Panel discussion topics include: Copyright in the Digital Age, Resistance in documentary Film, Hybrid Documentary forms, Capturing Relationships between Humans and Animal, and Human Rights and the Documentarian's Role.

A special highlight is a program of rarely seen Quebec documentaries, **DOCUMENTARIES OF THE 21ST CENTURY IN QUEBEC**, especially curated for the Winnipeg Film Group by Montreal curator Martin Delisle (see box beside for more details)

VENUE NOTE: this event utilizes multiple venues, including Cinematheque, The Rachel Browne Theatre (WCD) and the West End Cultural Centre. The side-bar Quebec documentary series will be held at the Salle Martial-Caron at the CUSB.

Refer to www.gimmesometruth.ca for complete programming information and venue details.



Curated and introduced by Martin Delisle

Quebec documentary filmmaking is known around the world for its artistic excellence. These films often play at major festivals but many of them are rarely seen at theatres in Canada outside their home province. The Winnipeg Film Group invited well respected Quebec programmer Martin Delisle to assemble and introduce a program of recent acclaimed documentaries to screen here. **All films are in French with English subtitles.**

SPECIAL OFF-SITE PRESENTATION

All films in this series will be screened at the Salle Martial-Caron at the Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface, 200 De Cathedrale Ave.

■ Fri Oct 23 – 7 PM (CUSB)

UN FLEUVE HUMAIN (The River Where We Live)

Dir. Sylvain L'Espérance | 2006 | 92 mins. | French, Fula, Bambara with English subtitles

Social consciousness is rooted in Sylvain L'Espérance's films, as well as his concern with globalization. *Un fleuve humain* is representative of this, yet with a poetic and sensitive approach. L'Espérance went to Mali, to the Niger River delta, where he observes the various forms of human activity around it. We encounter and hear from artisans, fishermen, nomadic cattle herders and merchants who live along the river in harmony with the seasons and the ebb and flow of the river, from which the film takes its own rhythm. These people are proud that their knowledge and expertise come down from their ancestors and their goal is to extend this legacy to their own children. But, while they continue to practice age-old traditions, they are faced with the effects of a 30 year drought and encroaching desertification.

■ Fri Oct 23 – 9 PM (CUSB)

AMERICANO

Dir. Carlos Ferrand Zavala | 2007 | 110 mins. | French, Spanish with English subtitles

Americano is a road movie where, instead of going south as people would normally do, Carlos Ferrand Zavala takes us on journey from Patagonia back to Nunavut, while revisiting old friends or acquaintances along the way. They are family members, filmmakers, professors and a cook. One of the most moving encounters is with Fortunata, a woman who worked in his parents' house and raised him. Through the conversations we discover that all these people are related to, or still fighting for, a social or political cause, whether past or present. To enhance the point being made, Ferrand Zavala uses clips from films he made throughout the years denouncing some of these issues. In his unique way, he portrays the major upheavals that have transformed the American continent over the past thirty years while forcing us to question our own identity.

Jutra Award for Best Documentary, 2008

■ Sat Oct 24 – 2 PM (CUSB)

LE PÈRE DE GRACILE

Dir. Lucie Lambert | 2004 | 81 mins. | French with English subtitles

Le père de Gracile is described by Lucie Lambert as a documentary fable. This description is quite befitting, given the poetic and dreamlike tone that understates this story. Gracile, a ten-year old girl, goaded by a dream, leaves her mother to go searching for her father, who has disappeared and works as a woodcutter somewhere on the Québec Lower North Shore. She discovers on this long trek that the forest is devastated by heavy machinery, driven by men whose bad luck has forced them to lead this life away from their homes and families. Every one of them that she meets confides in her and, herein lies the touching aspect of this film, a natural symbiosis seems to establish itself between the hard-working man and the fragile little girl, as if each of them became her father for a moment.

CURATOR MARTIN DELISLE

"As we all know, Québec has a long rich tradition in the documentary field. It is through this genre that a true French-Canadian cinema came to be. Denys Arcand, Gilles Carle, Gilles Groulx, Michel Brault and many others started as documentarians before entering the realm of fiction. The tradition of documentary in Québec is still alive and well. This being said, it has become extremely difficult to finance this genre properly. Documentary is now mostly perceived as a television object and this forces filmmakers to deliver their works as 26 or 52 minute products. Telefilm Canada funds documentaries through the Canadian Television Fund. Filmmakers find it extremely hard to produce feature-length works and they have been at odds for a long time with the cultural agencies for true recognition of this genre with proper and

decent funding. The selection of films for this program encompasses the works of filmmakers who are among those fighting for a true place for the independent feature-length documentary. They span two different generations, each with a unique voice and immense talent. They all share the vision of documentary being, first and foremost, an artistic means to share their interests or concerns. This selection of feature-length documentaries reflects both the multi-faceted views of prominent Québec filmmakers who believe in this genre and who, against all financial odds, continue to express themselves and share their vision with wide audiences, both nationally and around the world."



■ Sat Oct 24 – 4 PM (CUSB)

ROGER TOUPIN, ÉPICIER VARIÉTÉ

Dir. Benoît Pilon | 2003 | 97 mins. | French with English subtitles

Roger Toupin, épicer variété paints a moving portrait of a small business and its owner, and a quiet homage to its long history. Pilon takes in the atmosphere of this place, which is as much a store as a meeting place for long-time local residents. It is also a study of the rapidly changing Plateau Mont-Royal neighbourhood, once a working-class area of Montreal populated by large families that has become a residential yuppie hotspot, increasingly expensive with far fewer families. Roger Toupin is an odd character, but we cannot but grow to like him as we learn about his kindness, his ever-lasting love for his deceased girlfriend, the care and love he gives his aging mother, and his indomitable faith in God.

■ Sat Oct 24 – 7 PM (CUSB)

LA CLASSE DE MADAME LISE (Madame Lise's Class)

Dir. Sylvie Groulx | 2006 | 89 mins. | French with English subtitles

Lise Coupal teaches First Grade in a multi-ethnic neighborhood of Montreal. She is a warm, patient and tolerant, albeit strict woman. Her students are six years old and Sylvie Groulx concentrates particularly on a few of them: Rafik, Solace, Rahat, Jessica and Adonay. All of them are more endearing than the other, in some way or another. We see them live in that environment for a full year and we learn of their problems and successes. We also discover the problems with which Madame Lise and the school have to deal with: children of various ethnical origins, cultural differences, and children that are taught in French but go back to families where the parents do not have any knowledge of that language and cannot help them. But the children find in Madame Lise comfort and encouragement at every turn.



■ Sun Oct 4 – 2 PM

9TH ANNUAL WENDY WERSCH MEMORIAL LECTURE: Claudine Majzels

Dance, Art and Women's Bodies

"Feminism has helped me to survive and grow in my own life as an art historian, teacher, dancer, mother, daughter and woman. I am especially interested in how images of women in dance and art history reveal changing cultural attitudes to women's bodies and women's lives." (Claudine Majzels)

BACKGROUND / CLAUDINE MAJZELS

Originally from Montreal, Claudine Majzels has a Ph.D. in Art History from the University of Pennsylvania and taught in Britain for many years before coming to Winnipeg. Claudine is an Associate Professor at the University of Winnipeg where she has created new courses on feminist art and dance history.

■ Sat Oct 24 – 9 PM (CUSB)

DE L'AUTRE CÔTÉ DU PAYS (The Other Side of the Country)

Dir. Catherine Hébert | 2008 | 84 mins. | Acholi, Bantu with English subtitles

De l'autre côté du pays (The Other Side of the Country) is a personal film on one of the worst, albeit little known, humanitarian crisis in the world. For the past 20 years, a war in the Northern part of Uganda has opposed government forces and a relatively small group of rebels. The government has used this war as a ploy to remain in power and as a pretext to force 17 million people to move into camps. These are supposedly safe havens from the rebels while, much to the contrary people die in them from diseases and rebels easily penetrate them. Focusing on five victims of this conflict, the film is a powerful and incisive indictment of the Ugandan government's *laissez-faire* and also on the countries who provide financial assistance to Uganda and let this war continue uselessly.

■ Sun Oct 25 – 2 PM (CUSB)

L'ATELIER DE MON PERE (My Father's Studio)

Dir. Jennifer Alleyn | 2008 | 72 mins. | French with English subtitles

Jennifer Alleyn has been immersed in the visual art world all her life, being the daughter of the versatile and famous artist Edmund Alleyn who marked Canadian Art history at a time when it was in complete transformation, particularly between the 1950s and 1970s. When he passed away in 2004, Jennifer inherited her father's studio on Saint-Laurent Boulevard in Montreal, still impregnated with his creative soul and containing a great number of his important works. In *L'Atelier de mon père (My Father's Studio)*, incorporating elements from the only filmed interview she ever managed to do with her camera-shy father, she brilliantly brings back to life his genius, his innovative spirit and his unique integrity as an artist. There is also an autobiographical side to this since, through Alleyn's immersion in her father's life, she reveals quite a bit of herself.

■ Sun Oct 25 – 4 PM (CUSB)

PANEL DISCUSSION: Human Rights and the Documentarians' Role

With Manitoba filmmaker Andre Clement, curator Martin Delisle and others TBC

Note: this panel will be in French only – no English translation

More information on the Quebec Documentaries Series is available at www.gimmesometruth.ca.

Reel Pride

■ Tue Oct 13 to Sat Oct 17 (Oct 17 screenings at Cinematheque)

FEATURING: Stubblejumper, General Idea: Art, Aids and the Fin De Siècle (followed by short discussion or filmmaker interview), and Chef's Special.

Followed by an after party, with free entry via ticket stub! Location to be announced at www.reelpride.org.

The NFB's 70th Anniversary Edition • Admission is free, and all are welcome! • Tuesday – Friday, Oct 27 – 31 at Cinematheque!

Get Animated! is a Canada-wide series of free screenings and activities from the NFB, to mark World Animation Day. Watch the NFB's latest animated films on the big screen for free and attend a workshop led by Oscar®-nominated animator Cordell Barker (*The Cat Came Back*). You can also enjoy the NFB's online film festival programmed exclusively for Get Animated! Look for complete schedule online at www.nfb.ca/getanimated

■ **Tue Oct 27 – 7 PM**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: CORDELL BARKER – ANIMATION TIMING

For Cordell Barker, good timing creates a good animation film, however the drawings may be. Yet, timing is not about rigidity; it is like jazz—it maintains an internal beat while letting other actions evolve in suspended moments. Using clips from other people's films, Cordell explores the elements of animation timing, showing how he came to appreciate its idiosyncrasies. Then, showing clips from his own oeuvre, he shares his thoughts on when the timing worked (and when it didn't).

Followed by a reception in the Artspace lobby

■ **Wed Oct 28 – 7 PM**

NFB NEW RELEASES

■ **Thur Oct 29 – 7 PM**

NFB International Program

Curated by Danny Lennon

■ **Fri Oct 30 – 7 PM**

(WFG Studio, 3rd floor above Cinematheque)

PIERRE HEBERT: A SOLO PROJECTED ANIMATION PERFORMANCE

ONLY THE HAND & ANIMATION EXERCISE (in English, French and Ojibway)

Pioneer Quebec animator Pierre Hebert will give a live performance of two separate animated works: the incredibly imaginative *Only the Hand*, which he has performed around the world and the premiere of his brand new work *Animation Exercise*. Hebert works with dry erase markers on a small light table (a process of constantly drawing and erasing). Through this process Hebert will animate the sentence "Only the hand that erases can write the true thing," which is then projected into three separate images in the language of Ojibway, French and English. Hebert travels around the world giving performances of this work translated into the languages of each region he visits.

Pierre's second performance *Animation Exercise* is done manually on a white board with a dry erase felt pen. Each of the drawings is recorded in a very short digital buffer so that after the 16" drawing, every new drawing overrides the oldest of the existing images in the loop. As a result, this set of 16 images is changing and renewing itself very quickly, constantly heading in new unexpected directions.

BACKGROUND / PIERRE HÉBERT

Right from his first film in 1962, self taught Pierre Hébert has been experimenting with the animation technique of engraving images directly on 16 mm or 35 mm processed black film. After working at the National Film Board of Canada from 1965 until the end of 1999, he then pursued his career as an independent artist and filmmaker. From 1996 to 1999, he was producer and director of the Animation/Youth studio of the French program of the NFB. He was first known for his abstract experimental films dealing with perception phenomena (*Op hop*, *Opus 3*, *Around perception*, *Fundamentals of genetics*). Later, although he always kept an experimental approach, his films became more socially and politically involved (*Entre chiens et loups*, *Memories of war*).

Hébert has won many awards including the Albert Tessier Award (Quebec Government Award for Cinema) for *Life time Achievement* and the Best Quebec Feature in 1996 for his animated film for *La Plante Humaine*. He has taught animation at various universities as well as doing much writing for cinema and art magazines.

■ **Fri Oct 30 – 9 PM**

THE DEVIL WORE A PAPER HAT: NEW WINNIPEG ANIMATION

Curated by Dave Barber

An incredible collection of new animation reflecting work from emerging Winnipeg animators – including filmmakers in the Red River College Digital Arts Program, the Communication Multimedia Program at St. Boniface, as well as new independent work from Winnipeg artists. Featuring the latest work of magical fantasy by Winnipeg animator Curtis Wiebe, **THE DEVIL WORE A PAPER HAT**, Mark Klassen's **BLIND DATE** and Brenna George's **ALLSORTS** – an incredible film in which Allsorts candy was scanned and imported into the computer with animated layers. This program also features the explosive results of a stop motion animation workshop given by Halifax filmmaker Andrea Dorfman with the kids from **ART CITY**.

■ **Sat Oct 31**

(WFG Studio, 3rd floor above Cinematheque)

12 Noon – Scott Kilborn Kid's animation workshop, in conjunction with Freeze Frame

2:00 PM – NFB Kid's Screening & Halloween Party!



The Devil Wore a Paper Hat

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WINNIPEG FILM GROUP

Poetic Passages: A PHILIP HOFFMAN RETROSPECTIVE

■ **Wed Oct 7 – 7 & 9 PM**

POETIC PASSAGES: A PHILIP HOFFMAN RETROSPECTIVE

A co-presentation of WNDX + Winnipeg Film Group

Curated by Cecilia Aranedá,
Introduced by Philip Hoffman

Death, life, love, memory and loss together comprise the essential stuff that forms the oeuvre of Canadian experimental documentary filmmaker Philip Hoffman. Indeed, in an interview with Barbara Sternberg, Hoffman acknowledges that "not all filmmakers deal with death so directly, or so often" as he has within his body of work. And yet, this is just the start, because there is no

single way to merely 'watch' a Hoffman film; when you enter the darkened space of the cinema, you become a participant within Hoffman's memories and you come to know Hoffman as a person perhaps better than you know yourself.

Hoffman hands down film in a very personal and transformative way, without much fanfare, but in a way that indelibly impacts the receiver. If documentary is "the telling of a story or illumination of themes, as poetry is a story or theme told by images," as defined by John Grierson – long recognized as the "father" of documentary in Canada through his influence in the establishment the NFB – and poetry "uses many effects of sound, imagery and vocabulary to achieve a heightened, intensive form of expression," as the Gage Canadian Dictionary posits, then Hoffman is indeed a master documentarian through his poetic diary cinema experimentations, even as he actively seeks to purge "the ghost of Grierson" with his work at the same time, replacing the traditionally strong educational leaning of the documentary form with something that is far more personal. (Cecilia Aranedá)

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7:00 PM: RETROSPECTIVE I

KITCHENER-BERLIN

1990 | 34 mins. | 16 mm

Kitchener-Berlin is a naming of recall, a movement into the city's Germanic traditions, and its rituals of memory, bereavement, and technology. It is Hoffman's most frankly "poetic" film, employing image phrases across a wordless field of interlocking fragments, gathering the sum of a diary travel in overlapping movements that quietly course through a rectangle of introspection. (Mike Hoolboom)

PASSING THROUGH / TORN FORMATIONS

1988 | 43 mins. | 16 mm

passing through/torn formations accomplishes a multi-faceted experience for the viewer. It is a poetic document of family, for instance – but Philip Hoffman's editing throughout is true thought process, tracks visual theme as the mind tracks shape, makes melody of noise and words as the mind recalls sound. (Stan Brakhage)



passing through / torn formations

9:00 PM: RETROSPECTIVE II

?O, ZOO! (THE MAKING OF A FICTION FILM)

1986 | 23 mins. | 16 mm

In *?O, Zoo!* Hoffman grapples with the Griersonian legacy of Canadian documentary cinema. Largely shot around the production of Peter Greenaway's *A Zed and Two Noughts*, the film constructs a labyrinthine fiction out of "documentary" materials, and places the story of a death at its unseen centre. (Images Festival)



?O, Zoo!

WHAT THESE ASHES WANTED

2001 | 55 mins. | 16 mm

"If you had to make up your own ritual for death, what would it be? Would it be private or shared?" asked his partner, Marian. Hoffman's answer is this beautiful document. (San Francisco International Film Festival)

ADDITIONAL HOFFMAN EVENTS at Cinematheque as part of the WNDX festival:

■ **Thur Oct 8 – 5 PM**

MASTER LECTURE ON DIARY CINEMA, led by Philip Hoffman

In this core lecture within his Independent Imaging Retreat, Philip Hoffman analyses the construction of "truth" within diaristic practices, and documentary in general, breaking down montage constructions that create insinuated realities in viewers' minds.

■ **Sat Oct 10 – 7 PM**

ALL FALL DOWN

Dir. Philip Hoffman | Canada | 2009 | 94 mins. | HDCAM

All Fall Down is an experimental documentary that takes as its starting point a nineteenth-century farmhouse in Southern Ontario, Canada, and asks the question "what has been here before?" The film is structured through Hoffman's extraordinary landscapes of Southern Ontario which make the temporal fabric shimmer, bringing us a meditation on childhood, property, colonialism, ecology, and love.



Our screening of *All Fall Down* has been generously sponsored by Midcanada Production Services Inc.

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WINNIPEG FILM GROUP

The Winnipeg Film Group was founded in 1974 and is a charitable, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the art of cinema. Our Cinematheque is Winnipeg's only art-house cinema. We also offer film training programs, production equipment and facilities for independent film-makers and variety of other programs to support local independent filmmakers in Manitoba. Learn more about us at www.winnipegfilmgroup.com or call 925-FILM.



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